

# BEACON FREE PRESS

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## Aymar-Blair declares victory in Comptroller race; Pulver concedes



Dan Aymar-Blair

-Courtesy photo

### By Curtis Schmidt

In the tight race for Dutchess County Comptroller, Democrat challenger Dan Aymar-Blair has declared victory and incumbent Republican Gregg Pulver has conceded.

A press release from the Dutchess County Democratic Party on Friday, Nov. 15, stated, "Dan Aymar-Blair won the Dutchess County Comptroller special election following the counting of absentee and affidavit ballots this week. Unofficial results provided by the Dutchess County Board of Elections place Aymar-Blair ahead of his opponent Gregg Pulver by 931 votes. According to updated unofficial results from the Dutchess County Board of Elections after counting affidavit and absentee ballots, Aymar-Blair has 72,624 votes and Pulver has 71,693 votes."

In an email to the Southern Dutchess News Group on Monday, Pulver said, "I am conceding. (There will be) no manual recount because (the) margin is above (the) threshold."

County Democratic Elections Commissioner Hannah Black told the Albany Times Union on Friday afternoon that Aymar-Blair led Pulver by more than 900 votes - a margin she said Pulver would not be able to overcome given the number of outstanding ballots. She also noted that the apparent gap is large enough not to trigger an automatic recount, which state Election Law mandates if the margin is 0.5% or less.

In results from election night (Nov. 5) Pulver held a lead of 69,581 to 69,106 for Aymar-Blair.

In declaring victory on Friday, Aymar-Blair said, "I am humbled and honored by the trust Dutchess County residents have placed in me. This victory affirms that taxpayers want a watchdog who will make sure the county's budget is working for them. The people of Dutchess County want a Comptroller committed to transparency, accountability, and serving the public interest. I look forward to bringing independent oversight and a fresh perspective to the office, ensuring every dollar is used wisely and in service of the community."

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## Hundreds attend dedication of new Central Fire Station

### By Kristine Coulter

It was a celebration that was years in the making. Hundreds attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony and dedication of the new City of Beacon central fire station, 1140 Wolcott Ave., on Saturday, Nov. 16. According to city officials, at a cost of \$14.7 million, "the 17,000 square foot facility is the largest capital project in the City's history."

City of Beacon Fire Chief Thomas Lucchesi said with the opening of this fire station, all firefighters will be housed together for the first time.

For years, and under different mayors, there have been reviews for making the three firehouses in the City of Beacon into one firehouse. The construction for the renovations on this fire station, which once housed the Lewis Tompkins Hose Company that the City vacated in 2022, began in June 2023. The completed project was done last month, according to officials.

There were three firehouses in Beacon. Beacon Engine, on East Main St., built in 1889; Lewis Tompkins Hose, built in 1893 and W.H. Mase Hook & Ladder, on Main St., built in 1911.

Lucchesi said the renovations on this firehouse were "an investment."

Mayor Lee Kyriacou said: "As Mayor, I insisted we reuse an existing firehouse and not build a new one, which substantially reduced construction costs and enabled investment in state-of-the-art fire



Hundreds attended the dedication ceremony of the central fire station in Beacon on Nov. 16.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

safety and building efficiency while avoiding large tax increases. I see the new firehouse from my office in City Hall, and it has been truly a pleasure to watch as the all-brick facade was unveiled, and our

firefighters and engines occupied their well-deserved new home. Our City is justifiably proud of this sustainable and cost-effective architectural gem."

Continued on page 2

## Breaking ground for Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon

### By Kristine Coulter

The Mirbeau Companies held a groundbreaking ceremony for Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon, the newest addition to its signature brand, on Nov. 14. The new location is within the historic Howland Family Estate known as "Tioronda," at 11 Craig House Lane, in Beacon.

The ceremony celebrated the restoration and reimagining of the 64-acre property into what is described as "a premier destination for relaxation, wellness, and recreation."

"We are thrilled to bring the Mirbeau experience to Beacon, and at such a historically rich location," said Michael Dal Pos, Chief Executive Officer. "Our vision for the Mirbeau Beacon Hotel & Spa is to create an oasis that honors the natural beauty and historical significance of the Tioronda Estate, while providing guests with unparalleled service and amenities that the Mirbeau brand is known for." It was stated, Mirbeau Companies is working with New York State Parks & Historic Preservation.

In the past, celebrated guests like actress Marilyn Monroe, novelist and painter Zelda Fitzgerald and comedian and actor Jackie Gleason visited the former estate. Architects Frederick Clarke Withers, Richard Morris Hunt left their marks on the iconic estate. Henry Winthrop Sargent, a pioneer in landscape, also added his touch over previous years.

It was noted that "Mirbeau Beacon will



The Mirbeau Companies Executive Team during the groundbreaking ceremony held for the future Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon, which is on the former 64-acre Howland Family Estate property known as "Tioronda," on Nov. 14.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

marry the Gothic style of the historic mansion, which will be restored to National Park Service Historic standards, with Mirbeau's French-inspired, residential-feeling design concept which includes its signature Ponds and Gardens patterned after Monet's

Giverny. The newly constructed Chateau building will house the majority of the 72 finely appointed guest rooms and suites, designed to offer the utmost comfort and tranquility."

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# Hundreds attend dedication of new Central Fire Station



City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou makes remarks during the fire station dedication.

Continued from cover

The “state-of the art-facility,” as it has been described, includes sustainable features, such as energy-efficient systems and green building materials.

- Some of the other features include:
- Hot, warm, and cold decontamination zones,
  - Advanced training spaces,
  - Improved apparatus bays,
  - Living quarters designed to enhance the well-being and readiness of Beacon’s firefighters
- Emcee of the event, Denise Doring VanBuren, said the members of the Beacon Volunteer Firefighters Color Guard (Tom DiCastro, Beacon Engine;



A ribbon-cutting ceremony during the dedication of the central fire station in Beacon on Nov. 16.

-Photos by Kristine Coulter

Matthew Naughton, Mase Hook & Ladder; Bill Plimley, Lewis Tompkins Hose Co. and Brandon Travis, Mase Hook & Ladder) represented 125 years of service as firefighters.

NYS Senator Rob Rolison, who himself was a volunteer firefighter in another municipality, thanked the Beacon firefighters “for protecting this great city.”

Assemblyman Jonathan Jacobson said, “This is how government can work.” He said a tremendous job was done on this project.

Kyriacou received citations from Rolison and Jacobson. Kyriacou said Gov. Kathy Hochul and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, both of whom could not attend the ceremony, sent congratulations. In attendance were former mayors Steve Gold and Randy Casale, as well as current and previous members of the Beacon City Council.

Doring VanBuren paid tribute to Firefighter J. Robert Cramer, a volun-

ter and president of the Lewis Tompkins Hose Company, who died of smoke inhalation after entering 144-146 Main St. that was on fire to look for a child that was said to be on the second floor in an apartment on Jan. 29, 1955. A plaque is on the front of Tompkins Hose firehouse, now Hudson Beach Glass, which stands at the intersection of Cross and Main streets, which was renamed “Firefighter J. Robert Cramer Square” in 2014.

In recognition of firefighters who have given their time and energy to protecting the city, the monuments that stood in front of each of the former firehouses have been placed outside of the renovated firehouse, bringing the history of the department there.

“This building is just magnificently designed,” remarked Beacon City Administrator Chris White. “Every detail is thought out.”

It was noted that the fire station was

designed by Mitchell Associates Architects (now Wendel Architecture), with The Palombo Group as construction manager, and Mid-Hudson Construction Management of Poughkeepsie as general construction firm.

Kyriacou said the project was done on time and on budget. It was noted that “the City will continue to proactively address its other big challenge: the long-term firefighter staffing needs faced by every small community nationwide.”

Lucchesi thanked the past and present members of the fire department, his fellow department heads and his predecessor former Chief Gary Van Voorhis.

William and Sharon Travis, whose son Brandon is a firefighter, attended the ceremony.

“It’s great,” Sharon Travis said about the fire station. “It’s been a long time coming.”

# Dutchess County to launch Real-Time Crime Center

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino, District Attorney Anthony Parisi and Sheriff Kirk Imperati have announced the creation of a new Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) to be located at the Dutchess County Law Enforcement Center in Poughkeepsie. The RTCC will serve as a hub for law enforcement to monitor video feeds and other technology to respond to evolving and active crime situations quickly and efficiently. In a unanimous vote earlier this week, the Dutchess County Legislature approved \$200,000 to launch the RTCC by the end of this year.

District Attorney Parisi said, “A Real-Time Crime Center is not just an investment in technology; it’s an investment in the safety and security of our community. By leveraging real-time data, we’re not just reacting to crimes, but proactively working to pre-

vent them. Law enforcement will be able to utilize data, surveillance technology and predictive analytics to respond quicker to crimes, investigate crimes more thoroughly and identify patterns to prevent future crimes. This center will be the nerve center of our commitment to a safer, smarter, and more responsive justice system.”

County Executive Sue Serino said, “The RTCC will be a true game-changer for speed of response and police safety. This cutting-edge initiative leverages technology for faster, more effective law enforcement response to protect our communities. We thank District Attorney Parisi for his leadership in moving this initiative forward and we are proud to support this important collaboration of community and law enforcement.”

Real-Time Crime Centers nationwide

merge data from live video, cameras, license plate readers, body cameras worn by law enforcement, audio detection and other tools into a single cloud-based operational view to provide enhanced visibility and unified situational awareness. This unified view helps ensure appropriate law enforcement can respond more swiftly to incidents, in some cases potentially preventing crimes before they escalate. RTCCs promote better coordination among law enforcement agencies, emergency services and community organizations to ensure information is shared and resources are allocated effectively, where they are needed most.

The RTCC will be staffed by the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office Special Operation Bureau, along with a Crime Analyst from the District Attorney’s

Office. Other area law enforcement agencies, including the New York State Police, will also have personnel at the RTCC.

Sheriff Kirk Imperati said, “Having a Real Time Crime Center is a force multiplier – giving us the ability to see, in real-time, what is going on to be able to dispatch the right resources immediately and provide responding officers with visual support. As technology continues to advance and becomes more widespread through the community, the RTCC enables us to pull all of that information together, putting it to work to make our community safer. I appreciate the collaboration of District Attorney Parisi and County Executive Serino, as well as the support from the entire County Legislature, in making the RTCC possible.”

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**IMPACT**  
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## Millbrook Winery Offers Personal Touch With Custom Wine Labels For Gifting Season





**See story,  
page 8**



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# Breaking ground for Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon

Continued from cover

Looking for a place to meet? The new facility will offer up to 3,000 square feet of meeting and conference spaces. Up to 250 guests will be able to enjoy events in the outdoor tented area, which will be open to holding weddings and corporate events and any special occasion according to Mirbeau representatives.

Jonathan Dal Pos, partner and general counsel for Mirbeau, said, "It's really nice to be able to expose the project to a large group of individuals; to plant the seed what the project is going to be in the future."

City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou remarked that the executive team at Mirbeau "had the vision" for the space.

Jonathan Dal Pos said they do not like to be seen as exclusive, but rather, "we see ourselves as a community gathering space."

Locally sourced ingredients will be used in culinary delights served at Mirbeau Beacon, which is slated to open in 2026.

It was stated that the spa, which is called "the emotional heartbeat" of the resort, is

25,000 square feet and will have 21 treatment rooms. Some of the world-class amenities planned for the resort are a resting area, meditation pool, and a decompression room. Hot pools, cabanas, and an outdoor area to serve light bites and beverages on what was described as "a stunning aqua terrace."

Visitors will also be able to participate in exquisite dining at the Bistro & Wine Bar, which will look over the Monet Pond Gardens. There will also be an outdoor Champagne Terrace on the Richard Morris Hunt's Room's terrace.

Melaine Rottkamp, CEO & president of Dutchess Tourism Inc. said about Mirbeau Beacon, "It's really incredible. It's going to be a really special, unique attraction." Visitors and those living in the local area "will come to see the mountains, rest and relax. There will be outdoor trails and the history. I love it," said Rottkamp. She added: "It reduces the taxes we have to pay." Visitors to the area have brought in \$93 million, according to Rottkamp.

Other Mirbeau locations are in Rhinebeck, Skaneateles, NY and Plymouth, MA.



Artists' renderings of the future Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon, which is on the former 64-acre Howland Family Estate property known as "Tioronda."

-Photo by Kristine Coulter



Construction on the future location of the spa.

## Dutchess to launch Real-Time Crime Center

Continued from page 2

Serino has directed the initial \$200,000 to launch the RTCC be allocated from the Community Benefit Fund (CBF). The CBF was established by Serino as a set-aside of fund balance following the drawdown of American Rescue Plan funding. This funding is intended for one-time projects that have substantial community benefit and lasting positive impact. This initial funding will cover radio communications equipment, computer hardware, new cameras for high crime areas, as well as equipment to integrate existing municipal and community cameras throughout Dutchess County, as well as subscription costs for the intelligence systems.

"The Real-Time Crime Center will also play a critical role in ensuring the security of our County employees as they come and go from County facilities," said County

Executive Serino. "This initial funding will provide for enhanced video surveillance of parking areas and rapid law enforcement deployment, adding a layer of protection for those who serve our community every day."

Going forward, District Attorney Parisi has secured \$1.2 million in federal funding through the Department of Justice's Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant to cover reoccurring costs for the operation of the RTCC over the next two years and will continue to pursue grant funding sources for future years.


District Attorney Parisi concluded, "The creation of a Real-Time Crime Center is a crucial step in modernizing our criminal justice system. The unanimous bi-partisan support from our legislature this week shows their unwavering commitment to the public safety of Dutchess County. I am thankful for the continued support ensuring the implementation of a more informed, data-driven approach to criminal justice."

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## Viewpoints

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
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- 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 (i.e. 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.

## Fishkill has opportunity to protect tenants with Good Cause Eviction Law

### To the Editor:

Last week's election made it clear voters in the area are concerned about the economy, including affordable housing.

Here in Fishkill, the town has an opportunity to protect tenants by passing Good Cause Eviction, a common-sense law that other Hudson Valley towns recently adopted. The Town Board is having a public hearing on November 20th about its proposed Good Cause law.

Good Cause protects tenants from unreasonable rent hikes and retaliatory or discriminatory evictions. Currently, when a lease expires for most Fishkill tenants, the landlord can choose not to renew it for any reason and raise the rent as high as they want. This leads to landlords evicting tenants as retaliation for raising concerns about living conditions – and skyrocketing rents.

Landlords who treat their tenants fairly have nothing to fear from Good Cause. The bill does not protect tenants who don't pay, violate their lease terms, damage property, or create a nuisance. And small landlords who live in the same building as their tenants are exempt.

Forty-seven percent of Fishkill renters are rent-burdened meaning they pay more than 30% income to rent (analysis of the US Census, American Community Survey 5-year estimates 2022). This census data was analyzed by staff at Housing Justice for All, a statewide organization that advocates on behalf of tenants. Many residents—especially seniors on fixed incomes—have a tough time keeping up with rent hikes and could be vulnerable to evictions over time.

Recognizing this growing challenge, Beacon, Poughkeepsie, Newburgh, Kingston, and New Paltz have all passed strong versions of the law—most importantly by defining a small landlord as the owner of 1 unit. (Setting the definition higher unnecessarily excludes vulnerable tenants and makes it much harder for covered tenants to enforce.)

As a local homeowner and taxpayer, I hope the Town Board will follow their lead and cover as many tenants as possible. Keeping Fishkill families in their homes and our neighborhoods stable and safe would be a much-needed gift to the town this holiday season.

Mike Schade  
Fishkill

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## Mount offers final Open House of the semester

Mount Saint Mary College is offering Open House events for all interested students this semester, with the next on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

First-year students who attend this Open House will automatically receive a \$1,000 Visit Grant if they choose to attend the Mount.

One may register at [www.msmc.edu/OpenHouse](http://www.msmc.edu/OpenHouse).

In addition, the college is offering several exciting new programs for incoming students, including:

**Cybersecurity AAS to BA:** Students can now begin their Cybersecurity training at SUNY Orange and finish at the Mount, ultimately yielding a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity. SUNY Orange students who have completed an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Cybersecurity and have earned grades of C or better in all required courses will be guaranteed admission into the Mount's Cybersecurity program with full junior status.

**Master of Science in Nursing Education:** Nurse educators are in demand, and a Master of Science in Nursing Education will help you grow your skills as both a nurse and an



*Mack the Knight high-fives a student at an open house event held at Mount Saint Mary College earlier this semester. The final Open House of the year will be held on Sunday, December 8.*

*-Courtesy photo by Lee Ferris*

educator. If one is looking to advance one's career and help teach the next generation of nurses in either an academic or healthcare setting, getting a Master of Science in Nursing Education is the way to do it.

For more information, please visit [www.msmc.edu/OpenHouse](http://www.msmc.edu/OpenHouse).

## Annual Christmas Tree Lighting at Memorial Park in Beacon on Nov. 30



*The City of Beacon will be holding its 7th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting at 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 30, at Memorial Park in Beacon. Come by and pick up an ornament kit, enjoy some hot chocolate and a treat. Watch some great local talent; the Water Walkers from Salem Tabernacle Church, Yanarella Dance, Ballet Arts, School of Rock with special performances by Grace Morea, Molly Lyons, and Jonah Espinoza before the Beacon Scouts sing in the arrival of Santa. The tree will be lit at dusk (approximately 4:30 p.m.) and meet Santa!*

*Pictured is from a previous year's event.*

*-Courtesy photo*

## Aymar-Blair declares victory in Comptroller race; Pulver concedes

*Continued from cover*

Pulver released the following statement late Monday afternoon.

"I want to thank all those who supported our campaign over the last 10 months. This was an absurdly close race and it's clear that the work our office has done bringing true fiscal stewardship to the County was a strong message. I'm proud that our focus on eliminating wasteful spending and increasing our community outreach to help our neighbors resonated with the taxpayers of Dutchess County. Though we didn't win, our campaign

over-performed the presidential ballot by a significant amount.

"We were out spent more than 2 to 1 and my opponent raised the most money by a comptroller candidate in county history. That proved to be just too much to overcome.

"I barnstormed across Dutchess County this year meeting so many neighbors, and I am thankful for the 71,000+ voters that put their trust in me. I have no regrets and I'm proud of everything my office accomplished this year. I hope to continue serving my neighbors in Dutchess County for years to come."

# Germania's Christkindlmarkts set Nov. 22-23

By Curtis Schmidt

Germania of Poughkeepsie will host its annual Christkindlmarkts on Nov. 22 and 23 in a heated tent and hall on the grounds at 37 Old DeGarmo Road. Hours are 4-9 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Saturday.

The history of Christkindlmarkts or "Christ Child Markets" can be traced back to the Middle Ages in Saxony, Germany.

Sylvia Reuter, president of Germania of Poughkeepsie, said the local organization held its first Christkindlmarkt in 2008 with a handful of vendors selling mostly handcrafted goods from knitted blankets, hats, and scarves to amber and silver jewelry.

Grete Licis, a lifetime Germania member, started the market and it has grown over the years. This year, over 30 vendors will be on hand, selling handmade wooden crafts, pottery, jewelry, homemade fudge and candies, wine, dog treats and shirts, soaps, lotions, minerals and fossils, and much more.

Boy Scouts will be selling Christmas wreaths, and for the second year in a row, Crazy Over Art on Tour will be participating. It is nonprofit that encourages and teaches art to local communities with limited access to the arts.

Inside the Germania Hall, visitors will find the Germania Baked Goods Market where you can purchase homemade German cookies, stollen, apple strudel, bienenstich, gingerbread cake and much more.

Reuter said most of these treats are made in house by Germania volunteers.

"Take a break from shopping and you can enjoy German food, pastries, and a mug of hot glühwein (German mulled wine), perfect to warm you up on a crisp fall day," she said.

Adding to the flavor of the event, the German Language Class, led by Frau Helga Nowak-Razey, will be singing Christmas carols in German and in English.

Parking and admission are free.



From left, Germania of Poughkeepsie members Pat Kemmerer, Annelise Kreig, Joan Siebert and Joan Magee display a variety of German baked goods for the annual Christkindlmarkts on Nov. 22 and 23.

- Courtesy photo

## OP-ED

### Can math fix your finances?

The following op-ed expresses the views of the writer alone and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Beacon Free Press management or staff.

By Irvin Miller, Ph.D.

To get the best advice on how to live within your means, one should listen to someone like Suze Orman. As a mathematician, I concur with much that she says. If one understands the mathematics behind financial decisions, one can enjoy their life immensely more.

The first rule is that your expenditures should be less than your income. If you understood the rules of probability and realize that the provider of the gambling services is going to make a lot of money off your losses, you would not be so anxious to let this be a big expenditure. So, stop buying lottery tickets, going to casinos, and any other form of gambling. The providers of these services are masters at advertising a product that may only live up to its promises for others than you.

Next, consider your health. Forget about alcohol, coffee, drugs, and smoking. While these make you feel good, they can make a big dent in your financial health. But, that may not matter, [if you are] miserable and won't live long enough to feel the full discomfort.

And finally, the big one: Do not borrow money and do not allow there to be a balance on your credit cards. You usually borrow money so that you can have something for today rather than waiting to have it tomorrow. Often you can be in for big disappointments. You could go to a State College or you can go to a private university, but the debt you run up may be impossible to pay off because you do not earn sufficient money.

Usury used to be considered an interest rate above 12%. Because college loans are deferred, the interest rates are higher than paying the loan off as soon as you get it.

Credit cards can have interest rates as

high as 100%. If you do not pay off a \$45 purchase, you can be charged \$45 penalty – which, in effect, is a 100% interest rate. Yet, government watch dog services do not recognize it as an interest rate.

Buying a home can be one of your riskiest adventures. Lenders have learned that if they can force a borrower to default on a loan with rising house costs, the lender can make a large amount of money on your misery. Balloon mortgages caused lots of people to lose their homes and equity in the beginning of this century.

People can be creative in living within their means. Young college graduates share apartments with friends or live with their parents. If you are retired and are an empty nester, you can rent out your children's rooms. If you find someone with whom you are compatible, one could sell their home and live in someone else's home, where the savings on taxes, maintenance and insurance are halved. With reverse mortgages you still have to pay taxes, maintenance, and insurance.

While you may not be so savvy on your finances, government officials can be worse. The government has an ever-growing debt that eventually has to be settled by your grandchildren.

If you were to increase taxes to pay off the national debt, would you charge the poor people or the wealthy more taxes? Cutting taxes sounds good, but it just makes the debt greater. It seems that since the wealthy have more to offer, you would want to increase their taxes, not cut them.

Other than Suze Orman, who can you trust? Banks used to have the word "Trust" in their name. Most recently, one large bank was fined three billion dollars for money laundering.

Maybe, you should have taken your math more seriously.

Irvin Miller is the owner of Imaginative Multi-Media & Math and Physics Exploration in LaGrange.

## Howland Cultural Center announces upcoming events

The following events will be held at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St. in Beacon.

Sons of Mercury will perform on Saturday, Nov. 23 at 8 p.m. They're a high-energy group that blends classic and new rock, playing covers from the 1970s up to the present, plus their originals. The group was started by three NYC boys on guitar, bass and drums, with added vocals. Sons of Mercury brings a fresh yet nostalgic sound to the live music scene. They are Galen James-Heskett on lead vocals, Sean Pagán on lead guitar, Michael Bode on bass and back-up vocals, and Devan

Sáez on drums.

Welcome back the Westchester Jazz Alliance Quartet on Saturday, Nov. 30 at 8 p.m. This ensemble is Charley Krachy, sax; Dave Frank, piano; Fr. Stan Fortuna, bass; and T-kash Inuoe, drums. Two members were close with the legendary jazz pianist/educator Lennie Tristano. The mission of the Westchester Jazz Alliance is to increase awareness, participation and enjoyment of jazz in the New York area and beyond. Advance tickets at \$20.

For more information, [www.howland-culturalcenter.org](http://www.howland-culturalcenter.org).

## Children can make free holiday projects on Nov. 23

By Kristine Coulter

The Verplanck Garden Club's Children's Holiday Craft Workshop is set for Saturday, Nov. 23. The workshop will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The event will be held on the lower level of the Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52 in Fishkill (look for the balloons). Organizers said there will be crafts, pictures with Santa and live entertainment.

"We have planned for 150 children to participate at each of the 6 craft stations, [to] have their pictures taken with Santa and participate at the music station," said garden club member Kathy Juhasz. Juhasz and Sue Pulcare are co-chairs for the annual workshop event.

Children can make a sock snowman. There will also be stations where attendees can make a reindeer ornament, door hanger, and an evergreen arrangement in a holiday mug. Children can also color at the Coloring Sheets station. One can even make a do-it-at-home bird feeder.

Pulcare explained how the workshop began. "So, according to Bonnie Detweiler, a long time member and a past president, many years ago, when the Verplanck Garden Club met at Stony Kill Farm, the club members decorated the lower-level rooms for the holidays and baked for an open house. The mug arrangements were made by the children and that was the only craft that was made. When the club moved to the Fishkill Town Hall, it was decided to have a craft workshop for the children and hence the Children's Holiday Craft Workshop began," remarked Pulcare.

"We think the children like to do different crafts. The parents like that this family outing is fun and free and that what their children make is a keepsake for themselves, or for family members. I know I still display, at the holidays, homemade gifts from my chil-



The Verplanck Garden Club members will hold the annual Children's Holiday Craft Workshop on Saturday, Nov. 23 on the lower level of the Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, in Fishkill. Children can make a reindeer ornament or a choice of five other crafts.

-Courtesy photos

dren, grandchildren and family members," said Juhasz.

The club members, remarked Pulcare, "enjoy the camaraderie of doing the prep work; the smiles on the faces of the children and adults as the crafts are being created; the joy of seeing everyone having fun; and the satisfaction of creating happy memories."

The garden club also takes care of the pollinator garden at the Jean Van Pelt Park in the town of Fishkill and raised-bed gardens at Stony Kill Farm, off Route 52 at Farmstead Lane.

Organizers said they look forward to seeing everyone on the day of the workshop.

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# CyanoKits enhances City of Beacon Fire Department's emergency response arsenal

The City of Beacon Fire Department announced the addition of CyanoKits to its emergency response equipment. City of Beacon Fire Chief Thomas Lucchesi said in a press release that the "initiative was launched in collaboration with Beacon Medic 1, a contracted Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance through Ambulnz. This critical enhancement will significantly improve the ability to treat both victims and first responders exhibiting signs of cyanide poisoning."

CyanoKits are essential, it was stated, in treating victims of cyanide exposure, which can occur in various emergencies, including smoke inhalation from fires, industrial accidents, and hazardous materials incidents. The kit works by delivering hydroxocobalamin, which rapidly binds to cyanide, neutralizing its toxic effects and allowing the body to safely eliminate it. Immediate treatment is often the key to saving lives in cases of cyanide poisoning.

Beacon Medic 1's paramedics have undergone specialized training to administer the CyanoKit safely and effectively. The addition of this life-saving treatment is part of Beacon Medic 1's ongoing commitment to enhancing emergency preparedness and providing the most

advanced pre-hospital care, according to the release.

Beacon Medic 1 is the first agency in southern Dutchess County to carry a CyanoKit. The City of Beacon Fire Department wants to recognize Ambulnz for taking the initiative to equip Beacon Medic 1 with this life-saving medication, it was noted.

Beacon Medic 1 serves residents of the City of Beacon providing 24/7 emergency medical services with a highly trained team of paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMTs). With the inclusion of CyanoKits, Beacon Medic 1 is now even better equipped to handle a wider range of emergencies, ensuring that the community has access to the highest levels of care when it matters most, it was stated.

Ambulnz by DocGo is a leading provider of mobile medical services and transportation in the United States and in the United Kingdom. One of the largest private ambulance services in New York, Ambulnz currently provides ambulance service to 20 New York counties with more than 150 ambulances. The company has partnered with the City of Beacon to provide ALS response to 911 calls since 2022, according to the chief.



The City of Beacon Fire Department announced the addition of CyanoKits to its emergency response equipment.

-Courtesy photo

## County to participate in statewide STOP-DWI Thanksgiving enforcement effort

Law-enforcement agencies throughout Dutchess County will participate in a special enforcement effort to crack down on impaired driving to coincide with the national Thanksgiving holiday. The statewide STOP-DWI High Visibility Enforcement Campaign effort starts on Wednesday, Nov. 27, and will end on Sunday, Dec. 1.

Various law-enforcement agencies will collaborate across the state and will be out in force in this coordinated effort to reduce the number of alcohol-related injuries and deaths during this period.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), more impaired driving crashes occur on Thanksgiving day than the day before or after the holiday. Of all driving collisions

on Thanksgiving day, 31 percent are related to impaired driving. The NHTSA reported Thanksgiving car crash fatalities rose by 23 percent from 2019 to 2020, based on the most recent data available.

The STOP-DWI Thanksgiving High Visibility Engagement Campaign is one of many statewide initiatives promoted by STOP-DWI NY and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. The Statewide STOP-DWI High Visibility Engagement Campaign also targets Super Bowl weekend, St. Patrick's Day, Memorial Day, the 100 Days of Summer campaign in June through August, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Halloween and the winter holiday season.

STOP-DWI New York urges residents to download its mobile app, "Have a Plan," at <https://stopdwi.org/mobileapp/>.

## Beacon Elks donate 45 coats to Castle Point pantry



The Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 members donated 45 winter coats to the clothing pantry at Hudson Valley VA Health System at Castle Point recently. The clothing pantry is utilized by 125 Hudson Valley families.

Pictured are Castle Volunteer Services Representative Debbie Loughran, Navy Veteran and Veterans Committee Member Rick Lloyd, Committee members Carl Oken and Cathy Sullivan.

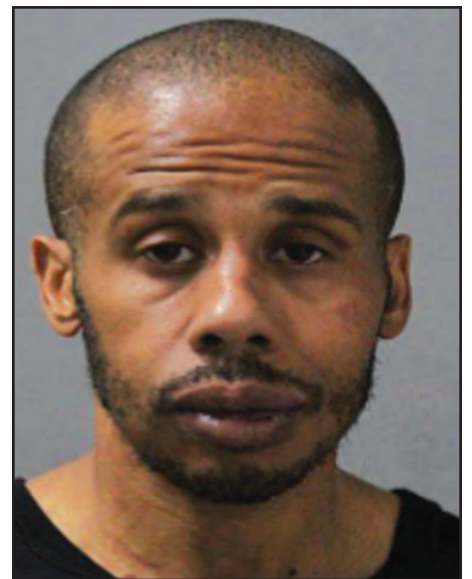
-Courtesy photo

## Parisi: Beacon man pleads guilty to attempted assault and narcotics charges

Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi announced that Rakim Paulin, of Beacon, plead guilty on November 13th in Dutchess County Court to the felony charge of Attempted Assault in the First Degree, a Class C Violent Felony, in violation of Penal Law Sections 110.00 and 120.10, subdivision (1) and on a separate docket plead guilty to Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, a Class B Felony, in violation of Penal Law Section 220.16, subdivision (12).

District Attorney Anthony Parisi said, "This conviction is not just a verdict on the actions of one individual; it is a reflection of our commitment to protecting the safety and well-being of our community. The defendant's involvement in both a violent assault and the illegal drug trade shows a clear disregard for the law and the lives of others. Our office will continue to hold those accountable who choose to endanger others and ensure that justice is served to the fullest extent of the law."

The assault incident occurred on August 20, at Pershing Avenue and Maple Street, in the City of Poughkeepsie. The defendant attempted to intentionally cause serious physical injury to another person by striking the person with his vehicle at approximately 46 miles per hour. The impact sent the victim into the air, and he landed on the hood of the car. The Defendant did then exit the vehicle and repeated strike the victim while he was on the ground. This case was investigated by the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department. The narcotics incident occurred on July 31, at the Mobile Gas Station at 349 Route 82 in the Town of Wappinger. The defendant admitted to possessing one or more preparations,



Rakim Paulin  
-Photo from Dutchess County D.A.'s Office

compounds, mixtures and substances containing a narcotic drug, cocaine and/or fentanyl, and these narcotics were an aggregate weight of one-half ounce or more. This case was the result of an ongoing investigation by the District Attorney's Drug Task Force.

The assault case was prosecuted by Unit Chief Scott Johnson, the narcotics case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Heather Ryan. Judge Edward T. McLoughlin presided over the case and adjourned the sentencing to Jan. 22, 2025.

The charges against the defendants are merely allegations, and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless they are proven guilty.

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Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

## love to cook

by vicki frank day



# French Toast Bread Pudding

Suitable for breakfast, brunch or dessert, baking this treat could become a new holiday tradition.

Since the holiday season really starts with Thanksgiving, it seems a good time to start sharing recipes and thoughts on how to make it extra special. We all have our time-honored dishes that have become favorite traditions, but it never hurts to add something new. Besides, with over a month of merry making to look forward to, can there ever be too many recipes?

The ways we celebrate our holidays are as varied as we are. Many cultures, generations and family recipes come together to inform what we do and how we do it. I love holiday traditions and the meaning they hold; and keeping them alive through handing them down is a beautiful thing. Some things are sacred and never questioned or deviated from, like our Thanksgiving meal. It's a lovely marriage of what my grandparents did and probably goes back even further than that. The menu is the same every year, recipes so precious to my family that it just wouldn't be Thanksgiving without them.

But Thanksgiving isn't the only holiday coming up and, let's face it, there's a lot to do leading up to the New Year. That means there's plenty of time to add something new to our traditions. Of course, there's lots of preparation, and so things can get busier than usual, hectic even. It's important, then, not to lose sight of what really matters – the people we love – and what better way to do that than cook up something special?

I think I have just the thing, something warm and wonderful, comforting and inviting and impressive enough for company. Whether you're entertaining, hosting or just bringing joy to your family, this recipe is one I hope you'll add to your holiday lineup. And it's a gift that keeps on giving! It's perfect for breakfast, brunch or dessert, can be customized and made ahead of time so you can have it ready when things get a little crazy.

I'm pretty sure I wouldn't enjoy life as much without bread. ANY kind of bread, sweet or savory, soft or chewy, makes my heart happy. I'll eat it plain or with butter, olive oil, peanut butter, honey or jam, toasted or fresh, warm from the oven or straight out of the package. No wonder, then, that I love bread pudding. I usually prefer and make savory bread puddings; but the thought of combining it with another favorite, French toast, seemed too tempting not to try. So I did just that and came up with something heavenly and, I think, perfect for this time of year.

As with any French toast or bread pudding, it's best to start with day-old, slightly stale bread. Brioche, baguette, Italian or challah breads all work great but, when fresh, any will be soggy. If you only have a fresh loaf, leave it out of its package for a while (ideally overnight) before using or cut into 1-inch-thick slices or cubes and stick in a warm oven for a bit. You don't want to toast it, just dry it out. Crustier breads are my favorite since they add a crispy contrast to the otherwise chewy, custardy texture, so I used baguette for this. One standard loaf was just enough to fill the baking dish in a not-too-thick layer, so it baked up crisp and chewy with the perfect amount of custard creaminess and French toast flavor in every bite.

What makes it shout French toast is the cinnamon. The egg-milk batter usually used to drench the bread before pan frying is the base for the custard with a few adjustments. The addition of a simple caramel made with brown sugar and used as a thin bottom layer adds not only rich sweetness but also a pleasant chewy texture, and a topping of cinnamon streusel helps crisp up the top and makes the kitchen smell amazing as it bakes.

Presentation had me in a bit of a quandary. I once had a similar dish at a restaurant which was served in a small cast iron skillet, but for a crowd that wouldn't work so well. I went with a metal baking dish so I could plate individual squares, but you could make individual servings by using ramekins or a muffin tin instead. You just need to alter the baking time to about 40 minutes, checking after 30 to make sure they don't burn. Baking time will vary slightly no matter what dish you use, depending on its size, amount and type of bread and your personal preference. What you want is a crisp top with a slight chewiness and a creamy custard interior. The longer you soak the bread, the more custardy and crisp it will be. The contrast of the two is a beautiful thing!

Once it's baked you can further customize it with toppings. Here you have options, my friends, and I recommend trying them all for different occasions. There's the classic maple syrup, but I went with a warm blackberry sauce and whipped cream. You can swap out the blackberry preserves with any kind you prefer. Because you serve it warm from the oven, it all melts deliciously together. If serving as dessert, you could top it with vanilla ice cream, because over the top is just right for the holidays. Feel free to add a tablespoon of Grand Marnier or orange juice to the batter for that something extra. Adding pecans or walnuts to the topping or, better yet, pralines, would be great too. Fresh fruit is another option, topped with crême anglaise or whipped cream. I've included a simple berry sauce to get you started.

## French Toast Bread Pudding with Warm Berry Sauce

You can certainly bake this right after you assemble it, but I highly recommend making it the night before. It makes it easier on you and allows the bread to soak up more of the custard for creamier, more luscious results. Crustier breads make a crisper topping, made even more so with cinnamon streusel. And don't forget the whipped cream!

### Ingredients for Pudding

5 tablespoons butter (more for greasing the pan)  
 1/2 cup brown sugar, packed  
 7 eggs  
 2 cups whole milk  
 1/2 cup heavy cream  
 1/2 cup sugar  
 1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract  
 1 tablespoon Grand Marnier (optional)  
 1 teaspoon cinnamon  
 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg (freshly grated is best)  
 Pinch of salt  
 1 loaf day-old bread (brioche, Italian, baguette), cut into 1-inch cubes

### Ingredients for Cinnamon Streusel Topping

1/2 cup flour  
 1/2 cup brown sugar, packed  
 1 teaspoon cinnamon  
 1/4 teaspoon salt  
 1/2 cup (1 stick/8 tablespoons) cold butter, cut in pieces

### Ingredients for Blackberry Sauce

1 (12-16oz) jar blackberry jam or seedless preserves  
 Water

### Method for Pudding

Grease a 9x13 baking dish generously with butter. Set aside.

In a small saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Add brown sugar and stir



A plate of French Toast Pudding.

-Photos by Vicki Frank Day



A slightly stale loaf, cut into cubes, gives a desirable texture to bread pudding.

until melted and combined. As the sugar melts, the butter will at first pool a bit, but keep stirring. It will come together as it cooks into a caramel. It should take about 6 minutes. Remove from heat and pour into prepared baking dish to evenly coat the bottom.

In a large bowl, whisk the eggs. Add milk, cream, sugar, vanilla and Grand Marnier (if using), spices and salt and whisk to combine. The cinnamon may form little clumps, but that's fine. Add bread cubes and stir well to coat thoroughly. Let sit to absorb the batter (at least 30 minutes), stirring occasionally.

Transfer soaked bread to baking dish, spreading evenly to cover caramel. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

### Method for Cinnamon Streusel

In a small bowl, whisk together flour, brown sugar, cinnamon and salt. Add butter and use a pastry cutter or fork to incorporate butter until crumbly. If the butter warms up it may clump, but that's OK too. Transfer to a zip top bag and refrigerate until ready to use.

### Method for Blackberry Sauce

In a small saucepan, heat preserves over medium heat, stirring constantly. It will thin as it warms. Add water, starting with 1 tablespoon but no more than 2, to thin it enough so it won't reset too firmly as it cools. I recommend doing this just before the pudding is done. It needs to be served warm. If making ahead, reheat to make it pourable.

When it's time to bake the pudding, preheat oven to 350 degrees. (If it looks too dry, add a little more cream before baking). Sprinkle top of pudding evenly with cinnamon sugar streusel. Bake uncovered until puffed up, set and golden, 45-60 minutes (check after 45).

### To serve

Cut into squares; plate and top with warm berry sauce and whipped cream. Serve immediately. Serves 10-12.

A note here: I recommend you eat this hot, or at least warm. If it isn't, the caramel on the bottom gets pretty hard. To reheat any left over, pop in the oven for 20 minutes or so.

Easy, impressive, festive, comforting and luscious AND can be made ahead? It's also versatile, being just as lovely for brunch as it is dessert. Sounds like the perfect thing to add to your holiday recipe box! Now you have it, so why not start making your holidays more special right away? Let's be thankful for all we have, add to our traditions and celebrate family and togetherness.

Vicki Frank Day's background includes over two decades in various aspects of the food service industry. In addition, she has over 27 years' experience in marketing, graphic design, copy writing, food styling and research. She believes cooking should be a fun adventure, that food should be an experience and that every day can be a special occasion. Email her at [vickiloves2cook@gmail.com](mailto:vickiloves2cook@gmail.com).

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# Millbrook Winery offers personal touch Custom Wine Labels for gifting season

Just in time for the holiday season, Hudson Valley flagship winery Millbrook Vineyards & Winery (Millbrook Winery) is accepting custom wine bottle label orders. A perfect way to create personalized gifts, individuals and businesses have the opportunity to transform Millbrook wine into a sophisticated, custom gift ideal for family gatherings, corporate celebrations and employee recognition, among other milestones.

The process is simple – customers select from Millbrook Winery’s award-winning varietals and add a unique, professionally designed label, created by the winery’s graphic designer. Each bottle can feature the recipient’s name, a company logo or a special message on the selection of label templates or



Just in time for the holiday season, Millbrook Vineyards & Winery (Millbrook Winery) is accepting custom wine bottle label orders.

-Courtesy photo

create your very own design.

“One of the things we love most

about being a premier hospitality destination in the Hudson Valley is helping

our guests create long-lasting memories,” said David Bova, general manager of Millbrook Winery. “Whether commemorating an anniversary, showing appreciation to a valued client, or celebrating the holidays, our custom-labeled bottles provide a unique and personal touch, making each shared glass of wine even more memorable. We look forward to helping customers create the perfect meaningful gift – one that can be enjoyed now or cherished for years to come.”

Early orders are encouraged to ensure timely delivery for the holiday season. For more information visit <https://www.millbrookwine.com/labels/custom-label/>, email [SHudson@millbrookwine.com](mailto:SHudson@millbrookwine.com) or call 845-677-8383 ext. 17.

# New exhibitions by BAU artist Joel Brown, guest artist Onaje Benjamin

Gallery 1: “Monochrome,” is a two person show of ceramics and photography featuring BAU artist Joel Brown and invited guest artist Onaje Benjamin.

The opening is set for the Second Saturday on Dec. 14, noon-6 p.m., with an artists’ reception from 6-8 p.m. at BAU Gallery, 506 Main St. in Beacon. The exhibition can be seen on Saturdays and Sundays noon-6 p.m. or by appointment.

Brown’s ceramic pieces reflect his architectural background. But after

many years of building design and construction, he is drawn to the immediacy of work in clay. Brown is inspired by antique skeleton watches, where the appearance of the mechanism is as important as the engraving on the case. The surfaces of his pieces are achieved by wood firings through the action of flame and ash. The kilns, based on ancient Japanese models, are stoked around the clock by teams for as long as a week, reaching over two thousand degrees.



The opening of “Monochrome” will be held on December 14 at BAU Gallery in Beacon.

-Courtesy images

Benjamin is a humanist documentary photographer. His creative process involves monochromatic interpretations of the intrinsic aspects of life. The streets are structural and functional palettes upon which lights, shadows, reflections, and colors blend to shape our perceptions, ideas, and beliefs.

In Gallery 2 + Beacon Room, there will be the celebration of the “Vicennial Anniversary- BAU Gallery’s 20th Year.” BAU Gallery celebrates its 20th anniversary with its 237th consecutive exhibition, marking two decades of artistic innovation and community engagement. Show will run until Jan. 14, 2025.

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by mark adams

# ‘Food and Country’

A film that provides plenty of ‘food for thought.’



Our broken food system. The food desert. Food insecurity. Empty calories. Ultra-processed. Factory farms. Skyrocketing prices. Price gouging. Monsanto. It seems like everybody has some kind of complaint about the food we eat. Never mind that America in the 21st century has the most abundant food supply the world has ever known.

Last Wednesday, a sold-out crowd packed the Upstate Films theater in Rhinebeck to watch “Food and Country,” a new documentary put together by the author and restaurant critic Ruth Reichl, who traveled from her home in Stephentown, N.Y. to watch the film with us. On the one hand, it was encouraging to see so many people at an actual movie theater. On the other hand, I was dreading yet another movie bashing the 7 percent of hard-working farmers who supply the rest of us with our daily bread.

But “Food and Country” was different. Conceived during the pandemic, when our food system actually was severely challenged, the film explores the connection, or disconnection, between the producers and the consumers. Reichl interviews farmers, and not the ones she refers to as “boutique farmers.” She talks to large-scale farmers, and uncovers a disturbing trend that is threatening our food supply:

Angela Knuth grows corn, soybeans and wheat in Mead, Nebraska with husband Kerry and their two sons, who both have part-time, off-the-farm jobs. The farm struggles with debt, borrowing from the bank in the spring, hoping to pay it back after the harvest. The audience at Upstate let out an audible gasp at the sight of one of the farm’s \$500,000 tractors. Angela converted part of the farm to organic production, not out of some philosophical convictions, but in an attempt to make more money.

She’s hoping that the 4th generation Knuth Farm will transition to the 5th.

Steve Stratford runs thousands of Angus on his cattle ranch in Pratt, Kansas. He paints a bleak picture of the future, as the beef industry consolidates. Small ranchers are at the mercy of the four big beef packers – Cargill, Tyson, JBS and National Beef. As

the small ranches disappear, rural towns will empty out, youngsters will take jobs in the city and all our eggs, so to speak, will be in one basket.

That’s exactly what happened to Bob Jones of The Chef’s Garden in Huron, Ohio. He relied exclusively on sales to restaurants. When COVID shut the restaurants down, Bob sat by helplessly as acres of cauliflower rotted in the fields. He couldn’t pay his 120 workers, and had no money to harvest and store the crops, or to package and send them to food banks. The system was truly broken, showing how vulnerable we are to a crisis. A poignant moment in the film – Bob broke down and cried. Then he pointed out that we need people to harvest crops, or we will import our food from overseas.

Karen Washington, a hometown hero, so to speak, runs Rise and Root Farm in Chester, N.Y. Her operation is large enough to “rise” above the “boutique” category, providing thousands of pounds of fresh produce and thousands of seedlings to food pantries and community gardens from New York City to Kingston. The farm, at the Chester Agricultural Center on the rich black dirt in Orange County, is a training ground for hundreds of potential new farmers.

Ruth Reichl lets the voices of the farmers themselves address possible solutions to the challenges facing our formidable agricultural juggernaut. One of the forward thinkers is Will Harris, of White Oak Pastures in Bluffton, Georgia. The little town, population 113, was on the ropes until Harris transformed the 3,200-acre operation into one of the most respected organic farms in the world, raising grass-fed beef, butchered on site with full transparency. Now his hundreds of employees have revitalized Bluffton with new parks, schools and churches.

At one point, the film seemed to be blaming distributors, singling out Sysco, for the high price of groceries. I talked to a few of the folks who distribute to our family supermarkets, and I’m convinced that they are not responsible. If anything, distributors economize the food system by smoothing the path from producer to consumer. And the grocery



Distributors pave the way.

stores themselves? Just take a look at my cousin Pat Adams, the CEO of our family’s markets. If he owns a private jet, I’ve never seen it.

“Food and Country” is available on streaming services Google Play, Fundango

at Home and Amazon Prime Video.

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



Ruth Reichl at Upstate Films.

-Photos by Mark Adams

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# Obituaries

## Maxine Borowsky Junge



BEACON - Maxine Borowsky Junge, a pioneering art therapist, esteemed educator, and published author, passed away on October 30, 2024, in Beacon, NY, at the age of 87, following a chronic illness.

Born in Los Angeles, California, Maxine was the daughter of Marvin and Maxine Borowsky. Her father was a screenwriter and painter, and her mother, a costume designer who worked on Broadway and in early Hollywood. Growing up in a creative household, Maxine was inspired to pursue art as a form of expression and healing. She spent most of her childhood and professional life in Los Angeles, where she developed her career as an art therapist and educator.

Maxine pursued a B.A. at Scripps College, an M.S.W. from the University of Southern California, and later a Ph.D. from the Fielding Institute in Santa Barbara. Early in her career, she helped develop and direct "Operation Adventure," an arts-and-education program for underserved youth in San Diego, reflecting her dedication to using creativity as a tool for social change.

In 1980, she joined the art therapy program at Loyola Marymount University, where she served as associate director and later as program chair, helping shape the field and mentoring countless students. In addition to her roles at Loyola, Maxine was a key figure in the broader field of art therapy, where her contributions have been widely recognized. Throughout her career, she presented lectures, workshops, and courses across the U.S. and internationally.

In retirement, Maxine moved to Whidbey Island, Washington, where she resided for two decades, and in 2019, she relocated to Beacon, New York, to be closer to her son. Beyond her professional achievements, Maxine was known for her warmth, humor, and commitment to mentorship. She was deeply devoted to her family and is survived by her children, Marvin Benjamin Junge and Alexandra Danielle Junge, her grandson, Henry Petrie, and her beloved cat companions, Spencer and Katie. She took great pride in her children's accomplishments and held close friendships and bonds with her students, many of whom saw her as a lifelong mentor.

Maxine's life was one of creativity, resilience, and a passionate dedication to art, activism and healing.

## Daniel W. Sobenko



Daniel W. Sobenko, 72, an area resident since 1969 and formerly of Manhattan, died peacefully at his home on November 6, 2024.

Born in Manhattan on January 13, 1952, he was the son of the late William and Justyna (Orlowska) Sobenko. Dan graduated with his bachelor's degree from Marist College. He was employed as a Letter Carrier for the US Postal Service in Wappingers Falls for 14 years. He was also the owner and operator of Charel's Liquors in LaGrangeville for 30 years.

On September 20, 1980 at St. Denis Church in Hopewell Junction, Dan married the love of his life, Mary "Margie" Phillips who survives at home. He is also survived by his children and their spouses, Stephen and Katherine Sobenko, Jessica and Azim Abdabhai, and Adam and Amber Sobenko; his grandchildren, Deckard, Emily, Theodore and Henry; and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Dan was a parishioner of St. Columba

Church in Hopewell Junction. He had been a member of Hopewell Hose Company #1; a third degree member of St. Mary's Council #4065, Knights of Columbus; and a fourth degree member of St. John Paul II Assembly #2917.

Dan was an avid soccer and hockey fan and loved watching his favorite teams; Barcelona and the Rangers. He also loved watching and coaching his kids in soccer for the East Fishkill Youth Soccer Club.

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

In lieu of flowers, Memorial donations may be made to Team Gleason, Hospice of the Hudson Valley or St. Columba Church.

## Fred Holmes



BEACON - Fred Holmes of Beacon, born and raised in the Bronx, went to be with the Lord on November 7, 2024 at 77 years old.

Beloved husband of 33 years to Diane Holmes of Beacon. Loving father of Joshua Raukohl. Loving father of Jonathan and his wife, Nicole Raukohl of South Boston, MA. Precious grandfather to Jax, Jase and Jordan. Loving son to Fred and Lillian Holmes. Survived by cousins, lots of extended family members all over the country and many close friends, notably his best friends, Christine Lifgren and Gerri Ramos.

Proud Navy veteran who served his country honorably in Vietnam and then dedicated his adult life to helping veterans and addicts in need. Fred was an extraordinary human being who will be missed by so many.

There will be no immediate wake or funeral, but a Memorial Service will be held at a later date at the Fishkill Baptist Church.

Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey is making arrangements for Fred's cremation.

To send a personal condolence please visit [www.riverviewbyhalvey.com](http://www.riverviewbyhalvey.com).

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

## Charles H. Howes, Jr.



EAST FISHKILL - Charles H. Howes, Jr. (he was always proud of saying that name). Charlie was born on June 8, 1951 in Sharon CT and died unexpectedly on November 7th, 2024 at his home in Hopewell Junction, NY.

He was a loving son, brother, uncle and friend who always had a gentle nature & kind heart. He lived most of his life in Poughkeepsie, graduated from PHS & attended DCC. He owned a business in Poughkeepsie for many years and retired in 2022.

Charlie enjoyed traveling but didn't do as much as he hoped to. He loved the NY Yankees since childhood & watched their games as often as possible -with the sound turned off. He said he didn't need them to tell him what was going on! The biggest Civil War buff, he could rattle off remarkable amounts of information regarding the entire

event. He was also a huge music fan (especially Frank Zappa) & had an extensive & impressive album collection, and imparted this love of music unto many of his younger relatives. Whenever possible he would grab a few family members & off they went to a concert. At any family or friends' gathering he was the man at the grill and was very proud of his cooking.

Charles is survived by his sister, Lolly LaManna & husband Terry of Dover Plains & their children - his nephew & niece Ted LaManna & Christine LaManna; nieces, Rosalie Hasbrouck of New Paltz, Jolie Phelan & husband Greg of Miami Fl., and Tina Debone & husband Tom of CA; nephews, Michael Cannizzaro & Tony Cannizzaro of Hopewell Junction; as well as many special grand-nieces & grand-nephews.

Charles was predeceased by parents Charles (Cookie) Howes, Sr. and Peggy Howes; sisters, Kay Ostroski and Valerie Cannizzaro; and niece Kathie Steele. He was also predeceased by his long-time best friend & nephew-in-law, Ken Hasbrouck. He loved and was loved by his family very much.

He leaves behind special friends Leo O'Mara, Rick Vacca and Susan Temple among others.

Rest in peace, you dancin' fool. There will be no services.

Because Charlie loved animals, please consider donating in his memory to the animal rescue charity of your choice. Arrangements are under the direction of the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc. Please visit [www.mchoulfuneralhome.com](http://www.mchoulfuneralhome.com).

## Thomas Carl Whiting



WAPPINGERS FALLS - Thomas Carl Whiting, a resident of Wappingers Falls, entered into rest Saturday, November 9, 2024 at Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan. He was 62.

Son of Margaret Melinsky Whiting and the late Walter F. Whiting, he was born July 16, 1962 in Mount Vernon. On September 10, 1989 at United Lutheran Church in Mount Vernon, he married the former Mona McKee. Mrs. Whiting survives at home in Wappingers Falls.

Tom retired as a detective with the Westchester County Department of Public Safety. While working, he was a member of the Westchester County PBA. Tom was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Fishkill. Tom treasured times spent in Cape Cod where the family has a home and spent summer vacations.

In addition to his mother and wife, Tom is survived by his sons, Thomas J. Whiting and Christopher C. Whiting; his brothers, Robert and wife, Carolyn Whiting and James and wife, Italia Whiting; his sister-in-law, Mary McKee; brother-in-law, Terrence McKee; his niece, Annemarie Folken and nephew, Matthew Whiting.

He was predeceased by his mother and father-in-law, James and Helga Broddeck McKee.

Family and friends gathered on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at Straub, Catalano & Halvey Funeral Home, 55 East Main Street in Wappingers Falls.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, November 14 at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1400 Route 52 in Fishkill.

Memorial donations in Tom's name may be made to Mount Sinai Health System, Multiple Myeloma Program, PO Box 1049, New York, NY 10029 or Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10306.

To send the family a personal condolence, please visit our website at [www.StraubCatalanoHalvey.com](http://www.StraubCatalanoHalvey.com).

## Emil D. Sjoholm



BEACON - Emil D. Sjoholm, a longtime resident of Beacon, passed away peacefully on November 16, 2024 at the New York State Veterans Home in Montrose, having resided there for the last three years. He was 94.

Born in Ludington, Michigan on October 6, 1930, the son of the late Frans Eskil Sjoholm and Anne Stuart. Emil grew up in Ludington on the shores of Lake Michigan and enjoyed a childhood enhanced by nearness to water. He was a graduate of Ludington High School and later earned a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from Michigan Technological College as well as a Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering from Manhattan College in New York. Emil worked for over thirty years as a Research Chemical Engineer at the Texaco Labs located in Glenham.

He enjoyed working with his hands at woodcraft in his spare time. He also enjoyed singing and was an active member of the choirs at both Our Savior Lutheran Church in Fishkill and St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Beacon. Emil loved participating in County Players productions. He also enjoyed coaching the Beacon Ski Club. Emil liked running and was proud of completing two NYC Marathons in his lifetime. He also was a pitcher for the Texaco Labs softball team.

Emil was predeceased by his parents and his first wife, Doris Ann Sjoholm and a son, Erik Sjoholm. He is survived by his sons, Christopher and Thor Sjoholm; his daughters, Sigrid Vaughn and Sonja Tyus; his stepmother, Marilyn Sjoholm; his two sisters, Jeanne Kagey and Margaret Hayes; in addition, he is survived by his second wife, Florence Ferin Sjoholm and her children from a previous marriage, Roy and Robert Ferin and Sabrina Sternbach; his five granddaughters and three grandsons; several nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church, on Wednesday, November 20 at 11 a.m., followed by military honors and interment at Fishkill Rural Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Emil's name to the New York State Veterans Home in Montrose or to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Fishkill.

To send a personal condolence please visit [www.riverviewbyhalvey.com](http://www.riverviewbyhalvey.com).

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

- Southern Dutchess News
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## Beacon Bulldogs 9U celebrate 9-8 win over Hillcrest



The Beacon Bulldogs 9U won 9-8 over the Hillcrest Lakers 9U. The game was tied when Aidan F. came up to bat. He singled, which allowed one run to score—ending the tie and the game in a victory for the Bulldogs. The Bulldogs, at one point, were down 8-4, according to reports.

The Lakers were winning the game into the 6th inning. Brennan D. doubled during the second, which caused a run to score. Then, in the third, two runs were added after a 6-pitch at-bat for Owen S. It was the fourth inning when the Lakers began to get in the game. The Lakers scored



The Beacon Bulldogs 9U celebrate their recent 9-8 victory over the Hillcrest Lakers 9U.

six runs and the score was 6-3. All things changed again, when in the sixth, the Bulldogs scored 5 runs and taking the lead – 9-8. Beacon Bulldogs 9U collected 11 hits in the game. The Bulldogs 9U Brennan, Owen, Jaycee, and Aidan each had two


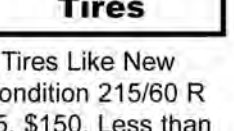

hits during the game. The players are: Brennan Durkin, Owen Stanley, Hudson Blessings, Jaycee Pollard, Glenn Skinner, Ethan Gikes, Aidan Flyin, Flynn Spiack, Ronin Prouty, Dennis Ritchie Naughton, Zach Ross, and Jack Seymour.

-Courtesy photos

• Southern Dutchess News  
• Beacon Free Press  
• Northern Dutchess News

# Classified

## SDN Subscriber ads

<p><b>150</b> <b>Announcements</b></p>	<p><b>401</b> <b>Apartments for Rent</b></p>	<p><b>503</b> <b>Furniture</b></p>	<p><b>516</b> <b>Misc. Merchandise</b></p>	<p><b>516</b> <b>Misc. Merchandise</b></p>	<p><b>516</b> <b>Misc. Merchandise</b></p>	<p><b>903</b> <b>Motorcycles</b></p>
<p><b>Hopewell Fire Dept's Annual Fair Nov. 30th. 320 Route 376 10AM - 4PM</b> Support the Fire House &amp; Small Business Vendors. Take a chance at our 50/50 and Scratch off Bundles</p>	<p><b>Victorian, BEACON 9D / mins. RR - 70 NYC Hwy, Spectacular Hudson Views, Rest. Antiques, Hiking, biking, Mountains, 2BD + Den, DW / WD, Split - Level, \$2,800. Suitable 1 - 3. 914-960-0069 or 914-584-7137</b></p>	<p><b>Day Bed Frame</b> Twin white Decorative Head and Side Frame. Excellent condition, \$100. 845-226-8896</p>	<p><b>7 foot prelit artificial Christmas tree.</b> Used a few times, comes in a nice bag, \$65. 845-221-3824</p>	<p><b>Special Bike made in Denmark, good cond., \$75.</b> 845-401-7654</p>	<p><b>Nine boxes of Floor Tile White Asking \$100. Call Mr. Gibbs (845) 821-8823 Any Time Leave Message.</b></p>	<p><b>1993 Harley Davidson FLHTC 1340cc, Black/Chrome, \$5,000 OBO. CALL: 845-554-6317</b></p>
	<p><b>403</b> <b>Furnished Rooms</b></p>	<p><b>Patio set, glass top with four chairs with cushions. 9 foot umbrella with stand. Used once, \$350. Call 845-297-4741</b></p>	<p><b>Vintage cast ironb white pedestal sink with faucets, \$50.</b> 845-297-7685</p>	<p><b>Pony saddle, small horse, \$75.</b> 845-401-7654</p>	<p><b>Outdoor Mult. Position Reclining Chair, Cost \$75 New. Large Size. Call: 845-297-2105</b></p>	
<p><b>107</b> <b>Situations Wanted</b></p>	<p><b>2 rooms, Private Bathroom and Entrance. Semi furnished, into private home. No Kitchen.</b> Call: 845-784-8964</p>	<p><b>Queen size wood sleigh bed box spring mattress included. Exc. Cond. Best offer.</b> 845-625-3213</p>	<p><b>10" (TC250B) Tilesaw 2.5 H/P with PVD tray. 3340 RPM with mini pum Chicago power tool, \$150 OBO. Ping Pong table MDSport Not Used, \$125 OBO.</b> 845-831-8968</p>	<p><b>AC Ptable, \$80 - Dehumidifier, \$60, Grill Free, Snare Drum, \$80, Wicker shelf, Lamp, \$40.</b> 845-418-0069</p>	<p><b>Four Kenwood KL777 100W speakers, wood cabinet, exc. cond., \$225.</b> 845-337-6509</p>	<p><b>904</b> <b>Tires</b></p>
<p><b>Needed House Cleaner Aid for Elderly Woman. Two times a week. Errands, shopping and appointments.</b> Call: 845-297-5414</p>	<p><b>503</b> <b>Furniture</b></p>	<p><b>Bunk Bed set with ladder, one dresser. Early american style, great condition \$175.</b> 845-227-5922</p>	<p><b>Nodic Ski Track Exercisor, \$60. Pair AR2 Acoustic Speakers, \$300. Pair 15" Tri-Axe Speakers in cabinets, \$300 OBO.</b> 845-297-6369</p>	<p><b>Magnisium Alum Alloy 16' extension ladder, 8' glass reinforced step ladder, Make offer.</b> 845-297-6369</p>	<p><b>Paintball Equipment for sale. Guns cases hoppers tanks masks all in good working order. Asking \$150 for all.</b> 914-420-5626</p>	<p><b>4 Tires Like New Condition 215/60 R 15, \$150. Less than 3K miles.</b> 845-221-2161</p>
<p><b>House Cleaner Needed. Small two bedroom, two baths. References and Driver License Required.</b> 845-325-2337</p>	<p><b>4 set Antique wood dining chairs upholstered seats exc. cond. Best offer.</b> 845-625-3213</p>	<p><b>504</b> <b>Appliances</b></p>	<p><b>Electronic Radial Saw, \$50, One motor, \$10. New Bathroom vanity with sink, \$60, Router and bits, \$50. Leave message 845-462-4441</b></p>	<p><b>9 Boxes of Vinyl Floor Tile. Best Offer. Call Mr. Gibbs 845-821-8823</b></p>	<p><b>900</b> <b>Autos For Sale</b></p>	<p><b>Hitch receiver for bike rack. Will fit any Prius. Excellent condition. New \$265, Now \$135.</b> 845-896-5197</p>
<p><b>Residential and Commercial Clean outs. Disposal of unwanted items Carpentry work Interior and Exterior Painting. Property Management Call Craig 845-891-8930</b></p>	<p><b>2-drawer, wide, metal fiing cabinet. Good shape, tan, has lock but no key. 19 D x 30 W x 28 H.</b> \$25. 845-227-5922</p>	<p><b>LG Convection LP Gas Range. Like new, hardly used. Griddle, paid \$1300 sell for \$500.</b> 845-475-2958</p>	<p><b>AC Filters-Precision Aire, 30 x 30 x 1 pleated-model 40, \$8 each.</b> 845-264-0240</p>	<p><b>Billiard Table Oak wood. Slate Surface. You disassemble and remove, \$250.00 FIRM</b> 845-242-2542</p>	<p><b>2012 Jeep Wrangler 83,000 miles. Fantastic shape. Must see to appreciate. Many accessories including cover and tow package. Text 845-401-6648.</b></p>	

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

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

Suguru

			<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>
			<b>5</b>		
					<b>5</b>
		<b>5</b>			<b>1</b>

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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: FAMOUS ACTORS**

**ACROSS**

1. QA's focus, pl.
5. "Swan Lake" steps
8. Evite request, acr.
12. Long stories
14. Final, abbr.
15. Opposite of neo-
16. Synagogue scroll
17. Poseidon's domain
18. One-eighty
19. \*Mary Poppins and Maria von Trapp
21. \*Vivian Ward and Erin Brockovich
23. Kum Ba follower
24. Cry out loud
25. Stolen, slangily
28. Greek salad cheese
30. Popular clubs of the 1970s
35. Chimpanzees, e.g.
37. Porcine fat
39. Great divide
40. Cat o'how many tails?
41. Podium, pl.
43. Dead against
44. Work the dough
46. Urban haze
47. Manner of walk
48. Parlor piece
50. Riyadh native, e.g.
52. Sixth note
53. Common fairway club
55. Brewed beverage
57. \*"Red" Redding and Nelson Mandela
61. \*Ricky Bobby and Buddy
65. Beat the Joneses
66. Outrage
68. Adjust, as laces
69. Tears violently
70. Anointment liquid
71. Talks and talks and talks
72. a.k.a. Operation Neptune
73. "Just kidding!"
74. Billy Joel's "\_\_\_\_ Always a Woman"

**DOWN**

1. Between Phi and Kappa
2. Second word in a fairytale
3. Encircle
4. Like Freddy Krueger, e.g.
5. Boot-wearing feline
6. Draft pick
7. Impolite look
8. Miles per hour, e.g.
9. Insult
10. Between bleu and jaune
11. Connection between brain and spinal cord
13. Bundle of wheat
15. Like certain libraries
20. Pup
22. Hemingway's "The \_\_\_\_ Man and the Sea"
24. Railyard worker
25. \*Forrest Gump and Jimmy Dugan
26. Offer two cents
27. Doctrine
29. New Mexico town
31. Deep pile carpet
32. Atlantic Ocean/Pacific Ocean waterway, e.g.
33. Ostium, pl.
34. \*Violet Crawley and Minerva McGonagall
36. Center of authority
38. "The New Look" main character
42. September stone
45. Phobos' brother, Greek mythology
49. Time period
51. \*Catwoman and "Jinx" Johnson
54. Vidalia one
56. Regions
57. \*Han Solo and Indiana Jones
58. Wished undone
59. Europe's highest volcano
60. \*Nelson, star of 8 films with Jeanette MacDonald
61. Matted wool
62. Write on tombstone, e.g.
63. Facebook button
64. More is \_\_\_\_?
67. Duran Duran's 1982 album

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 next page

# Reflection, Remembrance and Hope: All welcome at Overdose Awareness Memorial

If you've ever entered the Dutchess County Rail Trail, behind Gold's Gym in LaGrange, or exited there after a walk, run or bike ride, then you've likely seen the beautifully landscaped memorial with four pillars and a sitting wall surrounding it.

A bit closer, you'd notice the bricks leading up to it have names and dates or phrases like, "Reach out" and "Hope." Toward the center, you'd see padlocks attached to a chain link fence. On those locks are names, dates and even inscribed pictures of people – individuals who have lost their battle to addiction. In June 2022, the MARC Foundation, in partnership with the Mental Health America of Dutchess County (MHA - DC) and Gold's Gym Dutchess County, who generously donated the land for this purpose, cut the ribbon on what is Dutchess County's only Overdose Awareness Memorial. Since then, it's become a sanctuary and place of reflection and hope for many.

"We created this memorial so that people have a place to honor those they've loved and lost, but also to bring awareness to the silent cause of struggle for many," said Kristin Fountain, president of the MARC Foundation board. "There's no cost to visit and everyone is welcome. The public is invited to place a lock on the fence or, if they'd like to remember their loved one and help us raise funds and awareness, they can purchase a customized brick to be installed at the entrance of the memorial. The bricks can have names, dates or even simply share a message of hope or support for someone who is living in recovery."

Another key feature of the Overdose Awareness Memorial is the kiosk located just outside of the memorial, which holds a host of resources and information for anyone seeking support, whether it's the individual themselves or a family member or friend looking for connections within the community. Inside the kiosk is a scannable QR code with information on how to purchase a brick or to donate funds to help with the upkeep of the

memorial. The holidays can be a difficult time for anyone who has lost a loved one. The Overdose Memorial welcomes you to share and cherish their memory through an engraved brick or a personalized padlock.

"Resources include information on suicide prevention, mental health support, 12-step groups, veteran's services, addiction and recovery help lines and more," said Andrew O'Grady, CEO of MHA - DC. "The important thing is that help is available and no one needs to struggle alone."

To learn more about the Overdose Awareness Memorial, or upcoming events, resources and news, head to [marcfoundation.org](http://marcfoundation.org) or follow the MARC Foundation on Facebook.

The mission of the MARC Foundation is to generate financial support to provide prevention and residential treatment for individuals with a substance use disorder. The Foundation accomplishes this mission by giving grants to expand and improve sober housing, which creates a safe and secure environment for people in recovery, and by supporting organizations that prevent or treat substance use disorders.

In addition to helping to create the Overdose Awareness Memorial, the MARC Foundation supports the annual Overdose Awareness Day and provides scholarships for recovering substance abusers who want to work as addiction counselors. It also creates transition funds for those moving from community residences to mainstream life, supports members of local Oxford Houses and improves local community residences.

In the over 30 years since this Foundation was founded, it has helped thousands of people who have become clean and sober, witnessing miraculous journeys of recovery from people who were often written off by their families, employers and, most importantly, by themselves as being beyond help. Sadly, countless others are still being caught in the grips of this devastating disease.



The Overdose Awareness Memorial on the Dutchess County Rail Trail includes a padlock on the fence (free for anyone in the community to place in remembrance) and the memorial to which all are welcome. A ribbon-cutting event was held in 2022.

-Courtesy photos

### Legal Notices

#### REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-78-24

Leaf Springs  
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd day of December 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of

### Legal Notices

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.

## Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra to present 'Merry & Bright' on December 14

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra (GNSO) continues its 2024/25 season with "Merry & Bright" on Saturday, December 14 at 4 p.m. at Aquinas Hall on the Mount Saint Mary College campus in Newburgh, Orange County. Come join ring in the holidays with symphonic style!

Maestro Ger, shared his excitement for this year's holiday performance, "I am filled with pride that our holiday concert has become a community staple, part of the rhythm and rhyme of

the holiday season here. One new highlight will feature our superb Concert Master, Adrienne Harmon, in a spectacular arrangement for solo violin and orchestra, while another will spotlight our outstanding Principal Cello, Naomi Lisowski. We will also have our usual cavalcade of vocalists to perform everything cherished and familiar, and as always, we will end with our traditional audience sing-along!"

This performance has sold out for the past three years, and tickets at the door will be very limited, so be sure to get your tickets early.

Ticket prices are - Balcony \$80, Center Reserved \$65, General \$55, Senior Citizen (62+) \$35. Students (with current Student ID) are \$10 for general seating. They can be purchased at the door, by visiting [www.newburghsymphony.org](http://www.newburghsymphony.org) or calling 845- 913-7157.

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra is celebrating its 30th anniversary as one of the leading cultural institutions of the Hudson River Valley. It was founded in 1995 by Dr. Woomyung Choe and its first president, the late George Handler, who was followed as president after 10 years by the late Fred McCurdy.

## this week's puzzle solutions

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

This week's answer  
**SUDOKU**

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

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

Sudoku solution

# 'Beacons of History' recognized during annual event



The Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps was named the 2024 "Beacons of History" Awards organizational honoree.

-Courtesy photos



The Individual Honoree of the 2024 "Beacons of History" Awards was Ken Berisha and family.

The Beacon Historical Society presented its annual "Beacons of History" Awards on Nov. 7 to a family and an organization who have made substantial contributions to Beacon and helped to preserve its history and sense of community. It was the most successful installment to date of the eight-year tradition, raising more money to support the non-profit's operations than ever before. More than 200 people attended the friend- and fund-raiser at the historic Roundhouse event space.

The 2024 recognition was presented to:

**Individual Honorees:  
Ken Berisha & Family**

Ken Berisha symbolizes the generations of men and women who chose Beacon to write their chapter of the American Dream. Born in Kosovo, he immigrated to the United States in 1987 and started his first pizzeria business in

Beacon three years later. In 1998, Ken opened Brothers Trattoria, becoming one of the first business owners willing to invest in the East End of Main Street before its renaissance. Now, in addition to owning his original building at 465 Main, Ken and his extended family own 193-195, 169-175 and 530-534 Main Street. They have kept the historic facades of the structures compatible with our city's Hudson River Gothic architecture in scale and design. Ken, who became a U.S. Citizen nearly 30 years ago, says he felt "at home" as soon as he arrived in Beacon.

**Organizational Honorees:**

**Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps**  
When Walter Detwiller, Joe Catalano, George Cable, members of Beacon Fire Engine Company and 29 volunteers launched the Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps in 1958, could they

have imagined that the corps would ultimately save thousands of lives? Fortunately for Beacon, the volunteers who followed in their footsteps have continued to selflessly serve our community for more than 65 years. From modest beginnings -- the first BVAC ambulance was a donated 1948 burned-out Cadillac, and an old two-bay garage served as its headquarters -- BVAC has grown to answer about 3,500 emergency calls each year, making it one of the busiest in Dutchess County. In total, BVAC has responded to more than 100,000 calls since its inception.

"We congratulate these worthy honorees, and we are deeply grateful to the local businesses and residents who supported this event to celebrate Beacon's past and future," said Historical Society President Denise VanBuren, noting that

it is the Society's single largest fundraiser this year. "The proceeds will be used to assist our Society in preserving and promoting the history of Beacon at a time when our city is experiencing a great deal of interest and rebirth. We need to chronicle the stories of our community so that people better understand what makes this such a great place to live. Our mission has never been more important."

The Beacons of History Awards event was sold out, but a video of it can be found on the Society's website at [www.BeaconHistorical.org](http://www.BeaconHistorical.org) under Past Events. The site's Support tab also offers the opportunity to become a member. For just \$25 a year, members receive a monthly newsletter, invitations to special events and the satisfaction of knowing that they are helping to save and celebrate the rich history of Beacon. All are welcome.



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