

Serino emphasizes 'Lives We Touch' at State of County



Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino (pictured, above) delivered the 2025 State of the County Address before hundreds of residents, business and nonprofit leaders, and elected officials at John Jay High School in East Fishkill, reinforcing her commitment to ensuring County government makes a real difference in the lives of residents.

Under the theme "The Lives We Touch," Serino reflected on the past year's achievements and announced multiple new initiatives aimed at improving the daily lives of seniors, veterans, children, first responders, farmers, business owners and families across Dutchess County.

"Everything we do in County government comes down to the people – the lives we touch through every decision, every dollar invested and every initiative launched," said Serino. "Whether we are helping seniors stay connected, ensuring families have access to childcare, or strengthening emergency response, our work is about real people. None of this would be possible without the dedicated County employees who work tirelessly to serve our residents and make Dutchess County a place where people feel supported and empowered."

continued on page 2

Business, community service leader Fred Battenfeld wins 'Good Egg' honor

By Curtis Schmidt

He exemplifies hard work, family values and understands the importance of volunteerism in the community. On March 20, his family, friends and community members will show their appreciation by honoring Fred Battenfeld with the prestigious "Good Egg Award" from the Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce.

The event will take place at the Pavilion at Brookmeade. It will begin with a cocktail hour at 5:30 p.m. followed by a celebratory dinner.

Alongside his wife, Suzanne, of more than 50 years, and their children Lance and Morgan - Fred has built a life rooted in service, family and the land. As the owner of Battenfeld Farms, a cherished family-run business, he has preserved and championed our region's agricultural heritage, ensuring that Rhinebeck and Red Hook remain places where traditions thrive and future generations can continue to cultivate a deep connection to the land.

However, Fred's leadership extends far beyond the farm. Through his work on multiple boards and unwavering support of local organizations, Fred has been a guiding force in shaping the strength and resilience of local communities.

Rhinebeck Chamber President Luciano Valdivia commented, "It's



Fred Battenfeld, left, is pictured with his daughter Morgan and son Lance in one of the greenhouses at Battenfeld Farms. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

impossible to think about Rhinebeck and its business community without thinking of the innumerable contributions of Fred Battenfeld and Battenfeld's Farms. He is a crucial part of what makes this town of ours so special. I'm so happy we are able to honor him this year."

Lenny Miller, winner of the first "Good Egg Award" and one of Fred's

longtime friends, said, "I'm so pleased to hear that Fred is this year's recipient of 'The Good Egg Award.' Fred has given so much to the local community and is truly deserving of this recognition - he really is a good egg. I know that when I won the award it felt special because it came from my friends and neighbors. I'm sure Fred

continued on page 3

Smiling at 100: Elisabeth Krauss recalls thrills, enjoying every minute

By Curtis Schmidt



Elisabeth Krauss (Woodward) has an infectious smile. She loves life, spending time with family and friends, traveling, reading, listening to classical music – and oh yes – shopping.

She's been doing that and much more for just over 100 years. Elisabeth was the honoree at her 100th birthday party at the Terraces at the Brookmeade Community in Rhinebeck on Friday, March 7.

Cherishing the event, she asked everyone to wait a few minutes so she could apply red lipstick before making

her grand entry.

Elisabeth was born to Catherine and Walter Woodward in Richmond, Indiana. She attended Earlham College where her father was a political science and history professor. He was also editor of a Quaker periodical entitled "The American Friend." She was an English major and worked as a media professional.

She met the love of her life, Mitchell Krauss, at radio station WFLN in Philadelphia and they were married on July 4, 1957. Mitchell's career of 45-plus years as a news correspondent and

continued on page 2

Elisabeth Krauss is all smiles at her 100th birthday party on March 7 at the Terraces at the Brookmeade Community in Rhinebeck. In back are her daughter Jennifer, son David and his wife Becky. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

INDEX

Letters	4
Community Calendar	6
Creative Living	10-16
Get Growing!	12
Love to Cook	13
Suguru	16
Crossword Puzzle	16
Sudoku	16
Obituaries	21
Public Notices	21
Classifieds	22-23

• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

4-H Supporters	p 9	Impact PR	p 3	VFW Read Hook	p 2
Bank of Millbrook	p 5	Pleasant Valley Department Store	p 14	WKZE 98.1	p 4
Conway's Lawn & Power Equipment	p 12	Roosevelt Cinemas	p 8	INSIDE:	
Facial Plastic Surgery	p 7	T&C Hospitality	p 10	Adams Fairacre Farms	
Historic Village Diner	p 6	Ulster Savings Bank	p 24		



The 'Millbrook Commune' of 1960s is topic of Millbrook Historical Society program

On Thursday March 20, the Millbrook Historical Society will present "The Communication of Experience is Art: The Millbrook Commune and Psychedelic Multimedia Art," at 7 p.m. at the Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook.

State Historian Devin R. Lander will present on the Millbrook Commune's involvement in the emerging psychedelic multimedia art scene of the 1960s. The presentation will include not only discussion of the artwork produced by Timothy Leary's Millbrook group, but also the philosophical underpinnings of the group's quest to communicate the psychedelic experience through artistic means.

Visit <http://millbrookhistoricalsociety.org/> to learn about membership and more information.



This painting of "Turned-on man" was painted on the Millbrook mansion where Timothy Leary and his followers lived in the 1960s. PL Gould/Getty Images

Smiling at 100: Elisabeth Krauss recalls thrills, enjoying every minute

continued from cover



Elisabeth Krauss smiles to family and friends as she views the cake and birthday card at her 100th birthday party on March 7. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

executive took the couple to New York, Egypt and other worldwide locations.

Mitchell, who passed in 2022, worked with the likes of Walker Cronkite, Dan Rather, Daniel Schorr, Charles Collingwood and others. Elisabeth was right there beside him through it all and said "Those were exciting times."

In an interview with the Northern Dutchess News in 2018, Elisabeth said, "We had a lot of common interests and with all of the news, there was always a lot to talk about. It was all about love and respect. I have always found him to be very caring and a lot of fun to be around. And I just love that great radio voice."

Retirement brought the opportunity to travel for Elisabeth and Mitchell. Their

adventures included several trips to France and other European countries and driving journeys across the U.S. several times with many impromptu stops along the way.

Some of Elisabeth's favorite locales included Gloucester, Mass., Sedona, Ariz., Monument Valley National Park in Utah and Albuquerque, NM. She loved to shop for native American Indian and antique jewelry.

She has a passion for classical music and romantic movies, with one of her favorites being "Sweethearts" with Nelson Eddy and Jeanette MacDonald.

She and Mitchell were married for 63 years and Elisabeth said, "We didn't miss anything!"



David Jon Greenwood

A memorial service has been scheduled for David Jon Greenwood at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 22, in the chapel of Millbrook School, followed by a reception. A 40-year resident of Millbrook, Greenwood had been the historian for the Village of Millbrook and Town of Washington. He passed away in January.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE IS LIVE

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

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

Serino emphasizes 'Lives We Touch' at State of County

continued from cover

The County Executive's Address focused on accomplishment and new initiatives in many areas including:

- Supporting Seniors
- Strengthening Emergency Medical Services and Public Safety
- Honoring and Connecting Veterans
- Investing in Agriculture
- Expanding Mental Health Services
- Empowering Youth
- Expanding Child Care Access
- Investing in Economic Development
- Expanding Housing Opportunities

The 2025 State of the County Address event opening program also highlighted County Executive Serino's emphasis on Dutchess County's young people, as well as the various educational opportunities available to them.

Dr. Dwight D. Bonk, the Wappinger Central School District Superintendent of Schools, welcomed those in attendance. John Jay High School senior Ava Dvorak sang the National Anthem; members of the Roy C. Ketcham High School Step Team shared their dance art with a performance, entitled "Formation;" and junior Sophia Puglia, a member Future Business Leaders of America, the

Renaissance Club and student government at John Jay, introduced County Executive Serino. A longtime champion of Dutchess County's older adults, County Executive Serino invited the Evergreen Chapter of Sweet Adeline's International, which performed "God Bless the U.S.A. (Proud to be an American)". The event also brought together those who protect and counsel the community: County Sheriff Kirk Imperati led guests in the Pledge of Allegiance; and Rev. Dr. Edward L. Hunt, Pastor of the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Wappingers Falls, offered the invocation.

"County government is at its best when it's working for the people," concluded Serino. "From expanding mental health services to creating more childcare opportunities, our focus is always on the people we serve. The progress we've made is just the beginning, and I know we will accomplish even more in the year ahead."

The video and full text of the State of the County Address will be available on the Dutchess County's website at dutchessny.gov.

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See story,
page 8



Business, community service leader Fred Battenfeld wins 'Good Egg' honor

continued from cover



Fred Battenfeld has built a life rooted in service, family and the land. As the owner of Battenfeld Farms, a cherished family-run business, he has preserved and championed our region's agricultural heritage. As a member of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society, he has given countless volunteer hours to the community. *Courtesy photo*

will feel that way too."

Much of Fred's volunteering efforts have been with the Dutchess County Agricultural Society, which operates the Dutchess County Fair.

"Fred became a member of the DC Agricultural Society in 1992. He has served as a Director of the Ag Society since 2000 and was Chairman of the Board in 2013-2014. Throughout his tenure as a Director of the Ag Society, Fred has served on many committees. He currently serves as Chairman of the Entertainment Committee and has for the past four years. Being chairperson of the entertainment committee is a full-time job. In addition to running the family business and being involved in the community, I don't know how he finds the time, but he does," stated Andy Imperati, President/CEO of the DC Agricultural Society. "The entertainment industry is getting harder and harder to maneuver because there are so many facets to deal with. Just when we think we've got our lineup complete, something comes up and we are back to square one. With Fred and the members of the committee, we get the job done."

Thomas Angell, a member of the Board of Directors of Agricultural Society, commented, "Fred Battenfeld is a pillar in the Dutchess County agricultural community. He has grown his family's horticultural business into an extremely profitable enterprise - not only maintaining a multi-generational nursery and greenhouse operation, but also creat-

ing meaningful family memories through the flowers he grows and the cut-your-own Christmas tree opportunity. He has also been extremely generous with his time serving on the Board of the Agricultural Society, as well as chairing for many years its Entertainment Committee. Northern Dutchess has benefited tremendously from the dedication, hard work and steady hand of Fred Battenfeld."

For tickets and more event details, visit Rhinebeckchamber.com or contact Liana Galardi at info@rhinebeckchamber.com.



send us your news
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Soccer brotherhood a big plus for Wappingers Falls native Ofori

By Morgan E. Maier

At age 15, Curtis Ofori, who attended Roy C. Ketcham High School, swept the New York soccer world as the youngest signee in Red Bulls II history. But as the youngest of five brothers, he's used to being the kid in the crowd.

At the Red Bulls' home base in New Jersey, Ofori is just hours away from home in Dutchess County. He was barely a teenager when he first joined the Red Bulls U13 team, continuing a soccer journey that took him to Harrison, NJ, to Italy and under the bright lights of Major League Soccer (MLS).

Now 19, Ofori is in his third professional season with Red Bulls II, on loan from the Red Bulls first team. As an under-25 homegrown player for New York, he is protected from the upcoming MLS expansion draft.

In the final nine minutes of the Red Bulls II's March 7 season opener Ofori, a listed fullback, subbed in at the striker position. Red Bulls II held on to a 1-0 win over Atlanta United 2. In three seasons with Red Bulls II, Ofori has tallied two goals and two assists over 25 games.

Ofori attributes success to family members who were behind him at every step of the way. As a coach, Ofori's dad spread a love of the game, and Ofori watched sideline to sideline as his brothers were on the field. Years of older brotherly advice has defined a resilience in the youngest Ofori's career. From his first days as an athlete, Ofori's brothers have been in his ear - watching him grow, leading by example, helping him make the best solutions. They've seen Ofori through each adversity, injury recovery,

and learning opportunity.

"That older brother mentality will never die for them," Ofori said.

When they are both in Wappingers, Ofori trains with his brother Ben, who is just a year older. The two shared many a soccer field as young players as Ofori played up in Ben's age group. For those 90 minutes, the teammate role transcended family ties. While it was a positive experience sharing both surname and club name, Ofori says that brotherhood didn't always matter once the first whistle blew. "On the field we just try to push each other, and try to make each other 1% better in the best way possible," Ofori said.

Now continuing their soccer journeys miles away, two of the five Ofori brothers are connected by more than the name across their backs. When Curtis joined Red Bulls II, he changed his number from 14 to 24, as New York legend Thierry Henry famously wore #14. Unbeknownst to his little brother, Ben also chose to wear #24 for the Penn State University Nittany Lions.

In seven seasons since his first academy year, Ofori has seen the other side where teammates become brothers to lean on. In years sharing a side, players grow comfortable with one another.

Red Bulls forward Serge Ngoma has been by Ofori's side from academy to the first team; even their families link up at each other's houses. As both tri-state natives navigate professional careers as young men, they'll always know they started it all together. "It's another brother to lean back on," Ofori said. "Even if you go separate paths, I know that's a friend I will have for the rest of my life."



At age 19, Curtis Ofori is in his third professional season with Red Bulls II in Major League Soccer. *Courtesy photo*

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Supporting Melkorka Kjarval for Red Hook Deputy Mayor

To the editor:

Red Hook Village elections are coming up on Tuesday, March 18th. We have two trustee positions on the ballot with five candidates running. One is the Deputy Mayor Melkorka Kjarval - whom I appointed as our Deputy Mayor two years ago. She has been a steadfast supporter of the Village from the beginning. I am writing to share my strong and heartfelt endorsement of Melkorka for the Village board. I believe she has earned your vote for a second term. Here's why: Melkorka is a gifted graphic designer. She can take a lot of information and visually transform it into digestible information. She reworked the Village website in 2021 - including adding the Red Hook Police to the website, a Police reform commitment. The recycling guide and calendar is another example of her contribution. The "What does the Village do for you" guide was dreamed of and designed by Melkorka. The grant to enable its translation into Spanish was spearheaded by Melkorka. Neighbor's Night, an event to bring neighbors together, was her brainchild. Melkorka is always thinking about how we can improve our communications, improve our outreach to the whole community. The Village of Red Hook is, and has been for a long time, poised for positive growth. Traffic safety, improved walkability, pocket parks, and parking improvements are all ideas that are not new, but seem to be universally what Villagers are looking for. What Melkorka and I have both learned over our almost four years in office is that making progress on these issues is not something that the Village board can do alone. Route 9 and Route 199 are State roads. Improvements require State approval. Melkorka has been gaining knowledge and experience which will enable her, in concert with the rest of the board, to make significant progress in addressing these issues in the next four years. I'm excited that there is so much interest in public service on the Village board. I look forward to working with whomever is elected. And I encourage you to vote for Melkorka as one of those choices. She brings experience and commitment to lead with curiosity about how, together, we can take the best of the Village of Red Hook and make it even better.

Karen Smythe
Red Hook

Red Hook- Rhinebeck Elks present
\$4,000 check to R.Y.A.N. House

Members of Red Hook- Rhinebeck Elks Lodge #2022 presented a donation check of \$4,000.00 to R.Y.A.N. House (Raising Your Awareness about Narcotics) of Saugerties for their facility renovation program. The presentation took place at the Elks' monthly Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, March 9.

The bond between the Elks Lodge and R.Y.A.N. House are strong. Elks' member Andrew Graffia's son AJ Graffia, who succumbed to a drug overdose two years ago, was received at R.Y.A.N. House when he was attempting to transition from rehabilitation back to productive society. His issues mirrored that of R.Y.A.N. House president Vince Kelder's own son Ryan's tragic situation which brought about the founding of R.Y.A.N. House in his memory.

Learn more about Red Hook Rhinebeck Elks Lodge #2022 at red-hookelks.org/ and R.Y.A.N. House at raisingawarenessrun.com/.



Members of the R.Y.A.N. team and Elks members are shown celebrating the award at the breakfast. From left are Shane Waterman, Shona Penman, Michelle Weiss, Sarahanne Bania, Andrew Graffia, Margaret Murray, Joseph Spano, Carole Kelder, Rylan Paschall and Vince Kelder. Photo by Richard Wambach

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Mayor, 2 trustees, justice on Rhinebeck ballot

Compiled by Kate Goldsmith

Village of Rhinebeck Mayor Gary Bassett is running unopposed for another two-year term; Trustees Rik Lewit and Lydia Slaby hope to continue serving on the Board, with Republican Derrick Sinon vying for a seat. Trustees serve two-year terms. Village Justice William Sanchez is running unopposed for another four-year term.

Voting will take place on Tuesday, March 18, from noon to 9 p.m., at Village Hall, 76 East Market St., Rhinebeck.

Information about the Village Board incumbents was taken from the Rhinebeck Democrats website (<https://www.rhinebeck-democrats.org/>). Information about Justice Sanchez was taken from the Rhinebeck Republicans website (<http://www.rhinebeck-republicans.com/>); the text has been edited to conform with available space in this paper.

Republican candidate Derrick Sinon didn't respond to a request to participate in the roundup in time for publication.

Gary Bassett, Mayor



It is a great honor to serve you as the Mayor of the Village of Rhinebeck. I always work hard on your behalf and should you elect me to serve another term I will continue to do so. Village

residents face many challenges; from rising costs and outdated infrastructure, to the changing climate.

We are rebuilding our infrastructure while being fiscally responsible, and by seeking grants to cover many of the costs. We continue to take many important steps to protect our environment and laid the groundwork for upgrading the facilities that supply our drinking water.

We are continuing our quest to increase the efficiency of Village government. We have increased wages, benefits and diversity

among our staff, and we continue to improve services to the Village residents.

All of this involves long term planning, study, financing, and a vision for how best to steer Rhinebeck into the future, while protecting what makes this community great.

I am proud of our Village Board accomplishments in partnership with residents, business owners and Village employees.

I am committed to this job. I am committed to public service. I am committed to the long-term welfare of our Village for our current residents, and for our future generations.

Ric Lewit, Trustee/Deputy Mayor



We have a powerful opportunity before us. With coming zoning changes, Rhinebeck should continue evolving toward a greener and more pedestrian-friendly community. I am excited to be work-

ing on projects furthering this goal.

One of my tasks will be to shepherd to completion the village's new \$1.6 million grant to build sidewalks connecting our schools to the village. This goal has been discussed for many years, but only now is becoming a funded plan. In addition, I am working with the State Department of Transportation to create an historically sensitive replacement for the small bridge over the Landsman Kill on Route 9. Upon completion, it should serve a fitting gateway to our village. As liaison to the Tree Commission, I've worked to support and empower the hard-working volunteers who plant trees and plan for our greener future.

Beyond these specifics, being a good Village Board member requires teamwork and sharing a vision. With my fellow trustees, we have laid the groundwork to improve our water and wastewater plants. We have built new sidewalks, paved roads, and evaluated the underground drainage system for

improvement. We are working to fortify our village against climate change and are doing our part to mitigate it.

As I've served on the Village Board, I've learned more and more about Rhinebeck's rich history. We live in a special village. The coming zoning revisions will require teamwork and consultation with the public if they are to succeed. My goal as Trustee is to honor our shared history while readying the Village for the needs, challenges, and changes of 21st century. I ask for your support as we reach for these goals.

Lydia Slaby, Trustee



The Village of Rhinebeck is a remarkable community. Every day, I see neighbors helping neighbors create this place by showing up for each other, community events, the firehouse, the schools. We all want to live in a community where everyone thrives, and I have had the privilege of seeing this energy at work in Village Hall, where I have had the honor of working my tail off for you as Village Trustee since October 2020.

I see my role as supporting this community to thrive by improving government practices and services for now and for the future and by helping to create opportunities for the community to embody the vision and values that guide us all. Upon learning that our Comprehensive Land Use Plan was 30 years old, I encouraged the Board to support a nose-to-tail update through a community-driven process that resulted in our new 2024 Comprehensive Plan, lauded as the most comprehensive listening process in the history of Dutchess County. I am now focused on how that Plan is implemented: crafting an update to our zoning code, expanding our inventory of affordable housing, and encouraging the development of community spaces and a village green all while preserving the core assets and development of our historic village.

My fellow board members and I have been working on planning for the past few years: earning incredible grants for Safe Walks to School and water/sewer upgrades, developing unsexy plans for drainage problems throughout the village made worse by climate change, completing the Comprehensive Plan and earning a state grant to develop a new zoning code, implementing a composting program entirely funded by grants, and hiring the right people for the services that our village provides at appropriate wages. I look forward to spending the next two years implementing those plans.

We are at our best when we work together, incorporating our varied perspectives and beliefs, as the best versions of ourselves.

For those of you who I haven't gotten to know yet, I am an author, a former Sidley Austin restructuring attorney, former deputy chief of staff for municipal policy for Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, a sister, an auntie, and a proud Rhinebecker.

Village Justice William Sanchez

William Sanchez was born and raised in Manhattan. He was the first generation of his family born in New York State. His family came from Vieques, Puerto Rico, and this afforded him the opportunity to become bilingual in English and Spanish.



Sanchez moved to Dutchess County in 1979 when he was placed at the Pius XII Residential Youth Program for Adolescents in Rhinecliff, also known as Holy Cross Campus. This experience turned out to be a blessing in disguise for Will. His time in residential placement allowed him to utilize the lessons learned from a caring staff and turn his life in a more positive direction.

Will dedicated his professional life and volunteer time to working with youth and his community as a whole. He has over 30 years in experience working with youth and families in education, residential settings, criminal and juvenile justice, youth development and youth leadership, and in community leadership and development.

After receiving his Bachelors of Science with a concentration in at-risk youth from SUNY Empire, Sanchez went on to receive his Masters of Science in Educational Leadership from SUNY New Paltz. Mr. Sanchez' leadership experience consist of roles as the Executive Director of the Youth Bureau of Dutchess County; Behavioral Specialist in Ulster County BOCES, which received national "Blue Ribbon" recognition for academic achievement; and as the Behavioral Management Specialist in the Highland Central School District, which achieved the highest honor as the safest school in Ulster County.

Sanchez has the distinction and honor of being the first elected Hispanic official in Dutchess County. He also served 4 years as a Village of Rhinebeck Police Officer and started the Rhinebeck Recreation basketball program in 1983. Presently, he's the Special Assistant to the Commissioner and is part of the Senior Management Team for the Dept. of Community and Family Services of Dutchess County.

Tivoli will have new mayor

By Kate Goldsmith

When voters in the Village of Tivoli head to the polls on Tuesday, March 18, they will elect a new Mayor and two Trustees.

Deputy Mayor Emily Majer is running for Mayor (a two-year term), and

Trustees Bill Shilling and Peter Baldino are each running for another two-year term on the Board.

Longtime Mayor Joel Griffith will not seek a sixth term, concluding his 14 years on the Village Board, serving the last 10 as Mayor.

Elections will take place on March 18 from noon to 9 p.m., at the Tivoli Firehouse, 2 Tivoli Commons.

Reserve a seat for Central Hudson outreach for 60+ forum

If one is a Dutchess County older adult (60+) and Central Hudson utility customer looking to make your energy budget last, Central Hudson outreach personnel will be at the OFA Friendship Center in Poughkeepsie (114 Delafield St.) on Thursday, April 3 at 2:30 p.m., to help older adults understand the available assistance programs, along with energy usage and safety information.

Seating is limited, and required reservations can be made by calling OFA during business hours (weekdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.) at 845-486-2555. Reservations cannot be accepted by voice mail or email.

The event is geared toward savings rather than complaints about the cost of utilities.

More Village Elections coverage on page 7

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Seventeen Renegades alumni highlight spring breakout rosters

Rosters for the 2025 Spring Breakout games were announced by Major League Baseball last week, and 17 former Hudson Valley Renegades players were named to Spring Breakout Rosters, including placing 14 alumni of the New York Yankees Spring Breakout Roster.

The Yankees prospect team will play the Baltimore Orioles prospect team on Saturday, March 15 at 6:05 p.m. at Ed Smith Stadium in Sarasota, Florida. Spring Breakout games will all be aired blackout free on MLB.tv, on MLB.com, MLB Network or Regional Sports Networks.

Of the group, 12 suited up for the Renegades during the 2024 season, highlighted by 2024 South Atlantic League Pitcher of the Year Cam Schlittler, Baseball America 2024 Yankees Minor League Prospect of the Year Rafael

Flores, and Yankees No. 2 prospect George Lombard, Jr.

Additionally, RHP Juan Carela, who pitched for the Renegades from 2022-23 was named to the Chicago White Sox Spring Breakout Roster, and catcher Agustin Ramirez (2023) and infielder Jared Serna (2023-24) have been selected to the Miami Marlins Spring Breakout roster.

Renegades alumni on the roster include the following:

Juan Carela (White Sox), Kyle Carr, Eric Reyzelman, Cam Schlittler, Cade Smith, Rafael Flores, Agustin Ramirez (Marlins), Jesus Rodriguez, George Lombard, Jr., Josh Moylan, T.J. Rumfield, Jared Serna (Marlins), Jackson Castillo, Brendan Jones, Spencer Jones, Garrett Martin and Jared Wegner,

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

Fish Fry Fridays with Clinton VFD

Clinton Volunteer Fire Department is holding their annual Fish Fry Fridays during Lent (through April 18) 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.

Pomona 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, Sheperd's pie, and apple cake. The cost is \$20 per person. Reservations strongly suggested. Call the church at (845) 452-8440.

Volunteer Fair set March 15 at Millbrook Library

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.

Families invited to meet and play

Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Road, hosts a Family Play and Meet event Sunday, March 16, 10 a.m. to noon. Parents and caregivers and their young children are invited to meet friends and neighbors with young children for an afternoon of play and social time. The event is a fun way to meet young families in the area and build lasting friendships. The event is free, donations are appreciated. The Copake Grange Program Committee organized this event. No reservation needed. For more information email ameli-afai@ghmail.com.

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

Opportunities include The Home of Franklin Roosevelt; Val Kill, The Home of Eleanor Roosevelt; The Vanderbilt Mansion; and The Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield.

Rhinebeck Garden Club to meet March 26

The Rhinebeck Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 26, from 10 a.m. to noon, at Rhinebeck Village Hall, 76 East Market Street. The program, "Biodiversity in Your Backyard: The Hudson Valley Pollinator Action Guide," will be presented by Avalon Bunge, Partners in Climate

Action. Refreshments will be served. Visitors are welcome. For information about this meeting, or to become a member, call Sue at (845) 797-3226 or Hannah (914) 263-5298.

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 Noseswork 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 hpvecboard@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 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

Now through St. Patty's Day 3/17
The Bunker Golf Simulators
Longest Drive Competition
\$10 to enter
Winner 1/2 Pot and Post 1/2 Pot.
May you find the pot of gold at the end of the
rainbow or at the Post!

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Red Hook voters have abundance of choices

Compiled by Kate Goldsmith

It's an unusual year – in a good way – for elections in the Village of Red Hook. In a robust competition, five candidates are vying for two open Trustee seats, each with a four-year term. Deputy Mayor Melkorka Kjarval is the only incumbent on the ballot, with four other Village residents also looking to serve on the Board.

Northern Dutchess News reached out to the candidates for this article, requesting information on their backgrounds; how their work/life experience would benefit the Village, and what their top goals would be if elected. In Kjarval's case, she was asked what her top achievements were in the current term, and her goals if re-elected.

Elections will take place on Tuesday, March 18, from noon to 9 p.m., at Village Hall, at 7467 South Broadway, Red Hook.

The candidate profiles are listed below, in alphabetical order.

Jason Baker



Can you briefly tell our readers a little about your background?

I grew up in the Rogue Valley in Southern Oregon, in a small town similar in many ways to Red Hook Village. Throughout my life, I've also lived in the South, the Midwest, the big city, and, for the past five years, in Red Hook. My professional training is in writing and editing; design and innovation; strategy; and executive leadership. For more than a decade, I worked in NYC book publishing, having co-designed and produced the Barnes & Noble Classics series which has gone on to sell more than 50 million copies nationwide. This experience inspired me to jump into the field of design. At IDEO, the global design consultancy, I led dozens of projects all over the world. Most recently, I managed a large team of designers at Capital One, a Fortune 100 company. Overall, my career can be characterized by systems thinking, sharing power, and leading through listening.

How would your work/life experience benefit the Village if elected? As a writer and editor, I've long championed communication that's clear and useful to as many people as possible. As a designer and innovator, I've helped create solutions that have benefited people's lives the way they actually live them. And as a leader, I've built consensus in some very tough rooms. Every single one of these is a work of deep collaboration. I tried to reflect this when I chose my party name. (Refreshingly, candidates running for office in New York villages cannot use existing political party names.) I specifically chose "Put Your Hands Together" because I love working shoulder to shoulder with other people. After all, "many hands make light work." Hopefully, "Put Your Hands Together" also brings to mind the joy of applause! I think there's a lot that's joyful about community life and I believe in celebrating our collective wins as much as I believe in tackling tough challenges head-on. I work hard to find common ground with everyone I encounter, and I'd be excited to put this into service for the Village of Red Hook.

What are your top goals if elected? My prevailing goal is to serve the many communities living in Red Hook Village at a time when not everyone feels like they're part of the conversation. There's a great opportunity here to listen. To that end I vow if elected to hold weekly office hours at Village Hall, to which any village resident can come and talk with me about what's working or not working for them in their lives and why. As Trustee, it would be my privilege to bring these perspectives with me into the public conversation. As is obvious by now, I care about participatory government grounded in communication that's welcoming and open. I care about safeguarding our communities by finding the right solution to the affordable housing crisis. And I care about building the right conditions to enable local business to thrive here. I believe that the combination of these three—inclusive

communication, affordable housing, and favorable conditions for local businesses—will usher in Red Hook's most united and prosperous chapter yet. I feel so optimistic and excited about a future we villagers can create together!

Melkorka Kjarval



Deputy Mayor Melkorka Kjarval didn't respond to a request to participate in the candidates' roundup; the information below was taken from her "Deputy Mayor Melkorka" Facebook page. More details on her accomplishments

are included in posts on that page.

Brief background: I grew up in the Hudson Valley and have a background in design, art, entrepreneurship and agriculture. In 2021, I was elected to the Red Hook Village Board. And, I was appointed Deputy Mayor in 2023. I ask for your vote to re-elect me ... so I can continue to build a stronger, more connected, and more vibrant Red Hook.

I'm committed to serving our community as a whole. I'm not afraid to ask tough questions and challenge the status quo when necessary. In electing me, you will gain a trustee with a serious work ethic who takes responsibility for learning the hows and whys of past decisions because that is a fundamental part of sustainable problem-solving. I work hard behind the scenes and make decisions that will work for the Village now and in the future.

Accomplishments in first term: During my first term, I prioritized improving communication and outreach. I increased transparency and accessibility with things like website improvements; a \$40K grant to pay for translation and interpretation; the "what the Village does for you" brochure; as well as many flyers, guides and diagrams...

I've also used my term to develop stronger connections within our community. I've worked to revitalize events like Hardscrabble and the Halloween parade; I introduced new events like Neighbors Nights and Kid Village; and I collaborated on projects like the "We Are Neighbors" portrait exhibit and the Indigenous history being written. While I'm proud of what we've accomplished, there's more to do.

Camille Norvell



Can you briefly tell our readers a little about your background?

I have lived in the Village for more than 10 years. I am happily married and live with my husband, who I have known since I met him in the eighth grade. We have no

children. I graduated from Coffee High School in Florence, Alabama. I earned a B.A. in music from Randolph-Macon Woman's College (now Randolph College), in Lynchburg, Virginia. I also have a Master's degree in Music (Classical Voice) from Manhattan School of Music in New York, a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Long Island University, and a Post-Doctoral Certificate in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis from New York University.

How would your work/life experience benefit the Village if elected? My professional experience as a clinical psychologist and psychoanalyst over the last 35 years is my principal qualification for the position. In my first job after internship, I worked for seven years at a private school for children with learning disabilities before going into private practice, treating children, adolescents, and adults. This background not only gives me perspective on the importance of mental health and access to services in the Village but also provides a thorough grounding in the critical communication skill of listening carefully to what people are really saying.

What are your top goals if elected? Having seen the effects of gentrification on neighbor-

hoods in New York City, I am acutely aware of the need for economic diversity in local communities. The movement of wealthy people to the Hudson Valley during the pandemic has driven up real estate costs, so it is incumbent on local government to respond somehow so our neighbors do not get priced out of their communities.

[Other goals include ensuring the] efficient implementation of planned infrastructure projects, such as the next phase of the sewer system; managing the impact of climate change on the Village, including drainage problems in residential areas; improving land conservation in public spaces, such as plantings and maintaining efficient energy sources; and allowing citizens with varying perspectives to have a voice in deciding how best to get along together in these turbulent times.

I believe a trustee should be a steward of the public trust whose job is to first determine the needs of the public before acting to satisfy those needs. Hence, what I hope to accomplish as a trustee is bound up with what the citizens of Red Hook want and need.

Savannah Lucas Sanchez



Can you briefly tell our readers a little about your background?

I was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona where I spent my childhood riding horses and raising pigs for 4-H. My grandparents were cattle ranchers in eastern Arizona, and their work gave me a deep-rooted respect for agriculture and the landscape it utilizes. I also attended a college preparatory performing arts high school, where I played cello and piano for eight years. In 2015, I moved to Red Hook to attend Bard College, earning a BA in film production. I made the Village my permanent home in 2017 and am committed to keeping it a vibrant, welcoming place for all.

How would your work/life experience benefit the Village if elected? Red Hook is a special place, and I want to help strengthen the connection between the Village Government and the people who call it home. With a background in digital media marketing and communications, I know how to make information more accessible and engaging. My experience managing teams and coordinating public events has taught me the value of clear, open communication in bringing people together. I'd love to use these skills to enhance community outreach, encourage participation, and ensure every resident feels heard and informed.

What are your top goals if elected? My top priorities are enhancing community engagement, improving walkability, and addressing affordable housing. I want to make Village government more accessible by increasing outreach, creating more opportunities for citizen participation, and expanding bilingual resources. In the past, I've personally found it difficult to feel welcome in local government spaces, and I want to ensure that others in our community feel heard and encouraged to participate. I plan to hold regular office hours to foster open and easy communication between trustees and residents.

Walkability and infrastructure are also key concerns—I'd love to see safer sidewalks & crosswalks, more public gathering spaces, and thoughtful improvements to support our growing Village while preserving its small-town

charm. Affordable housing is another pressing issue, and as a longtime renter, I understand the challenges firsthand. I believe we can work together to find solutions that balance the need for affordability with maintaining the character of our community.

Above all, I want to ensure that every resident feels welcome and has a voice in shaping Red Hook's future!

Frances Uku



Can you briefly tell our readers a little about your background?

I have lived in the village since 2014. I have a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the University of California at Berkeley, and have

worked as a software analyst at Microsoft, IBM Research, and Goldman Sachs. Currently, I am a professional actor, and hold an MFA in Acting from Harvard University. I have built my career on camera and on stage, and been especially successful in voiceovers. I'm told I'm pleasant to listen to! (And not just by my mom.) I am a naturalized US citizen, and grew up exposed to diverse cultures and languages.

I am married, a dog lover, home gardener, and parent to a pre-kindergartner at Mill Road School, where I am a proud and active member of the PTA.

How would your work/life experience benefit the Village if elected? From two polar opposite careers, I offer both analytical and people skills. From having lived all over the world, I am an excellent advocate for any human. From having taken the long road towards becoming American, I have a deep appreciation for all the freedoms many of us take for granted. From being a carer - of dogs, a garden, my child, my mother (who lives part-time with us here in Red Hook), and of course, my incredible husband, I've had to learn what living things need to be happy, and how best to keep them that way.

Speaking of my husband, he is himself a software developer with a keen analytical mind. We are both very involved in village life, and feel privileged to live here. Electing Frances Uku to the board would win our government two brains for the price of one.

What are your top goals if elected? We're lucky to already have a government with an open door policy. From conversations with current and past members of the Board, I know my first task, if elected, would be simply to learn the ropes. Sure, I'm eager to address our most pressing challenges - safer streets, affordable housing, better engagement between government and residents. But the thrust of the job is learning exactly whose YES will accomplish a particular need in the village. For instance, we have village, county, and state roads. Getting a speed limit change might sound simple, but isn't!

Since deciding to run, I've often had to explain what a Trustee does (hint: it's not the same as a Treasurer...). I'm seeking to be your representative in our legislative branch of government. If you pay taxes, you deserve a say in how your money is spent. If you would like to make improvements to your home, join a committee to improve your neighbors' lives, or just throw a block party, Village Hall has a lot to offer. It would be my honor to serve you.

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Get poultry tips and more at Hackett Farm Supply on March 20

It's time to "Come Talk Poultry" hosted by Hackett Farm Supply on Thursday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Guest speaker Shelly Facto from Poulin Grain will be on hand to provide to discuss care management, nutrition and tips for happy, healthy birds. Facto has over 40 years of experience in feeding laying hens, meat birds, turkeys and more.

Refreshments will be served. Call 845-266-3494 to register early.

Hackett Farm Supply is located 2297 Salt Point Turnpike in Clinton Corners at Exit 58 on the Taconic State Parkway.

Shelly Facto of Poulin Grain will provide information on feeding laying hens, meat birds, turkeys and more at Hackett Farm Supply on March 20. *Courtesy photos*



Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley provides Emergency Medical Services Student Scholarships



Recent John T. Sloper awardees include from left, Harold Green, Meagan Gaiamo, Bernadette Cekuta (Coordinator of Emergency Service Programs at Dutchess Community College), Kemar Rookwood and Mathew Nowicki. *Photo courtesy of Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley*

Latest awards push John T. Sloper grants given to over \$700,000

Channeling the philanthropic mission of the John T. Sloper Fund, Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley (CFHV) has recently awarded a total of \$40,000 to Dutchess Community College students to support the costs of their paramedic certification.

Since the John T. Sloper Scholarship Fund's inception, CFHV has granted a total of \$60,000 to students to support their education, each year awarding \$10,000 to four students, helping future emergency personnel complete their paramedic certification programs, honoring the late Mr. Sloper's legacy and commitment to saving lives.

John T. Sloper was the founding partner of the Sloper-Wilen Ambulatory Service, the leading rescue vehicle in Dutchess County, and one of the first in the area to promote the installation and use of automated external defibrillators (AED) at local nonprofit organizations. In 2005, after the ambulatory service was sold, the John T. Sloper Committee established a permanent endowment with CFHV in his honor with \$1 million, with the intent of supporting and enhancing the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) field in the region and encouraging residents to enter into the field.

Over the past 20 years, the John T. Sloper Community Fund has awarded more than \$700,000 to support over 130 local organizations in the installation of AEDs, training, and the acquisition of critical lifesaving medical equipment in Dutchess and Putnam counties. Thanks to CFHV's expert stewardship, the fund has grown larger than it was at its inception in 2005 and is well-positioned to continue supporting the training of emergency medical service providers.

"Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley is proud to carry forward John Sloper's

commitment to public safety and community well-being, ensuring that aspiring paramedics have the resources they need to save lives in the Hudson Valley," said Laura Washington, president and CEO of CFHV. "The Fund stands as a testament to the power of good stewardship and our dedication to community health. Looking ahead, we are committed to ensuring that the Sloper Fund continues to provide meaningful resources while leaving an enduring impact and legacy for generations to come."

"To honor Mr. John T. Sloper and his legacy to the local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) that continue to faithfully serve our communities, our Board of Directors is thrilled to support these students as they pursue their education and certifications to become practicing paramedics," said David O'Brien, John T. Sloper Community Fund representative. "Our Board of Directors applauds their hard work in becoming the next generation of EMS professionals. We can't wait to see them succeed in their careers."

In addition to the scholarship fund, the John T. Sloper Community Fund has distributed funding to students and organizations alike, including the American Red Cross in Northeastern New York, Brewster Police Department, Dutchess Community College Foundation, Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, Family Services, Inc., Grace Smith House, YMCA of Central and Northern Westchester, Zio Episcopal Church, and more.

Any student or non-profit organization based in, performing work in or attending school in Dutchess or Putnam County is eligible to apply for a scholarship to support their education in the EMS field or for a grant to purchase an AED in Sloper's memory.

To discover how you can support the CFHV mission, explore the full list of John T. Sloper Fund grant recipients, or apply for a grant for yourself or for your organization, please visit CommunityFoundationsHV.org

Dutchess to participate in STOP-DWI St. Patrick's Day Weekend crackdown

Law-enforcement agencies throughout Dutchess County will participate in a special enforcement effort to crack down on impaired driving during St. Patrick's Day weekend, beginning Thursday, March 13, and concluding Tuesday, March 18. Various municipal law enforcement agencies will join agencies across the state in this coordinated effort to target those who put lives in danger.

County Executive Sue Serino said, "If you're including alcohol in your St. Patrick's Day celebration, please arrange for a safe ride home. Dutchess County is fortunate to have dedicated law enforcement officers who work hard to keep us safe every day. This holiday weekend, they will continue their efforts to protect motorists by keeping impaired drivers off our local roads."

St. Patrick's Day has long been linked to a rise in impaired driving incidents. From 2016 to 2020, for example, drunk-driving crashes during the holiday period claimed the lives of 287 people nationwide, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Studies indicate that high-visibility community engagement campaigns can lower

impaired driving fatalities by up to 20 percent. Sobriety checkpoints are a vital tool in increasing awareness of the issue.

The St. Patrick's Day crackdown is one of many statewide high visibility community engagement campaigns promoted by the New York State STOP-DWI Association. In addition to this crackdown, statewide STOP-DWI engagement campaigns also target Super Bowl Sunday, Memorial Day weekend, July 4th, Labor Day weekend, Halloween, Thanksgiving and the holiday season in December.

Although STOP-DWI initiatives across New York have significantly reduced alcohol- and drug-related fatalities, too many lives are still lost due to crashes caused by impaired drivers. The STOP-DWI High Visibility Community Engagement Campaign uses prominent, well publicized efforts to further decrease instances of drunk and impaired driving.

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

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Ag Literacy Week readings set March 17-21 in local schools

In celebration of New York Agriculture, NY Ag in the Classroom is coordinating the 21st Annual NY Agriculture Literacy Week, taking place March 17-21. This program is open to Elementary School Administrators, Educators, and those running community programs for groups of 1st-3rd graders.

Many local 4-H members, volunteer leaders and community/county officials are taking part in this teaching exercise.

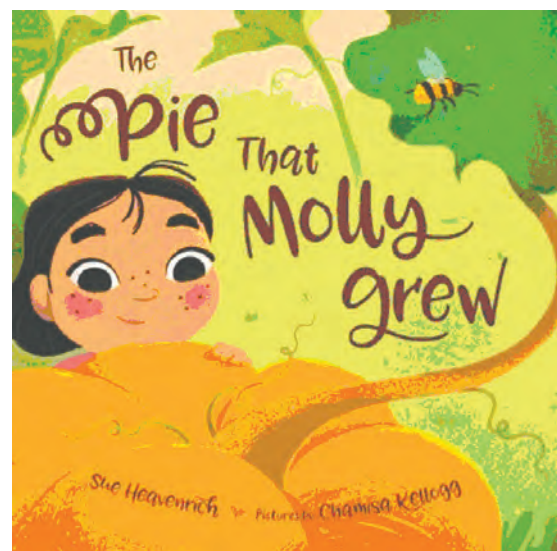
The selected book this year is "The Pie That Molly Grew," written by Sue Heavenrich. A hard copy of the book, as well as a strawberry lifecycle activity will be provided for each child! The book will be donated to the school or classroom library. One activity kit provides enough supplies for 30 students.

Samantha Brittain, Recreation Supervisor for the City of Beacon knows the value of the program from years of experience. "I have been happily participating in Ag Literacy Week on and off for several years," she said. "I truly enjoy taking the time out of my day to participate in this opportunity as a volunteer reader to share both a reading experience and activity centered around Agriculture with children. Providing the opportunity to 1st-3rd graders in as many schools as possible in Dutchess County allows for youth to have a shared experience and for agricultural knowledge to gain a slight bit of normalcy in the local community. Having a small part in providing young people with knowledge not typically included in the curriculum is what I enjoy the most. In my experience, the students I have read to love the break from the school schedule to have a guest reader, and bringing an activity with the book is like icing on the cake for the students."

Dutchess County Legislator Chris Drago said, "Participating in Ag Literacy Week is always a great experience. Reading to young students about Agriculture helps them understand where their food comes from and the importance of farming in our community. It's wonderful to see their curiosity grow as they learn about the hard work that goes into feeding our communities. Programs like this also give 4-H members a chance to develop leadership

skills while inspiring the next generation to appreciate and support local agriculture."

Ag in the Classroom is a partnership of Cornell University, the NYS Department of Ag & Markets, the NYS Education Department, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the New York Farm Bureau. Its mission is to foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of how we produce food and fiber, what we eat, and how we live, by helping educators, students, and their communities learn about and engage with agriculture and food systems.



The selected book this year is "The Pie That Molly Grew," written by Sue Heavenrich.

Courtesy image

Creative Living

celebrating all good things

'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee' to open in Rhinebeck March 14

Up In One Productions presents "The 25th Putnam County Spelling Bee" from March 14 to 30 at The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck.

2025 marks our country's 100th anniversary of The National Spelling Bee. Through comedy and music, "The 25th Putnam County Spelling Bee" tells the story of an eclectic group of six mid-pubescent finalists who compete for a spot in the Nationals. While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives, the tweens spell their way through a series of words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, pout-inducing, life un-affirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Six spellers enter; one speller leaves a champion.

Winner of the Tony and the Drama Desk Awards for Best Book, the show features a fast-paced, wildly funny and touching book by Rachel Sheinkin and a fresh and vibrant score by William Finn.

This bee is a heart-warming and unforgettable experience.

The Up In One Production is produced by Diana di Grandi, directed and choreographed by Caleb Sheedy with musical direction by Russell McCook. Recommended for ages 12 and up due to mature language, mild sexual references, and irreverent depictions of religious figures.

A riotous ride, complete with select audience participation, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is a delightful hive of comedic genius.

Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, with 3 p.m. matinees on March 15, 22 and 29; and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$29 and may be reserved online at www.centerforperformingarts.org or by calling the box office at (845) 876-3080.

The Center for Performing Arts is at 661 Route 308, Rhinebeck.



Six contenders vie to win "The 25th Putnam County Spelling Bee," opening this Friday at The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck. Photo by Olivia Michaels Bogert

'ABOUT WATER' ON VIEW AT DCC GALLERY



A show about water can be seen at the Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery at Dutchess County Community College (DCC) in Poughkeepsie. The gallery is in the Allyn J. Center for Science and Art building, 1 Gallery Circle on the DCC campus. The show features the works of Daisy de Puthod and Jean-Marie Martin, and will be displayed through March 28. To see more of the artists' paintings, check www.daisydeputhod.com or www.Jeanmariemartin.com. Pictured: "Sunny, the lab" by Daisy de Puthod. Courtesy image

POUGHKEEPSIE CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL SET FOR MARCH 29

The Poughkeepsie Children's Book Festival is set for Saturday, March 29, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Dutchess Community College, Falcon Hall. It is free to attend. No registration required.

Meet and greet authors and illustrators (covering reading ages from preschool to Young Adult), take one's picture with favorite costumed book characters, and have fun with hands-on activities. Books will be available to purchase, and to have signed by the authors and illustrators who made them.

Free parking in Lot A (30 Mascot Dr.) or Lot D (95 Cottage Rd.).

Free crafts and hands-on activities will be provided by The Art Effect and Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum.

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

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By David Kalvitis © 2004 Monkeying Around

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Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through April:** 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." Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: cunneen-hackett.org. Pictured: "Magic Night" by Vitalia Deriabina. Courtesy photo

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. **Through March 28:** "About Water," featuring the works of Daisy de Puthod and Jean-Marie Martin. (845) 431-8612

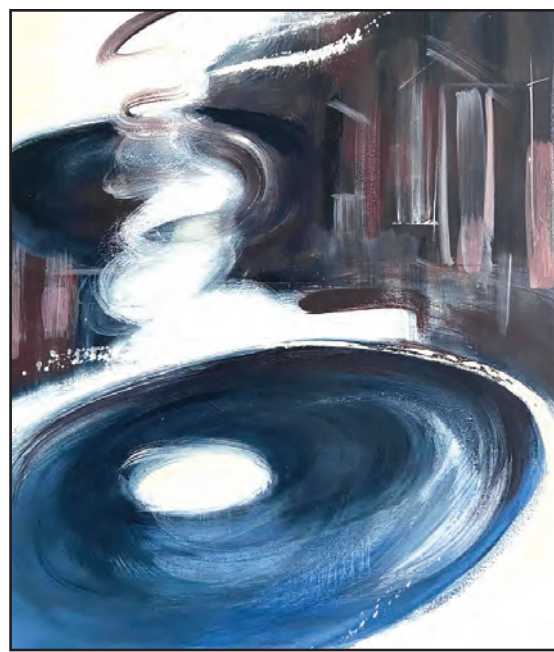
Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. **Through March 30:** Talent Show Art Exhibition, the visual component of Morton's annual Talent Show. Purchases benefit local artists and Morton Library. Donations accepted. (845) 876-2903

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

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through March 30:** "Variable Matrix," a

group exhibit curated by artist Linda Cassidy. (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com. Pictured: "Lucid Vortex Two," Sherry Williams, 2025 Oil on Canvas, 26 x 22. Courtesy photo



WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Through 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. **Artists' Talk:** Sat., April 26, 1-3 p.m. (845) 293-3660 or info@womenswork.art

E-mail exhibition listings to:
creativeliving@s Dutchessnews.com

Creative Living

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Northern Dutchess Hospital



FFA goes to Albany

Students speak with legislators about agricultural issues.

Natalie Shultz supervised the arrival of a newborn calf at 2 a.m. last Monday night. Six hours later she was in Albany talking her state senator into supporting agricultural education.

Five students from Rebecca Cossa's B.O.C.E.S. Agriculture class – Brianna Smith, Laci Campbell, Caylee Cuccia, Natalie Shultz and Tobias Bingham – along with teacher Michael White, joined New York Farm Bureau for an all day trip to the state capitol, where we met with legislators to advocate for, and in many cases, against, legislation that would impact farmers. The five students are all members of FFA, the national student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership.

Natalie, a junior at Dover High School, is president of the B.O.C.E.S. Chapter. Caylee, a junior at F.D.R., is vice-president.

Farm Bureau is a member-supported federation with a mission to serve and support agriculture. Our annual trip to Albany coincides with the adoption of the state budget, so we can try to get funding for agricultural research and education.

Legislators love to talk with students. Our first stop in the Legislative Office

Building was the office of state Senator Rob Rolison. When Natalie introduced herself and mentioned that her dad is a fire fighter, there was an immediate connection – Rolison spent years on the Poughkeepsie police force, and is good friends with fire dispatcher Dan Shultz. That opened up a conversation about funding for FFA, which has been cut down from last year's budget. The students are advocating for an increase.

Next stop was Assembly Member Didi Barrett, a long-time supporter of research, education and the environment. We chatted about some of the projects the students are working on. Laci is exploring the efficacy of different probiotics for horses. The Farm Bureau members – me, Sue, Mark Doyle, Mandy Dykeman and Ervin Raboy – urged Didi to shoot down pending legislation that would put New York farmers out of business, for example the "Temp Act" possibly mandating that workers would go home if the day time temperature was above 80 degrees.

Assemblyman Matt Slater represents parts of Putnam County. Our local Dutchess/Putnam/Westchester Farm Bureau chapter, especially Brewster farmer Ervin Raboy, asked Slater to assist



Students (from left) Brianna Smith, Laci Campbell, Caylee Cuccia, Natalie Shultz and Tobias Bingham traveled to Albany with the Dutchess/Putnam/Westchester Farm Bureau to speak with Assembly Member Didi Barrett (third from right) and other local legislators on important agricultural issues. Photo by Mark Adams

the few remaining Putnam County farmers who are having trouble with the local government, whose definition of what qualifies as a "farm" contradicts the reality of modern farming. For example, beekeepers are farmers.

Finally, we visited Assemblyman Anil Beephan. He just got back from a tour of Green Haven Correctional Facility, trying to understand the issues behind the current prison guard strike. Sue brought up the Farm Viability Institute, a critical originator of agricultural research, whose funding has been slashed. In recent years, F.V. I. Has worked with Cornell University to revitalize the New York apple industry.

This was the first visit to the state

capitol for the FFA students. Natalie Shultz, who plans to study embryology at Texas Tech University, called the trip an "important experience," and was surprised that the legislators were quite "laid back, and not stuck up." Tobias Bingham found a "personal connection," and felt that the politicians listened, and spent more time with us than he'd expected.

Teacher Mike White said, "The kids felt great about the experience, and they got to find out how it feels to make a difference."

Let's hope they do.

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



Sen. Rob Rolison (center) welcomed the group that included Farm Bureau's Mandy Dykeman; students Natalie Shultz, Caylee Cuccia, Brianna Smith and Laci Campbell; and teacher Michael White. Photo by Mark Adams

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Lovely leftovers

Pork tenderloin transforms into three delicious meals.

Leftovers. The very word evokes sadness, disappointment and even loathing for some. Sure, it's practical to not waste food, but not everyone's a fan, and I get it. But what if I told you to actually plan to have leftovers so you can make several different meals this week, none of which seem left over at all? Could we still be friends?

For the last year or so I've been back in the cooking groove in a big way. I've been loving the challenge and discipline of coming up with weekly menus while stretching my grocery dollars and making the most of what I buy. It's especially satisfying when I can make several meals centered around one key ingredient, in this case, pork tenderloin, which is one of my favorites for many reasons. It's lean, delicious and cooks quickly. It also comes in a pack of two, which practically guarantees leftovers to play with, something I'm not only ready for that whenever I buy it, but that I actually look forward to. Read on and you'll see what I mean.

DAY ONE: BASIC-BUT-DELICIOUS PORK TENDERLOIN ROASTS

This is my new go-to way to cook pork tenderloin for moist, juicy, tender results. I used to always pan-sear them first to lock in juices, then finish in the oven. This method skips that first step and still yields really moist, tender results. The high oven temp helps avoid over-cooking: you want to bring the internal temperature to 140-145 degrees. It will continue to cook as it rests, which should bring it up to 145-150. It may still be slightly pink in the center, but cooking any longer could dry it out. This is also a plus for any that's leftover as it won't dry out with a second (or third!) use. And be sure to save the juice that collects in the baking dish. It makes a lovely gravy.

INGREDIENTS

Twin-pack pork tenderloins
Olive oil (about 2 tablespoons)
1 tablespoon salt
Freshly ground pepper
1 teaspoon each onion powder, smoked paprika, garlic powder and mustard powder
3/4 cup water or chicken broth
1-2 tablespoons cornstarch (start with 1)

METHOD

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
Trim away any large areas of silver skin from the tenderloins. Pat dry with a

paper towel.

In a small bowl, mix all the dry seasonings together.

Spread some olive oil in the bottom of a (9x13) baking dish, just enough to cover the bottom. Place tenderloins in the dish and drizzle with olive oil, rubbing it in to evenly coat. Sprinkle seasonings on to cover the tops, pressing some onto the sides as well.

Roast, uncovered, until internal temperature registers 140-145 degrees, 25-30 minutes (check after 25. Temperature will continue to rise while resting out of the oven). Remove from oven, transfer meat to a cutting board and allow to rest to reabsorb juices, at least 10 minutes, before slicing. Reserve pan juices for gravy.

While it rests, pour juices from the baking dish into a saucepan set over medium heat. Place water (or broth) and cornstarch in a jar with a lid and shake well to mix and get rid of any lumps. (Or whisk together well in a small bowl). Add this to the saucepan and whisk constantly, scraping up any browned bits, until smooth and thickened, adding more liquid or starch as needed. Spoon sauce over sliced pork and serve.

DAY 2: PORK & MASH HASH

This came together quickly and used up the leftover mashed potatoes and vegetables from two nights before. Sort of like a shepherd's pie, it's as delicious as it is frugal – an all-around win! It also works with leftover pot roast, turkey or chicken, even corned beef.

INGREDIENTS

2 tablespoons butter
1 small onion, chopped
1/4 cup flour
Salt, black pepper and dried thyme (or poultry seasoning), to taste
1/2 cup chicken broth or water
1-2 cups diced roast pork
1-2 cups mixed vegetables (peas, carrots, corn) (or 10oz package of frozen)
2 cups prepared (leftover!) mashed potatoes
1 cup shredded cheese (cheddar is great)

METHOD

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9x13 baking dish and set aside.

Melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onion and cook until tender, 3-4 minutes. Whisk in flour. Add broth, stir and add seasonings. Cook until thickened and just starting to bubble, adding 1/4 cup water or more broth if needed.



Left: Pork Tenderloin Roast. Right: Pork & Mash Hash. Photos by Vicki Frank Day

Stir in pork and vegetables and cook to heat through, 3-4 minutes. Transfer to baking dish.

Spread mashed potatoes evenly over the top. Warming them up a bit first makes this easier. Top with cheese and bake until heated through and bubbly, 25-

35 minutes.

DAY 3: PORK & PEPPER QUESADILLAS

With the smallest amount of pork tenderloin leftover, I needed to add something to stretch it for one last meal. Not a

continued on page 14



Pork & Pepper Quesadilla open (left) and finished (right). Photos by Vicki Frank Day

Re-Elect Deputy Mayor
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I'm asking for your vote on Tuesday, March 18
for **re-election** to the Village of Red Hook Board. I've served proudly since 2021; committing to transparency, integrity and being community-minded. I'm honored to be endorsed by Village Mayor Karen Smythe. Thank you for your support!

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A & E CALENDAR

March 13: Author Russell Shorto in Conversation with Joe Donahue, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Shorto is author of "Taking Manhattan: The Extraordinary Events That Created New York and Shaped America," 6:30 p.m. Free, but registration required. (845) 876-2903

March 13-19: Poughkeepsie Public Library District Events, Poughkeepsie.

March 13: Strategy Board Game Night (18+), 5-7:30 p.m., at Boardman Road Branch Library (141 Boardman Rd., Poughkeepsie). **March 14:** Medicare 101 / Navigating the Medicare Website, 9:30-11 a.m., at Adriance Memorial Library (93 Market St., Poughkeepsie). **March 16:** Jewish Cooking & Culture Series: Not Your Bubbie's Matzo Balls, 2:30-4 p.m., at Adriance Memorial Library. **March 19:** Gilded Age Scandals, 6-8:15 p.m., at Adriance Memorial Library. Register at www.poklib.org

March 14: Jasperoo EP Release Party, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Jasperoo celebrates the release of their EP, "Market Day," 7-9 p.m. Donations will benefit the library. (845) 876-2903

March 14-16: Live Music at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. March 14: Old Blind Dogs, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. March 15: JigJam, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

March 14-30: "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Up In One Productions presents this winner of the Tony and the Drama Desk Awards for Best Book, featuring a fast-paced, wildly funny and touching book by Rachel Sheinkin and a fresh and vibrant score by William Finn. An eclectic group of six mid-pubescent vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives, the teens spell their way through a series of words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, pout-inducing, life un-affirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Recommended for ages 12 and up due to mature language, mild sexual references, and irreverent depictions of religious figures. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sat., March 15, 22 & 29, 3 p.m.; Sundays, 3 p.m. Tickets \$29. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

March 15: Celtic Harp Concert, Hyde Park Library Annex, 2 Main St., Hyde Park. Experience the instrument that is the very symbol of Ireland: the Celtic harp. Coates brings to life the vibrant history of this ancient instrument. From robust, bell-like tones to delicate, ringing melodies, the harp embodies the magic of Ireland's

musical soul, 1 p.m. Free. Snow date: March 17, 6 p.m. (845) 229-7791 or hplibrary@hydeparklibrary.org.

March 15: Charissa Hoffman Band, Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. An evening of song, storytelling, and soul, 7-9 p.m. The band will showcase new material ahead of their first full-length album recording in April, produced by folk-jazz fusion artist John Mailander (Bruce Hornsby, Billy Strings, Molly Tuttle, Noah Kahan, et al). Inspired by the work of genre-bending singer-songwriters like Joni Mitchell and instrumentalists like Béla Fleck, Charissa writes music that pushes boundaries on her instrument (the ukulele) and "transports the listener to beautiful new worlds" (Matt Glaser). Members Larry Cook (bass) and Harry Bartlett (guitar) lend their voices to the project, drawing on collective decades of training and performance experience between them. A reception follows the concert. Tickets are \$20 or pay what you can at the door. Reservations are not required. More info: copakegrange@gmail.com or www.copakegrange.org

March 15: Elysium Furnace Works Solo Piano Festival presents Alexis Marcelo, St. Andrew & St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 15 South Ave., Beacon. The fierce up-and-coming keyboardist Marcelo will showcase his exceptional breadth and improvisational daring, 8 p.m. Advance tickets on sale at <https://marcelo.eventbrite.com>

March 15: Saturday Morning Family Series, The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Celtic Heels Irish Dance. Joan McGrenaghan, Meghan Craft, and their Celtic Heels Performance Troupe as they return to The CENTER's stage for their 40th Anniversary show! Shows at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. Tickets \$10. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

March 16: Movie & Soup Night featuring "The Quiet Man," Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. 1952 romantic comedy-drama was directed and produced by John Ford and stars John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara, Victor McLaren and Barry Fitzgerald. After accidentally killing an opponent in the ring, boxer Sean Thornton leaves America and returns to his native Ireland, hoping to buy his family's homestead and live in peace. Instead, he falls in love with a fiery redhead, whose angry and spiteful brother tries to block the marriage. Admission to the film is by donation, 3:30 p.m. Stay afterward for conversation and a dinner of soup (vegetarian options available), bread, salad and dessert. Dinner is \$10. Get tickets at the door. More info: lennybarham@gmail.com or (518) 325-5216.

Celtic Harp Concert set March 15 at Hyde Park Library Annex

On Saturday, March 15, the Hyde Park Library will host a Celtic Harp Concert by Candace L. Coates. The concert is free and will take place at 1 p.m. in the library's Annex at 2 Main St., Hyde Park.

Experience the instrument that is the very symbol of Ireland: the Celtic harp. Coates brings to life the vibrant history of this ancient instrument. From robust, bell-like tones to delicate, ringing melodies, the harp embodies the magic of Ireland's musical soul.

Snow date: Monday, March 17, 6 p.m.

For more information about this performance, contact the library at (845) 229-7791 or hplibrary@hydeparklibrary.org.

Born and raised in Dutchess County, Coates has played the Celtic harp since 1993. She began playing the harp as an adult and is self-taught. For many years, Coates performed with the traditional Irish band, Rising of the Moon, which to her surprise earned her a mention in a

New York Times best-selling work of nonfiction called "Little Chapel on the River" by Gwendolyn Bounds. Before her involvement with Rising of the Moon, she had a large Celtic band of her own.

Coates has recorded two two independent albums and has played out in a variety of venues, ranging from performing outdoors in public spaces to more formal events. She uses reproductions of 14th-century gowns in her performances, which add an additional visual impact.

In October 2015, Coates founded a school harp program for a small private school, St. Therese Classical Learning Academy, in Middletown, N.Y. In late November of the same year, Coates became the harp teacher for Dutchess Community College School of Music. Prior to the school harp program, Coates had homeschooled her adult harp students and continues to provide private lessons by appointment.

what's happening? creativeliving@s Dutchessnews.com

Day of Puppetry set March 22

The Arts Mid-Hudson Folk Arts Program and Paper Heart Puppets will bring the second Hudson Valley Puppetry Festival to the Mid-Hudson region, starting with a Day of Puppetry on Saturday, March 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Academy 33 Academy St, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 (plenty of free parking across the street).

This family-friendly event features puppet theaters from around the region sharing puppets, explaining puppet mechanics, and make-and-take activities for all. This event is part of the celebrations for the International Day of Puppetry. Puppetry theaters for the Day of Puppetry include Paper Heart Puppets, Artistree, Up in Arms, Cactus Head Puppets, Arm of the Sea, Robert Rogers, Redwing Blackbird, Wonderspark Puppets, The Chrysalis Puppet Theater Workshop, and the Peekskill Middle School Shadow Puppets.

There are a number of restaurants within walking distance of the Academy, so plan to make a day of it.

The Day of Puppetry is the opening event for the 2025 Hudson Valley Puppetry Festival which runs from March 22 (World Puppetry

Day) to April 26 (National Puppetry Day). For information about other festival events, visit artsmidhudson.org/hvpf.

The Hudson Valley Puppet Festival 2025 is partially funded by a grant from the Robert R. Chapman Fund of the Community Foundation of the Hudson Valley, a grant from the Ann and Abe Efron Fund of the Community Foundation of the Hudson Valley, and a Cook/Marks Fund Grant.

The Arts Mid-Hudson Folk Arts Program researches the arts and traditions of the region's rich cultural, ethnic, religious, and occupational heritages. Through educational and public programs like Kakizome, the Folk Arts Program shares these traditions. The program is open to ideas and suggestions about how to assist in celebrating your community's heritage.

Arts Mid-Hudson is the pre-eminent nonprofit arts service organization serving the Mid-Hudson region. Since 1964 its initiatives have engaged and promoted the arts benefiting artists, arts organizations and communities. For more information about Arts Mid-Hudson and future art events, sign up for the monthly E-newsletter at www.artsmidhudson.org.

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

Luigi Coppola shares stories and recipes.



Love to Cook

continued from page 13

problem since I also had some roasted red peppers and flour tortillas to use up. Quesadillas are perfect for weeknight dinners because they come together super-quick using things probably already in your fridge. They're cravable, delicious and arguably better than the first night's meal. In other words, completely unrecognizable as leftovers.

NOTE: These need to come together quickly so they don't burn. They cook in the pan as you assemble them, so have all your ingredients ready. Amounts here are vague because I was using up what I had which ended up being enough for 3 quesadillas.

INGREDIENTS

Butter for the skillet
2-4 large (10-inch) flour tortillas
1-2 cups shredded cheese (cheddar or jack or both)
1 cup diced cooked pork
1/2 a sweet onion, diced
Roasted red peppers (or 1-2 bell peppers, chopped)

1 cup diced tomatoes
Fresh chopped cilantro
Hot sauce (optional)

Sour cream

METHOD

Place a large skillet over medium heat.

When hot, add 1 teaspoon of butter to melt. Place one tortilla flat on the skillet and sprinkle evenly with cheese.

On one half, layer pork, onion, peppers and tomatoes. Sprinkle with cilantro.

Fold tortilla over on itself and cook, 1-2 minutes per side, until cheese is melted. Transfer to plate. Repeat with remaining ingredients. Remove pan from heat if too hot and starting to burn. Serve with a dollop of sour cream and your favorite hot sauce.

Now that's how you do leftovers! Each meal was as good as the last, and I used up a few things that otherwise would've been thrown out. Bonus: when they taste this good, I doubt anyone will complain or even know you've snuck in those leftovers. It'll be our delicious secret! Enjoy!

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

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Historical presentation on Hudson Valley landscape architecture set March 19

On Wednesday, March 19, Hudson Valley historian Alex Prizgintas will present "Landscape Architecture in the Hudson Valley: Calvert Vaux, Frederick Law Olmsted, and Andrew Jackson Downing" at the LaGrange Association Library, 1110 Route 55, Lagrangeville.

The latest historical lecture offered by Prizgintas showcases the rich legacy of landscape architecture in the region. Highlighting the work of Calvert Vaux, Frederick Law Olmsted, and Andrew Jackson Downing, Prizgintas explores their rise to fame and most famous projects—much of which can be drawn to the city of Newburgh, where the three crossed paths for the first times in the 1850s.

Adapted from Prizgintas' 2021 film documentary produced in part with Marist College's Hudson River Valley Institute, both Olmsted and Vaux remained tied to the Hudson Valley even after their fame with the construction of

Central Park—particularly through Vaux's architectural works and the business of the Olmsted Bros. firm. This program pays particular attention to two landmarks that received influences from both minds: Middletown's Hillside Cemetery and Newburgh's Downing Park—along with several other structures and parks designed by Olmsted, Vaux, and Downing.

A graduate of Marist College with degrees in Hudson River Valley History and Public Administration, Prizgintas has been published in the Hudson River Valley Review, New York Archives Magazine, and Orange County Historical Society Journal on topics including Hudson River railroad history, Orange County's dairy farming history, and the region's early settlers. He serves as president of the Woodbury Historical Society and town historian of Woodbury in Orange County, N.Y.

'Oh Freedom!' quilt exhibition on view at Family Partnership Center starting March 13

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District (PPLD) and the Family Partnership Center are hosting community quilts by Oh, Freedom! and the Quilt-N-Queens Guild in the lobby/atrium of the Family Partnership Center at 29 North Hamilton St. in Poughkeepsie.

The quilts will be on display from March 13-15 and March 20-21. Then on Saturday, March 15, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., there will be a program to celebrate the quilts with artist talks, music, and a chance to meet the artists. The full schedule is March 13 from noon to 5 p.m.; March 14 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; March 15 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; March 20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and March 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Oh, Freedom! Quilting Project is a group that creates community quilts to memorialize the people and places in the Hudson Valley who were important in the historic fight for freedom and emancipation. The quilt projects help the quilters

and the community learn about the little-known history of the antislavery movement, the Underground Railroad, and the role of enslaved people in building the economy and culture of the Hudson Valley.

The project is supported by the Vassar College Good Neighbors Partnership, and the Dutchess and Putnam Community Grants Funds of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.

The Oh, Freedom! Quilting Project partners with many community organizations. In addition to Sadie Peterson Delaney African Roots Branch Library, they also partner with Celebrating the African Spirit, the Putnam History Museum, Oakwood Friends School, Quilt-N-Queens, and the First Congregational Church-UCC-Poughkeepsie.

For more information about this event, contact info@mhahp.vassarspaces.net or visit the website at MHAHP.vassarspaces.net.

Lehman Loeb exhibition explores the art and myths of the Hudson Valley

The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College recently launched a new exhibition, "Great Green Hope for the Urban Blues," that explores the art and myths of the Hudson Valley. The exhibition runs until Aug. 17 and 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.

Across two centuries, artists have portrayed the Hudson Valley as an earthly paradise remote from the modern world. Though close to New York City, the region came to represent its idyllic opposite: a promised land of pristine beauty, pre-industrial lifeways, and utopian enclaves. In the wry words of one New York journalist, the Hudson Valley became a "great green hope" for the "urban blues."

At the same time, this enduring pastoral myth cloaks the region's active ties

to urban tourism and trade while obscuring histories of violent settlement, enslaved labor, and resource extraction. Gathering historic and contemporary art in various media, the exhibition invites viewers to explore how the Hudson Valley has been pictured as a place both proximate to the city and its opposite—a "great green hope" as much myth as reality.

Themes and artworks

The works included in "Great Green Hope for the Urban Blues" span more than 200 years and encompass a variety of media: print, painting, photography, and sculpture. Starting with The Hudson River Port-Folio, dating to the 1820s, the show moves through the centuries to explore the development of landscape traditions in the Hudson Valley. This rough chronology aims to reveal how the rise of arts and artist communities in the region relied on (and encouraged) a simultaneous growth in suburbanization, industrialization, and romantic myth-making.

To better understand this narrative, historic paintings by artists of the Hudson

River School are placed alongside contemporary works like Lisa Sanditz's "Kaaterskill Falls," which depicts the famous Catskills landmark inundated by selfie-taking tourists. Works from the Loeb's collection are supplemented by loans from nearby institutions, such as the Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild and Woodstock Artists Association and Museum. These additions offer a more complete vision of artistic migrations to the Hudson Valley in the early 20th century. In the fascinating 1926 Map of Woodstock, for example, visitors will see the constellation of artists' studios and homes that had come to dot the upstate hamlet.

Bringing the exhibition's narrative to the present, the curators have included works by contemporary artists living in or inspired by the Hudson Valley. A relatively recent arrival in the region, Qiana Mestrich created her zine (up)rooted in collaboration with her children, illustrating how they explore the outdoors in their new environment. Meanwhile, the Chinese artist Yan Shanchun made his Hudson Valley-inspired series, Memory and Fantasy, without ever stepping foot in it—transforming the region from a physical geography into a mythic ideal.

In conjunction with "Great Green Hope for the Urban Blues," the Loeb has commissioned Tamara Aupaumut, an

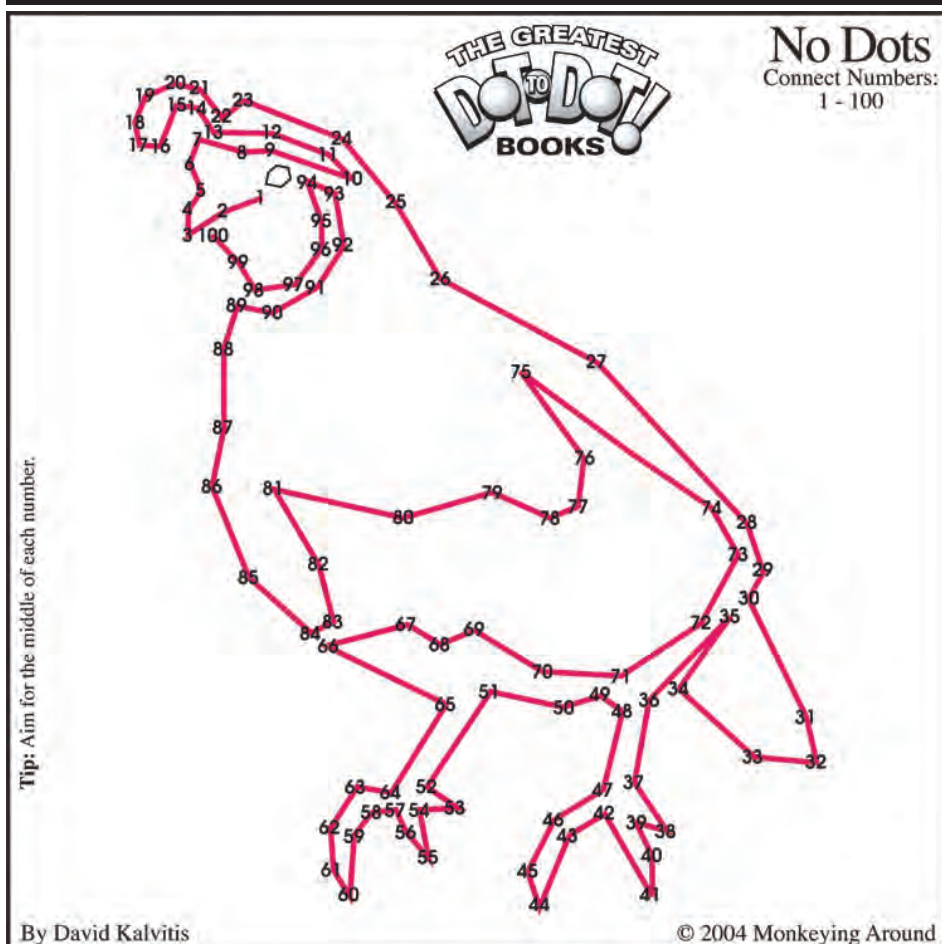
artist of Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican, Oneida, and Brothertown descent, to create two papier-mâché sculptures responding to the exhibition's themes.

"Dispelling the myth of the so-called Hudson River School paintings in this region is important in recognizing the truth and the destruction that comes along with lies, greed, and genocide," writes Aupaumut. "I hope my work will inspire viewers to engage with the world as a relationship. A relationship that is reciprocal, nurturing, and loving. One that needs to be reconciled through honesty, accountability, and action in order to restore harmony and balance for all life."

Two complementary exhibitions are also being showcased at the Loeb. The first is an installation related to "Great Green Hope" by Vassar student Harrison Brisbon-McKinnon '26, titled "Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Black Space-Making from Harlem to the Hudson Valley"; and the second, "Water/Bodies: Sa'dia Rehman."

Admission to the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center is free. The Loeb is open to the public every day (except Monday) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Loeb is at 124 Raymond Avenue near the entrance to the Vassar College campus. Directions to the Vassar campus are available at <https://www.vassar.edu/visit/tour#directions>.

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



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	4				6	9		
				1	2			7
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6			9	5				
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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

1			1		4
1					
					4
	2		1	3	2

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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: DANCE MOVES

ACROSS

- Mrs. in Germany
- *Nae Nae's partner
- m in $F = ma$
- Deadly sin
- Hindu serpent deity
- Blood line
- State location of Miami University
- Last word on radio
- Best friend quality
- *Sideways dance step
- Buzzing pest
- "That is" in Latin
- Corvine bird's sound
- Omicron or Delta, e.g.
- Verb derived from "wreath"
- Although, for short
- Demijohn
- Kings of ____ band
- Act against
- Bruin legend Bobby ____
- Southern cuisine pods
- Cold war initials
- Transmitted radio signal
- French vineyard
- Strong suits
- Overnight flight
- Like a dancer in The Royal Ballet company
- Polynesian island country
- Dracula's bane
- *Dancer's gardening tool simulation
- Cass Elliot and Michelle Phillips
- Eon, alt. sp.
- Reminiscent of certain hardwood, to sommelier
- In a tilted position
- Flower holder
- Cartoon lightbulb
- Police informer
- Before, poetically
- Koppel and Turner, e.g.

DOWN

- Use cat o'nine tails
- German industrial valley
- "Heat of the Moment" band
- Sir Thomas More's famous book
- Actress Viola ____
- ____ provocateur
- Like some necessities
- *Michael Jackson's backward move
- Maisie Williams on "Game of Thrones"
- Immediately, to a doctor
- Salt, in Mexico
- Nine-day Christian devotion
- Aquatic scum
- Authoritative proclamation
- "____ Me a River"
- Pull strings
- Not those
- Comedy Central's public humiliation
- *a.k.a. caterpillar, with The
- 9 a.m. prayer
- Ancient
- Follow as a consequence
- Sturgeon output, pl.
- Lingerie staple
- *Serena Williams' Super Bowl LIX move (2 words)
- Theater, to Socrates
- Sis' sibling
- King's mantle fur
- Painter Max or Director Lubitsch
- Armed gang member in India
- Asparagus unit
- What phoenix did
- Numbers
- Gulf V.I.P.
- "Keep this information" button
- Place a load on
- Augmented
- Swedish shag rugs
- *Running ____

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 21

COLLEGE NOTES

ALBANY, NY - Jose Munoz of Hyde Park, majoring in Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security & Cybersecurity, has been awarded the Fall 2024 Dean's Letter of Commendation from the University at Albany.

The Dean's Letter of Commendation at UAlbany recognizes the outstanding academic achievements of part-time undergraduate students.

To qualify for the Dean's Letter of Commendation, students must earn a grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 or higher in their first semester of study and a GPA of 3.50 or higher in subsequent semesters.

WORCESTER, MA - Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) has announced that Grace Mahoney, a resident of Rhinebeck and a member of the class of 2027 majoring in Computer Science and Robotics Engineering, was named to the university's Dean's List for academic excellence for the fall 2024 semester.

The criteria for the WPI Dean's List differ from that of most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI students are named to the Dean's List based on the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and hands-on projects.

HAMDEN, CT - The following area students were named to the dean's list for the Fall 2024 semester at Quinnipiac University:

Riley Marshall of Amenia, Andrew Bleakley of Dover Plains, Olivia LaRocca of Millbrook, Gabriella Zocchi* of Pleasant Valley, Angelina Giordani of Poughquag, Thomas McAlley of Poughquag, Victoria Moses of Poughquag, Ava Nemeth of Red Hook, Gianna Dupont of Red Hook, Mikaela Korb of Red Hook.

To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester. Names followed by an asterisk denotes with honors.

MADISON, NJ - Cassandra Gallagher, of Poughquag, a student at Fairleigh Dickinson University's Metropolitan Campus in Teaneck, NJ, has been named to the Honors List for the Fall 2024 semester.

To qualify for the Honors List, a student must carry a 3.5 or better grade point average out of a possible 4.0 and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 letter-graded hours (four courses).

TROY, NY - Several local students were among the more than 1,500 students named to the Fall 2024 President's List at Hudson Valley Community College.

They include:

Elizabeth Clark of Red Hook, who is studying in the Non-matriculated academic program;

Kaitlyn Cope of Millerton, who is studying in the Dental Hygiene academic program;

Lillian Coyle of Salt Point, who is studying in the Non-matriculated academic program;

Conall Haughey of Staatsburg, who is studying in the Non-matriculated academic program;

Sydni Koster of Rhinebeck, who is studying in the Respiratory Care academic program;

Elizabeth Lopez-Roberg of Stanfordville, who is studying in the Dental Hygiene academic program;

Liz Messina of Staatsburg, who is studying in the Individual Studies academic program;

Kirstin Riordan of Pleasant Valley, who is studying in the Early Childhood Administration academic program;

Each fall and spring term, the college's President's List names those full-time students and part-time students registered for at least six college credits who have a term average of between 3.5 and 4.0 and who received no grade of "D," "F," "I," "Z," or "W" on their record for that term. Students must have completed at least 12 college credits successfully.

TROY, NY - The following local students were among the nearly 900 students named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List at Hudson Valley Community College.

Claire Finnegan of Rhinebeck, who is studying in the Nursing academic program.

Jahmal Lee of Pleasant Valley, who is studying in the Individual Studies academic program.

Hailey Putorti of Staatsburg, who is studying in the Dental Hygiene academic program.

Chelsea Smith of Pleasant Valley, who is studying in the Individual Studies academic program.

Vinh Tran of Rhinebeck, who is studying in the Paramedic academic program.

Zach Wessel of Millerton, who is studying in the Individual Studies academic program.

The Dean's List recognizes those full-time students and part-time students registered for at least six college credits who have a term average of 3.00 to less than 3.50 and who received no grade of "D," "F," "I," "Z," or "W" on their record for that term. Students must have completed at least 12 college credits successfully.

CHARLESTON, SC - Emma Barry of Rhinebeck was named to the College of Charleston Fall 2024 Dean's List. Barry is majoring in Elementary Education.

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

ALBANY, NY - The Dean's List at the University at Albany recognizes the outstanding academic achievements of full-time undergraduate students. Congratulations to the following hard-working individuals who are dedicated to their academic excellence.

The UAlbany Fall 2024 Dean's List scholars include:

Gabriella Ledenko of Red Hook, majoring in Psychology;

Sophia Rabasco of Pleasant Valley, majoring in Human Biology;

William Rehak of Pleasant Valley, majoring in Criminal Justice;

Emma Rowland of Hyde Park, majoring in History;

Alejandro Farias of Stanfordville, majoring in Human Biology;

Abigail De Paola of Salt Point, majoring in Psychology;

Rene Vannaken of Red Hook, majoring in Computer Science (Combined);

Sharie Rhea of Tivoli, majoring in Computer Science (Combined);

Allison Desmond of Hyde Park, majoring in Business Administration;

Haley Kafowitz of Hyde Park, majoring in Human Development;

Emily Muraco of Hyde Park, majoring in English;

Madeline Anderson of Red Hook, majoring in Public Health;

Andrew Bavis of Millbrook, majoring in English;

Trevor Samradli of Staatsburg, majoring in Business Administration;

Giancarlo Giammatteo of Hyde Park, majoring in Informatics;

Daniel O'Sullivan of Staatsburg, majoring in Business Administration;

Zoey Henderson of Stanfordville, majoring in Psychology;

Maarten Rosse of Millbrook, majoring in Business Administration;

Kiara Dell of Pleasant Valley, majoring in Psychology (intended);

Cadence Wardell of Pleasant Valley, majoring in Social Welfare (intended);

Isabelle Loginovs of Pleasant Valley,

majoring in Communication (intended); Raegan Smith of Pine Plains, majoring in Human Development;

Waseem Saroyia of Hyde Park, majoring in Political Science;

Brianna Mangione of Clinton Corners, majoring in Psychology (intended);

Qualiar Newton of Hyde Park, majoring in Criminal Justice.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 or higher in their first semester of study and a GPA of 3.50 or higher in subsequent semesters.

WEST HARTFORD, CT - The University of Hartford is pleased to announce that 2,291 students have been named to the Dean's List and President's List for the fall 2024 semester.

Please join us in congratulating:

Briahna Curcio of Staatsburg - Dean's List and President's List;

Amelia Jensen of Pleasant Valley - Dean's List.

The Dean's List recognizes students achieving superior academic standing. The requirement, with some exceptions, is a grade point average of at least 3.0 and no grade below C.

The President's List recognizes a select group of students reaching the highest level of academic standing. To be placed on the President's List, students must maintain a GPA of at least a 3.75 and receive grades of C or better.

WORCESTER, MA - Clark University announced students named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List.

Diana P. Reyes of Pine Plains was named to first honors.

Henry Patrick Hoey-Wasow of Rhinebeck was named to first honors.

Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or

above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

KENNESAW, GA - Rosemarie Finlay of Hyde Park has been named to the Kennesaw State University Fall 2024 President's List.

Majoring in Computer Science, Finlay is among more than 6,400 undergraduate students recognized on the Fall 2024 President's List. To qualify, students must achieve a term grade point average of 4.0 while completing a minimum of nine credit hours.

TAMPA, FL - Sophia Gareri of Pleasant Valley earned dean's list honors at University of Tampa for the Fall 2024 semester. Gareri is a Junior majoring in Marketing BS.

Students must maintain a GPA of 3.75 or higher to be eligible for the dean's list.

NEWPORT, RI - The following students were named to the Dean's List during the fall 2024 academic semester at Salve Regina University: Hailey Cummings of Pleasant Valley, Thomas Langan of Red Hook, and Nathaniel Strassberger of Milan.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 for full-time students completing at least 12 graded credits, or a semester grade point average of 3.8 for part-time students completing at least six credits.

VALDOSTA, GA - Margaret Roach of Hyde Park has earned the Master of Library and Information Science from Valdosta State University.

Roach is among more than 900 students who achieved their academic goals and graduated from VSU at the end of Fall Semester 2024.

Linden Avenue Middle School MP2 Honor Rolls

Grade 8

Principal's Honor Roll – Xavier Abuja, Vince Ackerman, Serena Amrod, Elliot Arrabito, Maci Lee Barry, Roniah Bucci, Ted Carl, Aiden Chew, Gracyn Clements, Raina Cook, Clara Coonley, Cooper Cronin, Sophia Crozzoli, Emory Crum, Devin DeCarolis, Daisy Denby Smith, Brennan Dickason, Ashlynn Dwyer, Nikko Edelman, Valentina Friedman, Daniel Gonzalez Jr., Elizabeth Gray, Clio Greenberg, Wilder Greenberg, Vito Grgas Tucilo, Skye Griffiths, Lumi Haas, Milo Haggard, Olivia Haley, Madelyn Hally, Peter Hamilton, Luke Hineman, Kayla Hobson, Mia Hoffman, Lucy Huber, Ella Hughes, Ella Hutchinson, Norah Kaiser, Braden Kalinowski, Margaret Keene, Kailyn Kilfoyle, Schuyler Kortbus, Jessica Kotler, Daphne Kurlander, Luca LaSalvia, Grace Lecours, Keegan Lewis, Sebastian Link, Max Lloyd, Camila Lopez-Leon, Joseph Lozito, Kylie Manetta, Lydianna McIntosh, Drew Monaco, Audrey Moore, Alice Moore, Lily Morelle, Emery Munger, Taylor Neumann, Hannah Posner, Agatha Puffer, Ashton Querrazzi, Jackson Renck, Bella Richards, Diana Robles Cruz, Luke Roche, Anna Roomberg, Teagan Rose, Thalia Rubin, Jacob Sepesi, Lilah Shanley, Isaac Shapiro, Luke Simerly, Adam Simmons-Scribner, Duncan Snykus, Samuel Solomon, Nathan Stafford, Tayler Sundheimer, Maxwell Szlasa, Stella Traudt, Isadora

VanDerPutten, Lillian Wenner, Delia Werner, Arlo Whittell, Maya Williams, Chloe Williamson, Nikolai Wouffin

Honor Roll -- Ashli Argueta Reyes, Logan Bradley, Chance Dayton, Dominic DeLaurentis, Preston France, Logan Frettoloso, Emily Fuentes-Flores, Harry Griffiths-Caselli, Paisley Hartman, Kevin Hillery, John Kanuk, Declan Kelly, Rayne Mallett, Mariel Merino Aguilar, Lilianna Millan, Maeve Neilson, Breana Nilsen, Daniel Pomerantz, Marisol Reyes, Arianna Rhynders, Kayley Scharschu, Dea Shero, Gianna Shorter, Joshua Shultis, Chloe Siegel, Aiden Skeen, Ruka Sniderheidt, Reid Traudt, Bryce Vosburgh, Madelyn Young

Grade 7

Principal's Honor Roll – Allegra Abuja, Kevin Agustin, Avere Albrecht, Nathan Alfaro, Junebug Aloi, David Argueta Sola, Sadie Arrabito, Bayastan Asankaryev, Katherine Baldwin, Uma Bardfield, Stella Benedict, August Benz, Mila Bluechel, Drew Carter, Thomas Caserta, Hailey Castellanos, Taryn Cavanaugh, Valerie Chevalier, Caden Christensen, Arvine Coon, Zoey Costa, Charlotte Courtney, Ceili Craft, Ailyn Davison, Martin Escun Tzaj, Logan Farris, Aro Friedland, Sebastian Garcia, Skye Gog, Anderson Guerra Machorro, Isabella Gunzburg, Oliver Hart, Isabella Hilbrandt, Landon Hotaling, Edith Imboden, Niko Iova-Koga, Avery Jackson, Baheer Zahid Jalali, Thelonious

Johnson, Kora Kalin, Zia Kalin, Bentley Killmer-Rabbett, Callum Kolbinskie, Michael LaFratta, Connor Lown, Rowan Lowry, Mason Lukach, Ian Magee, Iko Malikin, Massimo Mannino, Clara Mauney, Isaac Migdal, Christian Minitier, Charlotte Monaco, Elsa Mouligneau, Alexander Murray, Olivia Ng, Benjamin Nickerson, Vianely Ojeda Leon, Nora Payne, Amelia Petkos, Isabella Piazza, Alexandra Popolizio, Sophie Price, Liam Quaglietta, Anderson Josue Ramirez Flores, Elsie Rathmann, Carl Schansinger, Piper Shute, Giavanna Slattery, Rebecca Soper, Marcus Stephens, Mya Stickle, Logan Swanson, Theodore Tiberio, Valeria Vazquez-Lucas, Gianmarco Verrilli, Ella Vickers, Henry Welch, Ava White, Cameron Wood, Jonathan Zapadinsky

Honor Roll – Veronica Archer, Robert Benware Jr., Christian Carreon Cruz, Uriel Celaya, Caleb Cerulo, Bix Davis, Gabriela Diaz Celaya, Ashton Erickson, Colin Haines, Arianna Hannigan, Ryder Hapeman, Joshua Kepner, Brooks Lyman, Chase Milroy, Kylie Minn, Brantley O'Connell, Valentina Oroza Guzman, Lindsay Ramos, Harrison Snykus, Aurelia Traudt, Olivia Weigel, Ethan Wiltsie

Grade 6

Principal's Honor Roll -- Madison Ackerman, Arno Adams-Santoyo, Joseph Amato, Maria Barr, Howie Barry, Gabriel Berko, Esme Brady, Liliane Brassard, Ava Brodsky, Samuel Brodsky, Evan

Burchins, Cooper Cancilla, Remington Carney, Grace Celeste Castelo Branco, Riley Cerulo, Caitlin Coulon, Thalia Dahdah, Andrew Decort, Solana Edelman, Phoebe Ewing, Liam Fasce, Lillian Finnerty, Chloe Fredericks, Sada Gould, Mosley Greenberg, Helena Hamilton, Kylie Hobson, Casey Hoffman, Cooper Horton, Nadia Kaiser, Liv Kaplan, Dante Khakhar, Tyler Kilfoyle, Macarius Kortbus, Camille Kushner, Maxwell MacDonald, Ruby Marienthal-LeGendre, Mara McKay, Errol McMeekin, Miranda McMillen, Caidence Meglio, Dalia Mendiola Flores, Brooks Mills, Philip Moynahan, Lesia Nicolay, Cassandra Parrella, Darius Parsa-Schaefer, Jean Peterson, Vivienne Petkos, Julieta Piraces, Oliver Popper, Olivia Renck, Anya Rifenburg, Sydney Roomberg, Alice Ross, Colton Schuler, Michael Semke, Shea Shafer, Adam Shanley, Mason Shen, Bryce Smith, Tyler Sperry, Juliet Tobin, Elliot Tseng, Brian Tucker, Rosalynd Wenner, Theodore Williams

Honor Roll – Henry Acker, Olivia Alston, Amelia Castellanos, Madilynn Cella, Robert Chartier, Kylie Cruces, Cameron Hessler, Ella Hildenbrand, Savannah Kent, Louis Knecht, Jorge Lavariega, Lyric Lee, Jack Leedy, Arlo Marotta, Evan Nicholas, Zachary Ottaviano, Kyler Pape, Noam Rose-Cortina, Harry Rothstein, Brooklynn Sanabria, Jennifer Sepesi, Jaxon Shorter, Beckett Smith

Dutchess BOCES Board votes to appoint Dr. Jodi DeLucia new District Superintendent

The Dutchess BOCES Board of Trustees voted unanimously Tuesday, March 5 to appoint Dr. Jodi DeLucia as the agency's new district superintendent.

DeLucia has served as deputy superintendent of the agency since 2021 and has more than 20 years of school administrator experience. She has been assistant superintendent at Onteora Central School District and served as director of educational resources at Dutchess BOCES.

Her appointment took effect on Thursday, March 6.

"We are thrilled to have Dr. Jodi

DeLucia as our next district superintendent," Board President Ralph Chiumento, Jr., said. "We expect she will keep us moving forward and engaged with the state's new initiatives and come up with new programs and alliances for us."

Priorities in her new role include staffing, strategic planning, branding and facilities.

"One of the first things we need to work on is evaluating systems and structures currently in place. It is essential that we develop opportunities to bring our stakeholders together and give them a

voice. We need to truly work together with all stakeholders in order to effectively move forward into our next chapter of innovation, growth, and partnership," she said.

She looks forward to BOCES expanding opportunities for students in Dutchess County, including the development of pre-K services, expanded therapeutic services for students with disabilities, increased and expanded career and technical course offerings and expanded opportunities with our industry partners.

"Being collaborative, student-centered

and partnering will provide a gateway to creating expanded opportunities for all learners from pre-K to career. I know with dedicated focus, we will continue to see this positive impact on students, staff and the broader community for years to come," she said.

Members of the community are invited to a meet and greet reception at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23, at the Dutchess BOCES conference center. Registration is required at <https://forms.gle/Eu8x22xWFzRBzKUG7>.

AT YOUR LIBRARY

STANFORD FREE LIBRARY

6035 NY-82, Stanfordville
(845) 868-1341

<https://stanfordlibrary.org/>

Registration required for events unless noted otherwise. Please email stanfordlibrary@optonline.net or call (845) 868-1341.

Supper Club with Lenny

Wednesday, March 12, 6-7 p.m.

Enjoy a community tasting and sharing event with friends and family. This month's theme is "Food on Sticks." Bring anything to eat that is on a stick from an appetizer to desert. No need to register - just come with your cuisine and enjoy food and conversation!

Ways to Garden Smarter as We Grow Older, Wednesday, March 12, 10 a.m.

The Friendship Garden Club presents this talk by Victoria Rolfe.

Chair Yoga

Friday, March 14, 1-2 p.m.

This is gentle yoga with a chair to support and aid seated and standing postures.

Admissions & Financial Aid: What it Takes to Get into College Today
Wednesday, March 19, 6:30 p.m.

Stephanie Mauro, from College Planning 101, will present a seminar discussing: The difference between SAT & ACT, How scoring on the tests can impact affordability, how to evaluate a college and what questions to ask.

Repair Cafe

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Repair Cafe is open for business. Bring clothes, furniture, appliances, toys, bicycle, etc to our talented volunteers. Get professional advice, personal encounters and inspiration. Enjoy refreshments, handicap access, easy parking.

ONGOING EVENTS

Home School Stories and STEAM
Students in Grade K-3:Thursdays,
12:45-1:45 p.m.

Students Grade 4-6 (STEAM only)
Thursdays, 2-3 p.m.

Preschool Storytime
Tuesday Mornings

Preschoolers (Age 3-4) 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Toddlers (Age 18 months-2 years)
10:30-11:15 a.m.

Babies (Birth-18 months) 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Stories, songs and free play every week!

Water Color Workshop

First, Third and Fifth Tuesday of each month, 1-4 p.m.

Using the Basic Watercolor Techniques:

A Flat Wash, Graded Wash, Wet-In-Wet or Drybrush

We will be happy to provide guidance but this is a Watercolor Workshop not a Watercolor Class. Supplies are not provided, a list of needed materials is available at the library.

Literacy Connections Classes for English Language Learners

Mondays, 6-8 p.m.

All levels welcome.

Knitting

First, Third and Fifth Thursday of the month, 7-8:30 p.m.

Come for knitting, tea and conversation. All levels welcome. Advanced knitters will teach beginners.

Brain Games

Thursdays 10:30 a.m.-noon

Calling all seniors! Join in the fun and laughter of our brain games! Fun, stimulating, invigorating word games, board games, card games, conversation and laughter!

Mahjong for Intermediate Players

Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon

Come and play Mahjong with this fun, friendly group. Are you a beginner or want to learn the game, ask at the library for more information.

Trying to make the best dietary choices can look like more trouble than it's worth sometimes. At OFA, we often read news stories about a nutrition study insisting that the previous week's nutrition study was all wrong. The overload of contradictory information can leave you frustrated about how to make good choices. That's why OFA's Nutrition division publishes the Nutrition News every month. Each month's issue is full of helpful, easy-to-follow nutrition tips, along with sound science to back it up. We also include cost-effective, simple recipes, in large print when possible. Visit www.dutchessny.gov/ofanutrition to find it, along with our Nutrition News archives for even more great recipes.

The key is not necessarily to hang on whatever the latest study says, but to make basic nutritional principles a consistent routine while keeping your meals enjoyable and easy to prepare. A nutrition plan is much easier to follow when it consists of food you like. There's more to life than soaking lentils.

Diabetes Alert Day takes place on the fourth Tuesday in March every year. It's a one-day "wake-up call" that focuses on the seriousness of diabetes and the importance of understanding your risk. If you have a family history of diabetes, have weight issues, or are not physically active, you have a greater chance of developing type 2 diabetes. You are also more likely to develop type 2 diabetes as you get older.

Here are some things you can change to lower your risk for diabetes:

- Lose weight and keep it off. You may be able to prevent or delay diabetes by losing 5% to 7% of your starting weight. For instance, if you weigh 200 pounds, your goal would be to lose about 10 to 14 pounds.

- Move more. Get at least 30 minutes of physical activity 5 days a week. If you have not been active, talk with your health care professional about which activities are best. Start slowly to build up to your goal, and remember that any level of exercise is better than remaining sedentary. The OFA Senior Exercise Program can help. Visit www.dutchessny.gov/seniorexercise, call 845-486-2555, or email ofa@dutchessny.gov to find out more. We are starting a new eight

week (once a week) session of "A Matter of Balance" classes on April 1st – space is limited!

- Eat healthy foods most of the time. Eat smaller portions to reduce the amount of calories you eat each day and help you lose weight. This can be as simple as using smaller plates for meals, so that you won't be as tempted to overload your plate. Choosing foods with less fat is another way to reduce calories. Drink water instead of sweetened beverages.

With these practices, you can often lower your blood A1C percentage to safer levels, without potential medication side-effects. Ask your health care professional about what other changes you can make to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes.

'PANCAKES IN THE PARK' RETURNS (One site at capacity, one site available)

The FREE annual OFA "Pancakes in the Park" events for Dutchess County older adults (60+), co-hosted by Dutchess County Parks, are filling up fast.

Guests must be Dutchess County residents age 60+.

The first of two "Pancakes in the Park" events, at Bowdoin Park on Thursday, March 27th, is at capacity. As of Friday, March 7th, there was still room to sign up for the second "Pancakes" event at the Pavilion at Brookmeade, 34 Brookmeade Dr. in Rhinebeck, on Wednesday, April 2nd. Both events begin at 10:30 am.

Call OFA at 845-486-2555 during business hours to register. We cannot accept reservations left on voice mail or by email.

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.

OFA 'HOME DELIVERED MEALS' VOLUNTEER DRIVERS WANTED (Beacon, Pleasant Valley, Poughkeepsie)

Are you looking for the kind of volunteer opportunities that deliver real, immediate impact? Join the OFA Nutrition division's Home Delivered Meals (HDM) program as a volunteer delivery driver, and help connect homebound Dutchess County older adults to the nutritious meals that are a key component of continued independent living.

Drivers who use their own vehicles to make deliveries can be reimbursed for mileage.

Our current areas of need include:

- Beacon and southwestern Dutchess County;
- Pleasant Valley and neighboring communities;
- City of Poughkeepsie.

Typical HDM delivery hours are weekday middays, operating from nearby OFA Friendship Centers in Beacon (Forrestal Heights), and Pleasant Valley (First Presbyterian Church/Tri-Town Friendship Center), as well as the OFA central kitchen at OFA headquarters in Poughkeepsie.

For more information on all types of OFA volunteering, visit www.dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer. For an online volunteering form, click here.

CENTRAL HUDSON OLDER ADULTS' FORUM (Thu 4/3) (Seating limited; reservations required)

If you're a Dutchess County older adult (60+) and Central Hudson utility customer looking to make your energy budget last, Central Hudson outreach personnel will be at the OFA Friendship Center in Poughkeepsie (114 Delafield St.) on Thursday, April 3rd at 2:30 p.m., to help older adults understand the available assistance programs, along with valuable energy usage and safety information.

Seating is limited, and required reservations can be made by calling OFA during business hours (weekdays, 9a-5p) at 845-486-2555. We cannot accept reservations made by voice mail or email.

The event is geared toward savings rather than complaints about the cost of utilities. That said, we recognize the importance of advocating for oneself in successful aging, and the importance of being able to reach the right people when raising one's concerns, no matter what they are.

It's recommended that you speak with your utility company's customer service division first; then, if you have contacted your utility to express your concerns but are not satisfied with the result, use this link to find out more about filing complaints with the New York State Department of Public Service.

'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:

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.

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 or call 845-486-2555.

"Golden Living" is prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie, New York 12601, telephone 845-486-2555, email: ofa@dutchessny.gov website: www.dutchessny.gov/aging Social media: www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA

Hochul nominates three to lead agencies

On Feb. 24, Gov. Kathy Hochul announced three agency commissioner nominees. The governor nominated Denise Miranda as commissioner of the State Division of Human Rights, Amanda Lefton as commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC); and Willow Baer as commissioner of the State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

The nominees must be approved by the State Senate.

About Denise Miranda

Denise Miranda was appointed by Hochul in March 2024 as the acting commissioner of the Division of Human Rights (DHR).

During her first year at DHR, Miranda initiated a complete overhaul of the division's intake operations, increased staffing by 40 percent in the first six months, expanded education and outreach initiatives and engaged in wholesale organizational change to ensure and protect the division's legacy of being the first state agency in the country dedicated to protecting human and civil rights. In November 2024, she launched the first statewide "Call Out Hate" campaign to support the work of the Division's Hate

and Bias Prevention Unit, which was created to combat prejudice and discrimination. At the close of the acting commissioner's first year at DHR and with the governor's support, DHR saw a 30-percent increase in the agency's budget and actively worked to increase the agency's prevention efforts while hastening its processes for investigation and adjudication of claims.

Prior to this, Acting Commissioner Miranda served as the executive director of the New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs for seven years. She oversaw the agency's operations, which included investigations into abuse and neglect, criminal prosecutions, and administrative disciplinary proceedings. Under her leadership, the Justice Center managed the care of over one million individuals, with a workforce of more than 425 employees and a \$41 million operating budget.

About Amanda Lefton

Amanda Lefton's diverse career spans the public and private sectors, including previously serving as the director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) within the Department of the Interior. Under her leadership, BOEM

developed and implemented an ambitious federal offshore wind program creating a new industry of family supporting jobs and generational opportunity. Her collaborative approach brought together various stakeholders to responsibly manage the nation's critical offshore energy and mineral resources.

Prior to her role as BOEM director, Lefton served as the first assistant secretary for Energy and Environment for New York, where she led the state's environmental and climate initiatives overseeing a portfolio of executive agencies including the DEC. She has also worked for The Nature Conservancy in New York as the deputy policy director and climate mitigation lead, the Rochester Regional Joint Board of Workers United and the New York State Assembly and New York State Senate. Most recently, Lefton was the vice president of offshore development, U.S. East at RWE — one of the world's leading players in the offshore wind sector.

Originally from Queens, Lefton grew up on Long Island and holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University at Albany. She now resides in the capital region with her wife and stepchildren.

About Willow Baer

Prior to stepping up as acting commissioner, Willow Baer served as OPWDD's executive deputy commissioner and oversaw the agency's operational management, including planning, fiscal planning and oversight, and policy development. She was also responsible for oversight of agency staff in a broad range of capacities, including direct care support, clinical and medical staff in residential and non-residential settings, maintenance and operations.

Baer has served twice as assistant counsel to Gov. Hochul, overseeing legal priorities and legislation across the fields of Human Services and Mental Hygiene. Additionally, Baer previously served as general counsel to OPWDD, general counsel and deputy commissioner for the Office of Children & Family Services, and as counsel to the NYS Justice Center.

Baer has spent her entire career working to protect and advocate for underrepresented populations. She will continue the agency's work to ensure that New York is a state that is inclusive, supportive, and one that those with developmental disabilities live with meaningful choice and are proud to call home.

Registration for Dutchess County's summer programs begins March 18

With hands-on activities like hiking, campfire building, survival skills and more Dutchess County Parks' Adventure and Survival summer programs help connect youth ages 9-17 to nature. The programs are offered at Bowdoin Park in the Town of Poughkeepsie and Wilcox Memorial Park in the Town of Milan. This year, there will be two separate registration opening days online at www.DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation:

- March 18 - Summer Adventure Programs
- March 20 - Summer Survival and Eaglet Programs

Dutchess County Parks Director Brian Coons said, "Our great naturalist team at

Dutchess County Parks give children a wonderful chance to play, explore, and build new skills all while enjoying the natural world around them! These programs are incredibly popular, and sessions fill quickly, so be sure to get your child's spot."

The summer programs are held Monday-Thursday, from 9:30am to 4pm, with early drop-off and late-pick up options available. Sessions cost \$200 per student, per session. Due to the popularity of the programs, there is a limit of one session per child.

Adventure Programs (Registration opens Tuesday, March 18)

- Adventure (ages 9-11): July 7-10 or July 21-24 at Bowdoin Park

- Adventure Intensive (ages 12-14): July 14-17 or August 4-7 at Bowdoin Park

- Living Adventure (ages 15-17): August 11-14 at Bowdoin Park

Survival Programs (Registration opens Thursday, March 20)

- Survival (ages 9-11): July 7-10 or July 21-24 at Bowdoin Park

- Survival Intensive (ages 12-15): July 14-17 at Bowdoin Park

- Complete Survival (ages 12-15): July 28-July 31 at Wilcox Park. This program requires previous participation in Survival Intensive and ends with an optional overnight stay.

Additionally, Dutchess County Parks offers programs for children ages 6-8. Eaglet Adventures gives children a

chance to become better explorers and scientists. Children will develop skills to identify animal tracks, discover pond life and begin to see the interconnection that keeps the natural world in balance. Eaglet Adventures will be offered August 4-7 from 10am-2pm at Bowdoin Park. Cost is \$150 per student. Session is limited to 12 children. Registration opens Thursday, March 20.

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

Serino announces funds to support programs that offer opportunities to vulnerable young people

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino today announced \$121,198 in grant awards has been awarded to five non-profit youth team sports programs for underserved children under the age of 18 through New York State's Youth Team Sports (YTS) grant program.

These grants will support opportunities for underprivileged young people to participate in sports activities that enhance their physical, mental, emotional and social well-being; reduce stress, anxiety and depression; strengthen social skills and teamwork; and lower the likelihood of substance abuse and other risky behaviors.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, "Every child deserves the chance to fully develop themselves – physically, mentally and emotionally. These grants will offer young people throughout Dutchess County access to programs that will help them strengthen their bodies and minds, setting them on a

course toward future success. We're proud to partner with the awarded organizations and look forward to seeing the successes that will come from these grants."

Projects funded through the 2025 Youth Team Sports Program include:

Boys and Girls Club, City of Poughkeepsie – \$38,364 to offer the "Triple Play" basketball program, which will allow young people to participate in a competitive team sports program that includes instruction and training, physical fitness, nutrition education and tournament play. Funds will be used for salaries, authorized travel, supplies and tournament fees.

Dover Little League, Dover Plains – \$33,000 to provide "Everyone Swinging for the Fences," a competitive baseball and softball program dedicated to creating enriching learning opportunities for all players, regardless of their background. Funds will be used for contractu-

al services, sports equipment purchases, supplies, staff training and uniforms.

Mid-Hudson Aquatics, Town of Poughkeepsie – \$5,016 for selected graduates of Community Matters 2's "Swim with a Friend program" and children from the community to participate with Mid-Hudson Heatwaves competitive swim team. Funds will be used for swim meet fees and sports supplies/equipment.

Northern Dutchess Aquatics Club, Red Hook – \$12,731 to provide two free six-week, new swimmers programs for young swimmers aged 5-9, allowing these young swimmers to experience the joy of swimming while learning the four competitive strokes. Funds will be used for coaches' salaries, sports supplies/equipment and pool rental.

YMCA of Kingston and Ulster, Kingston – \$32,087 to allow 96 Dutchess County young people, ages 7 to 15, to participate in a free 6-week basket-

ball league at Red Oaks Mill Park in Poughkeepsie, consisting of both practices and competitive games against other teams in the league. Funds will be used for coaches' salaries, contractual fees, sports equipment purchase, supplies and court/park rental.

Applications for the Youth Team Sports grant program were reviewed by the Dutchess County Youth Board and Coordinating Council, as well as the Department of Community and Family Services Commissioner, with recommendations made to the County Executive for final approval.

Applications for the 2026 YTS program are expected to be available in September, subject to New York State funding availability. More information about DCFS grant funding opportunities is available at dutchessny.gov/Departments/Youth-Services/NYS-Office-of-Children-and-Family-Services-Grant-Funding.htm.

Traditional Okinawan Karate students among winners at regional tournament

Students from Traditional Okinawan Karate schools in Pleasant Valley and East Fishkill were winners among the hundreds of participants in the 23rd annual New Paltz Karate Invitational Tournament on Feb. 23. The tournament featured competitions in kata (martial arts forms), sparring and, for more advanced students, kata with traditional weapons and padded weapons sparring. Students competed against other students

of their age and rank.

Traditional Okinawan Karate focuses primarily on self-defense and improvement, not competition, but the school participates in one annual tournament as an opportunity for students to learn how to perform under pressure. For more information about Traditional Okinawan Karate, call 845-635-1426 for Pleasant Valley, or 845-797-2258 for East Fishkill.

The winners of the 7-year-old white belt/white belt II sparring division from Traditional Okinawan Karate School in Pleasant Valley included, Abigail Lofaro (1st place, center), Carmine Palmisani (2nd place, left), Alba Feijoo (3rd place, right). *Courtesy photo*



Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE CONCERN-
ING THE EXAMINA-
TION OF ASSESS-
MENT INVENTORY
AND VALUATION
DATA (Pursuant to
Section 501 of the
Real Property Tax
Law) Notice is hereby
given that Assess-
ment Inventory and
Valuation Data is
available for Exami-
nation and Review.
This information
which will be used to
establish the assess-
ments 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 asses-
sor at 845-635-8159;
Monday thru Friday

Legal Notices

between the hours of
10:00 am and 1:00
pm.
Dated: March 1, 2025
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/ BAR-
BARA
GIORDANO,
ROGER LEON-
AGGEO, a/k/a
ROGER F.

Legal Notices

LEONAGGEO a/k/a
ROBERT LEON-
AGGEO, ASSET
ACCEPTANCE, LLC,
CATANIA, MAHON,
MILLIGRAM
& RIDER, PLLC,
PORTFOLIO RE-
COVERY
ASSOCIATES, LLC,
and RAZOR CAPI-
TAL 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 ap-
pointed in this action
for such purpose, will

Legal Notices

offerforsaleandsellat
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 mort-
gaged premises di-
rected in and by said
judgment to be sold
and in said Judgment
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, bear-
ing tax grid number,
Section 135200,

Legal Notices

Block 6669-00 and Lot
573194-0000, and
more particularly de-
scribed in the "Sched-
ule A" attached to the
aforesaid Judgment
of Foreclosure and
Sale, on file in the Of-
fice 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
Dutchess, State of
New York, as more
fully described above.
DATED:
February 20, 2025

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS
NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent,
County of Dutchess,
Poughkeepsie, New
York, hereby invites the
submission of sealed
bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-
07-25
Hydraulic System Com-
ponents and
Hydraulic Fluids,
Connectors and
Connections
Bids will be received un-
til 2:00 p.m. on the 20th
day of March 2025 at the
Dutchess County Divi-
sion of Central Services,
378 Violet Avenue, Suite
2, Poughkeepsie, New
York 12601. Specifica-
tions and bid forms may
be obtained by visiting
our website
<http://www.dutchessny.gov>,
selecting "Govern-
ment", then selecting
"Bidding and RFP Op-
portunities". For addi-
tional information, call
845-486-3613.

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS
NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent,
County of Dutchess,
Poughkeepsie, New
York, hereby invites the
submission of sealed
bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-
10-25
New Storm Drainage
and Culvert Pipe Acces-
sory Fittings and Hard-
ware
Bids will be received un-
til 2:00 p.m. on the 25th
day of March 2025 at the
Dutchess County Divi-
sion of Central Services,
378 Violet Avenue, Suite
2, Poughkeepsie, New
York 12601. Specifica-
tions and bid forms may
be obtained by visiting
our website
<http://www.dutchessny.gov>,
selecting "Govern-
ment", then selecting
"Bidding and RFP Op-
portunities". For addi-
tional 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.

OBITUARIES

Frank Ackley

Frank J Ackley, 79, of Rhinebeck, NY passed peacefully on February 26, 2025 at Maplewood @ Stony Hill in Bethel, CT. Frank was born in Kingston, NY on February 4, 1946. He was predeceased by his mother, Dorothea M Ackley, his father, Frank E Ackley and his step-mother, Elsie M Ackley. Frank is survived by his step-brother and sister-in-law, Warren J and Lori Pelham. Frank graduated from Kingston High School in 1963, after which he proudly and honorably served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War era from 1963-1967. Frank was briefly employed with IBM before beginning his career with the NYS Police, attaining the position of Zone Sergeant in Troop K - Zone 1, retiring in 2001 after 31 years of service. During his career he was proud to serve as a member of the original "Mobile Response Team" that was created for the 1980 Winter Olympics, as well as a member of the Division's SCUBA detail. At this time, there are no plans for a formal service; however, a memorial for Frank will be held in the future.

Dr. Bertram Bernstein

Dr. Bertram "Bob" Henry Bernstein, 87, passed away on February 27, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, surrounded by his loved ones. Bob was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and physician. Born to Dorothy and David Bernstein on April 14, 1937, in Nyack, New York, Bob attended Bard College on a full academic scholarship before earning his medical degree, also on an academic scholarship, from New York Medical College in 1963. He completed his residency at Lenox Hill Hospital, during which he also served in the Army Medical Corps. While continuing his work as an attending physician at Lenox Hill, Bob established a successful private practice in New York City, where he cared for many

patients who adored him, including numerous professional sports athletes who played on the New York Rangers, New York Yankees and Mets. During this time, he met Linda, a nurse at Lenox Hill Hospital. They married in 1977, building a beautiful life together as partners in both medicine and family. After enjoying 35 years practicing medicine, Bob retired with his wife to Rhinebeck, where he found a community of wonderful friends and enjoyed his later years surrounded by the family and lifestyle he loved. In Rhinebeck, he cherished riding his bike, sitting in the sun, collecting comic books, and conquering the New York Times' crossword puzzles. He is survived by his devoted wife, Linda; his children, Adam (and Laura), Brad (and Annette) and Scott (and Marcia); and his grandchildren, Matthew, Alec, Jared and Nikki. Bob was predeceased by his brother Jerome. His wisdom, strength, and kind sense of humor will live on through those who loved him. No formal services will be held. Arrangements under the direction of the Dapson Chestney Funeral Home, Rhinebeck, NY. To send an online condolence, please visit www.dapsonchestney.com

Arthur S. Hill
Arthur S. Hill, 72, passed away on Thursday, Feb. 27, 2025 at his home in Milan, N.Y., after a brief illness. Arthur was born on July 30, 1952 in Queens to the late Arthur T. and Anne Marie Hill. He received degrees from Adelphi University in philosophy and French. While maintaining his successful A.S. Hill Contracting business, he returned to school and earned a nursing degree. Arthur married Jeanette Sargent on July 14, 1979 and they raised two daughters together. His passions were his family, read-

ing and travel. He coached both his daughters' softball teams and cherished family summer vacations in Maine. Arthur is survived by Jeanette; daughters Laura Hill (James Bennett) of Clinton Corners, N.Y. and Amanda Hill-Buchholz (Nate) of Redding, Calif.; his granddaughter, Mabel; his siblings, Mary Anne Nimon, Timothy Hill and Michael Hill; and extended family and friends. A private service will be held in the coming months. Funeral arrangements were trusted to Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook, NY.

John Kading
John Ernest Kading, 96, of Clinton Corners and Millbrook, NY, died peacefully on Saturday, March 1, 2025 surrounded by his family that loved him. John was born in Sharon Connecticut to Ernest and Charlotte Kading. John was predeceased by his wife of 61 years Marilyn (Mull) Kading on November 18, 2016. John married Marilyn on March 26, 1955. Together John and Marilyn owned and operated the Corner News Store in Millbrook for over 50 years. There at the Corner News Store his love for the Village of Millbrook and friends met along the way grew every day for those 50 years. In 1965, John and Marilyn moved to Mabbettsville to the farm and homestead of his dreams. John and Marilyn raised their four children on the farm in Mabbettsville. John and Marilyn sold the Corner News Store in 1999, and retired to the farm in Mabbettsville where he enjoyed his sheep. In 2006, they sold the farm and moved to a smaller house in Clinton Corners, but his heart, his love, and his life always stayed in Millbrook. In 1998, they lost their youngest daughter Debbie to cancer. And in 2021, John lost his sister Helen (Kading) Doland. John is survived by his children, Diane (and Gerry) Schoessow, John (and Jennifer) Kading, and Donald (and fiancé Michelle)

Kading, his grandchildren, Jessica (and Peter) Cedeno, David (and fiancé Tabitha) Brownell, Ashley Schoessow, Kyle Schoessow, Kaylee Kading, Elizabeth (and Dominic) Bucci, John Kading III, Christina Kading, Michael Kading, and Stephen Kading, and his great grandchildren, Joshua, Jasmyn, Mekhalyn, Riley, Zayden, Nathan, Eden, Elliana, Julius and Emersen. He is also survived by his brother Henry Kading, and nieces and nephews. Throughout his life he was deeply involved in many aspects of the community. In addition to owning and operating the Corner News Store in Millbrook for over fifty years, for more than forty years John proudly showed his sheep at the Dutchess County Fair and at the fairs throughout the East Coast. He was the chairman of the Dutchess County wool pool for sheep farmers in the area. He was the leader of the Southern Shepherds 4H club for many years. He was a member of the Millbrook Historical Society, the Lions Club, the Millbrook Rotary, the Millbrook Business Association, the VFW, Commander of the American Legion in Millbrook, and a Free Mason. He was a lifetime member of the Millbrook Fire Department and was one of the first starting the Millbrook Ambulance Squad and he was the co-founder of the Millbrook festival of holiday lights on Franklin Avenue. John will be dearly missed by all. Calling hours were held at Allen Funeral Home, Millbrook on Thursday, March 6. A memorial service was held at the Lyall Memorial Federated Church, Millbrook on Friday, March 7. Memorial donations can be made to Millbrook Community Partnership Inc., P.O. Box 1087, Millbrook, NY 12545 for the benefit of Bennett Park or to the Millbrook Historical Society. For directions and condolences, please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com

Suguru solution

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4	5	4	5	3	5
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SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

Answers to this week's diversions
(puzzles on page 16)

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106 Business Opportunity
107 Situations Wanted
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121 Special Instruction
122 Musical Instruction
140 Nursery Schools
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142 Day Care
143 Baby-sitting
145 Adult Care
150 Announcements
151 Adoption
152 Novenas
154 Lost & Found
155 Personal
200 Services

201 Home Improvement
202 Cleaning Services
203 Lawn Services
221 Professional Services
222 Tax Experts
223 Beauty Services
225 Business Services
226 Travel & Services
227 Bridal Services
295 Financial
296 Mortgages
300 Real Estate
301 Townhouses & Condos
302 Commercial Property
304 Mobile Homes
305 Lots & Acreage
400 Townhomes & Condos for rent

Classified Index

401 Apartments for Rent
402 Rooms for Rent
403 Furnished Rooms
404 Furnished Apartments
405 Wanted to Rent
406 Garages for Rent
407 Vacation Rentals
408 Houses for Rent
420 Commercial Rentals
500 Musical Merchandise
501 Kid Stuff
502 Clothing
503 Furniture
504 Appliances
505 Free Items
506 Computers
507 Sports Equipment
508 Exercise Equipment

509 Office Equipment
510 Firewood
511 Lawn & Garden Equip.
512 Winter Merchandise
516 Misc. Merchandise
700 Pets & Supplies
701 Free Pets
702 Lost & Found Pets
703 Pets for Adoption
710 Garage & Yard Sale
711 Tag Sale
712 Moving sale
713 Rummage Sale
714 Flea Market
715 Craft Corner
716 Barn Sale
717 Estate Sale
718 Auctions
719 Antiques

720 Vendors Wanted
721 Wanted to Buy
722 Bazaar
723 Consignments
724 Farmers Market
725 Collectibles
750 Events
800 Boats
801 Campers & Trailers
802 Motor Homes
803 Recreational Vehicles
900 Autos for Sale
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'Shotgun Scientist' to speak at Cary Institute March 14

On Friday, March 14 at 7 p.m., Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies will host a public lecture featuring Dr. Angelica Patterson, a plant ecophysiologicalist and science communicator from Mount Holyoke College. She has been dubbed the "Shotgun Scientist" for a method she uses to collect leaves from trees to study how they respond to climate change.

This event is free and open to all. There will be time for an audience Q&A following the presentation. Guests can attend in-person at Cary's auditorium in Millbrook, or via live stream.

Registration is required; There are separate signups for in-person seating in our Millbrook, NY auditorium and virtual access via live stream.

For more information and to register, visit caryinstitute.org/events.

As northeastern forests recover from a history of agriculture and timber harvesting, they have become one of the world's fastest-growing carbon sinks. By locking carbon in their wood, the trees that make up these forests are allies in the fight against climate change. But warming temperatures are leading to shifts in the tree species that make up these forests, as

some slowly migrate northward in search of cooler conditions.

Patterson will discuss her research on how different tree species are responding to warming temperatures, which are most tolerant, the role of other stressors, and what this means for future carbon storage. Her work has revealed that resident trees (such as Northern red oak and red maple) may have a physiological disadvantage compared with their migrant counterparts (such as pignut hickory and American sycamore), and are at risk of being replaced due to this and other ecological factors.

Patterson is the Curator of Education and Outreach for Mount Holyoke College's Miller Worley Center for the Environment. Patterson received her bachelor's from Cornell University and her master's and doctorate degrees from Columbia University. She is an advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the environmental sciences.

For more information about Dr. Patterson and her work, visit her at theshotgunschientist.com or on X @ColorfulSciGirl.

NYS Iraq and Afghan War medals now being issued

The New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs is now issuing commemorative Afghanistan and Iraq War medals approved by the legislature and Governor Kathy Hochul in 2023.

The medals are not for wear on a uniform but were designed and authorized as a way for the legislature to thank veterans of these wars for their service.

Two bills, signed into law by the governor in November 2023 created the New York State Afghanistan War Commemorative Medal and the New York State Iraq War Commemorative Medal.

The Afghan War medal is awarded to members of the armed forces who served in Afghanistan between October 2001 and August 2021.

The Iraq War medal is for service members who served in Iraq between March 2003 and December 2011.

Last year the Division of Military and Naval Affairs began issuing commemorative medals to military veterans who served in the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

"On behalf of the legislature and Gov. Kathy Hochul, we at the Division of Military and Naval Affairs are proud to be able to play a role in recognizing the military service of those who fought in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Maj. Gen.

Ray Shields, the adjutant general of New York.

Veterans can apply for the medals online by going to the Division of Military and Naval Affairs website at dmna.ny.gov/awards/.

Applicants can use an online form to request the medals, or they can print out, and mail in an application form.

Applicants must be New York state resident now, or have been a New York state resident when they served in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Applicants must provide a digital or paper copy of their Department of Defense Form 214 (DD214) Certificate of Release or

Discharge from Active Duty, as proof of military service in the two theaters of action.

Family members and other designated individuals can apply on behalf of a veteran. The medal can also be awarded posthumously.

The New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs is the state agency which administers the New York National Guard, New York Naval Militia and New York Guard volunteer state defense force. The agency also oversees the New York State Military Museum in Saratoga Springs.



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