

# State-level racing program thrives at FDR

## Students build team, learn valuable skills

By Jim Donick

In an innovative effort, a group of students at Franklin D. Roosevelt High School (FDR) in Hyde Park, are working with their hands and learning the satisfaction of building something truly exciting. They are building a racing style sports car from the ground up.

Beyond the building of the car, there are also teams of students learning that successful racing teams need more than simply a car. There is marketing of the team, communications programs, and all sorts of other pieces to field a racing team in the 21st century.

The program that facilitates this endeavor is called “Winners Circle.” It’s now a four-year-old project to bring this program to high schools. It’s currently only in New York State, but continues to grow.

Here in Dutchess County, three high schools are taking part: Roy C. Ketcham, John Jay, and FDR. President and CEO of the Winners Circle Foundation, Pius Kayiira, himself an FDR High graduate, takes special pride in having the project at his alma mater. He notes that there are currently five high schools in the state taking part, the three in Dutchess plus Waverly and Owego on the Southern Tier. For next year, Kayiira expects a sixth school, also in Dutchess, when the program is introduced in Dover.

The Winners Circle Project (WCP) describes itself as “a nonprofit organization designed to inspire high-school students through STEAM programs embedded in the exciting world of car racing. Through our work science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) come alive for our students through, on, and beyond the race track!”

Kayiira said, “Our Mission is to inspire the next generation of innovators through project-based learning embed-



With the engine installation nearly complete, activity around the “Winners Circle” project at Franklin D. Roosevelt High School has the entire team working on different details from front to rear in anticipation of firing up the engine and seeing the project’s chassis move under its own power for the first time. *Courtesy photos*



ded into the world of racing. WCP students work collaboratively throughout the academic year building a cobra roadster, marketing the vehicle through visual communication and public relations. The culmination of the project comes together in a capstone event where the best overall team will be crowned at the Victory Lap championship in May.”

The build program is based around a Factory Five Mk 4 Cobra Replica Kit. The manufacturer, Factory Five, provides a complete package, as well as technical assistance as needed, to assemble the kit

into a finished car. Similar cars are eligible for NASA’s Factory Five Challenge Series. The latter is a nationwide road racing series for amateur drivers.

The students don’t expect to ever race the car. So, to give them some of the experience and the pleasure of driving it, the program includes a very high tech racing simulator, so the students can “race” with none of the physical or economic downsides to making a mistake. The program has now expanded to a virtual racing series for the students, making

use of the simulator. The Winners Circle Project at each school is made up of three teams – a build team, a marketing team and a communications team. Each team learns and practices the skills needed for that particular expertise, and they also learn the importance of integrating each skill set with the others into creating a successful team. In addition to these race-related skills, they are also exposed to presentations and discussions on the broader skill sets

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# Sheehan new executive director of Rhinebeck Chamber

Nancy Sheehan has been named the new executive director of the Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce and will be assuming the role, beginning on Feb. 20.

Sheehan replaces Carolyn Bernitt, who excelled in the role for several years. Bernitt will be recognized as the annual “Good Egg” award winner at the ceremony on Wednesday, March 13 at The Pavilion at Brookmeade.

“Nancy is a familiar face within the Rhinebeck area and brings a wealth of experience and deep understanding of the local dynam-

ics,” said David Tellerday, President of the Rhinebeck Area Chamber Board of Directors. “She knows what it takes to lead our organization because she understands Rhinebeck. For much of her career, she has been embedded in our community in a variety of ways. We are excited to welcome Nancy to the Chamber.”

Sheehan is a seasoned professional with a diverse background in networking, community partnerships, customer service, and event planning. Formerly a Regional Career Navigator at Nuvance Health, she contributed to HR Talent Strategy and workforce development.

Her role as Volunteer Resources Manager at Vassar Brothers Medical Center showcased her dedication to patient care through managing adult and youth volunteers. With experience as a

Development Associate at Northern Dutchess Hospital, Sheehan organized major fundraising events and contributed to the Walkway Over the Hudson during its transition.

An elected Town of Hyde Park Receiver of Taxes, she is credited for exceptional customer service and community engagement.

Beyond her professional achievements, Sheehan, a Fordham University graduate, holds certifications in tourism and customer service, demonstrating her commitment to continuous learning. Married to Kevin Sheehan, she cherishes family time and pursues hobbies such as photography, crafting, baking, flower arranging, and handmade greeting cards.

Sheehan can be reached at [info@rhinebeckchamber.org](mailto:info@rhinebeckchamber.org) or (845) 876-5904 beginning Feb. 20.



Nancy Sheehan

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# State-level racing program thrives at FDR

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necessary to a successful life and career. These include goal-setting, personal communications and working on a team.

The Winners Circle Foundation has also developed a partnership with Alfred University's race team program. When the student vehicle is completed, it is taken up to Alfred where members of the Mechanical Engineering Department check all of the construction and evaluate the finished car.

Local Dutchess County Motor Racing Celebrity and reigning TransAm series Champion, Chris Dyson, is a great enthusiast for the Winners Circle Program and has lent his expertise as well as providing inspiration for the students as they progress. He and a couple of other racing drivers will test the cars upon completion and give the students feedback on handling, braking and all the myriad elements that come together in vehicle dynamics to make a successful racing sports car.

Why do it? One might ask Bob Beckmann of Matt's Auto Body in Salt Point, who is also a crew coach at FDR. He finds the program to be of enormous value.

"Cars are a part of our culture," he said. "Understanding how they work is actually important to being a safe driver, but also in just knowing what matters when thinking about taking care and maintaining them." He went on to say, "This project lets them build a car from A to Z. They see everything that goes into it and how the pieces come together." He takes his thoughts a step further, noting that "when they are working on cars and getting dirty, there's less time to get into other sorts of trouble. All of these skills will help later in life."

The final body preparation and paint-

ing of the FDR project car was donated by Matt's Auto Body, who finished the smoothing and sanding before painting the car in a deep shade that looks blue from some angles and green from others. It catches the eye.

Shawn Christensen, Technology Education Teacher at FDR, supervises and coaches the build team.

"This is just a super project," he said. "They are learning so much. We have a limited time during the day and so the team comes in and determines what new work to begin that day or what piece of the project to continue. Our principal, Michael Ruella, has been extremely supportive of what we are doing and the project has been followed by the whole school."

Kayiira of Winners Circle has taken a special interest in the project in Hyde Park and can't say enough about the teams and particularly about the support from the Principal.

"Mike Ruella has been an inspiration," he said.

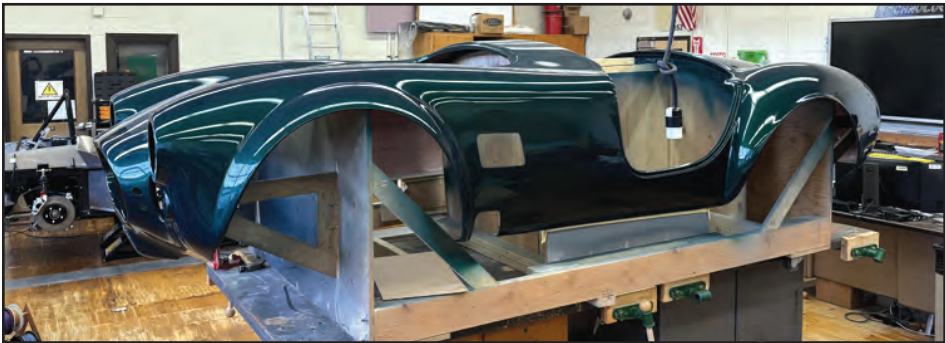
At the end of the school year, the cars from all five of the schools will be evaluated at Alfred University and a winning car will be named. Later, the cars will be auctioned off to provide funding for next year's project. The students will also be invited to Lime Rock Park Racing Circuit over the Memorial Day weekend to see and interact with professional racing teams up close.

Kayiira notes with pride that a graduate of this program's first year went on to study at Alfred University and has since gone on to a full time job with Dyson Racing.

The future for all of the students in the various sub teams of the Winners Circle Project appears very bright, indeed.



Above, the Winners Circle build program is based around a Factory Five Mk 4 Cobra Replica Kit. Students are shown working on the engine portion. Below, the final body preparation and painting of the FDR project car was donated by Matt's Auto Body, who finished the smoothing and sanding before painting the car in a deep shade that looks blue from some angles and green from others. It catches the eye. *Courtesy photos*



## Super Bowl weekend STOP-DWI crack down taking place Feb. 9-11

Various law-enforcement agencies throughout Dutchess County will participate in a special enforcement effort to crack down on impaired driving during Super Bowl weekend, beginning Feb. 9 and concluding Feb. 11.



Municipal law enforcement agencies will join agencies across the state and will be out in force in this coordinated effort to aggressively target those who put lives in danger.



County Executive Sue Serino said, "Our roads must be safe for all Dutchess County residents, and we thank our dedicated men and women of law enforcement for working every day to get impaired drivers off the street. No matter who you root for in the Super Bowl, we all win when you designate a driver."


Research shows high-visibility com-


munity engagement campaigns can reduce impaired driving fatalities by as much as 20 percent. Sobriety checkpoints play a key part in raising awareness about the problem. The Super Bowl crackdown is one of many statewide high visibility community engagement campaigns promoted by the New York State STOP-DWI Association. In addition to this crackdown, statewide STOP-DWI engagement campaigns also target Memorial Day Weekend, July 4th, Labor Day Weekend, Halloween, Thanksgiving and the holiday season in December.

Drivers can help to make a difference by having a sober plan. Motorists can download the mobile app, "Have a Plan," and be able to find a safe ride home at [www.stopdwi.org/mobileapp](http://www.stopdwi.org/mobileapp).

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## Hinchey announces February mobile office hours

Sen. Michelle Hinchey recently announced that members of her constituent services team will hold mobile office hours throughout the month of February, continuing their work to bring state government services to communities across the 41st Senate District. Constituents are invited to meet with constituent services specialists from Hinchey's team for direct assistance, which can include help working with any state agency, heating and housing support, connections to food and health resources, solving EZPass and DMV issues, and more. Free COVID tests and masks will be available at all mobile office hours.

Hinchey's Kingston office will operate late-night hours every Thursday in February, from 5 to 7 p.m. Additionally, at select office hours throughout the month, Hinchey's office will partner with NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli's Office to provide constituents with the chance to see if they are owed unclaimed funds as well as Congressman Pat Ryan's Office for support accessing federal benefits and resources.

Appointments can be scheduled online via Hinchey's Senate website at <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/michelle-hinchey>.

### **COLUMBIA COUNTY**

Thursday, February 8, in partnership with the Office of NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli  
 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Kinderhook Memorial Library  
 18 Hudson St, Kinderhook, NY 12106  
**GREENE COUNTY**

Wednesday, February 14, in partnership with the Office of NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli  
 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Catskill Public Library  
 1 Franklin St, Catskill, NY 12414  
**ULSTER COUNTY**

Tuesday, February 20, in partnership with the Office of NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli  
 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Elting Memorial Library  
 93 Main St, New Paltz, NY 12561  
**DUTCHESS COUNTY**

Thursday, February 22, in partnership with the Office of Congressman Pat Ryan  
 10 a.m.-noon  
 Millerton Village Hall  
 5933-59 N Elm Ave, Millerton, NY 12546

Thursday, February 22, in partnership with the Office of Congressman Pat Ryan  
 1-3 p.m.  
 Millbrook Village Hall  
 35 Merit Ave, Millbrook, NY 12545

Senator Hinchey's District Office at 721 Broadway, Suite 150, Kingston, NY 12401, is open on weekdays from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Thursdays until 7:00 pm. The Senator's Constituent Services team can be contacted at 845-331-3810.

## Rolison to host Mobile Office services Feb. 15

State Senator Rob Rolison (39th District) announced on Feb. 2 that his District Office staff will provide Mobile Office services to City of Beacon residents on Thursday, February 15 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in the Veterans Memorial Building. Rolison hosted numerous Mobile Office events in 2023 for residents in various parts of the tri-county 39th Senate District.

Rolison said, "Our staff is here to help. Please remember to RSVP and bring all

appropriate paperwork with you. Many thanks to our friends at the American Legion for hosting us. See you on February 15!"

The Veterans Memorial Building is located at 413 Main Street and limited off-street parking is available in the rear. Those wishing to receive assistance with veterans' issues, utility billing, unemployment benefits, and more are encouraged to RSVP.

Call 845-229-0106 or email [rolison@nysenate.gov](mailto:rolison@nysenate.gov) to reserve a spot.

## Rhinebeck Chamber sets Business After Hours on Feb. 8

The Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its February Business After Hours at John G. Ullman & Associates, Inc. on Thursday, Feb. 8, from 5 to 7 p.m. 5pm - 7pm

Rhinebeck Chamber member John G. Ullman is hosting an exclusive after-hours networking event and would be

delighted to have you join us. It's a great opportunity to unwind, connect with fellow professionals and meet members of the successful John G. Ullman & Assoc. team.

The event is free for Members, \$15 for Non-Members. Visit [www.rhinebeckchamber.com](http://www.rhinebeckchamber.com) to register.

## Dangerous winter weather intensifying emergency blood shortage

Road conditions,  
 flight delays impacting  
 Red Cross transport of  
 lifesaving blood products

**\$20 Amazon.com Gift Card  
 by email for those who come  
 to give in February**

The American Red Cross continues to experience an emergency blood shortage as severe winter weather has further impacted the ability to rebuild the blood supply. Blood and platelet donors are urged to give now to help ensure lifesaving medical procedures are not delayed.

The national blood supply remains at critically low levels. Blood drives have been canceled in nearly every state where the Red Cross collects blood. As a result, nearly 15,000 blood and platelet donations have gone uncollected this month alone. In addition to dangerous road conditions, many Americans have dealt with flight and shipping delays, and the Red Cross is no different. Snow, ice and extreme temperatures have made it tougher to move vital blood products across the Red Cross network, affecting deliveries to hospitals in some locations.

As much of the country warms up this week, individuals are urged to make an appointment now to give blood or platelets by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). As a thank-you, all those who come to give Feb. 1-29, 2024, will receive a \$20 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. Visit [RedCrossBlood.org/Heart](http://RedCrossBlood.org/Heart) for details.

The nation is currently facing the lowest number of people giving blood in 20 years. When fewer people donate blood, any disruption to blood donations - like recent weather systems - can have a huge effect on the availability of blood products and dramatic consequences for those in need of emergency blood transfusion. Generous blood donors are vital to ensuring those in need of transfusions have access to lifesaving care.

### **New Blood Donor Rewards program**

Since announcing an emergency blood shortage earlier this month, thousands of

donors across the country have answered the call to help. In appreciation for all those who take the time to help save lives, the Red Cross is pleased to launch an all-new Blood Donor Rewards program. This program offers a new way for the Red Cross to say thank-you for the generous donations that are critical to patients counting on lifesaving care. All donors will now earn points for their donations that accumulate each time they roll up a sleeve to give. Donors automatically started earning points on Jan. 1, 2024, and they can redeem points any time of year to receive e-gift cards or save them to redeem and claim an exclusive Red Cross merchandise item in the next calendar year.

For more information, visit [RedCrossBlood.org/Rewards](http://RedCrossBlood.org/Rewards).

### **UPCOMING BLOOD DONATION OPPORTUNITIES:**

#### **Columbia**

**Chatham:** 2/13/2024: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Chatham Firehouse, 10 Hoffman Street  
**Hudson:** 2/13/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Hudson Elks Lodge No. 787, 201 Harry Howard Ave.

#### **Dutchess**

**Millbrook:** 2/13/2024: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., Millbrook Fire House, 20 Front St  
**Poughkeepsie:** 2/16/2024: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Poughkeepsie Galleria, 2001 South Road

#### **Greene**

**Coxsackie:** 2/12/2024: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Coxsackie Athens High School, 24 Sunset Blvd

#### **Orange**

**West Point:** 2/8/2024: 11:30 a.m. - 7 p.m., United States Military Academy at West Point, Eisenhower Hall, 655 Pitcher Road

#### **Sullivan**

**Eldred:** 2/15/2024: 2:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m., Eldred High School, 600 Route 55  
**Wurtsboro:** 2/14/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., St. Joseph's Church, 180 Sullivan Street

#### **Ulster**

**Highland:** 2/16/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Highland Hose Company 1, 25 Milton Ave

**Kingston:** 2/12/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Veterans of Foreign Wars, 708 E Chester St

**Stone Ridge:** 2/10/2024: 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Marletown Community Center, 3564 Main St

## 'Women Empowering Women' set Feb. 28 at Locust Grove

United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region (UWDOR) will present "Women Empowering Women," Women United's inaugural luncheon, on Wednesday, Feb. 28, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Locust Grove Estate on Route 9 in Poughkeepsie.

UWDOR will discuss and celebrate the impact women have on the local

community. Keynote speaker is Marie Hickey, and emcee is Anne Marie Leamy. All funds raised from this event will be invested back into our community to support women's programs.

Tickets are \$100 and available at <https://www.uwdor.org/> (click on Upcoming Events).



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NOTE: Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Dutchess News. Letters must be e-mailed to be considered for publication. We cannot accept handwritten or faxed letters.

One-party system not working in NY

To the editor:  
Imagine my surprise when I went to the mailbox recently and found A People’s Report. A People’s Report?!? Had I experienced a wrench in the cosmos that transported me to the old Soviet Union? Or, perhaps I had been transported to Red China? What was this document I received that carried Marxist-like verbiage?  
Disappointingly, but not surprisingly, it turned out to be a flyer from Assemblywoman Shrestha.  
The flyer dutifully went through the various topics that were thought to be achievements for the state and/or crises descending on us. A sampling:  
• Legislation called New York Health Act is slated to create a single-payer system. Hasn’t that government healthcare system failed whenever it has been tried? Canadians come to the US for significant care.  
• There were 790 NEW bills passed last year. I confess I haven’t read them but I suspect they did more to restrain and regulate our freedom than increase it.  
• There are all-electric buildings and the quest for renewables to power everything. The failures of these programs cannot be addressed here, but these moves are ideologically driven and are untenable.  
There are articles about beating up Central Hudson about a rate hike, but there wasn’t much discussion when the Christmas ’22 present was delivered by the Democrats (specifically Senator Hinchey, Assemblywoman Barrett, and outgoing Assemblyman Cahill) to give themselves a 29% or \$32,000/yr pay increase while we struggled.  
Why are the Democrats allowed to keep a one-party system in place?

Rex S. Bridges  
Rhinebeck

OUR 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 Northern 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 Northern Dutchess News.

Hudson Valley Economic  
Development Corp. CEO Survey  
Breakfast set Feb. 13 at Wallace Center

Hudson Valley and New York State economic trends and forecasts – derived from the insights of more than 500 upstate business leaders – will be detailed at the Hudson Valley Economic Development Corp.’s second annual CEO Survey Breakfast, sponsored by UHY, on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center on the grounds of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, 114 Estates Lane, off Route 9 in Hyde Park. The CEO Survey event,

which is free to attend, is the only Hudson Valley presentation of the 17th Annual Upstate New York Business Leader Survey. The survey was conducted by the Siena College Research Institute (SCRI) in partnership with UHY, a prominent professional services firm, and the HVEDC. Research Institute Director Dr. Don Levy will provide analysis of the state of business in the Hudson Valley and across New York, and the vital issues influencing companies’ ability to compete in today’s economy. “Since 2007, SCRI has interviewed Upstate New York CEOs, who have shared their perception of economic conditions, their accurate forecasts for the year ahead as well as what challenges and opportunities they face,” Dr. Levy said. “Again this year, Siena interviewed business leaders across every industry sector, and on Feb. 13, we reveal their outlook as well as their intent to hire and what they see as the greatest assets as well as liabilities that affect companies in New York.” “Trusted, in-depth data and analysis provide essential fuel for business innovation and success, and the Siena Business Leader Survey is exceptionally respected,” said A. Michael Bucci, Hudson Valley Managing Partner of UHY. “UHY is proud to co-sponsor this opportunity for executives to obtain meaningful, actionable intelligence that can inspire continued transformation.” HVEDC President and CEO Michael Oates said, “This is a valuable opportunity for attendees to learn about timely, incisive economic trends

and be equipped to anticipate what’s next. Siena’s Business Leader Survey is vital wealth of information on numerous fronts; the HVEDC uses the data to validate or identify opportunities in priority areas such as housing and the workforce.” The program starts at 8 a.m. with registration and breakfast. Oates will then provide an introduction, followed by Dr. Levy’s presentation. A panel discussion, moderated by Bucci, follows. Panelists, in addition to Oates, include Anthony Gioffre, Managing Partner, the law firm of Cuddy & Feder, Frank Filiciotto, Professional Engineer, Creighton Manning, a multidisciplinary design firm with expertise in civil engineering, surveying and construction inspection, Meg Glander, External Affairs East Area, Crown Castle, which specializes in communications infrastructure, Patrick Paul, CEO, the Anderson Center for Autism, Tamika Dunkley, CEO, Seasoned Delicious Foods, a food product manufacturer, Thomas Mulroy, Chairman and CEO, T-Rex Capital Group, LLC, the developer of Bellefield at Historic Hyde Park and Ron Hicks, Assistant Dutchess County Executive.

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# Cary Institute to host immersive, paid research experience for teachers

National Science Foundation funding will enable teachers to conduct scientific research and develop innovative curricula for teaching STEM.

Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies is launching a new program to support high school and middle school educators in teaching global change and ecology. Starting in the summer of 2024, nine teachers will spend six weeks at Cary Institute conducting collaborative research in ecosystem science. Follow-up meetings throughout the school year will support the teachers as they develop and

implement innovative curricula based on their research experiences.

The program is funded by a three-year award from the National Science Foundation as part of its Research Experiences for Teachers Sites in Biological Sciences (BIORETS) program. By building teachers' scientific knowledge, skills, and confidence, the Cary BIORETS program will increase teachers' capacity to develop and implement meaningful ecology learning experiences for their students.

"Students need to engage with ecology and STEM early, to instill confidence in them that this is a field they can pursue throughout their lives," said community ecologist Jane Lucas, who will lead Cary

BIORETS. "When people are better informed about big ecological processes, they are more invested in supporting a sustainable planet. By talking about global change early and often, we hope to build a collaborative and educated public that is excited about keeping our planet healthy."

The program prioritizes educators from groups underrepresented in STEM, and those who work in schools that serve significant minority populations. Teachers from four under-resourced Hudson Valley school districts that serve both urban and rural populations have expressed interest in the program. Teachers from across the U.S. are invited to apply, with travel and housing covered. Participating teachers will receive an \$8,800 stipend.

Rebecca Van Tassell, program coordinator for Cary BIORETS, emphasized that the program isn't just open to biology teachers. "We would love math teachers to apply. We would love computer science and chemistry teachers to apply. The sticky, urgent problems of global change need to be approached through the thinking of many different disciplines so that we can come up with novel solutions."

During the six-week summer program at Cary Institute, educators will develop and complete an ecological research project under the mentorship of Cary scientists. Projects will explore new dimensions of ongoing Cary research related to wildfire, aquatic ecosystems, disease ecology, forests, nutrient cycling, and more. Depending on which project the teacher works on, they will have the opportunity to create and run simulations of future forest and fire dynamics, conduct field surveys of tick density and distribution, explore soil food webs, and identify tree species, among other skill-building activities.

Drawing on their research experiences, teachers will design new instructional materials to bring ecological concepts to

their classrooms, with support from Cary Education staff and fellow teacher participants. Each educator is also required to share what they have learned, either by contributing to a professional publication, presenting at a conference, or conducting workshops in their school districts.

Throughout the school year, Cary Institute will host four virtual meetings to support teachers as they integrate their new curricula into the classroom setting. During these sessions, teachers will receive feedback on curricular materials, use protocols to analyze student work to determine the effectiveness of the new materials, and support each other in revising materials. The entire process is designed to be highly collaborative, with fellow teachers offering mutual support for each other's learning throughout the program.

Cary BIORETS grows out of Cary Institute's nearly 40 years of experience working with educators to co-create curricula and professional development programs.

Van Tassell said that one of the things that makes Cary BIORETS unique is that it is tailored to each teacher's interests and classroom dynamics. "By letting teachers engage as learners in this authentic and inquiry-based way, we can work with them to develop materials that allow their students to learn in the same way," said Van Tassell.

"Science is always an adventure, and experiments require a lot of creativity and trial and error," said Lucas. "We often expose students to science with pre-set 'experiments' that have known endpoints. Rarely is this the case in science, and by bringing more research into the classroom, I hope it will provide students and teachers insight into what it is really like to be a scientist."

More information about the program and details on how to apply are available on the Cary BIORETS website via [www.caryinstitute.org](http://www.caryinstitute.org).

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Stanford Grange sets tag sale

Stanford Grange #808 will host an Indoor Tag Sale on Saturday, February 10, 2024, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. Proceeds will benefit the Grange's continual community service projects and maintenance for the Grange Hall. No donations of items for the sale, please - we don't have room to store them. Please call Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869 for more information.

### Poughkeepsie sets Repair Cafe Feb. 10

There will be a Repair Cafe on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 1 to 5 p.m., at the Environmental Cooperative at the Vassar Barns, 50 Vassar Farm Lane, Poughkeepsie. Bring your bikes, lamps, small electronics, mending, darning, jewelry, computers, cell phones, furniture, gardening questions and more, and local coaches will either try to fix it for you or provide advice. Limit 2 items per person.

Email Lisa Kaul at [lisarkaul@gmail.com](mailto:lisarkaul@gmail.com) with your items that need repairing.

Snow date: Feb. 11

### Poughkeepsie church sets Annual Chili-Cornbread Takeout

St. Paul's Church, at 161 Mansion St. in Poughkeepsie, will hold its Annual Chili-Cornbread Takeout on Saturday, Feb. 10, from noon to 3 p.m. Regular beef chili, vegetarian chili and no-bean chili will be available for \$8 per pint or \$12 per quart. Order ahead or just drop in. Call (845) 452-8440 or email [stpaulpk@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulpk@verizon.net) for advance orders or more information.

### Rhinebeck Grange holds Wintertime Soup Sales

Rhinebeck Grange #896 is holding its monthly Soup Sales on the third Thursday of the month, through March. Upcoming dates are Feb. 15 and March 21. Homemade soups sold for \$10 per quart, take-out only, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Pickup is at the side door of the Rhinecliff Firehouse, corner of Shatzell and Orchard, in Rhinecliff. Email [JoBaer2@gmail.com](mailto:JoBaer2@gmail.com) to receive the soup choices for each sale and to order in advance online.

### Stanford Grange sets Chicken & Biscuits Dinner Feb. 17

Stanford Grange #808 will serve a Chicken & Biscuits Dinner on Saturday, February 17, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. All dinners are take-out only at 5 p.m. The menu will include chicken with gravy, mashed potatoes, homemade biscuits, California mixed vegetables, cole slaw, and chocolate cherry dump cake for dessert. Donation is \$17 per dinner. Call Grange Secretary Ryan Orton for reservations at (845) 868-7869.

### Free rabies clinic set Feb. 24

The Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health (DBCH) is partnering with the Dutchess County SPCA to host a free rabies vaccination clinic for pets on Saturday, Feb. 24, from 8 a.m. to noon, at the Dutchess County SPCA, located at 636 Violet Avenue in Hyde Park. This clinic is open to dogs, cats, and domestic ferrets 3 months of age and older. Advance registration is required and will open on Wednesday, Jan. 24. Residents can register at [DCSPCA.org](http://DCSPCA.org) or by calling the DCSPCA at (845) 452-7722, ext. 425.

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

### Repair Cafes set in Stanford

The Stanford Free Library will host a series of Repair Cafes on April 6, July 6 and Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, toys and more to be repaired, instead of throwing them away. The cost is a voluntary donation. The library is at 6035 Route 82 in Stanfordville. Visit [repaircafe.org](http://repaircafe.org) for more information.

### ONGOING

**The Frederick W. Vanderbilt Garden Association** is looking for volunteers to perform all tasks required to plant and maintain the garden. No gardening expertise is needed, we will train as we work. You need to be eighteen years old or older and be able to perform, at minimum, basic physical labor such as bending, kneeling and carrying buckets. Garden work is done during the spring, summer and fall months on Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to noon. You are welcome to work as often and on any days that suit your schedule. For further information, visit <http://www.vanderbiltgarden.org> or call 845-229-6432.

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Brothers Paul and John Stefanopoulos at the Four Brothers Drive-In in Amenia, NY



# Local law enforcement, first responders attend Human Trafficking Awareness Forum

The Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Service (DCFS) hosted approximately 100 local law enforcement officials, first responders and service providers at the Human Trafficking Awareness Forum on Jan. 31, sharing insights into the dynamics of human trafficking, explaining how to recognize its signs, increasing the ability to respond effectively and discussing prevention strategies.

The event, held at Dutchess Community College's James & Betty Hall Theatre, was a platform to further collaboration among law enforcement, healthcare professionals, social services and community organizations – all in an effort to combat the collective impact against human trafficking.

"While many may think of trafficking as a crime that only occurs in big cities, tragically it can take place in any community, including our own," said County Executive Sue Serino, who welcomed attendees to today's forum. "Dutchess County remains alert and takes proactive measures to promote awareness of the issue and safeguard victims of every age, including children – a crucial duty our county proudly embraces. Efforts like today's forum raise awareness and can save lives. I thank everyone who attended today, and Dutchess County is eager to continue working with these partners."

The Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking is a multi-disciplinary group of professionals, whose mission is to prevent human trafficking by working collaboratively to raise knowledge and awareness, identify potential victims and provide comprehensive trauma-informed services. Among its various initiatives, the task force offers trafficking prevention education programs for young people and offers numerous resources for residents, including resource guides, hotline numbers, service directories and fact sheets differ-

entiating trafficking myths from facts. While the task force directly assists young people up to age 21, cases involving potential victims older than 21 are referred to the Family Services' Center for Victim Safety and Support, which accepts adult clients and is partially funded by the County.

Defined as the illegal trade of human beings through force, fraud or coercion for various exploitative purposes, human trafficking encompasses a range of crimes, including forced labor, sexual exploitation and involuntary servitude. According to the International Labour Organization, more than 40 million people worldwide are victims of human trafficking. In 2023, the Dutchess County Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking received 27 referrals of suspected trafficking locally, from probation officers, youth services providers and runaway and homeless youth shelter staff.

Not all referrals are indicative of a trafficking victim, but rather the youth engaging in risky behaviors that may lead to exploitation. Referrals of suspected trafficking may be based on a young person's behaviors and what may be considered signs of exploitation, including having no access to their parents or guardians; living apart from other children and in substandard accommodations; being engaged in work that is not suitable for children; and seeming intimidated and behaving differently than other children their age.

Among the specific topics discussed today with attendees were:

- how to identify and approach a suspected victim of human trafficking – both labor and sex trafficking;
- actionable steps they can take to obtain local services for the victim; and
- local prevention/education programs and services available to young people and how to access them.



Pictured are presenters and organizers during the recent Human Trafficking Forum. From left, Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking Coordinator David Garcia, Dutchess Community College President Dr. Peter Grant Jordan, County Executive Sue Serino, Department of Community and Family Services Commissioner Sabrina Jaar Marzouka, and Deputy Commissioner Tracy Connelly. *Courtesy photo*

Dutchess Community College Instructor of Criminal Justice Matthew Greenstein, a retired Connecticut State Police Detective and Academy Instructor, gave a presentation about the basics of human trafficking. Renán Salgado, Anti-Human Trafficking Director for the Kingston-based Worker Justice Center of New York, detailed the elements of labor trafficking. Attendees also heard a first-person account from a trafficking survivor, who answered their questions about his ordeal.

"Trafficking in every form is a violation of one's human rights, and it must be addressed and eliminated," DCFS Commissioner Sabrina Jaar Marzouka said. "We thank those in our community who bravely defend the vulnerable from this mistreatment. The connections made at today's forum will undoubtedly lead to a safer future for many in Dutchess County."

Dutchess County is part of New York State's Safe Harbour Program, which supports counties in developing their capacity to identify youth who have been trafficked, sexually exploited or are at risk of victimization, and to meet identified service needs of these youth.

Residents can report suspected cases of trafficking 24/7 to the County's Human Trafficking Hotline at 845-452-7272. Additional information about Dutchess County's efforts to prevent human trafficking, as well as a resource guide for services providers, law enforcement and attorneys to develop a collaborative, trauma-informed response to identifying and responding to cases of suspected human trafficking is available on DCFS' webpage: go to [www.dutchess-ny.gov](http://www.dutchess-ny.gov), Departments, Department of Community and Family Services, Human Trafficking.

## Good Egg Award set March 13 at Brookmeade

The Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its Good Egg Award Dinner & Celebration on Wednesday, March 13, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at The Pavilion at Brookmeade.

The Good Egg Award is a time-honored tradition that celebrates those who have made significant contributions to the Rhinebeck community. This year's honoree is Carolyn Bernitt, outgoing

executive director of the Rhinebeck Chamber. The Chamber's board of directors notes that Bernitt "has shown exemplary dedication, commitment, and service to the Rhinebeck area" through "her tireless efforts."

The evening will begin with a cocktail social hour, followed by a dinner prepared by a special talented team at The

Pavilion at Brookmeade. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with local business leaders, community members, the honoree and special guests.

Member tickets are \$90; non-member tickets are \$100.

Tickets and more information are available at [www.rhinebeckchamber.com](http://www.rhinebeckchamber.com).



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# Income tax filing season is under way; time to Free File

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance recently announced the start of the 2024 income tax filing season. The deadline to file returns and pay any tax owed (or request an extension of time to file) is midnight on April 15, 2024.

The Department urges taxpayers to explore submitting their taxes using Free File software available on the Tax Department website at [www.tax.ny.gov](http://www.tax.ny.gov)

(search: free). Taxpayers who meet income and other qualifications may be eligible to file both federal and New York State returns with private online tax preparers at no cost through the Tax Department website using Free File.

Many New Yorkers take advantage of this free service each year, saving them hundreds of dollars and more in tax preparation fees.

“Too often, taxpayers who use com-

mercial tax preparation software are surprised by charges for additional fees when completing their annual filing,” said Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller. “For a truly free experience, go to the New York State Tax Department website where there are no added costs or hidden fees – ever – for those who qualify.”

Free File information is available in multiple languages at the Department’s website:

<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile/>.

The Tax Department website also offers income tax filing resources for taxpayers who want to do their own taxes. It explains how to get started, how to check for available tax credits and how to check the status of your refund. It also provides tips for hiring a tax preparer for people who prefer to have someone do their taxes for them.



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# New name, fresh vision: Top law firm rebrands as Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele, LLP

One of the most prominent law firms in the Hudson Valley announced that, effective January 1, it has begun operating under a new name: Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele, LLP.

Formerly Stenger, Diamond & Glass, LLP, this move reflects current leadership, new hires, and a diverse, well-rounded team. The firm has more than four decades of history serving the needs of the Hudson Valley community.

"This is the strongest group of partners we've had in my 40 years of being with the firm," stated Kenneth M. Stenger, partner at Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele. "We've added young, vibrant and talented attorneys with strong expertise across all practice areas of law and the ability to provide legal solutions and meet our client's needs, whatever they may be."

Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele has recognized the contributions of: Karen E. Hagstrom, from its litigation team; Ian C. Lindars, who specializes in personal injury, municipal, real estate, commercial litigation, and landlord-tenant law; and A.J. Iuele, from its family law and criminal law teams. All three have been named partners within the firm. Adding to its deep bench, it also brought on Kyle A. Steller, as of counsel, at the end of 2023, to help its clients with wills, trusts, estates, elder law, long-term

care and Medicaid planning.

Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele is currently one the largest general practice firms in the region, with a roster of 10 attorneys who provide comprehensive representation to individuals, businesses, municipalities, and institutions. Practice areas include commercial litigation, land use and development, tax grievances, elder law, wills, trusts and estates, commercial and residential real estate, business law, hospitality and liquor licensing, matrimonial and family law, personal injury, criminal law, and more.

“The range of work that Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele does throughout the Hudson Valley is truly remarkable, as is the firm’s commitment to giving back to the local community,” said Frank Castella Jr., president and CEO of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce. “They keep our region humming along. I never hesitate to recommend them for any legal issue and look forward to watching this respected business expand.”

"We are excited about the future of our firm," added Stenger. "We will continue to grow our team of attorneys and support staff to meet the demands and needs of the individuals, municipalities, institutions and business we support and to build a culture we can be proud of."



The team of partners at Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele, LLP include, from left, Jessica J. Glass, A.J. Iuele, Kenneth M. Stenger, Ian C. Lindars and Karen E. Hagstrom.

*Courtesy photo*

## SEND US YOUR NEWS:

cschmidt@sdtchessnews.com

# Barrett supports Rescuing EMS Campaign

Assemblymember Didi Barrett (Dutchess/Columbia) recently stood with the New York Association of Counties (NYSAC) and legislative colleagues in support of NYSAC's Rescuing EMS Campaign. This package of bills will provide much-needed support for first responders including firefighters and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) workers across New York State.

“Fire Departments and EMS providers across the state are facing significant hardship, with recruitment challenges, aging membership and insufficient financial support. In rural districts like mine,

most of our heroic first responders are volunteers who serve their communities with pride,” said Barrett. “NYSAC’s Rescuing EMS campaign will provide direct support to our emergency services personnel. I am proud that my legislation (A.6274) to allow volunteer firefighters and EMS workers to collect both the New York State Volunteer Firefighters’ and Ambulance Workers’ Income Tax Credit and a local property tax exemption is included in this legislative package. I thank NYSAC and my colleagues in the Legislature for their advocacy and look forward to passing these important bills

this session.”

The Rescuing EMS Campaign includes six bills, including Barrett's legislation to allow volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers to collect the New York State Volunteer Firefighters' and Ambulance Workers' Income Tax Credit in addition to a local property tax exemption. Other bills would deem EMS to be an essential service; remove EMS services from the property tax cap; authorize EMS providers to be reimbursed for treating patients without transporting them to a hospital; increase the Volunteer Firefighters' and Ambulance Workers' Tax Credit from \$200 to \$800.



Assemblymember Didi Barrett and Dutchess County Emergency Response Commissioner Dana Smith. *Courtesy photo*

Medicaid reimbursement rates for EMS providers.

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# Lisa FRANKENSTEIN PG-13

<b>--HELD OVER--</b>	<b>--HELD OVER--</b>
Wonka (PG) Mean Girls (PG13) The Beekeeper (R) Boys in the Boat (PG13) American Fiction (R) Argyle (PG13) Scrambled (R) Jungle Bunch: Op. Meltdown (PG)	Wonka (PG) Mean Girls (PG13) Migration (PG) The Beekeeper (R) Argyle (PG13) Boys in the Boat (PG13) Jungle Bunch: Op. Meltdown (PG) Poor Things (R)

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BOB MARLEY: ONE LOVE PG-13	MADAME WEB PG-13
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- Help for VETERANS: Veterans can press “1” after dialing 988 and be connected directly to the Veterans Crisis Lifeline.



# Renegades accepting applications to refurbish youth baseball fields

By Rich Thomaselli

If you want a youth baseball field refurbished, now is the time to ask. The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, said that applications for the Youth Field Betterment Program are now open. Applications will be accepted by the Renegades through March 8, with the recipient being announced during the week of March 25. Last year, members of the Renegades and members of its main sponsor, Heritage Financial Credit Union, refurbished a field at Spratt Park in the city of Poughkeepsie. “The Youth Field Betterment Program was one of our most popular new initiatives in 2023 as part of our community partnership with Heritage Financial

Credit Union,” said Marcella Costello, Senior Director of Marketing and Fan Experience for the Renegades. “We are really excited to bring the program back this year and continue to make an impact in our community.” The program sees the Renegades and Heritage Financial Credit Union award one little league organization with a refurbishment of a field used within their community for youth baseball. The Youth Field Betterment Program was created to help local organizations positively impact their local community by creating a safe place for their youth to further develop themselves and their baseball skills. The program’s goal is to aid local youth organizations that provide players of all abilities with an environment that combines inclusiveness with fair play.

# DA Parisi applauds protection, recognition of all nonconsensual, forced sexual contact survivors

Governor Kathy Hochul signed legislation to modernize New York State rape statutes on January 30. The legislation expands and updates the definition of rape in the penal law to ensure that additional forms of nonconsensual, forced sexual conduct can be prosecuted as rape. Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi applauded the update to the antiquated law. Parisi said, “this week New York State took a huge leap forward in the protection and recognition of ALL survivors of nonconsensual, forced sexual contact.” The new legislation, which becomes effective September 1, is also being referred to as the “Rape is Rape Act.” The law removes the penetration requirement as part of the definition from the rape statutes and expands the definition of rape to include not only vaginal sexual contact but oral and anal sexual contact as well. Meaning that under the new statute oral and anal sexual assaults can now be prosecuted as rape instead of sexual assault. Parisi said “the modernization of our rape statutes was long overdue. Rape is one of the most heinous crimes and is the ultimate violation of a person’s physical, emotional and mental being. This update in the law ensures that all forms of rape are treated as the deplorable and trauma-

tizing crimes that they are. This change will empower survivors, will support my office’s continued efforts to hold perpetrators of this violence accountable and fight for justice for all survivors.” Angela Lopane, Chief of the Special Victims Unit, reiterated the importance of the new legislation to survivors and criminal prosecutions. Lopane explained that prior to the passage of the new law, New York defined penetration of the vagina or other bodily orifices with anything other than a penis as sexual abuse rather than rape. Chief Lopane noted the difficulty with the outdated law saying that “sexual abuse, in many people’s minds, sounds like so much less than rape and that is difficult to explain to a survivor and a jury.” The passage of the new legislation takes the necessary steps to finally remedy this difference in the law. Lopane said, “to call these acts anything short of rape is an insult to anyone who suffers these traumatic events. Now, with this change, the plain language of the statute validates unwanted oral or anal sexual contact and calls it what it is, rape.” If you or anyone you know has experienced sexual violence, help is available through Family Services Rape Crisis hotline at 845-452-7272, available 24 hours a day or call 911.



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## LOCAL SPORTS ROUNDUP

by Rich Thomaselli

**Arlington girls top Poughkeepsie**  
Ellia Bailey scored a key bucket in the fourth quarter to lead the Arlington High School girls basketball team to a 52-43 win over Poughkeepsie last week. Deona Garcia scored 21 points and had six rebounds and five steals to lead Arlington. Olivia Mrazek tallied 14 points, 12 rebounds, four steals and three assists, and Bailey had 12 points and 10 assists. The Admirals led by as many as 19 points in the game. The Patriots were able to cut the deficit to nine points late in the game before Baileys big bucket. Nahgabriel Brathwaite scored 16 points and Mahogany Felix had 15 points and four steals for Poughkeepsie.

**John Jay cheerleading team wins national, community honors**  
The John Jay High School cheerleading team recently placed fifth in Nationals, but perhaps even more impressive was winning the equivalent of a community service award known as the “Go Be Great Award,” honoring their charitable work, including fundraising for those with debilitating illnesses. The Patriots were surpassed by no other squad in the country. The award was presented by the

National Cheerleaders Association. John Jay is coached by Alice Granger. It was the second consecutive year that the Patriots finished 5th nationally in the event. John Jay finished less than five points behind the champion. Cheerleading is a varsity sport in New York at the high school level, but only since 2022.

**RCK girls breeze past Tappan Zee**  
The Roy C. Ketcham High School girls basketball team appears headed to another Section 1 championship berth. RCK blew out what was supposed to be another vaunted non-league foe when it breezed past Tappan Zee, 67-40. The Storm, Ketcham’s new nickname to replace the Indians, stormed to a 17-2 lead and TZ never came closer than 10 points. How impressive was the victory? The Dutchman were state finalist two years ago and reached the sectional semifinals last year. Nia Rencher had 19 points and 16 rebounds for Ketcham, which is state-ranked and won for the 14th time in 15 games this season. Ally Kaminski added 15 points and nine rebounds. Jenny Nardelli also had 15 points, all on three-point shots.

## Support Connection announces February meeting dates

Support Connection, Inc. is a not-for profit organization that provides free, confidential support services and programs for people affected by breast, ovarian, or other gynecological cancers. They offer monthly support groups which focus on topics pertaining to living with breast, ovarian, and all gynecological cancers through all stages of diagnosis, treatment, and post-treatment. Support Groups are offered on virtual platforms (Zoom or toll-free teleconference), making them accessible to women from the comfort of their homes, regardless of where they live. The organization does have a nationwide reach. All groups are open to new members as well as past participants. Advance registration is required: call 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290 to register. To view all of support groups in a comprehensive calendar: [https://support](https://supportconnection.org/calendar/)

[connection.org/calendar/](https://supportconnection.org/calendar/)  
Please also note: Support Connection’s Peer Counselors are available for unlimited, one-on-one individual counseling and assistance via phone and email: call 800-532-4290 or submit an online request at [supportconnection.org/contact-a-counselor](https://supportconnection.org/contact-a-counselor)  
The following virtual support groups are scheduled:  
Breast, Ovarian, & Gynecological Cancer Zoom Support Groups:  
• February 7 at 7 p.m.  
• February 13 at 10 a.m.  
• February 21 at 7 p.m.  
• February 28 at 7 p.m. (hybrid)  
Ovarian Cancer Toll-Free Telephone Support Group:  
February 14 at 7 p.m.  
Breast Cancer Zoom Support Group:  
February 12 at 7 p.m. (hybrid)



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## Bard Conservatory's 'The Sound of Spring' to celebrate Chinese Year of the Dragon

The US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music, in collaboration with the Central Conservatory of Music, China, present the fifth annual "The Sound of Spring": A Chinese New Year Concert with The Orchestra Now, conducted by Director of the US-China Music Institute Jindong Cai. Performances will take place on Saturday, Feb. 10, at 3 p.m., in The Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College; and on Sunday, Feb. 11, at 3 p.m., in the Rose Theater of Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall in New York City.

To purchase tickets for the February 10 Fisher Center concert, visit [fisher-center.bard.edu](http://fisher-center.bard.edu), call 845-758-7900 (Mon-Fri 10am-5pm), or email [boxoffice@bard.edu](mailto:boxoffice@bard.edu). For tickets to the February 11 Jazz at Lincoln Center concert, visit [ticketing.jazz.org](http://ticketing.jazz.org), or call 212-721-6500.

"The Sound of Spring" offers an authentic Chinese New Year concert of festive contemporary symphonic music from China. This year's program features erhu virtuoso Zhang Haiyue and dizi (bamboo flute) virtuoso Feng Tianshi from the Central Conservatory of Music, plus renowned Chinese wind virtuoso Guo Yazhi premiering composer Li Xinyan's new Suona Concerto.

In keeping with the long history and cultural diversity of Chinese society, the concert program includes a number of new works by contemporary Chinese composers inspired by musical traditions and folk customs from different regions. More than half of the repertoire has never been performed in the United States. Music Director and conductor Jindong Cai said: "Every one of us has familiar melodies that have been imprinted in our memories since we were children, and no matter where you come from or where

you go, we can all enjoy listening to them. At the same time, to hear music from unfamiliar cultural traditions in distant places stirs the imagination with completely different pleasures and longings."

The program starts off with Li Huanzhi's Spring Festival Overture, inspired by northern Shaanxi folk songs. Composer Ye Xiaogang, steeped in the folk music of his native Guangdong Province since childhood, presents familiar melodies reconstructed with Western orchestration for his Cantonese Suite. The young Taiwanese composer Chang Shiuan's Diu Diu Diu Diu Dang is a rhapsodic variation based on a Taiwanese nursery rhyme describing the sound of water dripping from the ceiling as a train passes through a tunnel. At the end of the first half, the US premiere of Hao Weiya's 2023 dizi (bamboo flute) concerto Blooming in the Spring evokes the beauty of nature in the countryside.

The second half of the concert begins with "Erhu Rhapsody No. 6," the latest masterpiece of composer Wang Jianmin with Tibetan folk music at its core. This stirring work is a milestone in the development of modern erhu as a solo instrument, combining the structure of a Western rhapsody with Chinese folk style. The suona concerto The Magic Land was commissioned by "The Sound of Spring" and composed by Li Xinyan for wind instrument master Guo Yazhi. Both are on the faculty of the Bard Conservatory of Music. The concert concludes with Joyful Songs of Mountains and Waters, composed by up-and-coming composer Wang Danhong in 2023. Wang says she was inspired to write this piece after a visit to the Eighteen Caves Village in southern China, where she heard joyful folk singing in the Miao ethnic style.

The two performances of this year's



Bard Conservatory of Music's US-China Music Institute and the Central Conservatory of Music, China, celebrate the Year of the Dragon with "The Sound of Spring": A Chinese New Year Concert with The Orchestra Now on Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Fisher Center. Courtesy photo

"The Sound of Spring" coincide with the first Lunar New Year weekend since New York State declared the Spring Festival an official holiday, demonstrating the importance of this time in the local community. The concerts are family friendly events which will include Chinese instrument

demonstrations and new year celebrations in the theater lobby prior to each performance.

Pre-concert events start at 2 p.m.

For more information about the concerts visit [barduschinamusic.org](http://barduschinamusic.org)/events.

### DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 19 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

**THE GREATEST DOT TO DOT BOOKS**

**Stars**  
Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 98

By David Kalvitis

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# The ‘Filet of Sole’ War

A well-heeled battle takes place in Luigi’s bedroom.

I am 54 years old. Growing up we had three kids my bedroom. Many of you who grew up in this generation know what I am talking about. It was tight, smelly, and full of fighting about everything from closet space to bodily noises. One fight in particular took place because of snoring.

Now, I have to tell you: I snore. My wife will tell you it sounds like an airport in our bedroom at night and my children will tell you that they can hear me snoring through the walls. The dogs will tell you, they can hear me snoring from downstairs and often howl to get me to stop. My neighbors will tell you they can hear me snore from next door. Deer will not come near our house at night because they are afraid of the snoring sounds that emanate from it. We have had the police come to our house and told me to keep it down because my snoring violates the noise ordinance. Well it was pretty much the same when I was a kid.

As I said, there were three of us in our bedroom. My brother Vinny and I were in a bunk bed and Anthony was in a single bed across from us. I was on the bottom bunk and Vinny was on the top bunk. Vinny and I were younger so we had to go to bed before Anthony did, so naturally, we were both asleep before he went to bed and naturally, I was in full snoring splendor upon his arrival.

The night always began with a slight nudge to get me to turn over, which I usually did. That would be a temporary fix. As the night went on, he would roll me over, kick me over, plug my nose, smother me with a pillow, stuff a blanket in my mouth, scare me awake, as well as a myriad amount of other techniques that would be classified as torture according to the Geneva Convention.

One practice in particular was very effective, and it involved shoes; and these shoes started what will forever be known as the “Filet of Sole War.”

One night, Anthony came to bed and as usual I was in full nasal symphonic brilliance. I was playing Beethoven’s fifth symphony through snores, and Anthony had reached his limit. The first shoe came flying over from his bed and missed the target completely (my head) and harmlessly hit the wall. There was nary a wobble in the noise level of my snoring. Fifteen seconds later, the next salvo found its mark and hit me right in the face. Naturally, I turned over and returned to my slumber.

The next morning I awoke confused at the shoes in my bed, but didn’t think too much of it. Anthony was in a great mood.

The next evening Anthony, loaded up with ammo and prepared for his guerrilla warfare against his adenoidal enemy. Vinny and I went to bed like normal, and Anthony followed a few hours later. This time, he aimed at the lower part of my body (in order to soften up the enemy). When his final round found its mark, there were a few pairs of shoes and sneakers in my bed. I again awoke the next morning confused at the shoes and sneakers, and once again Anthony was in a great mood.

Night Three found Anthony truly loading up with quite a few pairs of shoes, sneakers, sandals and other forms of bipedal comfort, stockpiled beside his bed. Again, Vinny and I went to bed and once again Anthony followed a few hours later.

This time, he was very meticulous with his targeting. Hitting various parts in order to extract the least amount of damage but the most amount of satisfaction.

When he finally hit his probosciscular target, there were over 10 pairs of shoes, sneakers, sandals, boots, galoshes and flip flops in my bed. The next morning, when I woke up, I looked over at my brother across the way and finally figured out what happened. That night I waited him out and when the shoes started flying, I returned fire and thus the great “Filet of Sole War” began. Unfortunately, there were civilian casualties with my little brother Vinny being hit and considered collateral damage.

While thinking about the great shoe war, please enjoy the following recipe for Italian meatloaf, which has absolutely nothing to do with my shoes. Unless you overcook the meatloaf, that is.

**ITALIAN MEATLOAF**

**Ingredients**

- 5 whole eggs
- 2 medium onions, diced
- 2 small peppers, diced
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh basil leaves
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley leaves
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 1/2 cups grated Parmesan
- 1 cup Coppola’s marinara sauce
- 2 cups breadcrumbs
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 1/2 lbs. ground beef
- 6 cloves chopped garlic
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar

**Directions**

Heat 1/4 cup of the olive oil in a medium sauté pan over medium heat and add the garlic, peppers, and onions. Let sauté for 2-3 minutes.

Mix together all the dry ingredients (bread crumbs, spices, cheese, and garlic). In a separate bowl, add meat and remaining ingredients and mix thoroughly by hand. Add in your dried mixture and thoroughly mix again. Pack the meat mixture into an oiled loaf pan. Top with the marinara, making sure to spread evenly over the top.

Bake for approximately 50 to 60 minutes in a preheated 350 degree oven or until your meat thermometer reads 160 degrees F in the middle of the meatloaf. Remove from the oven and let rest for 5 minutes. Slice in 1/2-inch slices and serve with either garlic mashed potatoes or polenta.

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

## Morton Library seeks art for annual Talent Show

Morton Memorial Library’s Talent Show Art Opening will take place on Friday, Feb. 23, from 6 to 8 p.m.

The library will host the art opening for the visual component of the Talent Show a week before the performance component. This allows the participating visual artists to be fully recognized and appreciated.

The art will remain up for the month of

March.

Contact Sandy ([sandy@morton-rhinecliff.org](mailto:sandy@morton-rhinecliff.org)) by Feb. 2 if you are interested. Bring in your piece to the library by Saturday, Feb. 17.

Morton Memorial Library & Community House is at 82 Kelly St. in Rhinecliff.

Call (845) 876-2903 for more information.

MARINE CORPS BAND TO PLAY FREE CONCERTS AT DCC

The United States Marine Corps Band will play free concerts at Dutchess Community College on Friday, Feb. 16, and Saturday, Feb. 17, at 7:30 p.m., in the James and Betty Hall Theatre.

DCC is at 53 Pendell Road in Poughkeepsie.

Free tickets are available at [sunydutchess.ticketleap.com/usmc/](http://sunydutchess.ticketleap.com/usmc/).

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# Black History in the Gilded Age: Educated women used words for profound change

by Bill Jeffway

This is a second article in a series inspired by HBO's "The Gilded Age." We recognize Black History month by looking at the themes and storyline of Black life portrayed in the two seasons of a program set in New York City between 1882 and 1883. We ask if there were real characters in our local history who were similar, or if some of the themes explored in the performance played out locally.

The leading Black character, Peggy Smith (played by Denée Benton) is a well-educated, skilled writer of fiction and political journalism who sought to create political and social change through her written words and persistent courageous actions.

One woman with local ties stands out in particular.

Susan Elizabeth Frazier (1864–1924) was similar in age to Smith and is buried in Rhinebeck cemetery adjacent to the section created for persons of color in a four-generation family plot.

Frazier established herself in an 1892 talk to the Brooklyn Literary Union that was published in the national newspaper of the leading Black church, the AME Zion Church. In a talk titled, "Some Afro-American Women of Mark," Frazier set a pattern she would repeat by constantly speaking to the untapped capacity of both Blacks and women in society due to arbitrary role limitations.

In her talk, she profiled the many successful Black women who were under-represented in history and national consciousness such as the 18th century poet, Phyllis Wheatley and the sculptor Edmonia Lewis.

What we see in the fictional character of Smith and the real-life Frazier are Black women who early in their lives wanted to create change through the words that they penned and deployed in public. They courageously and persistently pushed aside barriers put in front of them due to their race or gender.

## White Fifth Avenue & Black communities in Brooklyn

Frazier's father, Lewis, like her grandfather and great-grandfather, was from the northern Dutchess County Town of Milan. He worked in New York City as a coachman for a wealthy, White Fifth Avenue family, just as the fictional Peggy Smith worked for a wealthy, White Fifth Avenue household.

Susan Elizabeth Frazier was born and raised on West 17th Street, in an apartment building housing servants that was not far from the Fifth Avenue home where her father worked. There she attended "Colored School No. 4" on the same street within the same block between 6th and 7th Avenues. This was fortuitous.

At school, Frazier found a role model



Susan Elizabeth Frazier in a photo ca. 1890 and 1919. A recent campaign to erect a memorial at the Frazier family plot at Rhinebeck cemetery resulted in this headstone at what had been her unmarked grave with the words, "Her voice endures." *Courtesy of DCHS image collections*

to emulate in the principal, Sarah J. S. Tompkins Garnet, who was one of the first African American women to serve in such a role in New York City. There is no doubt that the talented young Frazier would have absorbed both practical learning and profound values in her education. In 2022 New York City Landmarks granted Landmark Status to the school building which still stands.

Later in life, Frazier moved to the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn where, as mentioned earlier, she established her high profile through the Brooklyn Literary Union.

## Black education:

### Separate or integrated?

Locally, education for Blacks in the first half of the 19th century did not go beyond elementary school and was limited to separate schools.

The issue of education for Blacks emerges in the HBO series in one episode through an effort to stop the closure of three Black elementary public schools in Brooklyn. The Black community recruited the involvement of White students and teachers to get broader support for the specific schools, two of which they saved.

Inviting White teachers and students into schools with Black students was one thing. But the reverse, the idea that a Black teacher would teach White students was not practiced in New York City for some time.

It was 1895, when Susan Elizabeth Frazier (who had graduated from what is today Hunter College, a "normal" school

dedicated to training teachers) was offered a job as a teacher in an integrated school – until she arrived and it was realized she was a woman of color. The offer was retracted. This is reminiscent of the fictional scene where Peggy Smith was invited to have her writings published in "The Christian Advocate," until she arrived in person and the unconditional offer was retracted.

Although Frazier lost in court, she eventually won in the court of public opinion which involved nation-wide interest and news coverage. She was granted the position she sought in 1896 at "School No. 58" on West 52nd Street between 8th and 9th Avenue, becoming the first teacher of color to teach White students in New York City.

As if her many years as a public-school teacher in New York City were not testimony enough to her success (she taught until she died in 1924), she won a New York Tribune newspaper contest in 1919 as the "city's favorite teacher." The prize was a trip to the battlefields of Europe, given the recent successful conclusion of World War I. This was particularly apt because Frazier founded and led the Women's Auxiliary of the Black combat troops, the highly decorated "Harlem Hellfighters." She was the first Black woman to receive full military honors at her funeral at the Harlem Armory, before burial in Rhinebeck.

The HBO series does not (yet) go beyond 1883, so we do not know what is in store in the later life of Peggy Smith.

*continued on page 15*



"Colored school No. 4" where Susan Elizabeth Frazier attended elementary school under the influential leadership of New York City's first Black principal, Sarah J. S. Tompkins Garnet. The building was recently granted New York City Landmark Status. *Courtesy of DCHS image collections*



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

Suguru

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		3	5		4
			2		

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: CLASSIC TOYS

ACROSS

1. Sri Lankan language

6. Something to chew on, especially for cows

9. Mascara holder

13. Muscat resident

14. "\_\_\_\_ Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"

15. Father, colloquially

16. Jewish folklore creature

17. Debtor's letters

18. Art class prop

19. \*Barbie's little sister

21. \*\_\_\_\_ 4 game

23. One less than jack

24. \*\_\_\_\_ Frog educational toy

25. Nutcracker's distinguishing feature

28. Taboo, alt. sp.

30. Cooking fat

35. Deserter's acronym

37. President's David

39. Shower accessory

40. Pro \_\_\_\_

41. Conical dwellings

43. Prep flour

44. \*Thomas or Henry, e.g.

46. Law school test acronym

47. Genealogist's creation

48. Maurice of "Where the Wild Things Are"

50. Flying saucers

52. Make mistakes

53. Chemically-induced curls

55. Harry Potter's Hedwig

57. \*Certain Patch

61. \*Not real dough

65. Normal

66. Clingy seed container

68. \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ -la

69. Theater curtain fabric

70. Put into service

71. Female deer, pl.

72. Pub offering

73. Goo on a trunk

74. What's in your e-wallet?

DOWN

1. Duds or threads

2. Wildly

3. French Sudan after 1960

4. All thumbs

5. Marine gastropod

6. Coconut fiber

7. \*Shedding-type card game

8. Tie in tennis

9. Shark's provision

10. Part of cathedral

11. Work detail

12. "Stop!" to marchers

15. Correspondence friend (2 words)

20. Make, as in a law

22. Edible type of grass

24. Complete payment (2 words)

25. \*Banned lawn darts

26. Fully informed

27. Supreme Teutonic god

29. Get-out-of-jail money

31. Like Neverland boys

32. France's longest river

33. Bid on a house, e.g.

34. \*Certain gun ammo

36. "Best \_\_\_\_ schemes o'Mice an' Men"

38. "La Vie en rose" singer

42. Counter seat

45. Flamethrower fuel

49. Party barrel

51. Swaddle

54. Type of puzzle

56. Words in song, sing.

57. Intersection of two arcs

58. Ascus, pl.

59. "\_\_\_\_ after reading"

60. Switch's partner

61. Get ready, for short

62. Comedian Carvey

63. Ford contemporary

64. Jumble

67. North American country

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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65						66	67			68				
69						70				71				
72						73				74				

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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 17



# Cookie Walk set Feb. 10 in Poughkeepsie

The Annual Mid-Hudson Love INC Cookie Walk promises sweet treats and positive vibes. On February 10, cookie-lovers can select their favorites from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. (or as long as supplies last) at Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church, 2381 New Hackensack Road (Route 376) in Poughkeepsie. Based on last year's offering of more than 800 dozen cookies, a wide variety of gourmet homemade cookies are expected, including gluten free.

This is the 16th year for the Mid-Hudson Love In the Name of Christ Cookie Walk, which is always held the Saturday before Valentine's Day, and this year falls the day before the Super Bowl. The event showcases the recipes and decorating skills of over 100 volunteer bakers who donate their best baked goods. Shoppers receive gloves and a bakery box and walk through the cookie display selecting the items they want. The filled bakery boxes are weighed, and shoppers take their treats home for a suggested donation of \$9 per pound.

Proceeds benefit the ministry work of local churches through Mid-Hudson Love In the Name of Christ. Mid-Hudson Love INC is a partnership of churches that helps local families experiencing poverty by providing personal attention, skill-building classes, mentoring, and tangible goods such as personal care items, linens, and furniture.

Pick up some treats for your sweet heart, your family, your Super Bowl party, a neighbor, or a friend, and know that your financial donation offers a helping hand to someone in need. For further information about Mid-Hudson Love INC, visit [www.mid-hudsonloveinc.org](http://www.mid-hudsonloveinc.org) or call 845-471-0102.



Cookie platters from the 2023 Cookie Walk. Photo by Jewel Ratzlaff

## A & E CALENDAR

**Through Feb. 11: "Alice by Heart,"** The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Presented by CENTERstage Productions and Teens on Stage. In the rubble of the London Blitz of World War II, Alice Spencer's budding teen life is turned upside down, and she and her dear friend Alfred are forced to take shelter in an underground tube station. When the ailing Alfred is quarantined, Alice encourages him to escape with her into their favorite, cherished book and journey once more down the rabbit hole to Wonderland. As Alice draws upon her memory to spin the story, the children, nurses, and doctors trapped underground transform into characters familiar and feared. Performances: Fri. & Sat, 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$19. CenterFor PerformingArts.org, (845) 876-3080 or [boxoffice@centerforperformingarts.org](mailto:boxoffice@centerforperformingarts.org)

**Feb. 9: Theresa Caputo Live: The Experience,** MJN Convention Center, 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. Caputo is recognized as one of the most renowned mediums for over 20 years, 7:30 p.m. Tickets at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or (845) 454-5800

**Feb. 9-11: Live Music at the Towne Crier Cafe,** 379 Main St., Beacon. Feb. 9: Mardi Gras with Soul Purpose and special guest Brasskill Band, 8 p.m. Recently named "Best Local Band" by the readers of Hudson Valley Magazine, Soul Purpose enralls from the first note with powerhouse vocals, bold horns, lush keyboards, and blistering guitarwork with the rhythmic reference and underlying pulse for the band provided by expertly played bass and percussion. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. Feb. 10: Willie Nile Band, 8 p.m. Willie Nile is a hard-working rock 'n' roll troubadour called "the unofficial poet laureate of New York City" (Uncut). The New Yorker hailed Nile as "One of the most

brilliant singer-songwriters of the past 30 years." Tickets \$35 advance, \$40 door. Feb. 11: C.J. Chenier & The Red Hot Louisiana Band, 7 p.m. Creole-born C.J. Chenier was raised in an indigenous American culture with its distinctive language, cuisine and music. He delivers soulful vocals along with masterful accordion-driven Zydeco and Blues. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. (845) 855-1300 or [www.townecrier.com](http://www.townecrier.com)

**Feb. 9-24: "An Ideal Husband,"** County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls. Written by Oscar Wilde, directed by Michael J. Frohnhoefer. This witty and still-topical play brings an act of political sin into the heart of the English home. An ambitious government minister, Sir Robert Chiltern's smooth ascent to the top seems assured until Mrs. Cheveley appears in London with damning proof of his previous financial chicanery. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 18, 2 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 24, 2 p.m. Tickets \$22 adult, \$20 for seniors (60+), military, children under age 12, students (w/valid ID). (845) 298-1491 or [countypayers.org](http://countypayers.org)

**Feb. 10: Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra Concert,** Marriott Pavilion at The Culinary Institute of America, 1946 Campus Dr., Hyde Park. Family-friendly event transports audiences to mesmerizing realms with a captivating performance featuring music from beloved fantasy movies, 3 p.m. The orchestra will perform iconic soundtracks from cinematic classics such as Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, The Wizard of Oz, and more. Young music enthusiasts are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite fantasy movie characters. Tickets \$38 for adults, with discounts available for seniors and students. [www.ndsorchestra.org](http://www.ndsorchestra.org) or (845) 635-0877

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EXHIBITIONS

**Bannerman Island Gallery**, 150 Main St., Beacon. **Feb. 10-April 7:** Annual "Art of the Garden" art exhibition, floral & still-life garden themed art show featuring paintings, watercolors, and other mixed media. All works for sale, part of the proceeds help further restoration projects on Historic Bannerman's Island. **Opening:** Sat., Feb. 10, 4-6 p.m. Contact (845) 831-1001, 845-416-8342 or bannermangallery150@aol.com for more information. [www.bannermancastle.org](http://www.bannermancastle.org)

**Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center**, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through Feb. 29:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. is Stacy Pearl; and at 12 Vassar St. is Jane Ehrlich in the Reception Gallery and Rebecca Zeh in the Hancock Gallery. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: [cunneen-hackett.org](http://cunneen-hackett.org)

**Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum**, 4097 Albany Post Rd. (Rte. 9), Hyde Park. **Through December:** Developed in collaboration with a distinguished committee of scholars, "Black Americans, Civil Rights, and the Roosevelts, 1932-1962" centers the historical voices of many Black community leaders, wartime service members, and ordinary citizens who engaged the Roosevelt administration directly and who pushed for progress. Within this context, the exhibit examines the political evolution of both Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt regarding racial justice. [www.fdrlibrary.org](http://www.fdrlibrary.org)

**Hyde Park Library Annex**, 2 Main St., Hyde Park. **Through February:** The Art of Peggy Milone, paintings inspired by the colors of nature. (845) 229-7791

**Live 4 Art Gallery**, 20 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling. **Feb. 10-29:** "Love for Art," eight artists showing paintings, photography, sculpture, jewelry, handmade wood products, and ceramics. **Reception:** Sat., Feb. 10, 1-4 p.m. Facebook @Live4ArtGallery

**Olana State Historic Site**, Hudson. **Through March 24:** "Spectacle: Frederic Church and The Business of Art," a 21st-century way of viewing Frederic Church's great masterwork, "The Heart of the Andes," and this exhibition highlights the showmanship and marketing that Church used to promote the debut of this work in 1859. For more information and to purchase tickets visit [olana.org/spectacle](http://olana.org/spectacle)

**Rhinebeck Bank**, 6414 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. **Through Feb. 9:** "Here, There and Eclectic," paintings by Richard Trachtman.

**Super Secret Projects** (Back of Hyperbole), 484 Main St., Beacon. **Feb. 10-March 2:** "Animal Kingdom," a solo exhibition by Enne Tesse. **Reception:** Sat., Feb. 10, 6-9 p.m. (Enter through Hyperbole Shop). [supersecretprojects.com](http://supersecretprojects.com)

**Tivoli Artists Gallery**, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through Feb. 11:** "Figures & Faces Show," 2-D and 3-D work depicting figures and faces. (845) 757-2667

Creative Living

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Decoding Dutchess' Past

continued from page 12

But the combination of being a skilled writer, and a courageous and persistent trailblazer, served the real-life Susan Elizabeth Frazier well in advancing the cause of both Blacks and women.

Let's conclude with the words Frazier used to conclude her 1892 speech to the Brooklyn Literary Union, "We young women of the race have a great work to do. We have noble and brilliant examples of women who, under all trying circumstances, have labored earnestly for the

elevation of their race, their sex. Let us strive with the advantages of a higher education to carry out the aim of our noble predecessors."

Bill Jeffway is the Executive Director of the Dutchess County Historical Society and can be reached at [bill.jeffway@dchsny.org](mailto:bill.jeffway@dchsny.org) or (845) 293-7711.





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GENERAC

COLLEGE NOTES

IRVING, TX – Erik Syversen of Stanfordville was named to the University of Dallas fall 2023 honor roll for earning a semester GPA of 3.0-3.49. Syversen is a Sophomore Undeclared major.

ADELPHI, MD – Diana Elise Vogt of Red Hook earned a Master of Science in Biotechnology: Biosecurity and Biodefense from University of Maryland Global Campus in fall 2023.

Vogt was one of more than 8,358 students worldwide who earned degrees from UMGC in the fall.

CHARLESTON, SC – College of Charleston congratulates more than 3,500 students who were named to the President's List and the Dean's List for Fall 2023.

Emma Barry of Rhinebeck was named to the President's List (Highly Distinguished). Barry is majoring in Elementary Education.

Frances O'Brien of Millbrook was named to the Dean's List (Distinguished). O'Brien is majoring in Communication.

To qualify for the President's List (Highly Distinguished), students must earn a GPA of 3.800 or higher and complete a minimum of 12 semester hours.

To qualify for Dean's List (Distinguished), students must earn a GPA of 3.500 or higher and complete a minimum of 12 semester hours.

TROY, NY – Russell Sage College congratulates more than 400 students who were named to the fall 2023 Dean's List. The following local students made the list: Naiya Garvin of Hyde Park, Mason Kievit of Pleasant Valley, and Elizabeth Mastrantuono of Pine Plains.

To be placed on the Dean's List for the semester, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.50 or higher while carrying a minimum of 12 credits in courses graded A-F, with no grades of Incomplete.

FLINT, MI – Jacqueline Kocik was named to Kettering University's Fall 2023 Dean's List.

Kocik of Red Hook is majoring in Electrical Engineering.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must satisfy the following requirements: be a degree-seeking student with a minimum term grade point average of 3.5, no grades below B, and a minimum of 16 earned credits for the term.

MONTCLAIR, NJ – Montclair State University would like to congratulate Paige Guski of Red Hook on being named to the Fall 2023 Dean's List. Guski is a Film and Television major.

Guski was among more than 6,000 Red Hawks named to the Fall 2023 Dean's List. To qualify, students must

earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

KINGSTON, RI – The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Fall 2023 Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries. They include Paige Arent of Clinton Corners, Rachel Kaplan of Rhinebeck, Stella Russell of Pleasant Valley, and Ava Schneeberger of Pine Plains.

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

TUSCALOOSA, AL – Owen Rinaldi was named to The University of Alabama Dean's List for fall semester 2023.

A total of 13,950 students enrolled during fall semester 2023 at The University of Alabama were named to the dean's list with an academic record of 3.5 (or above) or the president's list with an academic record of 4.0 (all A's). These driven students are making waves across UA's more than 70 undergraduate programs and 12 colleges and schools.

MORRISVILLE, NY – SUNY Morrisville recently announced those students who were named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester. Local students include Brooke Weber of Red Hook, Magenta Kennedy of Red Hook, and Rebecca Benedict of Tivoli.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must achieve a 3.0 to 3.99 grade-point average for the semester and complete 12 credit hours.

NEWARK, DE – The following local students have been named to the University of Delaware Fall 2023 Dean's List: Ella Babcock of Staatsburg, Amanda Cimillo of Pleasant Valley, and Isabella Watz of Pine Plains.

To meet eligibility requirements for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled full-time and earn a GPA of 3.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for the semester.

MORRISVILLE, NY – SUNY Morrisville recently announced those students who were named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester. Local students include Zachary Slesinski of Red Hook, Kayla Dykas of Red Hook, and Kayla Sheeley of Tivoli.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must achieve a 3.0 to 3.99 grade-point average for the semester and complete 12 credit hours.

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The Ridge School is a New York State Board of Regents Accredited School, Not-for-profit organization located in Dutchess County, New York dedicated to the creation of a rich and positive setting for students who are not succeeding in their current educational placements. The Ridge School is a day school for students who are diagnosed with High Functioning Autism.

845-266-4283

The Ridge School

[www.ridgeschool.org](http://www.ridgeschool.org)



# OBITUARIES

## Andrew Clark

HYDE PARK - Andrew Clark, 57, passed away at home with the love and care of his family on Sunday, January 28, 2024, after a long illness.

Born in Poughkeepsie, he was the son of the late John H. and Ave M. Downes Clark.

Andrew was a 1985 graduate of F. D. Roosevelt High School in Hyde Park where he rowed on the school's crew team and made many life-long friendships. He attended Siena College and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing Management. After working for a time on Wall Street with the firm Herzog Heine Geduld, he attended and graduated from the Turfgrass Management Program at SUNY Cobleskill and served as Assistant Superintendent at various golf clubs in New York and New Jersey including Pine Valley Golf Club in New Jersey; Meadow Brook Club in Jericho, NY; and Wykagyl Country Club in New Rochelle, NY.

On May 18, 2002, he married the former Susan Monteverdi at Immaculate Conception Church in Westhampton, NY. Mrs. Clark survives at home.

Andrew was a communicant of St. Martin de Porres Church in Poughkeepsie, and his Faith became a great comfort to him during his illness.

In addition to his wife, Andrew is survived by his two beloved children, Isabella and Nicholas Clark; a brother, Matthew Clark and his wife, Nina, of New Windsor; a sister, Maria Clark, of Rhinebeck; his wife's parents, John and Rae Monteverdi of Flushing, NY; sisters-in-law Ann Walsh and husband, Terry, of Lynbrook, NY, and Joan Edom and husband, Chris, of Merrick, NY; a niece, Olivia Clark; and nephews Myles Clark, Andre Thurston, Aiden Walsh, Terrence Walsh, James Edom and John Edom. He is also survived by three aunts: Ann Morris of Poughkeepsie, Mary Downes of Hyde Park, and Jane Monteverdi of Bayside, NY.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Alexandra "Lexie" Clark.

Among the things Andrew most loved was spending time at the ocean with his family, especially in Chatham, MA and East Quogue, NY. Known for his quick wit, Andrew was at heart a fun-loving person who cherished the memories made with family and friends. These friends were a great support to him and his family during his illness, especially in his final months, and his family will be forever grateful to them.

Calling hours were on Friday, February 2nd at Sweet's Funeral Home, Route 9, Hyde Park.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, February 3rd at Regina Coeli Church, Route 9, Hyde Park. In keeping with his wishes, cremation will follow.

Memorial donations may be made to the Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, 80 Washington St., Suite 204, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 ([www.hvhospice.org](http://www.hvhospice.org)), or, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10306 ([www.t2t.org](http://www.t2t.org)).

To send the family an online condolence or for directions, please visit Andrew's obituary page at [www.sweetsfuneralhome.com](http://www.sweetsfuneralhome.com).

**Hon. Gerald V. Hayes**



POUGHKEEPSIE - Hon. Gerald V. Hayes of Poughkeepsie, 82, passed away peacefully on Jan. 27, 2024 while holding the hand of Sheila, his beloved wife of 56 years. His passing followed a 3-year battle with lymphocytic leukemia.

Jerry was a man of deep faith, hard work, great sacrifice, profound wisdom, remarkable accomplishments, and the highest character. Above everything, family was his greatest source of passion and pride in life. He treasured his saintly wife and together they loved their large family above all else. He was our provider, advisor, protector, role model, coach, biggest fan and caretaker.

Jerry was born Nov. 24, 1941 in Yonkers, NY. The oldest of three children, he was the loving son of the late Helen and Vincent Hayes.

In December of 1964, Jerry's cousin, Frank Hayes, helped connect him with a beautiful nurse with a tender heart named Sheila Kenny. They were married on Sept. 2, 1967 in a beautiful ceremony at Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Yonkers.

In addition to his wife, Sheila, Jerry is survived by six children and their spouses including: Michael and Michele Hayes; Susan and Christopher Meyer; Matthew and Erin Hayes; Meghan and Christopher Farquharson; Christopher and Vanessa Hayes; and Patrick and Kayla Hayes. He is survived by 13 grandchildren: Maggie and Sally Hayes; Joseph and Madeline Meyer; Chloe, Olivia and Ella Hayes; Mackenzie, Hailey, Quinn and Colin Farquharson; and Noa and Xavier Hayes. Jerry is also survived by his brother William Hayes and his wife Debbie; and sister Sandra and her husband Ben Lakatos. He is predeceased by a son, Kevin Hayes, and grandson, Thomas Meyer, both of whom passed away in infancy.

Jerry received his BA from St. Anthony's, a Capuchin Franciscan friary and college in New Hampshire. He attended St. Anthony's with the intent of becoming a priest, but upon graduation opted to instead pursue a career in law.

He received his Juris Doctorate from Fordham Law School in 1968 and soon after was hired as an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan under the legendary DA Frank Hogan. In 1971, Jerry was hired as a Dutchess County Assistant District Attorney by Hon. Albert M. Rosenblatt, a distinguished attorney and judge who Jerry counted as a dear friend and mentor. In 1980, Jerry went into private practice, primarily as a criminal defense attorney. He also accepted an opportunity to protect the rights of the less fortunate and served as a part-time assistant public defender. He distinguished himself in those roles for the next 20 years.

On countless occasions, family members have been approached by total strangers wanting to share emotional stories of their connection to Jerry. Times when these strangers were facing serious legal trouble. Times when many others had given up on them. Except Jerry. They recalled the respect he showed them. And they recalled how his legal acumen and exceptional effort, often as their public defender, earned them a life-saving opportunity for redemption.

Jerry was appointed Dutchess County Court Judge in March of 2000 by NYS Gov. George Pataki. That November, he was elected to a 10-year term by Dutchess County voters. The County Court presides over the most serious cases involving violent, life-changing crimes. Nearing mandatory retirement age, he retired at the completion of his term leaving behind the job he loved more than any other in his long and storied legal career.

Upon retirement, he continued to serve on the Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council, was an active member in the Dutchess County Bar Association, and embraced the opportunity to continue mentoring many attorneys who sought his counsel.

During his time as a prosecutor, defense attorney or County Court Judge, Jerry earned the respect and admiration of all parties involved. From clients to fellow attorneys to law enforcement and judicial allies, Jerry was viewed as a first-rate lawyer and judge.

Despite his busy career and family life, Jerry was also deeply involved in the community. He taught law classes at Marist College and Dutchess Community College. He coached several of his children's sports teams. He was the President of the Warrior Club at Our Lady of Lourdes High School and for many years was an enthusiastic member of the Marist Red Fox Club and season ticket holder. He was a founding member of the Knights of Columbus at St. Martin de Porres

in Poughkeepsie. He organized blood drives and served as a eucharistic minister among other activities at St. Martin's. He also served on various nonprofit and municipal boards including the Mediation Center of Dutchess County, the Dutchess County Board of Ethics and Marist College Center for Lifetime Studies.

To many he was known as "Judge Hayes." To close friends, he was "Jerry," an honorable man and lover of a good game, a good joke or a decent round of golf. A favorite annual golf outing for him that lasted nearly 20 years was the annual "Adirondack Open" that he hosted each October at his and Sheila's second home near Brant Lake, NY. While he enjoyed the golf, it was the camaraderie on those trips he enjoyed most.

To family, he was "Pop," our bedrock and a beloved husband, father and grandfather.

Jerry's life was devoted to family and to ensuring justice in the world. In return, he was justly rewarded with a long life of rich memories and with a large family who gathered at his side in his final hours.

Calling hours were held on Friday, Feb. 2 at William G. Miller & Son Funeral Home, Inc., 371 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY. A Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, Feb. 3 at St. Martin de Porres Church in Poughkeepsie with burial immediately at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, an organization Jerry deeply admired and supported for many years.

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

## Cathy Lynne Meyer

LAGRANGEVILLE - Cathy Lynne Meyer, age 70, passed away on January 26, 2024 from her long term illness, Dementia at The Pines at Poughkeepsie. Formerly, she lived in Morrisville, Pennsylvania but has been a longtime resident of Union Vale, New York for 38 years where she lived happily with her family. Cathy loved living in Union Vale and could be seen walking down the road waving and talking with her neighbors along the way.

Born in Wichita, Kansas on March 3, 1953, she was the daughter of Curtis Wayne and Betty Virginia (Cook) Schoonover. Cathy was a devoted stay at home mother and took pride in being so. She loved her children to a fault and enjoyed being there for each of them and their friends. Her love for her children showed when she co-hosted teen dances at Tymor Park. Cathy was involved in league bowling both at Mardi Bob, now known as Spins Bowling in Poughkeepsie and Fishkill Bowl as well as being a member of the Red Hat Ladies Society. In her home, she would be seen in the kitchen baking cakes and pies as well as doing crossword puzzles. Cathy spent endless hours in her sitting room enjoying a good book. In her spare time, she enjoyed crafting projects such as sewing, needling, and creating Christmas ornaments.

On July 24, 1971 at McConnell Air Force Base Chapel in Wichita Kansas, Cathy married William M. Meyer Jr. who survives at home, She is also survived by her children and their spouses, Stacy (Meyer) Kowalski and her husband Rory Kowalski, and Curt Meyer and his wife Tammy (Aluisio) Meyer and their grandchild Ryann as well as several loved nieces and nephews. Cathy was predeceased by her siblings Richard, Michael, Debi, and Sandra Schoonover along with her sister in-law Margo and husband Russell Seversen.

Calling hours were held on Friday February 2, 2024 at McHoul Funeral Home, inc., 895 Route 82 Hopewell Junction. A service was held on Saturday February 3, 2024 at McHoul Funeral Home followed by the burial at Clove Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter 2649 South Road Suite 101, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 or The Pines at Poughkeepsie 100 Franklin Street, Poughkeepsie New York 12601.

## James S. Moore



DOVER PLAINS, NY -- James S. Moore, 80, an eight year resident of Dover Plains, NY formerly of Hyde Park, NY, passed away on Monday, January 29, 2024 at home with his loving family by his side. Mr. Moore was a therapy aide at the Wassaic Developmental Center in Wassaic, NY for 34 years.

Born on November 26, 1943 in Newport, RI, he was the son of the late John S. and Ruth (Becker) Moore. On November 10, 1965 in Ancram, NY, he married Beverly Stickle who survives at home. Mr. Moore enjoyed bowling, hunting and fishing.

In addition to his loving wife, Mr. Moore is survived by a son, Michael Moore, Sr. of Hyde Park, NY. He is also survived by two sisters, Nancy Plass of Hyde Park and Judy Simmons of Ogdensburg, NY; two grandchildren, Michael Moore, Jr. of Dover Plains and James Moore of Millbrook, NY and four great grandchildren: Isabella, Bailey, Colton and Brodie Moore.

Calling hours took place from 1p.m. to 3p.m. on Sunday, February 4, 2024 at the Hufcut Funeral Home, 3159 Route 22, Dover Plains, NY. For directions or to send the family a condolence, please visit [www.hufcutfuneralhome.com](http://www.hufcutfuneralhome.com)

## Jamie Brian Paterson

HYDE PARK - Jamie Brian Paterson, 47, passed away peacefully at his home on Sunday January 28, 2024. A lifelong resident of Hyde Park, he was born August 23, 1976, in Poughkeepsie, NY to Daniel M. Paterson and Linda J. (Steele) Paterson.

Jamie graduated from FDR High School in 1994 and then graduated from Dutchess Community College. Jamie was a longtime employee of Southern Westchester BOCES where he worked in their IT department as a Systems Engineer I.

When he was not working, Jamie enjoyed camping, bowling, and spending time with his family. Jamie ran the Juniors Bowling League at Spins Bowl in Poughkeepsie and had helped to coach his nephew's t-ball team this past spring.

Besides his mother Linda, Jamie is survived by his brother Carey Paterson and his girlfriend Kelly Stewart and his sister Jodie Wilson and her husband Brian.

Jamie is also survived by his beloved nephew, Ethan Paterson who was his best buddy. He was predeceased by his father Daniel.

In keeping with Jamie's wishes there will be no services. Cremation will take place at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for memorial donations to The American Heart association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692 or [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org) or Dutchess County SPCA, 636 Violet Ave., Hyde Park, NY 12538 or [www.dcsPCA.org](http://www.dcsPCA.org).

Arrangements by Sweet's Funeral Home, Rte. 9, Hyde Park, NY 12538. Condolences may be made to the family at [www.sweetsfuneralhome.com](http://www.sweetsfuneralhome.com).

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The annual meeting of the Pleasant Valley Cemetery Association will be held in the parlor of the First Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Pleasant Valley, NY on February 20, 2024 at 7:00 in the evening for the election of three (3) Trustees and for the transaction of any additional business that may be brought before the Board.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-08-24 Dutchess County Transportation Safety Action Plan Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 11th day of March 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.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS-RFB-DCB-05-24 NAME OF PROJECT: COOLING TOWER MAIN SHAFT & MAIN SHAFT BEARING REPLACEMENT. Single Prime Bids shall be received for the following classes of work: Mechanical. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at [www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess](http://www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess). Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official

Legal Notices

copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at [www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess](http://www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess) or by using the link provided at [www.dutchessny.gov](http://www.dutchessny.gov), selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at [dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov](mailto:dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov), or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on Bid-Net Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by: Diane McKenna, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Bids due on or before 11:00am February 29, 2024, and at that time opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 740 294 354#. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and

one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. A Walk-through is scheduled for Wednesday February 14, 2024, at 10:00am at Front Entrance of Probation & Family Court Building, 50 Market Street. All parties interested in bidding must apprise themselves of the site conditions immediately prior to bidding. Questions will be accepted by the close of business February 22, 2024 and emailed to Diane McKenna at [dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov](mailto:dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov) with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2024001152. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

The deadline for Legals is every Friday @ 12 noon for a Wednesday Publication\* \*When a public holiday falls on a Monday the deadline becomes Thursday at noon.

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one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. A Walk-through is scheduled for Wednesday February 14, 2024, at 10:00am at Front Entrance of Probation & Family Court Building, 50 Market Street. All parties interested in bidding must apprise themselves of the site conditions immediately prior to bidding. Questions will be accepted by the close of business February 22, 2024 and emailed to Diane McKenna at [dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov](mailto:dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov) with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2024001152. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS-RFB-DCH-2024-03 NAME OF PROJECT: Heritage Financial Park Drainage, 1500 Rt. 9D, Wappingers Falls, NY. Project Description: Installation of a closed drainage system, retention pond and ancillary work including timber railing and concrete sidewalks. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are ob-

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tained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at [www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess](http://www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess). Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at [www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess](http://www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess) or by using the link provided at [www.dutchessny.gov](http://www.dutchessny.gov), selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at [dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov](mailto:dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov), or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on Bid-Net Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids due on or before 11:00am **Wednesday, February 28, 2024**, and at that time opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. Bids for the above project will be received by: Diane McKenna, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. The bid opening for this solicitation will be in person and conducted through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud will need to call into the phone number listed below or in-person atten-

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dance at a bid opening. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 101 235 907#. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County

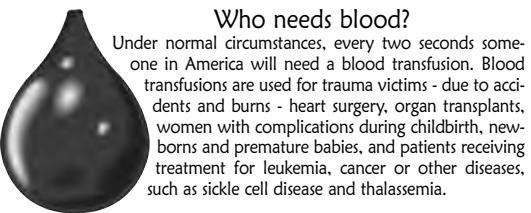
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has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business February 21, 2024 and emailed to Diane McKenna at [dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov](mailto:dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov) and [cc'd\\_dmckenna@dutchessny.gov](mailto:cc'd_dmckenna@dutchessny.gov) with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The an-

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anticipated start of construction is April 1, 2024; the anticipated substantial and final completion date is May 10, 2024, respectively. Failure to meet these dates may result in liquidated damages. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2023001015. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

GIVE BLOOD GIVE LIFE



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TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION NO.: 154/2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS AT BOWER PARK

**WHEREAS**, the Town owns recreational lands known as Bower Park at 3 Ravine Road in Pleasant Valley, having tax parcel number 6363-02-995970; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town accepted as a gift an adjacent parcel of approximately 5.7 acres, tax parcel number 6363-02-940987, which borders the park and provides access off North Avenue; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board desires to integrate parcel 6363-02-940987 into Bower Park and to use the additional land to improve access to the park; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Engineer has drawn up plans to add a new gravel driveway leading in to the park from North Avenue, to expand the parking area for park users, and to improve the existing driveway as an exit drive; and

**WHEREAS**, the total estimated cost of the project is \$255,000; and **WHEREAS**, pursuant to the provisions of SEQRA the Town Board determined that the proposed improvements to Bower Park constitute an unlisted action and declared itself to be the Lead Agency for conduct of the environmental review under SEQRA, and there has been no objection to the Lead Agency designation;

Now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that pursuant to SEQRA, the Town Board has determined that the project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and hereby issues a negative declaration for the project; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that parcel 6363-02-940987 is hereby designated part of Bower Park; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board authorizes the establishment of a capital fund in the amount of \$306,000 for the improvements to Bower Park, to be funded from the General Fund balance; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board authorizes the construction of a new driveway, parking lot expansion, and associated improvements as designed, at a total cost not to exceed \$306,000; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this resolution to the extent that incorporates the subject parcel into Bower Park for use as parkland is subject to a permissive referendum pursuant to the provisions of Section 220 (3) of the Town Law.

DATED: January 22, 2024

**MOTION BY:** Councilman Rifenburgh  
**SECONDED BY:** Councilman Degan

ROLL CALL:	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Councilwoman Adams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman Degan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman Rifenburgh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supervisor Albrecht	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carried.		

Suguru solution					
4	5	2	4	1	3
2	1	3	5	2	4
3	4	2	1	3	1
5	1	3	5	2	4
3	2	4	1	3	5
5	1	5	2	4	1

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

SUDOKU											
This week's answer											
4	5	9	1	7	2	8	3	6			
6	7	3	9	4	8	5	1	2			
2	1	8	5	3	6	9	4	7			
8	4	2	6	1	3	7	5	9			
3	6	7	4	5	9	1	2	8			
1	9	5	8	2	7	4	6	3			
7	8	1	2	6	5	3	9	4			
9	2	4	3	8	1	6	7	5			
5	3	6	7	9	4	2	8	1			

Answers to this week's diversions

(puzzles on page 13)



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151 Adoption  
152 Novenas  
154 Lost & Found  
155 Personal  
200 Services

201 Home Improvement  
202 Cleaning Services  
203 Lawn Services  
221 Professional Services  
222 Tax Experts  
223 Beauty Services  
225 Business Services  
226 Travel & Services  
227 Bridal Services  
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304 Mobile Homes  
305 Lots & Acreage  
400 Townhomes & Condos for rent

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506 Computers  
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508 Exercise Equipment

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512 Winter Merchandise  
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720 Vendors Wanted  
721 Wanted to Buy  
722 Bazaar  
723 Consignments  
724 Farmers Market  
725 Collectibles  
750 Events  
800 Boats  
801 Campers & Trailers  
802 Motor Homes  
803 Recreational Vehicles  
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902 Trucks  
903 Motorcycles  
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905 Autos Wanted

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Answer to this week's Dot to Dot (puzzle on page 10)

**THE GREATEST DOT-TO-DOT BOOKS**

No Dots  
Connect Numbers:  
1 - 119

Tip: Aim for the middle of each number.

By David Kalvitis © 2003 Monkeying Around

## Starr Library events

**EVERYONE**  
Thursday, February 8th, 6:30-7:30pm - Hong Bao and the Lunar New Year with Amy Wu  
Wednesday, February 14th, 4-6pm - Valentine's Day Cookie Decorating Workshop with Theresa Corrigan  
Saturdays, 1-3pm - Teen Tech Support

**ADULTS**  
Monday, February 26th, 10am-1pm - Starr Stitchers Embroidery Club  
Tuesday, February 13th, 1:15-2:15pm - All Abilities Story & Craft Program with the Anderson Center  
Tuesdays, February 13th & 27th, 11:30am-12:30pm - Beginner's Knitting: Drop In, Cast Off  
Thursday, February 15th, 6:30-8pm - Fiction Workshop with Lilliana Kahan  
Tuesday, February 20th, 2-3pm - Rhinebeck at Home at Starr presents Identity Theft 101 with Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union  
Tuesday, February 20th, 6:30-8pm - Memoir Workshop with Michelle Montalbano  
Wednesday, February 21st, 6:30pm at Upstate Films - How Should a President Be? A Movie-Clip Driven Conversation featuring Alexis Coe and Alyssa Mastromonaco  
Thursday, February 22nd, 5:30-7pm - Starr Library Board of Trustees

**Meeting**  
**YOUTH AND FAMILY**  
Wednesday, February 7th, 3pm - World Read Aloud Day with Local Author Karen Kaufman Orloff and Illustrator Daniel Baxter  
Saturday, February 17th, 11am - Crafting Kindness on National Random Acts of Kindness Day!  
Sundays through February 25th, 1:30-2:30pm - Family Yoga with Miss Rianna  
Mondays, February 5th, 12th, & 26th, 10:30am-11:30am - Connect & Play with Early Childhood Educator Jane Korn  
Thursdays, February 8th & 22nd, 10:30-11:15am - Music & Movement with Terry Watson: One Session for Everyone  
Every Tuesday at 10:15am - Story Time with Robbie! One Session for Everyone  
Every Tuesday at 4pm - Super Lego Hour

**BOOK CLUBS**  
Tuesday, February 13th, 1-2pm - Mysteries Around the World Book Club: The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb  
Tuesday, February 27th, 7pm - Starr Library Book Club: Evicted by Matthew Desmond



*Note: the Office for the Aging and OFA Friendship Centers will be closed on the following February holidays:*

*Monday, February 12 – Lincoln’s Birthday (NYS legal holiday)*

*Monday, February 19 – President’s Day (national holiday)*

READ THIS ARTICLE  
RIGHT AWAY...OR NOT

A key tactic of scammers is to create false urgency – the belief that you need to act right away on their fake solicitation, a fraudulent bargain, or a perceived threat.

The scammers’ aim is to disrupt your usual logical thought with emotional appeals, painting a picture that’s too good to be true or too scary to be true. They’re trying to rush you into giving up personal and financial information before you think things through.

Classic false urgency scams include the “grandparent” scam, where the scammer impersonates a family member who’s in trouble with the law and needs immediate financial support, sometimes in the form of...wait, gift cards? That doesn’t sound right at all, does it?

Don’t be overconfident. This scam seems obvious while you’re calmly reading this article, but you might not be so calm if the scammer calls you at 2:30 in the morning.

Think about your circle of friends, family, and neighbors. If there’s anybody you consider vulnerable to false urgency scams, let them know. Scam Prevention and Identity Theft Prevention flyers are available at [dutchessny.gov/aging](http://dutchessny.gov/aging). They include quick tips on what to do to prevent being victimized in the first place, and useful contacts for local and regional officials who can help investigate scams and scam attempts.

SCAMMERS KEEP ADAPTING...  
SO YOU SHOULD, TOO

A new version of the false urgency scam

involves quick-response codes, better known as QR codes. You’ve seen them, even if you’re not sure what they are: a square-shaped black-and-white symbol that is scanned with a smartphone or laser to learn more about a product or service. These encrypted squares can hold content, links, coupons, event details...or harmful links from scammers.

Scammers have been known to cover up legitimate QR codes with harmful codes of their own, on everything from parking meters to restaurant menus. The Federal Trade Commission adds that fake codes can be sent by email or text message, including content aimed at creating false urgency like “there’s a problem with your account” or “your package could not be delivered.”

The FTC recommends staying a step ahead of QR code scams by keeping your mobile device’s operating system up to date; maintaining strong passwords for your online activities; not scanning any QR code you weren’t expecting without first verifying it; and using methods other than scanning the QR code to contact any organization that may have legitimate reason to want you to contact them.

HOW DO SCAMMERS FIND ME?

Even if you have never used a computer, your only phone is an unlisted landline, and you pay bills only by cash or check, scammers can still find you. Sometimes their tactics are as simple as stealing from your mailbox or rummaging through your garbage, or using a computer to dial phone numbers at random until they reach somebody who picks up. Sometimes your personal information is available by searching public records or via data brokers, and many scammers simply steal information about you from businesses you’ve patronized.

Visit the National Institute on Aging (<https://www.nia.nih.gov/>) to learn more about scams targeting older adults.

Visit our website ([www.dutchessny.gov](http://www.dutchessny.gov),

click Departments, Aging, Scam Prevention) for a printable OFA Scam Prevention Resources flyer and a printable OFA Identity Theft Prevention checklist; as well as a flyer in English and Spanish on preventing EBT card skimmer scams.

HELP WANTED – SUBSTITUTE OFA  
FRIENDSHIP CENTER SITE MANAGERS

The Office for the Aging is searching for qualified Substitute Site Managers for our eight Friendship Centers throughout the county.

To apply and find out more, click [here](#) and look for the “Site Manager” listing. The application deadline is Thursday, February 29th.

NEW LOCATION FOR RHINEBECK  
OFA MEDICARE CLASSES

Starting this month, OFA’s “Medicare 101” class that takes place at 4 pm on the fourth Monday of every month in Rhinebeck moves to the Starr Library at 68 West Market St. The next Rhinebeck class takes place on Monday, February 26th.

Medicare 101 classes also take place on the third Wednesday of every month at 10 am the Poughkeepsie Galleria Community Room. There’s also a Medicare class taking place at Adriance Memorial Library in Poughkeepsie on Wednesday, March 6th at 9:30 am.

For more information and to reserve a seat at any OFA Medicare class, call OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555. A full schedule of all OFA events is available at [dutchessny.gov/calendar](http://dutchessny.gov/calendar).

FEBRUARY IS HEART HEALTH MONTH

Good nutrition is a key component of maintaining your heart in its best possible condition. Find out more in the February 2024 edition of the OFA Nutrition news, available at this link.

Click [here](#) for links to many more Nutrition News issues, along with the February lunch menu for our Friendship Centers

FREE TAX-PREP –  
APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

February traditionally kicks off tax-filing season (no need to put up decorations), and the Hudson Valley CASH Coalition is beginning another season of free tax preparation service for low- and moderate-income individuals and families in Dutchess, Orange, and Putnam Counties.

AARP Foundation IRS-certified volunteers run the service. In Dutchess County there are 14 free tax-prep sites in Dover Plains, Fishkill, Hopewell Junction, Hyde Park, Poughkeepsie, and Wappingers Falls. This year there will be a new tax site at the Tivoli Library. Between Orange and Putnam Counties, there are an additional 18 tax-prep sites.

To schedule an appointment, call the 211 United Way Hudson Valley Helpline, or 800-800-1479 from 9a-4p weekdays. Appointments are available from this month through mid-April, while they last.

For additional information, visit [hv-cash.org](http://hv-cash.org).

‘SENIOR PARK PRINTS’  
ADDS A CLASS (Thu 2/29)

Thanks to popular demand, OFA and Dutchess County Parks are adding another Senior Park Prints class for Dutchess County older adults (age 60+), on Thursday, February 29th from 2:30-3:45 pm, at the OFA Poughkeepsie Friendship Center at OFA headquarters in Poughkeepsie (114 Delafield St.).

The class is free, with all supplies provided. Class size is limited to 12, but a few spots remain available as of February 1st.

Please sign up by contacting OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555.

*Golden Living is prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie, New York 12601, telephone 845-486-2555, email: [ofa@dutchessny.gov](mailto:ofa@dutchessny.gov) website: [www.dutchessny.gov/aging](http://www.dutchessny.gov/aging)*



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- 14 Private Patient Suites
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& Southern Dutchess News

When: Sunday, March 10, 2024  
Time: Noon – 3pm  
Where: The Garrison  
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Register Now At:  
GarrisonBridalShow@gmail.com

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We will have plenty of prizes to give away with a Grand Prize Drawing at 2:30pm.  
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