

DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living

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Community Days fill Sept. weekends in Northern Dutchess

September is all about Community Days in the Northern Dutchess area, with several events set for the coming weekends.

Here is a quick look.

• **Stanford Community Day** – The 66th annual event is set for Saturday, Sept. 14 at the Stanford Grange grounds on Rt. 82 in Stanfordville. In honor of the new Stanford Rec Playground, lots of games are planned starting at 9 a.m.

The Citizen of the Year honor will be announced in the noon program.

Dinners are to-go only and will be ready at 1 p.m. Dinners will include 1/2 barbecued chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, dinner roll, and a brownie for dessert. Cost is \$17 per person. For reservations, please contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

• **Hardscrabble Day in Red Hook** - Hardscrabble Day brings entertainment to the center of the Village on Saturday, Sept. 14. With activity and music for kids in the morning and the incredible talent of local teen bands in the afternoon, the daytime has something for everyone. Music, plenty of vendors and food trucks will be in and near the municipal lot in the middle of the village. Visit hardscrableday.org for more information.

• **Millbrook Community Day** - The Millbrook Business Association invites everyone to "Fall in Love with Millbrook" on September 21, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. This delightful community day promises fun for all ages, showcasing the best of Millbrook's local organizations, talent, food, and festive spirit.

• **Rhinecliff Chili Cook Off** - Celebrate the end of the season with good times and tasty chili and pies at the annual Rhinecliff Chili Cook Off, taking place on September 21, at Firemen's Field, in Rhinecliff, ponsored by the Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company.

• **Come to Milan Rec Park** for free family fun on Sept 28! There will be countless activities including an ice cream social and a car show. You won't want to miss the New York State Troopers' crash demonstration! See a police dog in action, enjoy food and drinks, magic, games and crafts and much more.

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A TRIBUTE TO A CREATIVE AND CARING LEADER

'Ultimate friend of the farmer' Dave Tetor was 'Mr. Agriculture'

By Curtis Schmidt

Veteran dairy farmer Harry Baldwin called Dave Tetor "the ultimate friend of the farmer." And there are plenty of present and former local farmers who would concur. He was known as "Mr. Agriculture," not only in Dutchess County, but across New York State.

Tetor passed away on Aug. 20 at the age of 80. The graduate of Cornell University and former County Agriculture Extension Agent with Cornell Cooperative, who began his 26-year stint in Dutchess in 1972, was responsible for an incredible number of promotional, educational and preservation plans to benefit local farmers and 4-H and FFA youth.

A veteran of the U.S. Army, Tetor was a member of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society. He was also a civic leader as Supervisor of the Town of Stanford, President of the Pine Plains School Board and held membership in the Stanford Little League, Stanford Grange programs and Dutchess County Industrial Development Agency, Dutchess County Land Conservancy and a host other organizations.

Whether it was providing vital counsel on loans and taxes, holding hands with a farm family around the kitchen table after a catastrophic event or coming up with numerous innovative marketing ideas, Tetor was always the one that residents could count on to come through and help out. And he always worked in a friendly



Former Dutchess County Agriculture Agent Dave Tetor, left, is shown on the farm with one of his best friends, Ray Vail. Photo courtesy of Trish Nelson

and professional manner.

Popular veterinarian and friend Douglas W. "Doc" Hart of Pine Plains called Tetor "simply one of the greatest advocates ever for agriculture in

Dutchess County."

A list of accomplishments is a testament to Tetor's creativity and dedication.

• The famed Milkshake Booth at the

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Germania's Oktoberfest set Sept. 6-8 in Poughkeepsie

A fun, festive and authentic Oktoberfest will be held at the Germania Festival Grounds, 51 Old DeGarmo Road, Poughkeepsie on Friday, Sept. 6, 5-10 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 7, 1-10 p.m.; and Sunday, Sept. 8, noon-5 p.m. This event will feature live German bands, German food, home-baked German desserts, traditional German Beer, children's entertainment, Bavarian dancers, and singers.

Adult entry ticket \$5 daily, \$4 Veterans and Active Military with valid ID; children under 16 with parent will be admitted at no charge. This event will be held rain or shine under tents. There is free parking. Only service animals with valid ID, please.

Germania of Poughkeepsie, founded 1850, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and 509(a)(2) charitable organization committed to the education of German heritage and culture. Germania hosts various

authentic cultural events throughout the year including an annual Maifest, Oktoberfest, Christkindlmarkt, Heritage Day Bake Sale, Biertgartens, authentic German Saturday Take Out dinners, Wednesday Stammtisch, and other events.

Over the past 174 years, Germania has hosted educational programs in music, sport, dance, and citizenship. Germania sponsors numerous "Sister Clubs" who also promote many educational and authentic cultural events. These include the Germania Singers, Germania Almrausch Schuhplattler Verein, Steuben Society of America Dr. Charles Gilbert Spross Unit #167, and the Germania Blue & White Soccer Club. Germania also sponsors German Language Classes, Ballroom Dancing Classes, and a Volkssport Club.

Throughout the year Germania holds clothing, food, toy drives, as well as

grants annual scholarships to BOCES CTI Culinary program graduates. Since the pandemic, Germania has donated over 700 German Friday and Saturday take-out dinners to area first responders.

Germania supports the community by procuring goods and services through locally owned Hudson Valley businesses. The organization remains a 100% volunteer, private club, and is actively looking to increase membership, along with club sponsorship and event vendors. Membership is open to individuals of all faiths and backgrounds.

Visit <https://germaniapok.com/oktoberfest-2024/> for additional details, and on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/GermaniaOfPoughkeepsie/>. Contact Germania directly for more information: president@germaniapok.com or call (845) 471-0609.

• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

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'Ultimate friend of the farmer' Dave Tetor was 'Mr. Agriculture'

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Dutchess County Fair by the Dutchess County Dairy Committee (now Fair Shakes) – that was Dave.

- The long-running morning Farm and Ag Report on radio station WRWD – that was Dave.

- Leading Town and Country tours and “barn tours” with local tourism organizations – that was Dave.

- Organizing and recruiting members for the first Farmland Protection Board in the county – that was Dave.

- The Ag Breakfast, first day of spring, a free breakfast at the Farm & Home Center – that was Dave.

- The Milk Machine at Stissing Mountain High School in Pine Plains with the proceeds going to the Future Farmers of America (FFA) Program – that was Dave.

- For many years, the voice of Livestock Hill at the DC Fair, announcing untold numbers of ribbon winners, complete with enlightening antidotes about the winners - that was definitely Dave.

You get the idea. If it had to do with farming and agriculture, Tetor was a driving force, even into retirement.

All of his work brought many friendships. One of the special ones was with renowned dairy farmer and 4-H educator Ray Vail. Vail's daughter, Trish Nelson commented, “Dave Tetor and Ray Vail shared a wonderful friendship. Together they shared their love for the dairy cow and the farming industry in Dutchess County. Whether Ray was milking cows in the early morning or delivering newspapers after the farm dispersal, he always enjoyed listening to the Farm & AG report on WRWD radio. Dave will be dearly missed by all.”

Dairy farmer Stephen Van Tassell said, “Dave was an intelligent and innovative thinker who was always a gentleman and remained humble and obscure throughout his successes. I will miss him.”

In an article published in 2017 in the Northern & Southern Dutchess News, Tetor commented, “I just made it my job to be knowledgeable and helpful, regardless of the circumstances. When you're helping farmers, you're going to run into a lot of situations that are not listed in your job description.”

That fact was never more evident than on a night he spent counseling members of a local farm family who had just lost their entire dairy herd, and thus their livelihood.

“The herd was exposed to a disease and they (cows) all became infected. It killed their business,” said Tetor. “I vividly remember sitting with them around the kitchen table and holding hands, praying and vowing to start over. There were no college courses for that.”

Tetor added that counseling courses



Dave Tetor speaks at a gathering of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society in 2016. He had just received an award for his contributions to the DC Fair and Fairgrounds. Archive photo by Curtis Schmidt

have been added to many collegiate agricultural programs.

There also were no courses for coming up with pioneering ideas to help raise funds for youths and farming.

Doc Hart noted that Tetor was extremely knowledgeable in agronomy and all aspects of farming, including field crops, cattle management and tax laws. “I often saw him in barns, fields, and farmhouse kitchens around the county. He was also an ardent advocate for farmers in public meetings. He could run off facts and figures at a mind-boggling pace,” said Hart.

Dutchess County Agricultural Navigator Jennifer Fimbel said, “Dave was an exemplary individual who demonstrated commitment, dedication and effective leadership in job performance as an outstanding educator. His outstanding humanitarian service reached far

beyond the typical educator and community volunteer.”

Active in the National Agriculture Agents Association, Tetor was inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame in 2011. In 2015, he received the Distinguished Service Citation from the NYS Agriculture Society.

When asked what made Tetor so special, Baldwin replied, “Dave was strong on principles. He had a clear sense of right and wrong and was a well-known fighter for what he believed in. He seldom missed his mark.”

Baldwin added, “I think Dave, first and foremost, wanted to be your friend. A close second was the desire to be helpful, whatever it took. He was an amazing person – always forward thinking with vision. He had the ability to bring people together. I was always pleased to call Dave a friend.”

Remembrances of Dave Tetor

Compiled by Curtis Schmidt

The passing of former Dutchess County Agricultural Extension Agent and leader Dave Tetor brought forth remembrances from a wide variety of local individuals.

The following are samples of those we received.

Veterinarian Doug Hart

Dave Tetor and I entered Cornell University College of Agriculture (now the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences or CALS) on the same day in September 1961, but we never met until he came to Dutchess County as a county agent (now called a cooperative extension educator). Life was simpler then! Dave took the place of a highly respected man named Don Rogers. He quickly established a great reputation for himself.

The predominant type of Dutchess County farm at that time was family-owned commercial dairy farms. Dave organized a county Agri-business group in which I participated during the early 1970s. We had a display at the Dutchess County Fair and he got the bright idea of having the Dairy Princess making milk shakes for the fair-goers. That small start morphed into the highly successful Dairy Committee milk shake booth now a highlight of the Dutchess County Fair.

Dave and I also worked together on a barn tour group that the fair made up of former 4Her's attending college. The young people gave tours of Livestock Hill at the Fair and received scholarship money for their efforts.

Dave's office was a marvel of organization. At first glance, it appeared like a paper recycling drop off. There were magazines and journals stacked everywhere. But ask him a question and he would go right to a specific pile and reach in and retrieve the reference.

One time we were driving to Cornell for a conference very early in the morning and as we were passing through Bainbridge, NY, he said ‘stop the car’ so he could get to a pay phone to do his radio show (no cell phones then). He was also for many years the voice of the dairy cattle shows at the Dutchess County Fair and the Eastern New York Holstein Club shows. His commentary was informative and occasionally humorous (at the exhibitor's expense).

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Bridge reopened to traffic on Old State Route 22 in Dover

The Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) has announced the replacement of a bridge on Old State Route 22 (CR-6) in the Town of Dover is complete and the structure now open to traffic.

Project work, which began in the spring, included replacing the structure, located over the Swamp River between the intersections of Jordyn Lane and Sherman Hill Road, with a new, wider bridge that includes four-foot shoulders and wider travel lanes to match the adjacent roadway. The bridge was also raised

approximately three feet to reduce the risk of flooding and potential damage to the bridge and roadway due to the increasing intensity and frequency of major storms. The project was completed on time and within budget.

This section of Old State Route 22 averages approximately 779 vehicles per day.

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

Dutchess County Fair and Powers Great American Midways donate to Red Hook Responds

The 2024 Dutchess County Youth Livestock Sale took place on Saturday (August 24) of the Dutchess County Fair. For many, the livestock sale has been the final event for open, FFA and 4-H participants to show and sell their animals with the proceeds of the auction going towards college tuition or investing in another project for next year's Dutchess County Fair.

The Dutchess County Agricultural

Society and Powers Great American Midways purchased a 1,410-pound steer from Lucas Preciado at this year's Dutchess County Youth Livestock Sale.

Once processed, the meat will be donated to the Red Hook Responds Meal Program. Red Hook Responds is a prepared meal agency of the Food Bank system that delivers ready to heat and eat meals within the Red Hook and

Rhinebeck area.

"The Agricultural Society and Powers Great American Midways purchases something from the auction every year. This year we felt it was most important to help those within our community," stated

Andy Imperati, President/CEO of the fairgrounds.

Next year's Livestock Sale will take place on Saturday, August 23, during the Dutchess County Fair that will be held August 19-24, 2025.

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Remembrances of Dave Tetor

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Thomas Angell Director, Dutchess County Agricultural Society

Many years ago, my children had a question as to why a late spring snow was called a poor man's fertilizer. They called Dave Tetor at the Cooperative Extension to find out the answer and then tuned into Dave's early morning Farm Report on radio station WRWD to hear his explanation.

He thought it was a tremendous privilege to have both graduated from Cornell University and then be employed by the Cornell Cooperative Extension. Dave was the quintessential County Agent. He knew every farm family in Dutchess County by name. He was a tireless advocate for all things agriculture and the organizer and narrator of the annual Dutchess County Farm Tour.

He was a font of information anytime you had a farming question. I remember giving him a call about the regulations for selling raw milk off our farm. Dave had a bigger-than-life presence with a gregarious and friendly personality to match. He will be very much missed by the Dutchess County Agricultural community. His greatest legacy is the continued viability and growth of agriculture here in Dutchess County.

Ed Hackett Hackett Farm Supply

You could throw a rock in the air and probably hit some farmer in Dutchess County who was helped in some way by Dave Tetor.

In 1986, I was just a young kid with a dream. But Dave knew all about you even before you entered his office – whether you were looking to get started or wanted to retire. I was only 23, but he treated me like I was one of his peers.

Dave helped me fill out the necessary forms and a few days later, I had the loan to help me get started.

Dave was the most helpful and knowl-

edgeable person I ever dealt with. He took the time to talk and help you through a problem – whatever it was. He had time for everyone. He did the research and he actually got back to you. He had everything at the tip of his fingers and his heart was totally in everything he touched.

Ritamary Bell Stanford Town Clerk

The Deputy and then Town Clerk for 42 years noted that Dave Tetor always said "Stanford was Dutchess County's best kept secret."

Tetor served as supervisor in the Town of Stanford for several years in the 1990s and again for eight years from 2002-2010.

Bell said, "Dave was a great Town Supervisor and always cared deeply for the Town and its residents. His focus was always agriculture, but he loved his town and worked hard to keep the Town of Stanford the beautiful rural town that it still is.

"As Supervisor, he was a thoughtful man, always fair in his dealings with residents, and always available to anyone who needed a question answered or a problem solved.

Dave especially enjoyed being the Master of Ceremonies at our annual Community Day. He knew EVERYONE, and almost everyone knew him as well. He was always quick with a joke and enjoyed Community Day as much as anyone."

The Town Board's September meeting, on the 12th, will be dedicated to the memory of Dave Tetor.

Jennifer Fimbel DC Agricultural Navigator

Dave Tetor saw something in me when he hired me in 1986. My Agricultural experience was limited to my college Animal Science degree and the horse industry. Under his tutelage, my agriculture education grew, learning about soils, field crops, hay production and weeds. Dave has always set the standard for our

farmers.

His knowledge of agriculture, agricultural policy, adeptness with numbers and his nearly photographic memory made him a legend near and far. My thoughts of comfort and peace go to Dave's family, friends and colleagues.

John A. Jackson Shenandoah Farm

On behalf of the Jackson family, I offer my condolences to the Dave Tetor family.

Dave was a great friend of my father, Verne Jackson. Dave and my dad traveled all around to farm shows and seminars and the like to further the cause of farming in Dutchess County.

When you speak of agriculture in Dutchess County, you cannot help but think of Dave. Dave played such a huge part in helping farmers be successful. His list of accomplishments are second to none.

When I was just a young boy, Dave was at our farm, meeting with my dad, and asked me if I was going to be a farmer when I grew up. I quickly replied, "I already AM a farmer."

I was so young, I don't even remember that, but later in life Dave reminded me of that story and he said "I guess you were right, you are a farmer."

The point of that story is that Dave has touched many generations of farmers and his legacy will continue on as farming continues on in Dutchess County.

Dave will be missed by many, especially me and the Jackson family and farm.

Gregg Pulver, farmer and Dutchess County Comptroller

As a kid growing up in agriculture, Dave was a rock star to us. He could answer any questions about farming with such ease and accuracy. He was instrumental in getting the FFA program back in Pine Plains, which had a huge impact not only on me, but everyone that has been a member!

Later on when I became Town Supervisor, Dave acted as my mentor. He was a true icon!

Farmer Harry Baldwin

As the Cornell Agricultural Agent for Dutchess County, Dave made it a point to connect with farmers, getting to know their operations and their families and assisting with all phases of agriculture on all types of farms. He worked closely with government officials, local, NYS, and Federal USDA while coaching farmers in the various assistance programs they provided.

For many years, he ran two early morning radio shows during milking time - one live, one recorded - and mostly without notes. Many times, on early morning trips with Dave, at the appropriate time, he'd find a coffee shop (pre-cell phone days), call the radio station while we enjoyed a coffee. Dave had the ability to be attuned to where the action was. There was always lots of enthusiasm and devotion wherever he was. Dave never really retired. Private consulting kept him doing what he loved.

Farmer Stephen Van Tassel

I met Dave when he came to Dutchess County as an extension agent in the early 1970s. He was an outstanding organizer and asked me to join his Dairy Committee (team for dairy issues). Soon thereafter, the committee was engaged and began the 'Milkshake Booth' in a tent at the Fair with original members Nancy and David Wright and Mary Lou and Don Marshall. It was an immediate success and grew incrementally into the non-profit organization that to this day supports a vigorous scholarship program and contributes to the Ag Society, Cooperative Extension, FFA and other dairy and agricultural groups annually. His vision was large and inclusive and supported dozens of individuals every year, many in their first jobs.

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

Zero Waste meeting set in Clinton

To the Editor:

Don't miss Neil Seldman of Zero Waste USA speaking at the Clinton Town Hall Friday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m. at 1215 Centre Road - on "How Small Towns Can Save Money Moving Towards Zero Waste Following Warren County's Example (and Shut Down the Dutchess Incinerator)."

As Neil recently wrote with Tracy Frisch of Zero Waste Warren: "Zero Waste Warren convinced the County to commit to building a central recycling facility where recyclables collected at town transfer stations would be baled and aggregated in order to be sold to recycling mills. The town transfer stations accept source separated recyclables (plastic containers, newspaper, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, tin cans, aluminum cans, scrap metal, glass bottles and jars) from town residents, but at present scrap metal is the only recyclable commodity that most towns get paid for."

They continue: "Instead towns pay to get rid of their recyclables, despite the fact that most recyclable commodities actually have significant monetary value (Replenish.com). Recycling mills and other end-use markets only pay for and pick up bales of recyclable commodities in tractor trailer load quantities, so the County is taking over trucking, saving \$200,000 annually for towns while providing new needed revenue. The County will receive payment from the end-use markets for clean source separated materials, which will be divided among the towns minus fees to the County for its services."

Go to Zero Waste Dutchess on Facebook or email zerowast-edutchess@gmail.com to find our petition to close the county incinerator; text/call 971-202-3777 for more information.

Judy Malstrom
Zero Waste Dutchess
Town of Clinton

It's time to repair wealth distribution

To the Editor:

American Economy - it affects all of us and is not separate from the rest of the world; it involves people who are both producers and consumers of the goods and services we consume, how wealth is distributed, national debt and politics. We currently have two presidential candidates promoting their version of how to make it better.

A major cause of discontent in this country is the unequal distribution of wealth. Federal Reserve Bank of St Louis figures for Household Wealth shares (2023) are:

Percentile households share
Top 0.1% (130,757) 14 %
99-99.9% (1.19 million) 17 %
90-99 % (11.94 million) 36 %
50-90 % (53.04 million) 31%
Bottom 50% (65.00 million) 3 %

Put another way, "the top 10% of households in US own 70% of all wealth, while bottom 50% of households own just 1% of all wealth." The 50-90% low middle-middle home bracket has decreased the most (those with a minimum \$165,000 in wealth with majority of assets in real estate, pension, retirement benefits). Middle class is the main driver of American economy growth and prosperity. Since 1970, upper class rose 18% greater than Middle class (Pew research). A worker at the bottom getting \$7.72 an hour minimum wage, working all year (2080 hours) gets \$16,057, with a poverty level \$15,060.

Donald Trump's first presidency produced the "2018 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act." The corporation tax cut resulted in "buy back," a 25% increase for the wealthy. He left office - the economy had 3 million fewer jobs; unemployment increase 1.6% to

6.3%; trade deficit increase 40.5%; 3 million more without health insurance; public debt went up \$14.4 trillion to \$21.6 trillion; and home prices rose 27.5 % (Fact check.org). This was "Drip down philosophy." The 2025 project to dismantle government promises more of the same with large scale tariffs which pass the cost to consumers like a hidden tax.

Kamala Harris is middle class-oriented, proposing a federal ban on price gouging on food and groceries; a federal fund to spur home construction, expanding the Child Tax Credit to \$3,600 (\$6,000 for 1st year child) that would lift 400,000 from poverty and keep 500,00 a year out of poverty (Center on Budget and Policy); Allowing Government units to negotiate medicine prices, a \$15. Minimum wage, etc..

Our system is unbalanced, where the top 10% richest, with \$95 trillion in wealth, own more than the bottom 90% combined, (Money magazine). There is hope when 12 billionaires have made statements that super-rich should pay more taxes (Forbes magazine).

David F. Queen
Red Hook

Thanks to Northern Dutchess News for informing and bringing us together

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Westminster Presbyterian Church and myself, I would like to thank the Northern Dutchess News and Curtis Schmidt for all the wonderful and informative local news coverage that this paper provides for us in Dutchess County.

Newspapers are becoming a thing of the past when you can access everything online. There are still many families who enjoy sitting down to read the newspaper and learn about real current events happening right in our own neighborhoods.

The articles about the Dutchess County fair, including pictures, is great especially for those no longer able to attend the Fair. Learning about the many events going on in our community for organizations helping others or exhibits open to the public to attend and learn are really helpful. All of us at church look forward to our copy of the paper delivered so we get the news without even having to go hunt for a copy! Thank you for our weekly delivery.

Our thanks also for the free publicity that you give to all our local organizations who are doing events to raise monies. This enables us to help others in our community to have an easier time when life throws them a curve.

Thank you for your wonderful newspaper and all the reporters who work so hard to write articles of interest for all. We encourage everyone to pick up a newspaper, read and enjoy! Looking forward to next week's edition!

Diana Ritchie
Westminster Presbyterian Church/Salt Point

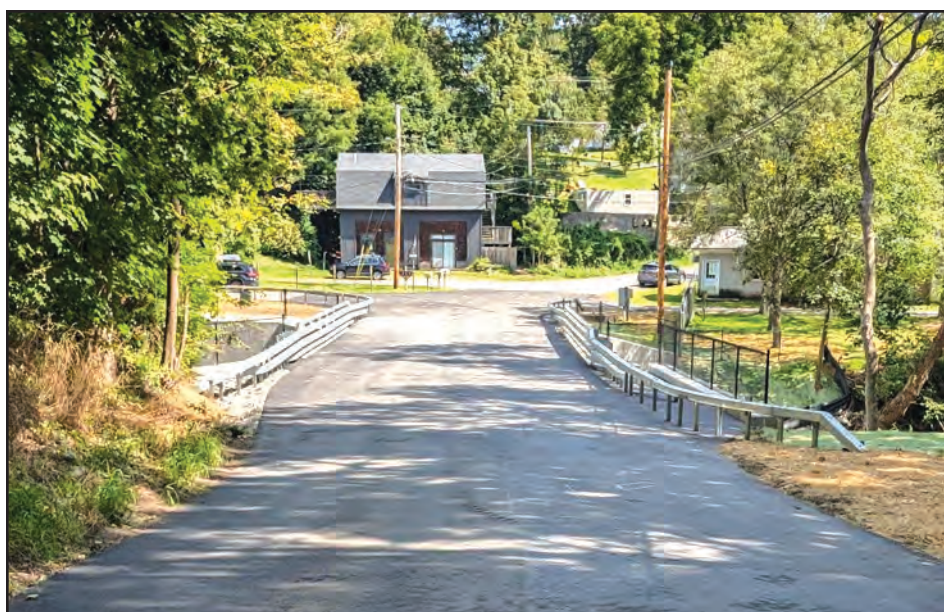
Appreciating the work of staff at Northern & Southern Dutchess News

To the Editor:

I just wanted to thank Curtis Schmidt and all of the staff members at the Northern Dutchess News and the Southern Dutchess News.

I work at Boardman Library in the Town of Poughkeepsie and wanted to pass on how excited our patrons are for these weekly publications. They seem to really fill a need for local information. We appreciate all of the work that goes into keeping these newspapers coming. Thank you!

Susan Sciacca
Poughkeepsie



Bridge reopened to traffic on Stanford Road in Washington

The Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) has announced the replacement of a bridge on Stanford Road in the Village of Millbrook and Town of Washington is complete and the structure reopened to traffic.

Project work, which began in the spring, included replacing the structure,

located over the East Branch Wappinger Creek near Dineen Road, with a new, wider bridge that includes four-foot shoulders.

The project was completed on time and within budget. This section of Stanford Road averages approximately 725 vehicles per day.

A bridge on Stanford Road in the Town of Washington has been reopened to traffic after repairs by the Dutchess County Department of Public Works. *Courtesy photo*

Dutchess County senior adults invited to Golden Gathering

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino is again partnering with the Dutchess County Office for the Aging (OFA) and New York State Sen. Rob Rolison to host the annual Golden Gathering for older adults on Saturday, Sept. 21. From senior safety to nutrition, this event acts as a “one-stop shop,” bringing together valuable resources for seniors, their families, and caregivers. Thanks to the generosity of the James J. McCann Charitable Trust, this event is free of charge for all who attend. This year’s event will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Arlington High School, located at 1157 Route 55 in LaGrangeville.

More than 60 exhibitors from various organizations and service providers will offer information on topics ranging from

health care and financial services, to housing options, legal advice and more. Representatives from various Dutchess County Government departments and divisions will also be on hand to inform residents about how they serve the community every day, and Medical Reserve Corps of Dutchess County members will help keep attendees safe and informed.

Local businesses and providers that serve older adults and are interested in exhibiting at the Golden Gathering can call contact Sen. Rolison’s office at 845-229-0106 or garibell@nysenate.gov.

Offerings available to this year’s Golden Gathering attendees, free of charge, include:

- Health screenings, including blood pressure checks, cholesterol testing and

vision and hearing screenings;

- On-site flu shots administered by local healthcare providers;

- Informative sessions conducted by experts on topics such as managing chronic illnesses, elder law, financial planning and healthy living tips;

- Live entertainment, exercise demonstrations and interactive activities to engage and entertain attendees; and

- Complimentary breakfast and water, provided throughout the morning.

More than 800 residents attended last year’s Golden Gathering, with more than 200 receiving their complimentary influenza immunizations. There is no RSVP required to attend the free event.

Serino said, “We thank our many com-

munity partners – especially the James J. McCann Charitable Trust and Arlington Central School District – for their continued support of the Golden Gathering and Dutchess County’s older adults.”

The Dutchess County Office for the Aging is committed to serving the needs of older adults and caregivers in Dutchess County. The office provides a wide range of services, including health and wellness programs, caregiver support and assistance navigating various benefits and resources. Residents can learn more about the County’s OFA at dutchessny.gov/aging, its Facebook page (facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA), by calling 845-486-2555 or emailing ofa@dutchessny.gov.



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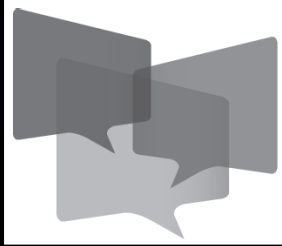


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**Tompkins Insurance Agencies Tapped as
One of the Nation's Top Independent
Agencies by Insurance Journal**



**See story,
page 8**

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RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Renegades battle Jersey Shore in tight race for 2nd half crown

By Rich Thomaselli

The Hudson Valley Renegades were riding the high of their recent seven-game sweep – a rarity in baseball – but they were quickly brought back to the reality of a divisional race for the North Division title in the South Atlantic League.

The team is neck-and-neck with Jersey Shore and lost two of the first three games to the BlueClaws on the road, including a 6-5 decision last Tuesday and a shutout loss the next night.

Early holiday print deadlines prevented us from getting further information on the games.

In the opener, the Renegades took an early lead in the top of the second when Josh Moylan tripled and scored on a Dylan Jasso RBI single off opener Jack Dallas. The BlueClaws tied the game at 1-1 in the bottom of the second after Hendry Mendez tripled and came home on an Emaarion Boyd sacrifice fly. Jersey Shore took the lead in the bottom of the fifth when Bryson Ware led off with a solo home run off Matt Keating (4-4). They added three more in the bottom of the sixth off Hueston Morrill highlighted by a two-run single by Jordan Dissin to open up a 5-1 advantage. A Hudson Valley comeback was valiant, but ultimately fell short.

On Wednesday it was a 6-0 loss to the BlueClaws at ShoreTown Ballpark. The BlueClaws took the lead in the bottom of the second inning after singles by Jordan Viars and Aidan Miller put runners on first and sec-

ond with one out. Keaton Anthony drove in Viars with an RBI double down the left field line, and Hendry Mendez brought in Aidan Miller with a groundout to give Jersey Shore a 2-0 advantage. That was all the home team needed.

On Thursday, led by a big night at the plate by Brendan Jones and strong pitching, the Renegades shut out the BlueClaws, 7-0.

The shutout win was the team-record 17th shutout of the season thrown by the Renegades, the most of any team in Minor League Baseball in 2024. It was also the fifth shutout thrown by the Renegades in their last 15 games, and the sixth in their last 18, dating back to August 10 at Brooklyn. The Renegades took the lead in the top of the first when George Lombard Jr. doubled with one out and later came in to score on an Omar Martinez sacrifice fly. Lombard had a strong game at the plate, going 2-for-4 with a run scored, a double and a walk. He has an extra-base hit in four straight games, and three straight multi-hit games. Staked to the early lead, Trent Sellers turned in a strong start, throwing 3.1 shutout innings while allowing two hits and striking out two while walking one. He gave way to Yorlin Calderon (1-0), who followed with 1.2 scoreless innings of his own. Hudson Valley added to its lead in the top of the sixth, when Brendan Jones unloaded for a grand slam to right off Gunner Mayer to put the Gades up 5-0. Jones finished 2-for-5 at the plate with two runs scored, a home run, five RBI and a walk to pace the offense.

Martin named 'Player of Week' for huge series vs. Wilmington



Outfielder Garrett Martin has played 77 games with the Renegades this season, and is the active team leader with 12 home runs. Photo by Dave Janosz

By Rich Thomaselli

Another accolade for the Hudson Valley Renegades.

Outfielder Garrett Martin has been named the South Atlantic League Player of the Week for the week of Aug. 19-25. Martin is the first

Renegades position player to win a South Atlantic League weekly award during the 2024 season.

Martin was a huge factor in the Renegades completing a seven-game sweep of the Wilmington Blue Rocks last week, the first seven-game series sweep in Renegades history and in the SAL since the move to playing six-game series in 2021. He hit .381 with 10 runs, two doubles, three home runs, nine RB and eight walks.

"Garrett has been working hard all year, it's great to see a week like this come together for him," said Renegades hitting coach Rick Guano. "When he's swinging it well, he's just so dangerous. He really has the ability to bring our offense to another level."

Signed by the Yankees as a non-drafted free agent on July 14, 2023 out of Austin Peay State University, the 24-year-old has played 77 games with the Renegades this season, and is the active team leader with 12 home runs. Martin was originally drafted in the 22nd round of the 2018 First-Year Player Draft by the Baltimore Orioles out of Standley Lake High School in Westminster, Colorado, but did not sign. After playing for two years at McLennan Community College in Waco, TX, Martin transferred to Oklahoma State University in 2022 before spending his final collegiate year at Austin Peay.

The Renegades will honor Martin's accomplishment in a special pregame ceremony at Heritage Financial Park during the team's next home series against Asheville from Sept. 3-8. The team will make a \$500 donation in Martin's name to the Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHHealth).

GENERAL MANAGER Q & A

Signing autographs, happy staff and preparing for possible playoffs

Editor's Note: The Hudson Valley Renegades have a first-year general manager in Zach Betkowski. He sits down with reporter Rich Thomaselli every week to share his thoughts on the Renegades and minor league baseball.

You've spoken previously about the players signing autographs and making public appearances. Have you found it easy for that? And the players to be amenable?

I said it before - kind of talking with you a little bit this season - is that we have a fantastic coaching staff who are really supportive of a lot of the community engagement initiatives that we are trying to pull off that -- that includes autograph sessions. We tried to make the ballpark as accessible for autographs as possible within reason. And, you know, part of the extended netting project, we were made a conscious decision to have some of the retractable nets that roll up during the pregame.

You've also talked before about not only inheriting a great franchise but a great staff as well. Can you elaborate?

Yes, yeah, we have I would say the best staff in minor baseball for sure. Everybody here, and someone actually made this comment to me the other night, and that everybody that she encountered had a smile on their face. And I was really proud to hear that. We tried to pattern ourselves after great customer service examples like Disney and Chick-fil-a. The first thing we do is try to make sure that everyone is happy to come to work each day; it's a very rewarding job. But you also have to work very hard to be successful here, whether you are full time or part time. We have to remember we're entertaining thousands of guests every single night. So it's really important for us to put our best foot forward every single night.

With the team playing so well of late and being in first place, are you preparing for the playoffs? Or do you not want to jinx it?

A little bit of both. You want to coordinate with the South Atlantic League because the logistics kind of demanded, but you also don't want to be jinxes.



Tompkins Insurance Agencies tapped as 'One of Nation's Top Independent Agencies'

Industry publication Insurance Journal has recognized Tompkins Insurance Agencies as one of the Top 100 largest insurance brokers in the United States. In the magazine's August issue, Tompkins Insurance ranks at 75th largest in the nation, up from 79th place last year. Additionally, the firm's parent company, Tompkins Financial Corporation, earned a spot as one of the Top 20 bank-held insurance brokerages by fee income, securing the 14th spot in this prestigious ranking.

"We have ranked on Insurance Journal's top agencies list for many years, and it's a distinction we don't take for granted," said David S. Boyce, president and CEO of Tompkins Insurance. "The recognition signals another notable year among the largest insurance brokers in the country, and also underscores our commitment to maintaining the strong relationships with the clients we serve throughout Western New York, Central New York and Southeastern Pennsylvania."

Insurance Journal's 2023 rankings categorize brokers by size in revenue for the calendar year. This list allows clients to assess their broker partners, offers indi-

vidual brokers a way to measure their performance against competitors and market leaders, and reveals trends for customers' risk management and employee benefits challenges and service needs.

In addition to providing commercial insurance programs for businesses throughout New York and Pennsylvania, the agency also serves more than 36,000 personal insurance and employee benefits clients. Tompkins Insurance Agencies operates 12 offices in Western New York, five offices in Central New York and five offices in Southeast Pennsylvania. It is an independent insurance agency offering personal and business insurance and employee benefits services through more than 50 different companies. A part of Tompkins Financial Corporation, (trading as TMP on the NYSE - MKT), the agency is affiliated with Tompkins Community Bank and Tompkins Financial Advisors, both operating in Western New York, Central New York, Southeast Pennsylvania and New York's Hudson Valley.

For more information, head to www.tompkinsins.com or follow Tompkins Insurance Agencies on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram.



Tompkins Insurance Agencies have been tapped as "one of the nation's top independent agencies." *Courtesy photo*

Special Olympics Polar Plunge part of DC Parks' Fall Naturalist programs

Dutchess County Parks has announced a fun line-up of programs and events this fall. From the return of popular weekend archery and adult art classes, to more Learn to Pickleball clinics for seniors, plus a new fall disc golf league, and a Special Olympics Polar Plunge, there are lots of fun opportunities for all ages to experience the County's great parks. Registration for Naturalist Programs opens on Sept. 10 online at www.DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation, registration information for other events and offerings is included below.

Fall Naturalist Program Schedule

Weekend Public Archery sessions begin Saturday, September 14 at Bowdoin Park. The program consists of five classes, held on Saturdays, with various time slots offered. The sessions, each an hour long, are designed

for children, ages 8 and up, and adults with any level of archery experience. Basic hands-on archery skills will be taught, as well as bow and arrow safety. Cost is \$70 per person and includes all five classes and equipment. Each time slot is limited to 20 participants.

Dates: Saturday, September 14; Saturday, October 5; Saturday, October 19; Saturday, November 9; Saturday, November 16.

Time Slots: 8:30-9:30am, 10-11 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 2-3 p.m., 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Park Palette Art Series for Adults will be held at Bowdoin Park from 6-7:30pm in Pavilion 5. These workshops are a step-by-step class where participants will create nature-themed paintings. Cost is \$12 per person and includes all supplies. Each sessions limited to 12 participants.

Dates: Wednesday, October 9; Thursday, October 17; Tuesday, October 22. Registration opens Tuesday, Sept. 10, at DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation.

Other Fall Parks Programming

Boots By the Hudson country line dancing event will be held on Saturday, October 5 from 3:30-8:00pm. This year, the concert is moving to Upper Landing Park, 83 North Water St., Poughkeepsie for the fourth annual event hosted by Parks, The Wolf and Wakin' Up with CJ and Jess Show, Townsquare Media group and The Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum. This year's event will include larger tented space for line dancing with CJ McIntyre and Frank Alexander, country music by the Thunder Ridge Band, and free family activities thanks to Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum. A fall-themed scavenger hunt and a special family game area is also planned along with a bonfire and s'mores, and food trucks. Picnics, camp chairs, and coolers are encouraged. Boots By the Hudson will be held rain or shine and pre-registration is not required.

The Wilcox Disc Golf League, which

launched this spring through the Wilcox Park Disc Golf Club, will host weekly meet ups to play at 9:30am on Sundays from October 6th through November 10th at Wilcox Memorial Park's Disc Golf course, which has been ranked among the top 100 courses in the world by UDisc, a popular disc golf app. All skill levels are welcome. For more information and to register through the club, email Savanna Burke at wilcoxparkdiscgolfclub@gmail.com.

New this fall, **Special Olympics New York** - Hudson Valley Region will host a Polar Plunge on Saturday, October 26, 10am - 2pm at Wilcox Memorial Park in Milan. Come jump in the lake and freeze for a reason! Register as a team or jump in solo. Visit <http://events.nyso.org/2024WilcoxPark> to register.

Updates on all fall events and programs will be posted on the Parks website, dutchessny.gov/parks and the Dutchess County Parks and Dutchess County Government social media pages. For more information, call Dutchess County Parks at (845) 298-4600.

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Youth in Agriculture awards from 2024 Fair



Clockwise from top left, Elite Showmanship honors, from left, Tavin Pennock- Poultry, Hailey Brennan- Rabbit/Cavy, Juliette Gerstle - Canine, Isabella Tropea- Rabbit/Cavy and Natalie Shultz - Meat Goat. In the dairy show, Master Showmanship winner Jenna Lawrence and Reserve Showmanship winner Bella Milano. In the canine competition, Juliette Gerstle was the Champion in Grooming & Handling. In the Dairy Goat show - Grand champion showman - Maeve Lomoriello. Dairy Goat Best Doe in Show- Savannah Bishop. In the Dairy Show - Supreme Female Senior- Emily Coon and Supreme Female junior - Liliana Coon. Courtesy photos

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County Players to present the dark comedy 'Incorruptible'

County Players, one of the longest-running community theatre companies in the area, will present the Dark Comedy "Incorruptible" by Michael Hollinger. This Main Stage production is directed by Kit Colbourn and opens Friday, September 6 with performances scheduled for Fridays & Saturdays Sept 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21 at 8 p.m., with matinees on Sunday, September 15 and Saturday, September 21 at 2 p.m. at the County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 W. Main Street in the Village of Wappingers Falls.

"Incorruptible" is a dark comedy about the dark ages. Welcome to Priseaux, France, c. 1250 A.D. The river flooded again. The chandler's shop just burned to the ground. Nobody's heard of the wheelbarrow yet. And St. Foy, the patron of the local monastery, hasn't worked a miracle in thirteen years. In other words, the Dark Ages still look dark. All eyes

turn to the Pope, whose promised visit will surely encourage other pilgrims to make the trek and restore the abbey to its former glory. That is, until a rival church claims to possess the relics of St. Foy—and their bones are working miracles. All seems lost until the destitute monks take a lesson from a larcenous one-eyed minstrel, who teaches them an outrageous new way to pay old debts.

The production features the local talents of Kevin Barnes, Thomas Byrne, Donna Conway, Heather Foglia, Devin Gibbs, Eric Grayson, Kiara Jemmott, and John Leinung. Of this production director Colbourn says, "A Dark Comedy about the Dark Ages' - What's funny about the dark ages, you ask? Come see 'Incorruptible' and find out! A hilarious and then touching story about the nature of faith."

Individual tickets are available online



The cast of "Incorruptible." County Players will present the dark comedy Sept. 6-21 in Wappingers Falls. *Courtesy photo by Louisa Vilardi Photography*

in advance of the performance dates at countypayers.org. The box office is open for in-person ticket sales one hour before performance time.

Hudson Valley Credit Union proudly sponsors County Players' 67th Season. This production of "Incorruptible" is made possible with the support of our Bronze Sponsor: Kathryn and Ralph Bowman, and Facilities Maintenance Corp., and is presented by special

arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. dramatists.com

Accessibility: If one requires wheelchair accessibility, please contact the Box Office at 845-298-1491.

On social media: countypayers.org/shows/incorruptible/, [instagram.com/countypayers](https://www.instagram.com/countypayers) and [facebook.com/countypayers](https://www.facebook.com/countypayers).

'COMMUNITY TABLE' TO BE HIGHLIGHT OF ARTS MID-HUDSON MIXER IN SEPTEMBER

Arts Mid-Hudson announced its upcoming AMH Mixer, set to take place on September 18 from 5-7 p.m. at Cornell Creative Arts Center, 129 Cornell Street, Kingston. This free event provides an opportunity for local organizations, businesses, and individuals to connect, collaborate, and celebrate the vibrant arts community in the Mid-Hudson Valley.

Join them for an evening of networking and camaraderie as they bring together artists, cultural organizations, and arts enthusiasts from across the region. Attendees will have the chance to meet the dedicated Arts Mid-Hudson team and learn about the various ways we support the arts through grants, programming, memberships, marketing, folk arts, and more.

One of the highlights of the evening will be the "Community Table," where participants can promote their artistic practices or organizations by bringing a small stack of marketing materials, such as business cards, event flyers, or brochures, to share with others. Additionally, we will collaborate on a community art project that will be displayed in Arts Mid-Hudson's Kingston office, symbolizing the unity and creativity of our Mid-Hudson Valley arts scene.

For more information, visit www.artsmidhudson.org/amh-mixer or call (845) 454-3222.

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 16 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



Sept. 6: A historic day; an important drug

Diabetes, a disease that more than ten percent of Americans have, is a chronic metabolic condition that occurs when the body doesn't produce enough insulin or can't use it properly. In Dutchess County, 21,000 adults have been diagnosed with the condition. Nearly everyone knows someone with the malady. When I was 14, my father died at age 53 from complications of the disease. The year was 1980.

During the time that he lived with type 2 diabetes, the insulin prescribed to patients was made from the pancreas glands from swine and cattle slaughtered for food. The imperfect production process yielded the animal hormone, which caused allergic reactions in many human patients. Yet it prolonged millions of lives.

Insulin is a hormone that regulates energy

After a meal, the body's digestive system normally breaks down carbohydrates into glucose. The glucose is then absorbed into the bloodstream through the lining of the small intestine. Once in the bloodstream, insulin (made in the pancreas) causes the body's cells to absorb the glucose and use it for energy.

Insulin also helps balance blood glucose levels. When there's too much glucose in the bloodstream, insulin signals the body to store excess in the liver as glycogen. The stored glycogen is then converted back to glucose and released when blood sugar decreases, such as between meals and during physical activity.

A long-studied sickness

Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics mention a sickness that was likely diabetes. The writings describe excessive urination, thirst, and weight loss. Even without a name for the condition, observations of its existence have been made since 1550 BC.

Historically, the most effective treatment for sufferers was a strict diet with minimal carbohydrate intake. At most, this could extend a diabetic's lifespan a few extra years. It wasn't until the early 20th century that animal research helped scientists learn that insulin is produced by cells in the pancreas.

Doctors injected animal insulin into the first human patient in 1922. The patient's dangerously high blood glucose levels dropped to near-normal. The success of the treatment resulted in the researchers being awarded the Nobel Prize. Animal-sourced insulin was then used to treat diabetes for the next sixty years.

Genetically engineered synthetic human insulin

In the 1970s scientists learned to produce recombinant DNA molecules.

Using the recombinant technique, pieces of DNA can be transferred from one organism to another. The process could produce therapeutically useful hybrid molecules.

Scientists used the biotechnology method to insert synthetic genes carrying the code for human insulin into bacterial cells. Once inside the bacteria, the genes translate the code into protein chains found in insulin. Those chains are then joined to form complete insulin molecules. Researchers announced that they had developed the first genetically engineered, synthetic human insulin on September 6, 1978.

Common scientific knowledge in our daily lives

The medicine that is used today is synthetic human insulin. It has been produced by inserting the human gene for insulin into genetically modified (GMO) organisms, such as E. coli bacteria. Although September 6, 2024 is the 46th anniversary of the announcement of recombinant insulin, it should be noted that it was not available for diabetics (such as my dad) to use until 1982.

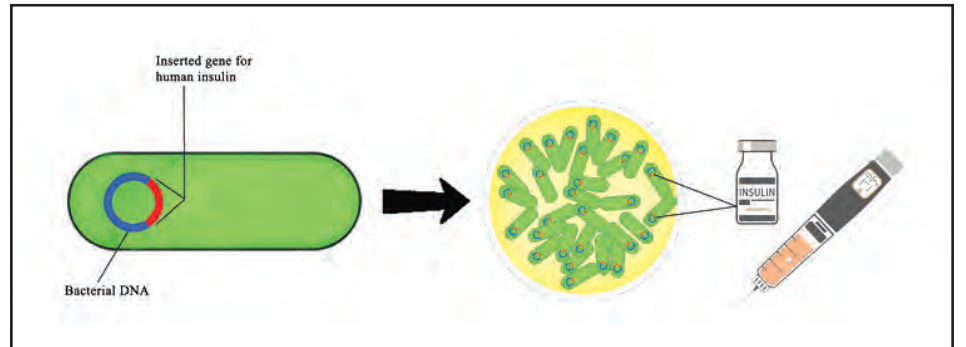
It took four years of clinical trials, pre-clinical animal testing, and a dossier of safety and efficacy evidence before the drug gained FDA approval. This fact speaks to the rigor of the scientific method of inquiry and a skeptical mindset in terms of pharmaceutical drug testing. Science is not dogmatic. It is evidence based.

GMO insulin has been commonly used by diabetics for over thirty years. It eliminated our dependency on animal glands, and the resultant allergic reactions in the treatment of diabetes.

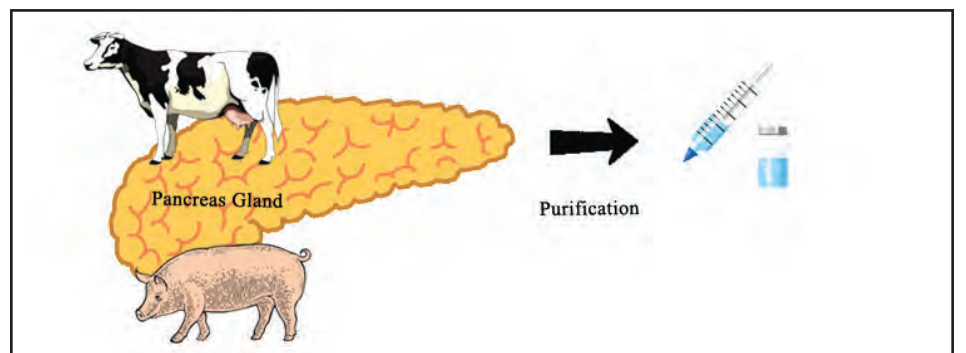
"Advancements in treatments, such as synthetic human insulin, have been life-changing for millions," explains Dr. Hary Suseelan, Vice Chair of Medicine and a pulmonary and critical care physician at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. "Breakthroughs in biotechnology are not only a testament to human ingenuity but a beacon of hope for those battling chronic illnesses every day."

Although the drug is not a cure for the disease, it can prolong the lives of people who use it.

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



This graphic shows how bioidentical insulin is created. Below: Prior to 1982, insulin was produced from the pancreas glands of swine and cattle slaughtered for food. Graphics by Rebecca Smith Paul of Pleasant Valley



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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.

ACROSS

1. Meat chunks
6. Calendar square
9. * ____ signature, or notation that describes #34 Down
13. Hiya or howdy
14. Down Under runner
15. West Point student
16. At full speed
17. Big Apple
18. Flounder's domain
19. *Complementary notes sung simultaneously
21. *Not sonata
23. Debate position
24. Painter Chagall
25. Munchausen's story
28. Casino chip
30. *R in R&B
35. Spanish earthen pot
37. Lobed organs
39. Nest for an eagle
40. Bona fide
41. *Adagio or moderato, e.g.
43. What a willow did?
44. *Type of piano technician
46. Flock member description
47. Fill beyond full
48. Masters of ceremonies, colloquially speaking
50. Jon Krakauer's book " ____ the Wild"
52. High craggy hill
53. Church congregation
55. Hole punching tool
57. *A ____, or without accompaniment
61. *Fast
65. Not asleep
66. 2000 lbs.
68. Acquisition through marriage
69. Rubber tree product
70. Director's cry
71. *Five lines
72. Potassium hydroxide solution, pl.
73. 168 in 1 week
74. Housed

DOWN

1. Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's title
2. Dharma teacher
3. Resembling wings
4. Good Year balloon, e.g.
5. Mexico City state
6. Say it isn't so
7. Winehouse or Schumer
8. New Mexico's state flower
9. Diplomat's asset
10. It comes to mind
11. Not in Impossible Burger
12. European erupter
15. Shell-like anatomical structure
20. *Nine instruments, e.g.
22. Bobby of hockey
24. Halle Bailey's 2023 role
25. *Loud or strong
26. Part of small intestine
27. Sometimes follows sauvignon
29. 1.3 ounces, in Asia
31. Coniferous trees
32. October 31 option
33. On top of trends (2 words)
34. *Strong-weak-strong-weak, e.g.
36. Sheltered, nautically speaking
38. "Wheel of Fortune" move
42. Based on number 8
45. Automatic reaction
49. *Fa follower
51. Solemn and wise?
54. Gate holder
56. *Slow
57. Pay a visit
58. Not home
59. Goose liver dish
60. Augments, usually with effort
61. Social insects
62. Air of allure, slangily
63. Five-star review
64. Was in the hole
67. Possessive pronoun

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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72						73				74				

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



Italian Wedding Poop

While golfing, Luigi recalls a story about his parents' honeymoon.

The other day I was playing golf at Casperkill Country Club. There is one hole, a par 3, that you have to hit over a pond. The problem is there are geese everywhere. Seeing all the goose droppings brought back a memory of a story my mother told me about her honeymoon with my father.

Mom and Pop got married at a restaurant called Casina Rossa where they had 110 guests attend. They spent the day shuttling flowers to the church and the restaurant on a little scooter. They got married in their local church and after their wedding, Mom and Pop spent one night in Naples so that they could have their picture taken at the Castel Nuovo.

The castle had been built in 1280 and was a traditional place to have wedding pictures taken. Pop, ever the romantic, wanted to make sure their wedding memories would be special. After their pictures they then spent a honeymoon week in Rome, even eating in the famous Alfredo's Restaurant where Fettuccine Alfredo originated. Pop had been able to speak to Chef Alfredo and was even able to get the recipe, which we still use today. They spent their days acting as tourists viewing the various sites which Rome had to offer.

After Rome, they went to Venice for another week. While in Venice, my Mom became jealous of a distant relative they ran into who happened to be an attractive woman. Naturally an argument erupted,

and silence ensued. According to Mom, at one point they were walking in a piazza and a pigeon, unbeknownst to Pop, decided to empty himself onto his head. Pop, even at the relatively young age of 26 was already balding, so the deposit of the pigeon was even more noticeable. Mom was so mad at Pop that she wouldn't even tell him. Mom and Pop and Pop's cousin walked around with bird droppings on Pop's head all day.

At the end of the day, Pop's cousin said her good-nights and left. Finally, Mom could take no more, and burst out laughing at the site of Pop with bird poop on his head. Many of their arguments ended with laughter.

I remember I was very young when Mom told me that story, and I carry that story with me even today. In the meantime, enjoy this recipe for Chef Alfredo's famous sauce. Buon Appetito!

ALFREDO SAUCE

Ingredients

- 6 egg yolks
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 cup grated Pecorino Romano
- 1/2 cup melted butter

Method

In a mixing bowl, whisk together the egg yolks and melted butter.

Slowly whisk into the egg mixture the Pecorino Romano.

Slowly whisk in the heavy cream.



Castel Nuovo in Naples, where Luigi's parents got their picture taken after their wedding – a tradition enjoyed by many through the years. Photo from <https://dooid.it/en/naples-castelnuovo-angevin-castle/>

Continue to whisk until mixture is creamy.

Boil one pound of fettuccine. Drain and put back into the pot while it's hot.

Pour the Alfredo sauce into the pot and mix over low heat until just barley hot.

Do not overheat.

Serve with crusty Italian bread, more grated Pecorino Romano Cheese and a bottle of cold, crisp Pinot Grigio.

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

Freedom through fashion: Exhibition at Lyndhurst highlights 1920s fashion innovation and influencers

Long before Instagram and TikTok, original 1920s influencers including Irene Castle, Edna St. Vincent Millay, and Coco Chanel created freedom for women in their lifestyle and mode of dress. An exhibition, "Influencers: 1920s Fashion and The New Woman," is on display at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown through Sept. 23.



This dance costume worn by actress Irene Castle is one of many items of 1920s women's fashion on display at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown. The exhibit, "Influencers: 1920s Fashion and The New Woman," is on display through Sept. 23. Photo credit: Bruce M White © 2024

Explore the long history of influencers and how fashion innovations of the time often crossed racial, cultural, and global boundaries. Objects on display are on special loan from the Cornell College of Human Ecology Fashion + Textile Collection, Edna St. Vincent Millay's Steepletop, Lyndhurst Collections, and private lenders.

"Influencers" highlights the 1920s as the moment following World War I in which women gained certain freedom in clothing and lifestyle. The 1920s marked a major turning point from the strictures of the Victorian era and was a precursor to major changes in women's lifestyles and dress that still hold true today. The exhibition highlights the impact of three major influencers – Coco Chanel (the global leader in couture), Irene Castle (the American actress and creator of ready-to-wear outfits), and Edna St. Vincent Millay (the 'It' girl of the bohemian/artistic/intellectual lifestyle) – and display how these innovators created societal shifts that allowed women to claim more freedom and control of how they lived, dressed and presented themselves in society.

This exhibition also examines the technical side of the 1920s female fashion revolution. Women were finally freed from the imprisonment of restrictive undergarments and elaborate gowns. They began to wear athletic outfits, enjoy the popularization of makeup, stay fresh with new

perfumes and underarm deodorant, use women's razors, and celebrate the invention of simple undergarments. The culminating impact of these innovations is still undeniable a century later.

The exhibition is on view Thursday through Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

in the gallery at Lyndhurst's Welcome Center. Entrance to the exhibition gallery is free with a ticket for any guided tour or grounds admission at Lyndhurst. Visit <https://lyndhurst.org/> for more information.

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GENERAC

America's 250th: Local stories illuminate national values

By Bill Jeffway

July 4, 2026. As we approach the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, we want to celebrate in a way that is relevant and interesting. It seems obvious; but perhaps it is not. The study of the history of a country that is uniquely “of, by and for the people” should be studied through – *the people*. This is the power of local history. But it is the reverse of how we studied American History in school, which starts at the “top.”

Our first program in the larger effort starts on Monday, Sept. 16, at noon. That date marks the Bicentennial of the local visit of Revolutionary War Major General Lafayette, the French aristocrat who was embraced by a diverse swath of American people across three centuries. During his lifetime he became known not just for abolitionist words, but abolitionist actions. Equally in terms of his relationships with Indigenous people, he earned distinct respect.

Among the local stories we come to know is the story of a young, free Black couple, Tom and Jane Williams, who we imagine were likely among those in the record-size audience during Lafayette’s visit. The Williams were free Blacks at the time. Slavery was not abolished in New York State until 1827. They named their newborn son Lafayette Williams shortly after the visit.

This story is told through a short play, “Journeys,” by local playwright DN Bashir, who comments on her recent work saying, “Writing ‘Journeys’ has been enriching to my process as a

theater-maker. The stories of our past give us so much insight into who we are as humans in the present day. The act of re-animating and imagining the walk that Thomas and Jane took from their home that was just south of today’s Millbrook to Poughkeepsie, to witness the return of Lafayette, puts me in touch with the hope of liberty and freedom that is possible in a Democracy.”

Both Lafayette Williams, and his son, gave their lives serving in the Civil War’s US Colored Troops.

The play is preceded by a 30-minute talk that looks at the details of the local visit, including stops at Staatsburg, Clermont, Red Hook and Fishkill/Beacon. The talk examines the broader context of Lafayette’s local appeal beyond free and enslaved Blacks to the poor working class, ostracized elites, Irish Catholic immigrants, General Pershing in World War One, Women suffragists in Washington in 1918, and a local US Congressman fighting the “Cold War” in the 1950s.

A half century before Lafayette Williams was born, Fishkill’s prestigious Ludington family named a son DeLafayette Ludington in 1783, reflecting the fact that Lafayette was admired by a wide range people wealthy and poor.

His name can be found in the hamlet of Lafayetteville in the Town of Milan. The Town of LaGrange was named after Lafayette’s estate in France. At the end of World War One, men returning from France organized a Poughkeepsie-based American Legion Post, the Lafayette Post, which keeps that name today. Beacon, Poughkeepsie, LaGrange and



Clockwise from top left : Around the time of Lafayette’s 1824 visit the hamlet in the town of Milan initially know as Lafayette Corners, is today known as Lafayetteville. The Town of Freedom became the Town of LaGrange, named for Lafayette’s estate in France. The DAR memorial in Fishkill recognizes Lafayette’s time there near death during the Revolutionary War. Lafayette Place in Poughkeepsie. The headstone of Lafayette Williams in the national cemetery in Virginia. The Poughkeepsie American Legion Post. *Courtesy images*

BICENTENNIAL OF LAFAYETTE’S LOCAL VISIT

TALK AND PERFORMANCE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, NOON

The program consists of a 30-minute talk followed by a short performance over lunch. Complimentary access to the Library’s special exhibition, *Black Americans, Civil Rights and the Roosevelts* on September 16. \$20 will cover the cost of lunch. RSVP at www.dchsn.org/sep16.



Above inset: the playwright DN Bashir, author of “Journeys,” historical fiction that tells the story of the arrival of Lafayette in Poughkeepsie, September 16, 1824 and the story of a young Black couple from the Town of Washington who walked to Poughkeepsie to see him, and later named their son Lafayette Williams who went on to serve and give his life in the US Color Troops in the Civil War. *Courtesy photos*

Fishkill all have streets named for him. In Fishkill, a memorial to him stands erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The idea for a national Lafayette Day emerged in 1920 from the Chapman family of Red Hook.

The thirteen-month period of Lafayette’s visit, from August 1824 to September of 1825, was not without controversy.

The 1824 US Presidential Election in November of that year remains among the most controversial in history. No candidate got enough electoral college votes, so the election went to the House of Representatives where John Adams won through the “corrupt bargain” of offering Henry Clay the cabinet position of Secretary of State in return for his electoral college votes.

Among the so-called “Indian problems” at the time was the situation of the Indigenous people known as the Creeks in Georgia, who were battling, unsuccessfully, to keep from being removed from their land. The controversial Treaty of Indian Springs was signed in February 1825, resulting in the Creeks executing their leader who they accused of illegal alienation of Indian land.

Dutchess County, at the time, was home to the largest Quaker population outside of Philadelphia. While eventually progressive as a whole on the topic of the abolition of slavery, they were also opposed to military service and pomp and ceremony. The prominent Quaker mayor, C.V. Frost, provided the carriage and horses for Lafayette, but he did not receive him when Lafayette disembarked from his boat at the foot of Main Street. There is some evidence that Frost even advocated declining the invitation outright.

American history is rich with stories of progress and setbacks in pursuit of a more perfect union and the promise that all are created equal. The people of Dutchess County offer a powerful illumination of the national dynamics at play. We invite you to begin to meet some of them as we approach the 250th anniversary of our country’s founding.

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





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SCRABBLE® TOURNAMENT FOR ALL LEVELS SET FOR OCTOBER

Those who want to participate in the 15th Annual Love INC SCRABBLE Tournament can now register for the event, which is set for Thursday, October 17, at 6:30 p.m. The player registration deadline is Thursday, October 3.

Funds go to support Love Inc. The mission of Love INC is to unite local churches in coordinated efforts to help neighbors experiencing poverty. Trained volunteers offer a listening ear, referrals to resources, delivery of personal care items, linens, and furniture, as well as skill-building classes and mentoring.

The Scrabble Tournament is an annual fundraiser where participants can either compete for prizes or just play for fun – everyone is welcome. The Tournament offers a fast-paced, team-style of play with fun bonus point possibilities. Entry is \$40 per person or \$80 per team and includes three rounds of play, beverages, snacks, and one free raffle ticket. “My partner and I look forward to the tournament every year,” said Nick Roes, who travels almost two hours to attend. “And I’m going to keep coming back because it’s just so much fun.”

This year’s tournament on October 17 will be held at the Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Route 55 in LaGrangeville. The evening also includes raffles. Complete rules and entry forms are available online at midhudsonloveinc.org.



Cat Power performs at UPAC on Sept. 7. *Courtesy photo*

Through Sept. 8: "Murder on the Orient Express," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. CENTERstage Productions presents the who-done-it mystery by Agatha Christie, adapted for the stage by Ken Ludwig and directed by Emily DePew. Passengers aboard the opulent Orient Express awake to frightful news: Overnight, the American business mogul among them was stabbed to death behind locked doors. Thankfully, debonair detective Hercule Poirot is on the train and on the case. Murder on the Orient Express is an adaptation of Agatha Christie's famous murder mystery novel. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$25. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Sept. 7: Cat Power Sings Dylan: The 1966 Royal Albert Hall Concert, UPAC, 601 Broadway, Kingston. Last November in London, Cat Power took the stage at Royal Albert Hall and delivered a song-for-song re-creation of one of the most fabled

and transformative live sets of all time. Held at the Manchester Free Trade Hall in May 1966—but long known as the "Royal Albert Hall Concert" due to a mislabeled bootleg—the original performance saw Bob Dylan switching from acoustic to electric midway through the show, drawing ire from an audience of folk purists and forever altering the course of rock-and-roll. In her own rendition of that historic night, the artist otherwise known as Chan Marshall inhabited each song with equal parts conviction and grace and a palpable sense of protectiveness, ultimately transposing the anarchic tension of Dylan's set with a warm and luminous joy. Now captured on the live album *Cat Power Sings Dylan: The 1966 Royal Albert Hall Concert*, Marshall's spell-binding performance both lovingly honors her hero's imprint on history and brings a stunning new vitality to many of his most revered songs. Tickets \$49.50, \$59.50, \$69.50, \$79.50. (845) 473-5288, (845) 339-6088 or boxoffice@bardavon.org

Albert Shahinian Fine Art, 22 E. Market St., 3rd Floor, Rhinebeck. **Through September:** Works by Joanna Murphy and Veronica Lawlor. In the Back Gallery: The 26th Anniversary Summer Salon & Sale, painting, photography, landscape, sculpture, mixed media. (845) 876-7578 or www.ShahinianFineArt.com

Artists' Collective Gallery of Hyde Park (ACHP), 4338 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park. **Sept. 8-Oct. 31:** "Magic!" exhibition by gallery members. achpny@gmail.com, (845) 366-6856, artistscollectiveofhydepark.com

Bannerman Island Gallery, 150 Main St., Beacon. **Through Sept. 8:** "Photo Magic of the Hudson Valley," the photographs of Alec Halstead. www.bannermancastle.org

CCS Bard's Hessel Museum of Art, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. **Through Dec. 1:** Ho Tzu Nyen: Time and the Tiger, the first in-depth examination of Ho Tzu Nyen (b. 1976, Singapore) in the United States. Widely considered one of the most innovative artists to emerge internationally in the past 20 years, Ho works across a variety of media, including film, video, installation, painting, writing, and performance to critically examine how histories—be they state, cultural, or personal—are continually imagined, negotiated, and performed. **Through Dec. 1:** Carrie Mae Weems: Remember to Dream, exhibition revisits the range and breadth of Weems' prolific career through rarely exhibited and lesser-known works that demonstrate the evolution of her pioneering, politically engaged practice. **Through Oct. 20:** Start Making Sense, exhibition draws upon the exceptional art holdings at CCS Bard. Featured artists include Ida Applebroog, Mark Dion, Andrea Fraser, Lyle Ashton Harris, Mary Heilmann, Chris Ofili, Catherine Opie, Laura Owens, Rirkrit Tiravanija, and Christopher Wool, among others. <https://ccs.bard.edu/museum>

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Sept. 4-Oct. 31:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. will be Emily Marchesiello, and at 12 Vassar St., JJ Kathe will showcase her pieces in the Reception Gallery with Carol Loizides presenting her artwork in the Hancock Gallery. **Free Public Art Opening Receptions** will be held on Friday, Sept. 13, 5-7 p.m. in all three galleries. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: cunneen-hackett.org

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

LAND Gallery, 30 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling. **Sept. 5-29:** "The Watercolor Garden," watercolors by Liz Rosiello is hosted by LAND Gallery and Sherman Artists Association. **Opening reception:** Sat., Sept. 7, 5-7 p.m. www.landgalleryonline.com or www.ShermanArtists.org.

Olana State Historic Site, Sharp Family Gallery, 5720 Rte. 9G, Hudson. **Through Oct. 29:** "Afterglow: Frederic Church and the Landscape of Memory," a series of intimate memorial landscapes painted by Church, 19th-century America's foremost landscape painter, and highly personal family artifacts – never before exhibited -- from Olana's collections. The theme of landscape as a vehicle for personal reflection and healing continues outdoors at Olana with "Memories in the Landscape," a self-guided tour of Olana's dedicated rustic benches that bring to life the stories and memories around loved ones. (518) 751-6879 or www.olana.org

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Sept. 6-22:** "Vehement Visions: Female Rage & Empowerment." **Opening reception:** Fri., Sept. 6, 5-7 p.m. (845) 293-3660 or www.womenswork.art


Bossa Blue re-imagines James Taylor Friday at Towne Crier



Acclaimed musical ensemble Bossa Blue brings their electrifying fusion of jazz, rock, and soul to the Towne Crier Cafe on Friday, Sept. 6, at 8:30 p.m., for a tribute to the iconic James Taylor called "James Taylor: Re-Imagined." Bossa Blue has garnered critical acclaim for their ability to seamlessly blend diverse musical styles, which has earned them comparisons to legendary acts while forging a unique sound all their own. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. For more information, visit www.townecrier.com or call (845) 855-1300. *Courtesy photo*

**LOOK FOR LOVE TO COOK
IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE**

Vicki Frank Day shares stories and recipes.



Historical drama about ratification of U.S. Constitution featured on Poughkeepsie waterfront Sept. 14

On Saturday, Sept. 14, "The Fateful Hour," a historical drama with a 21st-century twist, will be performed at Upper Landing Park on the Hudson Riverfront. Admission is free.

The show is Poughkeepsie's fifth historical drama directed by Roger Hendricks Simon since 2004. Interestingly, the plays are performed on or near the actual sites of these historical events. The cast and production staff are comprised of professional actors, community members, and community leaders - some of whom actually serve in similar roles to the historic characters in the show.

The show is written by Poughkeepsie's retired Judge Albert Rosenblatt, who served on the New York State court of appeals. The script tells the story of the stormy constitutional debates that occurred in 1788 at the Poughkeepsie courthouse prior to the passage of the U.S. Constitution. During that time Poughkeepsie was the capital of New York State and the City's courthouse was the location where the Federalists - led by Alexander Hamilton - debated against the state rightists led by N.Y. Governor

George Clinton and Melancton Smith.

When the verbal battles ended in the court, the Constitution was ratified by a close vote of 30-27 only after James Madison provided an unwritten pledge to add the Bill of Rights. The show, which is both entertaining and educational, is topical in that these fiery debates are still going on today.

Many Americans are unaware that our Constitution was ratified in Poughkeepsie and without this event the Constitution would never have been later signed in Philadelphia.

Roger Hendricks Simon is a founding member of the Yale Repertory Theatre who is highly respected for his work with the NY Shakespeare Festival and London's Royal Court Theatre. Simon is a noted teacher of acting, directing and writing, at the Simon studio: <https://www.thesimonstudio.com/> which was established over four decades ago. At the age of 81, Simon is currently in feature films including "Love in Kilnerry," "Connescence" with Kevin Bacon, and "Lineoleum" with Jim Gaffigan, all of which can be seen on Amazon Prime and other streaming services.

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OBITUARIES

Linda Dempsey

Linda Dempsey, 66, passed away on August 23, 2024, after a brief and courageous battle with cancer. Linda's life was a testament to the strength and compassion she carried within her heart. She departed this life surrounded by the love of her family, leaving behind a legacy of kindness and dedication to those she cherished.

Linda was born on October 20, 1957 to Madeline Moore Picciuolo and the late Robert C. Picciuolo Sr. Her upbringing in a close-knit family instilled in her the values of togetherness and support that she would carry throughout her life. Her siblings, Tammy (Jeff) Chandler, Robert Picciuolo, Jr., and Ricky (Betty) Picciuolo, grew alongside her, creating memories that would last a lifetime.

On May 26, 1990, Linda's life was beautifully intertwined with that of Patrick "PJ" Dempsey in a ceremony held at St. John's Reformed Church in Red Hook. Their union was blessed with a son, Justin Dempsey, who became the center of Linda's world. Together, they built a life filled with joy, laughter, and an unbreakable bond.

Linda's professional life was marked by her role as an Office Manager at Dr. Fernandez's Doctor's Office in Red Hook. There, she was more than just an employee; she was a caretaker, a confidante, and a friend to all who walked through the doors. Her innate ability to make everyone feel cared for was one of the many reasons she was so deeply admired by her colleagues and the community.

Beyond her immediate family, Linda was a cherished sister-in-law to Kathleen (Douglas) Cook, Eileen (Matt) Parr, Barbara (Wayne) Coons, Maureen (Dale) Hoose, and Annemarie (Paul Simmons) Dempsey. She also leaves behind many nieces, nephews and dear friends.

Linda's life was one characterized by love and courage. She faced each day with a smile, no matter the challenges, and her unwavering strength was a source of inspiration to everyone around her. Her presence was a comforting balm, and her absence will be deeply felt by those who had the privilege of knowing her.

In keeping with Linda's wishes, funeral services will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that you honor Linda's memory by spreading kindness and love in the world. Take a moment to care for your family, extend a helping hand to those in need, and share a smile with a stranger. Let your actions reflect the warmth and compassion that Linda brought to all who knew her.

Arrangements are under the care of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, 7461 S. Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571.

John A. DeVivo

John A. DeVivo Jr. passed away peacefully on August 22, 2024, at the age of 78. Born on March 23, 1946, in Manhattan, NY to the late John and Madeline (Pagano) DeVivo.

John married Lynn Auletta on June 27, 1983 in Bronxville, NY. The pair shared countless unforgettable memories and a partnership of love and support always.

John's passion for cuisine and community blossomed into a career as a restaurateur and entrepreneur. He had an uncanny ability to turn his visions into reality, as seen through the successful operation of several local restaurants. Many knew John for his seafood establishments, which became staples in the area. Among them were The Corner Store in Red Hook, Hardscrabble Cafe, and Captain John's Seafood in Milan. However, it was his lifelong dream, Hot Diggity Dog in Pine Plains, that brought him the most joy, even if it was for a brief time. Each of his ventures was more than a business; they were gathering places where memories were made and laughter was shared.

He was a devoted husband to his wife, Lynn DeVivo of Milan, NY, and a loving father to his daughter, Madeline DeVivo of Bronx, NY. He shared a deep bond with his sister, Madeline Gunther, and her husband, Rudy, of Bronx, NY. He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Nanette Manna, and her husband, Ben, of Putnam Valley, NY, and his brother-in-law, Bob Auletta and his wife, Katrina, of California. His extended family and a wide circle of friends will miss his generous spirit. John was predeceased by his sister, Carmela, and his brother, Emeddio, who both held special places in his heart.

In his free time, John enjoyed the simple pleasures of life. He found solace in the serenity of the sea, the joy of a good meal shared with loved ones, and the satisfaction of a hard day's work. His dedication to his family was unwavering, and he instilled in them the values of hard work, compassion, and the importance of following one's dreams.

Funeral services will be private.

Arrangements are under the care of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, 7461 S. Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571.

Marjorie Griffin

Marjorie Anne Griffin passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 25th 2024 at the fine age of 93 years old. She passed at Northern Dutchess Hospital after a brief period of illness.

Also known as "Marge" to friends and "Aunt Margie" to relatives, she was born March 2nd, 1931 to the late Jack Hefferman and Evelyn Stahl, of Upper Red Hook, New York, and grew up nearby in the area known at that time as "Turkey Hill".

After graduation in the late 1940s from Red Hook High School and a period of employ at Bard College, Marjorie became a long-time secretary within the Red Hook School District, eventually retiring in 1987 after many years as the secretary to the high school principal. Her years at the high school were a period of time when she developed lifelong and very cherished friendships with coworkers, teachers, and students.

Not one to fritter and waste her hours in an off-hand way, Marjorie was active in many varied activities and groups. A lifelong love of flower gardening resulted in large and glorious flower gardens at her home in the village of Red Hook, which she lovingly tended with the help of her usually patient husband, Jerry.

Exhibiting her flowers at the Horticultural Show at the Dutchess County Fair led to many "Best in Show" prizes over the years and even an appearance in a television commercial for Miracle Grow.

Eventually her association with horticulture at the Fair led her to become the Superintendent for the Horticulture Exhibit at the Fair and a valued member of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society. Both are positions that she held for many years.

Marjorie along with her husband and daughter Elizabeth were also very involved through the 1970s and early 1980s with the 4H Golden Fleece Sheep and Wool Club and were helpful in establishing an early version of the New York State Sheep and Wool Festival that is held annually at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds.

After her retirement from the school district, Marjorie worked at the gift shop at Montgomery Place Gardens in Annandale and two different gift shops in the Village of Rhinebeck.

Marjorie also enjoyed travelling in Europe, accompanying her family and friends on many very entertaining and exciting skiing trips in the Swiss Alps and other adventures in Italy and Central Europe.

Marjorie is predeceased by her loving husband of over 65 years, Vincent "Jerry" Griffin, a proud native of Tivoli, New York. She is also predeceased by a son, Christopher Mark Griffin of Rhinebeck, a son-in-law Paul Crockett, and her only sister, Marie Campbell of Agawam, Massachusetts.

Marjorie is survived by her son Scott Griffin of Rhinebeck and her daughter Elizabeth Crockett and her partner Paul Estock of Nevis, New York.

Marjorie was a goodhearted person with a sincere caring for everyone. She will be fondly remembered by her family, her many nieces and nephews, their families, and by cherished longtime friends in the Red Hook, Rhinebeck, and Tivoli area. She did indeed

live a good and full life.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Marjorie's name to the American Heart Association at <https://www.heart.org>

Friends called on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at Burnett & White Funeral Homes. A Funeral Service will be held on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 11AM at Burnett & White Funeral Homes. Burial will immediately follow.

Arrangements are under the care of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, 7461 S. Broadway, Red Hook, NY.

Keith A. Whittaker

FORMERLY OF RHINEBECK - Keith A. Whittaker, our beloved brother, uncle, cousin and friend, died peacefully on July 5, 2023, in Williamsburg, Virginia, where he resided for the last seven years. Keith was born May 30, 1953, at Northern Dutchess Hospital in Rhinebeck, New York, and was a graduate of Rhinebeck High School.

He was predeceased by his dad and mom, Ralph and Irene Whittaker and his brother Duane (Whit/Whitty) Whittaker (Patty Decker). He leaves behind his brother David Whittaker (Holly), his sister Lynn Edwards (Mike), his beloved nephews, Ian Whittaker, Henry Whittaker, Dane Edwards, Matt Edwards and Nathan Edwards, his niece Frances Whittaker, his cousins Gary Whittaker (Susan), Susan Wilbur (John), and Patti Jean Miller (Del), and his devoted friends, all of us knowing what a kind-hearted and devoted family member and friend he was to us all.

Keith devoted his heart and soul for many, many years to "his" kids at the Anderson School in Hyde Park, New York. He loved those kids like they were his own and oftentimes shared stories with his sister of his relationships with every one of them. For many years, he was also a dedicated and devoted volunteer member of the Rhinebeck Fire Department and rescue squad.

Keith was also a very talented musician, playing his bass guitar in several bands throughout his earlier years. Keith's hobby as a very talented photographer oftentimes led him down to the Hudson River, where he took some amazing photographs of the landscape and natural flora that surrounded those settings. Many of those photos will be shared at his celebration of life (see below). Oh, and did I mention he loved everything Looney Toons/Tunes?

His upcoming celebration of life is being held at the American Legion Post 429 in Rhinebeck, New York, 6361 Mill Street, 12572 on Saturday, September 28th, 2024, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. We trust he is resting in peace, and we look forward to sharing our memories with all of you.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com

HAM radio license exam to be offered; register for free prep class and test by Sept. 13

Amateur radio, or ham radio, operators can communicate across towns, around the world, or even into space without the internet or a cell phone and are essential resources during emergencies or recovery efforts following natural disasters such as fires, floods, or hurricanes. For those wishing to obtain a license or upgrade their existing license, Dutchess County Emergency Response, in partnership with the Mount Beacon Amateur Radio Club, will host an FCC licensing exam at 1pm on Sunday, October 6th at the Emergency Response campus, located at 392 Creek Road, Poughkeepsie. The exam fee is \$15, and upon successful completion, a \$35 FCC licensing fee will be charged. Pre-registration is required by September 13 to take the exam.

There will be a free, three-day training

course at Emergency Response to review the exam's material, which is from the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual 5th Edition, on Friday, October 4 from 6-9 p.m.; Saturday, October 5 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, October 6 from 8 a.m.-noon. The class is open to the public and free to attend, but registration is required in advance by September 13. Participants should obtain and review the manual prior to the first session. While attending the three-day training is recommended, it is not required to take the exam.

To register for the class and exam, or to learn more, call Adam Nowik Jr. at 845-849-3666 or email AE2AN@aol.com. To register to take the exam only, email Lynn Rightmeyer at kv2j54@yahoo.com.

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

THE GREATEST DOT TO DOT BOOKS

Stars
Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 153

By David Kalvitis © 2003 Monkeying Around

Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 3, Subchapter 3 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, a Real Property A&D Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 10:00 AM. The Public Hearing will be held via Conference Call. Call-in #: 646-992-2010, Access Code: 717-876-299.

REAL PROPERTY PUBLIC HEARING in the matter of the acquisition by the City of New York of Fee Simple (Fee) and permanent easement (Easement) interests on the following real estate in the County of Dutchess for the purposes of preserving and preventing the contamination or pollution of the New York City water supply system and for construction, operation and maintenance of the Rondout West Branch Bypass Tunnel, as part of the New York City water supply system.

NYC ID	County	Municipality	Type	Tax Lot ID	Acres (+/-)
9175	Dutchess	East Fishkill	Fee	6656-00-780032-0000	15.30 ac.
10092	Dutchess	Wappinger	Easement	N/A (Hudson River)	3.90 ac.

A copy of the Mayor's Preliminary Certificate of Adoption and a map of the real estate interests to be acquired are available for public inspection upon request. Please call 914-749-5410.

In order to access the Public Hearing and testify, please call 646-992-2010, Access Code: 717-876-299 no later than 9:55 AM. If you need further accommodations, please let us know at least five business days in advance of the Public Hearing via e-mail at DisabilityAffairs@mocs.nyc.gov.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-61-24

Operator for Scattered Site Code Blue Warming Centers
Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 13th day of September 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the fiscal affairs of the County of Dutchess for the period beginning on January 1, 2021 and ending on December 12, 2022, have been examined by the Office of the State Comptroller, and that the report of exami-

Legal Notices

nation performed by the Office of the State Comptroller has been filed on August 21, 2024 in my office where it is available as a public record for inspection by all interested persons. Pursuant to section **thirty-five** of the **General Municipal Law**, the governing board of the County of Dutchess may, in its discretion, prepare a written response to the report of examination performed by the Office of the State Comptroller and file any such response in my office as a public record for inspection by all interested persons not later than November 19, 2024.
Name: Bradford Kendall
Title: Dutchess County Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

Take Notice that the Dutchess County Office for the Aging will hold Public Hearings on the proposed 2025-26 ANNUAL UPDATE for services provided under the OLDER AMERICANS ACT, NEW YORK STATE COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY PROGRAM,

Legal Notices

NEW YORK STATE CONGRE GATE SERVICES INITIATIVE, NEW YORK STATE EXPANDED IN-HOME SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY PROGRAM, NEW YORK STATE WELLNESS IN NUTRITION PRO-GRAM, New York State AAA TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM, HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION, COUNSELING AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, and NY CONNECTS LONG TERM CARE POINT OF ENTRY PROGRAM. Public Hearings will be held at the following dates, times, and locations:
Tuesday, October 8, 2024 10:30 AM
Red Hook Senior Friendship Center
59 Fisk Street
Red Hook, NY 12571
Wednesday, October 9, 2024 10:30 AM
Beacon Senior Friendship Center
One Forrestal Heights
Beacon, NY 12508
The public is invited to attend the Public Hearings, and at the aforementioned dates, times, and places, all persons interested shall

Legal Notices

be heard.
An ABSTRACT of the ANNUAL UPDATE will be available for distribution at the Public Hearings as well as at Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 De-lafield Street, Poughkeepsie, New York 845-486-2555, after September 25, 2024.
All Public Hearing locations are handicapped accessible. Persons requiring special accommodations in order to take part in the Public Hearings should contact the Dutchess County Office for the Aging no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled event. Parties unable to attend the hearing may submit written comments to be included in the record of the Public Hearing. Written comments should be mailed by October 1, 2024 to: Director, Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 De-lafield Street, Poughkeepsie, New York, 12601.

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY 2025 BUDGET MEETING DATES**Legal Notices**

LEGAL NOTICE
BIDS SOUGHT
The Town of Milan is seeking bids for the following highway materials for the year 2025.

1. Abrasive Sand for snow and ice control, which must meet, item D-1402: Processed or natural material sand specifications of Dutchess County - price per ton, FOB and delivered
2. Item 4 Gravel - price per ton, FOB and delivered
3. Bank Run Gravel - price per ton, FOB and delivered
4. Bituminous Concrete - all types, price per ton, FOB
5. Washed Crushed Stone - size #1 and #1A, price per ton, FOB and delivered
6. Crushed Stone Fill - various sizes, price per ton, FOB and delivered
7. Crusher Run - price per ton, FOB and delivered

For specifications, contact the Superintendent of Highways at (845) 758-5164.

Sealed bids will be received by the Town Clerk on or before 2:00 p.m. 9/13/2024. Bids will be publicly opened at the Milan Town Hall, 20 Wilcox Circle, Milan, NY 12571 at 7:00 p.m. 9/16/2024.

All bids must be submitted in sealed envelope clearly marked "BID". A non-collusion bidding certificate must accompany all bids. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Awarded FOB materials shall be available for purchase by other political subdivisions of New York State as allowed per New York State Municipal Law.

By Order of the Town Board
Catherine Gill, Town Clerk

The Pleasant Valley Town Board will hold their 2025 Budget meetings at Town Hall 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, NY on the following dates:

WORKSHOP MEETING

-Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 7:00PM

PURPOSE:

Town Clerk presents Supervisor's 2025 Tentative Budget to Town Board

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

-Monday, September 9, 2024 at 5:00PM

PURPOSE:

All Department Heads present their 2025 Budget

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Regular Town Board meeting scheduled for Monday, September 16, 2024 at 7:00PM is now rescheduled for Monday, September 16, 2024 at 5:00PM.

PURPOSE:

To discuss all lines of the 2025 Tentative Budget

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

-Monday, September 23, 2024 at 5:00PM

PURPOSE:

Resolution to release of the 2025 Preliminary Budget and schedule Public Hearing for 10-07-24

Mary Beth Muir, Town Clerk

Town of Pleasant Valley

REQUEST FOR

PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-44-24

On-Call Abatement Services for Leading in Lead Prevention Program

Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 25th day of September 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Crazy Quilting presentation Sept. 4

September 4: Crazy Quilting: Focus on Embellishment. Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, Lagrangeville. Skyllkill, a local chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America, is having an in-house presentation by local resident Diane Johnson. Diane brings over 40 years' experience to her needlework and quilting instruction. One of her areas of specialty is crazy quilting with a focus on embellishment and working with wool including related subjects like punch needle. This program begins at 12:30pm. Join other needleworkers for fun and learning beginning at 10am or, come for this program only beginning at 12:30. For more information visit www.facebook.com/SkyllkillEGA or email to EGASKyllkill@gmail.com.

Repair Cafe set Sept. 7 in Red Hook

On Saturday, Sept. 7, the Red Hook Community Center will host a Repair Café from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. A Repair Café is a free meeting place where people come together to repair "broken but beloved" things. Volunteers with repair skills in all kinds of fields are ready to fix, or provide advice if they can't fix it. Bring broken items have been fixed in all these categories: clothes, small furniture, jewelry, electrical appliances, bicycles, toys, etc. To volunteer at the event or be a repair coach, contact the Red Hook Conservation Advisory Council at redhookcacintern@gmail.com

Square Dance, Tacos & Ice Cream Social at Copake Grange Sept. 7

The annual Square Dance and Ice Cream Social event returns to Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Road, on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 5 to 8 p.m. This year, there'll be food from the Aloha Tacos food truck, all the ice cream you can eat with toppings, music and dancing under the guidance of square dance caller Lance Olds. Tickets are available online or at the door for \$25; kids 12 and under \$10. Reservations are encouraged. More info at copakegrange.org/events.

Flea Market Sept. 7 at Rhinebeck Masonic Lodge
Saturday, September 7, 2024. 9am-4pm. Flea Market. Rhinebeck Masonic Lodge, 6472

Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck. Rain date Sunday, September 8. For info or to reserve vendor space (10' x 10' \$15 in advance, \$25 on day of event), contact Barb Gray-Black, 845-876-2473.

Abilities First Golf & Tennis Classic set Sept. 9

Abilities First will hold its Golf & Tennis Classic on Monday, Sept. 9, at The Powelton Club in Newburgh. For raffle tickets, virtual journal or tee-sign opportunities, and reception info, email joannparker@abilitiesfirstny.org.

PV Rec to offer free basketball tournament Sept. 14

Registration is open for Pleasant Valley Rec's Summer Slam Basketball Tournament, to be held on Saturday, Sept. 14 at Helen Aldrich Park, 27 Hibernia Road, Salt Point. Register at pvrec.com and enjoy a free fun family event featuring the Harlem Wizards. There will be games, food trucks, prizes, a movie showing and more.

PV church sets Yard Sale Sept. 14

There will be a Yard Sale, rain or shine, at the First Presbyterian Church, 1576 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, on Saturday, Sept. 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Something for everyone! Good weather location will be the front lawn. If we need to move inside, enter through the side door or the elevator on the parking lot side of the building.

Event to raise funds for support dog

Compassion for Codie will take place on Saturday, Sept. 14, from noon to 7 p.m., at the VFW Post 170, 1 Violet Avenue, Poughkeepsie. The rain-or-shine event will feature live music, vendors, raffles, food trucks and family fun. The \$20 suggested donation will help to raise funds for a professionally trained and certified support dog to give Codie and his family the support they need. Call (845) 705-2069 for more information.

Corn Hole tourney set Sept. 15

There will be a Corn Hole Tournament to support Pleasant Valley Community Gardens on Sunday, Sept. 15, at Plan Bee Farm Brewery in Poughkeepsie. Admission is \$30 person, double elimination, to raise

funds for the PV Community Garden, which grows fresh produce for the PV Food Pantry. Beers and food to purchase, including homemade desserts, a 50-50 raffle, and more. Registration starts at 12:30 p.m.; competition starts at 1 p.m. Register in advance at www.pleasantvalleycommunitygardens.com

Morton Library to hold voter registration event Sept. 17

National Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, Sept. 17. To commemorate, Morton Memorial Library will have voter registration and absentee ballot forms available, as well as more information, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on that day. Morton is at 82 Kelly St. in Rhinecliff. Call (845) 876-2903 to learn more.

Annual Chili Cook-off & Pie-Baking Contest set Sept. 21 in Rhinecliff

Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company will hold its Chili Cook-Off, Pie-Baking Contest and Field Game Day on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 4 to 7 p.m. Game starts at 4 p.m. All ages welcome. All Chili entries must be registered and on the table by 4:50 p.m.

Bring a hot pot of Chili for a chance to win \$100, a dish to pass or just your appetite to share among friends and family. Free hot dogs and beverages for everyone. 1st Place Prize: \$100. AND Pie Baking Contest - any fruit pie - 1st Place \$100. Rain date: Sunday, Sept. 22. Located at Firemen's Field on the corner of Valley Way Road and Loftus, next to the Old Schoolhouse Condos in Rhinecliff. Call (845) 876-5738 for information.

Rhinebeck Garden Club upcoming events

On Wednesday, September 25, at 10 a.m., the Rhinebeck Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting at Rhinebeck Village Hall, 76 East Market Street. Program: Cyanotype: A Process of Creating Art, Presented by Yoram Gelman. Refreshments served. Every year the Rhinebeck Garden Club puts together a series of meetings, field trips and events. Meetings are open to the public, but visitors are asked to join after attending two meetings. For more details, or information, call Hannah at 914-263-5298 or logon to [https://www.facebook.com/p/Rhinebeck-Garden-](https://www.facebook.com/p/Rhinebeck-Garden-Club-100064834505072/)

Club-100064834505072/

Rhinebeck Garden Club's Annual Plant and Bake Sale: Saturday, September 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., The Rhinebeck Reformed Church, 6368 Mill St. Perennials, shrubs, herbs, and houseplants will be available. Proceeds enable the Club to educate community members interested in gardening, foster an appreciation of gardening, and maintain its two community gardens.

Autumn Harvest Fundraising Brunch to benefit Kemmerer Farm

On Saturday, Sept. 28, join the Stanford community at an autumn-themed brunch with delicious food, great company, and a chance to support the Kemmerer Farm rebuild. Family-style brunch with open bar, music, silent auction. The goal is to raise \$50,000 to support the purchase of a used John Deere tractor for the farm between ticket sales and silent auction proceeds. Ticket prices start at \$50, and all proceeds will go directly to the Kemmerer family. The event will take place from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Bangallworks, 97 Hunns Lake Road in Stanfordville. Purchase tickets at EventBrite.com.

Anderson Center Centennial Gala set Sept. 28

Join Anderson Center for a Roaring 20s-themed celebration of Anderson Center for Autism's 100th anniversary. The party will include an auction, dinner, dancing, and an inspiring program honoring Vance Anderson Gage, the recipient of the 2024 VV Anderson Community Service Award (and grandson of Anderson Center for Autism's founder, Dr. Victor V. Anderson). In addition, an Anderson Center team member will be recognized with the 2024 Above and Beyond Award. Black tie optional. Reserve tickets at andersoncenterforautism.org/gala.

Date: Saturday, September 28, 2024

Time: 6:30pm Cocktail Reception, 7:30pm Dinner and Program

Location: The Grandview, 176 Rinaldi Boulevard, Poughkeepsie

Reservations: 845.889.9208

Website: www.AndersonCenterforAutism.org/Gala

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201 Home Improvement
202 Cleaning Services
203 Lawn Services
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801 Campers & Trailers
802 Motor Homes
803 Recreational Vehicles
900 Autos for Sale
901 Vans/SUV's
902 Trucks
903 Motorcycles
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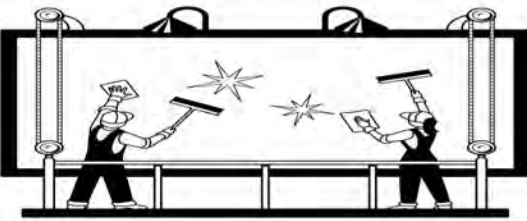
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1	5	1	3	1	3
2	4	2	4	5	4
5	3	5	1	3	2
4	1	4	2	4	5
3	2	3	5	1	2
1	4	1	2	3	5

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

SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

Answers to this week's diversions

(puzzles on page 12)

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Serino announces expansion of critical Ag Navigator role at annual agricultural forum

The Dutchess County Agricultural Forum was held Thursday, Aug. 22, at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck, highlighting the county's successful agricultural industry, which generates more than \$45 million in annual sales for the local economy. Members of the Dutchess County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, which includes local farmers, agri-business representatives, agricultural and land conservancy organizations – as well as state, county and local leaders and community members – gathered to discuss issues and policies surrounding Dutchess County agriculture. The annual event featured a presentation from the New York State Farm Bureau, as well as County Executive Sue Serino's announcement that the Dutchess County Ag Navigator role is being expanded to a full-time county position in the 2025 county budget to better serve the needs of local farmers and prospective farmers.

Serino said, "Dutchess County is home to an incredibly vibrant farming community, and they have each played an immeasurable role in our community's history. Farmers are resilient, and while new laws and regulations from various levels of government can make their jobs harder, they continue to think outside of the box to work through those challenges and find creative solutions, so they not only succeed but thrive. Dutchess County remains committed to being a supportive partner to our farming community and through innovative ideas and with the expansion of the Ag Navigator position we hope to provide the additional support and tools they may need to remain here in Dutchess County. Whether its contributing to our local economy, creating job opportunities, providing

fresh food, or growing the agro-tourism industry, the role our farms and farmers play in our community is invaluable, and I thank all those who attended today's forum and for their continued efforts to advocate for our farmers."

Among the highlights at the Aug. 22 event was the announcement of Serino's plan to expand the role of the Dutchess County Agriculture Navigator into a full-time, county government position. The Ag Navigator role, first established in 2016, helps local farmers traverse the complexities of contemporary agriculture by serving as a liaison for farmers, municipal officials and economic development specialists. The Ag Navigator provides impartial information and advice when local regulations or actions are proposed that may impact agriculture, farmland or agricultural businesses. The navigator is also integral in implementing the county's Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan's recommendations.

The county had previously contracted with Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC) for the Agricultural Navigator initiative, with Jennifer Fimbel serving as the inaugural Ag Navigator in a part-time role as part of her existing position as Agriculture and Horticulture Program Leader. Fimbel retired earlier this year after serving more than 38 years at CCEDC.

Under the new plan announced today, the position of Agricultural Navigator will become a full-time Dutchess County Government position, residing wholly within the Department of Planning & Development. Fimbel has joined the county in a part-time position as the Agricultural Navigator and will be working on laying out the responsibilities of the expanded role as



The Dutchess County Agricultural Forum, held Aug. 22 at the Dutchess County Fair, was attended by local leaders, local farmers and various agricultural and land conservancy organizations. Retired Agricultural Navigator Jennifer Fimbel (front row, left center) joins the Dutchess County Department of Planning & Development as the County's interim Agricultural Navigator and will train her full-time successor, to be hired in 2025 and funded by the county budget. *Courtesy photo*

well as recruiting, training and mentoring her full-time successor to be hired in 2025.

Expanding the role to a full-time position within County Government will provide greater opportunities to assist those who are looking for policy guidance, dealing with enforcement (i.e. zoning) issues – both municipal and farmer – assessment questions, questions regarding right-to-farm laws, agricultural districts and more. A primary goal is to expand local education on these topics through a number of new efforts:

- Informational public meetings for farmers, officials and the general public, to address questions and misinformation about agricultural districts, agricultural value assessment and right-to-farm laws;
- Information and education session for supervisors and mayors regarding the resources for agriculture available in Dutchess County;
- Training for local assessors regarding agricultural value assessment; and
- Creation of an Agricultural Education subcommittee of the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board.

Dutchess County will continue its longstanding partnership with CCEDC to meet the needs of the local agricultural community, with the Ag Navigator connecting people with technical questions relating to animals, crops, grazing rotations and much

more to CCEDC's expert staff. This allows CCEDC's team to focus on providing research-based information and education quickly and efficiently on a wide array of agricultural topics, including gardening/community horticulture through CCEDC's Master Gardener and Commercial Horticulture programs.

CCEDC Executive Director Mary Lou Carolyn said, "Expanding the Agriculture Navigator role will be very beneficial to our local agricultural community, particularly expanding education on local regulations and assessment rules. CCEDC looks forward to continuing to provide the educational and technical resources that farmers rely on, while working with the County on policy issues regarding agriculture."

The Agriculture Forum also featured a presentation by New York State Farm Bureau Vice President Eric Ooms, who discussed many of the opportunities and challenges facing farmers in New York and the Hudson Valley, including utilizing social media and different markets for farms, such as the lower Hudson Valley and New York City areas. Ooms noted that farmers are true entrepreneurs who are always evolving.

Following the forum, members of the ThinkDIFFERENTLY 4-H program for children of all abilities showed their animals at its annual Fair Flourishing Farmer's Showcase.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR ... page 17

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