

# NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living

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## 2 Cornell webinars to focus on HPAI, poultry health

In light of the resurgence of infections from Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI, Bird Flu), Cornell Cooperative Extension's Livestock Program Work Team is responding by hosting two webinars that will interest small flock owners. The two webinars focus on providing research-based information about the state of HPAI and avian disease in small flocks and how to get started raising laying hens.

The first webinar is titled, "Raising Laying Hens for Eggs: Is it all it's cracked up to be?" Owning a home flock can be rewarding but with it comes responsibilities. This webinar takes attendees through everything from local regulations of chicken ownership through the process of raising chicks. It also will cover the costs of raising a flock and requirements and best management practices of selling eggs. This webinar will be presented Tuesday, March 11, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. Register to receive the Zoom link, <https://tinyurl.com/GettingStartedLayingHens>.

The second webinar is titled, "Avian Disease and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza – the latest updates and what it means for poultry health." Dr. Chad Wall from NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets shares, "The avian influenza (HPAI) outbreak that began in February of 2022 is the largest animal disease event ever for the United States. Minimizing risk of infection through strong biosecurity efforts remains the best way to ensure a healthy flock." This webinar will cover updates about the HPAI outbreak, symptoms of HPAI, common small flock diseases, and keeping your poultry safe. It will be held Tuesday, March 18, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., via Zoom with the registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/HPAI2025>.

Both webinars will provide an opportunity to ask questions and are free of charge. They will be recorded, with recordings sent to registrants.

## Cold Spring breakfast recognizes 'Farm to School' expansion efforts

By Curtis Schmidt

Recognizing recent successful expansion efforts involving area farms and schools, a special breakfast celebration was held on Feb. 27 at the Cold Spring Early Learning Center in the Town of Stanford.

The 3rd annual "Farm to School" Breakfast Celebration, conducted primarily by members of the School Food Service Department of the Pine Plains Central School District, brought together Hudson Valley farmers, students, plus teachers and staff.

Invitees also included New York State Assemblymember Didi Barrett, Dutchess County Legislator Chris Drago, the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, Pine Plains High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) members and farmers from Hudson Valley Fresh.

The "Farm to School" program supports farms in the Hudson Valley and New York State, and brings fresh, nutritious food to all students eating school breakfasts and lunches.

Pine Plains School Food Service Director Larry Anthony, who has building the program for several years, is expanding efforts with the support of Harvest NY's Local Procurement Specialist.

"This is an incredible opportunity to help build and connect a network of local



Pine Plains School District Food Service Director Larry Anthony mixes fruit smoothies using local farm products during a presentation at the 3rd annual "Farm to School" Breakfast Celebration at the Cold Spring Early Learning Center. Photo courtesy of Cornell Cooperative Extension-Harvest NY

growers and producers of local and New York State products to our schools. We are teaching our students that the products that they eat are often from right here, essentially in their own back yards," said Anthony.

He adds that "The 'Farm to School' initiative has been an ever-evolving movement. Working out the logistics has been the biggest challenge. The addition of Cornell Cooperative Extension has

provided a tremendous amount of help working out the details and bridging the gaps. We look forward to doing all we can to bring as much locally sourced products to our school menus."

Anthony directs the food service programs in three school districts – Pine Plains, Rhinebeck and Red Hook. In the 2023-24 school year, all three districts qualified for the NYS 30% Initiative,

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## Marist basketball teams earn top seeds at MAAC tournaments

By Morgan E. Maier



Lexie Tarud of the Marist University women's basketball team drives the ball upcourt during a recent game. The Marist women begin play in the MAAC tournament next week. Courtesy photo

Marist University's 2024-25 athletic accolades could easily fill some news pages on their own. To the delight of Red Foxes basketball fans, the men's and women's teams have set program records and milestones all season long. At the close of the regular season, history is still in the making. Each Marist squad has earned a spot in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference championship and could clinch an automatic bid to the 2025 NCAA Tournament.

Single-game tickets are now on sale for the MAAC championships, and Marist's chance at a

double strike of history. From March 11-15, Atlantic City's Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall will host the Foxes' hunt for its first March Madness ticket since 2021. Each team is guaranteed a first-round bye for owning a top-six conference record.

The NCAA awards one automatic tournament bid to every conference tournament winner. Smaller market conferences like MAAC provide little opportunity for a team to build a season resumé worth an at-large bid. As a result, Marist basketball's March ticket always comes from conference tournament wins.

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### • OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

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# Dutchess County Fair scholarship available

The Dutchess County Agricultural Society recently announced that its scholarship application is now available online. This renewable scholarship awards a Dutchess County high school senior, or student enrolled in college or tech school with a \$10,000 scholarship.

The qualifying student must be a Dutchess County resident and/or participate in the programs operated by the agricultural society. The recipient must seek an undergraduate degree in agriculture, horticulture or human ecology or a career related to agriculture or horticulture.

All applicants must submit their applications by 3 p.m. May 9, 2025.

Information and a fillable PDF application are available at the Dutchess County Fair's website <https://dutchess-fair.com/scholarships/>, through Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess

County and from local high school offices.

The NYSAAF (New York State Association of Agricultural Fairs) and NYSSA (New York State Showpeoples Association) offer an annual scholarship program which is available to students who are New York State residents, who currently are (or have previously been) active in a fair that is a member of the NYSAAF or the NYSSA and who plan to attend (or already attend) college in pursuit of a degree. The fair where you have been active, or the NYSSA must endorse your application and will submit it for you. The website [www.nyfairs.org](http://www.nyfairs.org) offers a complete list of member fairs, the scholarship application, and instructions.

Visit [www.dutchessfair.com/scholarships/](http://www.dutchessfair.com/scholarships/) or [www.nyfairs.org](http://www.nyfairs.org) for information regarding both scholarships.

# 'Purim Pi Party' set March 14 at RJC

The Rhinebeck Jewish Center (RJC) will host a "Purim Pi Party" on Friday, March 14. There will be a Megillah reading, brunch buffet, Nutty Scientist show, and Purim fun.

The celebrations will begin at 10 a.m. Suggested Donation is \$18 per person. Sponsorships are available.

Reservations are requested to [RSVP@RhinebeckJewishCenter.com](mailto:RSVP@RhinebeckJewishCenter.com), or call (845) 876-7666.

Join the RJC on Thursday night, March 13, at 9 p.m., for Megillah reading and Hamentaschen.

The RJC is at 102 Montgomery St. in Rhinebeck.

## Marist basketball teams earn top seeds at MAAC tournaments

*continued from cover*



Julia Corsentino of the Marist University women's basketball moves the ball against her opponents during a recent game. *Courtesy photo*

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## Top-seeded DCC Men's team set for National Tournament

*By Morgan E. Maier*

The nation's best National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division-III men's basketball team is not slowing down. The success of Dutchess Community College's Falcons has stretched through seasons, beginning in autumn's October and rolling through the beginning of spring. After steamrolling to the Region XV District Championship, DCC clinched its spot in the National Championship, set to begin March 12 at Herkimer College.

Bronx was the backdrop of DCC's second Region XV title in three years under Coach Robert Piano. With a heap of fans cheering them on, Dutchess took a commanding 11-point halftime lead at, and clinched its second regional title in three years.

DCC finished the regular season 17-0 against conference opponents. As the No. 1 seed in the Regional Tournament the Falcons were favored, but not guaranteed champions. The second time a team faces an opponent, Coach Piano sees a bit of an advantage. When the third meeting comes around in the form of a single-elimination playoff game, there is a clean

slate. In three regional tournament games, Dutchess outscored their familiar foes by 69 points, including 31-point barrage over tournament host Kingsborough CC.

Region 15 of the NJCAA covers junior colleges in lower New York State. And with an entire roster of New York natives, DCC locked up opponents all tournament, led by All-Region honorees Alijah England and Amadou Diallo. A deep bench of transfers, sophomores and rookies supported the tournament sweep. Like it has all season, DCC can call on any of its guys on a given night, picking up right where the starting five left off.

"We're able to go nine deep without a lot of drop off, which is important," said Piano.

Although named the Region XV coach of the year for the second consecutive season, Piano recognizes his relationship with players extends far past the sidelines. A head coach just 33 of age, he is able to apply a philosophy that is bigger than the sport itself.

"Being able to relate to them in a way they can comprehend, understand and apply today," Piano said, "not just in basketball, but in life."



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## Cold Spring breakfast recognizes ‘Farm to School’ expansion efforts

continued from cover



which provides incentives for school districts statewide to spend 30% or more of their lunch budget on New York State foods.

The breakfast at the “Cub Café” at the Cold Spring Early Learning Center on Feb. 27 included a healthy meal of French toast bake made with local eggs, milk from Hudson Valley Fresh and maple syrup from Catskill Mountain Sugar House. Students were also offered local apples, scrambled eggs, and smoothies featuring available local produce.

All students in the Pine Plains school district receive breakfast and lunch free of charge, as part of the Community Eligibility Program. According to Cold Spring Principal Kristen Fischetti, “It’s important to us that students start their day with heart healthy foods, especially when those foods can come locally from our own community. The Cub Café gives our students the experience to know that food can taste good and be healthy, too.”

Here is the complete menu, along with producers: French Toast Bake - Hudson Valley Egg, New Paltz, Milk - Hudson Valley Fresh, Poughkeepsie, Issa’s Cinnamon Sugar Pita Chips - Buffalo, Maple Syrup - Catskill Mountain Sugar House, Grahamsville, Strawberry Smoothies - Yonder Farm, Valatie, Upstate Yogurt - Lancaster, Scrambled Eggs - Hudson Valley Egg, New Paltz and Apples from New York State Farms.



Top: Students enjoy breakfast at the “Farm to School” event at the Cold Spring Earling Center in the Town of Stanford. Above: Fruit from local farms and yogurt from Hudson Valley Fresh. Left: Farmer Jim Davenport from the Tollgate Farm in Ancramdale is pictured with NYS Assemblymember Didi Barrett. Photos courtesy of Cornell Cooperative Extension-Harvest NY

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## Renegades announce 2025 theme nights, to be first-ever MLB team to stage an original musical during game

The Hudson Valley Renegades will make history in 2025 as they become the first team in baseball to stage an original musical which will be performed in between innings. The still to be named Renegades Musical will be performed on August 6 when the Renegades host the Brooklyn Cyclones at 6:35 p.m. as part of a jam-packed Renegades promotional schedule for 2025.

The musical will be written for the Renegades by Duane Joseph Olson, a theatrical creator from Highland, N.Y.

“We are so excited to roll out our Theme Night schedule for the 2025 season which continues to elevate our legendary game entertainment in new ways,” said Tom Denlinger, General Manager of the Renegades. “With over half of our

home games featuring a premium giveaway or a fireworks show, we invite the Hudson Valley to Find Your Fun this season at Heritage Financial Park.”

In addition to the musical, the Renegades’ 66-game home schedule features another loaded slate of promotional nights, with a unique theme at every home game. The Renegades once again have 22 giveaways and several special appearances planned for the season.

A popular addition in the 2024 season, the Renegades will once again give away a unique item at each Saturday home game throughout the season. Additionally, the Renegades are proud to announce a new weekly giveaway – Jersey Thursdays presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union, with the first 1,000 fans each

Thursday home game receiving a different Renegades replica jersey.

Returning for 2025 are the alternate identities the Cider Donuts, Fenómenos Enmascarados del Valle de Hudson and Newburgh Gorhams. Debuted in the 2023 season, the Cider Donuts was a finalist for Minor League Baseball alternate identity of the year in 2023 after its wildly successful first season. The Fenómenos Enmascarados was launched in 2021 as part of the Copa de la Diversión program. The Gorhams pay

tribute to the pioneering all-black baseball team of the 19th century and debuted in 2024 as part of the Renegades’ participation in MiLB’s The Nine program. The Renegades will once again play three games as the Cider Donuts, four as the Fenómenos Enmascarados in 2025, while suiting up as the Gorhams once.

They are joined this season by two new alternate identities, the Big Apples and the Retrievers. Each of the two new alternate identities will be worn for three games during the season.

we’re on the web! [www.sdutchessnews.com](http://www.sdutchessnews.com)



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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.

### Supporting Good Cause eviction legislation

To the editor:

As chair of the Citizens Committee on Housing Affordability, I am writing to express my support for Good Cause eviction legislation in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

Across the country, real estate has shifted from being the foundation of small businesses and local economies to a commodity asset class. Buildings aren't homes or businesses anymore - they're investment vehicles, and tenants are treated as numbers instead of neighbors.

I support Good Cause because it ensures that Town of Poughkeepsie families have basic protections against being displaced without reason. It creates stability for renters, while allowing responsible landlords to manage their properties fairly. Finally, it prevents predatory practices that prioritize investor profits over community well-being.

To give you an example of community ownership here in Poughkeepsie, meet Dave, a former tenant of my late grandfather. Dave got hit by a car and broke his hip crossing the street, putting him out of work for 8-10 weeks. My late grandfather worked with him so he didn't have to pay rent during that period and set up a payment plan to resume when he recovered. That decision was made with common sense and humanity, treating people as community members.

We cannot let the next generation of families, workers and small business owners be priced out of the community they helped build.

Trevor Redl  
Poughkeepsie

### Israel is fighting for its life

To the editor:

A letter from the February 12-18 issue of the Northern Dutchess News is entitled "Says 'benefit of the doubt' can't apply to Gaza." A U.S. veteran, he rightfully laments the great loss of life in the Korean, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan wars. He blames the U.S. for that loss of life and that our involvement was motivated by evil intentions. I'm a veteran, too, from a family of veterans, including five who served in theaters of combat. I completely disagree with his opinion.

He neglects to mention that those wars were fought to fight violent aggressors. We became engaged only after agonized public debate, with many in our country recognizing that we could not stay out of every foreign war for long, because those wars expanded quickly into very large and dangerous conflicts. No, our intentions to spread freedom and protect our country were not "dirty little lies" as the writer put it. Our motives, the result of intense national discussion, were honorable.

Regarding Gaza, he neglects to mention the savage and inhuman assault by the terrorist group Hamas, in which twelve hundred innocent Israelis were brutally murdered without provocation. Over two hundred hostages were taken. Israel had every right to retaliate against Hamas in Gaza.

The loss of civilian life in Gaza is tragic, but no country in the history of the world has done more to avoid unnecessary civilian deaths than Israel, including sending huge amounts of food and medical assistance. Hamas, like other terrorist groups, hides behind civilians, thus increasing the chance of civilian casualties.

Israel has been under attack from her Arab neighbors since her inception in 1948. Only Israeli military capability has enabled her to survive the aggression of Arab neighbors who don't want Israel there, a country whose land mass is a fraction of that of the Arab states.

Israel is not engaging in genocide against the people of Gaza, as the writer claims. Prime Minister Netanyahu fiercely challenged that claim in his September, 2024 address to the U.N. He cited the huge amount of help Israel has given to the citizens of Gaza, and complained bitterly at repeated U.N. denunciations of Israel, who has been fighting for its very existence, always defensively in response to unprovoked aggression. Only anti-semitism can explain the U.N. stance against Israel, said the Prime Minister.

Robert Crolius  
Hyde Park

### The ongoing Trump-Musk MAGA

To the editor:

The ongoing Chaos shows us the true meaning of the MAGA movement as "Make America Government Authoritarian." We look at the actions of the two soul mate businessmen who belong to upper class 10 percent that have more wealth than the lower 90 percent of us (Pew Research), but have no empathy or compassion for the sick, helpless or poor. It is all out there for those who want to see - are they succeeding?

Their goal is white male supremacy and enriching the wealthy class. The government is like a giant tool, a sledge hammer, and depending in whose hands it is in, can result in good or evil. This nation is now ruled by the Trump Quasi Government managed by Musk - bringing in Musk personnel and sidelined existing governing management. They chose to throw out everything, showing their ignorance and disregard of what the function of each that has evolved to meet the needs of society.

Like all authoritarian dictators, they look to derive their power through fear. There is a word "duplicitous" that means "saying they are going to do one thing, but end up doing another" that applies to Trump and his administration.

1. Trump promised to lower cost of living. The estimated tariff increase per household in the U.S. is \$2,600. (Peterson Institute) And for new cars, \$5,790 (Invest Bank Benchmark).

2. Under the guise of efficiency, meritocracy: Layoffs are estimated at more than 200,000 - the total is kept secret and made in haste without regard to consequences or law. For example, Avian Flu workers, nuclear weapons staff, health resource and services, Veterans crisis hotline.

3. White nationalism, racism and sexism at work with their attack on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Program (DEI). This attack has nothing to do with meritocracy. DEI's roots are in the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Diversity is about embracing everyone, regardless of race, age, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, physical ability.

4. Touted savings. Trump wants enlarged continuing tax benefits for the 735 billionaires and 22 million millionaires (Forbes). Do away with IRS to further control and secrecy. Musk fits in with over \$18 billion in U.S. contracts and raised in segregationist South Africa.

David F. Queen  
Red Hook

### SERINO TO PRESENT STATE OF COUNTY ON MARCH 11

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino will present the 2025 State of the County Address at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, at John Jay High School in Hopewell Junction. RSVP online at [dutchessny.gov/RSVP](http://dutchessny.gov/RSVP).

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**GENERAC**



# The importance of community and building relationships

By David Hambleton

I want to talk about something near and dear to my heart - community. At Sisters Hill Farm in Stanfordville, our mission statement reflects its importance: "Our mission is to grow healthy food that nurtures bodies, spirits, communities and the earth."

The trendy thing for Community Supported Agriculture Farms (CSAs) now is to offer customers a platform where they can order exactly what they want and have it delivered to their door. Obviously it's not just a trend in the CSA world but in every aspect of our lives, from groceries, to restaurants to used automobiles. You no longer have to leave your house to live a productive life. Your interactions with other humans can be, and increasingly are, transactional.

But many of us are asking ourselves, what are we losing due to the transactional nature of our modern lives? According to a 2023 report put out by Surgeon General Dr. Vivek H. Murthy, Americans are experiencing an epidemic of loneliness and isolation. This is due to a combination of changes over the last century leading to fewer opportunities to engage with our neighbors. We used to cross paths at bowling alleys, social clubs, unions, churches, volunteer fire departments and the like. When we rarely see our neighbors or the struggles they face, we find it difficult to empathize with them. Simple disagreements and misunderstandings can become confrontational quickly.

Community engagement in clubs and activities is one thing, but perhaps what's escalated our isolation epidemic above all else is our addiction to our phones and devices. To my eye, a dominant driver of the world's problems and our subsequent inability as a culture to resolve them is the ever-present battle for our attention.

In the interest of retaining our attention, corporations are giving us more of what we seek. Catering our news feeds with information that is increasingly outrageous and inflammatory - all the better to draw us in, supplying us with a constant surge of dopamine that leaves us always craving more. The end result is that we become more fearful and passive.

### A viable solution

But there is a better way, an alternate path. We have to safeguard our minds and our attention. We have to prevent the modern world and the breakneck pace of change from breaking us. We need to be conscious of the damage that unfettered access to these powerful algorithms designed with keen psychological insight can have on us. Leaving us diminished, lonely, isolated, fearful and at the same time fiercely independent.

How do we protect our humanity in a time of unprecedented change? Am I advocating quitting all social media, becoming Luddites and leaving the modern world and all of the amazing and terrible things it has made possible? Of course not. As with nearly everything in life, it's not so black and white, the solution is usually some shade of grey.

There are mountains of data on how to live a long, happy, and healthy life. Once our basic physical needs are met, healthy food, clean water, and adequate shelter; there are just a few things that are fundamental to human health and happiness. The first and most important is to cultivate good relationships. These relationships are what help bolster our psyches and build healthy communities. Another tenet is to have a sense of purpose. A third is to exercise and manage stress (spending time in nature and visiting a beautiful farm are great for that).

So many members over the years have told me that arriving at the farm to pick

up their vegetables is the highlight of their week - that they feel a sense of peace and calm wash over them when they step out of their car. Others have told me how much they enjoy seeing children out picking flowers or herbs with their parents, creating lifelong memories. Some have said that they love to connect and catch up with their friends and neighbors. A member who was overwhelmed with caring for her disabled husband said that coming to one of our work parties, laughing and sharing stories with her friends, "literally saved my life."

For my part, I would have moved on from farming long ago if I didn't get the chance to connect with you all on a weekly basis. There wouldn't be enough joy and meaning in it to overcome the stress of the workload, coupled with the uncertainty of climate change. It's my connection with farm members that keeps me going through the tough times. My ability to imagine and visualize all of you sharing delicious meals with your families and friends, and seeing the joy and gratitude on your faces when you pick up your vegetables - that's what drives me to approach each day with passion despite the challenges inherent in farming.

I'm aware that joining a CSA is not nearly as easy as ordering your groceries online. It takes work from you, it takes time, it takes care to prepare home-cooked meals from scratch. But on balance, it is more than worth it - in fact it's essential. Sharing wholesome food with those you love is elemental to our humanity.

A personal mantra of mine is "Anything worth doing takes time. Don't waste time in pursuits that are not in alignment with your deepest values."



Easy is not the solution to a happy life. Money, fame, glory, a fancy car do not bring true happiness. Think about what you're most proud of, something that gives you a sense of joy and self worth. I'd be willing to bet it didn't come easy, most likely it took a great deal of effort and involved working in concert with others. You might think it was an independent task, but in all likelihood, you were bolstered in your efforts, emotionally, physically or psychologically by someone who loves you. Like a farmer, you can choose to cultivate those relationships and watch your life blossom. That's what real community is all about.

Farmer Dave

David Hambleton is the Director and Farmer at Sisters Hill Farm

The views expressed in this column are not necessarily those of Northern Dutchess News. To submit a column, write to us at [creativeliving@sutchessnews.com](mailto:creativeliving@sutchessnews.com)

## Volunteer Fair set March 15 at Millbrook Library

Looking for ways to give back to the community? The Millbrook Library will host its fourth annual Volunteer Fair on Saturday, March 15, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Fair offers opportunities for community members to learn about the good work being done by local non-profits and other organizations and how everyone can get involved.

Participating organizations in this year's Volunteer Fair include: Angels of Light, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Cornell Cooperative Extension,

Dutchess County Office for the Aging, Dutchess Land Conservancy, Food of Life/Comida de Vida Pantry and Giving Garden, Literacy Connections, Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue, Millbrook Fire Department, Millbrook Historical Society, Stonewood Farm, United Way Dutchess-Orange Region, and more.

This event is free and open to the public. It will take place at the Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. For more information, visit [millbrooklibrary.org](http://millbrooklibrary.org).

### Creating enriching experiences for students

#### Giving back through life-changing experiences!

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

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*The Ridge School*

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



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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## PV Community Gardens to meet March 6

Ready for Spring? So are we! Join Pleasant Valley Community Gardens for its monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 6 at the Pleasant Valley Library, 1584 Main St. (Route 9). No experience necessary, Pleasant Valley Community Gardens is a committed group of volunteers learning as they grow vegetables and flowers in their garden in Helen Aldrich Park on Route 115. Everything we grow is to benefit the Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry. See our Facebook page and website at [www.pleasantvalleycommunitygardens.com](http://www.pleasantvalleycommunitygardens.com).

## 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](http://www.rhinebeckchamber.com).

## 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.

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](http://dutchessny.gov/RCKTradesFair).

## Fish Fry Fridays with Clinton VFD

Clinton Volunteer Fire Department is holding their annual Fish Fry Fridays during Lent starting on March 7th to April 18th at the East Clinton Fire House. Located at 9 Fire House Lane Clinton Corners, NY Cost of the dinner is \$15 and includes fish, fries, coleslaw and dessert. Macaroni and cheese is also available. Take out only. Call 845-266-5485 for more information.

## Gardening Roundtable set March 8 at Morton Library

Morton Memorial Library (82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff) will host a Gardening Roundtable presented by Dirty Gaia on Saturday, March 8, from 2 to 4 p.m. Get invaluable tips from expert panelists on how to plan and grow edible gardens, native plants and fruit trees. Visit [dirtygaia.org](http://dirtygaia.org) for information on the panelists. Call the library at (845) 876-2903 with questions.

## Stanford Grange Corned Beef dinner

Stanford Grange #808 will host its Annual Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner on Saturday, March 8, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. All dinners are take out only at 5 p.m. The menu will consist of Corned Beef & Cabbage, Boiled Potatoes & Carrots, Homemade Irish Soda Bread, and Millionaire's Shortbread for dessert. Donation is \$17 per dinner. Drive to the back door of the Grange Hall, pay for your dinner, get your food through your car window, and take it home to enjoy! For reservations (which are a must as we will sell out!), call Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

## PV Repair Cafe set March 8

The next Pleasant Valley Repair Café is Saturday, March 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall on Route 44 in Pleasant Valley. Repair Cafes are a neighborhood initiative that promotes repair over landfills. Bring your broken items to be repaired by expert fixers who volunteer their time for this event. Neighbors helping neighbors, repairs not landfills, Donations are appreciated.

There will be a special Jewelry Repair Training Class at 11:30 a.m. This is a class to help those wanting to do simple jewelry repairs. The next Repair Cafe is May 10. See <http://www.repair-cafe.org> or <https://www.facebook.com/PVRepairCafe> for more information.

## 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 email: [csaniewski1@gmail.com](mailto:csaniewski1@gmail.com)

## Meeting for Rhinecliff Parking Plan set March 11

The Rhinebeck Town Board and Labella Associates will give a Rhinecliff Parking Presentation on Tuesday, March 11, at 6 p.m., at Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. The presentation will include proposed parking regulations in the Hamlet of Rhinecliff.

## Vanderbilt Garden Association sets volunteer recruitment sessions

The Frederick W. Vanderbilt Garden Association (FWVGA) will hold information sessions for volunteer recruitment on 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 weed-wash 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](mailto:volunteers@vanderbiltgarden.org); 845.224.7093) if you need additional information or have any questions.

## Pamona Grange sets Penny Social

Dutchess County Pomona Grange #32 will host its Annual Penny Social on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and calling begins at 7 p.m. There will be a penny table, \$1 table, baked goods table, special theme baskets donated by our Dutchess County Granges, 50/50 raffle, and door prizes. Stanford Grange Youth will have the Snack Bar open for refreshments (no outside food please; it takes money away from the kids). For more information, contact Marilyn Brands at (845) 223-5717 or Melissa Traver at (845) 891-9779.

## St. Patrick's Dinner at

## Poughkeepsie church set March 15

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at St. Paul's Church, 161 Mansion St., Poughkeepsie, on Saturday, March 15, at 5:30 p.m., with dinner prepared by JJ & his CIA students. The menu will include Green Goddess salad, baked potato soup, Irish soda bread, Shepherd's pie, and apple cake. The cost is \$20 per person. Reservations strongly suggested. Call the church at (845) 452-8440.

## Winter Soup Sales

## to benefit Rhinebeck Grange

Winter Soup Sales in Rhinecliff, sponsored by Rhinebeck Grange #896, will be held on Thursday, 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](mailto:JoBaer2@gmail.com) to be sent the soup choices and to pre-order online.

Proceeds support the Rhinebeck Grange.

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

## PV Rec promises a 'Wicked' good time for Teen Movie Night

Registration is now open for Pleasant Valley Recreation's Teen Movie Night, featuring the spellbinding musical "Wicked." For \$5, teens will enjoy a night full of pizza, friends, and the magical world of "Wicked" – no broomsticks required!

The event will be held on Friday, March 21, at PV Town Hall Community Room, 1554 Main St. (Route 44), Pleasant Valley. Showtime for Middle Schoolers is 5:30-7:30 p.m.; for High Schoolers, it's 7:45-9:45 p.m.

Register in advance at [pvrec.com](http://pvrec.com).

## Volunteer Interest Meeting for Garden Tour

The Friends of the Clinton Community Library are planning a new fundraiser this year: Clinton Country Gardens "Enchantment & Inspiration, 2025." The meeting will be held on Saturday, March 22, 10:30 a.m., at Clinton Community Library, 1215 Centre Road, Rhinebeck.

The Friends will partner with community members to tour a variety of gardens on Saturday, June 28.

During this informational meeting, learn about the garden tour and discuss areas where help will be needed, including Parking Attendants (help with the flow), Docents (no, you don't have to be a Master Gardener), Email Promotions and Advertising (contacting from our list) Flyer/Poster Distribution. Refreshments will be provided.

## HP Visual Environment Committee to host March 30 program

The Hyde Park Visual Environment Committee (HPVEC) Education Series will present "Spotting the Spotted Lanternflies" on Sunday, March 30, at 2 p.m., at St. James Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 4526 Albany Post Road (Route 9), Hyde Park. Guest speaker Jennifer Fimbel, a Certified Nosework Instructor, will share insights from a USDA-funded Virginia Tech project on using K9 teams to detect Spotted Lanternfly in local agriculture. Learn the importance of Spotted Lanternfly detection, and see demonstrations from dog-handler teams.

Attendance is free, and registration is encouraged. Email [hvpeboard@gmail.com](mailto:hvpeboard@gmail.com) to register.

# Red Hook VFW Post 7765 March Calendar of Events

The Post is at 30 Elizabeth St., Red Hook, NY 12571

Call 845-758-6212 for reservations and more information.

Check in Facebook for details & updates.

## HOMEMADE MONDAYS

in the Canteen (Club Bar)

March 3 - Roasted Italian Chicken Bake

March 24 - Jodee's Famous Meatloaf

March 31 - Pork Loin with Mac & Cheese

Thursday, March 13

in the Canteen (Club Bar)

Trivia 7:00pm

Saturday, March 15

in the Banquet Hall

Blood Drive with American Cruisers

Come donate and save a life! 9:00am

St Patrick's Day Celebration

in the Banquet Hall

Sunday, March 16 • 4-7pm

St Patrick's Day Celebration

Celtic Heels perform at 6:00pm

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Adults \$25, Seniors & Vets \$22, Kids \$10 under 5 FREE

Monday, March 17

in the Canteen (Club Bar)

Kegs & Egg-Sandwiches

We're all Irish St. Patty's Day! Come celebrate! Canteen opens at 9am with Corned Beef Egg & Cheese Sandwiches & Hashbrowns for \$5! \$5 Guinness and \$5 Jameson Shots!

Thursday, March 20

Banquet Hall and Canteen (Club Bar)

Monthly Cornhole & Cocktails!

\$10 to play

6:30pm

Thursday, March 27

in the Canteen (Club Bar)

Trivia 7:00pm

Red Hook VFW Post 7765

in the Banquet Hall

Sunday, March 29

Pancake Breakfast Scholarship Fundraiser

Two sittings: 8am and 9:30am

Tickets: Adults \$12, Seniors & Vets \$10, Kids \$8, Five & under FREE

Menu: Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Hash Browns, Coffee, Tea & Hot Cocoa.

Special thanks to Red Hook High Scholl Students for promoting, setting up and serving for this special fundraiser.

Saturday, March 29

in the Canteen (Club Bar)

Monthly Dart Tournament

Bullshoot Pot = \$1307.00

Sign Ups 1pm Darts Fly 2pm

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# Red Hook CSD plans propositions for grass field renovation, electric buses

By Kate Goldsmith

The Red Hook Central School District will ask voters this spring to approve a resolution to purchase four new electric school buses as it progresses toward meeting New York State's zero-emission vehicle mandates. At its Feb. 20 meeting, the Board of Education expressed its intention to add a proposition to purchase additional electric buses on the May 20 school budget and board election ballot, following a presentation from district officials.

The district also is moving forward with addressing issues of safety and accessibility on its main high- and middle-school athletic field through a capital project proposition.

## District hopes to capitalize on available assistance for bus purchases

The district stated that the bus purchases would come at little cost to local taxpayers, thanks to grants and state aid reimbursement programs. In addition, the district announced that the two electric buses voters approved last spring will retroactively also come at little cost to taxpayers, through the same programs.

Red Hook's fleet encompasses 29 buses and 15 SUVs, vans and sedans, in addition to the two electric buses. The district has traditionally proposed voters approve the purchase of two to three buses per year, following a roughly 12-year cycle for replacing the entire district fleet. By purchasing four this year, the district would capitalize on aid programs intended to assist schools' transition from combustion to non-combustion vehicles and reach clean energy goals.

The state's electric bus mandate requires districts to fully transition their school bus fleets from combustion engine vehicles to zero-emission vehicles (electric and fuel-cell school buses) over the

next decade. All school bus purchases must be zero-emission vehicles by 2027, and all school buses in operation must be zero-emission by 2035. The state believes the shift will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, decrease negative environmental impacts and reduce noise.

A district analysis last year showed it would save \$1,600 per year, per bus on fuel costs with electric buses.

Officials from the State Education Department State Aid Office informed the district it would be eligible for reimbursement on roughly 50-percent of the electric vehicles' full cost. The district also remains eligible for a New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, or NYSEERDA, grant for roughly \$220,000 per bus for up to six buses. Between the two programs, a bus that may cost roughly \$460,000 can be obtained for around \$10,000.

The exact percentage of reimbursement and cost of the bus is expected to fluctuate, making it impossible to give an exact estimate of what the final expense will be. The district will also have to put forward the cost of the buses before being reimbursed by the state. Consequently, the exact ballot proposition posed to residents will ask if they will support spending several hundred thousand dollars per bus – the exact amount is to be determined – even though there will ultimately be little-to-no impact on taxes following the reimbursement.

Last spring, voters approved the district spending up to \$500,000, and no more than \$250,000 per bus, to purchase its first two electric school buses. The state reimbursement program, which was not known to the district at the time, applies to that purchase, as well, meaning most of the roughly \$237,600 spent by the district per bus will be recovered. The district expects to receive those buses by

May 1.

## Proposition set for grass field renovation

Also at its Feb. 20 meeting, the Board of Education announced it intends to add a referendum on the May 20 school budget and board election ballot asking voters if they would support a renovation project utilizing a grass field surface. The exact components, cost and proposition language are expected to be determined before the board's March 20 meeting.

Broadly, the project will include rebuilding the grass field with a new grass surface, replacing the surrounding track, replacing the perimeter fence and adding led lighting. It will also include an interior renovation component, making it eligible to receive state aid.

In a presentation to the board at the meeting, officials estimated the field component of the proposition would cost roughly \$4.9 million, of which around \$3.15 million would be covered by state aid.

The interior project's scope and cost is to be determined.

The district noted that the main field has long been a concern. Years of overuse have rendered the field overly compact, uneven and prone to flooding – which not only causes postponements but also reduces the safety of the surface when in use. Consequently, careful field maintenance has been an ongoing project, and access has been drastically limited in order to keep the field in as good shape as possible.

The fencing has several damaged areas, and the track, which has not been resurfaced since 2010, has several large cracks.

The district has presented to voters three previous ballot propositions to renovate the main field in the past three years. With some variations, each called for the construction of a multipurpose space that would include an artificial turf field, lighting, fence repairs and replace-

ment of the track.

Voters rejected each proposition, with environmental concerns tied to the artificial surface a common reason cited. Most recently in October, residents voted down a proposal to renovate the main field while approving a separate proposition to fix two other troubled field spaces with grass surfaces and drainage. Voters also approved a proposition to address interior building issues, including a renovation project for the high school gymnasium.

Since October, the board Facilities Committee has been sifting through options for how to address the main field, which included the possibility of simply repairing the grass surface and surrounding elements without another capital project. That option would cost upwards of \$875,000 and not be eligible for state aid; it would also more than likely need additional repairs much more quickly than a full field replacement.

The district said the new direction approved by the Board of Education would give Red Hook students a pristine and accessible playing surface with improved drainage. Its main use would be for football and lacrosse competitions and the track and field team, with other fields and spaces utilized for practices and the physical education department. The district would aim to preserve the surface and protect against the overuse that has plagued the schools' fields.

The LED field lighting, several board members said Thursday, is an important aspect to include in the project as it would allow for nighttime football games and other community events that would inspire school pride and boost the student experience.

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled Monday, March 20. Meetings are generally held in the Mill Road K-2 Cafeteria beginning at 7 p.m. Visit [www.redhookcentralschools.org](http://www.redhookcentralschools.org) for more information.

## LaGrange senior bus trip traveling to Broadway

The Town of LaGrange Parks & Recreation Department is currently registering for the upcoming senior bus trip to see "Pirates! The Penzance Musical" on Broadway. The trip, which is taking place on Wednesday, April 16, will include lunch at The Hard Rock Café.

The group will then walk (less than ¼ mile) to the Todd Haimes Theatre for a matinee show, mezzanine seating. The show, featuring David Hyde Pierce, just received a great write up in the NY Times.

This getaway is just \$100 per person and is open to LaGrange residents. The price includes lunch, show ticket, bus transportation and all gratuities.

Registration takes place in the Recreation Office at LaGrange Town

Hall, 120 Stringham Road, Mon-Fri, from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Residents will need the following to register: Photo ID AND property tax or utility bill. (A driver's license is not valid proof of residency). Cash or check for \$100/person made out to "Town of LaGrange" and a list of medications.

The bus departs LaGrange Town Hall at 8 a.m., returning at approximately 6 - 6:30 p.m. Please reach out to the Recreation Office at 845-452-1972 with any questions.

For detailed information about all town recreation activities, follow Town of LaGrange Parks and Recreation on Facebook, or go to the town website at [lagrangeny.gov/parks-rec](http://lagrangeny.gov/parks-rec).

## BATTENFELD TO BE HONORED WITH 'GOOD EGG' AWARD

The Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual "Good Egg" Award Dinner & Celebration, on Thursday, March 20, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at The Pavilion at Brookmeade.

The award honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the Rhinebeck community. This year's honoree is Fred Battenfeld, owner of the family-run Battenfeld Farms.

"Fred has long been a cornerstone of our local agricultural heritage," said Liana Galardi, executive director of the Rhinebeck Chamber. "Beyond his work on the farm, he is a dedicated community leader, actively serving on multiple boards and contributing his time and expertise to numerous local organizations."

Member tickets are \$95, and non-member tickets are \$115. For sponsorship and ticket information, visit [www.rhinebeckchamber.com](http://www.rhinebeckchamber.com).

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# Mill House Brewing soars to new heights with planned opening of The Ridge by Mill House

Excitement is brewing as The Ridge by Mill House (The Ridge)'s owners, Executive Chef Daniel Crocco and Brewmaster Jamie Bishop, announced that the new restaurant will open its doors on Wednesday, March 26.

Located at 387 South Street in Highland, the mountain-top eatery marks Mill House Brewing Company's first expansion into Ulster County.

"We've poured our hearts into every detail of The Ridge over the last several months of construction and preparation, working to perfect it from the ground up," said Crocco. "From carefully curated wallpaper to locally sourced fixtures and a menu we're especially proud of, every aspect of The Ridge is intentional. We cannot wait to welcome you to this corner of our world and to raise a glass with friends we know -- and the new ones we'll make."

While The Ridge will have an ever-changing menu, patrons can expect to see dishes such as a Swordfish Skewer, Brown Butter Squash and "Chicken & Dumplings" Gnocchi, alongside casual bites such as The Ridge Burger and Pad Thai Kale Salad during the restaurant's

first few months of operation. Beyond the main menu, the restaurant will also offer Sunday brunch, a raw bar and an in-house dry-aged steak for two – served on handcrafted cutting boards from Hudson Valley artisan, Living Edge Designs, that double as a statement art piece in the dining room. Additionally, the cabin-esque property will serve a variety of Mill House Brewing Company's award-winning craft beers on tap, including a new signature ale dubbed Haus Hefeweizen, thoughtfully crafted for The Ridge.

The Ridge aims to be a place where locals and visitors can celebrate special moments, both big and small, or enjoy a date night with one of its decadent desserts, like their Ricotta Cannoli Crepes or Peach Brown Sugar Strudel, which will pair perfectly with one of the soon-to-open restaurant's handcrafted cocktails, such as the Desperado, The Ridge's take on the locally famous Mill House Brewing Co.'s Shinebox, or an indulgent after-dinner drink such as the S'mores Coffee.

"We've worked hard to create a space that feels both fresh and familiar," said Bishop, who grew up in Clintondale.



The Ridge by Mill House at 387 South Street in Highland, a mountain-top eatery, will open on March 26. Courtesy photo

"While we've put our own spin on things, we wanted to honor the charm and character that made this place special to so many before us. Every decision was made with our future guests and neighbors in mind, and we can't wait to unveil it to our community."

The Ridge's opening marks a momentous occasion for Crocco and Bishop as they continue to expand Mill House Brewing Company's presence throughout the Hudson Valley. Most recently, the dynamic duo announced

they were hitting the road with a full-service catering business, Embers by Mill House. With both of these new ventures, Mill House aims to bring its signature flavors and esteemed hospitality to a wider audience.

For more information on The Ridge by Mill House, including updates around reservations – which will go live on March 12 – and hours of operation, follow The Ridge on Facebook (@TheRidgebyMillHouse) and Instagram (@theridgebymillhouse).

## Weekend archery classes return to Bowdoin Park this spring

Registration opens March 12

Registration for the next round of Dutchess County Parks' popular weekend archery classes at Bowdoin Park in Poughkeepsie will open Tuesday, March 12, at 9 a.m. Sessions begin on March 22 and will take place at Bowdoin Park's archery range, located near Pavilion 4. The program consists of five classes, held on Saturdays, with various time slots to accommodate more students.

The sessions, each an hour long, are designed for children ages 8 and up, and adults with any level of archery experience. Space is limited, so be sure to register early at [www.DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation](http://www.DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation).

The first session will cover basic archery safety and skills for new participants. Most of the sessions will be spent

practicing with the bows, allowing participants to learn through experience. All equipment is provided.

The total cost for the program is \$70 per person and includes all five classes and equipment.

Dates and times for the archery sessions are: Saturday, March 22; Saturday, April 12; Saturday, April 19; Saturday, May 17; Saturday, June 7. Time Slots are: 8:30-9:30 a.m.; 10-11 a.m.; 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; 2-3 p.m.; 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Other naturalist programming, including group weekday Archery, Junior Survival, Scout Programs and School Field Trips are available by appointment and reservations can be made by calling the Parks office at (845) 298-4602.

For registration and programming information, visit [DutchessNY.gov/Parks](http://DutchessNY.gov/Parks).

## Historical program about Poughkeepsie set March 7

The Clinton Historical Society will host an in-person and virtual event on Friday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. Historian Shannon Butler will present "Queen City in Flux: Three Centuries of Poughkeepsie" in person at the Creek Meeting House and on Zoom.

Over the past three centuries the area we know as Poughkeepsie has morphed from a tiny settlement, to a bustling village, into an industrial center, and even a so-called "Model City." No one can doubt that Poughkeepsie has seen a lot of change since the first houses were built at the turn of the 18th century. We have seen buildings and landscapes come and go,

and we will see more as The Queen City on the Hudson continues to remain a City in flux. Join Historian Shannon Butler as we venture back in time and discuss some of the major changes that have taken place here.

There are two ways to join the program: In person at the Creek Meeting House, 2433 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners. Stay for refreshments after the talk.

Or on Zoom using this URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85235782466?pwd=1JUOWXW63bZMjKFXCYT0CmakPfyex.1>  
Meeting ID: 852 3578 2466

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--STARTS THURSDAY 3/6--

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--HELD OVER--

Last Breath (PG13)

Captain America: Brave New World (PG13)

Paddington in Peru (PG)

Becoming Led Zeppelin (PG13)

Dog Man (PG)

The Monkey (R)

--HELD OVER--

Last Breath (PG13)

Riff Raff (R)

Captain America: Brave New World (PG13)

Paddington in Peru (PG)

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Dog Man (PG)

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# Friends of Clinton plans 'New Life for Prom Dresses'

By Craig Marshall

Fulfill a dream for a junior or senior high school prom student! In planning for their big event, they are facing prom dress costs in the hundreds of dollars for one night.

Friends of Clinton, a non-profit community based volunteer organization, is conducting a sale of gently worn prom dresses for the bargain price of \$8 each. The sale will be held on Saturday, March 22 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the West Clinton Firehouse, 219 Hollow Road, Staatsburg.

Dressing rooms will be available for try-ons. They are asking area residents to donate pre-worn formal dresses or prom gowns in good condition to help make the dream come true. Donations from graduates and attendees of the four schools that service Clinton – Pine Plains, Rhinebeck, Millbrook, Hyde Park – are particularly welcome, as are

donations from outside the area.

Dresses can be dropped off anytime up to March 15 at the Ruby Hill Farm shop at 2325 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners, near Hackett Farm Supply. A marked weatherproof vinyl container is located outside the shop to receive the garments. This sale activity has proven successful in other regions and Clinton is in line to continue the dream.

Event organizer Melissa Karchmer said, "Please donate your dress and make a junior's or senior's prom magical."

Friends of Clinton is a community based non-profit group that creates events to bring together residents and local businesses to foster community pride and unity and to foster local commerce. Proceeds from the prom dress sale will help fund their activities. They are hosts for the annual Clinton Community Day coming June 7.

For information, contact Karchmer at [friendsofclinton@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofclinton@gmail.com).

Melissa Karchmer, prom dress sale coordinator from the Friends of Clinton, displays two sale dresses. *Courtesy photo*



## NPS to hold garden volunteer information meetings

Join the National Park Service (NPS) Horticulture staff to learn about the many opportunities to help maintain and preserve the historic gardens and landscapes at the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt national historic sites.

Attend a Garden Volunteer Information Meeting on Tuesday, March 25 or Tuesday, April 22 at 10 a.m., at the Wallace Visitor Center, Home of Franklin D Roosevelt, Route 9, Hyde Park. No prior experience is necessary, and volunteers are encouraged to participate as their schedule permits; no required hours.

To register for the meeting, email [anna\\_decordova@nps.gov](mailto:anna_decordova@nps.gov).

Volunteers come from all over the region and enjoy the camaraderie and satisfaction of working together and sharing the landscapes with visitors. Non-gardeners enjoy work as garden greeters, arts and education program hosts, and many behind the scenes jobs that make it all work. Opportunities include The Home of Franklin Roosevelt; Val Kill, The Home of Eleanor Roosevelt; The Vanderbilt Mansion; and The Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield.

See our **COMMUNITY CALENDAR** on page 6 for events in your community

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# Creative Living

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## Lectures, readings, interactive events part of DCC's Women's History Month programming

Dutchess Community College (DCC) will celebrate Women's History Month with a series of on-campus events highlighting the achievements and influence of women. All events are free and open to the public, thanks in part to the support of the DCC Foundation, Office of Student Activities, and Office of Instruction & Learning.

The monthlong programming, featuring authors, scholars, poets and professionals, offers opportunities for learning, discussion and appreciation. A full schedule with event details is available at [www.sunydutchess.edu/whm](http://www.sunydutchess.edu/whm), with an overview below.

A lecture on women artists of the Hudson River School will follow on March 6 at 12:30 p.m. in the Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery. As part of the "About Water" exhibition, featuring Hudson Valley artists Daisy de Puthod and Jean-Marie Martin, DCC Associate Professor of Art Margaret Craig will explore the often-overlooked contributions of women to the 19th-century movement. The event will also include an interview with de Puthod.

Poets Kateri Kosek and Joann Dejudicibus will present their work on March 13 at 12:30 p.m. in The Writing

Center as part of the "Process to Text" series. The event will include a reading, followed by a Q&A session and book signing.

A lecture by Vassar College professor Dr. Kahdeidra Martin will take place on March 27 at 12:30 p.m. in Hudson Hall, Room 406. In "Africana Religious Literacies: Honoring Ancestry and the Divine Feminine in Language Learning," Martin will examine how practices of ancestral veneration and honoring the Divine Feminine offer tools for deepening our understanding of literacy, linguistics and Africana religious systems.

Students, faculty and staff will gather for a community reading on April 1 at 12:30 p.m. in the Handel Dining Room. Reading Women: Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations will feature poetry and prose reflecting the 2025 National Women's History Month theme. Light refreshments will be served.

A Women in STEAM Panel will be held on April 17 at 12:30 p.m. in Dutchess Hall, Room 101. Women professionals in science, technology, engineering, art and math will share their career experiences, challenges and successes, offering insights for students



Pictured, from left, are Kahdeidra Martin, Joann Dejudicibus and Kateri Kosek who will take part in Dutchess Community College's Women's History Month events. *Courtesy photos*

interested in STEAM fields.

Later that evening, a virtual reading, Celebrating Black Women Authors, will take place on April 17 at 7 p.m. on Zoom. Faculty, staff and students will read selections from their favorite Black women writers across genres, including poetry, science fiction, biography and fiction. The event is co-sponsored by the Association of Women at DCC

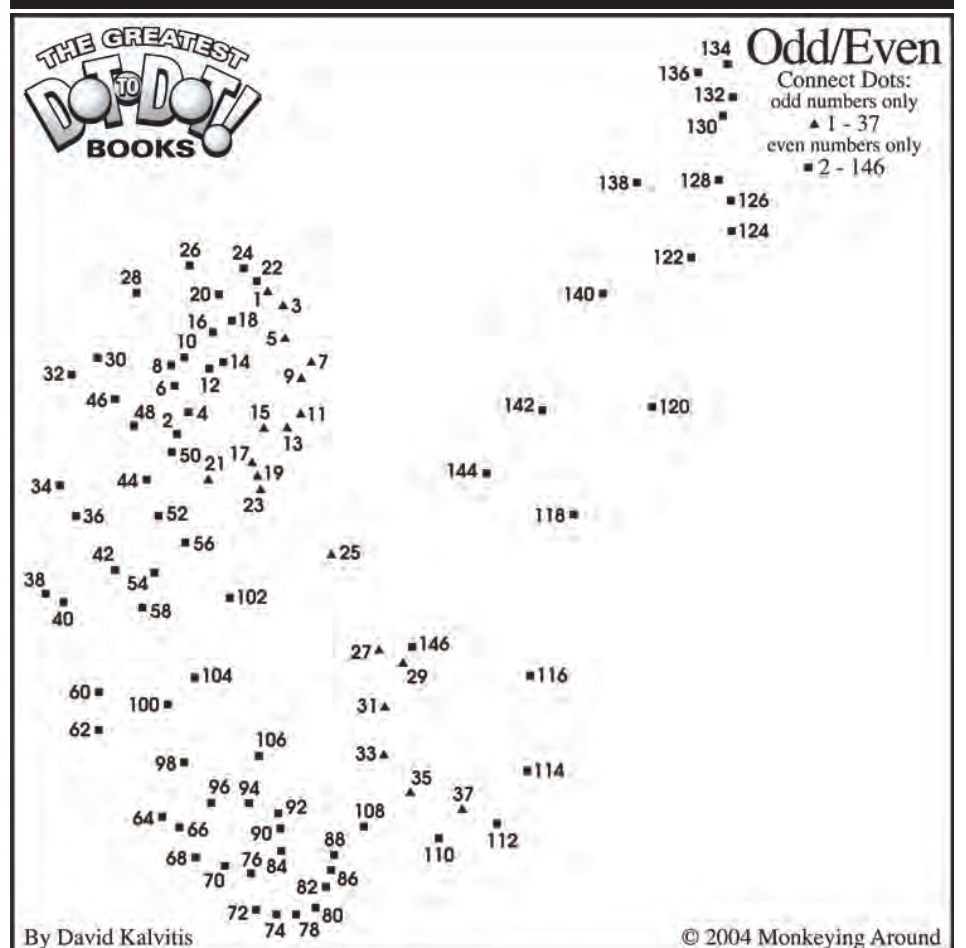
(AWDCC) and The Writing Center.

For more information, contact Shalon Hallager at [shalon.hallager@sunydutchess.edu](mailto:shalon.hallager@sunydutchess.edu). If you require sign language interpreting services or special accommodations, please make your request at least two weeks before the event by reaching out to Linda Bertolozzi at (845) 431-8058 or [bertoloz@sunydutchess.edu](mailto:bertoloz@sunydutchess.edu).

**Creative Living**  
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### DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



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# Exploring the scientific blarney of optical illusions for St. Patrick's Day

March is the month for Irish music, Celtic Knot designs, and cartoon leprechauns. In these final days of winter, you may also imagine that legendary pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Since the icons of St. Patrick's Day include imaginary little people and four-leaf clovers, which occur with a frequency of 5,000 to 1 compared to the three-leaf variety, let's add our own bit of scientific blarney in the form of optical illusions.

A reflection can be considered a type of optical illusion if it creates the perception that we see something that differs from reality. The things we see are the result of interactions between light, our eyes and brain. Light hitting our eyes is converted into electrical signals, which are then transmitted to the brain. The brain interprets (or misinterprets) those signals as a visual image. Misinterpretations might happen as the result of the viewing angle, the type of mirror, or our own expectations.

### Mirrors

All objects absorb, reflect and transmit the light falling on them, depending on the materials they're made from. Things we call "mirrors" are a special class of objects that reflect an unusual amount of that light.

When you look at a flat mirror, rays of light shoot through the glass and hit the coating behind it. Light reflects off of the

mirror in an orderly way. What you see in the glass is a reasonable approximation of what is there, except that the image is laterally inverted. Concave mirrors are great for shaving and plucking eyebrows, because close images are magnified. From far away, objects in concave mirrors seem upside down. If you look taller and thinner than you actually are, you might be seeing yourself in a convex mirror. Your rear- and side-view mirrors on your car are convex.

### Architectural designing with reflections

Stephen Whalen, of Whalen Architecture PLLC in Lagrangeville, knows how to design a home to harmoniously exist in its environment, as well as be energy efficient. Owners of a home in Pawling were interested in making their house "disappear" within the landscaping and surrounding trees. To accomplish this, a mirror finish was applied to the upper windows near the gabled roof.

Those glazing panels give the illusion that the house merges with the woods. The reflective glass also gives the occupants a lot of privacy, though it is possible to see inside the home when standing very close. The windows are reflective, but they are not actually mirrors.

Besides a reflective film, the windows were tinted to reduce the sun glare and heat gain on the interior of the residence, making the house more energy-efficient



Whalen Architecture designed this Pawling home with reflective windows, making it seem to disappear into the woods. Photo by Stephen Whalen

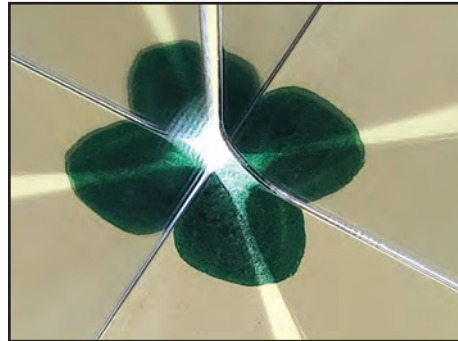
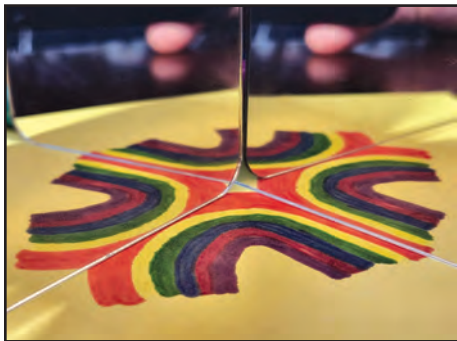
during the cooling season. A house seeming to disappear within the surrounding woodland could be considered an optical illusion, because it creates the perception of a seamless continuation of the forested landscape. From certain vantage points, it's difficult to distinguish where the reflective surface ends and the actual forest begins. Psychologically, mirrors in a natural setting are unexpected.

### Am I Looking over a four- or five-leaf clover?

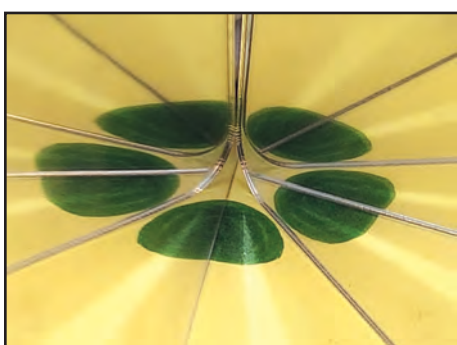
Rest assured that you can explore reflections this St. Patrick's Day without trying to make your house disappear! Gather some paper, two small mirrors, colored pencils, clay and a protractor. Draw a green circle and use clay to prop the two mirrors at an angle so that they reflect two circles and then four circles. Keep adjusting the angle and placement of the mirrors to see how many leaves you can make your clover. Measure the different angles of the mirrors with a protractor and compare that to the number of leaves. Do any patterns emerge?

Continue the exploration by drawing rainbows and symmetrical shapes or letters to see how many designs can be made using the mirrors. Photograph the reflections to document your discoveries. Here is a video of this activity: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/rahdLZgt7Gc>. Here is an organized lesson plan for this activity: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/ST-PATRICKS-DAY-EXPLORING-REFLECTIONS-ENRICHMENT-ACTIVITY-7603380>.

Francine Wizner is a native of the Hudson Valley. She grew up in the Catskills of Greene County and spent over 3 decades teaching in Ulster County. She creates science-themed instructional materials and books, as well as being a Citizen Scientist in the management of her current home in an enchanted woodland of Dutchess County. Find her at <https://medium.com/@wiznerf>, <https://substack.com/@gkatzchronicle>, and <https://www.pleasantvalleymaplelodging.com/>



Experiments with mirrors give the illusion of reflected rainbows, a four-leaf clover and a five-leaf clover. Photos by Francine Wizner



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3		4	1	6				
			3		9			
				5	8	3		9
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

## Suguru

	5					3
2	3				5	
1		5				
						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: THE OSCARS

### ACROSS

- 1/10
- European tourist tax, acr.
- "Germinal" author Émile
- Bye, in Paris
- Bigheadedness
- Relating to wine, arch.
- Tabletop mountains
- H+, e.g.
- Large key on the right
- \*\*"\_\_\_ Boys"
- \*\*"Emilia Pérez" leading actress
- H in HMS, sometimes
- Kids' get-away
- Like certain Four
- Queen of Carthage
- Razzed
- Scary fairytale creature
- Soft drink
- Like certain egg order
- Sir Mix-\_\_\_-\_\_\_
- \*Sean Baker's original screenplay
- Loyal, arch.
- Caldecott award
- Ascus, pl.
- AI's learning material
- Harry \_\_\_\_, once of One Direction
- Wearing footgear
- \*At 2024 Oscars, Ryan Gosling sang "I'm Just \_\_\_"
- Sushi restaurant libation
- Unit of length of yarn
- \*This year's Academy Awards host
- \*Elphaba and Galinda story
- Antique shop item
- Metal-bearing rock
- Mountain nymph
- Southeast Asian org.
- Lavatory, abbr.
- \*\_\_\_ Theatre
- Whimper
- Sodium hydroxide
- Follow

### DOWN

- Scottish cap
- Barbara of "I Dream of Jeannie"
- Not yet final, at law
- Mold a mind
- Like ear of corn that is ready to cook
- Bride's cover
- Opposite of hence
- Polynesian kingdom
- Zn
- "I'm \_\_\_ you!"
- Property right
- Acronym, abbr.
- Evening worship
- "All My Children" vixen
- Invoice qty.
- Colossus, pl.
- Fizzes
- End of a shoelace
- \*\*"The Brutalist" leading actor
- Spanish lady
- Old, in Scottish
- Go stealthily
- Related on mother's side
- \*Chalamet's role
- Et alibi, abbr.
- St. Louis' Gateway
- Garlicky mayonnaise
- Acne, technically
- Famous frat house
- Crack
- Grassy mound
- Ohio metropolis
- Yorkshire river
- Tea or beer
- Iranian money
- We have
- Mature elvers
- Dabu-\_\_\_, chili pepper condiment
- Operator's equip.
- \*Jamie Foxx won Best Actor in 2005 for this biopic
- Yellow #5, e.g.

## CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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63						64	65				66			67
68						69				70				
71							72				73			



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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 19





# Hunting

An uneventful trip in the woods is saved by a great sandwich.

When I was young we had a BB gun. We would shoot tin cans, targets, each other and anything else we could find. As we got older, naturally we went hunting. I remember one time my brother John decided he was going to bring his little 10-year-old brother hunting for the first time.

I was so excited. The night before, I couldn't sleep. I had visions of Elmer Fudd dancing in my head. I could hear the song, "A hunting we will go, A hunting we will go, hi ho the cherio, a hunting we will go." We were going to stalk our prey and track him down and get ourselves a deer.

It was very cold, so I made sure to lay out warm clothes. I had my snow boots ready as well as gloves, a scarf and a winter hat. I was ready.

The morning finally came, and John and I got up at 5 a.m., packed ourselves some nice Italian breakfast sandwiches with a thermos of espresso, that my mother had made for us, and off we went to a friend's farm, to hunt for the elusive deer.

We parked in front of an old barn and walked into the woods until we reached a tree with an orange marker on it. On the

other side of the tree there was a crude ladder nailed to the side of the tree, and up at the top there was a plywood platform that John had constructed. John told me that this was called a tree stand. We climbed the tree to get up into our stand. Once we were both up, we sat back to back. John had tied a rope to his gun and he pulled it up.

Once we were settled, John told me to keep an eye out for deer. So I started to scan my entire field of vision looking for our elusive deer. I could almost hear Marlon Perkins narrating our hunting trip. I looked left to right and was hoping I would see the deer first.

After about 20 minutes with no deer in sight, I started to get a little bored and a little cold. Suddenly I heard a noise that sounded suspiciously like snoring. John had told me that sometimes deer snort, but I don't remember hearing him say they snore. I was a little worried because I wasn't sure the deer couldn't reach us.

I was looking all around for a snoring deer when I realized that it wasn't the deer snoring. It was my brother John, sound asleep.

I elbowed him in the back to wake

him. He yelled at me.

"What did you do that for?" he demanded.

"You fell asleep!" I said.

"Yeah? So? Why did you wake me?" he answered.

"Because were supposed to be hunting!" I told him, a little angry.

"We are," he said.

It was in that moment that I realized that my idea of hunting and John's idea of hunting were two entirely different concepts. So as John slept, I opened up my sandwich and had breakfast.

Needles to say, I never went hunting again.

## Method

In a frying pan with olive oil, toast both sides of the ciabatta roll. Remove and set aside. Add broccoli di rabe to heat up.

While the broccoli di rabe heats up, place mozzarella on one side of the roll and provolone on the other side. Place your heated broccoli rabe on one side.

Fry up the sopresatta, crisping both sides, and place on top of the broccoli di rabe. Scramble the eggs and place on top of the sopresatta.

Wrap sandwich in aluminum foil so all the ingredients blend.

## ITALIAN BREAKFAST SANDWICH

### Ingredients

- 1 ciabatta roll (split horizontally)
- add:
- olive oil
- 1 slice mozzarella
- 1 slice provolone
- 1/4 cup sautéed broccoli di rabe
- 2 large eggs (scrambled)
- 2 slices sopresatta (fried until crispy on both sides)

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

## EXHIBITIONS

**Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center**, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **March 7-April 30:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. is artwork by Ulana Salewycz, Vitalia Deriabina, Marianna Szczawinsky Crans, and the late Catherine Zadorecka Gorham. At 12 Vassar St., Kate Hoekstra displays her works of art in the Reception Gallery. In the Hancock Gallery, Ian Hutton and Selva Ozelli will present their collaborative show "Paradise." **Free Public Art Opening Receptions** will be held on Fri., March 7, 5-7 p.m., in all three Art Galleries. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: [cunneen-hackett.org](http://cunneen-hackett.org)

**Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center**, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Through Aug. 17:** "Great Green Hope for the Urban Blues," exhibition that explores the art and myths of the Hudson Valley. The exhibition is part of a legacy that began 200 years ago as landscape painter Thomas Cole traveled up the Hudson River to paint the Catskill Mountains: a voyage that marked the mythical origin of the so-called Hudson River School of American landscape painting. Also on view: "Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Black Space-Making from Harlem to the Hudson Valley," installation related to "Great Green Hope" by Vassar student Harrison Brisbon-McKinnon '26; and the second, "Water/Bodies: Sa'dia Rehman." (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>

**Mildred I. Washington Gallery**, Allyn J. Center for Science and Art, Dutchess Community College, 53 Pendell Rd., Poughkeepsie. **March 7-28:** "About Water," featuring the works of Daisy de Puthod and Jean-Marie Martin. (845) 431-8612

**Morton Memorial Library**, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. **Through March 30:** Talent Show Art Exhibition, the visual component of Morton's annual Talent Show. Purchases benefit local artists and Morton Library. Donations accepted. (845) 876-2903

**Rhinebeck Bank**, 6414 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. **Through April 4:** Artwork exhibit by Michael Mandia of Wappingers Falls, whose primary artistic medium acrylic paint, but he also uses pen, ink, colored pencil and pastel. More info at <https://www.michaelmandiaart.com/>

**Starr Library**, 68 W. Market St., Rhinebeck. **Through March 30:** Exhibition of selected works from a bold new edition of "The Artist's Guide to Sketching," the groundbreaking book by two of America's most prominent visual artists, James Gurney ("Dinotopia," "Color and Light") and Thomas Kinkade. (845) 876-4030 or [www.starrlibrary.org](http://www.starrlibrary.org)

**Tivoli Artists Gallery**, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **March 7-30:** "Variable Matrix," a group exhibit curated by artist Linda Cassidy. **Opening reception:** Sat., March 8, 5-7 p.m. (845) 757-2667 or [www.tivoliartistsgallery.com](http://www.tivoliartistsgallery.com)

**WomensWork.art**, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **March 7-April 26:** "Mother/Father," a re-examining of a theme first addressed in a March 2020 exhibit. That exhibit explored the works of artists navigating parenthood and how it affected their overall bodies of work. The show only stayed open for two weeks before the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the gallery and the show altogether. Shutting down this show was a huge loss for the artists, whose works about parenthood were not seen by the public due to the pandemic. Now five years later, the gallery is re-examining this theme and how the circumstances of artists has evolved over that time, and how modern parenthood has evolved with it. **Opening reception:** Fri., March 7, 5-7 p.m. Artists' Talk: Sat., April 26, 1-3 p.m. (845) 293-3660 or [info@womenswork.art](mailto:info@womenswork.art)

E-mail exhibition listings to:  
[creativeliving@s Dutchessnews.com](mailto:creativeliving@s Dutchessnews.com)

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# Scribbles in an old ship log reveal history of whaling in Dutchess

By Bill Jeffway

The Dutchess County Historical Society recently acquired a 36-page ship log covering the dates of February 10, 1839 to March 7, 1840. The thirteen months reflect only a portion of the "Barque Vermont's" journey as a whaling ship, out of Poughkeepsie. The first pages document having left Poughkeepsie at least a month prior. The last pages document their leaving New Zealand. A barque (sometimes bark) is a type of sailing vessel with three or more masts of which the fore and mainmast have square sails.

Many are surprised that inland Poughkeepsie (not to mention the city of Hudson, further north) could be a whaling port. But voyages could take up to three years, so an inland port could be as easily used as one seaside, like New Bedford.

Among a dozen or so major initiatives from the self-declared Improvement Party in the 1830s, including investor Matthew Vassar, was the formation of what came to be two whaling companies. The "Vermont" was Poughkeepsie's first whaling ship, bought and launched on its first voyage in 1832 by the Poughkeepsie Whaling Company. The severe 1837 national financial crisis put an end to that company and the "Vermont" was purchased by Dutchess Whaling Company just prior to the 1839 voyage.

Even considering the financial crisis, the golden age of the American whaling industry is sometimes referred to as 1840 to 1861.

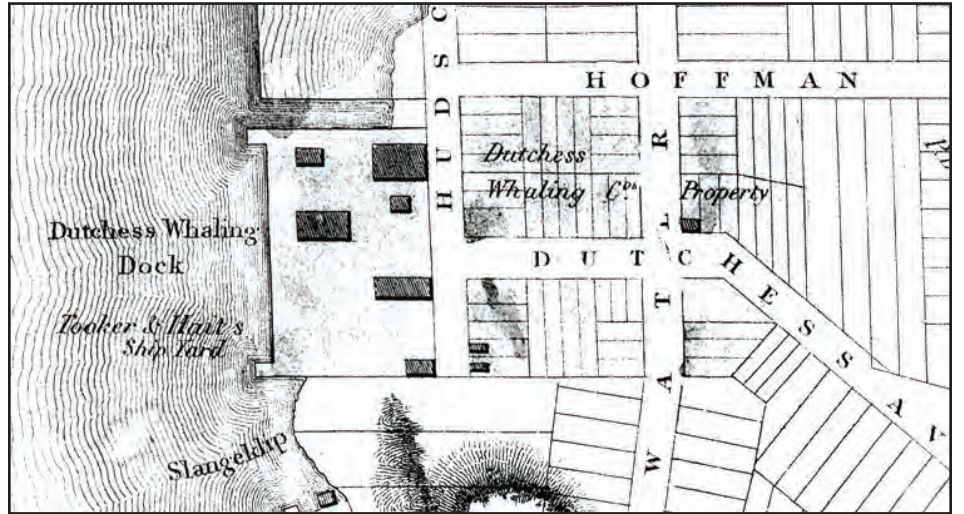
Although the author always signed his name on each page, on Sunday, January 19, 1840 he mentioned his hometown which has allowed us to confirm his identity. He signed off, "James Harrison St. John of Ridgefield (CT), Barque Vermont, Indian Ocean."

James H. St. John was a blacksmith. Ship log entries show that he put that trade to good use in helping damaged ships they encountered, or for trading with "natives" for food and water. He records creating iron "spikes" and iron tools.

A good deal of the record is about the weather, and actions taken with the many sails. What follows are some excerpts that relate to the more dramatic parts of the adventure, which give us an insight into the risk and massive scale of the undertaking. We find justice meted out by the captain using lashes. We see the small boats involved in the chase completely destroyed by a whale and the occupants rescued from the water. In addition to quick stops at tiny islands, the writer describes "natives" onshore in Africa, Madagascar and New Zealand Mowries.

The key to knowing the "Vermont" sailed from Poughkeepsie (in addition to its clearly documented ownership) is an entry of Wednesday, the 4th of September, "...killed a hog, the last one that we had brought from Poughkeepsie." And he signs off on Friday the 27th December adding "Barque Vermont from Poughkeepsie." Because the author records position in latitude and longitude, we can see that the ship travels around 250 miles each day.

FEB 28, 1839: First part of these 24 hours calm and foggy with a light shower. At daylight [are] in sight of the Island called Tristan...and the Nightingale Island. At 10 o'clock we [were] within about 3 miles of Tristan. We lowered down a boat and went ashore to purchase potatoes for the crew. At 3 o'clock, lowered another boat to get some fish. This island is inhabited by shipwrecked sailors and women from the Isle of France. They have about fifty persons. They have been provided with farming utensils and stock



Above: 1834 map of Poughkeepsie showing the location of the Dutchess Whaling Company's dock at the end of Dutchess Avenue near Upper Landing. DCHS Collections

from ships so as to enable them to obtain a living. At 8:00 went ashore, the governor standing from the island...

MAR 8: All hands engaged in cleaning muskets and swords.

APR 3: At 2 o'clock have in sight the island of Madagascar. Were close in to land, tacked ship and stood off. Saw a large ship standing, proved to be the Royal William of St John's, New Brunswick. Four months out, she tact and kept company with us. Very sharp lightning over the land.

APR 4. At 10 o'clock they [barque Royal William] lowered their boats and came upon board. The R. Wm, she was bound into Augustine Bay. She proved to be in a leaky condition. At 5 o'clock [they] came on board, [we] hoisted our lights, to keep company with us through the night.

APR 5: At about 6 o'clock we were ... obliged to lower the boats and tow the ship [Royal William]. We had about 35 boats helping us which came from other ships which were at anchor in the bay, there were seven [ships] in number. We came to anchor about 9 o'clock.

APR 6: In the bay of St. Augustine [Madagascar]. Our deck was crowded with natives. They are about the size of our North American Indians and as black as cold tar, they have milk to sell, lemons, cattle, sheep, etc.

APR 10: Most of the men gone on shore. I was to work for the Royal William in making [iron] spikes of which I made about 500 for her.

JUL 13: At Dalrymple Bay, New Holland [Australia]. While the men were on shore the cook was displeased because he could not go there and went and hid the harpoons. When the [men] went to turn into their hammocks they saw the irons gone and the cook owned it and the captain gave him seventeen lashes.

DEC 18: The whale ran about 2 miles to the leeward then ... At about 4 o'clock he ran his head against the waste boat and knocked the second mate overboard...at 5 o'clock the third mate lowered another boat and came to our assistance.

Got a second lance at [the whale] but as would have it he sounded and took with him two lines, 4 irons, 4 lances, and stove [damaged] 4 boats. Stoved [damaged] 2 of the boats by the whale and two by running against one another.

DEC 21: One of them [one of two whales] went right over the bow boat and stove her all to pieces the crew was picked up by the larboard boat one of the crew by the name of Moses Hatch was badly injured in one of his legs and is now confined to his berth. The boat was so badly damaged as to not be worth picking up.

DEC 25: At 5 o'clock lowered the boats for two whales to the leeward...at 6 o'clock had him alongside and commenced cutting. On board the Vermont off the Island of New Holland [Australia]. And so ends Christmas Day in the year of our Lord 1839.

DEC 29: They soon gave him [the whale] several good lances but he run his head right through the bow boat and stove her all to pieces, the waste boat picked the crew up, theft had but just time to get them into the boat before the larboard boat was stove then they picked them and started for the ship with 18 men in one boat.

DEC 31: The latter part of the day commenced blowing quite hard. All hands employed in stowing down, stowed 43 barrels at 10 o'clock it began blowing so hard that we had to [stop].

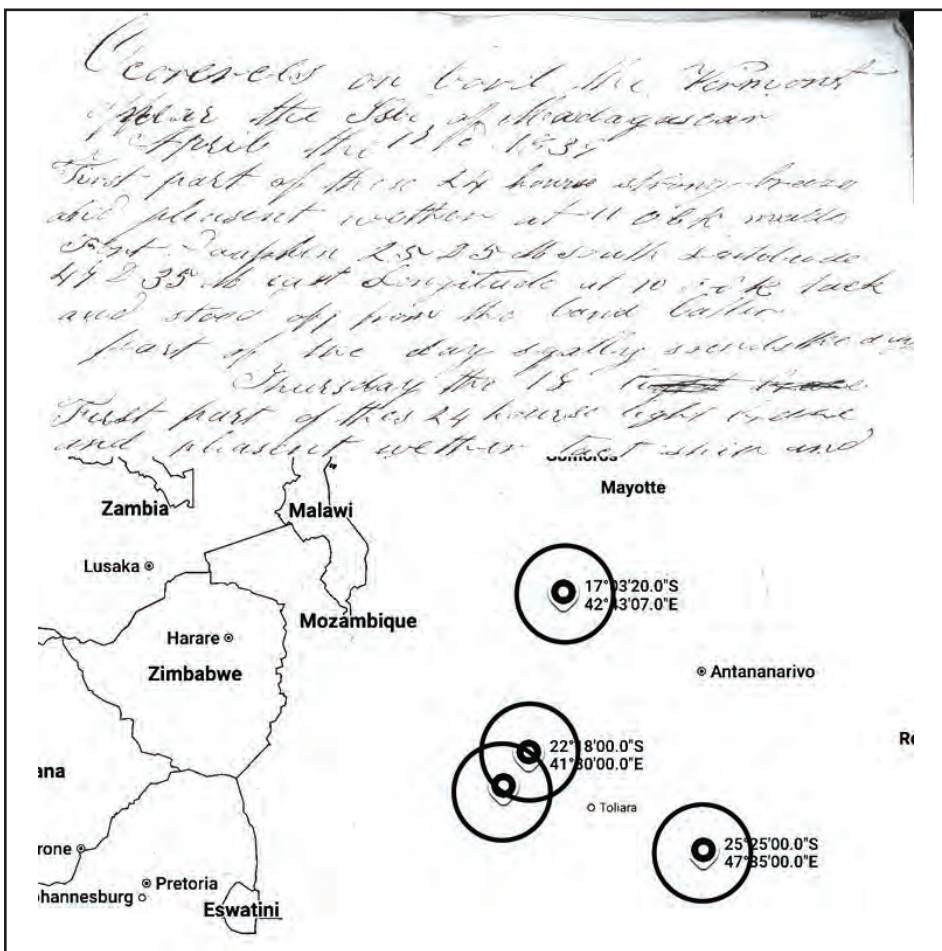
JAN 1, 1840: The wind still continues to blow very hard. At 2 o'clock all hands were called to secure the waste boat, it being most of the time under water. At 4 o'clock we took in the waste boat, it being stove very badly. The middle part of the day it continued to blow a severe gale it being the hardest we have had.

Every roll that she [the ship] makes she rolls her lee rail [side of the boat opposite the direction of the wind] all under. The water keeps constantly flowing across our decks so that the water is above three feet deep sometimes and more....later part of the day the wind abated some.

FEB 1, 1840: Home sweet Home there is no place like Home. Too true to write.

FEB 5: We are now bound for New Zealand.

See more at [www.dchsny.org/vermont](http://www.dchsny.org/vermont).



Above: The persistent, daily record (through good days and bad) create a vivid picture of the scale and risk of the work at sea. St. John's recording of latitude and longitude allow us to plot the precise path of the ship, in this instance around the island of Madagascar off the east coast of Africa. DCHS Collections, Google Maps

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





# Suspense Theater virtual staged readings set March 8

The Two of Us Productions will present its Virtual Live-Staged Reading of chilling radio dramas from Suspense Theater – “The Hitchhiker” and “The Lost Special” – on Saturday, March 8, at 7 p.m., online via Zoom.

In “The Hitchhiker,” a man drives cross-country from Brooklyn to California. On the morning Adams leaves for his destination he sees a man on the Brooklyn Bridge, waiting for a lift. Adams sees the man again an hour later, hitchhiking at the Pulaski Skyway. As he progresses toward his destination, Adams repeatedly sees the same hitch-hiker, despite the fact that, logically, there is no

possible way the mysterious man could always somehow get ahead of him!

“The Lost Special” tells the tale of a confessed murderer who has asked for the opportunity to explain his crime on broadcast radio. As he describes what he did and why he did it, we are drawn into his disturbing tale of official corruption. The climax comes when, as he is poised to reveal his co-conspirators, an unknown assailant storms the radio station and shoots him dead in his chair.

This performance is free to the public; donations are gratefully accepted. To RSVP and get your access code, visit [www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org](http://www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org).

## HISTORIC TAVERN TRAIL EVENT SET MARCH 28 AT LASTING JOY BREWERY

The next Historic Tavern Trail event, “New York and Dutchess County on the Brink of Revolution,” will take place on Friday, March 28, from 6 to 7 p.m., at Lasting Joy Brewery, 485 Lasher Road, Tivoli.

We all know the story of the final months of royal government in Massachusetts before the “Shot Heard ‘Round The World” was fired at Lexington on April 19, 1775. But what was that final period of undisputed British supremacy like in New York, and specifically in Dutchess County? How did residents feel as the Imperial Crisis of the 1760s and early 1770s reached its explosive conclusion?

Join Dutchess County Historian Will Tatum to find out the answers to these and other questions above local life on the brink of Revolution.

There is a suggested donation of \$20 per person. Reservations are required; visit [www.historicredhook.org](http://www.historicredhook.org) to reserve and for more information.

## A & E CALENDAR

**March 6: Jimmy Vivino Band**, The Falcon, 1348 Rte. 9W, Marlboro. Vivino is a world renowned guitarist and former Conan O’Brien bandleader, 7:30 p.m. [www.liveatthefalcon.com](http://www.liveatthefalcon.com)

**March 6: New Work Preview: Gibney Company**, Black Box Theater, Kaatsbaan Cultural Park, 120 Broadway, Tivoli. Gibney Company shows a new commission by choreographer Peter Chu, who is working with the company during their residency at Kaatsbaan, 6 p.m. \$5-\$10 Suggested donation. [www.kaatsbaan.org](http://www.kaatsbaan.org)

**March 6-9: Live Music at the Towne Crier Cafe**, 379 Main St., Beacon. March 6: Cherish The Ladies 40th Anniversary, 7 p.m. Tickets \$50 advance, \$55 door. March 7: Soul Purpose Mardi Gras Celebration w/special guest The Trojan Horns, 8 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. March 8: Tom Chapin’s Big 80th Birthday Bash and CD Release Party, 8 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. March 9: Kevin McKrell (solo show), 7 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. (845) 855-1300 or [www.townecrier.com](http://www.townecrier.com)

**March 7: Morton’s Celebration of Community Talent Show**, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. 6:30 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. (845) 876-2903

**March 7-9: CP2 Play Readings**, County Players Falls Theatre, 681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls. March 7-8: “Witch,” a charming devil arrives in a quiet village to bargain for the souls of its residents. Elizabeth should be his easiest target, having been labeled a “witch,” but her soul is not so easily bought. An inventive retelling of a Jacobean drama, this sharp, subversive fable debates how much our souls are worth when hope is hard to come by. Performances: Fri., March 7, 8 p.m.; Sat., March 8, 2 p.m. March 8-9: “The Burdens,” adult siblings Mordy and Jane have a problem. Their centenarian grandfather is an emotional and financial burden on the family, and he just won’t die. Scheming almost entirely via text messages, the siblings hatch an outrageous plan to relieve themselves of their family’s burdens and their own. Performances: Sat., March 8, 8 p.m.; Sun., March 9, 2 p.m. Tickets \$15 per reading, \$25 both readings on the same weekend. (845) 298-1491 or [www.countyplayers.org](http://www.countyplayers.org)

**March 7-9: President’s Players Present “Big Fish,”** FDR High School Auditorium, 156 South Cross Rd., Staatsburg. The FDR High School President’s Players invite you to join them for a humorous and heartfelt experience that is richer, funnier and bigger than life itself. Based on the 1988 Daniel Wallace novel, the musical

focuses on Edward Bloom, a charismatic traveling salesman who shares his extraordinary stories that thrill everyone around him. However, his son Will is determined to know the real man behind the myths. Performances: Fri., March 7 & Sat, March 8 at 7 p.m.; Sun., March 9, 2 p.m. Tickets \$10 adults, \$5 students & seniors; purchase at <https://fdrhs.booktix.com/>

**March 8: Elysium Furnace Works Solo Piano Festival Presents Kris Davis**, St. Andrew & St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 15 South Ave., Beacon. The extraordinary, prodigiously gifted pianist, educator, label owner and singular creative force returns to Beacon for a performance rich with her noted technical dexterity and phenomenal, nonpareil invention, 8 p.m. Advance tickets are on sale at <https://krisdavis.eventbrite.com>

**March 8: Local Musicians Showcase**, Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. An exciting evening of music from some of the most talented musicians in the local area, from rock to blues, country to folk, improvisation to new wave, 7-9:30 p.m. Admission \$20 or pay what you can at the door. More info: [copakegrange@gmail.com](mailto:copakegrange@gmail.com) or [www.copakegrange.org](http://www.copakegrange.org)

**March 8: Saturday Morning Family Series**, The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Castaway Show, 11 a.m. The audience will help our lost Nutty Scientist get food, water, and signal for rescue. Along the way, they’ll find rockets, make slime, shoot smoke rings, and see amazing electrical demonstrations with a Van De Graaff generator! Tickets \$10. (845) 876-3080 or [www.centerforperformingarts.org](http://www.centerforperformingarts.org)

**March 9: Dean Friedman, also Vance Gilbert**, The Colony, 22 Rock City Rd., Woodstock. Singer-songwriters among the finest of their generation. Tickets \$23.37-\$40.08, which include service fees. (845) 679-7625.

**March 9: Tangent Theater Presents Selected Shorts: Transformations/Embracing Change**, The Stissing Center, Pine Plains. Performed live and with seasoned actors, these short stories will illuminate the myriad of ways we change - through personal growth, unexpected encounters or magical moments, 3 p.m. Selected Shorts is produced by Symphony Space in New York City, conceived in 1985 to present great short stories performed by great actors. Now a hit public radio series and podcast, and touring series, the show is coming our way - featuring Lauren Ambrose, Teagle F. Bougere, Ophira Eisenberg and David Strathairn. Tickets \$25-\$35. [www.thestissingcenter.org](http://www.thestissingcenter.org)

# PV Library to host St. Patrick’s Day-themed cello program

The Pleasant Valley Library will present “All Things Irish: St. Patrick’s Day Classics on the Cello with Alex Prizgintas” on Saturday, March 15, at 2 p.m.

The unique sound of Alex Prizgintas’ electrified cello includes reels and jigs along with giges and traditional Irish tunes. It even features a hit from the Irish rock group U2, “With or Without You,” signatures from Bing Crosby such as “When Irish Eyes are Smiling,” and the beautiful hymn “Be Thou My Vision.”

Classically trained, Prizgintas employs non-classical tools like distortion, delay, and the iconic “wah-wah” guitar pedals symbolic of 1960s rock ‘n’ roll bands – all in conjunction with a looping station. Equally comfortable with intimate and stadium settings, Prizgintas is able to craft his own wall-of-sound through his 1,000 watt amp. Accompanied with a narration that reveal some of the back stories of baroque, jazz, folk, and rock ‘n’ roll classics, he immerses his audience in a journey through musical history.

Prizgintas holds degrees in history and public administration from Marist College, in addition to leading the Woodbury Historical Society and serving as town historian of Woodbury, Orange County, NY.

“I tend to have two audiences; those who know me as a cellist and those who know me through my lectures on topics



Alex Prizgintas will bring a St. Patrick’s Day-themed musical event to the Pleasant Valley Library on Saturday, March 15. *Courtesy photo*

of regional history,” he said. “My bifurcated interests certainly keep me busy developing new stories to share about our Hudson River Valley as well as expanding my concert programs that strive to keep audiences engaged, enlightened and hopefully entertained.”


To learn more and see video samples of his music and lectures, visit [alexprizgintas.com](http://alexprizgintas.com).



## Find us on Facebook: Southern Dutchess News Group

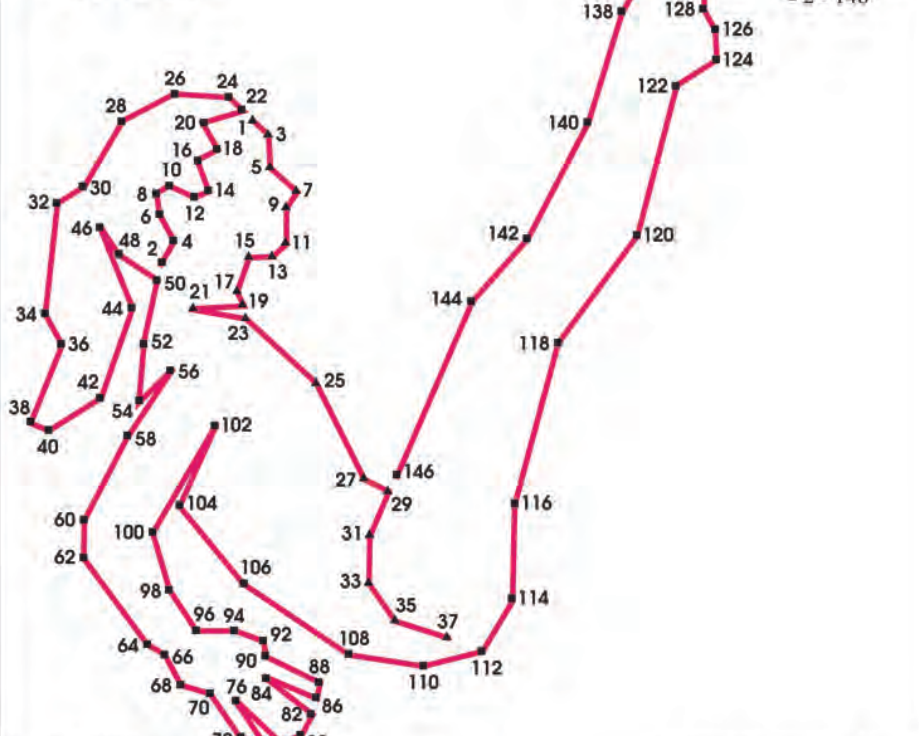


Answer to this week’s Dot to Dot (puzzle on page 10)



### Odd/Even

Connect Dots:  
odd numbers only  
▲ 1 - 37  
even numbers only  
■ 2 - 146



By David Kalvitis © 2004 Monkeying Around



# AT YOUR LIBRARY

## CLINTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

215 Centre Road, Rhinebeck  
(845) 495-0655

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

For more specific information about any library programs, or to register, please call (845) 495-0655 or email [larnold@clintoncommunitylibrary.org](mailto:larnold@clintoncommunitylibrary.org)

### BOOK CLUB MEETINGS

Book Group, Book Group (in person)  
March Selection: "The Guest Cat" by Takashi Hiraide

Thursday, March 6, 1:30 p.m.

Our book group has lifted off and we are now "Readers who are part of a Book Group Book Group." Our founding readers have selected meaningful and mostly short novels to discuss. From our recent selections of "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" followed by "James," we peruse intriguing and worthy books.

Tea Time Book Club (in person)  
"An Elderly Lady is Up to No Good" by Helene Tursten

Thursday, March 13, 2 p.m.

Join Tea Time Book Club the second Thursday of every month. Come talk about the monthly selection and enjoy tea and a snack with members of the club.

Global Literature Book Club (on Zoom)

"Pedro Páramo" by Juan Rulfo

Monday, March 17, 7 p.m.

The Global Literature Book Club focuses on exploring the world through literature. We discuss novels from around the globe, selected by members of the club. These works provide insights into a wide variety of nations, cultures, and styles of writing.

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Build-a-Buddy (in person)

Saturday, March 15, 10:30 a.m.

Spring is coming and hibernation is ending! Come help these fuzzy friends wake back up just in time for the new season. CCL is hosting a make your own stuffed animal program to welcome Spring. Animal choice is first-come, first-served. If you need to cancel your registration please call or email the library, we cannot hold kits. Supplies are very limited. Ages 5-11. ONE KIT PER CHILD. There will be no extra kits available.

Registration is required to participate.

Crafts & Coffee (in person)

Monday, March 10, 1:30 p.m.

Join us for a lovely afternoon of coffee, crafts (and conversation!) On the second Monday of the month at 1:30, Diane will guide you as you create a project covering a wide range of techniques, from card making to book crafts to stitchery and more.

Note: You must register for each individual who is attending and would like to participate. Materials are limited and there will not be extra!

Volunteer Interest Meeting for Garden Tour (in person)

Saturday, March 22, at 10:30 a.m.

The Friends of the Clinton Community Library are planning a new fundraiser this year: Clinton Country Gardens "Enchantment & Inspiration, 2025." We are thrilled to partner with our gracious community members to tour a variety of gardens on Saturday, June 28. We need YOUR help to make it a success!

During this informational meeting, we will tell you more about the garden tour and discuss areas where we need help, including Parking Attendants (help with the flow), Docents (no, you don't have to be a Master Gardener), Email Promotions and Advertising (contacting from our list) Flyer/Poster Distribution. Refreshments will be provided!

Lunch & Learn: Belle Da Costa Greene: Black Female Excellence Surmounting the Limits of Early 20th-Century America

Thursday, March 27, 12:30 p.m.

At just 26 years old, Belle da Costa Greene became librarian for one of the most powerful men in the world, J.P. Morgan ... while hiding her true identity. Guiding the creation of Morgan's renowned private collection of rare books and manuscripts, Greene spent the next 43 years negotiating purchases for the collection (now known as The Morgan Library) while competing against other collectors worldwide. Her position opened countless doors to befriend the elite of America and Europe and to attend the most exclusive parties and cultural events. Besides her extraordinary professional gifts and acumen, another key to Greene's success: she hid her African American heritage from Morgan and everyone else.

Presented by Pamela Malcom from the Staatsburgh State Historic Site

Lunch typically consists of a sandwich, chips, and a cookie. CCL cannot accommodate specific dietary requirements or allergies. If this

is a concern, you are welcome to bring your own bagged lunch.

Please call the library to register. Online registration opens March 13.

*Looking Ahead (April):*

Groove & Grow (in person)

Thursday, April 17, 10:15 a.m.

Join licensed music therapist Terry Watson for a morning of music, movement, dancing, puppets & instruments! This class fosters child development, and will be so much fun. Let's groove and grow! All babies, toddlers & caregivers are welcome (ages 0-4). Registration is required

Keeping Children Safe Workshop (in person)  
Thursday, April 17, 1-2 p.m.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Clinton Community Library, The Town of Clinton and The Town of Clinton Recreation Department are co-sponsoring this free one-hour workshop in support of our community.

In the "Keeping Children Safe Workshop" presented by the CPCA (The Center for Prevention of Child Abuse Prevention) you will learn:

- The types of child abuse and neglect
- To recognize the warning signs of child abuse and neglect
- How to respond when a child discloses to you, or if you notice warning signs.

This CPCA workshop is open to all community members including parents, caregivers & community organizations. Registration required

### EVENTS THIS WEEK IN THE POUGHKEEPSIE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

Adriance Memorial Library is at 93 Market St., Poughkeepsie

Boardman Road Branch Library is at 140 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie

Visit [www.poklib.org](http://www.poklib.org) to register and for more information.

Raj Yoga Book Club

Thursday, March 6, 10-11:30 a.m.

Adriance Memorial Library

Registration required

Mary Anning: History's Greatest Fossilist

Thursday, March 6, 7-8 p.m.

Virtual

Registration required

Series: Day of the Dead in Mexico

Saturday, March 8, 2:30-4 p.m.

Adriance Memorial Library

Registration required

Coffee Roasting 101 with Willie Needham

Tuesday, March 11, 6-7:30 p.m.

Adriance Memorial Library

Registration required

Garden Enthusiasts Meet Up

Tuesday, March 11, 6-8 p.m.

Boardman Road Branch Library

No registration required

### RED HOOK PUBLIC LIBRARY

7444 South Broadway, Red Hook

(845) 758-3241

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

### 2025 Ascienzo Naturalist-in-Residence Program Schedule:

Monday, March 31, 6 PM – Red Hook Library

Monday, April 14, 6 PM – Poets' Walk

Saturday, April 19, 2 PM – Ozone at Greig Farm

Monday, April 28, 6 PM – Clermont State Historic Site

Saturday, May 3, 2 PM – Montgomery Place, Bard College

Monday, May 12, 6 PM – Cookingham Trail

Friday, May 16, 5 PM – Final Exhibit, Red Hook Library

I hope you'll join me in discovering the stories, beauty, and quiet transformations that unfold in the landscapes around us. I look forward to walking and reflecting together!

-Jana Mader

### FEATURED EVENTS

See our calendar or call us for more information on programs including dates, times, and registration.

### NEW PROGRAMS FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

Wiggles & Words

Mondays at 11:15 a.m.

Homeschool Happening: Drawing Gym

Friday, March 7 at 10:30 a.m.

Event is Currently Full. Register to join the waitlist.

Spring Concert Ukulele Orchestra Rehearsal  
Wednesday, March 12 & Wednesday March 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Homeschool Happening: Creative Writing

Friday, March 21 at 10:30 a.m.

Registration Required

Spring Concert

Friday, March 21 at 4 p.m.

Art Explorers: Create, Discover, Imagine!

Thursdays at 4 p.m. starting April 3

Registration Required

Monday & Friday Tunes and Tales, Tuesday Lego Club, and Wednesday Storytime continue throughout the month.

### NEW PROGRAMS FOR TEENS & ADULTS

Thrifting 101 with Shoppe Girl's Sarah Jayne  
Wednesday, March 5 at 5:30 p.m.

Red Hook Reads - The Anxious Generation, Part 2, Thursday, March 6 at 6 p.m.

Meet at Tivoli Free Library

Registration Required

Stitch it Out

Saturday, March 8 and Saturday, March 22

Adult Craft Night: Papier-mâché Part 1

Monday, March 10 at 5:30 p.m.

Registration Required

Spring Concert Ukulele Orchestra Rehearsal  
Wednesday, March 12 & Wednesday March 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Evening Book Club - The Bee Sting

Monday, March 17 at 6 p.m.

Adult Craft Night: Papier-mâché Part 2

Monday, March 24 at 5:30 p.m.

Registration Required

Spring Concert

Friday, March 21 at 4 p.m.

Red Hook Reads - The Anxious Generation, Part 3, Thursday, March 27 at 6 p.m.

Meet at Tivoli Free Library

Registration Required

Afternoon Mystery Book Club: Return to Wyldcliffe Heights

Friday, March 28 at 2 p.m.

2025 Ascienzo Naturalist-in-Residence Launch, Monday, March 31 at 6 p.m.

Chair Yoga, Knitting Group, ESL, All Abilities Teens & All Abilities Adults continue throughout the month.

### STARR LIBRARY

68 West Market St., Rhinebeck

(845) 876-4030

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

"An Atlas of Everything: Maps, Unseen Worlds, and Writing with Samantha Hunt"

Thursday, March 13, 6:30-8:30pm

Guggenheim Fellow, winner of the Bard Fiction Prize, and a National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 honoree, Samantha Hunt joins us mid-month for a generative lecture. A map is a container, an atlas even more so, as it includes thousands of routes that interlace and cross. When we write in a cartographic model, we dissolve borders and boundaries. Personhood realizes its plurality. This talk will contain gorgeous maps, writing prompts and a Q & A session to help us consider the cartographic in our writing. Registration required.

Landscape & Memory: A Poetry Writing Workshop with William Allen  
Sunday, March 23, 1-3pm

Winner of a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship and author of five books of poetry, William Allen will lead us in exploring ideas about landscape and poetry, using your own experience as a source for writing down memories, observations, thoughts and feelings. No experience necessary. Poets and writers at all levels are welcome. Registration required.

The Artist's Guide to Sketching with James Gurney, Wednesday, March 26, 6-7pm

We're celebrating the reissue of a bold new edition of "The Artist's Guide to Sketching," the groundbreaking book by two of America's most prominent visual artists, James Gurney ("Dinotopia," "Color and Light") and Thomas Kinkade, freshly updated with a new introduction, archival photographs, and illuminating text to guide a new generation of illustrators. Registration required. An exhibition of selected works is on view in the library through March 30.

The New Historia with Gina Luria Walker, Lisa Metcalfe, and Dr. Tracyann Williams

Wednesday, March 12, 6:30-8pm

Led by Gina Luria Walker, intellectual historian and Professor of Women's Studies at The New

School, and The New Historia's Chair, Lisa Metcalfe, the aim of these new monthly salons is to share knowledge about women throughout history whose stories have been erased or marginalized outside of a traditional academic setting.

This month, we'll be joined by Dr. Tracyann Williams, Assistant Dean for Student Support and Success at Fordham College at Lincoln Center and life member of the Toni Morrison Society to discuss the Nobel Prize-winning author's life and work. Registration required.

Friends Of Rhinebeck Cemetery Present "Grieving Our Pets"

Wednesday, March 19, 7-8:30pm

Losing a beloved pet can be devastating. Come and hear our panel of experts discuss how to cope with our pets aging and dying, from hospice care options to in-home euthanasia, cremation and burial options, and support services available to the bereaved.

Panelists will include: Dr. Danielle St. Pierre, Sunny Paws Veterinary; Edward Martin, Hartsdale Pet Cemetery; Susan Bandy, Sienna Sky Pet Crematory; Rachel Bassett, Certified Pet Loss Grief Specialist. Registration required

The Laughing Stocks: Investment & Finance Discussion Group, Thursdays, 5-6:30pm

This is a new group for anyone interested in learning more or sharing wisdom about investing that will meet weekly in the upstairs children's wing. Everyone has something to contribute and can suggest some areas they want to explore. We are not experts, nor teachers, but will freely share our experiences. We will start with a questionnaire and choose a topic for each week going forward based on group consensus. Visit the website for the full month view of our event calendar.

Locating Invisible Women: ?Mary Regina Miller, Tuesday, March 25, 3-4pm

Mary Regina Miller founded the Starr Institute in 1862, and while her husband Hon. William Starr Miller's portrait hangs prominently in the library, her image is nowhere to be found--but not for long!

This Women's History Month, we're telling her story using archival materials from the Rhinebeck Historical Society's collections, and bringing her to life by colorizing her portrait with markers, crayons, collage materials, and more. The completed portraits will be part of a mini-exhibition in the kids' wing. This hands-on, kinesthetic learning-based program promises to be both educational and fun. Registration required.

Mysteries Around the World Book Club

"The Devotion of Suspect X"

by Keigo Higashino

Tuesday, March 11, 4pm

Yasuko Hanaoka is a divorced, single mother who thought she had finally escaped her abusive ex-husband Togashi. When he shows up one day to extort money from her, threatening both her and her teenaged daughter Misato, the situation quickly escalates into violence and Togashi ends up dead on her apartment floor. Overhearing the commotion, Yasuko's next door neighbor, middle-aged high school mathematics teacher Ishigami, offers his help, disposing not only of the body but plotting the cover-up step-by-step.

Starr Book Club

"Remarkably Bright Creatures"

by Shelby Van Pelt

Tuesday, March 25, 7pm

After Tova Sullivan's husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her 18-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over 30 years ago. Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine but wouldn't dream of lifting one of his eight arms for his human captors--until he forms a remarkable friendship with Tova.

Other events:

Mondays, March 10 & 17, 12:30-1:15pm - Pilates Workshop Series with Marie Russo from Rhinebeck Pilates Studio

Wednesdays, March 5 & 19, 7-9pm - Nerds at Nite

Friday, March 7, 5-7pm - Opening Reception: Signs, Symbols, and Seaweed: Prints and Paintings by Christine Livesey

Friday, March 14, 1:15-2:15 pm - All Abilities Story and Craft Program with the Anderson Center

Monday, March 17, 2-3pm - Thriving in Your Second Life

Tuesday, March 18, 6:30-8pm - Memoir Writing Workshop with Michelle Montalbano - FULL!

Monday, March 24, 4-5pm - Navigating Medicare

See the website for ongoing events.



**Legal Notices**

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF 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

**Legal Notices**

situate, lying and being in the Town of 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, MILLBROOK, 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\*}

**Legal Notices**

PUBLIC NOTICE CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION OF ASSESSMENT INVENTORY AND VALUATION DATA (Pursuant to Section 501 of the Real Property Tax Law) Notice is hereby given that Assessment Inventory and Valuation Data is available for Examination and Review. This information which will be used to establish the assessments on the Tentative Assessment Roll of The Town of Pleasant Valley which will be filed on or before May 1st, 2025. To set up an appointment to review this information, please call the assessor at 845-635-8159; Monday thru Friday between the hours of 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. Dated: March 1, 2025

**Legal Notices**

Garth J. Slocum, Assessor  
**NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF DUTCHESS**  
-----X  
M-M2REHOLDINGS 13, LLC, Plaintiff,  
-against-  
Index No: 53854/2018  
BARBARA GIOR-DANO - LEON-AGGEO a/k/a/ BARBARA GIOR DANO, ROGER LEON-AGGEO, a/k/a ROGER F. LEONAGGEO a/k/a ROBERT LEON-AGGEO, ASSET ACCEPTANCE, LLC, CATANIA, MAHON, MILLIGRAM & RIDER, PLLC, PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC,

**Legal Notices**

and RAZOR CAPITAL II, LLC A/P/O CREDIT ONE BANK, N.A., Defendants.  
-----X  
In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated January 28, 2025, duly granted by the Court and entered in the Dutchess County Clerk's Office on January 31, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee, duly appointed in this action for such purpose, will offer for sale and sell at public auction to the highest bidder, at the Dutchess County Courthouse, 1st Floor, rear vestibule, 10 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 on the **7th day of April, 2025 at 2:30 in the afternoon** of that day, the mortgaged premises directed in and by said judgment to be sold and in said Judgment

**Legal Notices**

of Foreclosure and Sale, described as follows: ALL that certain plot, piece, or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Stanford, County of Dutchess and State of New York, at 151 Homan Road, bearing tax grid number, Section 135200, Block 6669-00 and Lot 573194-0000, and more particularly described in the "Schedule A" attached to the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, on file in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Dutchess. Anthony J. Centone, Esq., Referee Anthony J. Centone, P.C. 1950 E. Main Street, Suite 205 Mohegan Lake, NY 10547-1288 (914) 528-4529 Location of Property to be foreclosed: Town of Stanford, County of

**Legal Notices**

Dutchess, State of New York, as more fully described above. DATED: February 20, 2025  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE**  
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-13-25 Bus Shelter Advertising Services for Dutchess County Public Transit 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 27, 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.

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.

# Northern Dutchess Hospital appoints new physician leader

Dr. Hary Suseelan is the new vice president of medical affairs at Northern Dutchess Hospital. He is the former vice chair of medicine and president of the medical staff of Vassar Brothers Medical Center (VBMC). Dr. Suseelan succeeds Dr. Andy Wilson, who was recently appointed as the new president of Northern Dutchess Hospital.

Dr. Suseelan brings extensive leadership experience to his new role. Since joining VBMC in 2014 as a pulmonary and critical care physician, he served in key leadership roles, including medical director of Respiratory Services and pulmonary subspecialty education coordinator for the VBMC Internal Medicine Residency Program. Additionally, he served as chair of the Credentialing

Committee and co-chair of Quality Performance Improvement Committee (QPIC), helping to ensure the highest levels of safety in the hospital and enhance patient care standards.

"Throughout his career at VBMC, Dr. Suseelan has distinguished himself as a strong advocate for quality and safety, an effective communicator and an exceptional leader," Dr. Wilson said. "It's always great to see fellow staff grow into expanded leadership roles within our health system. Given Dr. Suseelan's proven track record with NuVance Health, I have no doubt he will make a meaningful impact and continue to shine at Northern Dutchess Hospital."

As vice president of medical affairs, Dr. Suseelan will lead medical services,

improve hospital operations and ensure patients receive high-quality care at Northern Dutchess Hospital. He will collaborate with physicians, nurses and staff to help enhance patient treatment, support medical education and find new ways to improve hospital performance. His leadership will help Northern Dutchess Hospital remain a trusted leader in high-quality, patient-focused care in the Hudson Valley.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be joining the Northern Dutchess Hospital community and family," Dr. Suseelan said. "I look forward to actively collaborating with and supporting the physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses and staff, and I hope to continue to build on the already phenomenal reputation and

culture of Northern Dutchess Hospital."

Dr. Suseelan graduated from PSG Institute of Medical Science & Research in Tamil Nadu, India. He completed his graduate training and residency in Internal Medicine at New York Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn, followed by a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care. He is a diplomat of the Internal Medicine, Pulmonary and Critical Care Board, and adjunct clinical assistant professor of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Learn more about Northern Dutchess Hospital: <https://www.nuvancehealth.org/locations/northern-dutchess-hospital>.

# OBITUARIES

**Janet Curry**

Janet P. Curry, 85, a lifelong area resident, died on February 20, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center.

Born in White Plains on November 13, 1939, she was the daughter of the late Paul and Ella Williams. She was also predeceased by her brother, Ernest Williams, and her sister, Elizabeth Sinsabaugh.

Janet was the mother of four daughters, Regina Place and her partner John Marallo, Renee D'Esposito and her husband Damian, Melissa White and her husband William, and Michelle Curry and her partner James Gilli. She is also survived by 9 granddaughters, 1 grandson, 6 great-grandsons and 3 great-granddaughters; her sister-in-law, Lydia Williams; her brother-in-law, William Sinsabaugh; 3 nieces, 1 nephew, many great-nieces and nephews, many great, great-nieces and nephews; and many friends.

Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., Hopewell Junction, with a Funeral Service at the funeral home followed by interment in Clove Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the Beekman Baptist Church or the Beekman Fire Company.

**Dermot G. O'Connor**

Dermot G. O'Connor, 68, passed away on February 17, 2025, in Los Angeles, California, after a brief illness.

Born on April 5, 1956, in White Plains, New York, Dermot was the son of the late

Dermot T. and Burlyn (Hester) O'Connor. A resident of Dover Plains, he embraced life with a free spirit and an appreciation for the simple joys that surrounded him.

He is survived by his loving daughters, Allison O'Connor and Morgan O'Connor, both of Los Angeles, California; his son-in-law, Christopher Prenza; and his cherished grandchildren, Ayden and Travis Prenza and John Toribio. He is also survived by his sister, Mary Doreen O'Connor of Dover Plains. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his siblings Michael O'Connor, Timothy O'Connor, and Patricia Mackay.

As the youngest of five siblings, Dermot valued family deeply. He found solace in nature and could often be seen swinging in a hammock while listening to music. His love for the outdoors reflected his peaceful soul and appreciation for life's quiet moments.

**Alice Anne Simpson**

Alice Anne Simpson, 87, of Hyde Park, formerly of Yonkers died on Saturday, February 22, 2025, at Northern Dutchess Hospital in Rhinebeck, NY.

Born July 13, 1937 in Yonkers, she was the daughter of the late Carl Tokarski and Sophia Zajac Tokarski.

After graduating high school she went on to work for Nynex as a bookkeeper and a secretary for many years before retirement.

Alice was a member of the Hyde Park AARP Chapter #4561 serving as the treasurer since 1996.

On April 14th, 1956, she married the late Walter F. Simpson. Mr. Simpson predeceased her in 1984.

In her younger years she enjoyed going out and traveling whenever she could.

A beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she always enjoyed having her family around her, especially during the holidays. She enjoyed going out to the movies, shopping, and eating with her friends, and especially liked to enjoy a nice meal out at a restaurant whether it was with family or friends.

She is survived by her four sons, Walter Simpson and wife Judith, David Simpson and wife Nancy, Michael Simpson and wife Lisa, and Sean Simpson and wife Kimberly.

She is also survived by her five grandchildren, Andrew, Nicole, Francesca, Gabriella, and Adriana, two great-grandchildren Kylie and Luciano.

Along with her parents she was predeceased by her son Robert George Simpson (1994), and her eight siblings.

In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place.

A Funeral Mass took place at Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel of St. Peters Parish, Poughkeepsie, NY. Burial followed at St. Mary's Cemetery, Yonkers, NY.

Arrangements are under the direction of Sweet's Funeral Home, Inc., Hyde Park.

To send an online condolence, please visit [www.sweetsfuneralhome.com](http://www.sweetsfuneralhome.com)

**Lorelei Hahn-Woodriff**

Lorelei Hahn-Woodriff born on December 3, 1963. Passed away unexpectedly on December 30, 2024 at home in Salt Point New York. She was 61.

After attending Roosevelt High School class of 1981 Lorelei went on to travel and spent time in Steamboat Springs Colorado where she attended the police academy finishing first in her class and becoming a sheriff. She also spent time in Fairbanks Alaska before moving back to New York living in Gardiner and then returning to her home town Salt Point.

As a child she was raised on Hahn Farms where she developed her love of animals which led to starting and running a bird sanctuary while living in Alaska. Lorelei enjoyed skiing, snowmobiling and spending time out at dinner with her friends.

She is survived by her father Thomas Hahn junior of Salt Point and boyfriend Terence Hackett of Millerton.

She is predeceased by her mother Karen Looper and brother Thomas Hahn III.

To honor Lorelei's wishes cremation has taken place, no funeral or memorial services will be held.

"If a cardinal should appear, a loved one came to bring you cheer, a memory; a smile a tear, a visitor from heaven is near"

In memory of Lorelei donations may be made to Dutchess County SPCA or to a bird sanctuary of your choosing.



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145 Adult Care  
150 Announcements  
151 Adoption  
152 Novenas  
154 Lost & Found  
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201 Home Improvement  
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2	3	2	1	5	3
1	4	5	3	2	1
5	3	2	1	5	4

T	E	N	T	V	A	T	Z	O	L	A		
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A	S	E	A	N	L	A	V	D	O	L	B	Y
M	E	W	L	L	Y	E	E	N	S	U	E	

## SUDOKU

This week's answer

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

Answers to this week's diversions  
 (puzzles on page 12)



# GOLDEN LIVING

## Beat scammers – by thinking like scammers

Let's try a thought experiment: What if you were a scammer? What if scamming was your job, complete with a boss threatening you to keep the money coming in, or else?

"Know thine enemy" has been essential all-purpose advice for over 2,000 years, so let's peek at the inner workings of so many scam operations.

### Who's making that annoying call?

They could easily be a victim of human trafficking. Victims are targeted based on skills that can be exploited by scammers, like knowledge of English. The victims respond to fraudulent job ads, and are kidnapped when they arrive at what they thought was their new job. The scam bosses typically set up shop in areas where they've bribed the local authorities to keep quiet.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights estimates there are over 100,000 people who were trafficked to locked compounds, just in one city: Sihanoukville, Cambodia. There and in compounds around the world, hundreds of thousands more trafficking victims and their families are threatened with violence unless they conduct romance-baiting, phone, and other scams. A terrible situation, to be sure, but beyond OFA's power to solve.

Still, this is your money they're trying to steal, and we're going to help you stop them as best we can.

### Which scammers are most successful?

When OFA gives presentations on scam prevention, this question tends to stump audiences. That's to be expected, since they're not criminals. The answer isn't "phone scams" or any specific type of scam, but any scam that goes undetected and thus can be successfully repeated.

Scammers who target Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurers don't try for one big score, but rather file vast numbers of false claims that look just like everybody else's legitimate claims: \$40 for routine blood work, \$200 for an X-ray, and so on. One woman in Florida stole over \$100 million from Medicare between 2004 and 2008, using nothing more than her own laptop. Federal authorities say the vulnerabilities that allowed that fraud have been addressed, but scammers are always looking for new ways in.

A local example: At a recent OFA scam prevention presentation, one Pawling resident mentioned having had over \$15,000 in fraudulent Medicare claims for catheters filed under their name. Their doctor had never placed the orders, and the resident notified Medicare of the fraudulent claims. The fake claims appear to be part of a nationwide pattern of fraudulent orders dating back to late 2022. Before that date, annual Medicare catheter claims stayed level at about 50,000 a year - and then skyrocketed to 450,000 by 2023. The total losses from Medicare catheter fraud alone stood at \$3 billion and counting as of 2024.

This is the classic tactic of "successful" health insurance scammers. They file massive numbers of fake claims until insurers notice the unusual claims pattern. Scammers pull up stakes before investigators can close in, and start a new pattern of fake claims in a new location, staying a step ahead of the law. If you've read this far and concluded that a scammer's job wouldn't be for you, congratulations.

### How do these scams get started?

Investigators who spoke with those who reported fraudulent claims say that some reported having received phone calls asking for their Medicare ID number. Please remind yourself and your friends: Medicare DOES NOT EVER cold-call people for any reason, especially not to "verify" an ID. Other Medicare IDs were likely obtained through data breaches at health care providers.

When you receive a Medicare Summary Notice or explanation-of-benefits statement in the mail, don't just toss it because it says "This is not a bill" at the top. Read all your Medicare and insurance statements carefully, looking for anything that looks strange, especially claims from facilities you've never been to, procedures you've never had, or equipment you've never ordered. If you suspect Medicare fraud, call 800-633-4227 or use the fraud reporting tool at [medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov). For suspected fraud involving Medicare Advantage or a Medicare drug plan, call 877-772-3379. A list of common scam prevention resources is at [dutchessny.gov/scam-prevention](https://www.dutchessny.gov/scam-prevention).

### We need your help spreading the word

Our socially-isolated friends and neighbors

can easily miss out on ways to protect themselves. You can reach out to help them in many ways, including the OFA "Friendly Calls" program. We're always looking for volunteers to call socially-isolated Dutchess County older adults, once a week for eight weeks. It's the kind of volunteering that fits into just about everybody's schedule. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old. Email "Friendly Calls" coordinator Linda Edgar at [ledgar@dutchessny.gov](mailto:ledgar@dutchessny.gov), or call 845-486-2555 to get started.

### 'PANCAKES IN THE PARK' RETURNS

(Registration opens Thu 3/6)

The approach of spring means it time for the FREE annual OFA "Pancakes in the Park" events for Dutchess County older adults (60+), co-hosted by Dutchess County Parks.

Registration opens on Thursday, March 6th.

This year, we're hosting two "Pancakes events" with a tasty pancake breakfast, plus games. Both events take place at 10:30 am. Pick one or the other:

- At the auditorium within the administration building at Bowdoin Park (85 Sheafe Rd., Wappingers Falls), on Thursday, March 27th.
- At the Pavilion at Brookmeade, 34 Brookmeade Dr. in Rhinebeck, on Wednesday, April 2nd.

Seating is limited and advance registration with OFA is required. Call us at 845-486-2555 during business hours to register. We cannot accept reservations left on voice mail or by email.

Guests must be Dutchess County residents age 60+.

Each participant gets a pancake breakfast accompanied by a splash of maple syrup tapped from Dutchess County maple trees. A limited amount of syrup will be available for purchase.

### TRI-TOWN (PLEASANT VALLEY) & POUGHKEEPSIE OFA FRIENDSHIP CENTERS NEED VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

The OFA Friendship Centers at Tri-Town (1576 Main St. (US 44), Pleasant Valley, at the First Presbyterian Church) and Poughkeepsie (114 Delafield St., at OFA headquarters) both need volunteer drivers for our Home Delivered Meals Program (HDM) clients in Dutchess County.

Typical HDM driving hours are 9:30am-12:30pm weekdays. Mileage can be reimbursed

for drivers who use their own vehicles for deliveries. For more information and a printable volunteering form, see [dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer](https://www.dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer). For an online signup form, visit [survey-monkey.com/r/WLQKB3Q](https://survey-monkey.com/r/WLQKB3Q).

### 'FRIENDLY CALLS' UPCOMING VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

With OFA's "Friendly Calls" program, you can choose to make phone calls to older adults at risk of social isolation, or you can choose to receive calls - or you can do both. For those of you who haven't volunteered before and are exploring your possibilities, "Friendly Calls" can be ideal. A typical "Friendly Calls" series takes place once a week, for 20-30 minutes a call, for eight weeks. "Friendly Calls" volunteers must be at least 18 years of age. Those who wish to receive calls must be Dutchess County residents at least 60 years of age.

Upcoming "Friendly Calls" orientations at OFA headquarters at 114 Delafield St. in Poughkeepsie are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, March 11th, 10:00 am  
Monday, March 17th, 2:30 pm  
Tuesday, March 25th, 10:00 am

To schedule your orientation – they last about an hour – here at our Poughkeepsie office, call 845-486-2555 during business hours, or email [ledgar@dutchessny.gov](mailto:ledgar@dutchessny.gov).

### WE'RE BUSY WEEKENDS IN MARCH (AND APRIL)

Look for OFA on the road at the following Dutchess County events. Details and signup information available at each link below:

Saturday, March 22nd, 11 am – Scam Prevention Presentation at Dover Plains Library, 1797 NY 22, Wingdale – register online at this link

Saturday, March 29th, 2-4 pm – Hudson Valley Hospice "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans" event, for veterans in both Dutchess and Ulster Counties – at the Henry A. Wallace Center, Hyde Park. Details here.

Saturday, April 12th, 11 am – 2 pm – OFA at YOUR County Health Fair, Falcon Hall, Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie (50 Mascot Dr.).

To arrange an OFA presentation for your civic organization in Dutchess County, email [bjones@dutchessny.gov](mailto:bjones@dutchessny.gov) or call 845-486-2555.

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- **Early Direct Deposit** – Get paid faster!
- **Zelle®** – Send and receive money quickly and securely—right from your banking app.
- **Mobile Check Deposit** – Deposit checks in a snap!
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