

Taste of Rhinebeck returns on May 1

By Stacey van den Thoorn

Looking for a fun way to spend a beautiful spring evening enjoying culinary treats with friends in a picturesque setting? Then mark your calendar for the Taste of Rhinebeck on Wednesday, May 1.



Willow at Mirbeau won the Best Dessert honors at the 2023 Taste of Rhinebeck. Courtesy photo

Taste of Rhinebeck is a great way to explore the historic village of Rhinebeck while satisfying your senses and enjoying an array of flavors from farm-to-table delicacies to artisanal treats. The event, sponsored by the Rhinebeck Chamber of Commerce, is the ideal event to feed your inner foodie and indulge in a diverse offering of delectable foods and beverages. More than 23 of Rhinebeck's esteemed restaurants, spirit shops, and specialty food purveyors will be showcasing their most mouthwatering creations to sample and savor.

"Taste of Rhinebeck is a delectable journey through our village, offering attendees the chance to relish a diverse array of food and beverages while enjoying a delightful night out with friends," said Nancy Sheehan, Executive Director, Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce. "This event not only delights the senses but also

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Renegades set record with 3 consecutive walk-off wins

Hudson Valley opens home schedule with 4 wins over Aberdeen

By Rich Thomaselli

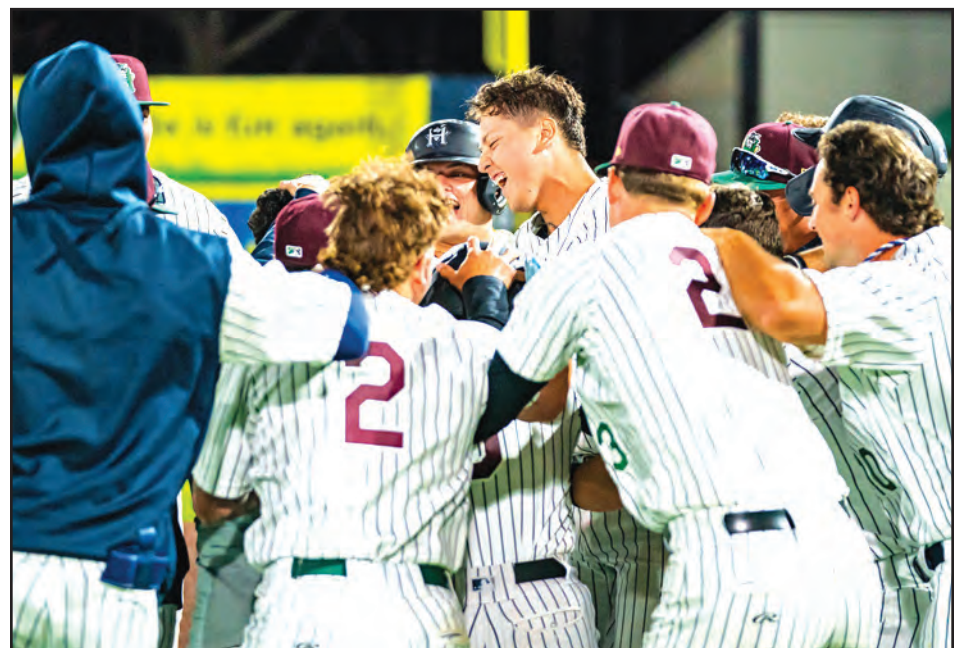
New season, new record. In their 30th season in the area, the Hudson Valley Renegades set a milestone with three consecutive walk-off victories during their opening week at home.

All of them were against their South Atlantic League North Division rival, the Aberdeen Ironbirds.

It all started with a 3-2 dramatic victory in the bottom of the ninth in the 30th season home opener on Tuesday, April 16.

It continued the next night in 11 innings with a 5-4 win. After a brief rain delay prior to first pitch, it appeared that the IronBirds were going to cruise to a 4-1 victory on Wednesday night. Instead, the Renegades found more late-inning magic, scoring three in the ninth to tie the game at 4. At long last, in the 11th inning, Nelson Medina singled home Kiko Romero to seal the win.

Renegades starter Jackson Fristoe struggled with command in the first inning, walking four batters in 0.2 innings. A single from Matthew Etzel opened the scoring, and a sacrifice fly



Hudson Valley Renegades players celebrate after gaining a dramatic 3-2 victory over Aberdeen in the bottom of the ninth inning of their 30th season home opener on Tuesday, April 16. Photo by Dave Janosz

from Carter Young later in the inning put Aberdeen in front 2-0. Etzel finished his night 4-for-5, and was on base five times.

On the other side, Hudson Valley had runners on in the early going, but a pair of inning-ending double plays in the first and second allowed IronBirds starter Cameron Weston to settle in. After earn-

ing South Atlantic Player of the Week honors on Monday, Weston tossed four scoreless innings on Wednesday, allowing just two hits and striking out four.

Josh Moylan got the Renegades on the board in the bottom of the fifth with a towering drive to right for his first home

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Rhinebeck Class of '27 to host 5K Color Run

By Stacey van den Thoorn



The Rhinebeck High School Class of 2027 will host a 5K Color Run on Saturday, April 27, beginning at 10 a.m. at Rhinebeck High School. The run will take place rain or shine on a marked trail on school grounds and is open to anyone interested in walking or running for a cause. All proceeds raised from the Color Run will support Ryan McElroy Children's Cancer Foundation, which has been dedicated to supporting children and

The mission of the Ryan McElroy Children's Cancer Foundation is to raise funds to support children in the community that are afflicted with cancer and other life-threatening diseases by improving the quality of life for them and their families. Courtesy photo

their families in the Mid-Hudson Valley for more than 25 years.

The Ryan McElroy Children's Cancer Foundation, a local nonprofit organization, was created in 1998 by family and friends of Ryan McElroy, who died from a rare bone cancer just shy of his fifth birthday. It is the foundation's mission to raise funds to support children in the community that are afflicted with cancer and other life-threatening diseases by improving the quality of life for them and their families while they courageously battle these devastating diseases. To date, the foundation has helped more than 1,400 families and raised more than \$3.6 million that has been given directly

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Rhinebeck to hold Earth Day Celebration April 27

The Town of Rhinebeck is offering a free afternoon of fun and activities geared toward exploring and supporting the natural world. The Earth Day Celebration will be held at the Thompson-Mazzarella Town Park on Saturday, April 27, from noon to 3 p.m. The Village's Climate Smart Rhinebeck Task Force is partnering with local nonprofit Dirty Gaia and the Town Recreation Department to organize many special guests and activities.

Below is a full schedule of events:

Noon - Renew the Pollinator Meadow: Join the gardeners preparing the pollinator-friendly meadow by the tennis courts, readying it for its second season. If you have gardening gloves, all the better!

Noon-12:30 p.m. - Check out our forest's shyest creatures at Milo's Menagerie. A local middle-schooler and budding herpetologist will give a show-and-tell talk about creatures he's found in Rhinebeck before his 12:30 guided walk in the woods at the park.

Noon-2 p.m. - Spring Crafts with Rhinebeck Town Recreation Department. Meet in the two pavilions by the playground and get crafty. There will be a seed-potting activity, as well.

Noon-3 p.m. - Fostering Caterpillars and Making Seed Balls: Join Sandy Bartlett of Morton Memorial Library in Rhinecliff and learn how easy it is to feed and care for Monarch and Swallowtail caterpillars before releasing them. Make seed balls that you can plant in your home garden—or check out seeds from the Library's Seed collection.

Noon-3 p.m. - Operation Zero Waste: There's not much that can't be re- or upcycled these days. Familiarize yourself with the myriad possibilities at our Operation Zero Waste tables.

The Town will collect items on site

and have information on where you can drop everything else, from old paint (Williams Lumber) to contact lenses (The O Zone). Visit <https://www.climate-smarthinebeck.org/events/> to see what you can bring to recycle.

The latest news on the Village Compost site will be on hand, as will Dorna Schroeter's Biomimicry Display, showing how much we depend on nature's genius for our artistic and industrial designs.

Noon-3 p.m. - Rethink Your Yard & Home: Check out the electric alternatives to snow blowers, leaf blowers and string trimmers and learn all the steps you can take to make your home more efficient, sustainable and resilient. Lots of info on reimagining your lawn, too.

Noon-3 p.m. Bike Rodeo: The Rhinebeck Police Department is setting up a bicycle obstacle course—BYO bikes and helmets—and giving out pro safety tips. They'll give your bike and helmet a free once-over to make sure it's working properly and road-safe.

Noon-3 p.m. - Speaking of bikes... Starr's Book Bike will be on hand, loaded with eco books waiting to be checked out.

12:30 p.m. - Herpetology Walk with BMS student Milo—Meet the amphibians and reptiles who call the Town Park home.

1:30 p.m. - Birds of Prey Show with Brian Robinson. Brian, an acclaimed falconer who has worked on stage and screen, will bring a selection of his birds and demonstrate their remarkable traits and capabilities.

2 p.m. - Invasive Species ID Walk with Winnakee Land Trust. Learn to identify the plants that may be robbing native species of their traditional habitat and how to remove them.

National Rebuilding Together Day is Saturday



Rebuilding Together Hudson Valley volunteers work on a project site for a homeowner in Poughkeepsie during a previous year's event. *Courtesy photo*

Rebuilding Together Hudson Valley (RTHV), a local affiliate of the leading national nonprofit organization, Rebuilding Together, will host its annual National Rebuilding Day on Saturday, April 27. With a vision to ensure safe, healthy homes and communities for everyone, RTHV works year-round to provide critical home repairs for our neighbors in need.

Approximately 75 volunteers will repair three homes needing essential critical home repairs on April 27. The nonprofit has been serving the Dutchess County region for more than three decades and has significantly impacted thousands of neighbors since its founding, repairing almost 1,100 Dutchess County homes. Recently, the organization has changed its name to reflect their expansion to include Ulster County as well. RTHV is actively engaged, both in outreach and with projects in the works throughout both counties.

"Our efforts in Dutchess and Ulster

counties now are as important as ever, to us, our partners, and those we serve," stated Wyeth Drummond, the Program Manager for RTHV, "We continue to develop partnerships and welcome new relationships to serve our communities together."

Partnerships, sponsors, and volunteers are a vital component of the organization, allowing RTHV to carry out its programs and make the necessary critical repairs that so many low-income homeowners need. On this National Rebuilding Day on the 27th, nine companies and organizations are collaborating their time and skills. They serve as financial partners, in kind donors, team leads, and volunteers to support the work that RTHV does within our community.

Rebuilding Together Hudson Valley provides these services at no cost to homeowners year-round, with the support of local business sponsorships, in-kind donations, federal and local grants, and individual donations.

BRIDGE REOPENED TO TRAFFIC ON HUNNS LAKE ROAD IN STANFORD

The Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) has announced the replacement of Bridge S-24 on Hunns Lake Road (CR-65) in the Town of Stanford is complete and the structure was opened to traffic today. Construction crews will be completing cleanup in the area in the coming weeks.

Project work, which began in the summer, included replacing the structure, located over the Hunns Lake Creek approximately one mile north of the State Route 82 intersection, with a new, wider bridge that includes four-foot shoulders.

An average of 630 vehicles traverse this section of Hunns Lake Road daily.

For more information, please contact the Dutchess County Department of Public Works' Engineering Division at (845) 486-2925.



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GENERAC

Taste of Rhinebeck returns May 1

continued from cover

supports two incredible causes: the Village of Rhinebeck's Autism Supportive Community Committee and essential Chamber initiatives. Taste of Rhinebeck is a culinary event that bridges neighbors, friends, and food enthusiasts. As forks meet plates and laughter fills the air, Taste of Rhinebeck weaves a tapestry of community connections - one bite at a time."

Two sessions of Taste of Rhinebeck are being offered, one at 5 p.m. and one at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$75 per person and must be purchased in advance. As a cash-free event, tickets will not be available at the door, but can be purchased online through the day of the event, subject to availability. For more information and to purchase tickets go to <https://bit.ly/49UPdys>.

Rhinebeck Class of '27 to host 5K Color Run

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back to families and children of the community.

"Ryan was born on September 11, 1993. In 1995, he was diagnosed with stage four Ewing sarcoma, a rare bone cancer," said Ryan's sister Tralee McElroy. "Ryan fought with bravery. He went through more at 4 years old than most. From chemotherapy, hospital stays, to trips to Lourdes France, Ryan never gave up. Everyone that knew Ryan was touched by his innocence and never gave up attitude. On August 29th 1998, God wanted Ryan to join him in Heaven. Ryan is in Heaven looking down upon all of us. His bravery, determination, and spirit created this foundation to help other children and families fighting with life threatening

illnesses. Every day, Ryan's spirit lives on and will never be forgotten."

For more information, visit Ryansfoundation.org.

To sign up for the event, go to www.eventbrite.com and search for "Rhinebeck High School 5K Color Run," then click on the event. For more information, contact Meg Winters at mwinters@rhinebeckcsd.org.

Timeline of Events - Rain or Shine

10-10:45 a.m. - Participant check in; limited T-shirts available be sure to register in advance.

10:45-11 a.m. - Participants will take their mark.

11 a.m.-noon - 5K will commence.

Noon-1 p.m. Post-run fun.

Walk to raise funds for American Heart Association set for Saturday

By Kristine Coulter

The Hudson Valley Heart Walk is set to take place on both sides of the Walkway Over the Hudson, 61 Parker Ave., in Poughkeepsie, on Saturday, April 27. Opening remarks will take place at 9 a.m., followed by the walk over the bridge and back again. Participants can register at Heart.org/hudsonvalleyheartwalk.

Hudson Valley residents Mary Jo Cipollini and Karina Gonzabay will be one of two survivors who their share stories at the event. Organizers expect 600 people.

"People should definitely come to the Heart Walk, and raise money for it," said Steve Kelley, who is chairing the event and president and CEO of Ellenville Regional Hospital. "The American Heart Association is the premiere organization to save lives. We'll be raising funds for research to study the leading cause of death, heart disease. This is our best opportunity to save lives. I can't think of a better charity to give to."

"It's a great opportunity to improve your own health in an iconic location. The American Heart Association recommends 150 minutes of exercise per week, and a walk across the bridge and back is a great way to get some movement in! Also, money raised at the Heart Walk will help us fund more research to save more lives," remarked Kelley.

Surviving sudden cardiac arrest – twice

It was in 2002 that Cipollini, a resident of Highland, had sudden cardiac arrest for the first time, when her 2 children were ages six and two. At the age of 36, she received a defibrillator.

"I was without oxygen for 10 to 12 minutes," Cipollini said. "Twenty-two years later, here I am, brain-injured, but not brain damaged."

"I didn't smoke, I didn't drink, there was no family history of heart disease," Cipollini said. "I brought this to the

family."

Cipollini had a second cardiac arrest during her son's baseball game. That medical emergency occurred in 2016.

"I came home to change, and got really dizzy," Cipollini said in a release. "I woke up on the bathroom floor and didn't know how I had gotten there or how much time had elapsed. I asked my husband if he had heard something drop, and he said he hadn't. This was Tommy's time – it was the Highland-Marlboro game and he was the second baseman. He was so happy; I wasn't going to ruin that."

At a doctor's appointment, two weeks later, Cipollini, according to the release, stated to her doctor she "might have passed out." When he checked her defibrillator's history, it showed that she had received a shock on the day of the game.

"The nurse practitioner came in and told me it proved that I had a working defibrillator," Cipollini remarked. "If I'd been home and hadn't had that device, I might not be here."

Cipollini savors the things she's been able to do as a result of her cardiac arrests.

"My daughter's First Communion was pretty emotional," she said. "And then I think about all the milestones – eighth-grade graduation, high school, seeing my children settle into their dorms, being here when my parents were sick. For a while, I couldn't lift my two-year-old. When I could, I'd say, 'Mommy picks you up because...' and he'd say, 'Because she can.'"

"I've been given a gift," Cipollini said, explaining why she'll share her story at the Hudson Valley Heart Walk. "I've got to pay it forward."

Suddenly rushed into surgery

In March 2022, doctors diagnosed Karina Gonzabay, a resident of Ellenville, with an anomalous coronary artery – her right artery was on the left side – something she was born with,



The annual Hudson Valley Heart Walk is set for April 27 at the Walkway Over the Hudson in Poughkeepsie. Pictured are attendees from a previous year's event. Courtesy photo

according to the American Heart Association.

"After living with this for 42 years, there was suddenly a rush for me to have surgery," Gonzabay said in the release. After going through several doctors and hospitals, Dr. Emile Bacha at Columbia Presbyterian in New York City, operated on Gonzabay in October 2022. While repairing the arteries, he also discovered a PFO, a hole between the left and right upper chambers of the heart. Everyone is born with a PFO, but unlike most, Gonzabay's hadn't closed, according to the release.

As a child in Ecuador, Gonzabay danced, biked and ran a marathon growing up in Ecuador. She held jobs that required physical activity when she moved to the Hudson Valley in the 1990s. She worked seven days a week.

Over time, before the operation, Gonzabay began to experience dizziness, shortness of breath, palpitations and even chest pains, it was stated in the release. Frequent tests – including wearing a heart monitor and having a loop monitor inserted – didn't show anything. According to the American Heart Association,

Gonzabay was advised to stop working the night shift at the hospital in favor of a day shift. It didn't help.

"I began to worry that it was all in my head," Gonzabay said.

Gonzabay, who is now 44, works per diem as a nursing assistant and on the cleaning staff. She has children who are 20 and nine years of age.

"I'm still working to get back on my feet and provide for my family, as I always did," Gonzabay said. "I'm recovering to my fullest to get as close to 'back to normal' as possible. I'm also very grateful to have overcome this huge obstacle in my life."

Gonzabay sees her cardiologist every six months. She also admits to still getting a little short of breath when climbing stairs or doing laundry.

"We hope that people take away a sense of community and well-being; a sense that they invested in themselves and their health by walking that day; and a feeling of satisfaction knowing that their walk and the money they raise is helping to build a world of longer, healthier lives for themselves and everyone they know," said Kelley.

Jacobson calls on NYS to fortify bridges against cargo ships

Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson (D-104) is calling on New York State to review and fortify its bridges, citing the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore due to a cargo ship collision and a recent New York Times article pointing out potential disasters for Hudson Valley bridges that lack pier protection. The article named the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge and the Mid-Hudson

Bridge among those at risk.

"We must be proactive and not wait for a disaster to occur," said Jacobson, whose district includes the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge and the Mid-Hudson Bridge connecting the Town of Lloyd and Poughkeepsie. The article noted that these bridges lack shields to protect them from wayward cargo ships.

"Hudson Valley residents rely on these

bridges as major arteries connecting both sides of the Valley, as other highways go north and south. The disruption and cost to the State and Federal economy would be immeasurable if the Newburgh Beacon Bridge, which carries I-84, collapsed or was unusable," continued Jacobson.

In addition to the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge and the Mid-Hudson Bridge, the New York State Bridge Authority oper-

ates the Bear Mountain Bridge, the Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge, the Rip Van Winkle Bridge, and the Walkway Over the Hudson.

"All of these bridges are vulnerable to large cargo tankers that go up and down the Hudson River every day," said Jacobson. "The time to act is now!"

Jacobson will propose legislation to deal with the problem statewide.

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(Published weekly)

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**Disappointment with lack of relief
for cannabis farmers in state budget**

To the editor:

Despite our best efforts, the state budget will not include the much-needed Cannabis Farmer's Relief Fund. Both the Senate and Assembly one-house budgets included substantial resources to address the financial losses our cannabis farmers experienced in 2022 and 2023 due to limited retail outlets.

It is very disappointing that we were unable to reach an agreement with the Governor. We have a fundamental obligation to protect NY's cannabis farmers who grew in good faith and wound up with few places to sell their crops, crops that have since lost value, leaving farmers in the red.

While we appreciate the effort to close illegal stores, making way for more locally grown products, it is too late for many farmers who can no longer afford to stay in business. If we want a successful and local legal cannabis market, it's incumbent upon us to do everything in our power to support the NY farmers who are growing this product. The lack of a relief package agreement with the Governor does just the opposite."

Senator Michelle Hinchey
Chair, NYS Senate Agriculture Committee
Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo
Chair, NYS Assembly Agriculture Committee

**Early Intervention Providers
need more help from Gov. Hochul**

To the editor:

What was Governor Hochul thinking?

NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli has reported that infants and toddlers with disabilities (Early Intervention Program) are being un-served or underserved throughout NYS. There is a severe shortage of Early Intervention Providers. Providers are being paid less now, than they were decades ago. The past three NYS Budgets have totaled nearly \$700 Billion. Hundreds of millions appropriated for a football stadium, the race horse industry, and \$2.4 Billion for migrant services, just to name a few.

For the current budget, there were signed petitions, support from both Houses of the NYS Legislature, advocacy organizations, and professional associations, all in favor of a long overdue 11% provider increase - thus, restoring the rate effective during the Governor Mario Cuomo administration, when a large pizza was \$5. That's 0.000168% of the 2025 NYS Budget.

Certainly, this appeared to be reasonable and responsible to all fair-minded people.

After three consecutive years of pleading, Governor Hochul would only agree to a 5% increase. That's still significantly less than the 11% restorative goal, and will do little to solve the problem.

Please help me to understand Governor Hochul's rationale?
Frank M. Volz, Jr.
Pine Plains

OUR POLICY ON LETTERS

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- Letters referring to news stories must mention the headline and date of publication.
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- Information must be attributed to a specific individual or published item (ie- tell us where or from whom you obtained the information)
- All letters must contain a name, hometown and phone number for verification.
- Letters appearing on the Viewpoints page are the views of the writers alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Dutchess News.

**DEC and OGS remind New Yorkers to
keep 'Lights Out' to protect migrating birds**

**State-owned and managed
buildings take measures
to reduce light,
prevent bird collisions**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Office of General Services (OGS) remind New Yorkers to take action to protect migrating birds as they navigate night skies by participating in the "Lights Out" initiative. Joining national and international efforts, State buildings par-

ticipating in Lights Out will keep non-essential outdoor lighting from affecting the ability of birds to migrate successfully throughout New York.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "We all play a role in protecting the environment and wildlife and the national Lights Out initiative is a simple way to help a variety of bird species survive and thrive during the busy migration season. DEC is proud to join our New York State partners to lead by example and take actions to reduce bird collisions."

New York State Office of General Services (OGS) Commissioner Jeanette Moy said, "Reducing excessive outdoor lighting is an easy and practical step we can take to minimize one of the many dangerous obstacles birds face during their long annual migrations. OGS is proud to join with DEC and our other partners in state government to help our avian friends safely navigate to their spring nesting sites and wintering grounds."

Many species of shorebirds and songbirds rely on constellations to help them navigate to and from their summer breeding grounds through the state. Excessive outdoor lighting, especially in adverse weather conditions, can cause migrating birds to become disoriented, a phenomenon known as fatal light attraction. According to the National Zoological Park and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, fatal light attraction has led to collisions with windows, walls, floodlights, or the ground and the death of an estimated 365 to 988 million birds annually in the United States.

Lights Out directs State-owned and managed buildings to turn off non-essential outdoor lighting from 11 p.m. to dawn during the spring migration April 15 through May 31, and also during the peak fall migration, Aug. 15 through Nov. 15. State agencies are also encouraged to draw blinds, when possible, and turn off non-essential indoor lighting during Lights Out times. In addition to benefiting migrating birds, Lights Out promotes sustainability and provides a cost-savings to the state.

Mike Burger, Executive Director of Audubon Connecticut and New York said, "Every year, billions of birds migrate north in the spring and south in the fall, and most of them travel at night. Unfortunately, artificial lights and sky glow can confuse them, causing some to collide with windows and walls while others circle in confusion until exhaustion overcomes them. This migration season, you can help by turning off lights when they're not in use, making sure that outside lights aim down and are well-shielded, closing blinds to reduce light-spill, and building awareness with building owners and managers."

Jessica Wilson, Executive Director of NYC Audubon said, "Birds are a critical part of a healthy ecosystem, but bird populations are in steep decline due to threats including climate change, habitat loss, and collisions with buildings. Fortunately, there are easy solutions to collisions including reducing artificial light at night - which also improves human health. When buildings turn off unnecessary lights at night, they help make the environment better for birds and for people."

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Hochul advances \$5.8M through NYS Grown & Certified Program

Governor Kathy Hochul recently advanced \$5.8 million through the New York State Grown and Certified Infrastructure, Technology, Research and Development Program to support New York agricultural producers. The New York Farm Viability Institute has been named as the regional funding program administrator as part of Round II of the NYS G&C program funded through Round XIII of the Regional Economic Development Council Initiative. The program will support New York farms and food processors by funding projects across the state to enhance on-farm infrastructure and technology capabilities, as well as to support existing and new NYS G&C program participants.

“New York’s farmers are the backbone of our state, and my administration is committed to supporting the future of our agricultural industry,” Hochul said. “Through this program, we’re investing in New York farm production and food processing here in our state to ensure the industry continues to thrive for generations to come.”

As program administrator, NYFVI will develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the \$5.8 million grant program. \$5 million will be dedicated to capital projects designed to improve critical farm infrastructure or help farms implement innovative technologies and state-of-the-art equipment, with the remaining \$800,000 to support research and development projects for the development of new products to be marketed under the NYS G&C program.

Funding will be allocated to REDC

regions as follows:

- Finger Lakes and Central New York – \$1 million for capital projects; \$200,000 for research and development projects;
- Long Island, New York City and Mid-Hudson – \$1.5 million for capital projects; \$200,000 for research and development projects;
- Mohawk Valley, Capital Region and North Country – \$1.5 million for capital projects; \$200,000 for research and development projects;
- Southern Tier and Western New York – \$1 million for capital projects; \$200,000 for research and development projects.

NYFVI staff work with the Department of Agriculture and Markets to develop an application process for farms and food businesses.

To be eligible for funding, all projects must implement new and innovative practices or approaches designed to meet industry needs and consumer demand. They must also have a direct, timely benefit to support New York’s agricultural industry and hold significance to the region served by focusing on one or more of the following priority areas:

- Production automation and labor efficiency;
- Distribution capacity enhancement;
- Processing and packing;
- Food safety;
- Environmental sustainability directly related to NYS G&C participation;
- New product development targeting consumer demand.

Additional information about the

program – including how to apply for funding – will be made available in the coming months.

NYFVI will be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the program, including conducting educational and promotional activities to ensure industry participation; accepting and evaluating proposals; awarding grants; executing and administering contracts, including contract oversight and reporting to the Department; and ensuring that awarded entities enroll in NYS G&C.

Department of Agriculture and Markets Commissioner Richard A. Ball said, “We are extremely grateful to Governor Hochul and the Regional Economic Development Councils for recognizing the significance of the agriculture industry and partnering on the Infrastructure, Technology, Research and Development Grant Program. This will help farmers and producers make critical technological and infrastructural enhancements at their facilities to further grow their businesses, to serve con-

sumers, and feed New York families.”

State Senator Michelle Hinchey said, “Infrastructure upgrades, new technologies, and capital improvements are major, often out-of-reach, investments for many small New York farmers, but are essential for helping farmers expand their businesses, improve regional food access, and implement climate-forward systems. The Infrastructure, Technology, Research, and Development Grant Program is one avenue through which we are helping farmers fund their capital needs and research for the future. I congratulate the New York Farm Viability Institute on their selection as program administrator and encourage eligible farms to apply once applications become available.”

The REDC process continues to support and empower regional stakeholders in developing strategic plans and funding priorities that meet local economic needs. Regional Councils reviewed projects from this program and provided scores that reflect how well a project aligns with a region’s goals and strategies.

WHITE SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD IN RHINEBECK CLOSED FOR BRIDGE WORK

The Town of Rhinebeck Highway Department has closed the bridge over the Landsman Kill stream near the Lobotsky Farm on White Schoolhouse Road. The road will be closed until further notice.

“We are sorry for any inconvenience this will cause,” said Town of Rhinebeck Highway Superintendent Bob Wyant. “We were planning on replacing these culverts this year; however, the recent heavy rains have forced us to close the road over these culverts now. New York DOT is ordering us to close the road over the culverts.”

Wyant advised residents to contact him at (845) 876-6263 with any concerns, and thanks all for their patience.

Rolison unveils legislation to expand childcare choices

State Senator Rob Rolison (39th District) announced on April 16 a package of three bills (S.8964, S.8984, S.7204) he has introduced in the state legislature’s upper chamber to expand choices for families and reduce unnecessary regulations on providers in the Hudson Valley and across New York. Rolison has served as the Ranking Member on the Senate’s Children and Families Committee since 2023. One of these measures, S.7204, advanced out of the committee on April 16.

“Childcare costs are rising for working parents across New York, with no end in sight. When it is not making the issue worse, Albany has failed utterly to address the childcare crisis in our state,” said Rolison.

“My plan delivers in a number of ways. First, it offers choice and flexibility to hybrid workers and nontraditional employees who may be working the night shift by directing the Office of Children and Family Services to create a nontraditional-hours model so providers can expand their services. Next, the plan supports tax credits for facility improvements and upgrades, easing the regulatory and financial burdens on daycare centers and other providers to

create a safe and healthy environment for our kids. Third, it uses a common-sense approach to help parents find affordable childcare closer to home by establishing a Consumer Directed Childcare Pilot Program.”

New York currently has 1,326 fewer childcare providers than it did four years ago. The nonprofit Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress released a February report which found that the number of licensed providers in the Hudson Valley decreased by approximately 27% since 2007. At an average of \$15,934 annually, the Empire State is the sixth-most expensive for infant care in the US.

“As state Senator, I’ve met too many parents who feel desperate, wondering if they’ll be able to find an affordable childcare option that works for them while avoiding the long waitlists plaguing most providers.

“We can do better. I’m sponsoring a package of pragmatic, cost-effective bills in the Senate to cut the red tape and immediately expand options for families of all types,” said Rolison.

The 39th Senate District includes parts of Dutchess, Putnam, and Orange counties.

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League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Wilmington WSH	11	4	.733	-	7-3	W4
Greensboro PIT	9	5	.643	1.5	7-3	W1
Hudson Valley NYY	9	5	.643	1.5	7-3	L1
Jersey Shore PHI	8	7	.533	3.0	5-5	L2
Brooklyn NYM	7	8	.467	4.0	6-4	W2
Aberdeen BAL	6	9	.400	5.0	4-6	W1
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Rome ATL	8	5	.615	-	5-5	W3
Bowling Green TB	9	6	.600	-	6-4	W1
Asheville HOU	6	8	.429	2.5	4-6	L3
Hickory TEX	5	9	.357	3.5	5-5	L1
Winston-Salem CWS	5	10	.333	4.0	3-7	L1
Greenville BOS	4	11	.267	5.0	3-7	L4



Infielder Roc Riggio of the Renegades throws to first after fielding a ground ball during a game last week at Heritage Financial Park. Riggio has seven hits in 12 games for the Renegades so far in the young season, including two doubles and a homerun. *Photo by Dave Janosz*



Players Statistics

PLAYER	TEAM	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS	AVG	OBP	SLG	OPS
1 Omar Martinez DH	HV	11	39	5	13	0	1	3	7	9	9	0	0	.333	.458	.615	1.073
2 Jared Serna SS	HV	13	44	9	7	1	0	2	7	11	8	0	2	.159	.310	.318	.628
3 Rafael Flores 1B	HV	10	35	5	8	3	0	1	4	4	12	1	1	.229	.325	.400	.725
3 Josh Moylan 1B	HV	9	28	5	6	0	0	1	2	7	12	0	0	.214	.389	.321	.710
3 Roc Riggio 2B	HV	12	42	6	7	2	1	1	5	11	10	1	1	.167	.333	.333	.666
3 Jesus Rodriguez C	HV	12	48	6	13	2	0	1	5	3	10	0	1	.271	.327	.375	.702
3 Kiko Romero 3B	HV	9	26	4	5	0	0	1	4	4	17	1	0	.192	.344	.308	.652
8 Jace Avina CF	HV	5	14	3	4	1	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	.286	.500	.357	.857
8 Kyle Battle LF	HV	4	9	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	4	1	0	.111	.273	.222	.495
8 Beau Brewer 3B	HV	4	11	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	4	0	0	.182	.250	.182	.432
8 Cole Gabrielson LF	HV	6	19	2	2	0	0	0	1	4	8	2	1	.105	.292	.105	.397
8 Anthony Hall RF	HV	10	29	3	3	0	0	0	1	9	12	1	0	.103	.316	.103	.419
8 Garrett Martin RF	HV	12	40	7	9	4	1	0	9	3	12	4	1	.225	.354	.375	.729
8 Nelson Medina CF	HV	9	25	1	3	0	0	0	1	2	13	2	0	.120	.214	.120	.334
8 Alexander Vargas SS	HV	5	15	1	3	1	1	0	5	3	1	1	1	.200	.316	.400	.716

Pitcher Statistics

PLAYER	TEAM	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	SO	WHIP	AVG
1 Cam Schlittler P	HV	2	0	0.60	3	3	0	0	0	0	15.0	6	5	1	1	1	9	19	1.00	.118
2 Ben Shields P	HV	0	0	0.77	4	0	0	0	0	0	11.2	3	1	1	1	0	1	14	0.34	.081

Renegades start home season with thrilling 3-2 victory over Ironbirds

By Rich Thomaselli

It never gets old. “No matter how many times you do this, it always feels like the first time,” said Hudson Valley Renegades manager Nick Ortiz last week after the franchise had its 30th straight home opener at sold out Heritage Financial Park.

“This is just pure Americana to me,” said senior citizen William Scopa of Poughkeepsie, who added that this was his 26th home opener. “I’ll take this over Major League Baseball on any day of the week and twice on Sundays.”

And it didn’t hurt that the Renegades won.

In stunning fashion, no less.

The Renegades and Aberdeen IronBirds played a competitive pitcher’s duel. The game found its dramatic conclusion with a walk-off free pass to Omar Martinez, as the Renegades scored two

runs in the ninth to beat the IronBirds 3-2 on Tuesday night, April 16.

The teams received excellent outings from their respective starting pitchers Baron Stuart and Zach Fruit. In his first appearance since pitching in the Arizona Fall League, Stuart was outstanding for Hudson Valley, going 5.1 innings, allowing just two hits, and one earned run with three strikeouts.

On the other side, Fruit matched nearly every punch from Stuart, pitching four innings and allowing just one earned run while striking out four.

In the fourth inning, Hudson Valley broke a scoreless tie. A two-out walk from Josh Moylan brought Garrett Martin to the plate. He hit an RBI triple into the left-center gap to put the Renegades in front.

Aberdeen responded in the sixth after Enrique Bradfield doubled on a soft line drive down the left field line. Tavian Josenberger eventually knocked in



Minor League Baseball is alive and well in at Heritage Financial Park in Wappingers Falls. Above, fans enter the park prior to the home opening game on Tuesday, April 16. Left: Renegades players Garrett Martin and Josh Moylan pose with a young fan. Photos by Dave Janosz



Bradfield with a sacrifice fly to tie the game and forced Stuart out of the game.

In the seventh, Aberdeen took its first lead, when Creed Willems hit a towering solo home run to lead off the frame against Ben Shields.

It looked as if this would be enough to earn the visitors a victory, but in the bottom of the ninth, the Renegades built a rally. IronBirds reliever Luis Sanchez had trouble commanding the zone, hitting two batters before walking Roc Riggio to load up the bases. Jared Serna tied the game with a second consecutive walk, and after some great takes, Martinez won the game with another base on balls.

But this night was as much about pump and circumstance and pageantry as it was about baseball.

“They did a beautiful job,” Shields said.

And almost every player said it was good to be home after opening the season with eight consecutive games on the road. Ironically, the Renegades won their first ever home opener 30 years ago by the same 3-2 score.

Hudson Valley was the last of 120 minor league baseball teams to host a home opener in 2024. The team was set to continue a 12-game homestand on Tuesday, April 23.

“It’s good to have them home,” Scopa said.

This might be the 30th anniversary season of the Renegades in Hudson Valley. But it is only their fourth as an affiliate of the New York Yankees.

Renegades set record with 3 consecutive wins

continued from cover

run of the season. The IronBirds added a fourth run in the sixth with Tavian Josenberger coming around to score on a two-out walk, via an error by Renegades second baseman Roc Riggio.

In the bottom of the ninth, the Renegades came alive. Jesus Rodriguez continued to perform, singling home Jared Serna to cut the deficit to 4-2. After Moylan was hit by a pitch, a throwing error by Matthew Etzel allowed Rodriguez to come in to score. With the score 4-3, IronBirds reliever Hayden Nierman issued a free pass to Anthony Hall to load the bases, and Beau Brewer earned a base on balls in the ensuing at-bat to complete the three-run comeback to send the game into extra innings.

After both teams struggled to find a clutch hit in the 10th, the Renegades found the breakthrough in the bottom of the 11th. After Rodriguez popped out, Moylan walked, setting up Medina to be the hero. In his first at-bat after coming on as a pinch runner in the ninth, he singled through the right side, scoring automatic runner Kyle Battle and capping off a heroic comeback.

A third straight walk-off would come the following night, 8-7, before ending the week with a 6-2 loss on Friday night.

But the excitement came right back on Saturday night. With a solo home run in the bottom of the eighth, Martinez lifted Hudson Valley to a 4-3 win over the IronBirds.

Kyle Carr got the start for the Renegades and maneuvered out of trou-

ble in the second inning after Elio Prado tripled, but was thrown out at the plate attempting to score one batter later on a groundball. The left-hander threw 4.0-plus innings, allowing three runs on four hits, walking three and striking out two in his third professional start.

In the final game of the series between the Renegades and IronBirds on Sunday afternoon, Aberdeen came from behind with a four-run rally in the eighth and earned a 6-2 victory on Cider Donuts Day.

Both starting pitchers were on their game early. Cam Schlittler and Zach Fruit threw three scoreless innings each, with neither starter allowing a hit during that period.

The offenses came alive in the fourth, with Aberdeen striking first to open the scoring. A walk to Mac Horvath was followed by an RBI double for Creed Willems, putting the IronBirds in front 1-0.

Hudson Valley responded with an outstanding bottom of the fourth inning. The home squad notched four consecutive hits to put together a three-run rally. Jared Serna led off the inning with a single, and Jace Avina followed with a double. Jesus Rodriguez then ripped a double to center, driving in Serna and Avina and giving Hudson Valley the lead. The fourth consecutive hit came from Omar Martinez, who singled home Rodriguez for a 3-1 lead.

In the top of the fifth, Aberdeen forced out Renegades starter Cam Schlittler after three consecutive baserunners reached.



Jesus Rodriguez takes a swing for the Renegades during a game last week. He is hitting .271 with 13 hits, including two doubles and one homerun. Photo by Dave Janosz

Matt Keating did a masterful job in relief, allowing just one run to come into score on a fielder’s choice, and retiring all three batters he faced in the inning.

The score remained 3-2 into the eighth inning, when the IronBirds put together a long rally. After a pair of walks to Hudson Haskin and Mac Horvath to begin the inning, Matthew Etzel and Creed Willems were retired on strikes. However, Ryan Higgins lined a single to left, knocking in two runs and giving his

team a 4-3 lead. After a wild pitch, Jalen Vasquez followed up with another single to score Higgins. The fourth run of the inning came across on an error by Roc Riggio, putting the IronBirds in front 6-3.

Aberdeen’s bullpen secured the final six outs for their second victory of the series.

Hudson Valley had an off day Monday before hosting the Bowling Green Hot Rods on Tuesday. The Renegades are now 9-5 on the young season.

'Pet Remembrance Tree' new for 'Blessing of the Animals'

The annual "Blessing of the Animals" at the Third Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rhinebeck is set for Saturday, May 18, from noon to 4 p.m. (rain date Sunday, May 19).

This year there will also be a community "Pet Remembrance Tree." The community is invited to adorn this 6-foot tree with loving tributes to "family" members they have lost. Items can be a special pet toy, leash, photo, note, paw print, a card or children can make decorations, etc. The actual tree will be placed in front of the church on Sunday, May 5, so items can be placed directly on the tree.

In advance of May 5, there will be a marked drop-off box under the covered office entrance, near the church's mail box. Tributes can be placed in the marked box, hand delivered to church on Sunday mornings or mailed to the church office. Sunday morning service begins at 9:30 with Pastor James Miller.

If there are any questions about this memorial tree please call Tree Captain, Rosemary, at 845-478-2452.

"The Blessing" will start at noon on May 18 with a brief opening ceremony. All furred, finned, scaled and feathered friends are invited to attend with their companion people. To ensure the safety of ALL, animal ambassadors must be properly escorted, leashed, kenneled or harnessed. Pooper scooper laws do apply and pick up bags will be available.

In addition to "The Blessing" there will be several other free, family friendly events to enjoy:

- Meet-and-greet Animal Ambassadors representing local shelters and rescue groups
- Interact with local service animals including a representative from the police canine unit
- Take a chance in an onsite raffle to support the charity
- "It's A Party" raffle prizes have been donated by The Emporium LTD., Harney & Sons and Adams Fairacre Farms
- Check out the various environmental groups who focus on bees, butterfly gardens, creating a safer haven for birds, etc.

City of Poughkeepsie eligible for funds to replace lead pipes

By Rich Thomaselli

The City of Poughkeepsie is poised for millions of dollars in grants and loans.

Or hoping for it, anyway.

Mayor Yvonne Flowers announced last week that Poughkeepsie has become eligible for \$3.2 million in grants and more than \$8 million in interest-free loans to start lead service line replacement projects. The city competed with larger New York municipalities for approximately \$130 million in federal funds awarded to the state to improve the quality of drinking water statewide.

The New York State Department of Health completed an evaluation of the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Lead Service Line Replacement funding and made the determination that the city is eligible for these financial resources, contingent upon city acceptance and

formal award of The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loans and grants.

"We know we can't fix this problem overnight, but the city is moving aggressively to obtain funds to replace these lead pipes, and I thank our city staff, especially our Finance and Engineering Departments, for doing the hard work of compiling data and completing these applications to move us in the right direction," said Flowers.

The city has about 5,080 residential lead water service lines and is seeking various financial sources to replace them, with an estimated total cost of more than \$100 million. While lead in drinking water does not come from the Poughkeepsie Water Treatment Plant, it can enter the water by corrosion, or wearing away, of lead in the service line and household plumbing in homes built before 1986.

CAPE of Dutchess County gains grant to expand services

The Council on Addiction Prevention and Education (CAPE) of Dutchess County has been awarded a second-year State Opioid Response Grant (SOR) from New York State's Office of Addiction Services and Support (OASAS). This funding will allow CAPE to expand its initiatives to prevent and reduce youth substance use.

According to data from Dutchess County Youth Development Survey, Monitoring the Future Survey, CDC Overdose Data and anecdotal data from school administrators, youth vaping and consuming cannabis edibles on school grounds is problematic. Additionally, Dutchess County has also seen a recent spike in overdose deaths which is listed as 2nd highest in New York State.

CAPE serves as the only NYS OASAS designated prevention provider in Dutchess County, and it coordinates prevention, recovery, and harm reduction efforts in educational, community and other settings. CAPE is committed to partnerships with school districts, law enforcement, behavioral health, and community service organizations to address the substance use crisis in the

county. CAPE focuses on enhancing school policies to include early intervention services of Teen Intervene, an evidence-based program, and an alternative to suspension, for youth (age 12-19) who exhibit mild to moderate problems associated with vaping, alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Motivational interviewing techniques guide this intervention to develop/improve communication and coping skills, and to educate students about the harmful effects of substance use on health.

"We've received direct positive feedback from schools that updating their policies has been successful in reducing youth substance use," said Mike Balles, agency director, CAPE of Dutchess County. "By addressing the early onset of use through practices that promote awareness and change prior to punishment, we have seen positive outcomes."

For more information on CAPE's services, or to establish a relationship on behalf of your elementary, middle or high school, please contact Dora Celestino at (845) 765-8301 (ext. 104) or via email at dcelestino@capedc.org.

'Open Your Heart' Cocktail Concert to benefit Children's Home of Poughkeepsie

The Children's Home of Poughkeepsie has announced their upcoming "Open Your Heart" Cocktail Concert, taking place on May 9 at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie from 6 to 9 p.m.

This evening promises to be truly unforgettable, beginning with a cocktail party adorned with hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. Following this, guests can indulge in dessert, champagne, and a 45-minute musical performance by three distinguished Broadway stars. Entitled "Neil Berg's Best of Broadway: Classics and Rock," this show guarantees to enchant audiences with its blend of timeless classics and dynamic rock numbers.

The Children's Home of Poughkeepsie extends gratitude to our the following sponsors for their invaluable support:

- Event Sponsors: NFP Insurance and Veith Electric
- Performer Sponsor: Marshall & Sterling Insurance
- Presenting Sponsors: Focused Wealth Management, Jackson Lewis P.C., Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, Servpro of Western Dutchess County, and Van DeWater and Van

DeWater, LLP

• Cocktail Station Sponsors: DSL Financial Services, Rhinebeck Bank, Vanguard Roofing, and Vassar College

• Dessert Sponsor: Williams Lumber & Home Centers

• Signature Cocktail Sponsor: M & O Sanitation, Inc.

• Friend Sponsors: Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp., David Ping Group, Dutchess Community College/DCC Foundation, Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services, Marist College, and Stewart's Shops

• Design Sponsor: Full Deck Design
Proceeds from this event will directly support the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie's mission of empowering children and families to achieve optimal health and well being.

Reservations are now being accepted, and sponsorship opportunities are available. Visit www.childrenshome.us for more information. For inquiries about the event, please contact Erin Cafarelli at (845) 452-1420 ext. 177 or pr@childrenshome.us.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPARC Park in Stanford seeks volunteers for rebuild

The Town of Stanford seeks volunteers to help rebuild its SPARC Park in Stanfordville. Work on the SPARC (Stanford Parks and Recreation Committee) Park Playground rebuild has commenced, but volunteers of all ability are still needed. Work will recommence April 30-May 4. Please use this link to sign up: <https://shorturl.at/gkzAZ>

Town of Pleasant Valley holding month-long cleanup

In celebration of Earth Month, the Town of Pleasant Valley has pronounced April as Clean-up Month. The town encourages residents to help clean up local roadsides, parks and neighborhoods.

Orange bags and gloves will be provided. Leave bags and miscellaneous items on roadsides to be picked up – don't bring them to the Transfer Station.

All participants must sign a Volunteer Waiver form. Stop by the Town Clerk's office for bags and instructions. Call (845) 635-1111, ext. 201, for more information.

Rhinebeck Village brush pick-up under way

Village of Rhinebeck Clerk Martina McClinton recently announced that the Highway Department brush pick-up is under way through May 15.

Residents are reminded that materials collected include sand (accumulated from being spread on roads), brush, limbs (up to 4 feet in length and 8 inches in diameter) and leaves. Materials not collected include garbage, building materials, stones, lumber and/or grass clippings. Also, please be sure to separate any leaves into their own pile.

All material should be placed in front of the property that generated the material and should not cover any storm water drain or impede the flow of traffic.

Clinton FD to hold Cornhole tourney April 24

The Clinton Volunteer Fire Department will host its Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, May 18, at 2 p.m., at the firehouse, 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners. Registration opens at noon. Entry is \$40 per team; single elimination. First-, second- and third-place prizes will be awarded. Food, beer and beverages will be available for purchase. Register by calling Donna at (845) 224-6522 or Lynn at (845) 266-5485.

Rhinecliff Community Conversation set April 25 at Morton Library

Morton Memorial Library & Community House (82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff) will host a Community Conversation on Thursday, April 25, at 6 p.m. This month's Conversation will focus on local utilities and parking issues. Residents are encouraged to attend to make their thoughts heard. Call (845) 876-2903 for more information.

Watercolor workshop set April 25 in Clinton Corners

Let's Watercolor for beginners to more experienced will be held on Thursday, April 25, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Local artist Donna Rutlin will teach you how to paint beautiful flowers and plants using watercolor techniques. You will take home a selection of personalized greeting cards. \$20. Registration required. www.rubyhillfarm.com/events. Madi's Way Schoolhouse, Ruby Hill Farm, 2325 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners.

Nobel Laureate to talk on aging and death April 26

Bard College presents "Why We Die," a talk by Nobel Laureate Venki Ramakrishnan, on Friday, April 26, from 1 to 3 p.m., in the Olin Auditorium on Bard's campus in Annandale-on-Hudson. Ramakrishnan is the winner of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry and author of the book "Why We Die: The New Science of Aging and the Quest for Immortality." The event will include a Q&A followed by a reception. For more information, contact gildersl@bard.edu.

Book Sale set April 26-27 at Starr Library

The Friends of Starr Library will hold their Book Sale on Friday, April 26, and Saturday, April 27, during open hours in the library's Community Room. Starr Library is at 68 West Market St. in Rhinebeck.

Visit www.starrlibrary.org for more information.

Tivoli American Legion post to hold Beef BBQ April 27

Tivoli Sons of the American Legion will hold a Beef BBQ with sides on Saturday, April 27, from 2 to 5 p.m., at Tivoli Legion Hall. The cost is \$16 (eat in or take out). Call (518) 755-3010 to reserve.

Hudson Valley Heart Walk set April 27

The Hudson Valley Heart Walk combines the Dutchess-Ulster Heart Walk and the Tri-County Heart Walk into one event, set for Saturday, April 27, on the Walkway Over the Hudson. Participants can start on either side of the bridge. Register at <https://www.heart.org/hudsonvalleyheartwalk>.

Family fun at Spring Fling

Families can dive into spring together at the New Beginnings Spring Fling Festival on Saturday, April 27, from 1 to 4 p.m. This water-themed festival is free and offers games, crafts, snacks, and more. New

The festival happens rain or shine; the events just move inside the big gym. New Beginnings is at 35 DeGarmo Road in Poughkeepsie. All are welcome. www.newbeginningscma.org

Huck Finn Weekend Fishing Derby set in Pleasant Valley

Pleasant Valley Trout & Game Club and Pleasant Valley Recreation present Huck Finn Weekend Fishing Derby on April 27-28 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Pleasant Valley Trout & Game Club, 1208 Salt Point Turnpike, Pleasant Valley. The event is for boys and girls age 15 and younger. No registration required. Visit www.pvrec.com for more information.

Town of Poughkeepsie continues Earth Month clean-ups April 28

To close out Earth Month, the Town of Poughkeepsie will hold two more clean-up events. The first will be on West Main Street/Route 9D in the Village of Wappingers Falls at 9 a.m. Starting point is at spotlight intersection of Delavergne Avenue and West Main Street. Organized by local residents.

The second is set at Raymond Avenue from Hooker Avenue to Haight, Collegeview, Davis, and Lagrange from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet-up is at the garden space next to the Crafted Cup. Organized by county legislator Lisa Kaul and Vassar Office of Sustainability.

Skylkill embroiderers club to present fiber arts talk on May 1

Skylkill, a local chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America, will present "Fleece To Fiber" on Wednesday, May 1, at the Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Route 55, Lagrangeville. Andrea Parent-Tibbetts who will explain the process of how fiber is made from fleece. Andrea is the owner of Clover Brooke Farm in Hyde Park, a beautiful homestead dating back to 1850 on 25 bucolic pastured acres raising alpacas, llamas, sheep and goats. This program begins at 12:30 p.m. Join other needleworkers for fun and learning beginning at 10 a.m. or, come for this program only. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/SkylkillIEGA or email to EGASkylkill@gmail.com.

Taste of Rhinebeck set May 1

Taste of Rhinebeck is back on Wednesday, May 1, presented by the Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce. The event is a tantalizing showcase of Rhinebeck's finest flavors, offering specially created treats along the way at our award-winning restaurants, spirit shops and specialty food purveyors.

Tickets are \$75 per person and must be purchased online in advance. With options for both time slots available on our website, there's no excuse to miss out. Reserve your tickets now: <https://bit.ly/49UPdys>

Spring Fling Fashion Sale at Morton Library May 2

Come to Morton Memorial Library on Thursday, May 2, from 4 to 7 p.m., and get some finery for prom or summer fetes along the river. Items for sale include women's and men's clothing, shoes, and accessories. The collection includes vintage and designer items. Check, cash, or PayPal accepted. Proceeds will benefit for the library, which is located

at 82 Kelly St. in Rhinecliff.

Spring Rummage Sale at Salt Point Church May 3-4

Westminster Presbyterian Church, located at 1872 Salt Point Turnpike in Salt Point, will be holding their spring rummage sale on Friday, May 3, from 3 to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, May 4, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with a \$3 per bag final sale May 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. Features will include children, women and men's spring & summer clothing, linens, household goods, CD's, books, pocketbooks, backpacks, children's toys, games, puzzles, shoes, small electronics, 2 large rugs and matching runners, a variety of perennial plants and much much more at very reasonable prices. Bake sale on both days with lunch available on Saturday only. For information or directions, call Diana at 845-656-9959. (Note: The church will not be holding a fall rummage sale this year.)

Upcoming Repair Cafes in Pleasant Valley

Pleasant Valley's last three Repair Cafes for 2024 are set for Saturday, May 4, Saturday, August 3 and Saturday October 5. They are held at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Route 44, from 10 am - 2 pm. Expert fixers repair lamps, computers, clocks, cell phones, jewelry, mend clothing, holes in sweaters, sharpen knives & small garden tools and almost anything that needs repair. Voluntary donations are appreciated.

This is a community event, neighbors helping neighbors, making repairs instead of filling landfills. Plus the Cafe offers a great cup of coffee or tea and homemade muffins & cookies while you wait.

These Repair Cafes are supported by Pleasant Valley Climate Smart, RepairCafeVh.Org and Sustainable Hudson Valley. Visit www.repaircafevh.org or follow on www.facebook.com/PVRepairCafe for more information.

Miles of Hope Spring Brunch set May 5

Miles of Hope will celebrate its 20th anniversary at this year's Spring Brunch, set Sunday, May 5, at The Grandview Tent, 176 Rinaldi Boulevard, Poughkeepsie. Check-in begins at 10:30 a.m. and the program starts at 11 a.m. Register at <https://milesofhope.org/>.

PV Rec sets Tall & Small Family Ball

Pleasant Valley Recreation recently announced its inaugural Tall & Small Family Ball for the entire Pleasant Valley community. Mark your calendars for Friday, May 10, to bring your family for a fun night of dancing. This family-fun event will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Community Room. Tickets are free, but registration is required. PV Rec is limiting registration to 50 children and their adult. You can customize your participation to whatever fits your family best - daddy/daughter or son, mother/daughter or son, grandparent/grandchild, etc. All children attending must be accompanied by an adult. Light refreshments will be served. Register at <https://pleasantvalleyny.myrec.com/>.

Palatine Farmstead to celebrate Tercentennial May 11

The Palatine Farmstead at 6916 Route 9 North in Rhinebeck will celebrate its 300th anniversary on Saturday, May 11, with an Open House from 1 to 5 p.m. Included in the day's activities will be a tour of the house, an ongoing slideshow giving the timeline of the Farmstead's restoration, cookies from the kitchen's bake oven, demonstrations, refreshments and musical entertainment.

Community Wellness Walks to start May 16

Rhinebeck Rotary's Mental Health and Wellness Committee will launch its Community Wellness Walks on May 16. These Wellness Walks are a first step to cultivating stronger social connections and feelings of overall well-being for people who live or work in Northern Dutchess County.

The walks will be open to the public, and will rotate locations on the 2nd Thursdays of each month at 11 a.m., and the 4th Mondays of each month at 5:30 p.m. from May through October. Each

excursion will include a 5-10 minute "mindfulness activity" led by a Mental Health and Wellness Committee member, which may include breathwork, meditation, tai chi, qigong, and/or other experiences designed to promote mindfulness.

The wellness walks are free of charge and open to anyone 18 years of age or older. All participants must sign a waiver form in advance (available at rhinebeckrotary.org).

Aerodrome Gala set May 18

The Spirit of the Aerodrome Gala will take place on Saturday, May 18, at 5 p.m. The fundraising event will feature cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dancing and fun. The Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome counts on the financial support of fans, friends and enthusiasts to keep its vintage planes flying. They do 38 air-shows each season, like no other aviation venue in the country. Visit www.ldrhonebeck.org for tickets, sponsorship opportunities and more information.

Milan church to host presentation May 19

Join us for an entertaining and informative afternoon with a Vintage Visitors presentation of "A New England Mill Girl: Lucy Lancom." This free historical performance is Sunday afternoon May 19 at 2 p.m. at the Rowe Methodist Church, 1376 Route 199 in Milan. Refreshments served. All welcome.

'Then & Now' Festival set June 1 in Red Hook

Historic Red Hook will present "Then & Now Festival: Farms, Food, and Families" on Saturday, June 1, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Elmdorph Inn and Green, 7562 North Broadway (Route 9), Red Hook. Rain date: June 2

Join Historic Red Hook for this summer festival and explore the farms, food, and families past and present that shape our town's unique character. Experience displays, music, food, vendors, and Red Hook memories that'll make you smile.

As part of this event, Historic Red Hook will be launching a self-guided driving tour and family-friendly scavenger hunt which will be available on their website on May 11. In addition, on May 30 at 7 p.m. at the Elmdorph Inn, Historic Red Hook will host a panel discussion on the Future of Farming. For more details visit www.historicredhook.org/thenandnow.

Repair Cafes set in Stanford

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

ONGOING

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

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NY Medical College, WMCHHealth appoint new department head at Maria Fareri Hospital

Academic medical center partners New York Medical College (NYMC) and Westchester Medical Center have jointly announced the appointment of Erika Berman Rosenzweig, M.D., as Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at NYMC School of Medicine and Director, Department of Pediatrics at Westchester Medical Center, the flagship hospital in the Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHHealth).

Dr. Rosenzweig will also assume the role of William Russell McCurdy Physician-in-Chief at WMCHHealth's Maria Fareri Children's Hospital.

"We are delighted to welcome Dr. Rosenzweig to New York Medical College as our next chair of the Department of Pediatrics," said Neil W. Schluger, M.D., Dean, School of Medicine. "Dr. Rosenzweig is an internationally prominent physician in her field, with a reputation as an outstanding clinician, teacher, and researcher. We are confident that in working with our academic partners at WMCHHealth's Maria Fareri Children's Hospital, she will continue the tradition of excellence and leadership that has been established in pediatrics at NYMC and Maria Fareri Children's Hospital over many years."

Renee Garrick, M.D., Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of WMCHHealth, joined Dr. Schluger in welcoming Dr. Rosenzweig. "The appointment of Dr. Rosenzweig will assure the continued outstanding, nationally recognized work in children's healthcare provided at Maria Fareri Children's Hospital for the families of the

Hudson Valley and beyond."

Dr. Rosenzweig is an internationally recognized expert in the medical field of pulmonary hypertension who serves in leadership capacities for the Pulmonary Hypertension Association and for the Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension Network of North America. She has authored or co-authored over 250 scientific publications and has been editor-in-chief of the journal *Advances in Pulmonary Hypertension*.

Dr. Rosenzweig has led more than 50 clinical trials developing novel therapeutic approaches for the treatment of pulmonary hypertension, a life-threatening condition that plagues both children and adults.

Board-certified in pediatric cardiology and adult congenital heart disease, Dr. Rosenzweig received her medical degree from Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, and completed her residency in pediatrics and fellowship in pediatric cardiology, with special training in pulmonary hypertension, at Columbia University Medical Center/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. Over her distinguished 24 year tenure as a faculty member at Columbia, Dr. Rosenzweig rose to the position of Professor and Vice Chairman for clinical and translational research of the Department of Pediatrics and director of the Adult and Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension Comprehensive Care Center. Simultaneously, she continues to actively care for patients with pulmonary hypertension referred to her from around the world.

Spring Book Sale & Plant Sale at Clinton Community Library

Clinton Community Library's annual book sale will be happening May 16-19, just in time for you to stock up on summer reads. The selection includes history, popular fiction, cookbooks, children's books, biographies, paperbacks, specialty books, and more.

On Saturday, a Plant Sale will be held alongside the book sale. A selection of seedlings and divided perennials will also be for sale outside, along with a selection of home and garden books.

All books and plants are priced as marked unless stated otherwise. Costs from 50 cents to \$5, with some specialty books priced higher. \$5 Bag Sale on Sunday, May 19. Plant prices range from \$3-\$12; credit cards will be accepted along with cash and checks.

The dates/times of the sale are as

follows:

- Thursday, May 16, 5-7 p.m. Preview night with \$10 entry fee. Books priced as marked.
- Friday, May 17, 1-6 p.m. Books priced as marked.
- Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Books priced as marked. Plant sale outdoors.
- Sunday, May 19, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Bag Day: Fill a bag of books for just \$5.

Clinton Community Library is at 1215 Centre Road in Rhinebeck. Please note that the library is not located in the village of Rhinebeck, it is located in the Town of Clinton, adjacent to the Clinton Town Hall.

For more information, call (845) 266-5530 or visit www.clintoncommunitylibrary.org.



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Tulip Festival

Now is the time to check out colorful tulips in bloom.

“Tulip” is an old Dutch word meaning “deer food.” That’s why you don’t see many tulips blooming in the Hudson Valley. Daffodils are everywhere, because deer don’t like them. But tulips are more colorful. And they’re at peak bloom right now.

Where can you see tulips without traveling to Holland? Sue and I drove three hours south to Holland Ridge Farms in Cream Ridge, New Jersey, 8 million tulips on 300 acres. Quite a sight, with all kinds of unusual tulip varieties – double flowered, fringed, striped and speckled. Unfortunately, their season ended last Sunday, April 21. A few weeks from now, the bulbs will be dug up, stored and then grown hydroponically in greenhouses to force new blossoms sold in Walmart as cut flowers. The entire farm will be replanted with sunflowers for a sensational U-pick sunflower festival in September.

A word of caution if you visit Holland Ridge this fall or next April – weekend traffic is horrendous. Arrive early and plan to leave well before closing time.

Closer to home, I visited Kelder’s Farm in Kerhonkson where I met with owner Chris Kelder, managing the

second year of his tulip festival, with 250,000 in various stages of bloom. Since he’s further north than Holland Farms, Kelder’s festival started on April 19 and runs every day for another few weeks. The \$16.95 admission includes a visit to the petting zoo and all kinds of kid friendly activities. You can pick your own tulips for a dollar per stem. The entire 500 acres farm is fenced to keep out deer.

Kelder’s Farm is famous for its giant Guinness record Gnome looming over Route 209, and for a photo of Chris riding his jet ski on the farm during superstorm Irene.

The Mohonk tulip festival begins a little later at the Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz. Sue and I stopped by on April 10 – date night – for dinner, using a gift certificate we got for our 25th wedding anniversary. At that time the tulips were barely out of the ground. Tall deer fencing had been installed around each bed, maybe too late, since a couple of beds had been chewed off by deer. Tulip passes, which include access to the world famous hiking trails, go on sale April 26, for \$64.

continued on page 13



Kelder’s tulip festival. Photo by Mark Adams

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

Suguru

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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: NATIONAL PARKS

ACROSS

- Rhymes with, and similar in meaning, to blob
- Refrigerator sound
- Action word
- Left, in Russia
- Departed
- Locomotive hair
- As opposed to St. in a city, pl.
- French cordial flavoring
- Type of lily, pl.
- *Voyageurs National Park location
- Like Andersen's duckling
- Poacher's ware
- Unit of pressure
- *Volcanoes National Park location
- Dionysus' female followers
- U.N. labor agency
- Camels' relatives
- Pelvic bones
- Smears
- "_____ of the land"
- Gertrude Stein's reception room
- Sicilian rumbler
- Strong influence
- To sum
- Blushes
- *Utah national park
- What blanket and landing have in common
- State before birth
- Eastern European
- *Yosemite's famous monolith (2 words)
- Cockamamie
- Effect of pain?
- First weekly news magazine in U.S.
- South African currency, pl.
- Tolstoy's Karenina
- The 15th of March
- King Kong and Koko, e.g.
- Hot one in a bun
- Copper coin

DOWN

- Type of shot
- Strauss of jeans fame
- Often found under a range
- Herzegovina's partner
- Kind of roll, in school
- Togetherness
- *_____ Verde National Park
- *Shenandoah National Park location
- Twelfth month of Jewish civil year
- Frost-covered
- Like certain relief
- _____ is a byproduct of _____ (2 3-letter words)
- "_____ for alarm"
- See nor hear this? pl.
- Faux _____
- Opposite of seeker
- Winged
- One of Florence Nightingale's concerns
- American Indians of Yucatan
- Islam's Supreme Being
- D in LED
- *White _____ National Park in New Mexico
- Financial help
- *Need one to navigate a National Park?
- *The Lakota called it "Mako Sica"
- Razor sharpener
- *Old Faithful _____, lodging spot in Yellowstone
- Poolside hut
- Roof overhang
- Rotten Tomatoes contributor
- Latin American plain
- Getting an A
- Finger-produced sound
- Muffin Man's Drury _____
- "Goodness gracious!"
- Ocean motion
- Word of agreement
- *Bald Eagle's home in Acadia or Olympic National Parks
- One of the Gershwins

CROSSWORD

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

Chancellor's Sheep & Wool Showcase returns to Clermont April 27

On Saturday, April 27, the rolling hills and river views at Clermont State Historic Site in Germantown will be alive with the sound of music, the delicious aroma of hot food, and the brilliant yarns, soaps, and artisanal goods by local makers.

The Chancellor's Sheep & Wool Showcase will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$12 per car.

This family-friendly event, one of the historic site's oldest and most popular

annual festivals, has become a springtime tradition for many in the area. With sheering demonstrations, farm animals, and historic re-enactments, there's something for everyone.

More than two dozen local makers will be selling their wares in the shopping arcade. A broad assortment of fiber arts, like wool and yarn, as well as soaps, art pieces, handmade rugs, tote bags, jewelry, and more makes the

Chancellor's Sheep and Wool Showcase a one-stop shopping event for all of your upcoming spring celebrations.

Clermont's demonstrations are the centerpiece of the Showcase, illustrating how wool goes from sheep to shawl. Gather around farmer Fred DePaul as he shears sheep throughout the day, explaining the history and technique that goes into the task. Historic fiber and cloth demonstrations will go on throughout the day. Kids and the young at heart will be invited to play with historic toys and try out 18th-century games. Tours of the historic mansion will be available on the hour from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The music stage will welcome Tamarack for lively traditional music throughout the day. Coffee will be served by Happie Bean Coffee and delicious hot food will be made-to-order by

At First Bite.

The Showcase is a great place for children, with crafts, storytelling, and the chance to meet their first sheep.

For more information about the Sheep & Wool Showcase, or for other questions about the Clermont, call (518) 537-4240.

Clermont State Historic Site is located at 1 Clermont Avenue in Germantown, off Route 9G. The Historic Site features the mansion, formal gardens, scenic Hudson River views and miles of hiking trails. Clermont is part of The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's Our Whole History Initiative, which seeks to tell a more complete story of the site including the enslaved people, servants, Indigenous people, and other underrepresented groups who called Clermont home.

Get Growing!

continued from page 11



Marsh Marigolds at Vassar. Photo by Mark Adams

Further north, the Albany Tulip Festival will take place May 11 and 12 at the capital city's Washington Park. There is also a nice display of tulips right now at the Orange County Arboretum in Montgomery, N.Y.

Even closer to home, I saw tulips blooming at the entrance to Vassar College, in the window boxes at Marian Salon Spa on Route 44 in Washington Hollow, and at Nurzia Construction Company on Route 52 in Fishkill. Or at Twin Ponds Flower Farm in Rhinebeck. The Six Dutchess Farm in Union Vale sells their own cut tulip bunches at the Sunday Beacon Farmers Market.

Tulip bulbs, along with daffodils and hyacinths, are planted in the fall. All the nutrients for the following year's growth are packed inside the bulb. When the first shoots poke out of the ground in March, I scatter a little granular fertilizer around them to provide nutrients for next year's bulb formation. Leave the foliage intact until it turns yellow in June. Then the new bulbs are mature and can be left in the ground to bloom next spring, or dug up and stored to be replanted in October, if you want to plant some annual flowers in

the same spot.

Tulips can be protected from deer, to some extent, if the fertilizer Milorganite is tossed on the ground just as the new shoots come up in early spring. Milorganite is made from Milwaukee's municipal waste, so deer don't like the smell (neither do humans). It also provides nutrients to the newly forming bulbs. As the tulips grow, any deer repellent that contains egg solids will work.

• Spring wildflower alert – the invasive lesser celandine is taking over some of our best spring wildflower forests, especially along Wappingers Creek at Creekside Park and by the Hudson River at the FDR historic site. Related to the buttercup, lesser celandine is often mistaken for the native marsh marigold, with similar shiny foliage but more petals on the golden blossoms. You can see real marsh marigolds at the Edith Roberts Ecological trail south of Olmstead Hall at Vassar College.

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

Tivoli Artists Gallery to present environmentally themed exhibition and programs

Tivoli Artists Gallery (TAG) will present "Our Only Planet: Art for Sustainability" from April 26 to May 26. TAG member artists as well as other local artists will display two- and three-dimensional artwork in a variety of mediums and materials including repurposed, recycled and found objects. "Our Only Planet" will feature themes depicting the beauty of the environment and the life it holds as well as a reminder of the losses we are experiencing as the planet changes due to human influences.

For this special exhibition TAG has partnered with Sustainable Hudson Valley; and proceeds from the event will be provided to both organizations.

Sustainable Hudson Valley's mission is to speed up, scale up, jazz up and leverage progress against climate change, creating communities where people and nature thrive.

There will be an Opening Reception on Saturday, April 27, from 5 to 7 p.m.

The exhibition will be open on weekends: Fridays, 5-8:30 p.m.; Saturdays, noon to 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

In addition, the following workshops will offered to the public:

For more information, and to view upcoming programs related to the exhibition, visit www.tivoliartistsgallery.com.

TAG is at 60 Broadway in Tivoli.

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 16 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

Stars
Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 105

By David Kalvitis

© 2003 Monkeying Around



Sweet things

Semisweet chocolate, dried cherries and a hint of cinnamon will make these a 'cookie jar' staple.

I grew up with cookie jars. Both the one at grandma's house and the one in our own kitchen were lidded crockery that concealed what was inside so you didn't always know what you'd get when you reached in. All you knew was that it would always be full of something wonderful.

The not knowing was half the fun. My grandmother might have iced oatmeal cookies or Oreos, which were always a treat, and I never minded that they were sometimes a little soft (in fact, I kinda liked them that way!). I even liked it when she mixed two kinds, which made their flavors rub off on each other. At home I mostly remember peanut butter cookies and oatmeal cookies, but I loved when my mother made cookies with M & Ms the most. It seemed almost exotic to my young mind and palate!

The nostalgia of the cookie jar has resurfaced for me since I've done my weekly shopping with my parents. Walking down the Aisle of Cookies, I'm amazed at the assortment that's now

available and feel like a kid again. I think I will always prefer to bake my own, but there's something about seeing all those enticing packages that makes me smile; and I can't help but give in to the urge to buy some from time to time, especially when some of those packages are just as I remember them from my childhood.

Having just finished the last of the peanut butter sandwich cookies purchased two weeks ago (now that's willpower!), I decided it was time to bake. I looked through my go-to cookie recipes and came across a favorite I haven't made in years. It's a take on classic chocolate chip, but the addition of dried cherries and a touch of cinnamon puts these over the top, and I can't believe I haven't shared them before, so no time like the present!

CHERRY-CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

I can't take credit for inventing these. I think I found a recipe in Gourmet magazine in the '90s if memory serves, and used that for inspiration. Using more

brown sugar than white results in soft, chewy cookies. Rich semi-sweet chocolate, tart cherries and a kiss of cinnamon are a winning combination, so a big thank you to the anonymous original baker who brought these into my life!

INGREDIENTS

2 cups flour (sifted)
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon salt
1.5 sticks (6 oz) butter, softened
1/2 cup sugar
3/4 cup brown sugar, packed
2 eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla
12 oz semi-sweet chocolate chips (or chunks if you're feeling decadent)

METHOD

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease 2 baking sheets and set aside.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder and salt.

In a large bowl, beat the butter and sugars. Add eggs and vanilla and beat to combine. Add flour mixture a little at a

time, mixing well with a wooden spoon. Stir in chocolate chips and cherries.

Place generous tablespoons of dough onto prepared baking sheets an inch apart. Bake until just golden-brown, 10-14 minutes. Check after 10 minutes – you don't want to over bake them.

Transfer to a wire rack to cool. Makes about 3 dozen cookies.

I think we should bring back the cookie jar. Every house should have one, with kids or without, for the pure joy of making the kid in all of us feel happy and loved. Stir up some memories and keep that jar full. 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.

A & E CALENDAR

April 25: Community Poetry Reading, Taste Budd's Cafe, 40 W. Market St., Red Hook. Join the Red Hook Library at Taste Budd's Cafe to enjoy poetry, community, and great coffee, 5-6 p.m. (845) 758-3241

April 25: Game Changers Film Series: "The Thin Blue Line," Bardavon, 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie. Series presents films that revolutionized cinema, 7:30 p.m. Widely recognized as a monumental achievement in the documentary tradition, *The Thin Blue Line* (1988) is a seminal true-crime document. Formal and stylistic inventiveness pulse through director Errol Morris' film, which investigates the circumstances around the murder of Dallas police officer Robert Wood and the subsequent sentencing of two men for their alleged involvement. Free. (845) 473-5288, (845) 339-6088 or boxoffice@bardavon.org

April 25-27: Bard College Dance Program Faculty Dance Concert, Fisher Center, LUMA Theater, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. A dynamic evening of choreography by the distinguished faculty of the Bard College Dance Program, performed by faculty, students in the program, and guests. Performances: Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Sat., 2 & 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$15. www.fishercenter.bard.edu

April 25-28: Live Music at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. April 25: Latin Dance Jam with Beacon Dance Beat, 7 p.m. dance to a wide array of Latin rhythmic styles. all are welcome. All seats \$10. April 26: The Haas Sisters & Bruce Molsky, 8:30 p.m. Sisters Natalie (cello) and Brittany (fiddle) Haas are regarded as virtuosi and composers at the highest levels of contemporary string music. Grammy-nominated, described as "an absolute master" (No Depression) and longtime Beacon local, Bruce Molsky transports audiences to another time and place, with his authentic and personal interpretations of rarities from the Southern Appalachian songbook and other musical traditions from around the globe. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. April 27: Cuboricua, 8:30 p.m. The name Cuboricua was inspired by the music of Cuba and Puerto Rico. Cuboricua identifies with the rhythms and melodies of the

Caribbean. Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 door. April 28: MaMuse, 7 p.m. Wholeheartedly fed by the folk and gospel traditions, MaMuse (Sarah Nutting and Karisha Longaker) create uplifting music to inspire the world into thriving. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

April 26: Almost Queen, with special guest Steve Leonard, UPAC, 601 Broadway, Kingston. They don't just pay tribute to the legendary band, Almost Queen transports you back in time to experience the magic and essence of Queen themselves, 8 p.m. Tickets \$35.50, \$45.50, \$55.50, \$75.50. (845) 473-5288, (845) 339-6088 or boxoffice@bardavon.org

April 26: Author Talk with David Baldacci, Bardavon, 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie. Best-selling novelist David Baldacci will discuss his latest work, "A Calamity of Souls," 7 p.m. Books will be available for purchase and signing at the event. Free ticketed event. Limited tickets will be available at the check-out desks at Adriance Memorial Library and Boardman Road Branch Library. For more information, follow the Library District on Facebook, visit the web site at <https://poklib.org/events/david-baldacci/>, or call (845) 485-3445 x3707.

April 26: "Murder at the Speakeasy," Buttermilk Falls Inn, Milton. Dutch Schultz has opened a speakeasy to give his girlfriend LuLu a place to sing, but flapper Rosie isn't having it. You'll dance, dine and gulp the best hooch anywhere until tempers flare, bullets rain and the law shows up. A body will fall, and it doesn't look like the Charleston did it. Tickets: events @buttermilkfallsinn.com. More info: www.murdercafe.com

April 26: Open Poetry Reading, Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. Celebrate National Poetry Month, 7-9 p.m. Those who intend to take the stage that evening should bring their own poem to read or one by their favorite poet. Those who just want to listen may be delighted and inspired by the magic and power of poetry. The event is free and open to all ages and is intended to celebrate and foster a love of poetry. mOre info: roberta.roll@gmail.com

or copakegrange.org/events

April 27: Fay Victor's SoundNoiseFunk, VBI Theatre @ Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. The superlative creative vocalist Victor convenes her acclaimed, kaleidoscopic supercollusion of maverick virtuosi — guitarist Joe Morris, soprano saxophonist Sam Newsome and drummer Reggie Nicholson — to unleash music of unrelenting energy unlimited by tradition, 8 p.m. Advance tickets on sale at <https://fayvictor.eventbrite.com/>

April 27: "Five Poets," Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon. Beacon LitFest at Howland Cultural Center and Live Writing present an event featuring five award-winning New York poets who will read and discuss their work, 7 p.m. The April 27th reading, curated by poet Ruth Danon, brings distinguished writers Catherine Barnett, Jason Koo, Stephen Massamilla, Silvina Lopez Medin, and debut author and translator, Tiffany Troy, all of whom have won awards for their publications. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased in advance through the link at <https://donorbox.org/events/556735> or events at <https://howlandculturalcenter.org> or at the door of Howland Cultural Center.

April 27: Hudson Valley Freestyle Jam, MJN Convention Center, 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. 7:30 p.m. show. Ten years ago the legends of Freestyle came to what was the Mid Hudson Civic Center and for the next three years sold out. They are now celebrating the 10th Anniversary Reunion of this show at the MJN Convention Center with some of the biggest legends in Freestyle. Four hours of Freestyle at affordable prices. The lineup includes TKA, George Lamond, Judy Torres, Noel, The Cover Girls, Betty D Of Sweet Sensation, Coro, Cynthia and Soave, plus more surprises. www.MJNCenter.org

April 27: L'Arema Ensemble, Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. Eclectic program of classical, contemporary, Broadway, jazz, pop and disco arrangements, 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 or pay what you can at the door. A reception follows after the concert. Learn more at

www.copakegrange.org

April 28: Mid-Hudson Classical Guitar Society: Music of Latin America, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Society members will perform works from this great guitar tradition, 3 p.m. Admission: \$10 at the door. For more information, email midhudsoncg@gmail.com.

April 30: The Decemberists A Peaceable Kingdom 2024 Tour, with special guest Ratboys, UPAC, 601 Broadway, Kingston. For over 20 years, The Decemberists have been one of the most original, daring, and thrilling American rock bands, 8 p.m. Founded in the year 2000, The Decemberists' distinctive brand of hyper-literate folk-rock set them apart from the start with the release of their debut EP 5 Songs in 2001. Since then, the band has released nine full-length albums that are unbound by genre and highly ambitious, ranging from Americana-leaning storytelling epics to elements of '70s progressive and hard rock. Tickets \$45, \$55, \$65, \$79.50. (845) 473-5288, (845) 339-6088 or boxoffice@bardavon.org

May 1: Directorial Debuts Series with John Carroll Lynch: "The Adventures of Sebastian Cole," The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton. New series revisits first features from established directors, 6:30 p.m. "The Adventures of Sebastian Cole" (1998), starring Adrien Grenier directed by Tod "Kip" Williams. Williams went on to direct "The Door in the Floor" (2004) and "Cell" (2016). Film will be followed by a conversation and Q&A moderated by Lynch. Tickets \$18 and can be purchased at the box office or online in advance. www.the-moviehouse.net

May 1: Rodrigo y Gabriela, UPAC, 601 Broadway, Kingston. Grammy Award-winning duo Rodrigo y Gabriela grew up on an eclectic mix of classic rock, heavy metal and flamenco, a rare alchemy of influences that still informs their work today. As they developed their distinct breed of guitar music, Rodrigo y Gabriela quickly gained recognition for their extraordinary live show, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$49, \$64, \$84. (845) 473-5288, (845) 339-6088 or boxoffice@bardavon.org

AT YOUR LIBRARY

CLINTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

1215 Centre Road, Rhinebeck
(845) 495-0655

www.clintoncommunitylibrary.org

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

Ongoing Programs:

Qi Gong with Vince (online)

Mon. 05/06, Mon. 05/13, Mon. 05/20, Mon. 05/27, Mon. 05/27 at 9:30 AM

Wed. 05/01, Wed. 05/08, Wed. 05/15, Wed. 05/22, Wed. 05/29 at 9:30 AM

Vince Sauter will teach you how to lower stress and keep calm with Tai Chi. Class will focus on breathing in the calm and breathing out the tension.

Audience: Adults & Seniors

Storytime on the Dot (in-person)

Tue. 05/07, Tue. 05/14, Tue. 05/21, Tue. 05/28 at 10:30 AM

Join us every Tuesday at 10:30 for Story time! Listen to fun stories, sing songs, and have fun, all centered around a different theme every week.

Audience: Children & Caregivers

Mah Jongg (in-person)

Tue. 05/07, Tue. 05/14, Tue. 05/21, Tue. 05/28 at 2:00-4:00 PM

If you're looking for a game to keep your mind sharp, or if you enjoy games that make you think strategically, you'll want to give Mah Jongg a try! Players of all levels are welcome. (Optimistic Aging)

Audience: Adults & Seniors

All Level Yoga (in person & online)

Wed. 05/08, Wed. 05/15, Wed. 05/22, Wed. 05/29 at 6:00 PM (online)

Sun. 05/05, Sun. 05/12, Sun. 05/26, 10:00 AM (in person or online)

Join Mia Tomic and explore classical seated, standing and supine yoga poses linked with breath in a creative way to stretch, strengthen, and rejuvenate your body, breath, and mind. You may also participate online. Please plan according to your comfort and needs as class is held indoors.

Audience: Adults & Young Adults

Chair Yoga, (in-person or online) (Optimistic Aging)

Fri. 05/03, Fri. 05/10, Fri. 05/24, Fri. 05/31 at 11:00 AM

Join Samantha for Chair Yoga for ALL. Learn the basics of breath, meditation, and movement. This class will help you stretch and strengthen. Registration required so that you can get the link. Please register online or call the library at (845)-495-0655.

Audience: Adults & Seniors

Zumba, (in-person)

Sat. 05/04, Sat. 05/11, Sat. 05/25, at 9:00 AM

Join Ginny Morrow for a fun fitness routine every Saturday at 9 AM. Pre-registration is not required. You may sign in at the door.

Audience: Adults

Free Tech Help (in-person)

Sat. 05/04, Sat. 05/11, Sat. 05/18, Sat. 05/25 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM

Do you need help with your Kindle, tablet, smart phone or computer? Drop-in anytime on Saturdays between 9AM-1PM or call the library at (845)-495-0655 to book an appointment.

Book Club Meetings:

Never Been in a Book Club, Book Club (in person)

May Selection: Larger than Life by Jodi Picoult

Thursday May 2, at 1:30 PM

Never been in a book club? This is your chance! Join a new group of people new to the book club world! Come with your thoughts, feelings and anything

you'd like to share about the monthly selection. Don't be shy, everyone is new just like you!

Audience: Adults

Tea Time Book Club (in person)

May Selection: Be Frank with Me by Julia Claiborne Johnson

Thursday May 9, at 2:00 PM Join Tea Time Book Club the second Thursday of every month. Come talk about the monthly selection and enjoy tea and a snack with members of the club.

Audience: Adults & Seniors

Global Literature Book Club

May Selection: The Old Gringo by Carlos Fuentes

Monday May 20 at 7 PM

One of Carlos Fuentes's greatest works, The Old Gringo tells the story of Ambrose Bierce, the American writer, soldier, and journalist, and of his last mysterious days in Mexico living among Pancho Villa's soldiers, particularly his encounter with General Tomas Arroyo. In the end, the incompatibility of the two countries (or, paradoxically, their intimacy) claims both men, in a novel that is, most of all, about the tragic history of two cultures in conflict.

Audience: Adults

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Author Visit: The Art of Martin and Alice Provensen (in-person)

Saturday May 11 at 10:30 AM

Karen Provensen Mitchell, daughter of Alice and Martin Provensen (award-winning children's book illustrators who resided at Maple Hill Farm in the Town of Clinton from 1951-2008) will be speaking about growing up in the Town of Clinton, how her parents met, why they switched from animation to illustrating children's books, buying Maple Hill Farm and building their art studio in the barn, their love of animals, her parent's wonderful collaboration and artwork, the many books they illustrated about the farm. There will be a presentation including photos of the Provensens and Maple Hill Farm and illustrations from their beautiful books.

Audience: All Ages

Crafts & Coffee (in person)

Monday May 13 at 1:30 PM

Join us for a lovely afternoon of coffee, crafts (and conversation!) On the second Monday of the month at 1:30, Diane will guide you as you create a project covering a wide range of techniques, from card making to book crafts to stitchery and more. Note: You must register for each individual who is attending and would like to participate. Materials are limited and there will not be extra!

Audience: Adults & Seniors

Book & Plant Sale

Thursday May 16-Sunday May 19
May 16th 5 - 7 PM: Preview Night (for used book sellers)

May 17th 1 - 6 PM: Book Sale

May 18th 9 AM - 3 PM: Book & Plant Sale

May 19th 11 AM - 3 PM: Book Sale Bag Day (\$5 fill a bag!)

Lunch & Learn: Summer Birds of Dutchess County

Thursday May 23 12:30 PM

Alan Peterson, education chair for the Ralph T Waterman Bird Club of Dutchess County, will be presenting a slideshow on the Summer Birds of the Hudson Valley. We will review the field marks, songs, and habits of the more common species of birds found in the Spring and summer in an effort to improve your ability to find and identify these species.

Audience: Adults & Seniors

Watercolor Exploration

Saturday May 25 10:30 AM
Learn to use watercolor! Build layers

and color to make an image of your own choice! Explore the calming effect of using paint, color and value to express yourself.

Audience: All Ages

MORTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff
(845) 876-2093

<https://morton.rhinecliff.lib.ny.us/>

Dirty Gaia & Climate Smart Rhinebeck Present

First Annual Rhinebeck Earth Day Saturday, April 27: Noon - 3:00 pm (Thompson-Mazzarella Park)

Morton joins Dirty Gaia, Climate Smart Rhinebeck, and Starr Library for an afternoon of taking care of Mother Earth. There will be monarch waystation plans, our seed library, creation of seed balls, recycling, electric vehicles and power tools, and so many more fun activities. Rain or shine. For more information: bit.ly/rbkearthday

Mid-Hudson Classical Guitar Society Music of Latin America

Sunday, April 28 @ 3:00 pm

Society members will perform works from this great guitar tradition. Admission: \$10 at the door

For more information, email midhudsoncg@gmail.com.

Knit 'n Knatter

Wednesday May 1 @ 3:00 pm

(First and third Wednesdays of each month)

Come to knit, crochet or just for the confab. We will drop purls, collaborate on projects, and work on our own. We'll meet in Morton Hall where there is plenty of room to spread out. All are welcome.

Fashion for Morton

Thursday, May 2: 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Come to Morton and get some finery for prom or summer fetes along the river. Women's clothes, shoes, and accessories for sale. The collection includes vintage and designer items. Check, cash, or PayPal accepted. Proceeds for the library.

Riverkeeper Sweep

Rhinecliff Dock

Saturday, May 4: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Join Morton Memorial Library, Rhinebeck Grange 896, Dirty Gaia, The Pollinator Patrol, Climate Smart Rhinebeck, and Riverkeeper for a river cleanup, site maintenance, and pollinator planting event for the 13th Annual Riverkeeper Sweep, a day of service for the Hudson River and its tributaries.

We ask all Sweep volunteers to wear sturdy shoes or boots, clothing that they can get dirty, and to bring a hat, sunscreen, a full reusable water bottle, and work gloves. This site is suitable for ele-

mentary-aged children with proper adult supervision.

Advance registration is requested.

Staged Reading

"Mojitos for the Funeral March"

Written and directed by Michael Curtis Saturday, May 4 @ 7:00 pm

Lenore's family gathers together for the funeral for a man, whom none of them truly mourn. The characters each try to process their past trauma while figuring out how they should feel.

All are welcome. Free admission, donations happily accepted.

Oblong, Starr & Morton Libraries:

Old Flame: Molly Prentiss and Rachel Ephraim in Conversation

Thursday, May 9 @ 6:30 pm

(at Morton)

Join us to hear Hudson Valley authors Molly Prentiss and Rachel Ephraim discuss Old Flame.

In OLD FLAME, Emily writes for women's catalogs for a living, but she'd rather be writing books. She has a handsome photographer boyfriend, but she actively wonders how and when they will eventually hurt each other. Her best work friend Megan is her lifeline until Megan is abruptly laid off. When her world is further upended by an unplanned pregnancy, Emily is forced to make tough decisions that will change her life forever.

Tickets are free. Advance registration is requested. Oblong will have books available for purchase.

Oblong Books Presents:

Larissa Babij, A KIND OF REFUGEE:

The Story of an American Who Refused to Leave Ukraine

in conversation with Maria Sonevytsky

Tuesday, May 14 @ 6:30 pm

(at Morton)

American-born Larissa Babij was at home in Kyiv when Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. Her grandparents left Ukraine almost 80 years ago amidst the violence of World War II, and now she is fleeing the advancing Russian army. A Kind of Refugee chronicles the first year of all-out war in Ukraine through vivid dispatches that Babij sent to readers abroad.

This moving account of taking responsibility for your home and your history concludes with several essays on theater published between 2015 and 2021. Written with a fierce love for Ukraine and its people, this book is a testament to the courage of ordinary people committed to freedom while defending their homeland.

Tickets are free. Registration is required. Oblong will have books available for purchase.

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

ALL LOCAL ~ ALL THE TIME

www.sdutchessnews.com

Regional Science Fair showcases 'best of local future scientists'

The 65th Annual Dutchess County Regional Science Fair was held on Saturday, April 6. It was an event showcasing the best of local future scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians. Eighty-five students from 29 schools across 11 Dutchess County school districts participated. Students ranged from 5th to 12th grade.

Students are judged in two categories: Competitive judging rates the student's work against other students at their grade level, for example; all 5th graders against other 5th graders. The same holds for grades 6,7,8,9. The Senior division includes grades 10-12. Special awards are judged against a sponsor's criteria, usually by their own judges and across one or more grade levels. Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies looks for the biology and environmental projects, the Hopewell Depot Museum for technology in transportation, American Chemical Society, Mid-Hudson Chapter on chemistry. Others focus on energy, biology, mathematics, etc. Many recognize students from lower grades to encourage them to continue their interest in science, technology, engineering and math ("STEM"). This year 65 different individuals, families and organizations sponsored awards worth more than \$8,000.

The following local organizations are thanked for sharing their time and resources to make the fair a success; including American Chemical Society-Mid Hudson Chapter, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, CHG&E, Htoo family, IEEE Mid-Hudson, Mid - Hudson Astronomical Society, Mid-Hudson Gem & Mineral

Society, Mid-Hudson Photography Club, Mid-Hudson Valley Black Network, National Association of Biology Teachers, Pfirman family, Poughkeepsie-Arlington Rotary, Poughkeepsie Farm Project, and Society of Women Engineers Mid-Hudson Chapter, as well as Dutchess Community College for use of their facility and staff.

Science Fair Director Maung Htoo presided over the awards ceremony and the awards were presented by New York State Senator Robert Rolison.

Congratulations to overall winners:

First Place went to Naflah Mohammed, John Jay High School, for her project "Bio-Buffers - Remediating Estuarine Pollution." Ms. Mohammed was also the overall winner in 2023. Second Place to Shiven Dabhi, Roy C Ketcham High School, "Pressure loss and thrust optimization for electroaerodynamic propulsion electrode geometry in drone applications." Both are invited to compete in the Regeneration International Science and Engineering Fair in this May in Los Angeles, California.

Third Place was awarded to Klara Dziurdzinski, Pawling High School, for her work on "Soil Biota Interactions with Native, Invaded, and Restored Ecosystems in New York State."

The rest of the award winners can be viewed at <https://www.dcssciencefair.org/>.

It takes more than 125 judges and staff to determine winners of the 150 awards, process them and present them on the same day. Fair organizers are looking for volunteers to sponsor an award, judge competitive or special awards, or help organize the fair.



Top: Director Maung Htoo with 5th Grade Winners: 2nd Place Michael Coffman, 3rd Place Christopher Zupan, 1st Place Evangeline Rawls and NYS Senator Rob Rolison. *Photo by Melissa Hetzler.* Above: Winners of the Mid-Hudson Valley Black Network at IBM and National Society of Black Engineers awards were Andy Zhu, Qadira Scheidelman, Anya Shah, Sabrina Gerstle, Lion Ogino, Soumili Paul, Zachariah Shrestha, Maya McLaughlin, Director Maung Htoo, York Zhou. *Photo by Clark Thompson.* Left: Winner of the Loretta Anne Htoo Memorial Science Award; Jimmy Fanuele with Mya McHugh, Naomi Htoo-Mosher and Director Maung Htoo. *Photo by Clark Thompson.* The Fair was held in Falcon Hall at Dutchess Community College.



RCK baseball team taking aim at another state championship

By Rich Thomaselli

One of the most immediate questions after the Roy C. Ketcham High School baseball team won the state championship last year was - can they do it again?

The Storm are a senior-laden team that brings a 6-1 record into what is arguably a difficult part of the schedule, starting on Wednesday against league rival Mahopac. And for some reason, the game against Mahopac is traditionally a tough game.

RCK has the talent.

But can it live up to the expectations?

Leading the way is senior shortstop Owen Paino, who has had a college scholarship locked up to one of the top schools in the country in the University of Mississippi. He is also projected to be taken in the first two rounds of the Major

League Baseball Amateur draft in June.

"He has off-the-charts instincts, athleticism and smarts," Ketcham coach Pat Mealy said.

Senior Connor Durkin is a centerfielder who is one of the top hitters in Section 1. The Storm is also blessed to have two of the top pitchers in the section in Ryan Mealy and Riley Weatherwax.

All of them will play collegiate baseball at the next level next year.

"This is a great group of young men. I've been coaching most of them since diapers. They are best friends on and off the field," Mealy said. "We had an incredible season last year, capped off with the state championship. But we have not played to that level this year. We have our work cut out for us and need to mentally get back better than we've shown. I have confidence we will but we haven't played our best baseball yet."

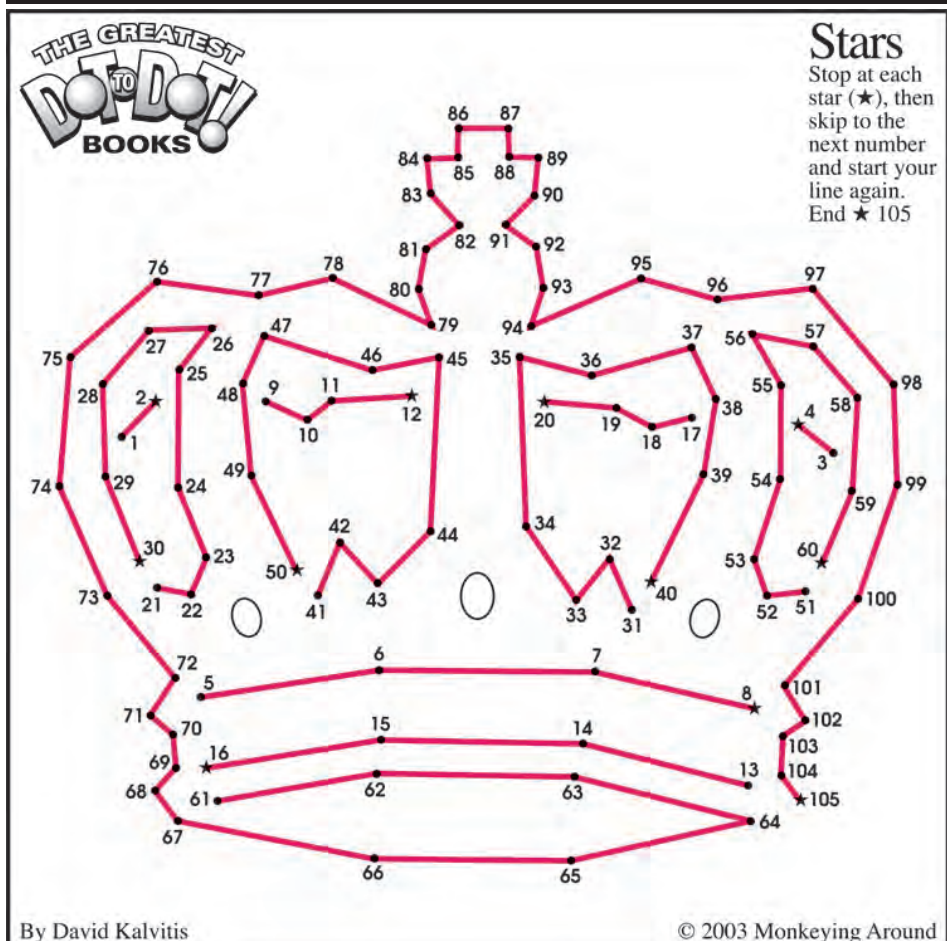
RHINEBECK HS DRAMA CLUB TO HOST MAY 9 TALENT SHOW

Plans are under way for the annual Bulkely Middle School/Rhinebeck High School Talent Show. Hosted by the RHS Drama Club, "Rhinebeck's Got Talent" Show is slated for Thursday, May 9 at 7 p.m., in the High School Auditorium, 45 North Park Road, Rhinebeck.

The event will include an interesting assortment of talent by both Bulkeley Middle (Grades 6-8) and Rhinebeck High School (Grades 9-12) students.

There will be a first-place prize of \$100 for both the BMS and as well as an Honorable Mention Prize for each school. The Club hopes to include a few surprise performances as well. A suggested donation of \$5 at the door will go toward funding activities for the High School Drama Club. Concessions will also be available during intermission.

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



Race to help save lives with the Red Cross by giving blood or platelets

As May approaches, the American Red Cross reminds eligible donors to keep the blood supply stable by racing to give blood or platelets in the weeks to come. Donors of all blood types – especially type O blood donors and those giving platelets – are crucial to keeping shelves fully stocked with blood products throughout the month.

Right now, there's no letting off the gas when it comes to lifesaving care. With no substitute for blood and no way to manufacture it, volunteer donors are essential for hospital patients who count on transfusions every single day.

Book a time to give lifesaving blood or platelet now by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. Thanks to Sport Clips Haircuts, all who come to donate April 29-May 31 will get a coupon for a free haircut by email. Plus, those who come to give April 29-May 19 will be automatically entered for a chance to win a trip for two and VIP racing experience to the 2024 NASCAR Cup Series and Xfinity Races at Darlington Raceway Labor Day weekend, including entry to the Sport Clips racetrack hospitality tent and a \$1,000 gift card. Additionally, those who come to give April 29-May 19 will also get a bonus \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. Visit RedCrossBlood.org/racetogive for more details.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities April 29-May 19

COLUMBIA

Claverack: 4/30/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., A. B. Shaw Fire Company, 67 NY-23

Craryville: 5/3/2024: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Taconic Hills High School, 73 Route 11A

Hudson: 5/9/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Hudson Elks Lodge No. 787, 201 Harry Howard Ave.

Hudson: 5/15/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Columbia-Greene Board of Realtors, 337 Fairview Av

Kinderhook: 5/8/2024: 12 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Kinderhook Elks Lodge 2530, 2750 Route 9H

Old Chatham: 5/4/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tri-Village Fire Company, 111 Co Rd 13

DUTCHESS

Beacon: 5/10/2024: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., Veterans Building, 413 Main St

Millbrook: 5/7/2024: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., Millbrook Fire House, 20 Front St

Pawling: 5/14/2024: 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Lakeside Park, 2 Lakeside Dr

Pleasant Valley: 5/17/2024: 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church of Pleasant Valley, 1576 Main St.

Poughkeepsie: 4/29/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Hudson River Lodging, 391 Manchester Rd

Poughkeepsie: 5/7/2024: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Poughkeepsie Galleria, 2001 South Road

Poughkeepsie: 5/17/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Poughkeepsie Galleria, 2001 South Road

Wappingers Falls: 5/4/2024: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Al Noor Islamic School, 125 All Angels Hill Rd

Wappingers Falls: 5/16/2024: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Grace Bible Church, 158 Myers Corners Rd

Wappingers Falls: 5/18/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Rd

Wappingers Falls: 5/18/2024: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., St Gregory Orthodox Church, 1500 NY-376

GREENE

Catskill: 5/13/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Catskill Elks Lodge Hall, 45 North Jefferson Ave

Coxsackie: 5/15/2024: 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Greene County Sheriffs, 45 Haverly Mem Dr

ORANGE

Goshen: 5/3/2024: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Goshen Christian Reformed Church, 2448 NY-17A

Monroe: 5/13/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., American Legion Post 488, 532 Lakes Rd

Port Jervis: 4/30/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Port Jervis Elks Lodge 645, 35 US-6

New Windsor: 5/11/2024: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., New Windsor Fire Department, 275 Walsh Ave.

Slate Hill: 5/7/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Town of Wawayanda Senior Center, 1906 NY-284

Washingtonville: 5/11/2024: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., VFW Post 8691, 44 E Main St

PUTNAM

Garrison: 5/2/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Desmond-Fish Public Library, 472 NY-403

Patterson: 5/15/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Town of Patterson Recreation and Parks, 65 Front St, PO Box 278

Philipstown: 5/14/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Graymoor, 40 Franciscan Way

SULLIVAN

Liberty: 5/3/2024: 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Sullivan County BOCES, 52 Ferndale Loomis Road

Liberty: 5/8/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Achieve Rehab NY, 170 Lake Street

Mongaup Valley: 5/3/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Smallwood-Mongaup Valley Fire Department, 181 Ballard Rd

ULSTER

Highland: 5/17/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Highland Hose Company 1, 25 Milton Ave

Kingston: 5/6/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Veterans of Foreign Wars, 708 E Chester St

Kingston: 5/18/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Ulster Savings Bank, 180 Schwenk Drive

New Paltz: 5/1/2024: 12 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Christ the King Charismatic Episcopal Church, 2 Eugene L Brown Dr

Wallkill: 4/30/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Wallkill Reformed Church, 45 Bridge St

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Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

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OBITUARIES

Lillian Alvina Ernisse

HYDE PARK - Lillian Alvina Ernisse, 79, of Hyde Park, died on Sunday, April 14, 2024, at Northern Dutchess Hospital with her family by her side.

Born February 3, 1945, in Yonkers, she was the daughter of the late Theodore T. Farrell and Lillian Siemers Farrell.

After graduating high school Lillian went on to work for CVS Pharmacy as a Pharmacist Tech for over 30 years before her retirement.

On December 26, 1964, in Regina Coeli Church, she married Richard Ernisse. Rick survives at home.

Lillian and Rick enjoyed many years together, especially camping and boating trips, and taking rides in the corvette.

Lillian was a member of Rogers Point Boat Club and Roosevelt Fire District Company #1.

Along with her husband Lillian is survived by her daughters; L. Anne Hommel and Kelly F. Ernisse; two grandchildren Corey A. Hommel and Kody M. Hommel, and one great grandchild, Kelsey R. Ferris.

A Mass of Christian burial was on Friday April 19th at Regina Coeli Church, 2 Harvey St. Hyde Park, NY12538.

Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family.

Lillian's family respectfully requests memorial donations to the Parkinsons Foundation, 1359 Broadway, Suite 1509, New York, NY 10018. www.parkinsons.org

Arrangements are under the direction of Sweet's Funeral Home, Inc., Rte. 9, Hyde Park. To send an online condolence, please visit www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

Betty Anne Read

LAGRANGEVILLE- Betty Anne Read, 75, of LaGrangeville, passed away on Friday, April 12, 2024, at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. Born in New York City on January 28, 1949, she was the daughter of the late Robert Schaller and Elizabeth Graves Schaller. She graduated from St. Francis School of Nursing in Poughkeepsie in 1970. Betty Anne was employed as a Nurse at Castle Point VA

Medical Center until she retired.

Betty Anne was a parishioner of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Roman Catholic Church in LaGrangeville. She enjoyed sewing and made many wedding dresses. She also enjoyed fishing especially trout fishing.

Betty Anne married Deo W. Read Jr. on May 22, 1971 at The Church of St. Denis in Hopewell Junction. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Deo W. Read Jr., and she is survived by her brothers, Bruce Schaller of Verbank and Brian Schaller of LaGrangeville, by her children and their spouses, Deo and Ann Marie Read of Milan, NY, Robert and Nicole Read of Canby, OR, and Dara and Reinaldo Pizarro of Hyde Park, NY, and her ten grandchildren, Deo, Charlotte, Kieran, Brodie, Finnbar, Allison, Adaline, R.J., Andre and Gabriel.

Calling hours were held on Wednesday, April 17th, at McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday, April 18th, at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Roman Catholic Church, 1925 Route 82, LaGrangeville, followed by interment in St. Denis Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) - Castle Point Chapter 144, PO Box 421, Castle Point, NY 12511. Please visit her Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

George Weber

STAATSBURG - George Weber, 77, passed away peacefully on Sunday April 14, 2024 at the Ferncliff Nursing Home from a debilitating illness.

George was born in Boston, MA on October 19, 1946. He was predeceased by his parents, Alva and Virginia Weber.

He retired from the USPS as a Supervisor at the Mid-Hudson Sectional Center after 38 years of service.

George was an avid hunter, fisherman, and enjoyed watching or playing sports.

He is survived by his wife Carolyn of 57 years; his daughter Kathleen (Vincent) Gizzi; his son Richard; a brother Alva (Corinne) Weber; sisters Shirley Dennington and Donna

Weber; brother-in-law's Thomas (Madeline) O'Malley, Robert (Eileen) O'Malley, and Timothy VanKeuren; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, grandnephews, grandnieces as well as many cousins.

Memorial donations in honor of George can be made to Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601, the Hidden Valley Riding Center, 6 Hidden

Hollow Trail., Red Hook, NY, 12571, or the Anderson Center for Autism, 4885 US-9, Staatsburg, NY 12580.

A Memorial Service will be held at the convenience of the family and announced later this spring.

Arrangements under the direction of the Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, Rhinebeck, NY. To send an online condolence, please visit www.dapsonchestney.com.

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE - WORKSHOP EAST CLINTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners will hold a workshop on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the firehouse located at 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners, New York for the purpose of discussions regarding a new firehouse. Dated: April 18, 2024 By order of the East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners Karen Buechele, Secretary

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Dialing 988:

- Is a direct connection to compassionate, accessible support for anyone experiencing mental health related distress.
- Provides support: People may dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.
- Help for VETERANS: Veterans can press "1" after dialing 988 and be connected directly to the Veterans Crisis Lifeline.

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

Suguru solution

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

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

SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

CHANGING ATTITUDES ON SOCIAL ISOLATION

If you're a recent arrival in Dutchess County from busier areas downstate, you may be puzzled to see this scenario: a pickup truck driven on a rural road by an older man slows down and stops, as the driver recognizes an old friend approaching in his own pickup coming in the opposite direction.

"How's the fishing?"

"Not bad up my way. You?"

Or it's two older women stopping to chat at the supermarket. They might not even know each other but they're having a conversation because they recognize a kindred spirit. After a while they realize you're trying to get past them to get a box of ziti, and they strike up a conversation with you as well.

What is all this idle chit-chat?

It's not idle, we're learning. These people have an instinct for the value of social connections.

At the Office for the Aging, we're just starting to learn the value of social connectedness, even through seemingly mundane conversations about the weather. The isolation of those older people who couldn't get to the grocery store or their fishing spot was seen as just an unfortunate byproduct of getting older. Can't do anything about it, we may have assumed, incorrectly.

We can all help reduce social isolation and the negative health impacts that come with it. Regular readers know about OFA's fast-growing "Friendly Calls" program that's been connecting volunteer callers with Dutchess County older adults at risk of loneliness. As the program grows, we've invited Friendly Calls participants not only to receive calls, but to become volunteers themselves.

"Friendly Calls" is open to all prospective volunteers over age 18. If you're just beginning to explore volunteering but don't want to over-commit, "Friendly Calls" is ideal. The orientation takes less than an hour, and the once-a-week calls to participants last 20-30 minutes.

Every participant in the program has agreed to accept calls; and before a "Friendly Calls" session can begin, the volunteer and participant agree on what time and day of the week the calls will be made.

To find out more, visit www.dutchessny.gov/friendlycalls, email ledgar@dutchessny.gov, or call OFA at 845-486-2555.

SCAMMERS CHASE HEADLINES AGAIN

This time it's borrowers trying to avoid high mortgage rates who are falling victim to scammers. The Financial Times (FT) cites banks and regulators worldwide reporting that scammers have been posing as lenders offering rates that seem

to be too good to be true, in exchange for an upfront payment – which disappears once the victim's check clears.

The Federal Trade Commission reports nearly 26,000 cases of advance-fee scams last year in the U.S., down from 2022 losses but still far higher than before interest rates started rising.

It's illegal under U.S. law for a business that's not a licensed vendor to take a mortgage application fee, according to Jason Zirkle of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners in FT. Once again, though, scammers count on their targeted victims not doing the necessary homework.

For a printable list of scam prevention resources, visit www.dutchessny.gov/aging.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER OFA HEALTH INSURANCE COUNSELOR

(Orientation this week! Thu 4/25, 10am)

The Office for the Aging's Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance Program (HIICAP) is looking for dedicated counselors to help guide Dutchess County older adults through the sometimes-stressful process of making good health insurance and Medicare choices.

OFA is hosting a HIICAP Volunteer Orientation event at our Poughkeepsie headquarters (114 Delafield St.) at 10 am on Thursday, April 25th.

Because health insurance and Medicare issues can be complex, the HIICAP program involves ongoing volunteer trainings, so counselors remain current on insurance-related issues.

Let us know you can come to a HIICAP volunteering orientation by emailing jcarey@dutchessny.gov or calling 845-486-2555.

SIGN UP FOR THE CAREGIVER CONFERENCE (Wed 5/8)

Do you care for an aging loved one? You don't have to go it alone, and next month there's an opportunity for caregivers to pick up valuable knowledge to help them be the best they can be, both for themselves and the older adult receiving the care.

The 18th annual free Conference on Caregiving is taking place on Wednesday, May 8th from 8:30 am to 2 pm, at the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center on the grounds of the FDR historic site on Route 9 in Hyde Park. Topics will include advance directives, your "wellness wheel," funeral planning, scams, and qualifying for Medicaid.

A continental breakfast and lunch are provided, but registration for the conference is required. Registration for the conference is now open – as of April 19th, the event was over halfway to capacity. Call the Alzheimer's Association at 800-272-3900 to reserve your seat.

The Caregiver Conference is organized by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging with the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter, Parkinson's Disease Support Group of the Mid-Hudson Valley, Hudson Valley Hospice, and community members Cathy Regan and Falisia Cotten-Swain.

SAVE THE DATE - OFA AT VETERAN APPRECIATION EVENT IN JUNE

Join Mental Health America of Dutchess County, the Dutchess County Division of Veterans Services, the Dutchess County Office for the Aging and many other local organizations serving veterans for a free Veteran Appreciation Event, on Friday, June 7th, 2024 from 11am to 3pm at American Legion Post 1302, 55 Overlook Rd. in Poughkeepsie.

Services will include VA disability, housing, education and employment assistance, mental health services, community resources, food and clothing, grab bags and much more.

For more information, call 845-473-2500 extension 1346 or email jhoresky@mhadutchess.org.

AARP SHRED EVENT IN HYDE PARK (Thu 4/25)

Protect yourself from identity theft, deed theft, and other scams by joining AARP NY for a free paper shredding event in Hyde Park this coming week.

On Thursday, April 25th, AARP will host a free paper shredding event with an on-site shred truck in Hyde Park at the United Methodist Church at 1 Church Street from 10am to 1pm. Register at this link, while space is available. You will be asked to choose a 1/2 hour window during the registration process.

Event ends at scheduled time or when the truck is full, whichever comes first. There is a three bag or box limit per participant. Paper only, please. Metal binder clips should be removed in advance. Boxes will be emptied and returned to participants.

OFA 'FRIENDLY CALLS' ORIENTATIONS

Most orientations for prospective OFA "Friendly Calls" program volunteers take place at OFA unless otherwise indicated below. Orientations typically last 40-60 minutes. Pick one, and contact OFA at 845-486-2555 to set up your orientation:

- Wednesday, May 1st, 10 am
- Friday, May 3rd, 3 pm
- Monday, May 6th, 3 pm
- Thursday, May 9th, 10 am

To register for any orientation, if you have more questions about "Friendly Calls," or to arrange an on-site orientation for your civic organization, call 845-486-2555 or email Friendly Calls program manager Linda Edgar at ledgar@dutchessny.gov.

We add orientation dates continually. Check dutchessny.gov/calendar for the latest list, and see dutchessny.gov/friendlycalls for details on the program.

'HEAP' COOLING NEWS AND EMERGENCY 'HEAP' EXTENSION

The state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) announced this month that the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) emergency benefit component will be extended to August 30th, or until funding runs out, whichever comes first. The regular HEAP benefit closed as of April 12th.

The HEAP cooling component is now open for applications, and will close on Friday, August 30th, unless funding for the program is exhausted before that.

For information on HEAP for older adults in Dutchess County, contact OFA at 845-486-2555, email ofa@dutchessny.gov, or visit dutchessny.gov/ofaheap.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY (Saturday 4/27)

The Southern Dutchess Community Coalition in collaboration with the Beacon Police Department are hosting a Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, April 27th, from 10 am to 2 pm, at the City of Beacon Recreation Center (23 W. Cedar St.).

For more information, contact SDCC Coordinator Michele Franks at sdcc@capedc.org or 845-765-8301 extension 116.

Can't make it that day? There are 12 drop boxes at area law enforcement facilities, many of which are available 24/7. For more information, click this link from Dutchess County STOP-DWI. And of course, safe prescription drug disposal is available at every OFA Summer Picnic. A save-the-date schedule is available at dutchessny.gov/OFApicnics. Picnic reservations will open in May.

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

SPECIAL MEETING SET APRIL 30 TO REVIEW WORKFORCE HOUSING PROJECT

The Town of Rhinebeck will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, April 30, at 6 p.m. to review the revised Application for the Locust Hill, Workforce Housing Project and for such other and further business as may come before the Town Board at that time and date.

The meeting will be held at Rhinebeck Town Hall, 80 East Market St., Rhinebeck. Direct questions to Town Clerk Joan Winne at townclerk@rhinebeckny.gov.

What is Hospice?



It's quality time with the ones we love.

It's focusing on the quality of time, not the quantity. It's spending precious moments with loved ones and making new memories.

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