



DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living

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VALENTINE'S DAY LOVE STORY



Acute Inpatient Unit at Castle Point temporarily closed

Earlier this month, the Castle Point VA Medical Center temporarily closed a portion of the facility.

Beginning February 1, Castle Point VA Medical Center in Wappingers Falls closed a section of its facility - the acute inpatient unit - for 120 days as part of an effort to re-evaluate staffing needs.

"This is outrageous, and a fundamental breach of the sacred duty we have to care for our veterans who've put their lives on the line for our country," said Congressman Pat Ryan in a press release on Feb. 4.

Congressman Mike Lawler also commented in a statement. His partial statement reads: "Our veterans didn't make the incredible sacrifices they did to be short-changed in services here at home."

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said in the release that she was "deeply disturbed" by the temporary closure.

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Farming couple Marjorie & Hal Fountain: It's all about love & patience - for 65 years

Editor's note: Each year we at the Northern Dutchess News honor Valentine's Day by interviewing a couple who have been married for more than 50 years.

By Curtis Schmidt

The farming life has always held a special attraction for Marjorie and Hal Fountain of Clinton Corners. They both grew up on farms and discovered they loved the lifestyle - so much so that they started their own Hibernia Hill Farm and raised a family with five children - and lots of horses.

As Valentine's Day approaches, Marjorie and Hal are celebrating 65 years together and taking a look back at how it all started.

Highlights? How about a National Cherry Pie Baking Championship for Marjorie? And Hal? He remembers getting fired for dating Marjorie and later being chased by angry swans.

Hal's father raised draft horses on a farm near Gloversville. He rented them out for logging, plowing and the like and even shipped them by train to nearby states.

But Hal's roots were in farming, so he attended college at Cornell and graduated in 1955 with the goal of working with farmers as a county extension agent.

Marjorie's family had one of the largest pheasant farms in the country and it was located in the Town of Milan. Many were sold to area gun clubs and many more just as meat birds (like chickens). They also had a great business with pheasant eggs.

How Marjorie and Hal actually met can be traced back to Marjorie winning the National Cherry Pie Baking Championship in 1955. As a 4-H club member and senior at Red Hook High School, she won the Dutchess County 4-H title and then the New York State crown before winning the U.S. event in Chicago.

"My family ended up eating a lot of cherry pies as I was practicing," said Marjorie. She also gave credit to her mother and Swedish grandmother "who were great bakers and great teachers."

And her winning secret? "The pastry crust was very important and I used lard, while most of the other contestants used



Marjorie and Hal Fountain still reside in the farm house in Clinton Corners that they purchased in 1963. The wedding photo shows them cutting the cake at their wedding on Sept 12, 1959. Photo by Curtis Schmidt and courtesy photo



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Black History Month program to explore 'Economic Diversity of Dutchess County's Black Community in the 19th Century'

In honor of Black History Month, Dutchess County joins the nationwide celebration of Black Americans' contributions. County Executive Sue Serino announced today the County's Division of History is sponsoring a free virtual event, hosted by the Dutchess County Historical Society (DCHS), on Thursday, Feb. 20 at 7 p.m.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, "The Black community has played an important part of Dutchess County's history, and we are proud to

honor the community's ongoing achievements. This virtual educational event will talk about the economic differences in the local Black community during the 1800s - from the success of capitalist barons to the struggles of free Blacks in the Civil War era.

Led by DCHS Executive Director Bill Jeffway, the virtual event, entitled "Navigating Wealth & Poverty: The Economic Diversity of Dutchess County's 19th Century Black Community," will explain how global

trade and a Wall Street aristocrat intersected with local merchants and the working class through the tumultuous period of the 19th Century and U.S. Civil War. Through never-before-published diaries, virtual attendees will hear firsthand observations of the post-Civil War Black communities in Dover and eastern Dutchess County, in particular, where resourcefulness and adaptability played a crucial role in managing everyday challenges.

Registration for this free event is available at dchsn.org/feb20, and registrants will receive a Zoom link to join the event.

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Valentine's Day Love Story: Marjorie & Hal Fountain

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shortening," said Marjorie. She also used local cherries, a special flour and almond extract.

During the competition, she connected with judges from Iowa State College who were obviously impressed with her talents. "I was also very impressed with the home economics program at Iowa State and decided to attend college out there," she said.

Her goal was to work as a 4-H agent and just prior to her senior year, she obtained an internship in Cortland, NY (near Ithaca) – and guess who was working in the same Courthouse Building as the Assistant County Extension Agent.

It was Hal. "She was very good-looking and I was immediately attracted to her," he said. The two started dating and Hal noted the adage of "courting her in the courthouse in Cortland."

Their first date was a trip to an outdoor drive-in movie theatre in Cortland. "We did a lot of talking and got to know each

other very well on those first dates," said Marjorie.

But there was just one problem: Dating among employees, particularly in regard to 4-H interns, was against the rules in that courthouse. And Hal was fired. "We knew the rules and we knew we were taking a chance. We were both outlaws," Marjorie said with a laugh.

So Hal went back to Gloversville and she was taking the train back to Ames, Iowa. But it time for a decision. They made a commitment to each other – and he caught the train in nearby Fonda and they traveled to Iowa together with the plan of Hal taking courses to complete his master's degree.

All went well and the only issue that came up was Marjorie's parents being worried that she would not finish college. But she did graduate and they immediately liked Hal when he came to visit in Milan. But the swans on the farm? Not so much.



Marjorie and Hal Fountain are pictured with their five children: Julia, Suzanne, Jennifer, Phillip and David. Left: Hal and son David Fountain are pictured "Four in Hand" with four of the family's Percheron draft horses at the Dutchess County Fair in 1988. "Four in Hand" means you are holding the reins of all four horses in your hands as you drive them. These four horses were all born on the family farm in Clinton Corners. Hal's father raised and sold draft horses until tractors forced him out of business. Below: Marjorie Campbell Fountain takes a cherry pie out of the oven during the National 4-H Championships in 1955 in Chicago. She won the national title after winning the Dutchess County and New York State championships. *Courtesy photos*



"They chased him right away when he got out of the car, especially the male swan," said Marjorie. "It was pretty bad, but it was simply someone they didn't know." Hal said he "just did a lot of kicking" to fight them off.

They dated for about a year and Hal presented Marjorie with the engagement ring at Christmas in 1958. They were married on Sept 12, 1959 at St Anthony's Catholic Church in Pine Plains.

The honeymoon was a short trip to Vermont and around New England. "We didn't have much time or money," said Hal.

After a couple of years in New Jersey, they purchased the home and farm where they still live in Clinton Corners. Hal began a career in real estate appraisal, while Marjorie was at home with three young children.

Marjorie and Hal have five children, nine grandchildren and one great grandson.

After buying the farm in 1963 and they

added the first of many Morgan horses the next year.

"We always wanted horses," said Marjorie. "We both enjoyed riding horses and teaching our children to ride. And we did get to see the birth of lots of foals." They raised Morgan horses until 1988, and then changed to Percheron draft horses pulling carriages, wagons and showing at the Dutchess County Fair.

They also believe in giving back to the community. Hal served on the Clinton Town Board for several years in addition to the Board at the Rhinebeck Bank. Marjorie was a 4-H club leader for many years, teaching sewing, baking and home economics to many children.

On the secrets to a happy 65 years together, Marjorie and Hal have three keys – love and respect, plus a lot of patience.

"You have to have patience and understanding," said Marjorie. "Raising kids and working day-by-day – that takes a lot of patience."



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Astor Services Expands Home-Based Crisis Intervention Program

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A LOOK BACK AT 2015

Historic Red Hook diner celebrates 32 years

By Curtis Schmidt

Editor's note: This is a reprint of an article from 2015.

The staff of the Historic Village Diner, at 7550 North Broadway in Red Hook, celebrated 32 years in business on Valentine's Day. County Executive Marc Molinaro was on hand with a proclamation proclaiming Feb. 14, 2015 as "Historic Village Diner Day" throughout Dutchess County.

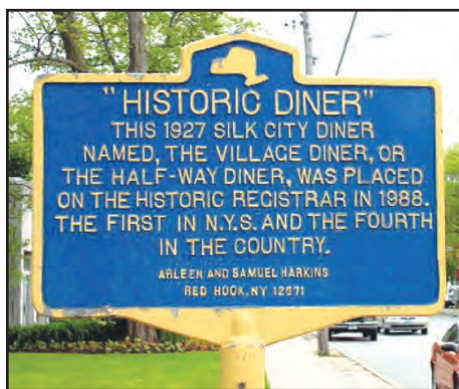
Ten years later, the Historic Diner is still going strong.

In celebration of their anniversary and St. Valentine's Day, the diner owners and staff offered sweetheart chocolate candies, strawberry mimosas and a special

complete Prime Rib dinner. Historic Village Diner owners include Arleen and Sam Harkins and Melissa Wambach. The Historic Village Diner is significant as a distinctive example of early-20th century American roadside architecture surviving exceptionally intact from its date of manufacture in the 1920s. It embodies distinguishing characteristics of the type and period in its streamlined metal railroad dining car inspired design, which was intended to evoke, at once, the ideas of travel, food cleanliness and modern efficiency. The diner is additionally significant as a representative example of a Silk City Diner, a highly popular prefabricated dining car line manufactured by the Paterson Vehicle Company of Paterson, N. J., from the 1920s to the 1950s.

Moved several times to adapt to changing travel patterns, the history of the diner also recalls the growth and development of the regional transportation system during the early automobile age. After years of catering to travelers on Dutchess County's major highways, the Historic Village Diner now enjoys continued popularity as a community-oriented restaurant and the focal point of much local nostalgia.

For more information, call (845) 758-6232.



Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro proclaims Feb. 14, 2015 as "Historic Village Diner Day" in the county. From left are Arleen Harkins, Molinaro, Melissa Wambach and Sam Harkins. Left: This marker notes the diner's historic status. *Courtesy photos*

Register for annual 'Freezin' for a Reason' Polar Plunge in Fishkill

By Kristine Coulter

The annual 27th "Freezin' for a Reason" Polar Plunge at Sharpe Reservation in Fishkill will take place on Saturday, Feb. 15. The "Cool School Challenge" Polar Plunge will be on Friday, Feb. 14.

"Taking the Special Olympics New York Polar Plunge means jumping into cold waters to raise money for our Special Olympics NY athletes. The Polar Plunge is a fundraiser that supports year-round sports training, competition, and other programs for people with intellectual disabilities. Truly a great time to be had by all," said Teresa Gilli, Special Olympics New York Hudson Valley Region Director of Development. So, what about getting there? Do participants and attendees have to take buses this year?

"Yes! Only buses are allowed up to Sharpe Reservation (those needing special access due to a handicap must reach out to Gilli personally at tgilli@nys.org or 845-262-6011)," said Gilli. Attendees and participants should park in the

Dutchess Community College parking lot Fishkill, 461 Rt. 9, in Fishkill. There, one can ride on one of the buses that will drive everyone up to Sharpe Reservation.

"We will have a food truck at the parking area called Hooked Seafood to serve food and hot beverages for everyone. They will donate a portion of the proceeds to us," remarked Gilli.

Participants should remember to schedule a time for Saturday.

Take Bus 9 a.m. - Registration 9:15 a.m. - Plunge 9:30 a.m.

Take Bus 10 a.m. - Registration - 10:15 a.m. - Plunge 10:30 a.m.

Take Bus 11 a.m. - Registration 11:15 a.m. - Plunge 11:30 a.m.

Take Bus Noon - Registration 12:15 p.m. - Plunge 12:30 p.m.

Take Bus 1 p.m. - Registration 1:15 p.m. - Plunge 1:30 p.m.

Registration for the "Cool School Challenge" Polar Plunge will be from 2-3 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14. That plunge is at 3:45 p.m. There will be contests, DJ's and more.

Tim Stanley, with The Fresh Air Fund's Sharpe Reservation, said the



The Polar Plunge in Fishkill will take place at Sharpe Reservation on Feb. 14 and Feb. 15. Pictured is a team from a previous year's Polar Plunge. *Archive photo Special Olympics NY*

'plunge' being two days is fine because "we enjoy having Special Olympics." He noted it will be interesting to see how thick the ice is on the lake.

Gilli said she is hoping to reach 500 participants this year.

"We are always looking for people to register (and can register day of). The more the merrier," she added.

The goal is to raise \$250,000 this year for the Special Olympics. "But I personal-

ly would love to reach \$300,000 supporting 500 athletes for the entire year. Always hoping for the best and this community has always come through for us for so many years. We are blessed and I am happy with any donations that support our wonderful athletes! They are why we are 'Freezin' for a Reason!" said Gilli.

For more information, visit 2025 Fishkill Polar Plunge - Special Olympics New York.

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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.

Think about it – Is this really what we voted for?

To the editor:
Is this really what we voted for?
Trade wars with our largest trading partners that will spike the costs of building materials, food, cars, oil, and most everything else we use in our daily lives? Territorial threats to our friends and allies who shed the blood of their soldiers in support of us in Iraq and Afghanistan? Abandoning Ukraine to Russia by withholding aid and trying to impose a cease-fire deal which will only allow Russia and its medieval barbarisms to come back stronger and try again? An unelected billionaire oligarch running amok causing chaos and destruction?
Deportation of both legal and illegal immigrants leaving food to rot in fields, spiking prices? Muzzling of the CDC and NIH with bird flu a mutation or two away from infecting and being transmitted by humans? The downloading of sensitive personal data of anyone on Social Security, Medicaid, or anyone who has filed income taxes? The list goes on and on.

I have always appreciated the good common sense of our Dutchess County friends and neighbors, and while I recognize that it is still early in 2025 and that this is a smallish corner of America, looking at the first three weeks of the new administration, I find myself asking, is this really for what we voted?

In the last decade, we have largely bade farewell to the WWII generation whose banners hang from every utility pole in our communities. They knew that 'Never Again' should have meant 'Never Again.' They simply did that which had to be done, and I can imagine that they would have viewed this world as too ominously resembling the one which they fought against. They have moved on, taking their wisdom with them, leaving us to decide in what type of world we want to live.

It is early, but it is not too early to ask ourselves what makes America truly great, and what does our great storehouse of common sense dictate?

Mark Lagus
Town of North East

Elks celebrate 157 years of service, charity and community impact

To the editor:
The benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks proudly marks its 157th anniversary, celebrating more than a century and a half of unwavering dedication to charity, patriotism, and community service. Since its founding in 1868, the Elks have grown into a dynamic and impactful organization, uniting nearly 800,000 members across 1,857 lodges nationwide. With a mission to uplift communities, the Elks have contributed more than \$12 billion in charitable donations, making a tangible difference in countless lives.

A Year of Giving: By the Numbers
\$505 million donated last year to support communities in need

\$6 million in scholarship funding awarded annually to help students achieve their dreams

\$17 million invested through Elks Community Investment Program, strengthening neighborhoods and supporting vital local initiatives

\$55 million dedicated to veterans' services, providing resources and comfort to those who served

As a beacon of charity and goodwill, the Elks remain steadfast in their mission to serve veterans, students, and communities nationwide. Their impact extends beyond financial contributions – volunteers dedicate countless hours to hands-on service projects, ensuring meaningful and lasting change.

The Elks welcome individuals 21 and older who believe in God and are dedicated to service and their community. Learn more or become a member at www.elks.org.

As we mark this milestone, we honor the Elks' enduring legacy and their unwavering commitment to making a difference – one community, one family, one act of kindness at a time.

Rick Gathen
Elks USA, Director

Says 'benefit of the doubt' can't apply to Gaza

To the editor:

As a U.S. veteran, I have always given the benefit of the doubt to my country. The millions killed in Korea and Vietnam in the 1950s and 1960s just could have been the fault of U.S. weapons makers, eager to trade body counts for corporate profits.

And then there were the millions slaughtered in the misguided U.S. invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan. Like the previous conflicts, the invasions were all based on dirty little lies about defending our country or spreading freedom to the Third World.

But America's unrelenting butchery in Gaza has nothing left to cover its war crimes. The Palestinian children are dying with no food, no water and no shelter from the storm. The empire has decided it needs these human sacrifices for some arcane geopolitical advantage. And the savagery is now going into its second year.

We are finally coming to realize that the empire and its grubby, bloodstained ally, Israel, are the true impediments to world peace. Most countries already know this, judging by the huge numbers of UN member states that castigate the U.S. and Israel for their ongoing war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Only the American people stand in the way of the worst genocide since the Third Reich. It is a simple choice: demand an end to our country's mass murdering of children or become part of it. Insist that our venal Congress stop accepting millions in Israeli bribes, blood money that supports this most grotesque of all apartheid colonies.

Fred Nagel
Rhinebeck

New York Army National Guard promotions

LATHAM, N.Y. (02/07/2025)-- Major General Ray Shields, the Adjutant General for the State of New York, announces the promotion of members of the New York Army National Guard in recognition of their capability for additional responsibility and leadership.

John Bolde of Hyde Park, assigned to the Company B, NY National Guard

Recruiting & Retention Battalion, received a promotion January 16, 2025 to the rank of private 1st class.

Axel Guerra Salazar of Tivoli, assigned to the Battery A, 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery Regiment, received a promotion January 30, 2025 to the rank of specialist.

Army National Guard promotions are

based on a Soldier's overall performance, demonstrated leadership abilities, professionalism and future development potential.

For more information about the New York Army National Guard, visit www.dmna.ny.gov or www.1800goguard.com

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County hosts 2nd annual Human Trafficking Awareness Forum

Law enforcement, local stakeholders learn how to identify and prevent abuse

The Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services (DCFS) recently hosted its second annual Human Trafficking Awareness Forum at Dutchess Community College's (DCC) James and Betty Hall Theatre in Poughkeepsie. More than 100 attendees, representing law enforcement, medical professionals, social service providers and community groups, attended this highly impactful event, which raised awareness of this national epidemic, discussed strategies to identify trafficking in all forms and connected attendees with resources.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, "Many people think trafficking only happens in big cities, but sadly, it can happen anywhere, even in our own community. Dutchess County remains vigilant and continues to raise awareness and protect victims of all ages, especially children. Today's forum, and efforts like it, help spread awareness and can save lives. I appreciate everyone who joined us today, and Dutchess County looks forward to continuing our work with these dedicated partners."

The Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking is a diverse team of professionals dedicated to combating human trafficking by collaborating to increase awareness, identify potential victims and deliver comprehensive, trauma-informed support. The task force's initiatives include educational programs on trafficking prevention for youth and a variety of resources for the community, such as resource guides, hot-

line numbers, service directories and fact sheets debunking common trafficking myths.

Human trafficking, defined as the unlawful trade of individuals through force, fraud, or coercion for exploitative purposes, includes crimes such as forced labor, sexual exploitation and involuntary servitude. The International Labour Organization estimates more than 40 million people worldwide are victims of human trafficking. In 2024, the Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking received 31 local referrals of suspected trafficking cases – including referrals received from probation officers, youth service providers and staff at shelters for runaway and homeless youth.

This year's forum presented attendees with a variety of offerings regarding human trafficking in all its forms, how to identify it and how to prevent it, including:

- a discussion with two adult female trafficking survivors, who shared their personal stories;
- a presentation by Homeland Security Investigations, which plays an integral role in combating human trafficking by working with its law enforcement partners to deter, disrupt and dismantle the criminal networks that engage in it;
- a presentation from Special Agent Pao Mei Fisher with the FBI's Hudson Valley Safe Streets Task Force; and
- a case study presentation from DCC Professor Matthew Greenstein, a retired Connecticut detective and member of Dutchess County's Human Trafficking Task Force.

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. Attendees will also receive an overview of Dutchess County's Safe Harbour Program and Center for Victim Safety and Support.

Residents can report suspected cases of trafficking 24/7 to the County's Human Trafficking Hotline at 845-452-7272. Additional information is available on DCFS' Human Trafficking Task Force webpage, which can be accessed via www.dutchessny.gov.



From left, DCC Professor and retired Connecticut detective Matthew Greenstein; David Garcia, Human Trafficking Coordinator-Safe Harbour, Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking; Tracy Connelly-Hart, Deputy Commissioner, Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services; Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino. Below: Michael R. Wilson, of the Department of Homeland Security, provided a presentation on trafficking to those in attendance. *Courtesy photos*



Black History Month program...

continued from cover

Among the local Blacks who will be discussed in the virtual presentation:

- Jeremiah Hamilton, known as the "Black Baron of Wall Street" and the nation's wealthiest Black, made significant investments in Poughkeepsie, including Mansion Square and Union Landing, through his relationship with the Improvement Party.
- Paul Cuffee was a celebrated and successful whaling captain with an all-Black crew. Recently discovered records detail his trading in a rare Brazilian wood for use at Poughkeepsie's dye factories.
- Uriah Boston, who emerged as a member of the very successful and high profile Black middle class. A popular and successful barber, Boston invested in his own local property, acquiring political gains as a result.

The Dutchess County Department of History works to preserve, study and promote the stories from Dutchess County's past; coordinate the Dutchess County Historical Community; and support other government offices and partner organizations in the continuing development of our county.

County Historian William P. Tatum III said, "The indelible mark that Blacks have made on Dutchess County and our history is both astounding and ever-evolving, and we are proud to recognize these contributions."

The department continually expands access to digitized historical resources, including the Ancient Documents Collection. More information is available on the Department of History webpage, dutchessny.gov/history.

When it comes to finances, it matters who has your back.

Meet Beth Coon, branch manager of our Pine Plains branch. If you ask her what she likes most about her job, she will say it's all about the customers – from helping high school grads open their first bank accounts, to assisting older customers maneuver new banking services like Online Banking. With over 30 years of local banking experience, Beth says "it's great to be part of a bank where family and community are so important."

Stop by, say hi to Beth and tell her what financial services she can help you with. She's a great listener!



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Annual Pink Game to honor breast cancer survivors

On Saturday, Feb. 15, at 4 p.m., at Marist College's McCann Arena, Miles of Hope and the Marist College Athletics Department will host the 15th Annual Pink Game, celebrating breast cancer awareness and honoring those impacted by breast cancer right here in the Hudson Valley.

Don't miss the action on Feb. 15 as the Marist women's basketball team takes on Merrimack. Proceeds from a 50-50 raffle will support the Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation, and donations will be warmly accepted. Visit www.milesofhope.org for more information.

County to offer free rabies clinic Feb. 15

The Dutchess County Department of Health (DOH), in partnership with the Dutchess County SPCA (DCSPCA), will offer a free rabies vaccination clinic on Saturday, Feb. 15, at the DCSPCA Adoptions and Education Center located at 636 Violet Avenue in Hyde Park from 8 a.m. to noon. This clinic is open to dogs, cats and domestic ferrets 3 months of age and older. Advance registration required; registration opens on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at DCSPCA.org or by calling the DCSPCA at (845) 452-7722, extension 425.

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

Winter Soup Sales to benefit Rhinebeck Grange

It's time for Winter Soup Sales in Rhinecliff, sponsored by Rhinebeck Grange #896. Mark your calendar for the following Thursdays: Feb. 20 and March 20. The cost is \$10 per quart (two pint-size containers). Take-out only. Pick up at the Rhinecliff Firehouse, corner of Shatzell Ave. and Orchard Drive, Rhinecliff, at the side door on Orchard Drive, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. New: Pick up also available at Morton Library (82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff) from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Email JoBaer2@gmail.com to be sent the soup choices for each month and to pre-order online. Proceeds support the Rhinebeck Grange.

For more information, contact Joe Baer at (845) 876-6488, JoBaer2@gmail.com.

PV Rec to host 'Beauty & The Beast' Movie Night Feb. 21

Pleasant Valley Recreation will present "Beauty & The Beast" Movie Night on Friday, Feb. 21. Come dressed as your favorite prince or princess and enjoy a classic movie that's sure to bring joy and wonder, along with a special visit from a real-life princess from 6 to 6:40 p.m., so be sure to come on time. Bring your tiaras, capes, and crowns, and let the enchantment begin!

This is a free event, but registration is required at pvrec.com.

Email pvrecreation@pleasantvalley-ny.gov or call (845) 635-1111, ext. 203 for more information.

Rhinebeck Garden Club meeting set Feb. 26

The Rhinebeck Garden Club's next meeting will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 26, from 10 a.m. to noon, at Rhinebeck Village Hall, 76 East Market Street. The program, "From Drab to Fab! How to Take your Grocery Bouquet or Flowers to the Next Level," will be presented by Jay Bell, a floral designer for 25 years in NYC and a member of the Rhinebeck Garden Club. Refreshments will be served. Visitors are welcomed.

Every year the Rhinebeck Garden Club puts together a series of meetings, field trips and events. Most meetings are open to the public, but visitors are asked to join after attending two meetings. For information, call Sue at (845) 797-3226 or logon to <https://www.facebook.com/p/Rhinebeck-Garden-Club-100064834505072/>

Hyde Park Rotary

sets comedy fundraiser Feb. 28

Hyde Park Rotary will present a family-friendly Comedy Night on Friday, Feb. 28, at Coppola's of Hyde Park. Featured performers are Matt Pena (stand-up comedian, producer and storyteller) and Gabe Mollica (comedian, writer, and star of the Off-Broadway hit "Solo: A Show About Friendship," featured on "This American Life"). Dinner (cash bar) and show are at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$68 per person at the door. Checks should be made to Hyde Park Rotary Foundation, Inc.

Comedy Night is a fundraiser to benefit Rotary Projects including FDR Honors Dinner, Meals on Wheels, Literacy, Food Pantry, RYLA and SPCA. Snow date is Saturday, March 1.

More information is available by emailing Hydeparkrotary@gmail.com.

Program on Monarch butterflies set at Hyde Park church

The Hyde Park Visual Environment Committee (HPVEC) will sponsor an educational program on Monarch butterflies on Sunday, March 2, at 2 p.m., at St. James' Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 4526 Albany Post Road (Route 9) in Hyde Park.

Guest speaker Maraleen Manos-Jones (a.k.a. "The Butterfly Lady") will present "Saving the Monarch Butterflies," sharing her recent experience of flying with the Monarch butterflies in Mexico.

Attendance is free, and registration is encouraged. Email hpvecboard@gmail.com to register.

Skilled Trades Fairs set

On Thursday, March 6, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the Arlington Central School District will host a Skilled Trades Fair, designed to connect students and young adults with a wide range of career opportunities available in the Hudson Valley. This free event will bring together representatives from various trades to provide insights, answer questions, and share information about rewarding career paths in fields like construction, electrical work, plumbing, and more. It is open to the public and students from all Dutchess County school districts, taking place from 6 to 8 p.m. on March 6, at Arlington High School. No RSVP is required to attend.

Local businesses and trade organizations interested in showcasing their opportunities at the fair are encouraged to register online or contact the Dutchess County Executive's Office at (845) 486-2000 or CountyExec@dutchessny.gov. There is no fee to participate; however, space is limited, and spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Register online at dutchessny.gov/TradesFair.

A second Skilled Trades Fair has been scheduled for Thursday, April 24, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Roy C. Ketcham High School in the Town of Wappinger in partnership with the Wappingers Central School District. Register to participate in this event online at dutchessny.gov/RCKTradesFair.

Pancake Breakfast set at Rhinecliff Firehouse
The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company and

Rescue Squad will host a Winter Pancake Breakfast from 8 to 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 9. Enjoy a pile-high of "Rhinecliff's Best" pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice. It's all-you-can-eat so bring your appetite and your friends. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$4 for children, and free for children age 5 and younger. Breakfasts will be served at the Rhinecliff Firehouse (corner of Shatzell & Orchard in Rhinecliff). Proceeds will support the Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Co. For more information, call Cynthia at (845) 876-5738 or e-mail: csaniewski1@gmail.com

Premier Cares Foundation sets food & wine fundraiser March 13

Premier Cares Foundation will host "Uncorked!" on Thursday, March 13, from 6 to 9 p.m., at Vassar Alumnae House, 161 College Avenue, Poughkeepsie. Savor six exceptional wines as you gain expert insights from renowned wine educator Kevin Zraly. After the tasting, enjoy a selection of perfectly paired dishes prepared by Main Course Catering.

There will also be a silent auction. Casual cocktail attire is suggested.

The cost is \$200/person. Reservations are required by March 1 at <https://www.givegab.com/campaigns/uncorked-for-a-cause>.

ONGOING

Meals on Wheels of Hyde Park and the Village of Rhinebeck is seeking volunteer drivers during the hours of 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Drivers are needed Monday-Friday. You can drive one or more days each week or substitute as needed. All drivers work in teams so couples or friends are encouraged to volunteer together. For more information visit www.mealsonwheelsofhp.org or, contact Andrea Tkazyik at (845) 229-5896.

The New to You Thrift Shop at St. Christopher's in Red Hook has cold-weather clothing, with everything from shoes to coats, bags, scarves, hats...Come in and outfit yourself for the chillier times. The prices are amazing. And while the ladies are browsing clothing, we have children's clothing and toys and games. The shop is at 30 Benner Road in Red Hook by St. Christopher's School.

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Acute Inpatient Unit at Castle Point temporarily closed

continued from cover

Serino noted, "It isn't just a facility; it's a lifeline for our veterans between Albany and the Bronx, especially for those here in Dutchess County. I know firsthand that this unit saves lives, providing critical inpatient care and preparing veterans for rehabilitation. With so many already facing barriers to mental health support, this decision puts our heroes at even greater risk."

Adam Roche, Director of Dutchess County Office of Veteran Affairs commented in the release. A portion of his statement stated, "This is absolutely unacceptable."

"As a Veteran who utilizes Castle Point services, and an advocate for Veterans in Dutchess County who are receiving services, I wholeheartedly disagree with this decision and the secretive nature around it," said Alyssa Carrion, Veterans Program Director, Veterans Services, MHA Ulster County, Pleasant Valley.

"This would be a disastrous decision for the thousands of veterans in the Hudson Valley who depend on the VA for healthcare. Our veterans desperately need more healthcare options, not less. They earned it. We can all agree our veterans have made incredible sacrifices for our nation, yet they are being given cutbacks and empty promises in return," said

Tommy Zurhellen, Former Commander, VFW Post 170 and Founder of VetZero, a veteran service program in Poughkeepsie, in the release.

"I'm very concerned about the recent decision to temporarily close the Acute Inpatient Unit at Castle Point VA Medical Center. This unit provides critical, life-saving care to our veterans that is vital in preparing them for the next phase of treatment and rehabilitation," said Peter Maraday, Hudson Valley Regional Manager, Clear Path for Veterans, said the release.

"Once again, we see Veterans living in rural communities subjected to potential cuts and closures at Castle Point. Directly affecting their healthcare and quality of life by reducing access to critical services. These cuts not only impact the Veteran, they impact the Hudson Valley," said Kevin Keaveny, President of the Hudson Valley Center for Veteran Reintegration.

Marshall stated, "This will not affect any of the other services provided to our Veterans, who will still be able to receive primary care, specialty care, outpatient mental health services, and other services elsewhere in the facility. In addition, Castle Point's Community Living Center will remain open and operational."

Medical Reserve Corps to host Pet First Aid Training on March 5

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of Dutchess County will offer its popular Pet First Aid Training on Wednesday, March 5, at 7 p.m., at Beacon VFW Memorial Hall, 413 Main Street.

The training is free, however seating is limited and registration is required and is available online at DutchessNY.gov/PetFirstAid or by emailing mrc@dutchessny.gov. View the event flyer.

Training participants will learn possible life-saving skills for pets, including CPR; recognizing signs of heat stroke and hypothermia; identifying gastrointestinal issues, allergies, and poisonings; and treating injuries such as burns, eye issues, wound care and more. The training will be presented by Paul S. McNamara, DVM, Chief of Surgery at the Hudson Highlands Veterinary Medical Group.

The Dutchess County Animal Response Team (DCART) will also be on

hand with information on how to include pets in emergency preparedness planning. DCART is a specialized team of the Department of Emergency Response, comprised of veterinary professionals and trained volunteers from the community. They respond to assist Emergency Management at the scene of a disaster or emergencies that involve animals such as pets or livestock. Their mission is to ensure the humane care and treatment of animals in an emergency.

Dutchess MRC is comprised of both healthcare and non-healthcare volunteers as part of a national network of more than 200,000 volunteers dedicated to supporting public health infrastructure as well as disaster preparedness and response in the community. Dutchess MRC hosts various trainings for members and non-members alike throughout the year. For more information or to sign up to volunteer, visit dutchessny.gov/mrc.

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Pop-up Winter Gallery @ Harker House

**Open Saturdays & Sundays Noon to 5pm
February 8 to March 29, 2025**



**Opening Reception:
Saturday February 8th 4 to 7pm**

**Closing Event:
Saturday March 29th 4 to 7pm**

Local Artists:
Lauren Lancaster, photographer
Michael Moran & Celia Gibson Moran, furniture makers
Richard Orient, painter & sculptor
Alison Owen, painter & ceramist
Marcie Paper, painter

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Astor Services expands home-based crisis intervention program

Astor Services, a leading provider of quality mental and behavioral health and education services for children, young adults and their families, has announced that its Home-Based Crisis Intervention Program (HBCI) is now available in New York's Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Columbia and Greene counties.

HBCI is a unique clinical service funded by the New York Office of Mental Health (OMH), focused on preventing unnecessary psychiatric hospitalizations for youth ages 5 to 20. Astor Services has been providing HBCI services for more than 30 years, initially in Dutchess County and then in Ulster County and, with the addition of these five counties served, has become the largest provider of HBCI services in New York State.

"HBCI services are an intensive form of treatment that allows children who are at risk of psychiatric hospitalization to receive high-quality mental health care at home instead," said Astor Services CEO Yvette Bairan. "Through the services of HBCI, Astor aims to reduce the trauma of a child being separated from their family and provide the structure and resources for treatment to be successful where they live. Plus, these services are completely free thanks to funding from the New York Office of Mental Health (NY OMH) and local county partners. Families do not even have to have insurance to be able to enroll in HBCI, which aligns with Astor's mission of expanding access to care."

HBCI services are primarily provided in-person in the client's home, school and community to address challenges where they are occurring. During four to six weeks of treatment, services provided include intensive individual counseling, family therapy, parental coaching and care coordination. Additionally, 24/7 crisis support is offered to address safety concerns, including suicidal and self-harming behaviors, as well impulse control and physical aggression challenges.



Astor Services CEO Yvette Bairan. Courtesy photo

Astor's HBCI teams have a track record of delivering excellent results, typically preventing hospitalization for at least 90% of youth served with client satisfaction rates that exceed 90%.

Recognizing this success, in mid-2024 NY OMH selected Astor Services through a competitive proposal process to expand HBCI from Dutchess and Ulster counties, to Westchester, Putnam, Columbia and Greene Counties. By September 2024, Astor onboarded HBCI staff for these counties and started accepting new client referrals. In October 2024, Rockland County also selected Astor Services as an HBCI provider through a competitive proposal process. Astor's expanded HBCI team is now the largest in New York, providing essential crisis mental health services for children and families for more than 2 million residents across seven counties.

Renegades hosting seasonal job fair on Saturday, Feb. 15

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, and Professional Sports Catering (PSC) have announced that they will be holding a seasonal job fair at Heritage Financial Park on Saturday, Feb. 15 in anticipation of the 2025 season and other Heritage Financial Park events.

From 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., Renegades and PSC staff will be conducting on-site interviews for part-time seasonal employment for the 2025 season. Candidates must be 16 years of age to apply, must be able to pass a background check, and must be able to work all home games (April-September) and additional events as needed.

WHAT: 2025 Hudson Valley Renegades Seasonal Job Fair

Job seekers should anticipate filling out a short candidate form onsite and the interview process taking no longer than 30 minutes.

Attendees for the job fair may park in the Club Lounge Parking Lot or the Main Parking Lot at Heritage Financial Park at no charge. Follow the signs to the left of

the main gate to access the entrance to the WMCHealth Club Lounge.

The Renegades will be interviewing for the following positions: Box Office Staff, Ushers & Guest Services, Front Gate Ticket Takers, Heritage Financial Credit Union Fun Zone Attendants, Security, Parking Attendants, Cleaning Team, Landscaping, Grounds Crew, Pregame Stadium Operations Staff, Game Entertainment Staff (Pinstripe Posse, Music Operator, etc.), Broadcast Production Staff and Team Store Staff.

PSC will be interviewing for the following positions: Concessions Associates (Cashier, Food Runner, Food Prep, Food Delivery), Suite Attendants, Picnic Attendants and Warehouse.

The ideal candidate must be fun-loving, outgoing, reliable, and service-oriented. All applicants must be 16 years of age or older by March 31 to work for the Renegades and Heritage Financial Park. Previous employees need not apply. To learn more about opportunities available visit: milb.com/hudson-valley/about/employment.

SEND US YOUR NEWS:

cschmidt@s Dutchessnews.com

NBT Bank promotes John Davies to Regional President of HV Region

NBT Bank has promoted John Davies to Regional President of the Hudson Valley Region. The local office is located at 40 Garden Street in Poughkeepsie.

Davies has been a banker in the Hudson Valley for 35 years providing commercial lending to local businesses. In his new role, Davies is responsible for the bank's commercial banking business and provides executive leadership for other NBT business units in the Hudson Valley.

"John's extensive commercial banking experience and knowledge of the region are a true asset in his leadership of our Hudson Valley team," said NBT Bank President of Eastern NY & Connecticut Al Testa. "His exceptional leadership skills, strategic vision, and dedication to our mission will help drive NBT towards even greater success in the region."

Following NBT Bank's acquisition of Salisbury Bank in March 2023, Davies joined the NBT team as regional executive. Prior to Salisbury Bank, he served as president and CEO of Riverside Bank. He has also been very active in the Hudson Valley community, including past board service with Crystal Run Village, St. Luke's/Cornwall Hospital Foundation, Orange County United Way, Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce, Community Foundation of



John Davies

Orange and Sullivan, Gateway to Entrepreneurial Tomorrows (GET), SUNY New Paltz Business Advisory Council.

Davies earned bachelor's and master's degrees in finance from Pace University. Additionally, he completed fellowships through Leadership Orange and Pattern for Progress.

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Dutchess County 4-H members travel to Atlanta

This winter, a group of four Dutchess County 4-H members made their way to Atlanta, GA to represent New York at the National 4-H Congress. The group included Mackenzie Phillips, Clara Sundlof, Julia Raskopf and Lyris Pennock.

Since 1922, delegates from across the U.S. have gathered at a designated conference space to network, share ideas and learn and grow together. This year's theme, "Courage to Grow, Heart to Serve" embodied the characteristics that the 4-H program strives to instill into its members.

The National 4-H Congress prioritizes personal growth by providing multiple motivational speakers, featuring names such as Dan Clark, Dr. Laymon Hicks and John Beede, Everest mountaineer. An International Dinner & Dance featured dances from the Hawaiian and Puerto Rican delegations.

According to a study conducted by Tufts University, 4-Hers are four times more likely to give back to their communities. Mackenzie Phillips, a Goats & Glory and Stony Ground 4-H Club member, helped the Parkland Elementary School prepare for their Christmas pageant by making decorations. Reflecting on her experience, Mackenzie said, "I enjoyed getting to know the students and sharing my 4-H experience with them. I had fun making paper snowflakes alongside them while learning about their home of Atlanta."

Delegates immersed themselves in an "Evening of Culture" at the Atlanta History Center, learning about a myriad of time periods and cultures. Flock of Feathers 4-H Club member Clara Sundlof said, "The History Center was probably my favorite event. We got to learn different dances from two completely different cultures, Victorian and West African. We even sang with a Bluegrass band!"

Ag Literacy Week is set in March

From March 17 - 21, Dutchess County 4-H works in classrooms, libraries and community groups across the county to bring a taste of agriculture to over 2,800 elementary children.

This year's book is "The Pie that Molly Grew" by Sue Heavenrich, illustrated by Chamisa Kellogg.

Staff, 4-H volunteers and youth, and community members read the book and work with 1st - 3rd grade children, using a fun, hands-on activity to engage them in learning. Each group receives a book along with a toolkit to continue the lessons. Want to be a reader? Contact Emma elj57@cornell.edu



From left, Mackenzie Diamon, Lyris Pennock, Mackenzie Phillips, Julia Raskopf, Gracie Williams, and Clara Sundlof at the entrance of the National 4-H Congress on opening day. Courtesy photo

Creative Living

celebrating all good things

The Two of Us Productions bring 'Clue' to Copake

The Two Of Us Productions, the award-winning theater company based in Copake, will present "Clue On Stage," the melodramatic stage version of Parker Brother's famous board game. "Clue" runs Feb. 14-16 and 21-23. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 3 p.m. Come to the Theater at Copake Grange to enjoy this comedic thriller about a determined blackmailer who has the tables turned on them in the most unexpected ways.

Based on the iconic 1985 Paramount movie which was inspired by the classic Hasbro board game, "Clue" is a hilarious farce-meets-murder mystery. The tale takes place at a remote mansion, where six mysterious guests assemble for an unusual dinner party where murder and blackmail are on the menu. When their host turns up dead, they all become suspects.

Led by Wadsworth, the butler, Miss Scarlet, Professor Plum, Mrs. White, Mr. Green, Mrs. Peacock and Colonel

Mustard race to find the killer as the body count stacks up. "Clue" is the comedy whodunit that will leave both cult-fans and newcomers in stitches as they try to figure out...WHO did it, WHERE, and with WHAT!

"Clue" features Andrew Joffe as the ubiquitous Wadsworth the butler, Constance Lopez as the smoky Miss Scarlett, Matthew Leinung as "always ready" Professor Plum, Karissa Payson as the meek Mrs. White, Fred Sirois as the skittish Mr. Green, Cyndi Miller as the pious Mrs. Peacock, Mark Leinung as the stuffy Colonel Mustard, Nicole Molinski as Yvette "ze French maid", Zachary Nayer playing Mr. Boddy as well as the Cop and the FBI Agent, and Diane Boice-Yorck playing the Cook, a very unlucky Telegram Girl.

The comfortable and accessible Theater at the Copake Grange is located at the Copake Grange Hall located at 628



The cast of The Two of Us Productions' "Clue On Stage" includes (from left) Mark Leinung as Col. Mustard, Constance Lopez and Miss Scarlett, Matthew Leinung as Prof. Plum, Karissa Payson as Mrs. White, Cyndi Miller as Mrs. Peacock, Fred Sirois as Mr. Green, and Zachary Nayer as Mr. Boddy. Courtesy photo

Empire Road in Copake, right around the corner from the clocktower in the center of town. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students & seniors; call for group rates. For advance reservations, visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call (518) 758-1648. Make your reservations early for the best seats on the date you want.

The Two Of Us Productions is offering a Subscription Pass for the 2025 season. Purchase a pass for all three 2025 main-stage productions and get \$15 off the regular price for the 3-ticket package. Visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org and look under "Season Pass" for more information and to purchase your personal pass to a year of quality theater.

VANDERBILT GARDEN ASSOCIATION SETS VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT SESSIONS

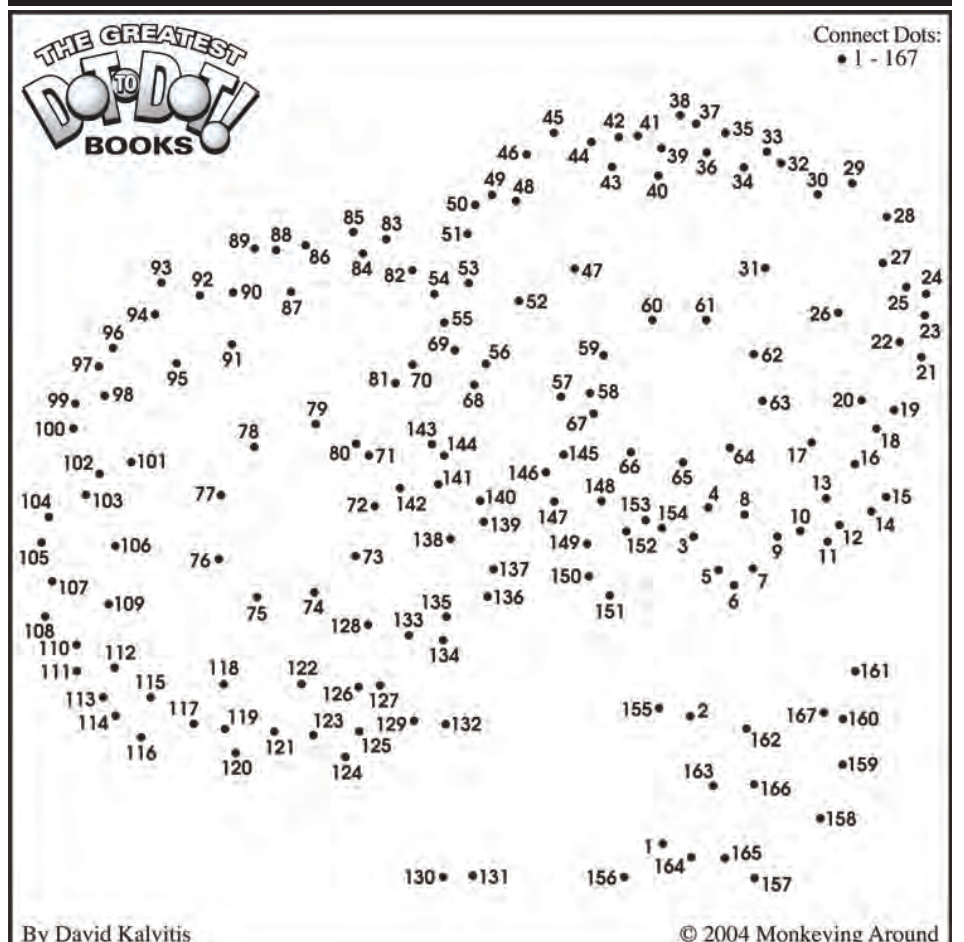
The Frederick W. Vanderbilt Garden Association (FWVGA) will hold information sessions for volunteer recruitment on Friday, Feb. 21; Sat., Feb. 22; Thursday, March 13; and Friday, March 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. each day, at the Hyde Park Library Reading Room, 2 Main St., Hyde Park.

All experience levels are welcome, and weeding help is always appreciated. Those who don't wish to work in the gardens but are interested in history and community are invited to become garden greeters, who help answer questions visitors have about the garden. All materials and training are provided.

Contact Jo-Anne Gauthier (volunteers@vanderbiltgarden.org; 845.224.7093) if you need additional information or have any questions.

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 18 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



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Valentine Crazy

There are many ways to show your love that don't necessarily come in a package.

On a recent stroll down the grocery aisles, I felt an unmistakably familiar sensation. It crept up my spine, heightening my senses, and it was as if an alarm went off in my brain. As my eyes darted about to find the source of this distress, I understood what I was feeling. There were hearts and pink and red everywhere. It seems the marketing world has turned its pumpkin-spice crazed minds to yet another holiday and is now saturating us with Valentine treats. Here we go again.

I get it. I worked in marketing and I know the drill. You want to entice people to buy, and that takes strategy. Trends are a huge part of life now more than ever; so

if you can't start one, you want to be in on it. But I also get that doing so to the extreme creates a band wagon some of us just don't want to jump on.

For some of us, saturation has the opposite effect. I'm one of those, if you couldn't guess. Case in point, my aversion to all things pumpkin spice (but that was another article).

I remember in years past suddenly seeing red heart-shaped boxes of chocolates popping up in stores. You'd see them near registers and in a special display near the entrance – a pretty pop of red in a sea of otherwise drabness, strategically placed to entice you to buy for someone you

love. It was flirtatious and fun in a way. You know, like love is supposed to be.

When I was a little girl, it was exciting to see them, and even as a bigger girl, it made me smile. I'm a hopeless romantic. In spite of what you might think based on what I'm saying, receiving a beautiful, old-fashioned heart-shaped box of chocolate still makes my heart flutter, but that's a nod to many fond memories of getting them in the past.

Now, though, subtlety is right out the window, so it's less like flirtation and more like getting tackled by a bear. You can walk down just about any aisle and see hearts everywhere, and all the red and

pink packaging is enough to make your head spin.

Don't get me wrong, it's great to have options, and we're lucky we do. Besides, not everyone likes chocolate. And if I'm honest, it's amusing to see how companies have shoehorned their products to fit the Valentine mold. I never thought I'd see heart-shaped boxes of Skittles, jelly beans, Oreos, Goldfish crackers (strawberry shortcake graham flavored, no less), Sour Patch Kids, Lunchables or Life Savers Gummies. And who knew M&Ms would show up to the party with

continued on page 12

DEC, Cornell offer training in Amphibian Migrations and Road Crossings

The public is invited to attend a program to learn about Amphibian Migrations and Road Crossings (AM&RC). Volunteer trainings are a project of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's Hudson River Estuary Program and Cornell University.

Details and registration links for the following AM&RC Project volunteer trainings and other related learning opportunities are available at <https://hudson.dnr.cals.cornell.edu/events>

AM&RC In-person Volunteer Training
Saturday Feb. 15, 9:30 a.m.-12:30

p.m. in Acra (Greene Co.)
(snow date Feb. 22)

Hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties

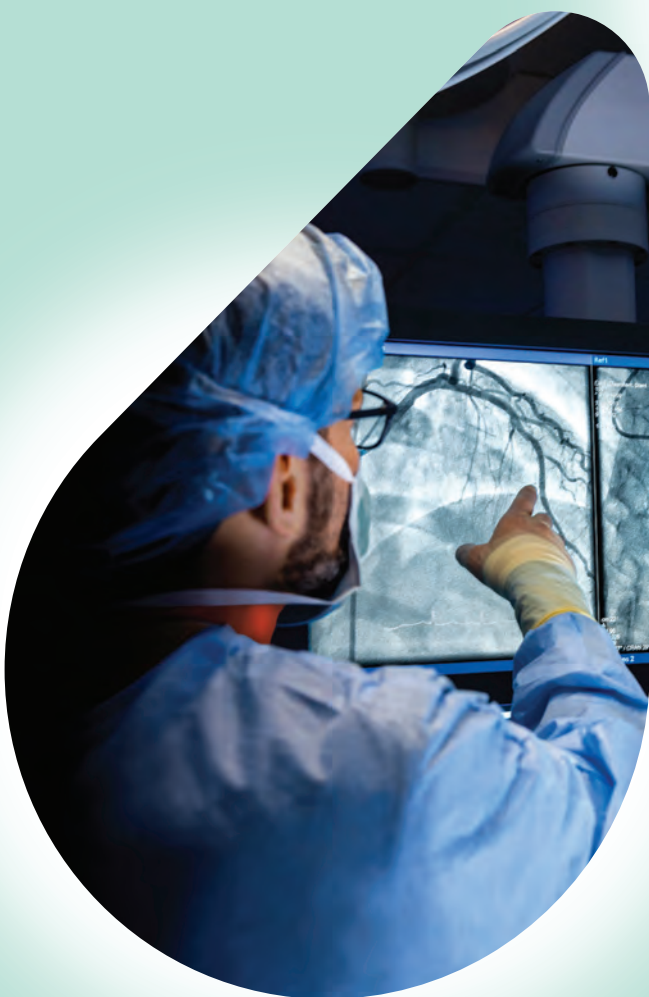
AM&RC Virtual Volunteer Training
Wednesday Feb. 19, 5:30-7 p.m.

Natural Resources Protection in the Hudson Valley: Municipal Conservation Stories

Thursday, Feb. 13, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
(online)

Cornell NYS Water Resources Institute Seminar Series
Adapting to Winter

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Vassar Brothers Medical Center



In alliance with



Wallace Center welcomes author for Presidents Day Weekend event

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum presents a Presidents Day Weekend conversation and book signing with Megan Gorman author of "All The Presidents' Money: How The Men Who Governed America Governed Their Money," at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 15. The event will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home in Hyde Park, and streamed live to the official FDR Library YouTube and Facebook accounts. This is a free public event, but registration is required to attend in-person. Visit fdrlibrary.org to register.

Was Harry Truman really our poorest president or simply a man up at 2 a.m. struggling with financial anxiety? Did Calvin Coolidge get bad advice from his stockbroker to buy stocks in 1930 as the market continued to crash? Is it true George Washington enhanced his net worth by marrying up?

We often think of the US presidents as being above the fray. But the truth is, the presidents are just like us: worried about money, trying to keep a budget, and chasing the American financial dream. While some presidents like Herbert Hoover and Gerald Ford became wildly successful with money, others like Thomas Jefferson and Joe Biden struggled to sustain their lifestyle. The ability to win the presidency is no guarantee of financial security,

although today it's a much easier path to monetize.

In "All The Presidents' Money," tax attorney and wealth manager Megan Gorman takes us on a journey to understand the different personal money stories of the presidents. Grit, education, and risk are just some of the different ways that the presidents over the last 250 years have made (or lost) money.

Gorman is the founder and managing partner of Chequers Financial Management, a female-owned high-net-worth tax and financial planning firm in San Francisco, California. Her clientele ranges from entrepreneurs to corporate executives to inheritors of family wealth. She spent the first twelve years of her career as a Vice President at Ayco, A Goldman Sachs Company, and was also a Vice President at BNY Mellon Wealth Management. A senior contributor at Forbes, writing on personal finance and income tax, she is frequently quoted across prominent financial media outlets, including the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, CNBC, and US News. Megan is currently serving on the Board of Trustees for the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) and chairs the Investment Committee. She has a BA in History from Bryn Mawr College and a JD from Rutgers School of Law.

Contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 with questions about the event.

A & E CALENDAR

Feb. 13: "Gilded Age Love Stories," virtual event presented by Dutchess County Library Association, 6 p.m. Learn about some of the real stories that inspired the relationships on "The Gilded Age" TV series. Contact your local library to register.

Feb. 14-16: "Grease," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Teens on Stage presents this rollicking musical classic. Follow Rydell High's Class of 1959—Danny, Sandy, the "Burger Palace Boys," and "Pink Ladies"—as they bring the 1950s to life with iconic songs like "Greased Lightnin'" and "Summer Nights." Directed by Lynne Czjaka with choreography by Jordan Stroy. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets: \$19. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Feb. 14-16 & 21-23: The Two Of Us Productions Presents "Clue On Stage," Theater at Copake Grange, 628 Empire Road in Copake. Based on the iconic 1985 Paramount movie which was inspired by the classic Hasbro board game, "Clue" is a hilarious farce-meets-murder mystery. The tale takes place at a remote mansion, where six mysterious guests assemble for an unusual dinner party where murder and blackmail are on the menu. When their host turns up dead, they all become suspects. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students & seniors; call for group rates. For advance reservations, visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call (518) 758-1648.

Feb. 14-22: "Into the Breeches," County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls. Comedy by George Brant. With the actors and director off at war, a group of passionate women face the daunting challenge of preserving the theater's reputation for mounting outstanding Shakespearean productions. Crammed with laughs and an abundance of visual humor, their fierce determination and unbridled enthusiasm will have audiences cheering as they prove that art and community triumph, even in times of peril. Directed by Christine Crawfis. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 16, 2 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 22, 2 p.m. Tickets: adult \$26; senior 60+, military, students (with ID at the door) & children under 12, \$24. (845) 298-1491 or countyplayers.org

Feb. 14-23: Murder Mystery Dinner Theater, "Rodney and Juliet's Wedding," various locations. Love and

mystery are in the air at Murder Cafe's 27th annual Valentine's-themed murder mystery dinner. Not your average tale of star-crossed lovers, "Rodney and Juliet's Wedding" tells the story of happy couple Rodney Woodbead and Juliet Hogg, whose families can't get along despite the couple's approaching nuptials. The Woodbeads see the Hoggs as a bunch of ignorant mountaineers, and the Hoggs think the Woodbeads are a bunch of stuck-up snobs. Just as the pair plans to convince the others to put their differences aside, a murder occurs on the day of the wedding; and audience members are invited as wedding guests to help Detective Little solve the case. Will the lovebirds still get hitched? Does love really conquer all? Performances: Friday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.: Restaurant Six at Curry Estate, Hopewell Junction. Saturday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m.: Howland Cultural Center, Beacon. Sunday, Feb. 16, at 4 p.m.: Hudson House Distillery, West Park, NY. Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m.: The Venue Uptown at the Best Western, Kingston. Tickets at MurderCafe.net

Feb. 15: Author Event, Chris Hayes ("The Sirens' Call") in conversation with WAMC's Joe Donahue, Ulster Performing Arts Center, 601 Broadway, Kingston. New York Times bestselling author and MSNBC and podcast host, Chris Hayes will talk with WAMC's Joe Donahue about his new book - a powerful wide-angle reckoning with how the assault from attention capitalism on our minds and our hearts has reordered our politics and the very fabric of our society, 8 p.m. Tickets: \$47, includes a hardcover copy of "The Sirens' Call." Ticketmaster.com

Feb. 15: Concert: Beacon Jazz Lab, Lateef Islam Auditorium at the Family Partnership Center, 29 N. Hamilton St. Poughkeepsie. 2:30-4:30 p.m. No registration required. www.poklib.org

Feb. 15: Movies with Spirit, "Mudbound," New Progressive Baptist Church, 8 Hone St., Kingston. Gripping drama about racial tensions and hardships in 1940s Mississippi, 7 p.m. The 2017 film runs 2 hours 14 minutes and is rated R. The screening will be followed by a discussion. Refreshments will be served. Attendees over age 12 are asked to contribute \$10 a person. More info: (845) 389-9201 or geryharrington@mindspring.com

Feb. 18: Madam C. J. Walker—The First Black Female Millionaire, virtual program, 7-8 p.m. Registration required. www.poklib.org

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Love to Cook

continued from page 11

names like Cupid's Mix and Strawberries & Crème. Classic Kisses now come in dark chocolate filled with strawberry goo (sorry, Chocolate Dipped Strawberry), Milk Chocolate Meltaway and milk-and-white chocolate striped Hugs (not new but adorably named).

You'll find heart-shaped snack cakes, pretzels, fruit snacks, cheeses, pasta, cookies, chicken nuggets, hash browns and cereal. Speaking of cereal, Cheerios offers a limited edition Chocolate Strawberry version for your sweetie. With so many options, you can bombard them with pre-packaged love all day.

True, Valentine's Day food trends are nowhere near the level of pumpkin spice, but give it time. I suspect companies will be ramping up their offerings in the future, as there seem to be more showing up every year.

Alright, so I'm being snarky, more than a bit cynical and too harsh in my criticism. After all, I should just be grateful that there even is a holiday dedicated to love. I guess what upsets me about the whole thing – and why I'm writing about it at all – is that romance shouldn't be about convenience. It should take thought and planning and really knowing what someone you love wants. Anyone can one-stop shop love now and at the last minute, and that makes me sad.

With our attention spans dwindling by the day, technology replacing genuine human contact and a seemingly endless supply of goods delivered to our doors

within 24 hours, it seems more important than ever to make a little effort to do things the old-fashioned way: pay attention and show your love in ways that can't be bought on the fly just because you think you're supposed to.

If you really want to show how much you love someone, show them you know them. Maybe she's fine with prepackaged grocery store roses and a heart-shaped box of Skittles, but then again maybe what she'd really like is an hour to herself to knit or read or get a manicure. Or some quality alone time with you made more special with her favorite food or bottle of wine. Sure, you may think he's OK going to a crowded restaurant, but maybe he'd secretly love a classic cocktail and a home-cooked meal or favorite dessert.

Love isn't what others tell us it should be. Love is what it is, and that's a beautiful thing if you embrace it and give it the time it deserves. In other words, maybe start your own trend when it comes to Valentine's Day. Only you should know best how to say I Love You. Enjoy.

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



Local eggs

The bird flu epidemic has raised awareness of the 'buy local' egg movement.

Kinga and Kristian Terepka moved from Brooklyn to Lagrangeville right after the Covid pandemic, fixed up an abandoned house on 11 acres and started farming. They figured it would be a better environment for their two little daughters, Olivia and Emily. Now their 11 Kettle Farm is on the front line of the "buy local" egg movement.

In the midst of skyrocketing egg prices and the bird flu epidemic, people are wondering where their eggs come from and how they are produced. This is not a new phenomenon. Nobody wants egg-laying hens to be squashed into tiny cages where they can't even turn around. In 2022, California outlawed the sale of eggs from hens held in individual cages. Nine other states have followed suit. Bills in the N.Y. Senate and Assembly would require, and define "free range" and "cage free" egg productions.

On its website, 11 Kettle Farm boasts that the chickens "roam freely on vibrant pastures, enjoying the simple pleasures of life." During my recent visit, 50 hens were indeed roaming freely, but I didn't observe any "vibrant pastures" in early February. Their shelter is a large coop on wheels, which Kristian assured me is hauled around the property to provide fresh pasture once the grass starts to grow. In the meantime they're fed organic grain from Stone House Farm in Hudson. 11 Kettle Farm is "dedicated to organic agriculture," but not certified organic. I've noted that many of the

farms that sell locally don't bother with the cost and hassle of a federal organic certification, because they know their customers trust them, with good reason. I can't imagine Kinga and Kristian spraying chemicals. The eggs, by the way, are delicious, as advertised. Check the website for availability.

I asked about the blue eggs in my package. They're from black hens which are included in the flock. It seems that hawks are scared of black hens because they look like crows. I don't know - I always thought hawks had pretty good eyesight.

Here are some labels you might see on your egg cartons:

- Local - The USDA defines "local" as food produced within 400 miles of its final destination. I personally limit "local" to the Hudson Valley, or maybe also the Rondout Valley, or even the Wallkill Valley.

- Organic - The federal government certifies a product as organic if it meets strict standards, often disputed by traditional farmers who consider themselves organic. The "USDA Organic" label is important for organic farmers selling to distributors or big supermarkets.

- Cage free - The N.Y. senate bill under consideration defines "cage free" as an environment where a hen is "free to roam unrestricted except by exterior walls."

- N.Y. Grown and Certified - Eggs produced in N.Y. state, from a farm meeting department of health regulations and participating in an Agricultural Environmental Management Program.

- Vegetarian Fed - The hens are fed a vegetarian diet. This is tough for pasture-raised hens, because chickens are naturally omnivorous, eating worms and bugs.

- Pasture raised - The crop and its outdoor enclosure are moved around the property to fresh pastures of grass.

- Free Range - The hens have access to the outdoors and natural daylight.

- Why did the chicken cross the road? Because it was a "free range" chicken!

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



Kristian and Kinga with hens. Left: Are your eggs local? Photos by Mark Adams



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**988 SUICIDE & CRISIS
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The first nationwide three-digit mental health crisis hotline is up and running. It is designed to be as easy to remember as 911, but when you dial 988, a dispatcher will connect callers with trained mental health counselors.

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- Help for VETERANS: Veterans can press "1" after dialing 988 and be connected directly to the Veterans Crisis Lifeline.

The Two of Us Productions
in collaboration with
Copake Grange & RARE Inc. present:

Feb. 14th & 15th 7:30pm
Feb. 16th 3pm
Feb. 21st & 22nd 7:30pm
Feb. 23rd 3pm

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Clue on stage

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Award-winning historian to discuss WW II photo at DCC

The Dutchess Community College Foundation (DCCF) will host an illuminating lecture by renowned historian Dr. Wendy Lower, supported by the Greenspan Trust-Handel Foundation Endowed Chair in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The event will take place on Thursday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m. in the James & Betty Hall Theatre.

Dr. Lower, the John K. Roth professor at Claremont McKenna College and director of the Mgrublian Center for Human Rights, will share insights from her 10-year investigation into a rare photograph that captured a harrowing moment in history—a family's murder in Ukraine during the Holocaust. Her research revealed the identities of the individuals in the image and uncovered new details about the atrocities of the Nazi regime, open-air massacres and efforts toward postwar justice.

Her findings, chronicled in the award-winning book "The Ravine: A Family, a Photograph, a Holocaust Massacre Revealed," delve into the role of family and ideology in history. Dr. Lower is also the author of "Hitler's Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields," a finalist for the National Book Award.

This lecture is free and open to the public. It is facilitated by Dr. Werner Steger, DCC professor of history and recipient of the Greenspan Trust-Handel Foundation Endowed Chair in Holocaust and Genocide Studies.



Dr. Wendy Lower

For more information, visit www.sunydutchess.edu/endowed-chairs or contact the Dutchess Community College Foundation at 845-431-8407.

If you require sign language interpreting services or other accommodations, please submit your request at least two weeks in advance by contacting Linda Bertolozzi at (845) 431-8058 or bertoloz@sunydutchess.edu. Visitors are encouraged to park in Lot D (GPS address: 97 Cottage Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601).

Applications for Youth Opportunity Union Drop-In Center Grants due by Feb. 28

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino announced last week that applications are now open for the County's newly established Youth Opportunity Union (YOU) Drop-In Center Grants. First introduced in her 2025 Executive Budget presentation, this \$250,000 initiative will provide funding to create and enhance safe, welcoming spaces where young people can gather, access resources, and build supportive relationships.

"For so many young people, having a welcoming place to go outside of school — somewhere they can feel safe, build friendships, and access support — can make all the difference in their lives," said Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino. "These grants will help create and enhance spaces where kids can explore their interests, develop new skills, and form positive connections with mentors and peers. By investing in these opportunities, we're not just funding programs — we're fostering an environment where every child in Dutchess County can thrive."

The YOU Drop-In Center Grants are a one-time capital funding opportunity available to community-based organizations, local libraries, and other youth-serving nonprofits with a primary mission aligns with providing a service or administering a program consistent with one or more of the County's Path to Promise Domains. Eligible applicants can request between \$10,000 and \$75,000 for expenses that help establish or enhance drop-in centers where youth can engage in positive activities outside of school hours.

"We know that positive, enriching environments can have a profound impact on a young person's development," said Karmen Smallwood, Assistant Commissioner for Youth Services. "The YOU Drop-In Center

Grants give local organizations the resources they need to create safe, engaging spaces where youth feel supported and encouraged to reach their full potential. By investing in these centers, we are strengthening our community's ability to provide meaningful resources and connections that help shape a brighter future for our young people."

Eligible expenses include:

- Furniture and equipment — Tables, chairs, couches, desks, bookshelves, and recreational equipment to make drop-in centers comfortable and functional.
- Technology and supplies — Computers, tablets, printers, internet equipment, art and music supplies, board games, and other interactive materials that support youth engagement.
- Sports and fitness equipment — Athletic uniforms, balls, weights, and other fitness-related gear to promote physical health.
- Theater and creative arts resources — Stage lighting, sound equipment, costumes, and instruments that allow youth to explore creative outlets.
- Transportation assistance — Funding to help youth access drop-in centers, ensuring they remain an accessible resource for all.

Organizations may not use grant funding for salaries, operational costs, fundraising efforts, or scholarships.

Applications are due by Feb. 28, at 4 p.m. and must be submitted through the Dutchess County Grant Portal. Awards will be announced in April, and grant funds must be expended by Dec. 31.

For more details on eligibility and application requirements, visit Dutchess County Youth Services website or contact Juliana Corbett, Youth Programs Assistant, at (845) 486-3354 or Juliana.Corbett@dfa.state.ny.us.

EXHIBITIONS

Art Gallery 71, 71 E. Market St., Rhinebeck. **Through March 2:** "Primordial," a collection of oil paintings by this month's featured artist, KP Devlin. Drawing inspiration from his dreams and meditation visions, as well as imagery from artists such as Hieronymus Bosch, Remedios Varo and David Lynch, Devlin's paintings weave humorous and horrifying images into hallucinogenic landscapes, oozing with saturated primary colors and gradated earthtones. **Opening reception:** Sun., Feb. 16, noon-2 p.m. www.artgallery71.com

Millbrook Arts Project, Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through March 1:** "Ann Ledy: Circle + Square," an exhibition in 2- and 3-dimensions. (845) 677-3611 or www.millbrooklibrary.org

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through March 2:** "Winter Blues," an uplifting take on winter in all its glory. This captivating exhibit delves into the artists' interpretations of winter's beauty and majesty. (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Through Feb. 23:** "Perfectly Imperfect: The Flawed Beauty of the Human Form," focusing on sharing the works of artists depicting the human form in all its beauty and the limitations modern Western culture has placed on it throughout time, and experiencing the theme of the human form through the recent societal upheavals to reclaim one's autonomy from patriarchal shackles. **Artists' Talk:** Sat., Feb. 15. (845) 293-3660 or info@womenswork.art

E-mail exhibition listings to:
creativeliving@sutchessnews.com

Red Hook Rotary Club sets 70th anniversary party, cookbook plans

Members of the Red Hook Rotary Club are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the organization with a cocktail party and producing a Community Cookbook.

The Anniversary Cocktail Party is set February 23 from 5-7 p.m. at the Flatiron Restaurant, 7488 S Broadway in Red Hook. Come join the Red Hook Rotary Club for beer, wine and hors d'oeuvres for just \$30 per person.

Everyone is invited to contribute recipes to the Community Cookbook for free, which will be printed in the cookbook. Each recipe includes the name of the contributor.

Recipes can be for a main course, appetizer, dessert or any other type of dish.

Recipes can be sent by email to: cookbook.rhrotary@gmail.com, or by regular mail to Red Hook Rotary, PO Box 88, Red Hook, NY 12571-0088, or submitted online! You can also fill out the Google Form.

Reserve and guarantee your two or more copies of the cookbook, with pre-paid purchase, through February 14, 2025 orders, for just \$18 per book.

Make checks payable to Red Hook Rotary Club and mail to: Red Hook Rotary, Cookbook, PO Box 88, Red Hook, NY 12571 or order a cookbook online. Have a question? Feel free to send them an email at cookbook.rhrotary@gmail.com.

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GOLDEN LIVING

Every year, in the Summer issue of our quarterly THRIVE60+ newsletter, we honor Dutchess County's centenarians and couples married 70 years or more. And it's getting crowded at the top. The number of centenarians and ultra-long-term married couples keeps growing. It's a trend we really like to see, and a testimony to all the things our older adults are doing to maximize their chances of long, happy, independent lives.

So what's their big secret?

We ask this question of as many of our oldest adults as we can find. They've given us some diverse and intriguing answers as to how they've been able to stick around for so long, and how we might follow if we did this same. They've sworn by good nutrition, strong faith, 9 golden raisins soaked in gin, regular exercise, a sense of purpose ... wait, can we go back to that third one, the one with the raisins?

It's a common European folk remedy, where the raisins are soaked, sometimes for weeks, in whatever the popular local spirit may be. There's no science that we're aware of to support the longevity claims, but we weren't about to get into an argument with a 107-year-old. As always, it's best to consult with a health-care provider before attempting to treat yourself with any therapy that has not been prescribed for you.

We've been in touch with centenarians' families, some for several years. When their centenarian family member passes away, they've often said something we never expected: we were surprised. How can that be?

The answer lies in a phenomenon that may be even more impressive than their long lives: how so many of them remained physically and mentally active, in many cases until the day they died. They were not only extending their lifespan; they extended their "healthspan," the amount of time living in good health, free from chronic disease and disabilities associated with aging. And so, their next of kin tell us things like "He just mowed the lawn three days ago" and "She came in from the garden, sat down in her favorite chair, and passed away."

OFA is again looking for Dutchess County centenarians or 70+ year married couples. We honored 36 centenarians in 2024; and if current trends continue, we may honor 40 or more this year. If these unique examples of successful aging turn 100 or more, or celebrate their milestone anniversary at any point this year, we'd love to know about it and honor them in the Summer 2025 THRIVE60+ newsletter.

Reach out to OFA at 845-486-2555 or ofa@dutchessny.gov to let us know.

LUNAR/CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE

Join us for the "Red Envelope" workshop with Amy Wu celebrating the Chinese New Year, at the East Fishkill OFA Friendship Center (890 NY 82, Hopewell Junction) on Tuesday, February 18th at 10:30am. In this workshop you will make your own "hong bao" (lucky red envelope) and learn more about Chinese culture. Enjoy some typical treats while you practice writing using Chinese characters. Amy will also be sharing some of her favorite memories of Chinese New Year!

Event is free with registration, to all Dutchess County older adults, while space is available. Call OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555 to register.

SAVE THE DATE:

CAREGIVER CONFERENCE (WEDNESDAY, MAY 7TH, HYDE PARK)

Caregivers looking for help on being the best caregiver they can be while maintaining their own well-being will want to set aside Wednesday, May 7th for the annual "Caregiver Conference." It'll be held at the Wallace Center, on the grounds of the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site in Hyde Park.

Registration is expected to get under way in the springtime; watch this newsletter for the specific date of registration opening – space will be limited!

The event begins with sign-in at 8:30 a.m. and continues until 2 p.m.

There will be plenty of time for your questions and concerns, and dozens of experts and vendors will be on hand with answers and solutions.

The conference is organized by the Office for the Aging, the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter; Hudson Valley Hospice; Parkinson's Disease Support Group of the Mid-Hudson Valley; and community members Cathy Regan and FaLisia Cotten-Swain.

FEBRUARY HOLIDAYS – A REMINDER

Dutchess County Government offices, including the Office for the Aging and all OFA Friendship Centers, are closed on Wednesday, February 12th in observance of the Lincoln's Birthday holiday, which is observed as a legal holiday in New York State and seven other states. Another closure is scheduled for Monday, February 17th, the national Presidents Day holiday.

Clients of OFA's Home Delivered Meals program receive shelf-stable meals in advance of legal holidays, as well as anticipated inclement winter weather.

'SENIOR PARK PRINTS' RETURNS FOR OLDER ADULTS IN DUTCHESS (FILLING UP FAST!)

The annual Senior Park Prints series art class for beginners age 60 and up is about to get underway, co-hosted by the Office for the Aging and Dutchess County Parks. If you're a Dutchess County older adult (60+) who's looking to develop a new skill, register and join us at one of the following free classes:

- Tuesday, March 18th - 2:00 pm - Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie

- Tuesday, April 8th - 2:00 pm - Millerton-Northeast Library Annex, 28 Century Blvd., Millerton

- (AT CAPACITY) Thursday, April 17th - 2:00 pm - East Fishkill Community Center, 890 Route 82, Hopewell Junction

Space is limited to 12 registered older adults per event, one class per registrant. Call OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555 to register.

All art supplies will be provided, and each artist can take home their new masterpiece after class.

LOW/MODERATE INCOME TAX PREP

FREE tax preparation once again is available, from AARP Foundation TaxAide's IRS trained and certified volunteers, through the Hudson Valley CASH Coalition.

Last year, 6,418 residents of Dutchess,

Orange, and Putnam Counties received help preparing and filing their taxes, with a goal of helping 8,000 residents file returns this tax season.

The tax service is open for low to moderate income residents of all ages who meet the eligibility guidelines. Membership in AARP is not required. This free tax preparation service is provided to all those who are eligible thanks to AARP Foundation Tax-Aide and Hudson Valley CASH Coalition members including the Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County.

There are 15 tax sites located throughout Dutchess County with many day, evening, and Saturday appointments available.

To receive help, dial 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment through United Way's Hudson Valley Region 2-1-1 Helpline; or call 1-800-899-1479.

2-1-1 is available to take appointment calls from 9am to 4pm Monday through Friday.

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 website: www.dutchessny.gov/aging Social media: www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA

DC Chamber of Commerce to hold Gala March 1

The Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce cordially invites you to attend its Annual Gala, to take place on Saturday, March 1. Guests will have the opportunity to walk the red carpet in their finest attire, enjoy delicious cuisine, decadent cocktails, and connect with fellow business and community leaders. This event will feature live entertainment, dancing, and a celebration of some of the most outstanding businesses in the region.

The 2025 Gala will be themed "A Copacabana Soiree", and registration information is available on the Chamber's website at drcoc.org/gala.

Chamber President and CEO Frank Castella, Jr., has announced honorees who will be recognized at the event:

Community Service Award: Staci Cussick, Comparison Insurance Agency;

Community Spirit Award: The Curry Sisters - Cathleen, Dawn, Jenny, Jill, Karen, and Prish, The Curry Estate

Industry Award: Lawrence & Angela Holzapfel, Quality Environmental Solutions & Technologies, Inc.

Leadership Award: Brian Altmann, DBS Remodel

Next Generation Award: Jacob Reckess, PAZ Management and The Arlington of Poughkeepsie

More information about the event, specific venue details, registration, and sponsorship opportunities is available on the Chamber's website at drcoc.org/gala.

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CAPTAIN AMERICA: BRAVE NEW WORLD PG-13

PADDINGTON IN PERU PG

--STARTS FRIDAY 2/14--

BECOMING LED ZEPPELIN PG-13

--HELD OVER--

Dog Man (PG)

Heart Eyes (R)

Love Hurts (R)

--HELD OVER--

Dog Man (PG)

Heart Eyes (R)

Love Hurts (R)

A Complete Unknown (R)

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

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

Suguru

	4								
5								3	
			1						
5									
4									
						2	4		

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The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

THEME: VALENTINE'S DAY

ACROSS

- Past participle of spit
- King Kong, e.g.
- Greek portico
- Not to be mentioned
- Congee
- ____ cell carcinoma
- Top of Kilimanjaro, e.g.
- Periods of time
- D-Day beach
- *Holiday the day before Valentine's Day
- Shade of beige
- Quantities on doctors' prescriptions
- Not amateur
- *Letters to Juliet destination
- Come to final conclusion
- *Ultimate Valentine's vow?
- Purchaser
- Zelensky's capital
- Move a plant
- High-____, as in an image
- Tubular pasta
- Not Visa or MC
- *Moving Valentine's Day date option
- "Annie get your ____"
- a.k.a. ladybird
- Maximum
- "Rub A Dub Dub" vessel
- Suburb of Dallas
- Skunk's defense
- *Sweet Valentine's gesture
- Long stories
- Rhythmic way of talking
- Yours and mine
- Send, as payment
- The E of B.P.O.E.
- A bit of water
- Biblical paradise
- Elfin
- Sign of boredom

DOWN

- Doe's mate
- One of Three Bears
- Cain's brother
- Prom night garb
- Bird of prey's nest
- *Make them in advance of Valentine's Day
- "Or ____?"
- **Cupid" singer (2 words)
- Russia's Terrible one, e.g.
- Pearl Harbor island
- Between Fla. and Miss.
- Ship's floating wreckage
- Afrikaners' ancestors
- Group of nine singers
- For each
- All over the internet
- Possible allergic reaction
- Lassoed
- *Baby's breath's partner
- Texting vocabulary, e.g.
- *Cupid's mom
- Black tie ____
- Snob
- Gymnast's goal
- *a.k.a. "love hormone"
- Deck alternative
- Chicago baseballer
- Defrauds
- Explosion
- Pleasing notes succession
- At the same time
- Too much egg middle
- Newspaper piece
- Five and ____
- Staff leader
- Heavenly glow
- Think, archaically speaking
- Sport spectator's TV acronym
- Before, old English

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10	11		
12						13					14					
15						16					17					
18						19					20					
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23	24	25							26				27	28	29	
30						31		32	33				34			
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43						44					45		46			
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						50	51				52			53	54	55
56										57				58		
59										60				61		
62										63				64		

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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 23

Tax season is open: Don't miss out on valuable credits

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance urges New Yorkers to take advantage of valuable tax credits. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Earned Income Tax Credits providing a financial boost to working taxpayers.

"Earned Income Tax Credits put money in the pockets of working taxpayers," said NYS Department of Taxation and Finance Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller. "Eligible New Yorkers can get money back when they file their tax returns – even if they don't owe tax."

The Earned Income Tax Credit is a refundable credit for eligible taxpayers who earn less than \$66,819. Taxpayers can get a refund if the credit amount is more than what they owe in taxes.

Earned Income Tax Credit amounts depend on a taxpayer's income and number of children – and single New Yorkers can also qualify. Combined federal, New York State, and New York City Earned Income Tax Credits can be worth up to \$12,528 for a family with three or more qualifying children.

Every year, many New Yorkers qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit for the first time because of changes to their financial situation, filing status, or personal life. For New York State eligibility requirements, see the Tax Department's Earned Income Credit (New York State) webpage via www.tax.ny.gov. For federal qualifications, see the IRS Earned Income Tax Credit webpage via www.irs.gov.

Taxpayers must file tax returns to receive the credit. E-filing is the easiest and safest way to file tax returns, as well as the fastest way to receive tax refunds. Taxpayers who qualify for the Earned

Income Tax Credit are also likely to be eligible for free tax filing options available through the Tax Department:

Direct File

New York State Direct File (<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile/direct-file/>) is a free, easy-to-use e-file option for eligible taxpayers that can be accessed from a smartphone, laptop, tablet, or desktop computer.

Taxpayers with 2024 wages less than \$200,000 – or \$250,000 if filing jointly – may qualify. To check eligibility, go to New York eligibility for Direct File.

Free File

Taxpayers may be eligible to use Free File software (<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile/freefile.htm>) to e-file federal and state income tax returns at no cost through the Tax Department website.

Information about Free File is available in multiple languages.

Other e-filing options

Taxpayers who don't qualify for Direct File or Free File may be eligible for other free filing options. See other e-file options for personal income tax to learn more (<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile/other-efile-options.htm>).

Need assistance?

The Tax Department's Taxpayer Assistance Program can help taxpayers who earn less than \$84,000 to electronically prepare and file federal and state income tax returns at no cost.

Tax Department representatives help guide taxpayers through free tax preparation software, step-by-step, as they complete and file their own tax returns.

To register for a free session, go to Taxpayer Assistance Program at <https://www.tax.ny.gov/tap/>

Galardi named new Executive Director of Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce

Liana Galardi is joining Rhinebeck's small business community as the new Executive Director of the Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce.

With a distinguished career spanning small enterprises and global corporations, she brings a strategic, business-minded approach to economic development, marketing, and organizational growth.

As the founder and owner of Be Brilliant Styling, Galardi understands firsthand the challenges and rewards of entrepreneurship. Her ability to navigate business operations, brand development, and customer engagement positions her as a valuable advocate for Rhinebeck's business community. In addition, her expansion into fitness and nutrition coaching reflects her dedication to holistic well-being—an ethos she integrates

into her leadership approach by prioritizing community-driven success.

A recognized leader, Galardi was named a Forty Under 40 honoree in 2023 by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce. She holds a degree from George Washington University and professional certifications from the Fashion Institute of Technology and the National Academy of Sports Medicine. A lifelong New York/New Jersey native and Hudson Valley resident since 2020, she is deeply committed to strengthening Rhinebeck's business ecosystem and ensuring its continued prosperity.

Galardi assumes her role as Executive Director on Feb. 17. She can be reached at info@rhinebeckchamber.org, or at 845-876-5904.

Scenic Hudson protects two Columbia County farm & forest properties

Conserving important farmland and forests and safeguarding the historical significance of the Hudson Valley, Scenic Hudson recently worked with partners and private landowners to protect 600 acres across two properties in Columbia County. Both are part of an important belt of climate-resilient forests and farmlands connecting the Catskills to the Berkshires, and are now protected with permanent conservation restrictions known as conservation easements.

Preserving vital history and habitats

Steepletop is the historic home and grounds of Edna St. Vincent Millay, the Pulitzer Prize-winning American poet, novelist, playwright, and activist who died in 1950. Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1971, the buildings and trails on the 200-acre site in Austerlitz have been mostly closed to the public since 2019. Scenic Hudson hopes that this new conservation easement will put Steepletop on a path toward greater public access in the future.

This highly scenic property also has immense ecological value. Consisting of farm fields, mixed northern hardwood forest, and wetlands, it is the largest private property surrounded by the Harvey Mountain State Forest and part of a contiguous 4,000-plus acre block of state land. Important native species on the property include rare butterflies, multiple bird species, transient moose, bobcats, and fishers.

The Steepletop conservation easement was made possible with a vital new

source of conservation funding from the NYS Department of Conservation (NYS-DEC) and the Land Trust Alliance (LTA). The new Forest Conservation Easements for Land Trusts (FCELT) grant program focuses on protecting climate-resilient, forested, private lands to protect water quality, build wildlife corridors, strengthen biodiversity, and expand recreation opportunities.

Supporting farms and food for life

Nearby, Scenic Hudson also protected 400 prime foodshed acres in a designated agricultural district in the Town of Taghkanic; these lands have been used as a working farm since at least 1858. Albert Christiana, who has lived on the property his entire life and has been stewarding the property since the 1950s, is now the sole owner. He had been concerned about the decline of open space in the Hudson Valley, and says now that the farm is saved he can breathe a sigh of relief.

Lyn Main, who protected the 300-acre Berkshire Valley Dairy farm in Copake with Scenic Hudson and partners in 2020, leases part of the property to grow hay and other crops. The property includes over 180 acres of forest, while approximately 57 acres of freshwater wetlands drain into the Taghkanic Creek, contributing to the City of Hudson's drinking water supply.

Both the heavily-forested Christiana and Steepletop properties have considerable carbon sequestration potential, meaning the trees absorb damaging carbon dioxide from the air.

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Brookmeade establishes scholarships at DCC

By Kate Goldsmith

The Dutchess Community College Foundation (DCC Foundation) reported in its January 2025 newsletter that The Community at Brookmeade, a nationally recognized leader in the long-term care industry, has established two new endowed scholarships with the DCC Foundation. These scholarships will play an essential role in the lives of students pursuing careers in Nursing and Human Services, two fields that are vital to the health and well-being of our society, the DCC Foundation stated.

“With a shared mission to nurture talent and foster growth, The Community at Brookmeade has created these scholarships to empower students with the resources and support they need to succeed,” the newsletter reported.

The Brookmeade Nursing Scholarship is dedicated to students enrolled full-time in DCC’s esteemed Nursing Program. This scholarship reflects The Community at Brookmeade’s appreciation for the contributions of future healthcare professionals, providing financial assistance to help students thrive in their studies and prepare for meaningful careers.

Similarly, the Brookmeade Human Services Scholarship is designed to uplift students pursuing degrees in Human Services, a field focused on compassionate care, advocacy, and making a positive impact in the lives of others. This scholarship is open to continuing students enrolled full- or part-time in any of DCC’s Human Services programs, ensur-

ing flexibility for those balancing education with other responsibilities.

The DCC Foundation noted that these endowed funds represent a remarkable investment of \$30,000, with annual awards of \$1,500 to be granted to promising Nursing and Human Services students. These scholarships are a testament to The Community at Brookmeade’s belief in the transformative power of education and their desire to cultivate the next generation of dedicated professionals.

“Through these scholarships, The Community at Brookmeade is planting seeds of opportunity that will grow into a brighter future—not only for the recipients but for all who will benefit from their knowledge, care, and contributions,” the DCC Foundation stated. “We extend our deepest gratitude to The Community at Brookmeade for their extraordinary vision and unwavering dedication to supporting education. Together, we are shaping the future, one student at a time.”

“At Brookmeade, we believe in growing the next generation while also investing in our own team through internal scholarships, training, and career development opportunities,” Brookmeade Community posted on its Facebook page. “Thank you, Dutchess Community College, for partnering with us to shape the future!”

(Information sources for this article included the DCC Foundation’s newsletter and Brookmeade Community’s Facebook page.)

\$9.6 million to provide mental health support for NY rural areas and farmers

Governor Kathy Hochul announced last week \$9.6 million in state funding is available to provide additional mental health assistance services for rural areas of the state, including a program dedicated to helping farmers, agribusiness workers and their families. The State Office of Mental Health is providing \$7.6 million to establish four new Critical Time Intervention teams to support individuals living with mental illness in rural areas of the state during periods of transition and \$2 million for the Farmers Supporting Farmers program to help those working in agriculture to navigate the stress often associated with the industry.

“We have an obligation to bring mental health assistance to New York’s farmers and the rural areas of our state where these supports aren’t always readily available,” Governor Hochul said. “The combined impact of the Farmers Supporting Farmers program and Critical Time Intervention teams will help bring additional mental health resources to parts of our state where behavioral health services are much needed.”

OMH is providing \$7.6 million over five years to establish two new Critical Time Intervention teams to serve counties in Western New York, and two others to serve counties in the North Country. These teams will join three others awarded last year and expected to be operational later this year, with the unique flexibility to offer support services and care coordination in rural communities.

Each team must have a well-defined working relationship with at least one community-based hospital and be involved in discharge planning so they can provide subsequent linkages to services. These teams will continue to work with individuals to ensure that their immediate needs are met and that they remain connected to community support.

OMH is also providing \$2 million over five years for a service provider to implement the Farmers Supporting Farmers program statewide, specifically in the 44 counties that support farms and agribusinesses. The state has roughly

43,000 square miles of rural land area with about 3.4 million New Yorkers — more than 17 percent of the state’s population — living in communities considered rural.

Farmers Supporting Farmers was developed in response to the well-documented link between economic crises and the resulting stress that puts farm workers and their families at an increased risk for poor behavioral health outcomes. The funding will provide this population technical assistance to address their business and financial needs, along with wellness support to promote improved behavioral health outcomes.

Approximately 20 percent of rural residents aged 55 or older live with a mental health issue, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Likewise, rural communities report significantly higher suicide rates than urban areas for both adults and youth.

OMH Commissioner Dr. Ann Sullivan said, “Our effort to strengthen New York State’s mental health care system includes bringing services to traditionally underserved areas, which include many of our rural communities. These programs are providing critical supports to an at-risk segment of the population that might otherwise be disconnected from our system of care. Through investments like this, Governor Hochul is demonstrating her continued commitment to expanding mental health services to all New Yorkers, including traditionally underserved New Yorkers.”

New York State Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball said, “From unpredictable weather to rising costs, farmers face many challenges that are specific to the industry and can take not only a financial toll but also an emotional toll. This new program, through the Office of Mental Health and supported by the Governor, will provide invaluable mental health resources to farmers and their families, helping New York’s agricultural industry manage and better cope with uncertainty and stress for their overall health and well-being.”

Rhinebeck Chamber sets business meeting March 6

The Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its March business meeting on Thursday, March 6, from 5 to 7 p.m., at The Beekman Arms.

Business leaders Sarah Lee and Melaine Rottkamp will discuss the economic outlook for 2025 and beyond, as well as the impact of tourism on the small business community. Learn about business expansion and initiatives happening

in Dutchess County. Q&A session to follow. Mingle beforehand with community members and friends. Light appetizers provided. Cash bar.

The cost to members is \$25 per person, non-members \$30 per person.

Advance registration is preferred at www.rhinebeckchamber.com.

LOOK FOR THAT'S ITALIAN! IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE

Luigi Coppola shares stories and recipes.



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

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OBITUARIES

Virginia Mary Bida

Virginia Mary Bida, 77, a five-year resident of Bangor, ME, formerly a longtime resident of Amenia, NY, passed away on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at her home in Maine. Virginia worked as a client coordinator for thirty plus years at Wassaic Developmental Center in Wassaic, NY.

Born on July 4, 1947 in Poughkeepsie, NY, she was the daughter of the late Joseph G. Bida and Patricia (Rogers) Bida. She attended Our Lady of Lourdes High School and completed an Associate's degree at Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie.

Virginia was an active parishioner at Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia and served as the CCD director.

She is survived by two brothers, Stephen Bida of Bangor, ME and Gregory Bida of Easley, SC; two sisters, Ellen Bida of Highland, NY and Maria Bida of Dedham, ME; sister-in-spirit, Deborah Shott of Dedham, ME and several nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at Immaculate Conception Church, 4 Lavelle Rd., Amenia, NY. Burial will follow at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Amenia. Memorial contributions may be made to Immaculate Conception Church, 4 Lavelle Rd., Amenia, NY 12501 and Phillips Strickland House, 21 Boyd Street, Bangor, ME 04401.

For directions or to send the family a condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.

Hans Christian Boice

Hans Christian Boice passed away peacefully on February 2, 2025, at the age of 53 in Hyde Park, NY. Born on March 5, 1971, in Riverhead, NY to Donna and David Boice.

Hans's life took a dramatic turn following a life-altering accident that occurred when he was in the second grade. Despite the challenges he faced from a young age, Hans's indomitable spirit never wavered. His education continued in a different form, as he taught all who knew him the true meaning of resilience and the power of an unbreakable spirit. For many years the Boice family called Red Hook Home until relocating in 2011 to Hyde Park.

Hans was the cherished son of Donna Boice, who was also his devoted primary caregiver. His father, David Charles Boice, predeceased him, as did his maternal grandparents, Etta May and John Anderson, and his paternal grandparents, Myrtle and Ralph Boice. Hans was a beloved brother to Heather, Holly (Michael), and Heidi (Scott). He will also be remembered by his nieces and nephews, Michael Jr., Nicholas, Christopher, Calysta, Zoey, and Nicole. His extended family included his loving aunts and uncles, Donald (Edith) Hanson, Barbara Hanson, Becky Hanson-Golubjatnikov, Renee Hanson, Jackie Palmer, Todd (Nancy), and Ernie (Karen) all of whom will remember Hans with deep fondness. In addition, he leaves behind many extended family members and friends.

Those who knew Hans would describe him as a loving and courageous individual.

Friends called on Friday, February 7th, 2025 at Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook.

Arrangements are under the care of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook, NY.

Gwendolyn Olive Cardarelli



Gwendolyn Olive Cardarelli, 83, an area resident for 62 years, died unexpectedly on February 2, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. Gwen always said, "You've got to participate in life!" and that she did. Every day of her life was full.

Gwen was born in Schenectady, NY on May 17, 1941, the youngest of 4 children born to John Henry Albert Tomkins and Olive (Stephens) Tomkins. She is predeceased by her siblings John "Jack" Tomkins, Keith Tomkins, and Sheila Lindsay.

She was raised in a very musical family with the strong religious influence of the Salvation Army. She described having a wonderful childhood playing, climbing trees, and singing. She went to Bryant College in Providence, RI where she met the love of her life, John Cardarelli, who would blow up her teetotaling upbringing and give her new ways to share her energy and love.

They were married on September 1, 1962 and went on to start their family in Dutchess County having 3 daughters. John died on June 4, 1994.

Gwen achieved her Master's Degree in social work in 1983 with most of her professional life as a Social Worker at Vassar Brothers Hospital. She was an active member of various organizations including the New Hackensack Reformed Church, Adirondack Mountain Club, Hudson Valley Ski club, and Mid-Hudson Bicycle Club. She volunteered for Meals on Wheels, the Boardman Library, and a host of other groups over the years.

Gwen was the picture of gregarious. Everywhere she went she saw someone she knew, and if she didn't know anyone, she would make a friend before she left. She was always sports and activity focused as a kid and this never slowed down. From Jazzercise in the 80's, skiing, bicycling - including weeks long cycling tours in Europe and other destinations - to hiking, bowling, golfing, kayaking, and pickleball. She was probably most known for dancing, often 4 nights a week and having no hesitation to drive an hour or more to go. She was known for hearing a song and saying, "I know a dance to that one!" And when shoe shopping she had to try a pair on and do a little shimmy to make sure she could dance in them.

Gwen was always up for a shopping trip or an art gallery, movie or concert, an educational talk or lecture. She regularly took adult learning courses and loved to share the fascinating things she learned. She was interested in everything and loved to read and learn. She took tap dancing lessons, piano lessons, Italian, painting, just to name a few. Her energy, excitement for life, and constant interest in learning paired well with traveling. A typical question for her daughters was "Where is your Mom? What's she up to now?" The answer was often another country, sailing the south of France, ziplining in Costa Rica, camping on the Mexican Baja, bicycling through Europe, or something of the like. Everyone wanted to "be like her when I grow up!"

Gwen was exceptionally thoughtful and generous, always thinking about what she could do for someone else. She would often cook or bake something to bring to someone, sometimes for no particular reason. She never went anywhere "empty-handed." She always wanted to help, to make people feel better. She did that. She made people feel good, better, everywhere she went.

Perhaps her greatest joy was being a mother. She told her daughters always that they were her blessings, her treasures, that she couldn't have imagined her life without them. She showered them with endless love in endless ways. She is survived by her daughters, Beth Donohue and her husband, Matthew, Sharon Strack, and Janet Cardarelli and her husband, John Audi. Her endless love was also extended to grandchildren, Matthew Donohue and his wife Destiny, Ryan Donohue, Jesse Strack, Estelle Strack, and her great-grandchildren, Jonathan and Carmen Donohue.

Because you are reading this, there is still time to be like her when you grow up.

Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. There was a celebration of her life.

In Gwen's memory, her family has asked that everyone "pay it forward" by donating in her memory to an organization that would mean something special to her.

Joan Fanelli

Joan Margaret Fanelli, 93 died peacefully on Friday January 31, 2025.

Joan was born to her parents Thelma (Traudt) Pink and Stewart Pink, on January 7, 1932. She grew up in Multiple areas surrounding the Hudson valley. Joan married her husband Daniel Fanelli on February 15, 1957. She gained three teenaged children from her husband's previous marriage and soon welcomed a daughter. Joan and Danny raised the kids in Pleasant Valley, New York, where Joan worked on the family owned farm known as Quattro's Farm. She remained on the farm for many years following her husband's death in 1984. Joan enjoyed spending time outdoors walking the neighborhood and cooking. Marrying into an Italian family came with many "Sunday dinners" with wonderful food and amazing memories. She spent over 20 years traveling to Vermont by bus alone to spend every Christmas with her daughter and grandchildren. Most of all Joan loved spending time with her family. She was loved by so many and gave to others when she did not have much.

Joan was pre deceased by her husband Danny, brothers Col. Gordon Pink, Robert Pink, children Lorraine Christy, Maryann Fanelli, Frank Fanelli and Joseph (Danny)Fanelli.

She survived by two sisters Carolyn MacKay of Beacon NY, Patricia Wagar of Rensselaer NY and many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be on Thursday, February 13 from 5-7 pm at Allen Funeral Home, 1605 Main St., Pleasant Valley. Graveside services will take place on Friday, February 14 at 11 am in St. Peter's Cemetery, Poughkeepsie. In lieu of

flowers donations can be made to Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com for directions and condolences.

Gerald 'Jerry' Hess

Gerald Jerry Hess age 84 passed away Sunday, February 2nd, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center.

He was born March 13th, 1940, in the Bronx, New York, the son of the late Henry (Hank) and Eleanor Vroom Hess.

Jerry moved to Poughkeepsie at an early age and attended schools here. In high school, Jerry was a coxswain in crew and his boat went undefeated in his sophomore year. Then his boat won the National Championship in 1956. Jerry loved sports and with his doubles partners, Jerry Morano came in 14th out of 35,000 in the National Xmas bowling tournament.

Jerry was on the Saint Peters CYO team that won the upstate basketball championship in 1956 and 1958. Jerry also bowled and played fast and slow-pitch softball for many years.

Jerry graduated from Poughkeepsie High School in 1957. He proudly served in the US Navy from 1958 to 1961 as the Petty Officer second class.

Jerry Married Carol Jean Zammiello on February 10th, 1968, at Holy Trinity Church. They have been married for over 56 years; Carol survives at home.

Jerry worked at Western Publishing for 20 years in the offset printing area. Jerry was the Treasurer and then President of local 274 of the graphic arts union. He was a past grand Knight of the Hyde Park Knights of Columbus #6111 and was a Fourth Degree Knight and life member.

Jerry was a communicant of Saint Peters church for over 75 years. He was a member of the American Legion Post #1302 and the western retirees. He retired from Rhinebeck Ford.

Jerry and Carol loved to travel. They've been to all 50 states in over 50 countries on 6 continents. In later years he played golf and did family genealogy. He was an avid New York Giants football fan and New York Yankees fan.

He leaves behind his wife Carol, son Andrew James Hess of Wappingers Falls and daughter Deborah Ann Hess of Downsville New York, three granddaughters Jadya Carol, Tehya Joan, Sadye Deborah Colao, and his sister Lorraine Del Santo of Kerhonkson New York. Also, several nieces nephews, and cousins.

Jerry was predeceased by his parents and brother Henry G. Hess of Poughkeepsie NY.

Calling hours were held on Thursday, February 6 at the Timothy P Doyle Funeral Home, Poughkeepsie NY. A Mass of Christian burial was held at Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel of St. Peter's Parish. The interment will be at St. Peters Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Ronald McDonald House in Jerry's name.

Mary Hornung



Mary Hornung, a lifelong resident of Poughkeepsie, passed away on Friday, January 31 at the age of 100. Born Mary Gallante on July 9th, 1924, she was affectionately known in her early years as "Rosie," a name given in honor of her mother, Rose Krakower, who passed shortly after Mary's birth. A lifelong resident of Poughkeepsie, Mary grew up at 56 South Clover Street in a multigenerational, Italian-speaking household. She spoke fondly of her childhood, recalling the simple joys and time spent with her Sicilian grandparents who raised her.

Mary helped her grandmother manage the household, tending to their backyard garden and canning tomatoes and vegetables for the seasons ahead. She translated for her grandmother, who would barter with their German and Polish neighbors, exchanging her homegrown preserves for staples of their cuisines. Mary's first paying job was at a bakery on Main Street, where she saved her dimes to treat herself to the occasional picture show. These formative years instilled in her the values of prudence, preparation, and hard work - qualities that would define her character throughout her life.

During WWII, Mary worked in the Cylinder Press Department at the Western Printing factory in Hyde Park. In 1946, at the age of 22, she married Wallace "Duke" Hornung, and together they raised two daughters. A skilled homemaker, she took pride in maintaining an exceptionally orderly home and managing her finances with the same precision. She lived by the words, "A place for everything, and everything in its place," and "A penny saved is a penny earned." Mary became the wise matriarch of a large, blended family who gathered in July to celebrate her 100th birthday.

Our Mary was a meticulous woman with a sharp wit, a playful sense of humor, and a tender heart. She always managed to keep herself occupied, whether she was cleaning and tidying, line dancing, working on a crossword, walking long distances, or treating herself and others to lunch. She was as generous as she was disciplined, balancing her kindness with her strong principles and high standards. Her unwavering work ethic and caring nature left a lasting impact on all who knew her. A devoted volunteer with the Foster Grandparent Program, she retired after 30 years of service at Violet Avenue Elementary School at the age of 94.

She is survived by her daughters: Patricia Harding and Karen Souza; her sons-in-law, William and John; her cousin Richard Gallante and his wife Kay; her grandchildren, Patrick, Andrea, Courtney, Kelly, and John; as well as 11 great-grandchildren: Angela, Johnny, Dean, Chloe, Addison, Sophia, Justin, Alexa, Lauren, William, and Caroline.

Mary lived a life full of love, hard work, and devotion to her family and community. Her wise and generous spirit will be remembered by those whose lives she enriched. May her memory be a blessing. Cent'Anni.

Kathleen 'Kate' Kennedy

Kathleen "Kate" Kennedy, 83, a beloved sister, aunt, and friend, passed away peacefully on February 1, 2025, after a brief illness. A resident of The Woods in Rhinebeck, NY and formerly of Livingston, NY, Kathleen lived a life filled with love, faith, and service to others.

Born on July 9, 1941, in Woodside, Queens, Kathleen was the daughter of Patrick and Beatrice Kenny, who predeceased her. She was also predeceased by her husband of 36 years, Joseph Kennedy, and her brothers, Jack and Patrick. She is survived by her loving sister, Mary, and her twin brother, Thomas, along with 14 cherished nieces and nephews, 25 great-nieces and nephews, and one great-great-nephew, all of whom she loved as if they were her own children.

Kathleen was a woman of deep faith and devotion, attending 8 AM Mass every morning at The Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church in Rhinebeck. She was an active member of the church community, embodying kindness and generosity in all she did. Her compassion extended beyond her family—she volunteered for numerous charitable organizations, always eager to lend a helping hand. She frequently drove friends to doctor's appointments, ensuring they had support when they needed it most.

A dedicated lifelong learner, Kathleen graduated from St. Agnes High School in College Point, Queens, in 1959 and went on to earn her degree from Fordham University in 1963. She spent 32 years as a special education teacher in the New York City Department of Education, touching countless lives with her patience and dedication. Never one to shy away from a challenge, she pursued a second career in law, earning her Juris Doctor from Fordham University Law School in 1991. After retiring from teaching, she worked as an attorney for the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office for two years.

Kathleen found joy in simple yet meaningful activities. She was an avid reader and a devoted member of her local book club. She was in a weekly Scrabble club, where she enjoyed spending time with friends. A passionate gardener, she was an active member of the Germantown Garden Club. Above all, she was known for her thoughtfulness, always sending beautifully handwritten cards to celebrate birthdays, express gratitude, or offer condolences.

A wake was held on Friday, February 7, 2025, at Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, Rhinebeck, NY. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday, February 8, 2025, at The Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church, Rhinebeck, NY. Burial will be on Monday, February 10 at Calvary Cemetery, Queens, NY.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Kathleen's memory to Unbound (<https://www.unbound.org/>), an organization that was dear to her heart.

Kathleen's legacy of love, generosity, and faith will live on in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know her.

To sign the online register, please visit dapsonchestney.com

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Michael C. Mazzarella



Michael Mazzarella - A life worth sharing...

After 66 years of an incredible journey, I tearfully said farewell to my loving husband on February 4, 2025, one month from his 91st birthday. Together with our four children, Joseph, Michelle, Frank and Elizabeth, Mike's daughter Dawn and all their loved ones, we struggled with the tremendous physical challenges and loss of dignity Michael was plagued with over the past year and a half. I was so fortunate and thankful to my children for the love and amazing care they gave their dad. Donna, his aide, was a Godsend, and in his final days the dedication of Hospice care givers was comforting and heartwarming.

Michael deeply loved his children, his 8 grandchildren, a great-grandson and hoped he'd be here to meet his newest great-granddaughter. His Italian heritage was very important to him. He especially enjoyed our family celebrations and mealtime gatherings filled with love and laughter. He would reminisce and enjoyed telling stories that left our grandchildren in awe. He'd shared stories of his Huck Finn childhood, war time experiences and of course, hospital tales.

Michael was an amazing dad. Even though pressured by 60- and 80-hour work weeks he always made time for our children's activities. He'd drop in to a basketball, soccer or baseball game between meetings, he attended their concerts and special events. He taught them to ski, play golf and tennis. He took great pride in their accomplishments. As our children married, we were blessed with grandchildren, each unique and special, they were an important part of Mike's legacy and represented that great circle of life.

Michael and I were so blessed, we shared an incredible life together. We each cherished family life. We traveled throughout the world, enjoyed each other's professional and volunteer involvements and respected the time we each needed to fulfill our community commitments.

Michael was born in Philadelphia and at the age of five suffered the tragic loss of his mother. He was sent off to live with his elderly grandparents in a small country village on Long Island. They led a simple life, living off the land. He cherished spending time with his granddad hunting for rabbit and other wildlife. He felt indebted to them for the love and nurturing they bestowed upon him. Their influence was manifested in many of the decisions he made throughout his life, especially during his career. While CEO of Northern Dutchess Hospital, he paid homage to them with the development of the Wells Manor subsidized housing project and honored their legacy when he opened The Thompson House Senior Living facility. These initiatives were unique and bold for hospitals at that time.

Growing up in a home with immigrant grandparents who spoke very little English motivated Michael to achieve good grades and excel academically. At the age of 12 he moved in with his dad and a very loving stepmom. He lived happily through the typical high school years and decided on his 18th birthday to surprise his parents by enlisting in the United States Army. He spent 18 months in Korea during war time, working as a heavy weapon specialist. This exposure resulted in a significant hearing disability that had great manifestations throughout his life and career.

Michael was a prolific reader. He would often have three books opened at the same time. He was a wiz at crossword puzzles and unscrambled letters into words in seconds. I believe these attributes compensated for his childhood where neither a book nor a newspaper could be found in his home.

Michael and I began our life long journey together at his homecoming celebration upon returning from the Korean War. Four years later we were married, I continued work as secretary to the Bishop of Brooklyn, while Mike attended Adelphi College's psychiatric nursing program. After graduation he worked double shifts at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City while attending Columbia University School of Hospital

Administration. Mike did his Internship at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in New Jersey and soon after was offered a position as Assistant Administrator at Hackensack Hospital. During his fourth year, he received a call from the Dean of Columbia recommending he apply for a job opening as CEO of a small 100 bed country hospital in rural upstate, Rhinebeck New York.

Alas, the beginning of Michael's 34-year illustrious career as CEO of Northern Dutchess Hospital. I've heard him many times describe the hospital in the early days of his arrival as not much more than a first aide facility. He knew that there would be monumental challenges and if he were to chart the destiny of this institution it would need his grit, perseverance and boldness to pursue the best health care for the people of this region. Medicare had just emerged and every hospital throughout the country was frustrated with the chaotic government protocols. He needed to attract board-certified doctors with diverse specialties and find a niche that would bring patients from throughout the region. This was a time when many small hospitals were closing their doors throughout the country due to economic strife.

Mike knew that he had to seize the opportunity and create a course that would gain the recognition and respect of the health care industry in New York State. He courted doctors from large prestigious hospitals, served on State-wide health care boards and took on leadership roles to network with the best of the best. He developed the first Birthing Center in New York State, where women from throughout the region flocked to have their babies delivered in a safe, more natural environment. This pursuit also paid homage to his mom, whose death resulted from a childbirth tragedy. He built a reputation for NDH as an institution that specialized in orthopedics, he ensured that there was state of the art medical equipment for his doctors and nurses, he had numerous capital campaigns to make possible the many construction projects needed to achieve excellence. Mike was grateful to the Thomas Thompson Trust for their significant generosity and participation in every brick-and-mortar project pursued during his 34-year tenure as CEO. When the timing was right, he facilitated a merger with Vassar Hospital to guarantee the longevity of an institution he loved and was devoted to.

Mike was highly respected in the health care, non-profit and private industry communities. He was awarded Governor's appointments and was honored by over 35 prestigious awards from organizations throughout NYS. He took on leadership and chairmanship roles in the numerous organization he served.

I have no doubt that the legacy of Mike Mazzarella will live on. As one travels through the Rhinebeck village one can't help but notice our community hospital. I feel nostalgic thinking of the extraordinary health care it provides, the thousands of jobs it made possible, as well as the diversity of employment opportunities it offers. The enormity of Mike's accomplishments helped strengthen the economic well-being of our region.

Those who know and love him take great pride in a man who dedicated his life to improving the lives of thousands and thousands of people who were in need of special care. Michael Mazzarella is indeed that ordinary person that did extraordinary things and for that we celebrate his life and legacy.

Michael, this remarkable legacy is further defined by the tremendous love and devotion you've shared with your family. Your amazing influence on our lives will be cherished forever. Arrivederci amore mio.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated Saturday, February 8, 2025, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rhinebeck. Immediately following Mass the family received family and friends at The Beekman Arms. There were no calling hours.

Memorial donations may be made to Tunnel to Towers Foundation - Honoring America's First Responders, Veterans and their Families at dogood.t2t.org

Arrangements are under the direction of the Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, Rhinebeck.

To send an online condolence please visit dapsonchestney.com

Charlotte H. Murphy

Charlotte Hoose Murphy, 98, of Amenia, NY passed away peacefully with her family by her side at home on Sunday, February 2, 2025. Charlotte was a life-long resident of Amenia, born on June 26, 1926 to Fred and Fanny Carpenter Hoose. She graduated from the Amenia High School in 1944 and from Middlebury College, Class of 1948. She worked part-time as a teller for the First National Bank of Amenia and its many successors, retiring in July, 2000. On October 2, 1948, she married James Maroney Murphy in Amenia. He passed away in 2004 after 56 years of marriage.

Charlotte is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law: Cathleen (Michael) Homrighaus of Cortland, NY, Adrienne (Mark) O'Brien of

Weaverville, NC, and Elizabeth (William) Kanauer of Helena, MT. Sons and daughters-in-law: Dr. Robert (Marie) Murphy of Cornwall, CT, Brian Murphy of Millerton, Lawrence (Nancy) Murphy of Wassaic, and Andrew Murphy of Amenia.

She is also survived by 12 Grandchildren, Jerry Murphy, Jay Murphy, Alicia Peterson, Nicholas Kanauer, Justin Murphy, Greta Murphy, Jason Homrighaus, Zachary Homrighaus, Noah Homrighaus, Brian J. Murphy, Kimberly Dolan and Marjorie O'Brien. She is also survived by 9 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson. In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by a granddaughter, Laurel Hayes Murphy, a great-granddaughter, Stephanie Amber Murphy, and sisters Jane Bentsen and Margaret Pulver.

Charlotte was very active in many organizations area wide. She was a 72-year active member of the Amenia Fire Co. Ladies' Auxiliary, served many years as a trustee and treasurer for the Amenia Free Library, the Junior Women's Club of Amenia, a trustee and treasurer for the Violet H. Simmons Scholarship Fund, and was a Board member of the Rex Brasher Association. She also served as Court Clerk for her husband James during his 46 years as Amenia Town Justice.

Calling hours took place on Friday, February 7, 2025 at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, Millerton, NY. The Amenia Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary conducted a service during calling hours. A Funeral Service was held on Saturday, February 8, 2025 at the funeral home. Burial followed at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Amenia.

Memorial donations may be made to The Amenia Free Library Association, PO Box 27, Amenia, NY 12501, or The Amenia Fire Co. Auxiliary, PO Box 166, Amenia, NY 12501, or the Violet H. Simmons Summer Enrichment Scholarship, c/o Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, PO Box 400, Sheffield, MA 01257 or Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, 80 Washington St., Suite 204, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Irene Perl

In Loving Memory of Irene D. Perl (Albright-Davis)

Adored by all who knew her, Irene Perl (Albright-Davis) of Pleasant Valley, NY, passed away unexpectedly on January 28th, 2025. Irene's heart was as large as her beautiful smile, and she will be missed deeply by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Irene was born on May 27, 1952 and raised in College Point, NY, before moving upstate to Dutchess County, NY, where she built a life focused on family and friends. A devoted mother, wife, daughter, grandmother, aunt, and godmother, she was always ready to lend a helping hand or improve a situation. When Irene entered a room, she added life and color and dimension, as she was naturally creative and funny, with an easy laugh and a great sense of style.

In her 20s, Irene worked at Beekman Elementary school while her children were little, then spent several years at Vassar College supporting the Art Department. For nearly 15 years she was able to pursue her passion for fashion, acquiring "Past N Perfect" boutique in Pleasant Valley, NY in 2001. Irene loved her customers and coworkers and made lifelong friends in all of her pursuits.

Irene loved to sing (especially holiday themed karaoke) had a deep affection for photography, animals, music, sewing, swimming, and especially the ocean. Many of her happiest memories were from summers in Mastic Beach with family and dear friends, swimming, sailing, and gathering at the campfire.

She leaves behind her husband and love of her life, Dr. Joseph Perl, her loving children, Michelle Davis-Bear and Jason Davis of Pleasant Valley, NY as well as Michelle's husband Blaise Bear, and her adored granddaughter and partner in crime, Lily Bear. Her beloved children through marriage, David Perl, his wife Kate, and their children, Jack and Erin, and Laura Perl Buynak, her husband Ray, and their sons Alex and Carter. Irene is also survived by her devoted younger sister, Mae Calderon, and brother-in-law Fredrick Calderon, of Holland-Patent, NY, sister-in-law, Doreen Albright, of Wallkill, NY, and her daughters Melissa Kostic and Laurie Nolan and their families.; her goddaughter, Nadine Larson (who lovingly called her "Auntie I") and her husband Jared Larson, along with her grandnephews Julian, Emmett, and Finley; her nephews Michael and Paul Calderon, and her first husband and treasured friend, William Davis. Mama Perl will live on through many cherished friends, some of whom know how deeply she considered them family

and were forever in her heart.

Irene is predeceased by her parents, Charlotte and Wesley Albright, from whom she gained her great love of the sea, her brother Edward Albright, with whom she shared artistic talents, and her many loyal pets, most significantly, Bosco and Sally.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation to a charity of choice where her commitment to the preservation of the natural world and wildlife can be honored. There will be a private burial, and a celebration of her life will be held in the spring, with details to follow. Irene was our go-to person, our radiant sunflower, and the light of our lives...her kindness, creativity, warmth, and generous spirit will forever be remembered and inspire us to be the best versions of ourselves.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, Pleasant Valley. Please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com for condolences.

Elfriede M. Schreyer

Elfriede Maria Schreyer, 86, a longtime resident of Hyde Park, died unexpectedly yet peacefully on January 23, 2025, at home.

Born July 30, 1938, in Vienna, Austria, she was the daughter of Adolf and Maria Goldinger Mader.

Affectionately known as Elfi, she worked as a respected beautician throughout her entire life.

Elfi's passion was singing and dancing, and she was a very active member of the Evergreen Chorus of Poughkeepsie, a chapter of Sweet Adelines International, for over fifty years. This part of her life gave her such immense joy.

Survivors include her two daughters, Sandra K. Schreyer of Boynton Beach, FL and Corina M. Schreyer of Poughkeepsie; sister, Hildegard Vanderploeg (Harold) of New Jersey; nieces and nephews, Donn and Tina Vanderploeg, Doris Bläuel, and Karin Lenthe; and cousins, Dagmar Neugebauer and Lötte Hofer.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by a brother, Günther Mader.

A period of visitation will take place from 9 to 9:45 AM (prior to funeral Mass), February 13th at Sweet's Funeral Home, Rte. 9, Hyde Park.

A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 10 AM at Regina Coeli Church, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. Fr. Michael Morris will officiate.

Burial will follow in St. Peter's Cemetery, Poughkeepsie.

Elfi's family respectfully requests memorial donations to Regina Coeli Church, 2 Harvey St., Hyde Park, NY 12538, or the Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8516 (www.woundedwarriorproject.org), or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 (www.stjude.org).

To send an online condolence, or for directions, please visit Elfi's obituary page at www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

Frederick Stokes

Frederick S. Stokes of Delray Beach, FL, died at the age of 93 on February 3, 2025. He was born to Robert and Ema Stokes on September 29, 1931, in Canastota, NY, where he primarily lived until he got married. He then moved to Clinton Corners, NY, where he spent most of his adult life.

Fred entered Cornell University at age 16 and was an Air Force Veteran of the Korean War. He then had a long career with IBM.

Fred was an active member of the community and often volunteered his services where needed. He was an Elder of the Clinton Corners Community Friends Church, a Mason, a Little League baseball coach, a lifetime member of the VFW and a devoted husband and father. Fred loved to bowl, do puzzles, play card games and garden.

Fred will be lovingly remembered by his children, Lonn (Eileen) Moore, Marta Wing, Frederick (Stephanie) Moore, Mark (Randi) Moore, Gregg Stokes (George Zukowski); siblings, Marge Palmer, Richard (Esther) Stokes, Walt (Doreen) Stokes, Lucille Merriman, Clifford Stokes; 8 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, 4 great-great grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Fred was predeceased by his wife of 66 years, Lois E. Palmer, his brother Robert Stokes and his sister Evelyn Downs.

A memorial service will be held for Fred and Lois on Friday, February 14, 2025, at 11:00 AM, at the Friends Upton Lake Cemetery, 2565 Salt Point Thpk, Clinton Corners, NY. Memorial donations may be made to VFW Post 9008, PO Box 905, Millbrook, NY, 12545. The family wishes to thank the staff at Sonata Boynton Beach. Arrangements have been entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, Millbrook, NY. For condolences, please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com

send us your news

cschmidt@s Dutchessnews.com

Legal Notices

Wurtemberg Cemetery Association, Annual General Meeting at St. Paul's Wurtemberg Church, 371 Wurtemberg Road, Rhinebeck, N.Y. Tuesday, February 18, 2025, 6:00 pm. A review of 2024 events and plans for 2025 will be discussed. Members of plot-owning families are urged to attend and vote on issues concerning the future operation of the cemetery. Other interested people are welcome to attend, too. More information: 845-876-4653

LEGAL NOTICE FOR APPLICATION OF FRANCHISE RENEWAL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Spectrum Northeast, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of

Legal Notices

Charter Communications, has filed an application for Renewal of its Cable Television Franchise in the Town of Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, New York. The application and all comments filed relative thereto are available for public inspection at the Town of Pleasant Valley office during normal business hours. Interested persons may file comments on the application with the Town of Pleasant Valley clerk and with the New York State Public Service Commission within 10 days of publication. Comments may be addressed to Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, New York State Public Service Commission, 3 Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223

Legal Notices

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 18, 2025 at 7:00 PM 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 proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-11-25 Professional Services for Workspace Needs Assessment for Dutchess County Government

Legal Notices

Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., February 25, 2025. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-

Legal Notices

DCP-12-25 Operational and Staffing Analysis of the Justice and Transition Center Division of the Sheriff's Office. Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., March 5, 2025. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions 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 OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF**Legal Notices**

DUTCHESS. THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATE - HOLDERS OF THE CWMBS INC., CHL MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH TRUST 2005-HYB6, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-HYB6, Plaintiff - against - MICHAEL SEDGWICK, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated January 7, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the rear lobby located at the Dutchess County Courthouse, 10 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY on March 18, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Town of

Legal Notices

Washington, County of Dutchess and State of New York, known and designated as Section 6664 Block 00 Lot 667504. Said premises known as 354 SOUTH ROAD, MILL-BROOK, NY 12545. Approximate amount of lien \$831,708.87 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale. Index Number 53474/2023. ANTHONY TIRONE, ESQ., Referee DRUCKMAN LAW GROUP PLLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 242 Drexel Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590 For sale information, please visit www.Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. DLG# 39461 { *Northern Dutchess* }

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.

COLLEGE NOTES

Diana Reyes of Amenia conducts research on foods of local immigrant communities with African Community Education in Worcester

WORCESTER, MA - Clark University has signed a partnership agreement with African Community Education (ACE), a Worcester agency that works to help African refugee and immigrant youth and families achieve educational and social stability.

In December, students in Professor Anita Fabos' Culture of Exile course held their final class session at the ACE Center on Gage Street, where they presented the culmination of a series of semester-long research projects involving the foods of local Haitian and African immigrant communities.

The presentations were widely varied, focusing on ingredient availability, urban farming, and Haitian foodways, and provided interactive maps, recipe videos, and vegetables and fruits to community members as a way to strengthen Haitian and African cultural ties to foods from their homelands. The themes of food security, food habits, identity, and cultural accuracy were central to the projects.

Diana Reyes '25, of Amenia took part in the presentations. Along with four other students, Reyes developed an interactive map of community food resources for Worcester's Haitian populations based on their culinary practices and traditions.

Following the student presentations, several community members offered their reflections, stressing the projects' success in illuminating the cultural significance of food and suggesting that Clark continue to find avenues for collaborating with immigrant populations.

BRIDGEPORT, CT - Jada Rose of Hyde Park was named to University of Bridgeport's Fall 2024 Dean's List.

Rose was among more than 350 students named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must have a term grade point average of between 3.2-3.69.

RANDOLPH CENTER, VT - Vermont State University is pleased to announce that Brandon Cahill of Tivoli is a member of VTSU's December 2024 graduating class.

SCRANTON, PA - Local residents were among more than 1,650 students named to The University of Scranton's Dean's List for the 2024 fall semester. Students added to the fall 2024 Dean's List are:

Evan D. Gutierrez of Poughquag, a senior political science major in the University's College of Arts and Sciences.

Quinn A. Rampolla of Poughquag, a freshman nursing major in the University's Leahy College of Health Sciences.

Emily M. Filachek of Lagrangeville, a senior kinesiology major in the University's Leahy College of Health Sciences.

Macy B. Hammond of Poughkeepsie, a senior occupational therapy major in the University's Leahy College of Health Sciences.

Marissa L. Hayes of Stormville, a senior occupational therapy major in the University's Leahy College of Health Sciences.

Joseph M. Moore of Stormville, a sophomore finance major in the University's Kania School of Management.

The Dean's List recognizes students for academic excellence. A student must have a grade point average of 3.5 or better with a minimum number of credit hours during the semester to make the Dean's List.

ADELPHI, MD - More than 16,000 University of Maryland Global Campus students were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 term. To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 at UMGC.

The following students were named to the Dean's List: Damaris Nna Essame of Millbrook, Jason Sember of Red Hook, and Richard Wasvary, Hyde Park.

ADELPHI, MD - Alyssa Sorbellini of Poughquag was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 term at University of Maryland Global Campus. To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the

term, and maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 at UMGC.

TUSCALOOSA, AL - Owen Rinaldi was named to The University of Alabama Presidents List for Fall Semester 2024.

A total of 14,631 students enrolled Fall Semester 2024 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).

The UA dean's and president's lists recognize full-time undergraduate students. The lists do not apply to graduate students or undergraduate students who take less than a full course load.

KINGSTON, RI - The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that several area students have been named to its Fall 2024 Dean's List. Among them are: Paige Arent of Clinton Corners, Rachel Kaplan of Rhinebeck, Hannah Ross of Millbrook, Ava Schneeberger of Pine Plains, and Addie Selfridge of Red Hook.

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.

TROY, NY - Nearly 600 students were named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List at Russell Sage College.

The following local students made the list: Naiya Garvin of Hyde Park, Gabriella Grant of Tivoli, Peyton Grant of Tivoli, Olivia Helms of Rhinebeck, Mason Kievit of Pleasant Valley, Elizabeth Mastrantuono of Pine Plains, Mia Merino of Red Hook, and Meghan Weckesser of Red Hook.

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.

HARRISONBURG, VA - Hyde Park resident Colleen Biskup has been named

to the dean's list at James Madison University for the fall 2024 semester. Biskup is majoring in Hospitality Management - BS.

Students who earn dean's list honors must carry at least 12 graded credit hours and earn a GPA of between 3.5 and 3.899.

WILKES-BARRE, PA - Aiden Plant of Salt Point was named to the Dean's List at Wilkes University for the fall 2024 semester. To be named to the Dean's List, students must obtain a minimum 3.5 grade point average and carry at least 12 credits.

HARRISONBURG, VA - James Madison University is pleased to announce that Madison Townsend of Stormville made the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester.

Townsend is majoring in Health Sciences - BS.

BUFFALO, NY - Brayden Hayes of Red Hook has been named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List at Buffalo State University.

In general, students who have completed at least 12 credit hours and who have attained a term GPA of 3.5 or higher qualify for the Buffalo State dean's list.

SPRINGFIELD, MA - Springfield College has named the following local students to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester:

Sebastian Ortega Gutierrez from Red Hook. Ortega Gutierrez has a primary major of History.

Faith Owusu-Ansah from Pleasant Valley. Owusu-Ansah has a primary major of Health Science.

Thomas Rice from Pleasant Valley. Rice has a primary major of Pre-Prof Athletic Training.

The criteria for selection to the Dean's List are as follows: The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades. The student must not have any incompletes or missing grades in the designated term. The student must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term. Student must not have been barred from Dean's List due to disciplinary action.

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

S	P	A	T		A	P	E		S	T	O	A						
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E	D	E	N			F	E	Y			Y	A	W	N				

SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

Answers to this week's diversions
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