

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Southern Dutchess News

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Fishkill, East Fishkill, Wappingers Falls, Town of Wappinger, Town and City of Poughkeepsie

January 1-7, 2025

Takes from municipal leaders on what is anticipated in 2025

By Kristine Coulter

While no one can know what 2025 will bring, local municipal leaders offered their takes on what is planned for each of their municipalities in the year ahead. The responses from officials follow in alphabetical order of the municipality.

In Beacon, Mayor Lee Kyriacou replied that one of the goals for this year is advancing the Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail, “a transformational project to convert an abandoned rail line into a hiking/biking trail from the waterfront to Main Street, to Cold Spring and beyond on the 700-mile Empire State Trail system. Dutchess County is currently completing an engineering feasibility study, and we hope to begin engineering design and help secure funding commitments for this top priority.”

Another priority is regarding the “almost \$10 million for the next phase of water and sewer capital improvements; these include replacing the dewatering system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, rehabilitating the Melzingah Reservoir Dam, constructing a new water storage tank at Mt. Beacon, and replacing water/sewer mains on Route 52,” said the mayor. He added, “In addition to the water/sewer projects cited previously, we look forward to successfully completing the upgrade of Fishkill/Teller Avenues, which is 100% funded by State and federal grant funding.”

Kyriacou also mentioned, “Metro-North Railroad has issued a Request for Proposals for “Transit-Oriented Development” (TOD) on the Beacon Train Station lot north of West Main Street, which is consistent with the



Municipal leaders in Southern Dutchess County remark on plans for each of their municipalities in 2025. Clockwise from top left: Town of East Fishkill Supervisor Nick D'Alessandro, Town of Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra, Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor Rebecca Edwards and Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini.

-Courtesy photos

City’s zoning updates and could bring new housing and vitality on top of unsightly blacktop parking lots.”

In East Fishkill this year, Supervisor Nick D'Alessandro said, “We definitely want to break ground at our new

Veteran Memorial Park.” The park will be located on Route 376 almost directly across the street from the East Fishkill Town Hall.

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Aymar-Blair to be sworn in as Dutchess County Comptroller on January 4



Dan Aymar-Blair

-Courtesy photo

By Kristine Coulter

Dan Aymar-Blair resigned from his elected position as representative for Ward 4 on the Beacon City Council. He was elected to the Dutchess County Comptroller position in the November election, against incumbent A. Gregg Pulver. Aymar-Blair will be sworn in on Saturday, Jan. 4 at Tymor Park in Union Vale at 3 p.m. New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli is expected to be in attendance.

Aymar-Blair has “made a career in finance and operations, two decades of that experience in government finance and operations.” He noted while running for Comptroller, “I’ve even overseen a budget bigger than Dutchess County’s.”

Aymar-Blair told Southern Dutchess News, “There is a lot of planning and pre-work happening right now because we need to hit the ground running for Dutchess County taxpayers. I’m excited to share that I’ve hired back former Deputy Comptroller Brian Kelly, who also happens to be a former Mayor’s Assistant in Beacon, serving both Steve Gold and Randy Casale. What I’m most looking forward to now is meeting the team in the Comptroller’s office; I’ve heard so many great things about their work ethic and acumen. Together, we’re all going to accomplish a lot this year.”

Aymar-Blair stated during the campaign on his website: “I currently manage business operations in New York City Public Schools’ special education program and have extensive experience in reviewing multi-million-dollar contracts, civil service hiring, legal compliance, and managing capital projects.” He resigned from that position last month.

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A new year -- a new name for Marist

By Kate Goldsmith

Marist College recently announced it will change its name to Marist University at the end of January. In a press release on the institution’s website it stated the name change would “better reflect the comprehensive, global institution of higher education it has become...”

The change will be effective Jan. 29, 2025.

“Marist has achieved remarkable success over the past several decades, transforming from a small regional college into a nationally and internationally renowned leader in higher education,” President Dr. Kevin C. Weinman said. “Marist University better describes the breadth of opportunities we offer to students today and the vision we have for Marist’s next century.”

According to the release, this transition signals Marist’s continued momentum as it nears its centennial in 2029 and follows a unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees in support and subsequent approval of university designation from the New York State Board of Regents.

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Marist College will change to Marist University. The name change is scheduled to take place on Jan. 29th.

-Courtesy photo Marist College Facebook

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Aymar-Blair to be sworn in as Dutchess County Comptroller

Continued from cover

“The two biggest accomplishments of the Beacon City Council in the last five years have been the consolidation of our fire department into a new state-of-the-art facility and the investments we are making in our public parks. Improving safety and our parks are core responsibilities of any local government and we’ve risen to the challenge. While not necessarily big, I also think it was an important accomplishment to get a stop sign at East Main and Washington because so many school kids pass through that dangerous intersection,” Aymar-Blair told Southern Dutchess News about what he considers the two biggest accomplishments when he was on the council.

When he was running for the position of Comptroller, on his campaign website, Aymar-Blair stated, “Originally from Saratoga Springs, I am a sixth-generation New Yorker who learned the values of hard work and compassion from my father, a Hudson River tugboat captain and my mother, a nurse. I worked two jobs while earning my BA from George Washington University.”

Aymar-Blair and his wife, Monika, moved to Beacon in 2013. They have two children, Leo and Henry.

“Since I was first elected to Beacon City Council in 2019, I have fought to make Beacon work for everyone: using tax dollars for sidewalks, bike lanes, park improvements, and critical infrastructure. This year, I am fighting to ensure the Fishkill Creek watershed area is protected and developed in a way that benefits the entire community,” Aymar-Blair previously stated.

As for his hopes for the City of Beacon, Aymar-Blair said, “I hope the city can make progress staffing up the police department. I also hope that the city will require more public benefits from new building projects. Despite all my efforts, I still feel like we aren’t asking more of these new projects. While new development is good for the tax rolls and helps us accomplish big projects like the fire house without increasing tax rates, we don’t have to sacrifice things that are important to us like views of the mountain or the creek.”

Aymar-Blair was honored for his service during the council meeting on Dec. 16.

Beacon City Administrator Chris White said Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou “is planning to appoint someone. Whomever is appointed would then need to run for the next election since they would only be in for the remainder of Dan’s term.”

DAV members donate \$2,000 to Building with Grace



Members of Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Castle Point Chapter 144 recently donated \$2,000 to Building with Grace. Building with Grace is a charity that makes home improvements or repairs for Veterans who have cancer. The presentation took place at the Castle Point VA Medical Center on Dec. 17.

-Courtesy photo

A new year -- a new name for Marist

Continued from cover

Marist has long combined the resources of a large university with the personal attention of a small college, creating a unique and rich residential learning experience. The institution expects that the name change will help introduce Marist to an even wider audience and further enhance the learning environment.

“Our founding values and distinctive strengths will continue to shape our future

as we define what university means to us, one aspiring to new heights while preserving the intimate, student-focused elements of a college,” Dr. Weinman said.

The power of a university

Since its founding in 1929, Marist has grown into an expansive global institution, now educating more than 5,000 undergraduates and nearly 1,000 graduate students across its main campus in Poughkeepsie, branch campus in Florence, Italy, and through a variety of

online graduate programs.

This has powered Marist’s signature educational approach, which is grounded in the principle of “and, not or.”

For example:

- Students explore a wide-ranging curriculum, blending liberal arts and strong pre-professional programs at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

- With 23 Division I athletic teams, Marist student-athletes hold the most all-time conference titles and have led in academic honor roll selections for 23 consecutive years in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

- Students benefit from extensive research and experiential learning opportunities in and out of the classroom, such as the nationally ranked Marist Poll, the Center for Sports Communication, and the IBM Joint Study Program.

- Marist’s study abroad programs are ranked No. 1 among peer institutions by a 2024 U.S. Department of State-sponsored report, reflecting a commitment to bring Marist to the world and the world to Marist.

“I’m inspired about our future because Marist University will continue to dream big, while always feeling small,” said Dr. Weinman. “This has long been one of Marist’s greatest strengths, occupying a sweet spot exemplified by small classes taught by faculty who are both mentors and educators, and a community that thrives on mutual care and respect.”

Attracting international, graduate, and faculty talent

The shift to Marist University also will enhance the institution’s global appeal, clearly articulating Marist’s identity to international students and student-athletes, and strengthening its ability to attract top faculty from around the world.

“As we expand our global reach, the name Marist University provides important clarity to prospective international students, who typically associate the word ‘college’ with secondary education, while also highlighting the strength of our graduate programs,” said Dr. Catherine Gunther Kodat, Provost and Dean of Faculty. “University designation will

ensure every person fully appreciates the range of our degree and certificate programs, along with the rich array of academic and co-curricular experiences we offer our students.”

January transition

The decision comes after an extensive assessment of insights and input from Marist’s entire community - students, faculty, staff, alumni, and Trustees - as well as prospective students and their families, and secondary school counselors worldwide.

Tony Lorello ’86, President of the Marist Alumni Association, ex officio member of the Board of Trustees, and a proud Marist parent, described the university transition as an exciting time for the institution.

“To me, becoming Marist University gives us the best of both worlds: preserving the personal attention of the college we all grew up with over the last 95 years while signaling the depth of opportunities and leadership role Marist can play as a global university,” he said.

A community-wide celebration and unveiling of a new storytelling campaign to reflect Marist’s elevated profile is planned for Jan. 29 when students return for the spring semester, at which time Marist will officially become Marist University.

State Senator Rob Rolison (39th District) commented on the name change.

“This is exciting news for the Marist community, Poughkeepsie, and our greater Hudson Valley region,” he said. “As a former student and current state senator who is committed to empowering New Yorkers through learning and higher education, I am thrilled to see Marist’s designation evolve, reflecting the school’s range of course offerings and its leading position within the global marketplace of ideas. I am eager to join the university at events for its official name change on January 29, and I look forward to continuing our collaboration and partnership with Marist faculty and students for years to come.”



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Takes from municipal leaders on what is anticipated in 2025

Continued from cover

“We want to expand our shared services with other municipalities in Dutchess County, which assists us all with our finances. We would like to get some of our traffic improvement plans to get the funding needed to actually get them started. This type of infrastructure is very expensive and without the partnership of NYS or the Federal Government, we cannot get these fixes done. So, I will be pushing hard on my fellow elected officials in NYS and the federal government,” he stated.

D’Alessandro also anticipates completing the new Comprehensive Master Plan. The Town Board will then start to hold public hearings to adopt the plan.

“Many of our residents and town professionals have worked very hard on this and we are very excited for the completion of the plan,” noted the supervisor.

Water and Sewer infrastructure projects to areas of Town that are needed will also be a goal for the coming year, he added.

Town of Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra said his main goal for 2025 is to complete the last major project in the town – a \$1 million Glenham Water pump project.

“Once this project is completed. The town will have NO MORE major capital projects remaining. We do have nine smaller, less expensive stations that may need to be upgraded in the future, but none are as expensive,” said the supervisor.

“We are down to budgeting for HVAC and carpet replacement with [Town of Fishkill] Judge Raymond Raiche securing a grant for the Justice Court saving taxpayers money for that portion of the building,” Albra noted.

“I also will focus on the 3rd and final Hometown Hero Banners celebration while we shift to the town

celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The town will highlight the great Revolutionary War history our town is blessed with,” he remarked.

Albra also mentioned a debate will begin on expanding the town board from 4 to 6 members while creating a Ward System in which less than 20 of 933 towns in NYS have.

“I think this is a serious concern that needs to be debated. People have stated that this helps incumbents. They are right, but in Fishkill we are one of the less than 20 towns in NYS that have term limits. You cannot have more than two 4-year terms total. This will also result in more of a grassroots government that will allow the average citizen to run for office without being beholden to political parties and special interests. I will ask for this to be a Special Election and not on the November ballot as this needs to be debated fairly and not politicized,” explained Albra.

In the Town of Poughkeepsie, 2025 will see the need for new ‘homes’ for the police and courts.

Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor Rebecca Edwards said, “We have been working toward a new home for our Police and courts which is urgently needed, and will continue to be a top priority. We are conducting an audit of town parks to identify needed upgrades and expect to have more good news on several fronts, in the coming months. The town has a great deal of deferred maintenance and other financial challenges, and it is a high priority to resolve those while protecting taxpayers.”

Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini said about 2025, “Our administration is looking forward to continuing to draft and adopt legislation as well as Comprehensive Plan updates to protect our quality of life, consider our rural-suburban lifestyle,



City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou makes remarks in Nov. 2024 during the open house of the central fire station.



Village of Wappingers Falls Mayor Kevin Huber

and strategically plan our Town. We are also looking forward to more infrastructure improvements such as building a brand-new live performance stage at Brexel-Schlathaus Park utilizing ARPA funds and being able to utilize Carnwath Farms Historic Site & Park for Town and resident-led events and activities.”

A new fire truck – that is one of the goals for Village of Fishkill Mayor Kathy Martin.

“Two goals that I have for the new year are to pave Merritt Blvd., and work with our fire department to purchase a new fire truck,” she said about 2025.

Village of Wappingers Falls Mayor Kevin Huber said, “As we look ahead, our 2025 budget will focus on maintaining and enhancing services without overburdening taxpayers while reducing the Village’s debt. Significant projects are on the horizon, from improving water production to complying with environmental standards and expanding recreational opportunities.”

He added: “The accomplishments of 2024 reflect the collective effort of the Village Board, staff, and community members, all working together to create a stronger and more vibrant Village. We look forward to continuing this momentum into the coming year.”

County awards \$57,868 in composting grants to Wappinger, Red Hook

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino has announced two grants, totaling \$57,868, have been awarded to the Town of Wappinger and the Village of Red Hook as part of the County’s Composting Grant program. The goal of the grant program is to promote composting and the diversion of organic waste out of the waste stream, and further the County’s sustainability and waste-reduction initiatives.

Serino said, “Protecting the environment for our children and future generations is a top priority. Dutchess County was proud to establish the Composting Grant Program to encourage composting and reduce food waste. I thank the leadership in the Town of Wappinger and the Village of Red Hook for taking advantage of this County grant opportunity and for joining us in recognizing the importance of preserving our planet.”

Announced earlier this year, the grant program offered local municipalities and school districts a 50-percent County match of municipalities’ funds to install and operate an in-vessel aerobic composter for residents’ use or up to \$20,000 to institute a community-wide food waste drop-off program.

The Town of Wappinger has been awarded \$50,000 to purchase and install an in-vessel composting machine at the Town’s recycle center and transfer station, making it easy for residents to access it as they drop off bulk materials, brush, recyclables or garbage. This advanced system will allow for efficient and large-scale composting of organic materials, significantly reducing the town’s carbon footprint while producing nutrient-rich compost to benefit local agriculture and landscaping projects. Site preparation is aimed to begin in early 2025.

The Village of Red Hook will receive \$7,868 to cover start-up costs to set up and

implement a food waste drop-off program to promote community engagement in composting, offering residents a convenient drop-off site, centrally located in the Village center and accessible 24 hours a day. The program is estimated to be available for residents by spring 2025, and the Village’s Climate Smart Communities task force will oversee delivery of finished compost.

As per grant requirements, both projects must be completed and operational by Dec. 31, 2026.

Deputy Commissioner for the Division of Solid Waste Management Kerry Russell said, “Food waste comprises between 20 to 30 percent of all municipal waste. By composting, we divert waste out of the waste stream, reduce greenhouse gases, produce nutrient rich soil and reduce the need for chemical fertilizers. The Division of Solid Waste Management is excited to

partner with the Village of Red Hook and the Town of Wappinger to advance food waste diversion programming in our local communities.”

To learn more about composting, including taking advantage of purchasing a discounted composting bin for home use, visit the Division of Solid Waste Management’s composting webpage.

The Composting Grant Program is one of the several County initiatives in its continuing efforts to preserve a vibrant environment for future generations. In September, for example, Dutchess County earned New York State’s highest Climate Smart Community distinction, Silver Certification, for the County’s continued climate action and environmental efforts. Learn more about Dutchess County’s ongoing environmental initiatives on the Dutchess County Department of Planning & Development’s website.

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Sheriff's Office warns of increasing scams

The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office warns the residents of Dutchess County and surrounding areas about scams that once again seem to be on the rise.

Scams are ways in which criminals will attempt to get money from people by contacting them and making up elaborate stories. In some cases the perpetrators have tried, sometimes successfully, to use the victim's emotions about a loved one in trouble to get money. It's common for the perpetrators of these scams to try to get money by telling people that one of their relatives has been seriously hurt or is in jail, and that they need money right away. In many cases they will pose as a law enforcement official or another relative to try and convince the victim that it's legitimate.

Lately there have been two major scams circulating. In the first scam, victims receive an email notification from Microsoft claiming that their computer has been hacked and to contact a call center to remedy this. The victims contact a fake call center, at which time they are told to provide gift card serial numbers and allow the perpetrators remote access to their computer. The perpetrators steal the gift cards via the serial numbers, and then once they have remote computer access they use it to steal money from the victim's accounts.

As if this wasn't enough, the victims are contacted yet again from someone now posing as law enforcement – in some cases the Secret Service or the Sheriff – who informs them that child pornography has been found on their computer and there's a warrant for their arrest, but they can satisfy the warrant by paying money. The victims are instructed to not tell anyone about being contacted, and when impersonating law enforcement the suspects will utilize "spoofed" caller ID identifiers and use specific law enforcement agency names that appear to be generated from a legitimate agency.

The second scam is similar to the first one in which the perpetrators tell the victim that there's child pornography on their computer, but instead of asking for money they instruct the victim to buy gold coins and bars. Once the victim has the gold they are instructed to send a picture of it to the perpetrators, and after that the victim is told to meet with a courier to give them the gold. The gold is never seen again, and in one case the victim lost over \$250,000 as a result of this scam.

The Sheriff's Office would like to offer the following tips to help people avoid these scams:

- If you receive correspondence from someone that you don't know asking for money but instructing you to keep the matter confidential and not inform anyone about it, it's most likely a scam.
- Legitimate law enforcement would not attempt to satisfy a warrant or make promises to avoid prosecution by soliciting money.
- If you receive an email about an order

you didn't place or asking you to send money call the company using a legitimate number, DO NOT follow the instructions in the email, click on any links in the email, or call the number provided in the email.

- If someone asks you to purchase merchandise, transfer money, provide bank information, provide remote computer access or enter a code given to you by them, use caution as it is likely a scam.

- Do not meet up with someone that you don't know; if you're asked to do this it is surely a scam, and it is very dangerous as well.

- If you're contacted by someone you don't know asking for money, for any reason, that's a signal that it's most likely a scam.

- If someone calls you and tells you that a relative has been hurt or is in jail, confirm it first before sending any money. Call other relatives or a legitimate law enforcement agency for confirmation before any money is sent. If they're posing as a relative, try and contact that relative for confirmation.

- Sending money overseas is especially risky; use extreme caution.

- Ask the person for their call back number and ask to speak to their supervisor to confirm the info; if it's a scam they will most likely hang up at this point and the number they give you will be bogus.

- If the person is telling you that a loved one is in the hospital or jail, find out which one and contact the institution yourself to confirm.

- If a loved one has recently passed away, be wary; in some cases perpetrators have even preyed on victims by searching through the obituaries and calling surviving loved ones. If you get calls from people you don't know soon after someone passes away, be careful and confirm it before you send any money.

- In some cases someone will call and tell the victim that they've won money, but to "process the claim" they need to first send money. Beware this is most definitely a scam and don't send any money – you should never have to pay money to claim a prize. If it seems too good to be true, it most likely is.

- If there's any doubt about a phone call/email/letter you've received, contact the Sheriff's Office before sending any money.

- Scams tend to increase during the holiday season, so be especially alert for them during those times.

It is very important to not send any money to anyone that you don't know until you've confirmed the situation through an independent source and feel comfortable with it. If it's a scam, once the money is sent it's very difficult, and most times impossible, to get it back.

If anyone thinks they may have been the victim of a scam, they are encouraged to contact the Sheriff's Office at 845-486-3800 or via the tipline at 845-605-CLUE or dcsotips@gmail.com.

D.A.: Poughkeepsie man found guilty of 10 felonies related to narcotic sales, sentenced to 20 years

The Dutchess County District Attorney's Office announced that on December 20, Poughkeepsie resident Spencer Green, 47, was sentenced to a total of 20 years in prison after he was found guilty by a jury on 10 felony counts related to narcotic sales in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

Dutchess County District Attorney, Anthony Parisi said, "Today's (Dec. 20) sentence of 20 years in prison reflects the serious nature of the defendant's criminal conduct and its devastating impact

on our community. Drug trafficking fuels addiction, spreads violence, and endangers public safety. I commend our Drug Task Force and the Assistant District Attorneys from the Violent Crime and Dangerous Drug Unit for their commitment to protecting our neighborhoods and families from the harmful effects of dangerous drugs."

It was stated in a press release: "The Dutchess County Drug Task Force began investigating Spencer Green in 2023 after he was identified as a narcotic and dangerous drug dealer operating in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Drug Task Force Agents purchased narcotics from Mr. Green on multiple occasions leading up to his arrest in December of 2023. On October 21, 2024, a Dutchess County jury convicted Green of five counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, class B Felonies, four counts of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, Class B felonies and one count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in



Spencer Green

-Photo submitted by Dutchess County D.A.'s Office

the Fifth Degree, a Class D Felony. This jury trial conviction marks the fourth felony drug conviction for the Defendant."

Green was sentenced in Dutchess County Court by the Honorable Edward McLoughlin. The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Heather Ryan and Deputy Bureau Chief David Kunca of the Violent Crime and Dangerous Drug Unit.

The District Attorney's Office and the Drug Task Force states they continue to work together to identify and remove dangerous drug dealers from local communities

Sheriff's Office investigating fatal car-pedestrian accident

The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office reports the investigation into a car-pedestrian fatal crash which occurred in the Town of Wappinger at approximately 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 21.

Deputies responded to State Route 376 near Hackensack Heights Rd in the Town of Wappinger for a report of a car-pedestrian crash. The pedestrian, a 67-year-old male, suffered life-threatening injuries and was later pronounced dead at Vassar Hospital. Currently the identity of the pedestrian is being withheld pending notification of the next-of-kin, according to law enforcement.

Preliminary investigation, according to law enforcement, has revealed that the pedestrian was crossing Route 376 near

Hackensack Heights Rd when they were struck by a vehicle traveling northbound on Route 376. The operator of the vehicle remained at the scene and is cooperating with the investigation, and no charges have been filed. At this time the primary factor in the crash appears to be unsafe crossing on the part of the pedestrian.

The investigation is continuing by Sheriff's Office Detectives and the Crash Investigation Unit. Anyone who may have information on the crash is asked to contact Det. Kurt Twaddell at 845-486-3828 or ktwaddell@dutchessny.gov. Information can also be provided via the Sheriff's Office tipline at 845-605-CLUE (2583) or dcsotips@gmail.com, and all information will be kept confidential.

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Albert Osten, President

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- The Southern Dutchess News will not be used as a vehicle to place misinformation.
- Information must be attributed to a specific individual or published item (ie - tell us where or from whom you obtained the information)
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- Letters appearing on the Viewpoints page are the views of the writers alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Southern Dutchess News.

New Nuvance Health-Go Health Urgent Care opens in Fishkill



Nuvance Health-GoHealth Urgent Care opened its first center in Fishkill on Dec. 23.
-Courtesy photos by Nuvance Health

Nuvance Health-GoHealth Urgent Care opened its first center in Fishkill on Dec. 23, expanding access to high-quality care in Dutchess County. The new center is located at 703 Route 9, between NBT Bank and Izla of Fishkill.

“Having convenient access to health-care close to home helps communities thrive,” said Dr. Reed Idriss, medical director of Nuvance Health-GoHealth Urgent Care. “Our new Fishkill location offers affordable, high-quality care and a seamless connection to Nuvance Health. We are honored to provide patients the support they need when they need it, especially during the holidays.”

The Fishkill center is the eleventh Nuvance Health-GoHealth center in the growing urgent care network, and the fourth to serve Dutchess County. This new center follows the opening of two

centers last month in Fairfield County, Conn. Nuvance Health-GoHealth plans to open additional centers in 2025.

About the Fishkill center

The center features an award-winning design that includes bold colors, wood accents and an open floor plan to foster a comfortable patient experience. The center’s warm color palette and lighting also help to ensure that patients feel a sense of ease and healing at every stage of their visit.

The new location provides care for the whole family, offering patients aged 6 months and older a wide array of services for conditions including flu, fever, ear-aches, insect bites, sprains, simple fractures and eye injuries, as well as cuts requiring stitches. It is open every day, including holidays, with regular hours



Nuvance Health-GoHealth Urgent Care opened in Fishkill. The facility is open every day, including holidays, with regular hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week.

from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week.

Affordable, quality and connected care
The new Fishkill center provides the community with a more affordable option for high-quality and efficient care outside of higher-cost settings such as emergency departments. It also provides a direct connection to Nuvance Health’s robust care network, which is nationally recognized

for quality and safety.

Patients can walk into any Nuvance Health-GoHealth center or use its online “save-a-spot” tool to save time by securing their spot in line, checking in and completing registration before arriving.

For details about all Nuvance Health-GoHealth locations, visit gohealthuc.com/nuvancehealth.

VA launches new outreach campaign to enroll Veterans in health care

VA is launching a new outreach campaign to encourage all eligible Veterans to enroll in VA health care – including approximately 1 million unenrolled Veterans who served in Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraq, and Afghanistan. This campaign will include text messages and emails directly to Veterans, public service announcements, paid advertising, and events.

VA is launching this campaign after reports of concerns from Veterans about health issues – including mental health challenges and thoughts of suicide – potentially related to repeated blasts and head trauma (low-level artillery blasts, IEDs, missile launches, heavy fire, and more). Since the first reporting about these concerns, VA researchers have been urgently studying this matter to learn more about the potential health impacts of blast exposure on Veterans.

Veterans enrolled in VA can access specialty screenings and services to address any health issues related to blast exposure. Importantly, Veterans who served in Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraq, and Afghanistan, and other specific locations are eligible for VA health care based on their deployments — they do not need to have any health conditions specifically associated with their service in order to be eligible for care.

While VA continues to urgently conduct research into the impact of blast exposure, VA and the entire Biden-Harris Administration encourage these Veterans – and all eligible Veterans – to apply for VA care today. Veterans who use VA health care have better health outcomes than non-enrolled Veterans, VA hospitals are dramatically outperforming non-VA

hospitals, and VA health care is often more affordable than non-VA health care for Veterans. Additionally, 92% of Veteran patients currently report trusting VA outpatient health care – an all-time high.

“We take Veteran concerns about repeated blast exposure very seriously, and we are studying this matter urgently to learn more about potential health impacts,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “While we do that, we don’t want Veterans to wait – they should enroll in VA health care today to get full access to primary care, mental health care, regular screenings, specialty care, and more. That’s what this outreach effort is all about: getting Veterans in our care, because Veterans who come to VA are proven to do better.”

“VA aims to be the best, most accessible, and most affordable health system in America for Veterans, and we are constantly looking for ways to improve that care as science and research tells us about new concerns,” said VA Under Secretary for Health Shereef Elnahal, M.D. “The more Veterans who enroll, the more we can learn about the impact of blast exposure – and the better care we can ultimately provide those who served.”

Earlier this year, VA made all Veterans who were exposed to toxins and other hazards (and meet basic requirements) eligible to enroll directly in VA health care – years earlier than called for by the PACT Act. This included all Veterans who served in the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Global War on Terror, or any other combat zone after 9/11. Veterans who never deployed but were exposed to toxins or hazards while

training or on active duty in the United States are also eligible to enroll. Additionally, Veterans who do not meet any of the above criteria can often still access VA health care by receiving VA disability benefits or based on income.

This new outreach effort is a part of the largest outreach campaign in VA history, which began when President Biden signed the PACT Act into law in 2022 and continues to this day. As a result of this campaign, more than 835,000 Veterans have enrolled in VA health care (a 37% increase over the previous period); more than 900,000 Veterans have upgraded

their priority groups, making them eligible for health care with fewer copays (an all-time record); and more than 4.4 million Veterans and survivors have applied for disability compensation benefits (another all-time record). The campaign has been focused on bringing new Veterans to VA by sending millions of texts and emails, hosting thousands of events nationwide, launching new paid advertising campaigns, working with influencers and companies, and more.

Eligible Veterans can enroll today by visiting our website or calling 833-577-5646.

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Obituaries

Joseph D. Hamel



Joseph D. Hamel, 44, a lifelong area resident, passed away unexpectedly on December 14, 2024, at his home. Born in Poughkeepsie on December 27, 1979, he was the son of Harvey and Anne (DesRochers) Hamel.

Joe was employed at the Gap Distribution Center in Fishkill. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends, watching movies, and cheering on his favorite teams—the NY Giants, NY Rangers, and University of Michigan Wolverines. A true people person, Joe had an incredible gift for connecting with others. Whether chatting with an old friend or striking up a conversation with a stranger, he made everyone feel seen, heard, and special. His warm smile, quick wit, and kind heart left a lasting impression on all

who had the pleasure of knowing him.

More than anything in the world, Joe loved his daughters and took immense pride in supporting them. He was a constant presence at their sporting events, whether at home or traveling for tournaments.

Joe shared a special bond with his oldest daughter, Alexis, whose independence and accomplishments filled him with pride. He treasured every call, visit, and moment they shared, and watching her grow into the remarkable person she is brought him endless joy and fulfillment.

Joe was Peyton's biggest fan on the softball field, cheering her on through every pitch, swing, catch, and slide. He celebrated her successes and encouraged her to keep pushing forward, no matter the outcome.

For Kasidy, Joe was a proud and dedicated supporter on the soccer field, cheering with excitement and pride as she gave her all in every game. He admired her determination and loved being part of her journey, watching her grow as both an athlete and a person.

Joe was also incredibly fortunate to work from home, which gave him the opportunity to spend precious time with his youngest daughter, Oaklyn. He cherished their days together—sharing lunch, watching her play, and simply enjoying the sound of her laughter filling the house. Those moments, though ordinary to some, were treasures to him.

On June 28, 2008, in Wappingers Falls, Joseph married the love of his life, Michelle Hilderbrand, who survives at home. Joe and Michelle shared a deep and inseparable bond, spending countless hours together and creating cherished memories on their many road trips. Whether it was long drives or quiet moments at home, they filled the silence with laughter, conversation, and love. Rarely was one seen without the other, a testament to the beautiful life and companionship they built together.

In addition to his wife and parents, he is survived by his daughters, Alexis, Peyton, Kasidy, and Oaklyn; his siblings and their spouses, Harvey and Nicole Hamel, Phyllis and Frank Danza, Sheryl Hamel and Ray Lewis, and Vincent and Mary Hamel; his brother-in-law Jason and Laura Hilderbrand and Goddaughter Olivia; as well as many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and friends.

Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. A funeral service took place at the funeral home, followed by interment at Fishkill Rural Cemetery.

To honor Joe's memory during calling hours, his daughters invite everyone to wear their favorite sports shirts and hats, celebrating his love for sports and the joy he found in bringing people together.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to assist Joe's daughters in the days to come through the GoFundMe page set up in his memory.

Gofundme Link: <https://gofund.me/0b0614b2>.

Catherine Mary Hamilton



Catherine Mary Hamilton, 81, was born March 11, 1943. She passed away on December 12, 2024, at her home as she wished.

She is predeceased by her parents: Robert J. and Theresa (Cservak) Hamilton; her brother: Robert; her sisters: Joan and Shirley.

She is survived by her cousin, Peggy Roberts, her lifelong friend Jean Van Tassel, and several nieces and nephews in California.

Cathy graduated from Wappingers Central High School and continued her education at Kings Count Hospital School of Nursing. She then obtained a Bachelor of Science in nursing. Cathy's nursing career was spent at Lenix Hill Hospital NYC and Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, NY.

Cathy was a US Army reservist, obtain-

ing the rank of Lieutenant Colonel before retiring. She was a life member and past president of the Hughsconville Fire Company

She was a lover of animals and took in every stray cat or dog she found. She raised many rescue dogs.

A Mass of Christian burial was held on Monday, December 23rd, at St. Mary's Church in Wappingers Falls, NY. Followed by a burial at St. Mary's Cemetery in Wappingers Falls, NY.

Memorial donations can be made in Cathy's name to the Hughsonville Fire Company, 88 Old Hopewell Rd, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 or the ASPCA, 612 Violet Avenue, Hyde Park, NY 12538. For more information, please contact Delehanty Funeral Home.

Joan M. Cleary



Joan M. Cleary, born January 14, 1938, passed away peacefully with her loving family by her side on December 18, 2024.

Mom was the daughter of Hugh and Alice Eagan, who predeceased her on April 24, 1977 and December 17, 1987, respectively.

Mom married her special angel, Robert E. Cleary, on May 11, 1958. Dad predeceased Mom on June 11, 2016 after 58 years of marriage.

Together mom and dad had four children, Debi and Jim Skapetis; Bill and Lisa Cleary, Donna and Steve Feller and Karen and Steve Albrecht. They also had four grandchildren, Chrissy and Scott Gallagher, Michael and Kerry Skapetis, Tyler and Katlynd Albrecht and Keri and Gary Van Tassel. They

also had 11 great grandchildren, Brooke Skapetis, Xavier Gallagher, Connor Skapetis, Leighla Gallagher, Colten Skapetis, Robert Gallagher, Chase Albrecht, Carter Skapetis, Cole Albrecht, Cannon Skapetis and Addy Van Tassel.

Mom was predeceased by her only sibling, Russell Eagan.

Mom worked at Texaco in Beacon prior to her marriage. She then stayed at home to raise us. We will always remember our special Sunday dinners and how mom and dad always made our holidays so special for us. Family was everything.

After raising all of us, mom went back to work at Mid-Hudson Multiple Lising and Weichert Realty until the age of 70.

Mom was a very independent person who never asked for anything. She loved to bowl and was on a bowling league for many years and loved to play Solitaire, which we thought she might make it into the Guinness Book of World Records for the amount of games she played.

We will forever hold her in our hearts and continue the gift of love she and mom dad instilled in each and every one of us.

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to Hospice and specifically Susan, who was our guardian angel when mom passed.

Visitation was held on Sunday, December 22, 2024 at Delahanty Funeral Home, 64 East Main St. Wappingers Falls, New York. A mass of Christian burial was held at St. Mary's Church, 11 Clinton St. Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Burial will be private for family only.

Donations may be made to Hospice of Dutchess County, 374 Violet Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. <https://www.hvhospice.org/donate-now/#Donate>.

Sheila A. Conforti



POUGHKEEPSIE - Sheila A. Conforti passed away peacefully at home on Friday, December 13, 2024, in the company of her warm and attentive caregiver.

Born in the Bronx, Sheila was the beloved daughter of the late Gregory and Mary "Mae" Irwin Coleman. She attended St. Francis of Rome Elementary School and St. Barnabas High School. She later earned her RN from Bellevue Nursing School, a BA from Hunter College, and an MPH from Columbia University.

Sheila spent many joyful summers on Block Island, where she worked at the Star Department Store. Her nursing career began as a Psychiatric Nurse, and she was proud to contribute to pioneering work in the first Hyperbaric Oxygenation Chamber. Over the years, she expanded her expertise to include surgical and

supervisory roles.

After moving her family from Manhattan to Catskill, Sheila continued her service as the Employee Health Nurse at Catskill Memorial Hospital. She ultimately retired after a distinguished career as Greene County's Public Health Director.

A woman of deep faith, Sheila was a parishioner of St. Patrick's Church in Catskill and St. Martin de Porres Parish in Poughkeepsie. She was also an active member of several organizations, including the Third Order Franciscans, the Catskill Rotary Club, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, and St. Patrick's Church Rosary Altar Society.

In retirement, Sheila dedicated her time to caring for her mother and volunteering with organizations such as the ALIGHT Center in Hudson and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. Her commitment to service was a testament to her kind and generous spirit. For the past two years, Sheila resided in Poughkeepsie, where she was cared for by her devoted daughter, Christine.

Sheila will be remembered as an extraordinarily loving and compassionate woman who profoundly touched the lives of all who knew her.

She is survived by her daughter, Christine Conforti Wahlers, and her treasured grandson, Kai. She is also survived by her brother, John Coleman (Liz) of Nevada; niece, Patricia; nephews, John and Michael Coleman; and numerous cousins and dear friends.

Calling hours were held at Millspaugh Camerato Funeral Home, 139 Jefferson Heights, Catskill. A Funeral Mass was celebrated at Sacred Heart Church in Cairo, followed by interment at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Catskill.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Sheila's name may be made to Catholic Charities, 431 East Allen Street, Hudson, NY 12534.

Messages of condolence can be shared at [MillspaughCamerato.com](https://www.millspaughcamerato.com).



DCHS emerges bigger and better!



Above: We are grateful to library specialist Carolyn Cook, who has been leading DCHS into the digital access age by working with special library “apps.” We expect to be able to launch these services in the New Year.

**By Bill Jeffway
Executive Director**

We are proud to report a banner year on all fronts at Dutchess County Historical Society (DCHS). Our first full year in our new location has raised our visibility and improved access to the entire dynamic and varied “society” of our members, donors, business sponsors, collections donors, and growing paid staff and volunteers.

Regarding finances and the \$103,000 operating budget for 2024, we expect our 2024 break-even operating expense goal will be met on December 31. We do tend to have some very last-minute gifts which can make all the difference!

We have nearly doubled our income from endowments. Through the generosity and leadership of Rob and Sue Doyle, and those they inspired to give, DCHS has almost doubled the amount of income we can rely on annually from endowments. The Doyle Endowment Fund, totaling more than \$200,000 at the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, now supports DCHS in addition to the longstanding Denise M. Lawlor Fund, also at the Community Foundations.

Our online auction, in its third year, broke prior records by generating more than \$25,000 after expenses. This is roughly double what we had come to expect from our annual gala dinners before COVID. Through the generosity of item donors (there were 155 lots) 124 bidders turned into 64 winners. We are grateful for the generosity of AAR Auctions who donate their platform, time, expertise and buyer’s fees.

Our spring Historic Preservation Celebration and Awards income broke any prior event income by a factor of two. Over 150 tickets were sold, and a record number of businesses were sponsors. Above all, we had the opportunity to celebrate and thank three generations of the Hill family who continue to support DCHS, and who hosted us at their extraordinarily historic home.

Among our most visible work this year has been telling the stories of those involved in the essential service of firefighting. Prompted by a significant collections gift from the Rhinebeck Fire Department, com-

combined with existing collections, and a great deal of interest from the local DCHS Vice Presidents representing the cities and towns of the county, firefighting is the topic of the forum section of the DCHS 2024 Yearbook (expected to be published in March 2025).

We developed the traveling exhibition, “Firefighting in Dutchess County: A Greater Calling,” in partnership with the Rhinebeck Fire Department and the Firefighting Museum of Dutchess County. The exhibition was featured at the inaugural opening of the museum at the Dutchess County Fair in Rhinebeck. Please let us know if you would like to borrow the exhibition for a school, library, firehouse, or other public space.

Another high-profile exhibition and series of programs was related to the celebration of the 200th anniversary of Revolutionary War Major General Lafayette’s local visit. In 1824, as the United States approached its 50th anniversary (the way we approach the 250th anniversary today) Lafayette’s progressive views on the abolition of slavery, the role of women in society, and attitudes toward Indigenous peoples and the impoverished, among other views, gave us the chance to use Lafayette as a kind of litmus test of progress of the realization of American ideals. This turned into our coming to understand the extraordinary story of local persons, like the free Black couple Tom & Jane Williams of the Town of Washington. They named their son, Lafayette Williams, shortly after the visit in 1827. The Bard College playwright, DN Bashir, turned this story into a short play performed at the FDR Presidential Library & Museum in September.

In addition to the background talk given at the FDR Presidential Library & Museum, the narrative, “Why Lafayette Endures,” was presented as four classes at both Bard and Vassar College Lifetime Learning Institutes.

DCHS Trustee and Civil War specialist Dr. Michael Boden continued his series of Civil War talks, “A Long & Fatiguing Campaign: The 150th New York Regiment in the Atlanta Campaign.”

DCHS Trustee David Turner drew from



Above left to right: Aidan Chisamore, Collections & Archives Manager, is responsible for the care, preservation, and management of collections. Cosette Veeder-Shave volunteers in collections data entry and management. Charlotte Hampton, Vassar '25 (Art History), is a volunteer this semester through Vassar’s Office of Community Engaged Learning which has grown into a reliable and important source of talent for DCHS.

his own vast image collection to present “How the Automobile Changed the Hudson Valley Landscape through Vintage Postcards.”

The Executive Director’s series for Black history month continued with Free Black Communities and Maritime Adventure Before the Civil War.

Videos of all these programs can be found at www.dchsn.org/virtual-event-space.

There is nothing as fundamental as our responsibility to be stewards of thousands of important documents, photographs, clothing and textiles, and objects. Our new location with its open, bigger and environmentally controlled space, has allowed for better management and access.

The greatest contribution comes from the appointment of Collections & Archives Manager Aidan Chisamore, who will move to a full-time position in the New Year.

In terms of items themselves, some highlights of new acquisitions include a DeLaval separator, a new-found Caroline Clowes painting, photos of Poughkeepsie in the 1888 blizzard, and a 1706 deed important to the settlement of Rhinebeck.

We expect to publish the DCHS 2024 Yearbook in March of 2025 and continue to expand print on demand through Amazon books. We are grateful to the Northern/Southern Dutchess News / Beacon Free Press which hosts our “Decoding Dutchess Past” every two weeks in their newspapers.

Our focus in library services has been and continues to be the creation of easy to use, online catalogues for both the Butts Research Library and the Kelly Library. We are grateful to library specialist Caroline Cook, who has been leading DCHS into the digital access age by working with special library “apps.” We expect to be able to launch these services in the New Year.

Our membership now exceeds 200 for the first time in many years. We are grateful for this important means of support.

Going into 2025, the celebration of the 250th anniversary of our country’s 1776 founding is becoming an increasingly large part of our focus. We do this work in partnership with the Dutchess County (Gov’t) Historian, Will Tatum, and DCHS “local” Vice Presidents.

One of the most exciting discoveries and gifts to DCHS in the New Year we are engaging highly specialized services to convert the recent gift of local scenes from 1919 to 1921 of local scenes. We have not been able to view much given the delicate condition of the movies. Again, watch for progress on this in the New Year!



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.

Wappingers Falls National Guard Soldier receives new rank and responsibilities

Major General Ray Shields, the adjutant general for the state of New York, announced the recent promotion of members of the New York Army National Guard in recognition of their capability for additional responsibility and leadership.

Angelina Gentile from Wappingers Falls and assigned to the Company B, New York Army National Guard Recruiting & Retention Battalion, received a promotion Nov. 14, to the rank of private 1st class.

Army National Guard promotions are based on a Soldier’s overall performance, demonstrated leadership abilities, professionalism and future development potential.

These promotions recognize the best qualified Soldiers for a career in the New York Army National Guard.

Army National Guard Citizen Soldiers who serve our state and nation are eligible for monthly pay, educational benefits (from the state and federal government), travel across the globe, technical and leadership training, health and dental insurance and contributions towards retirement programs similar to a 401(k).

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

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\$600,000 commitment from Helen's Hope Foundation expands community health programs at Vassar Brothers Medical Center

The Helen's Hope foundation has committed a generous \$600,000 to support two vital Vassar Brothers Medical Center (VBMC) initiatives: the Food As Medicine (FAM) Program and the Community Care Team (CCT). This gift will bolster VBMC's efforts to address social drivers of health through community-based, collaborative approaches to care.

"This incredible gift reflects Helen's Hope Foundation's commitment to the well-being of our community," said Susan Browning, president of VBMC. "It enables us to build on our efforts to address complex health needs through collaboration, compassion and community-centered care. We are honored to partner with the Helen's Hope Foundation in this important work."

Helen's Hope Foundation — established by Stephanie Karl to honor the legacy of resilience and compassion of her mother, Helen Grasso — is committed to supporting underserved communities. With this gift, the foundation aims to empower vulnerable populations with resources that improve health outcomes, nutrition access and chronic

disease management. "Helen's Hope Foundation was founded on the values of resilience, compassion and a commitment to lifting up those who face challenging circumstances," said Stephanie Karl, founder and president. "Supporting the Food As Medicine Program and the Community Care Team at Vassar Brothers Medical Center allows us to honor my mother's legacy by ensuring more individuals have access to the essential resources they need to build healthy, hopeful futures. We are proud to be part of this vital work and to contribute to a healthier Hudson Valley community."

The Food As Medicine Program, launched in April 2024, serves primarily Medicaid patients in the Poughkeepsie area and is a partnership with Dutchess Outreach, the Culinary Institute of America and the Healthcare Association of New York State (HANY). The program provides participants with essential support, including twice-monthly groceries, cooking classes and personalized coaching to help them make healthier food choices and manage chronic conditions such as hypertension.

"Helen's Hope Foundation's gift will



From left, Registered Dietitian Anne Rabbitt, Michelle Kuklinski, Hollie Saborido (Helen's Hope Foundation) and Dr. Brenda Ayers.

-Courtesy photo from Nuvance Health

help us continue building a robust model of care that addresses food insecurity as a root cause of many health issues," said Dr. Brenda Ayers, who oversees the Food As Medicine Program and is Nuvance Health's medical director for Health Equity. "With these resources, we can provide critical support to families striving to improve their health and well-being."

The Community Care Team, established in 2021, coordinates wrap-around care for at-risk individuals to address

social determinants of health. The team works with community partners to reduce emergency department visits, enhance social support and foster economic stability, housing and access to care.

"We are deeply grateful for Helen's Hope Foundation's commitment to community health," said Grace Linhard, chief development officer for Nuvance Health. "This support will allow us to expand our reach, helping more individuals to access the nutritional resources and health navigation they need to lead healthier, fuller lives."

Drug Task Force: Alleged drug dealer arrested for sale of controlled substance, intent to sell

The Dutchess County District Attorney's Office Drug Task Force received reports of narcotic and dangerous drug dealing in the area of South Cherry Street on the south side of Poughkeepsie.

Drug Task Force Agents identified Bernard Diggs, a new City of Poughkeepsie resident, as a narcotic and dangerous drug dealer operating in that area. Drug Task Force Agents were able to make multiple purchases of narcotics from Diggs over the course of this ongoing investigation.

In the late afternoon of Dec. 17, the Drug Task Force Agents located Diggs in the area of Cherry Street while he was in the process of conducting a hand-to-hand exchange of narcotics with an unidentified female. Drug Task Agents approached and arrested Diggs related to the ongoing investigation. At the time of his arrest Diggs was found to be in possession of Fentanyl packaged for sale. Diggs was charged with the following offenses:

Count of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd degree, a class B Felony.

Count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd degree, intent to sell, a class B Felony.

Diggs was arraigned in the City of Poughkeepsie Court and remanded to DCJ on 50k Cash Bail/150K Partially Secured Bond/300k Secured Bond.

It was noted by the D.A.'s office that additional charges are pending against Diggs as a result of this investigation.

If anyone has information regarding this case or about any other individuals selling drugs in Dutchess County, contact the Drug Task Force confidential tip line at 845-463-6040 or by sending an email to the following web address: DrugTaskForceTips@gmail.com As with any criminal case, the charges described above are merely an accusation and those individuals named in this release are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Board of Health meetings set for 2025

The Dutchess County Board of Health meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month except for the month of July.

Board of Health Meetings for 2025

- January 16
- February 20
- March 20
- April 17
- May 15

HOLIDAY - NO JULY MEETING

- August 21
- September 18
- October 16
- November 20
- December 18.

The public is welcome to attend. For more information, contact 845-486-3432.

Central Hudson and employees raise \$347,000 for the United Way



Central Hudson and its employees, board members and retirees raised \$347,000 this year for United Way.

-Courtesy photo from Central Hudson

Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. together with its employees, board members and retirees raised \$347,000 to support the United Way of Dutchess-Orange, Ulster, Sullivan and Greater Capital Region chapters, in its mission to improve lives and strengthen communities. Since 2012, Central Hudson and its team have contributed over \$4.4 million through fundraising campaigns to support the United Way's efforts. The funds will provide critical support to local programs addressing poverty, homelessness, hunger, and other essential needs in the region.

"Central Hudson is proud to support the United Way and the vital work they do for those in need in our region," Central Hudson President and CEO Steph Raymond said. "Our employees' dedication and generosity reflect the deep sense of community that defines who we are. It is an honor to provide these funds and contribute to a better future for the people

we serve." United Way of Dutchess-Orange Region President and CEO, Jeannie Montano expressed gratitude for Central Hudson's continued partnership, "Central Hudson's commitment to our community is truly inspiring. Their generous financial contribution and countless volunteer hours have a profound impact on the lives of so many. We are incredibly grateful for their partnership."

The funds raised are part of Central Hudson's ongoing dedication to social responsibility, including active employee engagement in community service initiatives. Central Hudson and its employees have consistently supported the United Way since 1920 with recent efforts including hosting a diaper drive to support families in need, partnering with Habitat for Humanity to provide essential home upgrades, and advocacy for programs that promote a healthier and more resilient community.

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Creative Living

Rotarians spread holiday cheer



The Rotary Club of Wappingers Falls held many events and programs in the month of December. One of the events was the Veterans Project that benefited 20 Veterans at Liberty Station in Poughkeepsie. There, Rotarians bought 20 sweatshirts and 20 sweat-pants and then placed them in gift bags. They also provided lunch and sang Christmas carols to senior residents at Lower DiMarco Place in the Village of Wappingers Falls.

Rotarians also adopted nine families for the holidays within Wappingers Central School District. They gave food and presents for the children.

A holiday food drive was held with the Rotary Club and the Town of Wappinger Parks & Recreation Dept. Pictured bottom left is Wappingers Falls Rotary President Todd Bowen, left, and Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini.

-Courtesy photos submitted by Todd Bowen

New Year, new habits: How to form, maintain and sustain new health habits

By Premier Medical Group

After an indulgent season filled with festive cookies and holiday feasts, it is only logical that the resolution on everyone's mind for 2025 is health.

Forty-three percent of people who set resolutions in the New Year abandon their efforts by the last week of January. The New Year is the perfect launching pad to introduce new habits and a healthier lifestyle. With a positive mindset and some helpful tips from Premier Medical Group, you'll be on your way to forming, maintaining, and sustaining new health habits throughout the upcoming year.

Set Realistic and Specific Goals - One of the biggest hurdles people face with goal-setting and New Year's resolutions is the desire to make big sweeping changes to their entire lifestyle. It is common for people to feel like they need to change every aspect of their lives to achieve success. They make big broad exclamations like "get fit" and "eat better" that have little clarity. However, it is more sustainable to set realistic and specific bite-sized goals to start.

Consider narrowing down your health-focused goals to one aspect of your overall healthier lifestyle journey. Use a goal-setting strategy like SMART to create specific, measurable, attainable, realistic/relevant, and time-bound goals. Let's break

down the "get fit" goal. If you're just starting this journey to fitness, a SMART goal may be to take a 30-minute walk (specific), twice a week (measurable and attainable - you've got time twice a week!), to improve your overall fitness (relevant), every week for 4 weeks (time-bound). Setting a goal like this helps you track your progress easily and stay motivated to grow your goals throughout the year!

Be Consistent - Now that you have small, manageable changes with clear expectations, you can move on to the next phase: consistency! As these small changes become habits, you will be able to gradually increase the intensity and duration of your activities.

Consistency is key when forming new habits. Each day that you reinforce a new activity it rewires your brain and becomes second nature. Establishing a regular routine helps your body and mind adapt to the changes more efficiently. Set specific times for your healthy habits, whether it's morning workouts, regular mealtimes, or designated moments for self-care. Over time, your routine will become ingrained in your daily life, making it less likely for you to skip or forget your healthy habits.

Make it Enjoyable - Just because something is "healthy" or is geared toward creating a healthier lifestyle doesn't mean it has to be unpleasant.

There are so many ways to make a healthier lifestyle enjoyable. If you're not enjoying yourself - or worse - depriving yourself of things you enjoy, the higher the risk of failure is in sticking to your goals.

Choosing activities you enjoy increases the likelihood that you'll stick with them in the long run. If you dislike running, don't force yourself to become a marathon enthusiast. Experiment with various activities until you find something that brings you joy, whether it's dancing, cycling, swimming, or practicing yoga. When you genuinely enjoy what you're doing, it becomes easier to turn it into a sustainable habit.

Track Your Progress - Keep a record of your achievements, no matter how small. Tracking your progress allows you to celebrate successes and identify areas for improvement. Use a journal, a mobile app, a calendar, or any method that works for you to monitor your activities, nutrition, and overall well-being. Reflecting on your journey can boost your confidence and serve as a reminder of how far you've come.

Share your health goals with friends, family, or a supportive community. Having someone to share your progress with can provide motivation and accountability. Consider finding a workout buddy, joining a fitness class, or participating in online communities dedicated to health and wellness. The encouragement and

shared experiences of others can be instrumental in helping you stay on track.

Celebrate & Recalibrate - Once you are comfortable with goal setting and you see success, it is important to celebrate and recalibrate your goals! Treat yourself when you reach milestones along the way. Celebrate your achievements with rewards that align with your goals. It could be a relaxing massage, a new workout outfit, or a guilt-free day of indulgence.

Embarking on a journey to form new health habits requires commitment, patience, and a strategic approach. Setbacks are to be expected, and as you progress, you will find yourself recalibrating and revisiting your goals as your health needs change. By setting realistic goals, starting small, and establishing a consistent routine, you can increase the likelihood of success. Remember, the goal is not just to make changes for the new year but to cultivate habits that contribute to a healthier and more fulfilling life in the long run.

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love to cook

by vicki frank day



Time for tea

Celebrate National Hot Tea Month with a cuppa and the perfect sweet accompaniment.

Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were merry and bright, full of love and good food and that your blessings are too numerous to count. It's hard to believe it's all over, but here we are; and it's time to settle back into our normal routines.

January is National Hot Tea Month, and I can't think of a better thing to add to your daily routine (and start the year off right) than sipping a hot cuppa comforting tea. It's good for you, warms your heart and soul and is a great excuse to relax a little each day.

I grew up with tea. It was just part of daily life. I still associate it with home and it always tastes best at my parents' house where it's sipped after dinner or on a weekend afternoon when my mother makes a pot to enjoy while we play a game. For this she uses her mother's teapot, a well-loved, shapely metal vessel with a wooden handle rubbed smooth from decades of use. Drinking tea from that pot is one of the reasons I believe that an occasion is simply an excuse to celebrate something, my mantra for life. It seems such a simple thing, but that's kind of the point, a subtle yet important ritual that became a special way to enjoy and celebrate something ordinary.

Tea has a long and storied history, but

today is not going to be a lesson in that, which would be an article in itself and a long one at that. Its importance to many cultures is well known and includes elaborate ceremonies and rituals that center around its preparation and consumption. I was surprised to learn the U.S. is the third largest importer of tea after Russia and Pakistan, according to World Tea News, I suppose because I thought Great Britain would have made the top three. The true tea plant, *Camellia sinensis*, is native to India and China; and one shrub's leaves are the source of black, green, oolong and white teas, depending on how each is processed, which affects the level of caffeine: white has the least, black the most, being comparable to a cup of strong coffee. Herbal teas are not "true" tea, because herbs and plants other than *Camellia sinensis* are used; but they are naturally caffeine-free (not the same as decaffeinated as some teas are labeled, which still have traces of the stimulant). Contrary to popular belief, green tea is neither herbal nor caffeine-free.

No matter if it's black, green, oolong or white, tea has a great many health benefits. Full of bioactive compounds and antioxidants, drinking at least one hot cup a day improves overall health, supports



Shortbread Meltaways to enjoy during National Tea Month in 2025.

- Photo by Vicki Frank Day

Beacon Elks recognize RMS Students of the Month



Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 recognized the Rombout Middle School Students and Teachers of the Month (September & October 2024) during a November 21 certificate ceremony.

Students and teachers recognized, and Elks representatives, pictured are, from left, Jeanine McAuley, Esteemed Leading Knight; September Students, Maddie Westlake (6th grade), TJ VanDemark (7th grade), and Connor Coldrick (8th grade); October Students, Ariya Valverde (6th grade), Troy Burch (7th grade), and Kylie Ebeling (8th grade); and Cathy Oken, Youth Activities Chair. In the back row are Ms. Trapp and Ms. Devall.

Students that are recognized as Elks Students of the Month are nominated by their teachers based on their commitment, participation, kindness, initiative, and being supportive. The teachers were chosen by the students for their teaching style, humor and for making Math fun.

"Our Student of the Month program recognizes hard work and dedication by the student, with the overall goal of encouraging students to continue their great work," said Michael Zanzarella, Exalted Ruler, Beacon Elks Lodge #1493.

Student of the Month recipients receive a Certificate of Achievement and a gift certificate to a local business. The Teachers of the Month received a certificate. Thanks to Glazed Over Donuts for sponsoring this month's students.

-Courtesy photo Beacon Elks

cardiovascular health, improves cognitive function and brain health. Even with its caffeine it can relax you, a fact I think attributable to its comforting quality and the time it takes to prepare and enjoy it. Maybe that's why it may also lower blood pressure and the risk of depression. Any way you look at it, taking a break to sip some is soothing.

Then there's the way you take it: straight, cream, lemon, sugar, one lump or two? And do you like flavored varieties, like Earl Grey, jasmine or peppermint? My mother's cupboard is filled with just about every flavored tea there is, from cinnamon to blackberry, and for us it's all about what we're in the mood for, which just adds to the soothing nature of tea. It's there for us when we need it, no matter what we're feeling. Peppermint tea after a heavy meal, Constant Comment on a chilly afternoon or for a broken heart, chamomile for a stomachache or just before bed. Why wouldn't you cozy up to it every day? Any time of day? With breakfast, for an afternoon break, when you don't feel well, after dinner, with dessert, it's there for you. Whether you steal away with a cup for some alone time or brew a pot for chatting with a friend, here's a little something to go with it.

SHORTBREAD MELTAWAYS

If you love shortbread like I do, you'll want to try these. They are delicate in both flavor and texture, melt-in-your-mouth light and buttery, and just perfect with a cup of tea. With so few ingredients, the quality of each really comes through, so use the best you can find. Real vanilla extract is a must and I recommend European butter, although regular is fine. Either way, make sure it's soft enough to mix. Don't be tempted to melt it, which will result in an oily batter. If using unsalted butter you may want to add another 1/4 teaspoon of salt.

INGREDIENTS

1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
3/4 cup powdered sugar
1 teaspoons vanilla
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 cups flour, sifted
2 tablespoons cornstarch, sifted
Colored sugar for decorating

METHOD

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Line baking sheets with parchment and set aside.

In a large bowl, beat butter and sugar until creamy (about 5-10 minutes) scraping down sides as you go. I recommend mashing the butter a bit first with a fork into the sugar before using beaters to prevent a cloud of sugar dust and help with the blending. It will be crumbly at first but should come together as the butter softens.

Add vanilla and stir to combine.

In a separate bowl, whisk together flour, cornstarch and salt. Gradually add to butter mixture, stirring between each addition just to combine. If the dough is too soft and sticky to roll, refrigerate it for at least 30 minutes.

Scoop dough with a tablespoon and roll into balls. Place on prepared baking sheets 1-inch apart (they really won't spread). Gently flatten each cookie slightly with a fork. If dough sticks to the fork, dip the fork in powdered sugar before pressing. Sprinkle each with colored sugar.

Bake until set, about 12 minutes (up to 18 if you chilled the dough). These will NOT brown, so don't over bake them. Cool completely on baking sheets. Makes about 34 tender, delightful, not-too-sweet cookies.

It's a New Year, and this month happens to be a time to honor tea. Why not start the year off right and take a little time every day to enjoy a comforting cup of hot tea? I think you'll be amazed at what such a simple thing can do for your overall state of mind and health. And maybe, like me, you'll marvel at how one simple shrub can be at the heart of a beverage that is at once calming and bracing, stimulating and soothing. It's really one of Nature's miracles and worth celebrating every day. But then again, so are you.

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

get growing!

by mark adams



New Year's Eve

World travelers Mark and Sue have greeted the new year in many different places.



New Year's Eve in Bogota, Columbia – one of many different places where Mark and Sue Adams have welcomed the new year.

-Photo by Sue Adams

50 New Year's Eves together and counting ... Sue and I are remembering some of the highlights:

• **Sydney, Australia** – It's 8 a.m. in New York when Sydney sets off its New Year's Eve fireworks display, so it gets a lot of airplay here. Sue and I had to see it for ourselves. Let's just say it's tough to find a place to stay when you arrive in Sydney on December 31 without a hotel reservation. And nobody told us about the hills we had to drag our luggage up and down before we finally found a room at a youth hostel that was actually very nice and affordable. We wormed our way into a sold-out show at Luna Park with a fabulous view of the fireworks.

• **Honolulu** – People set off thousands of firecrackers to scare away evil spirits. The next day, we traveled to the "Big Island" to visit our friend Marvin Jones. His house was crammed with locals displaced by the eruption of Mauna Loa. It was a wild scene, as the lava was creating new territory as it streamed into the ocean. Some of Marvin's friends were venturing onto the lava as it cooled to strike claims, hoping they wouldn't break

through the crust.

• **Buenos Aires** – We arrived one day after the horrendous Coromanon Night Club fire (December 30, 2004) that killed 194 people and injured 1,500. (The band members were convicted of murder). President Kirchner closed all the nightclubs, but not tango showrooms. Sue and I went to a tango show, where we sat with the dancer's family. We looked them up the next few times we were in Buenos Aires.

• **New Orleans** – I guess the party is nonstop on Bourbon Street, and New Year's Eve is just another night, even a scant five years after Hurricane Katrina. Sue and I stayed one street next door, at a haunted hotel on Royal Street. Our hotel was on the ghost tour. New Orleans has an impressive New Year's Eve fireworks display. We took a side trip to Lafayette, Louisiana, supposedly the home of authentic zydeco music, but the bands were better back in the Big Easy. On January 2nd, Sue and I took in a Saints game, with all the attendant festivities. Sue even said she had a great time, "until the game started."

• **San Agustin, Colombia** – One our three New Year's Eves spent in our favorite South American country. The New Year's Eve "parade" in the tiny village of San Agustin, famous for its pre-Colombian statuary, consisted of motorcyclists throwing flour at each other. Midnight found us sharing a bottle of Bailey's with a bunch of homeless people in the town square.

• **New York, New York** – After dropping daughter Becky at a Phish concert in Madison Square Garden, Sue and I crammed into the "Life" nightclub in the East Village to see Grace Jones. It was the mid 1990s. Early in 2001, my mom reserved a room in a fancy hotel overlooking Times Square, with an unobstructed view of the ball drop. After the horror of 9-11, all kinds of rumors were swirling about another terrorist attack on New Year's Eve. We were issued special passes to get past the barricades around Times Square. The ball dropped, with a nationwide sigh of relief.

• **Big Cypress Reservation, Florida** – New Year's Eve 1999 was special. "Y2K" was supposed to cause all computers to crash and airplanes to fall from the sky. Me, Sue, Becky and her friend Eric crammed into our Toyota Camry with our luggage, guitars and four bicycles and headed to the Phish concert in Florida's

everglades. Out of 50,000 fans, I was the oldest person there. The bikes came in handy to travel to the farthest port-a-potties, away from the crowd. Don't ask about the fire ants.

• **Lalibela, Ethiopia** – A decent New Year's Eve show at the Hilton in Addis Ababa paled in comparison to the January 6 Orthodox Christian celebration in Lalibela, home to the underground Rock-hewn churches. Thousands of pilgrims arrived with their livestock. Sue and I attended mass, driven to the church in a horse drawn cart. It was heartbreaking to learn just a year later (2023) that the entire region plunged into a civil war.

• **Poughkeepsie, U.S.A.** – When we weren't celebrating New Year's Eve in Las Vegas, Honduras, Tanzania, Namibia, Panama, Pittsburgh, Myrtle Beach or Santa Fe, Sue and I stayed in Poughkeepsie, usually because my band was performing. This year's celebration involves partying with friends in Saint Augustine, Florida, before we fly to Istanbul.
Happy New Year!

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

Beacon Elks Lodge recognizes Haldane Students of the Month



Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 recognized the Haldane Middle School Students of the Month in the Haldane Central School District during a certificate ceremony.

Students recognized and Elks representatives are, from left. Cathy Oken, Youth Activities Chair, Amy Paute (6th Grade), Olive Allebrand (7th Grade), Caelan McDermott (8th Grade), and Sharon Haviland, Esteemed Loyal Knight.

Students that are recognized as Elks Students of the Month are nominated by their teachers based on participation, leadership, and academics in school and, in some cases, their achievements while overcoming obstacles.

"Our Student of the Month program recognizes hard work and dedication by the student, with the overall goal of encouraging students to continue their great work," said Michael Zanzarella, Exalted Ruler, Beacon Elks Lodge #1493.

Student of the Month recipients receive a Certificate of Achievement and a gift certificate to a local business. Thanks to Cold Spring Pizza for sponsoring these students.

-Courtesy photo Beacon Elks

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This 52-week journey from Genesis to Revelation starts Sunday, January 5, 2025, and runs all

the way through the end of December 2025. Come to the church at 8:45 a.m. or

10:30 a.m. each Sunday in 2025 to hear Pastor Doug explain every section of the Bible. The church is located at 143

Beekman Road in Hopewell Junction. No pre-registration is needed, just show up! Additionally, Pastor Doug will host a one-hour question & answer session on the first Sunday of each month from noon-1 p.m..

One may also receive weekly texts of links to the sermons, discussion questions and weekly readings for this "Bible in-a-year" plan.

For more information, please visit the church's website at hrcra.org.



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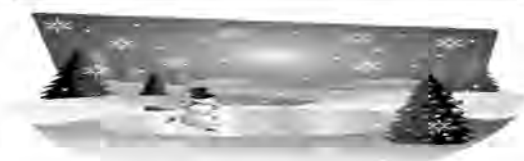
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Claudio Cares Can and Blood Drive held



Volunteers with the Claudio Cares Can and Blood Drive were busy on Saturday, Dec. 14 at the former Hyde Park Elementary School. Above, Debi Palastra of Rhinebeck donates blood. Attending is Naomi Flash, phlebotomist with the local chapter of the American Red Cross. At right, Jack Coppola is the Santa and helping out are Marcanthony Coppola and Zach Whiteley. The Coppola family is collecting non-perishable foods for the Can Drive through Dec. 31. Call Coppola's Bistro at 845-229-9113 to donate.

-Photos by Curtis Schmidt

Southern Dutchess News
 Beacon Free Press
 Northern Dutchess News

Classified

SDN Subscriber ads

107 Situations Wanted

Needed House Cleaner Aid for Elderly Woman. Two times a week. Errands, shopping and appointments. Call: 845-297-5414

House Cleaner Needed. Small two bedroom, two baths. References and Driver License Required. 845-325-2337

Residential and Commercial Clean outs. Disposal of unwanted items Carpentry work Interior and Exterior Painting. Property Management Call Craig 845-891-8930



401 Apartments for Rent

Victorian, BEACON 9D / mins. RR - 70 NYC Hwy, Spectacular Hudson Views, Rest. Antiques, Hiking, biking, Mountains, 2BD + Den, DW / WD, Split - Level, \$2,800. Suitable 1 - 3. 914-960-0069 or 914-584-7137

403 Furnished Rooms

2 rooms, Private Bathroom and Entrance. Semi furnished, into private home. No Kitchen. Call: 845-784-8964

503 Furniture

Patio set, glass top with four chairs with cushions. 9 foot umbrella with stand. Used once, \$350. Call 845-297-4741

Queen size wood sleigh bed box spring mattress included. Exc. Cond. Best offer. 845-625-3213

4 set Antique wood dining chairs upholstered seats exc. cond. Best offer. 845-625-3213

Day Bed Frame Twin white Decorative Head and Side Frame. Excellent condition, \$100. 845-226-8896

2-drawer, wide, metal fiing cabinet. Good shape, tan, has lock but no key. 19 D x 30 W x 28 H. \$25. 845-227-5922

503 Furniture

Sofa with reclining ends, \$75. Recliner Rocker, \$50. All good cond., Blue in color. 845-297-0131

Bunk Bed set with ladder, one dresser. Early american style, great condition \$175. 845-227-5922

504 Appliances

Large Air Fryer, never used, have all attachments, booklet. I don't have room on my counter, \$75 OBO. 845-242-7717

516 Misc. Merchandise

European lead figures and European model cars HO Marklin Trains 1940's - 1970's. Large collection, very nice, reasonable, 845-221-0893

10" (TC250B) Tilesaw 2.5 H/P with PVD tray. 3340 RPM with mini pum Chicago power tool, \$150 OBO. Ping Pong table MDSport Not Used, \$125 OBO. 845-831-8968

516 Misc. Merchandise

Brand New Holiday candles, brass tone, cordless, adjustable height with multiple time settings + 4 extra bulbs, 4 candles, \$20. 2 boxes (8candles), \$30. Call 845-264-0240

Treadmill Exerciser (Pro-Form Crosswalk #395). Excellent condition, \$150. 845-677-5293 call mornings.

7 foot prelit artificial Christmas tree. Used a few times, comes in a nice bag, \$65. 845-221-3824

Vintage cast ironb white pedestal sink with faucets, \$50. 845-297-7685

Electronic Radial Saw, \$50, One motor, \$10. New Bathroom vanity with sink, \$60, Router and bits, \$50. Leave message 845-462-4441

AC Filters-Precision Aire, 30 x 30 x 1 pleated-model 40, \$8 each. 845-264-0240



516 Misc. Merchandise

Billiard Table Oak wood. Slate Surface. You disassemble and remove, \$250.00 FIRM 845-242-2542

Magnisium Alum Alloy 16' extension ladder, 8' glass reinforced step ladder, Make offer. 845-297-6369

AC Prtable, \$80 - Dehumidifier, \$60, Grill Free, Snare Drum, \$80, Wicker shelf, Lamp, \$40. 845-418-0069

Special Bike made in Denmark, good cond., \$75. 845-401-7654

Tor-1950's Tube AM,FM & Record Player, \$250 OBO. 845-831-8968

Paintball Equipment for sale. Guns cases hoppers tanks masks all in good working order. Asking \$150 for all. 914-420-5626

516 Misc. Merchandise

Brother Laser Printer H-L L2395DW Print copy scan new cond. Asking \$100. Leave message. Contact Roseanne, 845-897-5812

Four Kenwood KL777 100W speakers, wood cabinet, exc. cond., \$225. 845-337-6509

Outdoor Mult. Position Reclining Chair, Cost \$75 New. Large Size. Call: 845-297-2105

900 Autos For Sale

2005 Lexus ES330 for sale. Best Offer. Runs good. Still driving on road. 845-297-0084

2012 Jeep Wrangler 83,000 miles. Fantastic shape. Must see to appreciate. Many accessories including cover and tow package. Text 845-401-6648.

903 Motorcycles



1993 Harley Davidson FLHTC 1340cc, Black/Chrome, \$5,000 OBO. CALL: 845-554-6317



904 Tires

Hitch receiver for bike rack. Will fit any Prius. Excellent condition. New \$265, Now \$135. 845-896-5197

1933 Chevy Master Reupholstered front seat Recomed bumpers Rebuilt engine NewBattery New front floormat, \$15,300. 845-831-6673



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 Southern Dutchess News
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 Email (with "Free line ad" as the subject) your subscription name, address, phone number, & subscriber ID, along with your ad to: sdnadvertising@aol.com
 Ads should be limited to 20 words including a contact phone number (must be included in ad).
 If using this coupon it's recommended that it's delivered in person or mailed.
 Faxes are accepted, but not recommended. Our fax number is: (845) 297-6810
 Ads run for 2 weeks. If after 2 weeks you wish your ad to run again, it must be resubmitted.
 We reserve the right to modify or reject any ads.
 Southern Dutchess News, 84 East Main St., Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Legal Notices

MCPINOY LLC. Filed 10/2/24. Office: Dutchess Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: 3 Dawson Ct, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Purpose: General.

SKYE BLEU FARM LLC. Filed 10/15/24. Office: Dutchess Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: 39 Overlook Dr, Pawling, NY 12564. Registered Agent: United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave Ste 202, Bklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: General.

Rubio Masonry & Construction LLC. Filed 09/05/24 office: Dutchess co. SSNY design. as agent for process & shall mail to 1884 Route 82 Lagrangeville NY 12540. Purpose Any Lawfull

Seeley Creek Farm LLC Notice of formation of Limited Liability Company, ("LLC"), Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY ("SSNY") on 11/13/2024. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any such process served to 151 Seeley Rd, Lagrangeville NY 12540. Purpose: to engage in any act or activity for which a LLC may be organized under the NY LLC Law.

Notice of Formation of Mike's Marshals LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 08/13/2024. Office location: 12 Blueberry Hill Road, Hopewell Junction NY 12533, Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Mike's Marshals, 2501 Bear Creek Blvd. Wilkes-Barre PA 18702. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of a NY Limited Liability Company. Name: Blue Zone Integrative Pediatric Medicine, PLLC. Articles of Organization filing date with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) was 10/21/24. Office location: Ulster County. SSNY has been designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process against it may be served and SSNY shall mail copy of process to 212 Eagles Nest Rd. Hurley, NY

Legal Notices

12443. Purpose is to engage in any and all business activities permitted under NYS laws.

Notice of Formation of ISABELA MIA LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/15/2024. Office Location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 245 8th Ave., STE 195, New York, NY, 10011, USA. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of 38 TOBIN DRIVE LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/14/2024. Office Location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 418 Broadway, STE R Albany, NY, 12207, USA. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Form. of 19 DONOVAN HOLDINGS, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/07/2024. Office location: Dutchess. SSNY desig. as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY mail process to 18 BLACK WATCH DRIVE, WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY 12590. Any lawful purpose.

22 Route 22 LLC. Filed with SSNY on 10/01/2024. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 366 Overlook Road, Millbrook, NY 12545. Purpose: any lawful.

2251 Route 44 LLC. Filed with SSNY on 11/20/2024. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 89 Tinkertown Road, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569. Purpose: any lawful.

Notice of Formation of Goofy Socks Games, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/20/24. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Goofy Socks Games, LLC Timothy Smajda 1820 Route 376 Ste 5 #777 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

FULL SPECTRUM RENTAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC. Art. of Org. filed with

Legal Notices

the SSNY on 11/24/2024. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 108 Brandy Lane, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LITTLE SURE SHOT CANINE TRAINING LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York on OCTOBER 17, 2024. Office location is Dutchess County. The Secretary of State has been designated at agent for service of process upon the LLC. The Secretary shall mail a copy of process to the LLC at 21 Merry Hill Rd., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Purpose of LLC: engage in any lawful act or activity.

4 OLD BULLS HEAD FARM LLC. Filed 11/12/24. Office: Dutchess Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: John Paul Avital, 2117 Route 82, Lagrangeville, NY 12540. Purpose: General.

AF7 CONCEPTS LLC. Filed 10/28/24. Office: Dutchess Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: Andrea Beth Freeman, 5 Kennedy Blvd, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533. Purpose: General.

B&BILLINGS PLAZA LLC. Filed 10/16/24. Office: Dutchess Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: c/o Entity Protect Registered Agent Services Llc, 447 Broadway 2nd Fl. - #3000, NY, NY 10013. Purpose: General.

RWH & GL LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/25/24. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 31 Mansion Dr, Hyde Park, NY 12538. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of LDL cleaning services LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 09/12/24. Office location: Dutchess county. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 43 Fallkill rd #2, Hyde

Legal Notices

park, New York, 12538. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of GOLDEN RAHA PROPERTIES LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/19/24. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to H A R I T H A D E V I KOONAPAREDDY, 37 HOFFMAN RD, HOPEWELL JUNCTION, NY, 12533, USA Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

QUARRY PINES LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/9/2024. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: The LLC, 95 Knollwood Rd, Rhinebeck, NY 12572. Purpose: any lawful act.

LOLAKAS HORSE CARE LLC. Filed 10/28/24. Office: Dutchess Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: Northwest Registered Agent Llc, 418 Broadway, Ste N, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: General.

Cake Dealer LLC. Filed 11/25/24. Office: Dutchess Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: 113 Woodlea Rd, Salt Point, NY 12578. Purpose: General.

SANTA ANA TACOS DISTRIBUTORS LLC. Filed 10/2/24. Office: Dutchess Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: c/o Tomas Santos, 1988 Ny-9d, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Purpose: General.

Notice of Formation of Primestone Construction LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/04/24. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to LLC 18 Lynne rd, Hopewell JCT, NY 12533. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Flora Folkways LLC. Art of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/10/24. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designates as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall

Legal Notices

mail copy of process to the LLC, 30 Fallkill Rd, Hyde Park, NY 12538. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

CLASSIC TOUCH NAIL SALON LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 12/4/24. Office in Dutchess Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 1107 Violet Ave, Hyde Park NY 12538, which is also the principal business location. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

GLUON LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/04/24. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 65 Susie Boulevard, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Marcie Nolletti Real Estate LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/06/2024. Office located in Dutchess County, NY. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail a copy of process against the LLC to 526 Stormville Mountain Road, Stormville, NY 12582. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

U.S. REALTY COMMERCIAL, LLC. Filed with SSNY on 11/3/2024. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail: 25 Market St, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Connecting for Change, LLC, Art. of Org. Filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 8/22/24. Office in Dutchess County. SSNY desig. Agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to United States Corporation Agents, Inc., located at 7014 13th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Principal business loc: 982 Main Street, Ste. 4-198, Fishkill, NY 12524. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

SALT POINT FARMHOUSE LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/09/2024. Office loc: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent

Legal Notices

upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Amanda N. Miller, 6370 Mill Street, Suite 1, Rhinebeck, NY 12572. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

SCOTT SEAMAN LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/06/24. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 5 Alperet Drive, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

11AM LEGACY LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/26/24. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 11 Arthur Road, Holmes, NY 12531. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

2245 SOUTH RD LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/02/24. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, c/o Sukhmani Singh, 2245 South Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Rodec, LLC. Arts of org. filed with SSNY on 8/20/24. Office location: Dutchess county SSNY shall mail process to 7 Sherwood lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Qualification of RIVERVIEW LANDSCAPE HOLDINGS LLC Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/09/24. Office location: Dutchess County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 09/13/24. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Secy. of State, John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Provide

Legal Notices

landscaping services.

Cats Hill Farm LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/4/2024. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, PO Box 151, Rhinebeck, NY 12572. Purpose: any lawful act.

HUDSON SOLAR SOLUTIONS LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/4/2024. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, PO Box 151, Rhinebeck, NY 12572. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of formation of a NY limited liability company Name: LIFESTYLED CARE LLC articles of organization Domestic liability company. Filer: LegalZoom. Com, Filing date with Secretary of State (SSNY) was November 23, 2024. Office location: Dutchess County. United States Corporation Agents INC. has been designated as agent of LLC upon home process against, it maybe served and SSNY shall mail copy to: 7014 13th Ave Suite 202 Brooklyn NY 11228 USA Purpose: any lawful activity

Notice of Formation: Stotz Drafting LLC. Per NY LLC Law Sec. 206. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY): 12/03/24. Office Location: 291 Route 9D Beacon, NY 12508, Dutchess County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc. is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process so served to: United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any Lawful Activity.

Legal Notices

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF DUTCHESS SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS AND NOTICE

Index No. 2024-52010 Date Filed: 12/03/2024 Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Plaintiff, -against- Perry L. Cuttino, if he be living or if he be dead, his spouses, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors in interest, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to Plaintiff; Sustainable Neighborhoods, LLC; People of the State of New York; State of New York, and "JOHN DOE", said name being fictitious, it being the intention of Plaintiff to designate any and all occupants of premises being foreclosed herein, and any parties, corporations or entities, if any, having or claiming an interest or lien upon the mortgaged premises, Defendants.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 51 Smith Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or a notice of appearance on the attorneys for the Plaintiff within thirty (30) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Thomas R. Davis, a Justice of the Supreme Court, Dutchess County, entered Nov. 22, 2024 and filed with the complaint and other papers in the Dutchess County Clerk's Office. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT of the above captioned action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure \$156,158.00 and interest, recorded in the Dutchess County

Legal Notices

Clerk's Office on August 17, 2003, in Document Number 01 2003 18435 covering premises k/a 51 Smith Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 a/k/a Block 79, Lot 325102. The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

Plaintiff designates Dutchess County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the County in which the mortgaged premises is situated.

NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME.

SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING PAYMENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: September 23, 2024 Frank M. Cassara, Esq. Senior Associate Attorney LEGAL GROUP LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, NY 14624 (585) 247-9000 Fax: (585) 247-7380 Our File No. 24-096370 #101981

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF DUTCHESS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR RESIDENTIAL ASSET MORTGAGE PRODUCTS, INC., MORTGAGE AS-

Legal Notices

SET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-NC3, -against- PETERA. TACY, JR., ETAL.

NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Dutchess on October 18, 2024, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR RESIDENTIAL ASSET MORTGAGE PRODUCTS, INC., MORTGAGE AS-SET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-NC3 is the Plaintiff and PETERA. TACY, JR., ETAL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the DUTCHESS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, REAR LOBBY, 10 MARKET STREET, POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601, on January 13, 2025 at 2:30PM, premises known as 7 CORNWELL STREET, POUGHQUAG, NY 12570; and the following tax map identification, 6759-03-394131.

ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE TOWN OF BEEKMAN, COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, AND STATE OF NEW YORK

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 2019-53117. Jana M. Schopfer, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. *LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

PUBLIC NOTICE - NOTICE TO BIDDERS

TEST WELL AT HOWE PARK TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Town of Pleasant Valley until January 10, 2025 at

Legal Notices

12:00p.m. local time at the Office of the Town Clerk, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569, at which time and place said sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud For "Test Well at Howe Park".

No bids will be received or considered after the date/time stated above. The purpose of this Town of Pleasant Valley project is to confirm the quality and quantity of the groundwater at Howe Park by drilling a test well, which could serve as a future production well for the new water district.

A Pre-Bid conference will not be held. Bidding contractors are strongly encouraged to visit the project site before submitting bids. The Request for Proposal (RFP) may be procured at the Office of the Town Clerk, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569 beginning on December 18, 2024 during regular business hours. Digital copies of the RFP may be obtained online as a download for a non-refundable fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) from the website: https://de.biddyhq.com/under 'public projects.'

Bids may not be withdrawn within forty-five (45) days after the closing date/time for receipt of all bids. All requests for clarifications must be submitted no later than January 7, 2025 at 4:00p.m. All proposals must be submitted by hard copy in a sealed envelope clearly marked:

(SEALED PROPOSAL) Test Well at Howe Park

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Pleasant Valley reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, waive any informalities at its discretion, and to make such bid award that it deems is in the best interest of the Town of Pleasant Valley even if such award is to other than the lowest bidder. /s/ Mary Albrecht Mary Albrecht Town Supervisor Town of Pleasant Valley Dated: December 18, 2024

NOTICE OF 2025 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE CHELSEA FIRE DISTRICT

Please take notice that the Chelsea Fire District, Town of Wap-

Legal Notices

ping, County of Dutchess, New York, will hold an organizational meeting on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 6:30p.m. The meeting will be held at the Chelsea firehouse, 15 Liberty Street, in the Town of Wappinger, and is open to the public.

This notice is being posted in accordance with the provisions of Section 94 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York. By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Chelsea Fire District. Claire Gibson Fire District Secretary Chelsea Fire District

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY PLEASANT VALLEY, NEW YORK CADY FIELD BASKETBALL COURT 1.2.3.

General Notice The Town of Pleasant Valley (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

CADY FIELD BASKETBALL COURT CONTRACT NUMBER 2170.01

Sealed bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall located at 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York 12569 until Friday, January 24, 2025, at 12:00 PM local time. At that time the sealed bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Project includes the following Work: The Town has developed final designs and construction drawings for the removal of an existing tennis court and the installation of a new basketball court at Cady Field, located at 1554 Main Street in Pleasant Valley.

* Remove existing asphalt surfacing, chain link fencing, and associated tennis court equipment. The tennis court subbase will be re-used.

* Install new basketball court surface and associated equipment, erosion control, sidewalk, a segmental retaining wall, chain link fencing and gates, and site restoration with lawn.

* An existing water well will be decommissioned in accordance with Dutchess County Department of Health (DOH) requirements. Lump Sum Bids are requested for the following Contract: Contract 1 - General Construction Work shall be substantially completed on or before June 2, 2025, and ready for final payment by June

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30, 2025. Obtaining the Bidding Documents

To become a Registered Plan Holder and to obtain electronic copies of the Contract Documents, please visit the MJ Engineering, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Land Surveying, P.C. Plan Room located at http://www.mjteam.com/bids. Bids received from non-registered plan holders may be subject to disqualification.

Addenda, if any, will be issued only to Registered Plan Holders whose name and address are on record. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:

MJ Engineering, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Land Surveying, P.C. 21 Corporate Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065

Douglas Gerber, PLA, 518-371-0799 EXT 357, dgerber@mjteam.com

Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 am to 4 pm.

Deadline for questions is 4:00 pm on Thursday, January 16, 2025.

Pre-bid Conference

A pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 12:00pm at Cady Field located behind the Town of Pleasant Valley Town Hall at 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York 12569. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is encouraged but not required.

Instructions to Bidders

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

Prevailing Wages

The Bidders must comply with New York State Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rate Schedule. Bid security in the amount of 5% of the Bid must accompany each Bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. The successful Bidders will be required to furnish a performance bond and a payment bond, each in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price. Attention of Bidders is

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particularly called to the requirements for ensuring that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

The Owner, reserves the right to waive any informalities or irregularities in the Bid received, or to reject any or all Bids without explanation.

The Owner is an exempt organization under the Tax Law and is exempt from payment of Sales and Compensating Use Taxes on materials which are to be incorporated into the project and which are to be separately sold by the Contractor to the Owner prior to incorporation into the project, pursuant to the provisions of the Contract. These taxes are not to be included in the bid.

This Advertisement is issued by:

Owner: Town of Pleasant Valley By: Mary Beth Muir Title: Town Clerk Date: December 30, 2024

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I, Mary Beth Muir, duly elected Town Clerk of the Town of Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, New York hereby certify that a notice regarding a

PUBLIC HEARING pertaining to: "A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 98 TO CHANGE THE NUMBER OF ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBERS TO SEVEN"

to be held on the 6TH day of JANUARY, 2025 at 7:05PM was posted on the sign board at the entrance to my office on the 19th day of DECEMBER 2024; and also at the Post Office in Pleasant Valley, the

Post Office in Salt Point, and on the bulletin board in the Pleasant Valley Firehouse.

Further, due notice has been published in the Town's official newspaper, the Northern Dutchess News on the 25TH day of DECEMBER 2024 & 1ST DAY OF JANUARY 2025. Mary Beth Muir, Town Clerk

Southern Dutchess News Beacon Free Press Northern Dutchess News 845-297-3723

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TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY PROPOSED LOCAL LAW OF 2024 A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 98 TO CHANGE THE NUMBER OF ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBERS TO SEVEN BE IT ENACTED

by the Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley as follows:

SECTION 1.

This Local Law shall be entitled "A Local Law Amending Chapter 98 to Change the Number of Zoning Board of Appeals Members to Seven".

SECTION 2. PURPOSE AND INTENT.

The Town Board finds that the Town's Zoning Board of Appeals has functioned well with seven members and two alternates. After further consideration, the Town Board wishes to continue with a seven-member ZBA and not transition to a five-member ZBA as contemplated by a previous local law.

SECTION 3. AUTHORITY.

This law is enacted pursuant to Section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT TO THE CODE.

Subsection 98-95(A)(2) is hereby repealed and replaced as follows: The Zoning Board of Appeals shall consist of seven members selected and appointed by the Town Board. Member terms shall be seven years with one term ending each year. One member shall be designated the Chairperson by the Town Board and shall serve as Chairperson at the pleasure of the Town Board. The Town Board shall appoint a Secretary and shall prescribe rules for the conduct of the Zoning Board of Appeals' affairs. The Board shall consist of seven members regardless of the number of members prescribed by Town Law § 267.

SECTION 5. SUPERSESSION.

It is the intent of the Town Board to supersede any provisions of the New York State Law to the extent that they may be inconsistent with the provisions of this local law, pursuant to the Town's supersession authority under Municipal Home Rule Law § 10. The Town Board acknowledges that the number of board members established herein differs from the number prescribed by § 267,

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and the Town Board exercises its authority to supersede that provision.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this local law is held invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this local law.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Local Law shall become effective immediately upon its filing in the Office of the New York State Department of State.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS - RFB - DCH-2025-01 NAME OF PROJECT: Replacement of Bridge L-29 Town of Lagrange, Dutchess County, New York. **Project Description:** Replacement of a single-span (38 ft.) jack-arch bridge with a 58 ft. span bridge comprised of adjacent precast concrete box beams, with a cast-in-place concrete deck, supported by integral abutments. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on Bid-

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Net Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by: Christopher Sterbenz, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 on or before 11:00 AM Friday, January 24, 2025, and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 247 203 702 818# Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business Friday January 17, 2025 and emailed to Christopher Sterbenz at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The anticipated start of construction is March 15, 2025; the anticipated substantial completion date is September 5, 2025. Failure to meet these dates may result in liquidated damages. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2024015336 Starting December 30, 2024:

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NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor registry requirements. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF WAPPINGER DUTCHESS COUNTY

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Town of Wappinger Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on the **14th day of January, 2025** at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall of Wappinger, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappinger Falls, NY pursuant to Section 240-37 of the Zoning Law of the Town of Wappinger to consider the following area variance: **Appeal No.: 24-7836 (Area Variance)** **Joseph Lombardi:** Seeking an area variance Section 240-37 of District Regulations in an R-40 Zoning District.

-Where **25 feet** to the side (right) property line is required, the applicant can provide **15 feet** for the installation of a 24' x 36' metal garage with electric, thus requesting a variance of **10 feet**. The property is located at **7 Diddell Road** and is identified as **Tax Grid No.: 6359-03-081217** in the Town of Wappinger. All interested persons will be heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Wappinger at the public hearing as stated above. Signed: John Lorenzini, Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals Town of Wappinger December 3, 2024

LEGAL NOTICE - WORKSHOP EAST CLINTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners will hold a Workshop Meeting for the new Facility on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the East Clinton Fire District Firehouse, 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners, NY. Dated: December 11, 2024 East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners Carol Mackin,

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Secretary
LEGAL NOTICE - NOTICE OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE EAST CLINTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the 2025 Organizational Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the East Clinton Fire District will be held on Wednesday January 15, 2025 at 7:00 PM, prevailing time, at the East Clinton Fire District Firehouse, 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners, NY. Regular meetings of the Board of Fire Commissioners will be held on the Wednesday after the second Monday of each month at 7:00 PM, prevailing time, during 2025. Dated: December 11, 2024 East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners Carol Mackin, Secretary

NOTICE OF TAX COLLECTION 2025 TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY, NEW YORK

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that I, Mary Beth Muir, the undersigned Collector of Taxes of the Town of Pleasant Valley, County of Dutchess and State of New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Pleasant Valley for the year 2025, and that I will attend at Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, in the said Town of Pleasant Valley from today to February 28, 2025 at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 6:00 o'clock in the afternoon on **TUESDAY** and **THURSDAY** and **FRIDAY** collection hours will be 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon. **MONDAY** and **WEDNESDAY** 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon. **MARCH, APRIL** and **MAY** collection hours will be 9 o'clock in the forenoon to 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon with the exception of **FRIDAY** collection hours will be 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon, ex-

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cept **SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS** and **LEGAL HOLIDAYS** for the purpose of collecting the taxes listed on the said roll. **PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE,** that taxes may be paid on or before February 28, 2025 without charge or interest. On all taxes received after such date, there shall be a 2 percent added interest if paid on or before March 31, 2025 and an additional 1 percent for each additional month or fraction thereof thereafter until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the county treasurer pursuant to law. **TAKE FURTHER NOTICE,** that pursuant to the provisions of law the tax roll of the Town of Pleasant Valley will be returned to the Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance on the 1st day of June, 2025. **PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE,** a reminder of unpaid taxes will be sent on or before May 01, 2025. A fee of \$2.00 will be added to your tax bill during the full month of May. **DATED:** January 1, 2025 Mary Beth Muir Tax Collector Town of Pleasant Valley

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on December 18, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution. A complete copy of the resolution summa-

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ried herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.

Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, December 23, 2024. LEIGH WAGER Clerk, County Legislature **RESOLUTION NO. 2024216 BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 18, 2024.**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY'S SHARE OF CERTAIN PRELIMINARY PLANNING AND DESIGN EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THE CENTER FOR BUSINESS INDUSTRY (CBI) INTERIOR RESTACK AND REPROGRAMMING PROJECT OF DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$1,975,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$987,500 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF.

Specific object or purpose: Preliminary planning and design expenses in connection with CBI interior restack-reprogramming of DCCC (County's share) **Period of probable usefulness:** 5 years **Maximum estimated cost:** \$1,975,000 **Amount of bonds to be issued:** \$987,500 bonds **State grants-in-aid:** \$987,500 **SEQRA status:** Type II Action

LEGAL NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the Pleasant Valley Board of Fire Commissioners will hold their Re-organizational meeting for 2025 on Wednesday, January 1, 2025 at 10:00 am at the Pleasant Valley Fire District Headquarters, 1619 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York. By order of the Pleasant Valley Board of Fire Commissioners. Signed: Jennifer Broas, District Secretary



O Christmas Tree: Mount Saint Mary College celebrates the holidays with annual tree lighting



Mount Saint Mary College students, staff, and faculty got into the holiday spirit at the annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Thursday, Dec. 5.

Participants sang classic Christmas carols and were wowed by the elegant tree. They also enjoyed stuffing festive plush animals, games, traditional Christmas carols, and more.

Dr. Robert Gervasi, President of Mount Saint Mary College, joined in on the fun. -Courtesy photos by Lee Ferris



Christmas Bird Count runs through Jan. 5



Tufted Titmouse.

-Photo by Michele Black/Great Backyard Bird Count

By Kate Goldsmith

The National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is taking place through Jan. 5. The nation's longest-running community science bird project fuels Audubon's work throughout the year.

Prominent ornithologist and conservationist Frank Chapman is credited with the concept of the CBC, initiating the count along with more than two dozen other conservationists on Christmas Day in 1900. The idea was to promote conservation by counting,

rather than hunting, birds.

This early-winter bird census is conducted by thousands of volunteers across the U.S., Canada (where Audubon partners with Birds Canada) and many countries in the Western Hemisphere, who go out over a 24-hour period on one calendar day to count birds.

For more information please visit, <https://www.audubon.org/community-science/christmas-bird-count> to learn

how to participate in this year's CBC.

For more than a century, the National Audubon Society has preserved bird habitats, conducted scientific research, influenced policymakers to enact commonsense conservation laws, and engaged communities across the hemisphere to protect the natural resources upon which birds – and humans – depend.

Go to <https://www.audubon.org/> to learn more.

Town of Poughkeepsie Recreation

By Nate Smith
Recreation Director

All of us here at the Town of Poughkeepsie Recreation Department are looking forward to the year ahead and bringing our Town residents of all ages numerous activities and events at our various Town parks and locations. You can keep up with what's happening at <http://www.poughkeepsietownrec.com>, as well as on Facebook and Twitter.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS
Ruta Ronis

For the Poughkeepsie Senior Center

Welcome 2025! May it be a year of good health, contentment, and friends. Our Senior Center is a great place to meet up with friends and to make some new ones. Perhaps you've made a New Year's resolution to be a bit more active. We offer numerous sessions that may help you do just that. They include "Agility, Balance, and Zumba Fitness," "Exercise with George," Yoga (separate mat and chair sessions), a Walking Club (weather permitting), Line Dancing, and Tai Chi. Challenge your "noggin muscle" with "Brain Games and More" on Tues. Jan.21 from 10:30 a.m. until noon. We also have Water Color Painting on Thursday mornings and Crafting on Friday mornings. No need to be an "expert" to join in on the creativity and fun. Everyone 55+ is wel-

come. Of course you can also join our various daily card and game players. Bingo is a Wednesday morning regular, so come on in!

Please sign up to attend our first 2025 Lunch and Learn - "New Year, New You!" This presentation will begin at noon on Thurs., Jan.9. The Office For the Aging representative will be addressing how good nutrition can help with your overall wellness. Participants are invited to enjoy a complimentary light lunch after the presentation. 'Thank you' to the Poughkeepsie Route 9 Stop&Shop for their continued support. We will also be celebrating all January birthdays, so that means cake for everyone after lunch!

Rover the Bookmobile will be at our SC on Tues., Jan.14 from 10:30 a.m. - noon. You'll be able to sign up for a library card, learn about library offerings, and borrow books, CDs, and DVD movies.

Mark your calendar for our "Auction" on Thurs., Jan.23 at 11 a.m. Come in earlier to view all of the great items up for bid. You're sure to find something that you really like and just "can't live without!"

Our SC is located at 14 Abe's Way We're open Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.. We will be closed on Mon., Jan 20. For more information, give us a call at 845-462-0265 or check our Senior Center Activity Calendar at www.poughkeepsietownrec.com.

Are you raising a grandchild, young relative or child of a family friend in the absence of the biological parents?

Then you're a Kinship Caregiver!

Want to keep your family healthy and safe?

NYS Kinship Navigator can help.

NYS Kinship Navigator provides information, referral and assistance with financial needs, legal options, school enrollment, kinship law and other resources.



Help is just a phone call away.

877-454-6463

TTY: NY Relay 711 or 800-421-1220
nysnavigator.org

