

Local officials
 voice concerns on
 energy cost hikes

by Kate Goldsmith

Central Hudson recently notified its customers of imminent hikes in their bills, due to increases in supply costs for electricity and natural gas. The company cited a colder-than-average winter and “global energy factors” that are causing a surge in prices.

Projected average impacts for natural gas are about 19 percent; about 46 percent for electric bills; and about 29 percent for combination electric and natural gas bills. According to Central Hudson, these bill increases are temporary and may vary for individual customers depending on energy usage and their billing cycle.

In a statement, Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro called out Central Hudson for its “flawed roll-out of a new billing system and failure to effectively communicate rising energy costs to Dutchess County residents.”

Molinaro pointed to the rising price of gasoline and “an unbearable rate of inflation” nationally.

“Locally, New York State’s decision to close Indian Point shifted the region from a reliance on steady, stable and affordable energy to an unstable commodity,” said Molinaro. “Bitter cold temperatures have further exacerbated the situation by increasing demand.”

While he blamed the current situation on “bad decisions and bad policy in Albany and Washington,” Molinaro added “Central Hudson bears much responsibility here.”

“They knew a rate increase was imminent. They have absolute control over their operations and communications,” he said. “It is clear based on the countless individuals who have communicated with my office that Central Hudson’s outreach

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Resilient business teams
 recount pandemic solutions

by Rich Thomaselli

Small independent business teams in the Hudson Valley learned to be adaptive and evolutionary during the COVID-19 pandemic. They may have had to do it quicker than they wanted, but they had to be resourceful nonetheless.

And, yes, there were some positives that came out of the pandemic that those businesses will keep on using.

At Jeanie Bean and Family Delicatessen in Clinton Corners, owner Jennifer Cahill said “We were so fortunate to stay open throughout the pandemic thanks to our awesome customers.”

But during the initial stages of the pandemic, it was mostly take-out as gatherings were not allowed and later some customers were reluctant to come in for sit-down meals.

So, Jennifer and her staff came up with the idea of preparing a wide variety of frozen meals for individuals and families to pick up and take home and use when needed. They had offered frozen meals before, but they enlarged the list during the pandemic.

“Our freezer is full of homemade chicken pot pies, shepherds pies, lasagna, eggplant parm, a variety of delicious soups and more,” said Cahill. “It put a smile on our faces knowing we were able to help relieve a little bit of the stress by preparing a home-cooked meal.”



Jennifer Cahill, left and her Mom, Jeanie Bean, display a variety of frozen foods that they and the staff at Jeanie Bean and Family Delicatessen in Clinton Corners made available for customers during the pandemic. Those frozen foods continue to be available today. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

And as things progressed, her customers have continued to come in asking for the frozen meals.

Travel agents
 While all businesses felt the impact in one way or another, one sector that felt

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Millbrook group gains grant
 for work at Bennett College site

by Rich Thomaselli



Demolition work is progressing at the site of the former Bennett College near the entrance to the Village of Millbrook. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

The Millbrook Community Partnership (MCP), the entity responsible for turning the old Bennett College site into a community park and the Thorne Building in the village into a community center, just got a generous boost from Dutchess County.

The County’s Partnership for Manageable Growth (PMG) has given the MCP a \$554,000 grant to go toward the cost of the projects.

“We want to thank County Executive Marc Molinaro and the PMG for this important grant which will enable us to build a green gateway to the Village of Millbrook and create an open space for public enjoyment and recreation,” Oakleigh Thorne, president of the MCP, said in a statement.

Demolition of the old campus, located at the southern gateway to the Village of Millbrook at the corner of Franklin Avenue and the

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Hospitalizations, deaths decreasing

by Kate Goldsmith

The lagging indicators of hospitalizations and deaths are heading in the right direction, according to county’s COVID-19 Dashboard as of Feb. 20 (the most recent update as this paper went to press). Although there were still 8 deaths last week, that was noticeably less than the 16-17 deaths per week that were recorded in the previous few weeks.

Vaccination rates are almost at a standstill, with a very small week-to-week increase in all categories: the adult population with at least one vaccine, the county’s total population with at least one vaccine, and the county’s total population who have completed a vaccine series.

Quick facts – Dutchess County
(as of Feb. 20)

Active cases: 201 (down from 391 on Feb. 13)

Community transmission: 13.28 per 100,000 (down from 15.32 on Feb. 13)

Hospitalizations due to COVID-19: 7 (down from 18 on Feb. 13)

Hospitalizations of individuals with COVID-19: 19 (down from 32 on Feb. 13)

Total deaths: 645 (up from 637 on Feb. 13)

% population 18+ with at least one dose of vaccine: 84.9 (slightly up from 84.7 on Feb. 13)

% of total county population with at

least one dose of vaccine: 76.29 (slightly up from 76.12 on Feb. 13)

% of total county population that has completed their vaccine series: 68.42 (slightly up from 68.11 on Feb. 13)

The county dashboard doesn’t include data on boosters; however, according to the CDC, 49.5 percent of county’s fully vaccinated population has received a booster.

VILLAGE OF RHINEBECK SETS BUDGET WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

The Village of Rhinebeck has announced its budget workshop schedule for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget. All meetings start at 6 p.m. and will take place in person at the Village Hall, 76 East Market St., Rhinebeck.

March 1: Water & Sewer

March 14: Fire, Environmental & General

March 21: Total Budget

April 12: Public Hearing at Regular Board meeting (required by April 15)

The Highway & Police meeting took place Feb. 22.

Contact Village Clerk Martina McClinton with questions at mmcclinton@villageofrhinebeckny.gov.

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efforts have failed.”

Molinaro said this increase “adds insult to the injury from last year’s flawed roll-out of their new billing system. Central Hudson has an obligation to keep our community informed about the cost of the energy they deliver.”

He added, “Too many families living paycheck to paycheck cannot bear the weight of inflation. Add to that a confusing and shocking utility bill increase and we have a recipe for disaster.”

“Central Hudson must do better. They can do better,” said Molinaro. “It’s time they provide assistance and relief to our residents.”

Last week, State Sen. Sue Serino urged Gov. Kathy Hochul to take steps to suspend state taxes and fees and pushed for the state’s Public Service Commission (PSC) to investigate the significant price hikes.

“Like many officials, my office has been inundated with calls and emails from distraught neighbors who are seeing drastic spikes in their utility bills,” said

Serino. “With costs rising on basic necessities across the board and New York facing a current budget surplus, the state must take immediate action to provide relief for residents. New Yorkers are hurting—especially our seniors who live on fixed incomes. The state cannot sit idly by or point fingers. Now is the time to take real action to ease the burden on hardworking New Yorkers.”

In a letter to Hochul and PSC Chair Rory M. Christian, Serino said, “As you know, all utilities contend that they are at the mercy of surges in market prices and point to factors such as increased demand for electricity and natural gas, international volatility and other issues they claim are beyond their control. As you also know, decisions at the state level, like ones that have significantly reduced energy supply, failure to invest in bolstering the power grid, and others that make it difficult and expensive to do business in New York have further [exacerbated] these price increases.”

Calling for “immediate action” to sus-

pend the fees and taxes, Serino said, “While some price drivers may certainly be beyond the control of utility companies and state officials, many can be traced to New York’s high costs in general—much of that resulting from significant taxes and fees tacked on to utility bills.”

Joe Jenkins, Associate Director of Media Relations for Central Hudson, said the company “shares the concerns of our elected officials and customers regarding the recent increase in energy costs.”

Jenkins said, “Domestic and global factors have raised the demand and prices for energy, as our elected officials acknowledged, and combined with inflationary pressures on other goods and services has created a real burden for residents here and abroad.”

He noted that there are three major components to utility bills: taxes, delivery charges and supply charges. Central Hudson has no control over the taxes or supply charges; the company provides a delivery service only.

“Supply charges are for the electricity and natural gas itself provided by independent generators and suppliers, and it is this cost that has risen so dramatically,” said Jenkins. “These prices are determined by energy markets, and Central Hudson and other utilities do not mark up or profit on these costs. Customers pay the same energy costs as Central Hudson does.”

Jenkins said Central Hudson’s outreach efforts to customers and elected officials began in late October 2021, after state regulators forecast potential supply cost increases.

“These communication efforts included a news release about winter energy prices, a newsletter sent to government

and community leaders, social media campaigns and multiple interviews on several local radio stations,” he said.

“As it does every year, Central Hudson has taken steps to reduce the impact of higher market prices by hedging energy supply to the extent allowed by state regulators,” Jenkins added. “This means contracting for a portion of energy at fixed prices and purchasing natural gas in the summer when prices are lower and putting it into storage, to be drawn when prices rise. For this billing period, these hedging measures are saving customers millions of dollars by reducing the impact of market prices for electricity by approximately 28 percent and natural gas by 30 percent.

To assist customers with higher-than-normal bills, Central Hudson is offering no-cost payment plans., Jenkins said. He also reminded income-qualified customers to apply for programs such as the federally funded Home Energy Assistant Program (HEAP) grants and the new Regular Arrears Supplement program that provides up to \$10,000 in utility arrears assistance to eligible households who are unable to pay their unpaid electric and/or gas utility arrears. Customer receiving HEAP benefits also qualify for our Bill Discount program.

Other programs include the Extra Security Plan, which offers an extended billing due-date for qualified customers on a fixed income; and the Good Neighbor Fund, which provides last-resort grants for families who have exhausted all other means of assistance.

Customers can learn more about Central Hudson’s assistance programs by visiting www.cenhud.com/account-resources/assistance-programs/.

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We're pleased to let you know that the Bank of Millbrook is now offering a 15-year, fixed-rate mortgage. It's a terrific option to get your house paid off faster at a secured rate and to save money at the same time.

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MEMBER FDIC

Millbrook group gains grant for work at Bennett College site

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intersection of Routes 343 and 82, was started in 2021 and is expected to be completed in May of 2022. The 32-acre site will be re-graded and seeded, trails and parking will be constructed, and then the park opened for public access later this year.

Future phases of the project envision creating a large, open landscaped green space for use as a site for fairs and markets; a bandstand for musical per-

formances; and a memorial to Bennett College, among other enhancements.

The former college site is part of a two-pronged, \$21 million initiative by the MCP to revitalize two iconic Millbrook properties that have fallen into considerable disrepair in the last several decades and convert them into public spaces to enrich the civic and cultural lives of the community.

Marist goes to optional mask-wearing

by Rich Thomaselli

For the first time in almost two years, Marist College is at its lowest level of COVID-19 alert warning.

Barely two weeks after lowering its system to yellow and restoring many of the privileges associated with campus life – including restoration of bus trips to Broadway plays, for instance – Marist on Friday, Feb. 18, dropped its alert to green.

As part of its decision, the Town of

Poughkeepsie school also announced it was moving to a mask-optional policy.

Students and staff have been wearing masks on campus and in classrooms, the library and dining halls for the better part of the last two years.

“The use of masks is supported and encouraged for all who choose to wear one. This is particularly important for individuals who are not vaccinated against COVID-19 and individuals with medical conditions that put them at high-

er risk for severe infection,” according to a letter sent to students and parents signed by school vice-presidents Geoff Brackett, Thom Wermuth and Deb DiCaprio.

The school asked that students adopt a “mask friendly” approach, whereby those who wish to wear a mask respect those who do not, and those who do not wish to wear a mask respect those who do.

Additionally, Marist will discontinue mandatory surveillance testing. Marist will continue to offer testing for asymptomatic students on Mondays and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at 51 Fulton St. Testing for students with symptoms will continue to be done at the Health Service.

The update to mask-optional was based on Marist’s high rate of vaccination and booster compliance, declines in COVID transmission at Marist and in Dutchess County, along with recent changes to New York State masking guidelines, including the HERO Act.

Resilient business teams recount pandemic solutions

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challenges on an extreme level was travel agents. Many even had to refund money for vacations and trips that could not happen at the beginning of the pandemic.

“What I would say is that we’ve had more people come in and ask us for help,” said travel advisor Debbi Calabrese, president of Hopewell Junction-based Embassy Travel. Calabrese is a Certified Travel Counselor and a Destination Specialist for Africa and Dubai.

Indeed, travel agents have been in demand as the pent-up demand for wanderlust now comes with even more questions and issues that only advisors can answer – What are airline change policies? Are there any fees? What travel restrictions do European countries have in order to enter? What happens if I catch COVID overseas?

People like Calabrese have been life-savers.

“Whether or not we can help them depends on how they booked or where

they booked. If they booked with Expedia, for instance, I can’t help. I might be able to help with a cruise line and ask to transfer the booking, so I like to think people have understood the value we bring,” she said.

Calabrese’s knowledge even helped a young couple who called her with a vague request.

“They called me and asked, ‘Where can we go where you don’t have to wear a mask?’ I said, Oh, you mean the COVID Special?” she said with a laugh. “But they had a good time, and it was good for me, too.”

Real estate agents

In the real estate world, Lino Mendogni, chairperson for the Communication Committee for the Dutchess County Association of Realtors (DCAR), joked that agents and brokers having to switch to Zoom calls “probably saved the trees because of less paperwork.”

But he was beyond serious when he

said, “Realtors had an important role in keeping commerce moving. A lot of brokerages had to pivot and go to transactions online. I think that’s here to stay.

“Another thing I think will stay is that there are a slew of buyers comfortable doing virtual tours. The agent would go to a home and look at a home and Facetime the client. I think that’s going to continue and that was a positive thing.”

Even a lot of closings are now done virtually and that will continue, he said. With New York Gov. Kathy Hochul recently allowing for electronic notary publics, you don’t even need a notary in the room any longer.

“It was hard for agents to pivot but we had to. And we will continue to,” he said.

Gardens and nurseries

One oft-delayed project that people seemed to take up during the pandemic was home improvement and gardening, a trend that Adams Fairacre Farms Marketing Director Wendy Troncone said started during the advent of the pandemic

in 2020 and continues to today.

“When we speak to our customers, the largest driving factor for gardening is stress relief. Secondly, many have been spending more time at home, working remote and have been beautifying their homes one plant at a time,” Troncone said.

And success breeds success. Once new gardeners like millennials realized they had a green thumb, they were motivated to continue gardening for a variety of reasons, including helping to support the environment, planting pollinators to help save the honeybees, butterfly gardening and buying indoor plants that help clean the air.

“Not only are they planting outdoors, but they are also bringing plants like succulents indoors to bring that serenity into their living spaces,” Troncone said. “The positive for Adams is that we were able to help make our customers happier during a tough time, because at the end of the day, it is all about the customer.”

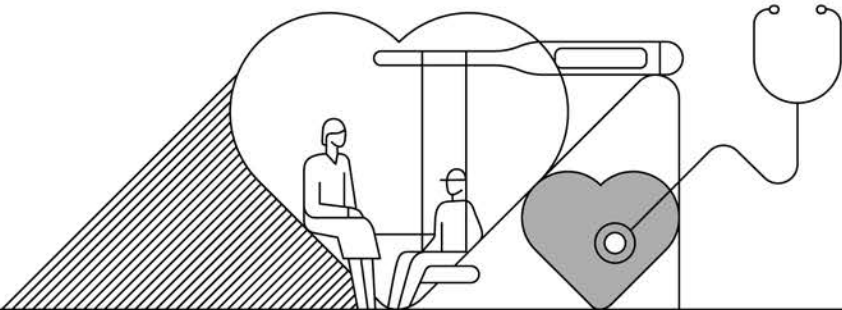
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS welcomes your letters. Letters must be submitted via e-mail to be considered for publication; e-mail to northern.dutchess@sdutchessnews.com and include the phrase "Letter to the Editor" in the subject line. Include a telephone number and address for verification purposes. Letters may be edited for legal considerations, reader interest and length. We look forward to hearing from you.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Be careful of misinformation on COVID-19

To the editor:
Much of the misinformation about COVID-19 reports comes from the reporting system, VAERS.
A Reuters report "Large numbers of reports to U.S. Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), clarifies this. It covers all reports of all adverse effects, not just deaths. The reports cover all vaccines, not just COVID vaccines. VAERS states "that this is the number of reports of all adverse effects from all vaccines, not just deaths and not just COVID-19 vaccines." (Reuters, June 18, 2021.)

Above, the claim stems from an InfoWars video, which shows a page from the independent website where the number 1,136,615 is visible.
VAERS (vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html) has a disclaimer on the CDC's website that states, "The reports may contain information that is incomplete, inaccurate, coincidental, or unverifiable" – factcheck.org. Misinterpretations are repeated constantly.

Politifact reports, "Dr. Robert Malone misleadingly asserting that the COVID-19 vaccines are 'not working' and claiming without evidence that many children 'will be hospitalized' and may experience brain damage and infertility due to the vaccines."
All of these similar claims, by other doctors, whose claims and careers are in question, also stated; but to some, "anybody who questions" the prevailing narrative is attacked.

Deen Freelon, a communications professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, states, "The social media companies have taken a hard line against disinformation; they have not taken a similarly hard line against fallacies." Freelon said when it comes to conspiratorial thinking, statistics and nuance often don't matter as much as tragic stories.

An NPR report "Fear-mongering - Vaccine Stories Go Viral Online" states that "someone dying after receiving a vaccine shot has been among the most popular vaccine-related articles on social media." (Feb. 1, 2022)

There are many other rumors to misleading accounts all over social media. Vaccines make you magnetic, infertile, chips are put in your brain. It comes down to this: Does one just accept what they hear on YouTube, a Tweet, from anyone else and accept that as their only source on COVID and vaccines?

There is much confusion, yes, but facts are out there.

Bob Dorn
Red Hook

Reader disputes use of vaccination banner

To the editor:
I'm a big fan of local media and am especially happy that Northern Dutchess News exists and covers our community. That said, I cringe every time I see the banner that you've run on every front page now for months running telling people to get vaccinated or face death. ("Delay can be fatal - Get vaccinated now.")

First, there is no one on your staff who is a licensed physician and you have no basis for giving medical advice of any kind to anybody at any time.

Second, even if you had a physician on staff willing to put his or her name to this advice, it is a violation of basic medical ethics for anyone, doctor or not, to give medical advice to a patient he or she does not know the medical history of and has not examined.

Third, who, specifically, is giving this advice and taking responsibility for its consequences? It's unsigned and unattributed.

Fourth, is it now a matter of widely disseminated public record that the Co-Vid vaccinations do not work as promised (remember the 95 percent effective claim?) and neither prevent the catching nor spreading of the SARS-2 virus.

Further, the Vaccine Adverse Events System (VAERS), a record keeping system administered by the CDC and FDA, has documented thousands of verified injury reports, including death, from these vaccines, including the fact that some populations, namely young men, have an elevated risk of myocarditis from these vaccines (openvaers.com/openvaers.)

The fact that our public health officials and politicians - local, state and federal - cannot be bothered to bring this easily found information to the public is not an excuse for ignorance any more.

I assume you've run your weekly banner sincerely with the intention of serving the public. I think it's time you take a close look at what you're doing, what you're endorsing and what you're enabling by doing so and ask yourselves if, given all the facts we have now, continuing to post this message is a service to the public.

In short, follow the science and follow this directive from the Hippocratic oath which counsels physicians "First do no harm."
Ken McCarthy
Tivoli

Editor's note: The banner at the top of our papers simply follows the recommended advice of the Dutchess County, New York State and national medical officials and organizations.

Pandemic questions

To the editor:

Unlike early expectations, COVID-19 vaccines (regarded as gene therapy by the FDA) have not prevented infection and illness. Rather, authorities now say the vaccines make hospitalization and death less likely, apparently from checking the vaccination status of those with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test.

But what if a hospital asked all patients for their COVID-19 vaccination status, regardless of symptoms or reason for entry?

Well, one hospital in upstate New York did, at the urging of a conscientious employee. What was observed, documented in a legal case, was that 90% of admissions were COVID-19 vaccinated, although only 50% of the area's population had gotten the vaccine. See skirsch.com/All.pdf, chart 17.

Further, have our officials no curiosity that reported deaths from COVID-19 vaccines exceed the total sum of all reported vaccine deaths in the last thirty years? See openvaers.com.

Another puzzle: An Indiana insurance company reports a startling jump in deaths of prime age workers, exceeding what a one in 200 year catastrophe might cause, and seemingly not related to COVID-19 illness.

Now there are plans to vaccinate all children, our future. With a U. S. FDA official, caught on video, predicting regular yearly vaccinations for all. Yet one vaccine maker's drug approval data was originally planned for final release in, amazingly, 2076, requiring 55 years. Although the agency sped the actual approval in just a few months.

Something does not add up. Why haven't state legislators and Congress held searching hearings? Why are we paying them?

Frank Stoppenbach
Red Hook

Urban Trail project Phase I tree clearing begins in March

In the next few weeks, residents will see initial work begin on the Urban Trail project, a 2.7-mile split-use trail network along the former CSX rail line in the city and town of Poughkeepsie. Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro announced that tree clearing is set to begin in early March, weather permitting, for Phase I of the project.

Phase I is a 1.4-mile section that will run from the Hudson Heritage development site in the Town of Poughkeepsie to Parker Avenue (State Route 9G) in the City of Poughkeepsie.

Molinaro said, "There has been much excitement and anticipation about this trail project's development. Residents and visitors near the rail corridor will soon see the definitive signs of the project getting underway as our crews begin clearing trees to make room for this transformative trail network that will connect neighborhoods, businesses, and tourism

attractions. I am grateful to all those involved for their dedication to realizing the potential of this rail corridor."

Preliminary work will begin with trees and brush being cleared along the entire width of the former rail corridor. Construction work will then begin in later spring to create a 22-foot-wide dual-lane pathway. An initial section of trail – 0.55 mile stretching from West Cedar Street in the Town of Poughkeepsie and connecting to the Dutchess Rail Trail at Parker Avenue (State Route 9G) in the City of Poughkeepsie – is expected to be complete and open to the public by the end of this year. The remainder of Phase I construction, stretching to the Hudson Heritage development in the Town of Poughkeepsie, as well as the installation of way-finding signage, is expected to be finished by the summer of 2023.

When all phases are complete, the full 2.7 miles of the Urban Trail will be com-

prised of dual- and single-lane pathways ranging from 16 to 22 feet wide. The trail network will connect many community assets within the city and town of Poughkeepsie, providing easy connections between housing, jobs, schools, businesses, hospitals, and parks, including the Walkway Over the Hudson, Quiet Cove Riverfront Park, Pulaski Park, and the Poughkeepsie Waterfront. The trail network will have lighting and other security features, secure bike parking, and seating, among other amenities following feedback gathered at multiple public outreach events held over the past year. The trail network will be maintained for year-round transportation use, including plowing in the winter season. The full project is expected to complete by the end of 2024.

To learn more about the Urban Trail project, visit www.dutchesscountyurbantrail.com.

Serino announces launch of 2022 State Senate campaign

It was a full house at Poughkeepsie's Refinery 51 as Sen. Sue Serino announced on Feb. 17 that she is officially launching her campaign for the new 43rd State Senate District. The new Senate District, created as a result of redistricting, is expected to cover parts of Dutchess, Columbia and Rensselaer counties.

"Our community is at a crossroads," said Serino. "Every day I hear from residents who are fed up with the rapidly rising costs, increases in crime and government overreach that continue to impact every area of their lives. The frustration is not just talk, as New Yorkers are leaving in droves. Never has it been more important to bring balance back to Albany, and that starts by electing a truly independent voice—with roots here in our community—committed to fighting tirelessly for our neighbors. That is what I have always done and will continue to do for the residents of the new 43rd Senate District as we work to rebuild and get our state back on track."

"When it comes to our community, no one cares more than Sue," said Dutchess County Republican Chairman Mike McCormack. "Sue is always on our side, and she has the heart and the drive to make a difference for our neighbors in the

critical years ahead. With Albany more concerned about mandates than public service, never has it been more important to elect leaders we know will stand with us against power-hungry politicians. Sue has never been afraid to fight for what's right and that's why we need to ensure she is elected this November."

Acting Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati, who introduced Serino at the event, said "Senator Sue Serino has done an outstanding job for the residents of Dutchess County. She fights for her constituents and is our strong voice in Albany. We need her to continue to be our voice."

City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Rob Rolison led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance and said, "Senator Sue Serino has been a true champion for the City of Poughkeepsie, and has gone above and beyond to help us rebuild in the wake of the pandemic. Sue understands that we need to increase affordability and develop real opportunities for our neighbors of all ages to thrive. She always puts our needs first which is why we need to ensure she is elected this November."

Deirdre Houston, Dutchess County Legislature Assistant Majority Leader, who spoke in support of Serino said, "As a small business owner, and a longtime

resident of our community, Sue is someone who gets it. She understands the challenges we all face because she's lived them. She is someone who is one of us and you know that when you call her—no matter the time of the day—she's going to answer the phone and jump to help."

Cristin Roe, a local hairdresser, shared how Serino assisted her during the pandemic, saying, "When Governor Cuomo shut us down, those of us in the service and personal care industries felt totally left behind by the state. Sue was the only one who stood up and made us a top priority, made sure we were heard, and worked hard to find solutions to help get us back to work. We are grateful to have such a caring lawmaker representing us and we need to ensure Sue is elected in November."



New York State Sen. Sue Serino speaks at the official launch of her campaign for the new 43rd Senate District. Courtesy photo

Pleasant Valley man rescued from apartment building fire

The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office responded to assist the Pleasant Valley Fire Department on Feb. 16 at the scene of a reported structure fire with an occupant trapped at the Country Commons Apartments located at 216 West Road in the Town of Pleasant Valley.

The first arriving sheriff's deputies reported smoke showing from the apartment and the trapped occupant was out of the apartment. Investigation by the Sheriff's Office revealed that a neighbor, Joshua Constable, forcibly entered the burning apartment and began to rescue the occupant, who was trapped and yelling for help.

Bruce Griffing II and Ronald Rembert, alarm company contactors, who were working in the complex, also entered the apartment and assisted with removing the occupant. Griffing then closed the apartment door which helped to delay the spread of the fire.

Sheriff Kirk A. Imperati said, "By entering the burning apartment under heavy smoke and heat conditions, these three men displayed a selfless act of bravery that led to the rescue of a 71-year-old

male from this fire. I commend Mr. Constable, Mr. Griffing and Mr. Rembert for their actions."

Pleasant Valley firefighters, assisted by firefighters from the Arlington, Fairview, LaGrange, Millbrook, Roosevelt, Union Vale and East Clinton fire departments extinguished the two-alarm fire. Mobile Life Support Services transported the fire victim to Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital, and he was later flown to Westchester Medical Center due to his burn injuries.

"Due to the quick response and swift fire suppression efforts by the Pleasant Valley firefighters and the mutual aid departments, they were able to contain the fire to the apartment. The actions performed by both the citizens and firefighters saved lives and property," said Sheriff Imperati.

The Dutchess County Fire Investigation Division and the Sheriff's Office Fire & Arson Investigation Unit are investigating the origin and cause of this fire. Initial investigation indicates that this is an accidental fire.

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Rhinebeck HS Drama Club to present Addams Family musical

The Rhinebeck High School (RHS) Drama Club is happy to be back on the stage this year after a full year of remote productions due to the pandemic. This spring, the club will present “The Addams Family, A New Musical: School Edition,” a musical comedy that embraces the wackiness in every family through characters that we have all come to love. Performances are on Friday, April 1, Saturday, April 2 and Sunday, April 3. Tickets are currently sold online only at www.RHSDramaClub.org.

It’s every father’s nightmare: Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness and owl of her father’s eye, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family—a man her parents have never met. And if that wasn’t upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he’s never done before—keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia! Everything will change for the whole

family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday’s “normal” boyfriend and his parents. Don’t miss this comical feast and an evening of entertainment that is sure to help lighten your mood.

“The Addams Family, A New Musical: School Edition” has been adapted from the original Off-Broadway Production by TRW. Book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice Music and lyrics by Andrew Lippa; based on characters created by Charles Addams.

The RHS Drama Club produces one show in the fall, a Talent Show, and a Spring Musical. Each show is completely student-run, giving students opportunities to learn backstage crafts including set building, painting and stage management and the technical skills of lighting and audio. This year, the spring musical is directed by Sabrina Cahenzli (Director), Miguel Tobon (Technical Director), Marla Ulrich (Musical Director and Conductor) and Kaylee Kelsey (Choral Director).

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

United Way offers free transportation for COVID-19 vaccine appointments to Poughkeepsie residents

United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region is partnering with Lyft to offer free rides to individuals needing transportation to and from COVID-19 vaccine appointments and COVID-19 booster vaccinations. The program covers up to \$50 round trip. The individual must cover any expenses beyond \$50.

The program is open to Dutchess and Orange residents in Newburgh and Poughkeepsie. It cannot be used for drive-thru vaccination sites. Medicaid recipients are not eligible for this program. They can call their Medicaid provider to cover the cost of transportation.

Sign up to receive your unique code by at uwdor.org/vaccinerides and click the “apply” button. You can apply the code to a round trip. Rides can only be used as transportation to and from a vaccine clinic site. Users can apply for a second code to use for transportation to and from a second shot.

Innisfree sets lecture series

Innisfree Garden is hosting a lunchtime lecture series via Zoom, with the next one scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 1 p.m. In “Effective Solutions for Dealing with Deer,” Innisfree trustee Brad Roeller shares his philosophy that by learning about the environmental and biological factors which influence deer and their food choices, homeowners and professionals can implement informed strategies for deer-proofing their landscapes.

Lectures start at 1 p.m. via Zoom. The cost is \$15 ; register at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/innisfreegarden>.

Upcoming events include:

“A New Way of Thinking about Gardens, Nature, and Ourselves” with James Golden, Wednesday, March 2;

“Painting the Romantic Landscape: Claude Lorrain to the Hudson River School” with John McGiff, Wednesday, March 23;

“Landscape, Poetry and Ecology: Romanticism at Innisfree” with Paul Kane, Wednesday, April 6;

“Romanticism at Innisfree” with Katherine H.

Kerin, Wednesday, April 20.

Blood drive at Poughkeepsie Galleria Feb. 23

Dutchess County will host a blood drive on Feb. 23 from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Poughkeepsie Galleria J.C. Penney store, (lower level outdoor entrance) 2001 South Road, in Poughkeepsie. The blood drive is in partnership with New York Blood Center. One may sign up at nybc.org or call 1-800-933-2566.

Wilderstein sets lecture Feb. 24

“Wilderstein Digital Products & Experiences,” a talk by Craig St. Clair, Wilderstein board member and curatorial committee chair, is set on Thursday, Feb. 24, at 10 a.m., via Zoom. Visit www.wilderstein.org to register.

This lecture will introduce Wilderstein’s digital catalog and archival collections, with particular emphasis on the making of the new interactive timeline and how the digital catalog will be used to create more virtual experiences in the future.

Rhinecliff Soup Sale set Feb. 24

The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Co. and Rhinebeck Grange #896 will hold their Soup Sale on Thursday, Feb. 24. From 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on those dates, a choice of soup or chili will be available for take-out at the cost of \$10 per quart. To order ahead, email Joe at baerhands@aol.com or call the firehouse at (845) 876-6149 beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Rhinecliff Firehouse, on the corner of Shatzell Avenue and Orchard Street in Rhinecliff. Pick up at side window on Orchard. Profits will alternate between the two community organizations.

Line Dancing set at Poughkeepsie Senior Center

The Town of Poughkeepsie Recreation will hold a Country Line Dancing Night at the Senior Center, 14 Abe’s Way, Poughkeepsie, on Friday, Feb. 25, from 7 to 10 p.m. There is free admission, and non-perishable donations to the Food Pantry will be accepted. Visit www.poughkeepsietownrec.com or call (845) 485-3628 for more information.

Stanford Grange Indoor Tag Sale

Stanford Grange #808 will host an Indoor Tag Sale on Saturday, Feb. 26, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. All new items will be featured.

Proceeds will benefit the Grange’s continual community service projects and maintenance for the Grange Hall. All CDC & Gov. Hochul’s Health Guidelines will be followed. No donations of items for the sale, please - we don’t have room to store them. Please call the Grange Hall at (845) 868-1700 to request more information.

Concerts set at Millbrook Library

The Millbrook Arts Group will present “Southland, Swing & Spain,” a monthly concert series, at the Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane. The schedule:

Thomasina Winslow - Blues Singer and Guitarist – Feb. 26;

Teresa Broadwell - Swing Violinist and Singer – March 26;

Maria Zemantauswki - Flamenco Guitar Master – April 30.

Concerts start at 5 p.m. and end by 7 p.m.

Mental Hygiene Board meeting Feb. 28

The Dutchess County Mental Hygiene Board will be holding its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, Feb. 28, at noon. One may participate via Microsoft Teams Meeting by phone in by dialing 1-516-268-4602 and enter Conference ID number 261 140 008#.

The Dutchess County Mental Hygiene Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January and February (which due to holidays are held the 4th Monday of those months) and there is no meeting in August.

Hyde Park Knights of Columbus set 28th Annual Lenten Fish Fry

The Hyde Park Knights of Columbus will serve freshly breaded fish each Friday during Lent, except Good Friday. The Fish Fries will begin on March 4 and end April 8.

Your choice of meal entrée includes: fried haddock, baked haddock w/baked potato, fried clam strips, battered shrimp OR breaded scallops. Sides include coleslaw, French fries, roll and dessert. The cost is \$14 - \$16.

Kids Portion (fish or shrimp) is \$10.

Combo Platter - includes fish fillet, scallops, shrimp and clam strips for \$19.

Side Dishes Available: Clam chowder for \$3; Side of fries for \$3; Baked Mac ‘n’ Cheese for kids is \$6 (full portion \$10).

Take-out only from 5 to 7 p.m. For takeout orders: order when you arrive from parking lot or call, after 4:30 p.m. at (845) 229-6111. You may also order online at <https://kofchydepark.square.site>

The Hyde Park K of C is located 1 mile north of the East Park Light on Route 9G across street from Moose Club.

Historic Red Hook to host free virtual event

On Wednesday, March 16, at 7 p.m., Sarah K. Herman will present an author talk via Zoom, titled “The 1903 Jackson Corners Signature Quilt.”

Hermans grew up in Millerton, and has resided in Poughkeepsie and Pine Plains. Her grandmother, Clara Weller Losee, was a dedicated local and family historian for the towns of Red Hook, Milan and Northeast.

In 2010 an old, stained muslin sheet made of 42 blocks sewn together, many covered in embroidered names, was passed down through five generations of Hermans’ family. She spent a decade researching the quilt; the 260 names of local people from Milan, Red Hook, Rhinebeck, Pine Plains, Livingston, Clermont and Ancram embroidered on it; and the world of Northern Dutchess and Southern Columbia counties in 1903 when the “simple” life was coming to an end. Register for this free program at <https://www.historicredhook.org/register>.

ONGOING

The Frederick W. Vanderbilt Garden Association is looking for volunteers to perform all tasks required to plant and maintain the garden. No gardening expertise is needed; we will train as we work. You need to be 18 years old or older and be able to perform, at minimum, basic physical labor such as bending, kneeling and carrying buckets. Garden work is done during the spring, summer and fall months on Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to noon. You are welcome to work as often and on any days that suit your schedule. For more information, e-mail info@vanderbiltgarden.org, visit <http://www.vanderbiltgarden.org> or call (845) 229-6432.

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Annual Garden Shows set at all four Adams locations

Adams Landscaping will once again transport visitors to a spring paradise with their Annual Lawn & Garden Shows.

Visitors can take a moment to relax in the space filled with flowers in bloom, waterfalls, fairy gardens and stone walls. Each show will have different designs and plants.

Each Garden Show will feature DIY areas where visitors can get inspiration, ideas and how-to advice from our in-store experts. Like the Garden Shows, the DIYs are free to attend.

Each store offers something different so try to get to them all, whether you're new to gardening or a seasoned pro.

DATES

Poughkeepsie: Feb. 25 – March 6

Newburgh: Feb. 25 – March 6

Kingston: March 4 – March 13

Wappinger: March 4 – March 13

DIY AREAS

Poughkeepsie

- **Gardening for Pollinators** - Nursery experts will be on hand opening weekend to explain the vital role pollina-

tors play in our lives and which pollinator-friendly plants you can plant to bring them to your corner of the world.

- **Terrarium How-To** – by Marnie Reilly, Greenhouse Manager - You'll learn everything you need – containers, plants, rocks, soil – and need to know to create your own little ecosystem.

Newburgh

- **Winter Wonderlandscape: Landscaping for Winter Interest** – by Tim Bellamy, Nursery Manager - Tim taps into his creative expertise, helping you select trees, shrubs and plants that will bring stunning beauty to your landscape even in winter!

- **Tropical Plants Create an Outdoor Oasis** – by Maureen Drury, Greenhouse Manager - Learn how to use tropical plants in your summer gardens, both sunny and shady, as well as tips on creating a tropical container garden for porch or patio.

She'll also inspire you to create garden art from salvaged and reclaimed materials. Featuring Agrisculpture by local artist Amy Lewis Sweetman.

Kingston

- **Backyard Birding** - Learn the best ways to attract wild birds to your yard. Our experts will discuss and explain what songbirds need – like water, shelter and food – to entice them, keep them healthy and keep them coming back.

- **Outdoor Fairy Gardens** – by Carol Armstrong, Greenhouse Manager - Our experts are on-hand to explain plant selection and placement, with a focus on small DIY water features that will make any garden feel like an oasis.

Wappinger

- **Success Growing Orchids** – by Daniel Servedio, Greenhouse Manager - Daniel will recommend products and shares his tips to help you successfully grow beautiful exotic orchids to transform your home into a tropical paradise.

- **Dooryard Garden** – by Al Esposito, Garden Center Manager - Stop

by for plenty advice and inspiration to help you create your own beautiful garden just outside your door. See how flowering plants, garden accents, pottery and even herbs can add to that feeling of coming home.

THIS YEAR'S POLICIES

- There will be a one-way route through the show.

- No food or drinks allowed in the show and no food or drinks served at the show.

- There will be No Events, Seminars, Vendors or Cake at this year's Shows.

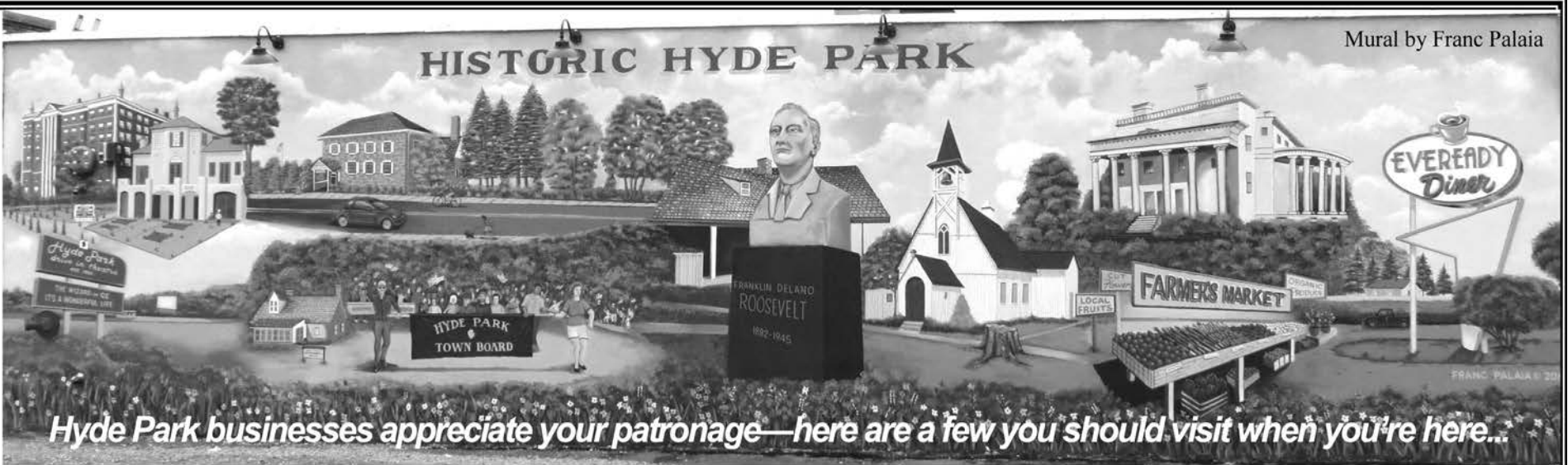
- Balloons will be in the Flower Shops.

- 'Animal Finds' will take place throughout the store, not inside the actual Shows.

- Drawings will be posted in the various departments and will have a QR code to enter online.

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Waldstein to retire as Walkway leader in May

After a 12-year period that saw dramatic capital improvements, growing visitation, and even a Guinness World Record at the soaring 1.28-mile span over the Hudson River, Elizabeth Waldstein is stepping down as Executive Director of the Walkway Over the Hudson organization, a “friends’ group” that supports and improves Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park. This is the second leadership transition announcement of late when Maureen Solero became the new chair of the Board of Directors, replacing John Storyk, who stepped down after three years of service.

Waldstein said it was “time to embrace the next chapter in my life” announcing her retirement effective on May 1. “It has been an honor to serve as Executive Director and I am proud to have helped bring the vision of the Walkway to reality,” said Waldstein, who stewarded the nonprofit through a period of significant expansion that included major community and capital projects designed to enhance public access and visitor comfort at the popular New York State Park.

“One of my proudest achievements was the establishment of the Walkway Ambassador program. Hundreds of volunteers have helped make the Walkway one of the most welcoming and friendliest parks in the state. During this time, a small and fledgling nonprofit grew into a stable, strong, and sustainable organization; thanks to successful fundraising, careful fiscal management and an engaged Board of Directors,” she said, adding that she greatly valued the strong and effective partnership with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and NY State Bridge Authority.

“During this period of growth, Elizabeth Waldstein has served as our Executive Director with distinction. Her passion and dedication to the Walkway has driven our successes and accomplishments and her effective leadership and innovative thinking have enabled us to weather turbulent storms. We most certainly would not be who we are today if not for her leadership,” said Solero.

Solero praised the thoughtful transition now under way at the organization. “Together we have developed a plan to ensure a smooth transition to a new leadership structure that will serve the Walkway well into the future. To that end, we are pleased to report that Diane Haight, who has been enormously valuable to our organization in her capacity as Managing Director, will be appointed Interim Executive Director following Elizabeth’s departure,” she said. “The



Elizabeth Waldstein

Walkway has successfully navigated the uncertainty of the COVID pandemic and is in a strong financial position with a dedicated and passionate Board of Directors and staff. John Storyk has skillfully, creatively and successfully led the Board of Directors for the past three years and I will do my best to continue to move this dynamic organization forward.”

Storyk worked closely with Waldstein, staff, and the Board of Directors on several key projects in recent years, including construction of two new Visitors Centers at the east and west entrances, as well as the design and funding of an extensive new solar lighting system.

Since Walkway Over the Hudson opened to great fanfare in October 2009, the nonprofit friends group has worked tirelessly to improve the Park, draw new visitors, and enhance visitors’ experience. After Waldstein was hired to helm the nonprofit in 2010, the organization grew significantly, adding staff charged with fundraising, program management, and marketing in support of the Park’s growing mission.

Under Waldstein’s leadership, the Walkway organization has raised \$9 million for operational and programmatic efforts and another \$10 million for capital improvements to the park. While she is retiring from her full-time role as Executive Director effective May 1, Waldstein plans to remain involved with the Walkway through the leadership transition, while exploring future opportunities.

For more information about the Walkway organization, visit walkway.org.

Molinaro submits 2021 Annual Report to Legislature

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro recently submitted the Annual Report for 2021 to the Dutchess County Legislature, pursuant to the requirements of the Dutchess County Charter. The annual report provides an overview of the county’s finances, as well as highlights of the work and activities of the Executive Branch of county government over the past year.

Molinaro said, “Dutchess County continued to rise above the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021 with each of our departments and divisions maintaining the high-quality services and programs that so many of our residents rely upon. This annual report provides the Legislature many highlights of the tremendous work the dedicated men and women of Dutchess County Government have accomplished over the past 12 months.”

The annual report features a brief review of Dutchess County’s financial condition, which has seen a strong recovery credited to preventative cost-saving measures taken in 2020 coupled with \$57 million in financial support from the federal government through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and a surplus in sales tax revenue following increased consumer spending post economic shutdown.

Additionally, the increase in sales tax revenue is anticipated to have a significant positive impact on the county’s General Fund Balance, which will be used to reduce indebtedness, invest in capital projects and reduce the county’s property tax levy by over \$5.5 million, the largest reduction in County history, as well as decreasing the property tax rate by 10 percent, the seventh straight property tax rate decrease for homeowners and businesses.

The report also features a summary of the activities of the Executive Branch departments of Dutchess County Government, demonstrating the continued hard work and dedication of Dutchess County Government employees. Among the work activity highlights:

- Office for the Aging (OFA) delivered more than 136,000 hot meals to more than 600 clients as well as hosting a dozen drive-through picnics, serving 3,966 residents, and five drive-in BINGO events attended by over 200 seniors.

- Veterans’ Services assisted more than 17,000 Dutchess County veterans and their families.

- HELPLINE staff answered 23,843 calls and 742 text messages from individuals seeking mental health assistance.

- Hosted more than 4.3 million pages with over 1.2 million visitors on the county’s website, dutchessny.gov.

- Community & Family Services (DCFS) provided services to more than 30,000 Dutchess County residents.

- The 9-1-1 Communication Center answered 206,779 calls, dispatching 119,786 incidents.

- Human Resources reviewed 5,659 applications for appointment eligibility, including 3,922 exam applications and 1,737 recruitment applications.

- The Department of Planning and Development coordinated 10 grant programs, awarding more than \$12.4 million in projects, programs, and organizations.

- Despite issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office of Probation and Community Corrections Pretrial Services division conducted 1,294 pretrial screens, resulting in 761 releases to supervision, an increase over the previous year.

- The Public Defender’s Office represented 6,570 individuals, including 4,109 cases in the criminal and appellate courts and 2,661 cases in the family courts.

- Public Works (DPW) Highway division completed over 19.5 miles of road surface improvements on 13 county highways.

- Dutchess County Public Transit (DCPT) logged over 530,000 passenger trips and its Dial-A-Ride service saw a 101 percent growth with more than 12,000 rides in 2021.

Molinaro said, “Though not without its challenges, 2021 was undoubtedly a successful year for Dutchess County Government. While still coping with a new reality brought on by this unprecedented pandemic, the dedicated men and women of Dutchess County Government continued to adapt and innovate to go above and beyond for the more than 300,000 people who call our great county their home. We look forward to 2022 and a prosperous new year of building on our successes and working through challenges together.”

Molinaro will outline his priorities and focus for Dutchess County Government in 2022 at his annual State of the County address, a date for which will be announced soon.

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Tax tips to simplify your filing experience

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance today encouraged taxpayers to follow some important filing tips before they submit their income tax returns.

File your tax returns for free

Free File software is available at the Tax Department website, www.tax.ny.gov. Taxpayers with income of \$73,000 or less in 2021 can electronically complete and submit their federal and New York State income tax returns online at no cost.

Nearly 255,000 taxpayers used this software last year, saving them a combined \$51 million in tax preparation fees. To be directed to the free filing options, simply click Free File your income tax return on the Tax Department's website. It's easy, fast, and secure.

Free File can help millions of taxpayers claim valuable tax credits without the cost of hiring a tax preparer. The software will help ensure you claim all the credits you deserve, including the earned income tax credit (EITC).

To ensure you're not charged a fee, you must go to the Tax Department's website to complete your return. You'll save on preparation fees, prevent costly errors, and ensure that you receive any refund you're owed in the most efficient way possible.

Need assistance?

If you need filing assistance, free help is available. If your federal adjusted gross income in 2021 was \$73,000 or less, Tax Department representatives can guide you through the free tax preparation software to help you electronically prepare and file your 2021 federal and state income tax returns at no cost.

To register, see Register for a virtual FSA session.

Receive your refund faster

You can receive the refunds you're owed up to two weeks sooner by e-filing your return and choosing direct deposit.

E-filing is safer, faster, and more efficient than sending paper returns through the mail. And you'll receive your refund faster if it's directly deposited into your

bank account rather than mailed as a paper check.

To use direct deposit, simply check direct deposit on your tax return, then enter your bank's nine-digit routing number and your account number. For checking accounts, this information is available on your checks; for savings accounts, contact your bank.

Check your refund status

Taxpayers can also quickly view the status of their New York State tax refund anytime by using the Check your Refund application on the Tax Department website: www.tax.ny.gov. It's the fastest and most convenient way to know when to expect your refund. It's updated daily and provides the same information available to our phone representatives—only with-

out the wait!

You can also find out when your refund will be issued by signing up for Tax Department email alerts. Visit the Tax Department homepage at www.tax.ny.gov and select Subscribe under the Connect With Us heading at the bottom of the page.

Get your questions answered

Tax Department representatives are available from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET at 518-457-5181 on weekdays.

Before you call, however, consider that the most efficient way to obtain tax filing guidance and information, including answers to common questions, is to visit the Tax Department's website, www.tax.ny.gov. Our Filing season resource center is a good place to start.

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A Matter of Black Lives

by Christopher Klose

Editor's note: The following article was submitted in remembrance of Black History Month by historian Christopher Klose.

"M.P. / C.P. 1745" reads the chiseled datestone in the foundation of our farmhouse on Echo Valley Farm, home to the Kloses since 1943. The Sawkill bounds us on the west. Easterly lie its rolling hills, stone walls and fields, ancient oaks and maples, big house, white picket fence and iconic red barns. All bear witness to the strength and stamina of Red Hook's earliest settlers.

Wendell Michael Pulver ("M.P.") was born in Germany in 1705. He emigrated with his parents and two younger brothers to Hunterstown, the southernmost Palatine camp in what is now Germantown. Records show he was naturalized in 1715 and sometime before 1734, he married Anna Catherine Mohr ("C.P."), another Palatine émigré. They founded the farm, had 11 children and in 1730 and 1740 Michael is listed as a

freeholder, paying taxes to Rhinebeck (Red Hook was formed from the north precinct of Rhinebeck, becoming its own town in 1812).

In her "A Brief History of Red Hook," Clare O'Neill Carr points out that landowners like the Pulvers would sometimes own one or two slaves. "Slaves were considered a commodity, along with horses and livestock, and their possession was a measure of prosperity..." They were worked hard, housed in cramped dirt-floored basements, dark attics or farm outbuildings. Always, they lived in fear of being sold away, families sundered forever.

Henry (Heinrich) Pulver inherited the farm from his parents. He is listed in the first U.S. Census (1790) as having "2 white males over 16 (Henry and son David), 4 white females (wife Ann Valentine Shaffer and daughters Margaret, Catherine and Hannah) – and 3 slaves (unnamed)." In the 1800 Census, his son David (1769-1848) is recorded as owning two slaves (unnamed).

As the Pulvers prospered generation

after generation, so too did other industrious early Red Hook farmers and landowners. A worn ledger book I've just finished transcribing — "Children Born of Slaves," 1799-1826 – matter-of-factly lays out the details of American human bondage in fading, flowing pen strokes:

- Town of Rhinebeck - this is to certify that on the 27th day of August 1799 there was born of my slave Margaret a male child named John given under my hand this 1st day of September 1799 – **Janet Montgomery**

To Henry Shop Town Clk

Entered of Record September 1, 1799

H. Shop, Town Clk

- To H. Shop Town Clk

October 8th 1805, I the Subscriber in conformity to a law of this State do certify that there was born in my house on the 16th of Jan'y last a girl named Eliza her mother – a Slave of mine by the name of Barbara.

Philip H. Livingston

- Recorded of Record October 8th 1805

Henry Shop Town Clk

I Solomon Van Steenburgh of the Town of Rhinebeck Blacksmith do hereby Certify that on the 26th Day of January

1805 there was born of my Slave Marian a Male Child named Stephen Given under my hand at the Town of Rhinebeck the 12th day of August 1805

Solomon Van Steenburgh

- To H. Shop Clk of

The Town of Rhinebeck

Entered of Record August 12th 1805

H. Shop Town Clk

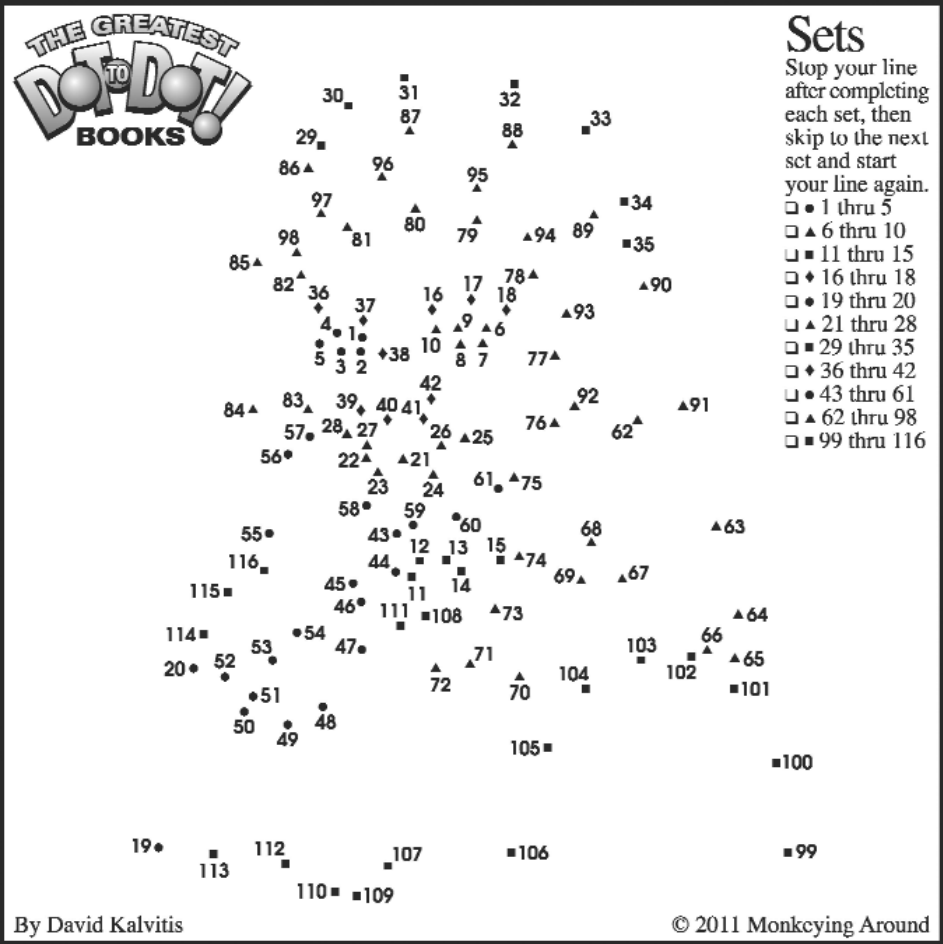
I John Steinfeldt of the Town of Rhinebeck Merchant do hereby Certify that on the 27th day of August 1807 there was born of Rehemah(?) the Slave of Geo. Ring a Male Child named Jonah, that child being my property and therefore certify as aforesaid Given under my hand at the Town of Rhinebeck the 27th day of December 1808.

I am passionate about people, place and time, about history, especially Red Hook's. The evil of slavery was everywhere, at all levels, as each wearying, repugnant entry attests. More than 250 years later, it makes me cringe and feel guilty that "what turned out to be paradise" for us, as my father happily wrote on the real estate flyer for the farm, was built with enslaved people.

Black lives have always mattered.

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



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STUDIO 666 **R**

--STARTS FRIDAY--
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 4:
TRANSFORMANIA **PG**
ENCANTO **PG**

--STARTS FRIDAY--
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 4:
TRANSFORMANIA **PG**

--HELD OVER--
Dog (PG13)
Uncharted (PG13)
Death on the Nile (PG13)
Jackass Forever (R)
Spider-Man: No
Way Home (PG13)

--HELD OVER--
Dog (PG13)
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that's italian!

by luigi coppola



Big Game bet

Luigi 'wins' a bet with Pop.

My father comes into the restaurant every day. EVERY DAY. As has become custom, he asks me for a variety of things. From ordering him undergarments to filling up his car with gas. It is always something and it is always memorable.

On Super Bowl Sunday, as he was leaving, he comes up to me and states that

he wants to bet me on the winner of the Super Bowl.

Pop: Luigi, I wanta to bet you on the Supoera Bowl.

Me: (sigh) Ok Pop. Who do you want.

Pop: Chinchinanti

Me: (sigh) Ok, I'll take the Rams.

Pop: Whosa the Rams.

Me: The other team. Its Bengals and the Rams.

Pop: Whoa isa the Begals.

Me: That's the team you want to bet on,

Pop: Oh no I wants Chinchinanti

Me: (sigh)... (sigh)...(sigh)

Pop: You taka Los Angeles.

Me: (sigh) Ok pop (as I bang my head against the wall)

Pop: You sonamagun. You no going to do that.

Me: Well then, I'm going to tell Anthony (my brother takes care of paying my father's bill) and he'll give me the \$5.

Pop: You disgrazia. You no going to get it from him.

Me: Well then when you need me to make you change so you can put money in the church basket, I'm going to get it then.

As I watched the game, I was truly hoping that the Bengals would win so that I would just have to give pop his \$5 and be done with it. But as luck would have it, the Rams won and now I had to collect on the bet.

Pop: You going to take froma the church?

Me: Hey John! (my brother) Can you believe Pop's not going to pay me for the Super Bowl?

Pop: (walking through the door of the restaurant) Good morning every body!

Me: (no hesitation) You have my \$5?

Pop: No. They no win by enough. They only win by three points.

Me: But Pop we didn't bet on the spread.

Pop: I no wanta spread on my breakfast.

Me: No Pop, the spread was the number of points that they..... oh never mind

Pop: I noa going to pay you.

Me: Oh yeah? Well the next time you want me to get gas, I'm just going to put \$5 less in the tank and I'll get it that way.

John: Louie, just tell the lawyer and when pop dies he can give you \$5 more in inheritance.

Pop: Now youa get into it too.

Me: Hey Vinny (my other brother) Pop's not going to pay me for the Super Bowl.

Vinny: Jeez Pop, you'd better be careful or Louie might break your legs.

Pop: You sonamuguns. You makea the joke with me huh?

Me: Yeah Pop. That was worth \$5.

Pop: I love you guys. Youa maka me laugh. Now leava me alone, I gotta make the Clams Casino. I still no going to giva you the \$5.

continued on page 11



Join Us At A
FREE Bridal Show
The Garrison
& Southern Dutchess News

Sunday, March 13, 2022
Noon – 3pm

The Garrison
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EXHIBITIONS

Art Gallery 71, 71 E. Market St., Rhinebeck. **Through March 6:** Featuring the work of Port Ewen watercolorist Claudia Engel. Gallery members will also exhibit a variety of work during the month. (845) 516-4878, artgallery71rbk@gmail.com or www.artgallery71.com

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through Feb. 25:** Featured in the Hallway Art Gallery at 9 Vassar St. will be Jim Bennett; and at 12 Vassar St. will be Ada Monica Sperling in the Reception Gallery and Brett Gehrke in the Hancock Gallery. **March 1-April 29:** Featured in the Hallway Art Gallery at 9 Vassar St. will be Rachel Arielle Kleinman; and at 12 Vassar St. will be Barbara Masterson in the Reception & Hancock Galleries. **Public Art Opening Reception for Masterson:** Friday, March 4, 4-6 p.m.; and for Kleinman on Friday, March 11, 5-7 p.m. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access to galleries. Visit cunneen-hackett.org for hours and to review the Visitation Safety Protocols. *Pictured, below: "Gentlewomen" by Barbara Masterson*



Trolley Barn Gallery, 489 Main St., Poughkeepsie. **Through Feb. 24:** The Art Effect hosts the youth-curated, international juried exhibition, "Double Take," featuring 43 works of art and unconventional uses of media including: distortions, optical illusions, drawings, double exposure, sculptural installations and more. feelthearteffect.org

That’s Italian!

continued from page 10

Hopefully everyone enjoyed their Super Bowl festivities. I enjoyed the day after. Have fun with this recipe for Pop’s Clams Casino

POP’S CLAMS CASINO

Ingredients

- 12 littleneck clams
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/4 cup grated Parmigiano-Reggiano
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh Italian parsley
- 1/2 cup finely chopped pimientos
- 1/3 cup finely chopped onions
- 1 1/4 cup white wine
- 1/2 cup fresh breadcrumbs
- 3 slices bacon, sliced 1/4 inch wide
- freshly ground black pepper
- lemon wedges, for serving

Preparation

- In a pot, place the clams with about a cup of water and steam until they open up.
- When the clams are cool enough to handle, discard the top shells. Run a clam knife or spoon underneath each clam to loosen it from its bottom shell.
- Melt the butter in an 8-inch skillet

over medium heat. Add the pimentos and onions and Sautee, stirring occasionally, until softened, about 5 minutes. Stir in 1/4 cup of wine and drink the other cup of wine. Cook until the liquid is reduced by half, about 2 minutes. Remove the skillet from the heat and stir in the breadcrumbs, Parmigiano, parsley, and a few grinds of black pepper. (Do not season with salt.)

- Spoon some of the breadcrumb mixture onto each clam. Top each with a piece of bacon strips. Broil the clams until the topping is just browned, about 5 minutes. Serve with the lemon wedges or squeeze the wedges over the clams before serving.

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

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Alyson Pou named to lead Arts Mid-Hudson

Arts Mid-Hudson announced Alyson Pou has been named executive director of the nonprofit devoted to providing vision and leadership to support thriving and diverse arts in the Mid-Hudson Valley. Pou, an artist, arts professional, and advocate, has a passion for innovation and comes to Arts Mid-Hudson with a wealth of knowledge in grantmaking, program development, strategic planning, fundraising, and public relations.

“I am very excited about this announcement” Betsy Carroll, 2021 Arts Mid-Hudson Board Chairperson said. “Alyson brings a very impressive skill set to the organization.” Pou succeeds Linda Marston-Reid, who held the post for a decade, spearheading the expansion of the nonprofit’s service area to include Dutchess, Ulster, and Orange counties.

“I am so pleased and honored to join Arts Mid Hudson’s team and look forward to working with the staff, board, and community to support vibrant and diverse arts in the Mid-Hudson Valley. Through its programs and advocacy, Arts Mid-Hudson embraces creativity and recognizes the vital role of artists in making our culture and economy thrive,” Pou said.

At Creative Capital, a NYC-based national nonprofit organization that provides funding to groundbreaking artists, Pou played a key role in developing the awards program, overseeing awards of more than \$12 million to 242 artists projects, and launching the Artist

Services Program. Based on the success of the Awards program she founded the Professional Development program to provide business and life management skills to artists across the country partnering with more than 100 organizations to serve more than 15,000 artists nationwide.

Pou joins Arts Mid-Hudson from Greene County, where she served as the Director of the Petronio Residency Center, a national residency program for movement-based artists. She holds a master’s degree from Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia in visual arts and criticism and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Tennessee in visual arts and history.

She maintains an active artistic practice and has exhibited and lectured at numerous museums, galleries, art centers, and colleges around the country. Pou’s installations and performances, deeply rooted in storytelling and women’s history, make use of movement, text, and objects to create an immersive visual and theatrical experience. More information at www.AlysonPou.com.



Alyson Pou

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Diversions

SUDOKU

Sudoku requires no arithmetic skills.

The object of the game is to fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers.

Each row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.

Each column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.

Each 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

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

Suguru

	1				
5					3
2					
	3				
			1		
1				5	

The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

ACROSS

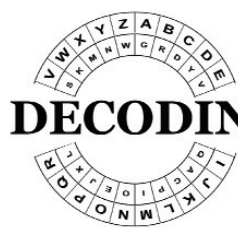
- Purse handle
- Race portions
- Use scythe or sickle
- Time periods
- Greek mountain
- ___ Stanley Gardner
- Nervous
- Foamy waves
- Affirmative
- North American Indian
- Item with a noose
- Blacken on the surface
- Get ready, for short
- Upper room
- Political alliance
- Eur. nation
- Lost
- Midsection
- Nothing
- Kiss ___; perform a centuries-old custom
- Moray or conger
- Like some brick walls
- Refreshing drinks
- Draft board: abbr.
- Clutter
- Natural gift
- Soil
- James Joyce's land
- St. Benedict or St. Bernard
- Completed
- Word with meal or bran
- Principles governing clothing
- Soaring creature
- Hamlet, for one
- "So be it!"
- Eliot's "___ Marner"
- Canonized mlles.
- Fresh
- Lock of hair

DOWN

- Light carriage
- Muscle quality
- Tracks made by wheels
- RRRRR
- Mind
- Closer to the ground
- Late tennis pro
- Greek letter
- Made a lap
- Summary
- Ages
- Setting for "Heidi"
- 100 centavos
- Votes into office
- Long-tailed rodent
- Grump
- Worked at
- Promising
- Entrances
- Residue
- Becomes dizzy
- Causes of distress
- Electrolytic cell part
- Tablecloth fabric
- Holy
- Watch's spot
- Boundaries
- State with confidence
- Yarn
- ___ on; attach
- Stop
- Measured portions
- Occurrence
- Uses a plus sign
- Parents' problem
- Nota ___
- Smelly European river?
- Womanizer's glance
- Word of woe
- d'Urbervilles resident
- Golfer's accessory
- Cockney's abode
- Broadcast

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18				19				
20				21	22					23				
			24					25	26					
27	28	29					30					31	32	33
34						35						36		
37				38	39						40			
41				42							43			
44				45					46	47				
			48					49						
50	51	52				53						54	55	56
57					58	59				60	61			
62					63					64				
65					66					67				

The solutions to both the Sudoko & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 15



www.DCHSNY.org/ddp



Dutchess County
Historical Society

Pomona Grange leads the way in celebrating Washington's Bicentennial

by Melody Moore
DC Historical Society

The third Monday of the month of February, popularly known today as President's Day, was formally established in 1885, but the story of the holiday actually begins in 1800, the year following the death of George Washington.

So revered was the former President that citizens began to observe his birthday as a day of perennial remembrance. The tradition continued as an unofficial observation until 1879 when then President Rutherford B. Hayes made it a Federal holiday for the District of Columbia. Eight years later, the celebration of the birthday of America's first President was expanded to the entire country and was known as Washington's Birthday.

In 1968, as part of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, it became known as President's Day. Today, the holiday is seen as a day to honor the contributions of all Presidents, past and present.

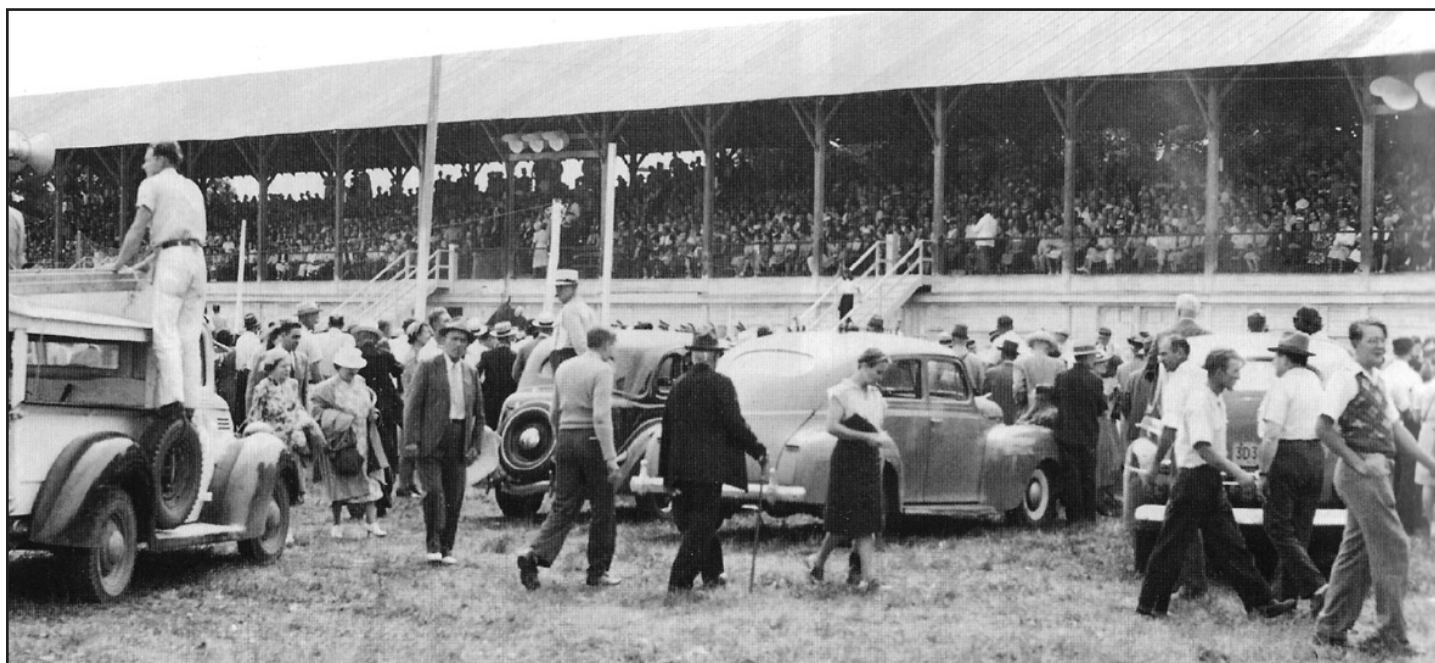
As the 200th anniversary of President Washington's birthday approached, there was a groundswell of interest in local and national celebrations of all kinds to commemorate this significant milestone. On December 2, 1924 President Calvin Coolidge signed a joint resolution that established a commission to oversee the ceremonies, and on February 22, 1927 in a joint session of Congress, the Washington Bicentennial was officially authorized to take place between February 22 and November 24, Thanksgiving Day.

The Commission was to be chaired by the President and included the Vice President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and four members each from the Senate and the House of Representatives. Additional Presidential Commissioners were also appointed.

As the celebratory year kicked off, Herbert Hoover was President and one of the Presidential Commissioners was George Eastman of New York. Representative Sol Bloom, a songwriter from Manhattan, was appointed to oversee the celebrations.

The years between the authorization of the Bicentennial and the 1932 activities and events saw the Commission, under Bloom's leadership, undertake its mission to present Washington on a national, state and local level as a farmer, soldier, and statesman, rather than as the national hero of mythic proportions that had emerged in the years following his death.

To advance their cause, the Commission produced a number of pub-



The pageant would have paraded past this grandstand at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds. Originally located at the Washington Hollow Fairgrounds, it was moved to Rhinebeck in 1926. Photo courtesy of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society

lications intended to provide inspiration and guidance to communities, patriotic societies, educational institutions, organizations, churches, clubs, and businesses – actually anyone who was so inclined – who wanted to sponsor an event. Among the booklets published by the Commission were: *Programs and Papers Portraying the Personality, Character, and Achievements of George Washington*, *Music from the Days of George Washington*, *Suggested Programs for the Nation-wide Celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington*, *Pageants and Plays Depicting the Life of George Washington*, and *George Washington Play and Pageant Costume Book*.

Dutchess celebrations

Dutchess County took up the challenge and starting early in 1932 the Poughkeepsie Eagle-News reported on the various celebrations taking part around the county. On January 18, a Poughkeepsie committee was organized to begin work on Bicentennial activities. John J. Mylod, J. Wilson Poucher and Helen Wilkinson Reynolds represented the Dutchess County Historical Society on the committee.

On the launch day, February 22, a number of churches held Bicentennial services and more than 700 people were in attendance at the 1st Baptist Church in Poughkeepsie. On February 23, employ-

ees of the Hudson River State Hospital hosted a Washington's Bicentennial party and tea dance attended by 300 people.

Later in the month, on February 29, speaking at the Hyde Park M.E. Church to 350 attendees, Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt paid tribute to Washington's outstanding qualities. A little over a month earlier on January 23, Roosevelt had announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

As warmer spring weather arrived, so did outside activities. On May 18, the 8 and 40 Society conducted a tree planting ceremony at the Lown Memorial Garden on College Hill. During the ceremony, a sealed jar containing a parchment inscribed with the names of the Society's members was placed in the ground. Activities continued unabated throughout the remainder of the year.

Pomona Grange event

The first mention of what was perhaps the most ambitious program of the year was in the Eagle-News on March 3, 1932. A one-day mardi gras and get together, sponsored by the Dutchess County Pomona Grange and the Farm Bureau, was being planned for either the Washington Hollow or Rhinebeck Fairgrounds. This Washington Bicentennial event was to include a full day of entertainment and athletics and was to be free to the public.

In keeping with the pageantry craze that swept the country in the early 20th century, the highlight of the day was to be a historical pageant in which various periods in Washington's life were to be acted out on floats. George Halstead was appointed Chairman of the Committee and his sister Ruth Halstead served as the committee's secretary.

The Halstead siblings lived on a farm on Titusville Road in the Town of LaGrange and were well suited for their offices. George, a retired farmer, was a graduate of the Eastman Business College. He was serving as Master of the Pomona Grange at the time of the Bicentennial and at the time of his death, he was the oldest living member of the Poughkeepsie Grange. His sister Ruth was a graduate of Poughkeepsie High School and Vassar College. At her death, she was a 72-year member of the Poughkeepsie Grange and had belonged to both the New York State and National Granges.

With memberships in the Mahawenawisgh Chapter of the DAR, the Dutchess County Historical Society, the

Tuesday Club, the Vassar Poughkeepsie Club and the Oswego Monthly Hicksite Friends Meeting, Ruth was eminently qualified to be secretary, but according to a note left by her brother it was she who planned and directed the pageant presented by the Pomona Grange.

By the end of July, plans for the event were well underway. It had been decided to have it take place at the Rhinebeck fairgrounds on August 11 and all 26 subordinate Grange branches in the county had signed on to participate. The committee, under Ruth's leadership, had chosen to present a pageant that included six episodes and a final tableau.

The materials used to develop the pageant were received from Washington through Hamilton Fish, Jr. Using these materials, Ruth scripted each episode to include at least one tableau and two floats and provided specific directions as to how the floats should be designed and how the participants should be costumed.

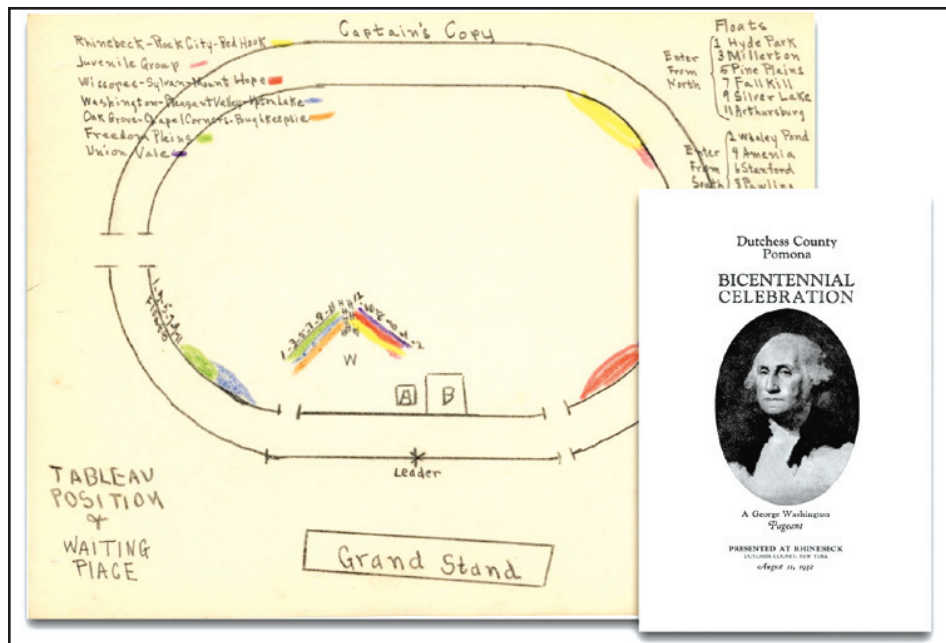
As an example, the third episode, "Washington the Soldier," included two tableaux and four floats and detailed descriptions of the clothing to be worn was taken from the "George Washington Play and Costume Book." Each of the Granges was assigned a specific tableau or float. A surviving sketch done by Ruth shows the tableau position and waiting place for each Grange within the fairgrounds track, and the order in which they would process in front of the grandstand. The final tableau assembled all the actors as they sang "America."

Following the celebration, the Rhinebeck Gazette reported that "The Granges of Dutchess County staged the most spectacular and colorful bicentennial celebration of this locality." According to the newspaper, over 900 people took part in the floats and the pageants.

George Halstead recorded that the sword used by one of the actors was actually used at Bunker Hill and the man who took the part of Washington "Crossing the Delaware" was an actual descendant of one of the men in the boat with Washington at that time.

So all you pageant planners out there, time to get going, only 10 years left until the Washington Tricentennial !!

Melody Moore is a long-standing Board member of DCHS, Chair of its Collections Committee, regular contributor to the DCHS Yearbook, and develops a wide range of programs. More information at www.DCHSNY.org.



The Washington Bicentennial Papers of Ruth Halstead in the DCHS collections include both polished, public-facing materials like the program shown above, and the highly detailed, sketched out executional plans that allowed the massive event to be performed in 1932. Courtesy of DCHS Collections.

'STAR' DEADLINE FOR HOMEOWNERS AGE 65+ COMING MARCH 1

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance is reminding older adult homeowners that, for most localities, the deadline to apply for greater property tax savings through the Enhanced STAR property tax exemption is Tuesday, March 1.

Older adults who receive the STAR credit instead of the STAR exemption are all set. They don't need to apply or take any other action. The Tax Department will automatically upgrade them to Enhanced STAR if they qualify.

To be eligible for the 2022 Enhanced STAR property tax exemption, older adults must:

- currently receive the Basic STAR property tax exemption;
- have one owner of the property who will be at least 65 years of age by Dec. 31, 2022; and
- have had 2020 adjusted gross income equal to or below \$92,000.

More information about eligibility is available at tax.ny.gov/star.

Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller says the state recently sent letters to 27,000 older adults who may be eligible for additional savings. Eligible older adults should apply to their local assessor's office by the application due date, which is March 1 in most towns and some cities, with some exceptions. Older adults should verify their exact due date with their local assessor.

You can find contact information for your local assessor by contacting your local town or city hall, or by visiting www.dutchessny.gov/assessors. If you live in a village in Dutchess County, be aware that all Dutchess villages now use their town's assessment roll for village taxes.

To apply, older adults must provide the following to the assessor:

- Form RP-425-E, Application for Enhanced STAR Exemption
- Form RP-425-IVP, Supplement to Form RP-425-E
- Proof of income: 2020 New York State or federal income tax forms. (If the older adult wasn't required to file an income tax return, the assessor can guide them on how to provide proof of income.)

In 2021, 577,000 older adults received a total of more than \$800 million in savings from the Enhanced STAR property tax exemption. If the older adult is a new homeowner, they may be eligible for the STAR credit. They can find out more from their assessor or from the New York STAR website tax.ny.gov/star.

Older adults who are turning 65 in 2022, meet the other eligibility requirements and are already Basic STAR exemption recipients, should apply to their assessor for the Enhanced STAR exemption. It's a one-time application and won't need to be repeated.

SIGN UP FOR 'A MATTER OF BALANCE' IN POUGHKEEPSIE, FISHKILL

OFA's popular "A Matter of Balance" program is getting ready for a series of in-person classes, which will begin in Poughkeepsie on Monday, March 7. An additional series of "A Matter of Balance" classes is beginning in mid-March in Fishkill. Prospective participants in either class must contact the Office for the Aging at 845-486-2555 to sign up.

Space is limited by social distancing and class size requirements. Specific class locations and times will be disclosed upon acceptance to the program. The classes prohibit walk-in participants. Advance registration is a must!

Fall prevention programs like "A Matter of Balance" have become increasingly essential in recent years for older adults, many of whom have found it difficult to maintain pre-pandemic levels of physical activity. "A Matter of Balance"

is designed to reduce the fear of falling, stop the fear-of-falling cycle, and improve activity levels among older adults living in the community. Go to the following link to read more about "A Matter of Balance" and to find a printable application for prospective participants: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Department/s/Aging/OFA-A-Matter-of-Balance.htm>

OFA 'SUCCESSFUL AGING' PRESENTATION AT CLINTON LIBRARY

OFA Outreach Coordinator Brian Jones is giving a presentation on "Successful Aging" at Clinton Community Library (1215 Centre Road, Rhinebeck/Schultzville) at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 17. For more information, or to book an OFA presentation for your own group of seniors and/or caregivers, call 845-486-2544 or email bjones@dutchessny.gov. We offer a wide range of aging-related topics.

'SPOTLIGHT ON SENIORS' RENAMING CONTINUES

The Spring 2022 issue of OFA's quarterly newsletter will be the last one to carry the title "Spotlight on Seniors." That's because many people in the over-60 age group served by the Office for the Aging don't think of themselves as "seniors," not until they're well into their 70s or even 80s. As older adults, you're the target audience for this newsletter so...what are your ideas for a new title that reflects the many ways you live your lives? Email bjones@dutchessny.gov, or bounce your ideas off the OFA Outreach desk at 845-486-2544.

PHYSICAL THERAPY & ARTHRITIS (Tuesday, 4/26)

Arthritis is a common condition that affects many adults in the United States. According to the Center for Disease Control, about half of all adults 65 or older have been told they have some type of arthritis. Pain due to arthritis can impact daily tasks, but there are resources that can help improve your quality of life.

The Office of the Aging is teaming with Marist Doctorate of Physical Therapy students Lilian Tang and Ksenia Mack for an in-person presentation about how physical therapy can help manage pain for those with arthritis. As students in their third and final year, Lilian and Ksenia will be using their knowledge and experience to cover topics about medication use, nutrition, exercise, and tools to help improve daily living.

Please join us in an informative and fun conversation on Tuesday, April 26th at 10:30 am in the Poughkeepsie friendship center. Space is limited to 20 participants; to reserve your seat, call OFA at 845-486-2555. If you have online access: before the event, please fill out this anonymous survey, which will be returned: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SNMG3TP>

'NAMI IN OUR OWN VOICE' ZOOM PRESENTATION (Fri 3/25)

NAMI Mid-Hudson, the local organization of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, offers its next NAMI In Our Own Voice presentation on Zoom, on Friday, Feb. 25, from 6:30-7:30 pm. The presentation provides insight into what it's like to live with a mental health condition, given by two adults living with mental health conditions. It's a safe place to ask questions, and to gain understanding of this often-misunderstood topic. A registration link is available at www.namimid-hudson.org. Call 845-206-9892 or email contact@namimidhudson.org for more information.

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

Premier Cares Foundation launches prostate cancer support group

It has been announced that Premier Cares Foundation has launched of the Hudson Valley's only prostate cancer support group. The first meeting of this group will be held on Monday, March 14, at 5:30 p.m. at Premier Urology at Eastdale Village, 50 Eastdale Ave. North, in Poughkeepsie. These groups are planned to occur several times throughout the year and will always be offered free of charge. Register at <https://www.premiermedicalhv.com/premier-cares-foundation/prostate-cancer-health-forum-rsvp/>

On March 14, Dr. Evan Goldfischer will facilitate the group. Dr. Goldfischer is a board-certified urologist and fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He graduated from Cornell University Medical College and completed his residency in urology at the University of Chicago and received his MBA from the University of Massachusetts. Dr. Goldfischer serves as the Director of the Research Department at Premier Medical Group, was the recipient of a Health Care Heroes award from Hudson Valley Parent and Hudson Valley Life magazines. He is the founder and Chair of the Board of Premier Cares Foundation.

Prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer for American men and ranks second for cancer-related mortality. One in five American men are affected, and the American Cancer Society estimates that more than 180,000 new cases and 37,000 deaths each year are directly related to prostate cancer. While effective when detected early, the treatments for prostate cancer can be difficult to manage physically, mentally, and emotionally. The consequences of treatment can be embarrassing and scary. This group will provide an opportunity for patients to share their personal experiences and feelings, coping strategies, or firsthand information about prostate cancer and treatments. For many people, a health-related support group like this one may fill a gap between medical treatment and the critical need for emotional support.

Current prostate cancer patients, survivors, and family members are invited to join this engaging health forum. Topics for the group may include advancements in clinical research for prostate cancer; the importance of nutrition, exercise, and a positive mind-set; and how to deal with the side effects of treatment. This event is free and refreshments will be served.

What's happening in March at Clinton Community Library

More information about these events is available at www.clintoncommunitylibrary.org. As always, all are welcome to participate in programs, book clubs, ongoing classes and fun activities for kids.

Adult Programming

- Thomas Cole and the Hudson River School will be Tuesday, 3/1 at 7pm (virtual)
- Cabin Fever Share 'n' Tell Discussion Group meets Monday, 3/7 at 2pm (in person)
- How to Grow Orchids at Home is Thursday, 3/10 at 6pm (virtual)
- Tour the New York Public Library Monday, 3/14 at 7pm (virtual tour)
- Tea Time Book Club meets Thursday, 3/10 at 2pm (virtual)
- Kiss Me I'm Irish Genealogy will be Thursday, 3/17 at 7pm (virtual)
- Global Literature Book Club meets Monday, 3/21 at 7pm (virtual)
- Korean Lotus Lantern Craft will be Tuesday, 3/22 at 7pm (virtual class)
- Mah Jongg meets weekly on Tuesdays at 2pm (in person)
- QiGong with Vince: Ongoing Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30am (virtual)
- All-Level Yoga with Mia: Ongoing

Wednesdays 6pm & Saturdays 10am (virtual)

- Chair Yoga: Ongoing Fridays 3/18 & 3/25 at 11am (in person and virtual)

Children and Teen Programming

- Storytime on the Dot preK storytime Tuesdays at 10:30am
- Story Seekers storytime for K+up Thursday 3/3 at 4pm
- Making Connections storytime for 4+up Thursday 3/10 at 4pm
- Mind Time, a group for school-aged kids who want to build critical thinking skills through games, building projects, and socializing with peers. Meets second and fourth Mondays, 3/14 & 3/28 from 1pm-2pm. Registration required.
- Stay tuned for Battle of the Books high school team-building information out this month!

Most programs require registration. Call the library at 845-266-5530, check the website calendar at www.clintoncommunitylibrary.org, or email clintonlib1215@gmail.com to sign up, or for more information.

Clinton Community Library is located at 1215 Centre Road in Rhinebeck, adjacent to the Clinton Town Hall.

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

ALL LOCAL ~ ALL THE TIME

www.sdutchessnews.com



Members of local Post 625 of the Jewish War Veterans (JWV) of the United States recently celebrated the 125th anniversary of the organization. New York State Senator Sue Serino presented a proclamation to members. The JWV is the oldest active veterans organization in America. Serino declared the event “an important reminder of the incredible sacrifices so many Americans have made throughout the years. May we remain forever grateful for their service and dedication to our country and our community.” From left are Post Officers Ralph Schwartz, Martin Hochhauser, Senator Serino, Post Commander Ron Markowitz and Post Officer Robert L. Morrison, flanked by two of Serino’s aides, one a Naval veteran and the other a member of Marist College ROTC. *Courtesy photo*

Upcoming events at Morton Library

Last Call for Visual Art Talent Show Art Exhibition
Dual Premiere: Friday, Feb. 25
We will have our art opening premiere for the visual component of the Talent Show a week early so that our visual artists can be fully recognized and appreciated. The show will remain up on our walls and online for the month of March.
Contact sandy@mortonrhinecliff.org if you have questions.

Nature Day for Kids with Candace Gallagher
Saturday, Feb. 26, 10 a.m.
Join us down at the Rhinecliff dock as we see what pollinators do in the winter. We will be painting rocks with inspirational messages of love which will ring our milkweed plantings of last fall. Just because it’s winter doesn’t mean there aren’t many signs of life. Candace Gallagher of the Pollinator Patrol Club will share her knowledge of plant and animal life in the winter.
Dress appropriately for the weather.
If the weather is too inclement we will meet in Morton Hall for activities.

Mid-Hudson Classical Guitar Society
Terry Champlin, guitar & Kati Garcia-Renart, dance
Sunday, Feb. 27, 3 p.m.
Kati Garci-Renart and her father, Luis, well known cellist and conductor, decided to unite the two seemingly dissimilar art forms they loved most - Flamenco and the cello (specifically Bach). As much of Bach’s music is in dance forms, and both styles share strong rhythms and melodies, the combination was not as farfetched as it seemed. With the death of Luis, his student Terry Champlin had the honor of stepping in for Luis with an adaptation of Bach’s 2nd Cello Suite. Both Kati and Terry perform in memory of Luis Garci-Renart.
Admission: \$10 at the door
Mask and proof of vaccination required.

For more information, visit www.mhcgcs.blogspot.com or email mid-hudsoncgcs@gmail.com.

Call for Talent: “Morton Community Talent Show”
Friday, March 4, 7 p.m. (online)
Now’s the time of year to dust off your talents! We are heading into our 13th annual talent show: an evening of jokes, bands, storytelling, guitar playing, dance, opera — you name it, if it’s your talent we want to see it. So please use your imaginations and share your immense variety of talents with our community. This show and our community are all about enjoyment and camaraderie — never judgment!
Contact Sandy if you are interested in participating: sandy@mortonrhinecliff.org.
This year we will need you to record your performance and send it in by Feb. 19 at the latest so that we can create an incredible evening.

Open Call for Mural Artists
Submissions due by March 1
Our goal is for a mural (along the wall adjacent to the library) that captures the essence of the Rhinecliff community, and, if possible, invite residents to help create it in some way—be it through direct participation, collecting materials, or other forms of working with you. If that sounds interesting, we’d love to receive your proposal.
Submissions due by March 1, 2022
Budget: \$4000 to cover materials and time
Include: Timeline, budget and portfolio as well as a few sentences sharing your conceptual narrative plus an informal sketch of your vision
Send your proposal to: sandy@mortonrhinecliff.org
The winning submission will be chosen by the Morton Memorial Library and announced by April 15. The mural should be completed by Oct. 15.

Registration now open for the 2022 Institute for Trustees

For the second year, Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation will join Essex County Community Foundation in presenting the Institute for Trustees, an annual conference inviting nonprofit leaders to gather virtually for educational workshops and networking opportunities. The event is open to local board members and executive directors from northeast Dutchess, Columbia, northwest Litchfield and Berkshire counties.

The IFT kicks off on April 11 with a keynote address by Dr. Kenann McKenzie, director of the Generous Listening and Dialogue Center at Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University. The Center, opened in the spring of 2021, serves as a hub and educational resource for the Tufts community to promote authentic dialogue and generous listening across differences.

Participants can sign up for any number of 25 total workshops — taking place from April 12 to May 26 — that will cover topics ranging from strategic planning and fundraising to diversity and board development.

To register for and learn more about the 2022 IFT, visit eccf.org/ift. Registrations will be accepted at a discounted early bird rate of \$110 until March 11. After that, registration will cost \$130. Full board registration is available for \$500.

A sample of planned workshops includes:

- Creating a Diverse Board of

Directors with Gail Fortes, YWCA of Southeastern Massachusetts;

- Courageous Conversations with Jermaine Moore, The Mars Hill Group;
- Same Storm, Different Boats: Navigating Financial Concerns in a Post-COVID World with James Matzdorff, Cohn Reznick LLP;

• Mapping the Future: Equitable and Inclusive Strategic Planning with Molly Penn and Marita Phelps, PENN Creative Strategy;

• How to be a Supportive Leader in a Difficult Time with Sarah Carlan, MSW, SWC Consulting;

• Funders are Evolving, Too: How Can You Meet Them Where They Are? with Phyllis Corkum and Alex McCray, Philanthropy Massachusetts.

The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts in Springfield, Mass., and SouthCoast Community Foundation in New Bedford, Mass., have joined Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation and Essex County Community Foundation in presenting the 2022 event.

“We are pleased to expand the power and reach of this exceptional learning and networking opportunity for nonprofit board leaders around the region,” said Peter Taylor, president of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. “Coming together to explore common challenges and promising solutions with sector experts is critical for effective leadership in uncertain times.”

VETERANS CORNER - NEWS YOU CAN USE

MHA of Dutchess County Vet2Vet Support Group set

MHA of Dutchess County Vet2Vet Support Group will hold its next meeting on Feb. 23, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at 515 Haight Avenue in Poughkeepsie. Masks and social distancing are required.

These groups serve as an outlet for veterans to discuss with peers their opinions, challenges, successes and anything else in order to regain balance in their lives. The groups are free, confidential and judgement free. They are open to all veterans despite discharge type, time in services or period of service. Active & Inactive and National Guard members are welcome as well. RSVP is required.

For more information, call (845) 473-2500, ext. 1306 or 1307 or 1365.

New hours for VA clinic

VA Hudson Valley Health Care System (VA HVHCS) has permanently changed its Castle Point Urgent Care Clinic operating hours. The new clinic hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends and holidays.

This change supports the difference between the VA HVHCS Urgent Care Clinics and a full Emergency Department. It will ensure Veterans access the right level of care at the right time and eliminate any delay in care for

critical medical issues.

For routine office visits and medication requests or refills, please continue to seek treatment from your Primary Care Provider. If you have a condition that cannot wait for a Primary Care appointment, please call the 24/7 VA Health Connect at 1-800-877-6976.

If you experience life-threatening symptoms, you are urged to call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest emergency room for care.

VA Hudson Valley's Walk-in COVID-19 vaccine clinics offering boosters

The VA Hudson Valley Health Care System is now providing booster shots for Moderna, and J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccines to eligible veterans, as supply and capacity permits.

For people who received a Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine, booster shots are recommended for those who are 18 and older and who were vaccinated at least two months ago.

The VA Hudson Valley Health Care System is administering Moderna and J&J/Janssen COVID-19 booster shots at the following times and locations:

CASTLE POINT VA MEDICAL CENTER

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Multipurpose Room, Bldg. 19, Room 100

MONTROSE, FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT HOSPITAL: Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Social Hall, Bldg. 15, Room 16

VA Hudson Valley Community Clinics are by appointment only. Eligible veterans can also call (845) 831-2000, ext. 217666, to schedule an appointment for their booster shot. Scheduling staff will assist in getting a convenient time for them.

Individuals can also receive their booster shot at no cost outside of VA by locating a vaccine site at [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) - Search for COVID-19 vaccine locations. They’ll need to bring their CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card for their appointment.

For more information about the status of vaccination throughout Dutchess County, visit DutchessNY.gov/COVIDvaccine.

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

Suguru solution					
3	1	2	5	2	1
5	4	3	1	4	3
2	1	5	2	5	2
4	3	4	3	4	1
2	5	2	1	2	3
1	4	3	4	5	1

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

SUDOKU												
This week's answer												
8	9	1	3	4	2	6	5	7				
2	3	7	6	5	8	1	9	4				
4	5	6	7	1	9	8	2	3				
5	2	3	9	8	4	7	1	6				
9	7	4	1	6	3	2	8	5				
6	1	8	2	7	5	3	4	9				
7	4	2	8	9	6	5	3	1				
3	6	9	5	2	1	4	7	8				
1	8	5	4	3	7	9	6	2				

OBITUARIES

Richard James Birdsall

LAGRANGEVILLE – Richard James Birdsall, aged 55, a resident of the Town of Lagrangeville, N.Y. for over 30 years and formerly of Mount Kisco, N.Y. died on January 31, 2022 at Vassar Brothers Hospital in the City of Poughkeepsie, N.Y due to complications of COVID. Born in New York, N.Y. on March 26, 1966, he was the son of Zita C. Birdsall Hidrovo and the late James R. Birdsall of the Town of Lagrangeville, N.Y. He was proudly self-employed, a Mechanical Engineer by trade. Rich, or Ricky as his childhood friends called him, had an uncanny ability to create something from nothing where the only tools he needed was his imagination and time. Rich had semi-retired to live and work on the family property upon our Father’s passing. Internet savvy, he promoted several business interests via social networks later in life including his online Ministry. A dog lover since childhood, he had unbounded adoration of all living things. Sacrificing himself for the benefit of others, Rick was known for encouraging the best in all that surrounded him. He was a man of strong will and even stronger faith. He loved Jesus but most of all, he loved his family. He is survived by his mother, Zita C. Birdsall of the Town of Lagrangeville, N.Y. and his two younger brothers, Jack G. Birdsall of Brooklyn, N.Y., Edward R. Birdsall of Brewster, N.Y., and his loving nephew Dylan J. Birdsall of Brewster, N.Y. Calling hours were held on Saturday February 19 at the Hopewell Reformed Church, 143 Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction, N.Y., a funeral service was held with interment at the Hopewell Cemetery onsite alongside his Father.

Donald H. Cookingham

HYDE PARK – Donald Cookingham, 66 entered into eternal peace on February 11, 2022, in Hyde Park, NY. “Don, Donny, Mr. C.” was a beloved Son, Father, Brother, Uncle, Mentor and Friend. Born on April 13th, 1955, to Carolyn B. Cookingham Donald C. Cookingham. He was a lifelong resident of Staatsburg, NY. Donald retired as Service Manager for Fire Apparatus Repairs at Nichols Oxygen Service, Hyde Park, NY. A lifelong member of the West Clinton Fire Department, Donald served as Past Chief and Commissioner. He was an active member of the Dutchess County Chiefs Association, The Dutchess County Fire and Safety Board, and the Firemen’s Association of the State of New York. Donald was an alumni, active leader and mentor for many years with the Dutchess County 4H Program and Kids for Kids Dairy Goat Club. Donald is survived by his mother Carolyn, Mary Ellen Sullivan, daughter Carolyn (Brenan) May and son Christopher Cookingham (Mica Cline). His sisters Sally (David) Graybill and Betty McGlashan as well as 7 nephews, 7 nieces, 3 great nephews and 7 great nieces. As well as his herd of well-loved 4H goats. Donald is preceded in death by his father Donald as well as his daughter Jesse DuBois. A visitation service took place on Thursday, February 17 from at the West Clinton Fire Station #1, with a fireman’s service. There, his family honored the life of service which he led to his family, friends, and community. Please send all flower donations to West Clinton Fire Department 219 Hollow

Rd. Staatsburg, NY 12580, and any monetary donations in his direct honor to the 4H Goat Advisory in care of Sally Graybill at 48 Red Cedar Lane, Staatsburg, NY 12580. In honor of Donald Cookingham, support your local volunteer fire department, your local agricultural community as well as The Dutchess County 4H program in any way you can. Arrangements have been entrusted to Joseph J. Darrow Sr. Funeral Home, Inc. 39 So. Hamilton St. Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. To send online condolences, please visit our website www.darrowfuneralhome.org.

Charles Kelly

STORMVILLE – Charles George Kelly, 101, died on February 15, 2022 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. A resident of Stormville, NY since 2013, he previously lived in Connecticut. Born in New Haven, CT on March 28, 1920, George was the son of the late Charles and Rose (Messore) Kelly. He proudly served in the US Air Force during WWII. He was employed as a line and type operator for Nortype in Norwalk, CT until his retirement. George was an avid golfer who met his wife on the golf course. On May 16, 1959 At St. Mary’s Church in Milford, CT, George married Janeth A. (Austin) Kelly who survives at home. He is also survived by his sons and their wives, John and Lora Kelly of Stormville, NY and G. Christopher and Michelle Kelly of Katonah, NY; his grandchildren, Caitlyn, Sarah, Zachary, Mikayla, Mia and Casey; and his great-grandson, Hunter Austin. Visitation was held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction, NY. A funeral service was held followed by military honors. Please visit George’s Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Alfred E. Losee, Sr.

PLEASANT VALLEY - Alfred E. Losee, Sr., 76, of Pleasant Valley, NY, passed away February 14, 2022 at Fishkill Center for Rehabilitation in Beacon, NY. He was born July 27, 1945, the son of Edward and Bertha Sterling Losee. Alfred married the love of his life, Mildred Daniels on November 10, 1963 in Poughkeepsie, NY. He was the Head Mechanic at the City of Poughkeepsie Water Treatment Facility. Alfred was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was an avid New York Yankees and Buffalo Bills fan that loved doing Cashword Doublers. Alfred is survived by his loving wife, Mildred Losee, of Pleasant Valley, NY, his son Alfred Losee Jr. and his wife Michelle, of Red Hook, NY and his daughter Judy Lee and her husband John Sr. of Pleasant Valley, NY. He is also survived by his brother Thomas Losee and his wife Carol, of New Paltz, NY, his grandchildren Marissa and Jack Losee, Nicole, John Jr., and Jason Lee, great-grandchildren John Lee III, Brianna Robinson, Aries, Ever and Onyx Loyola. Survivors also include several nieces and nephews. Alfred was predeceased by his 2 brothers and 2 sisters. Arrangements are under the direction of the Wm. G. Miller & Son FH, Inc.

Valerie Z. Lamoree

PLEASANT VALLEY – Valerie Z. Lamoree, of Pleasant Valley, NY passed away on Monday, February 14, 2022 at Wingate at Dutchess in Fishkill, NY at the age of 70. She was born on July 21, 1951 in Poughkeepsie,

NY to the late Frank and Zina DeRosa. Valerie was a 1969 graduate of Arlington High School and of the Rockland State School of Nursing in 1972. She worked for many years at St. Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie, NY. In 1976, Valerie married the love of her life, Gordon and together they shared 42 years of marriage. Gordon predeceased her on December 25, 2018. Valerie is survived by her step-children, Irene (Eric) Bidmead of PA, Michael Lamoree of NY, James (Meaghan) Lamoree of FL, Margaret (Doug) Gould of FL, Richard (Janet) Lamoree of AZ, many step-grandchildren, step-great grandchildren, her sister Debra (Dennis) Cook of MD, her brother Vincent (Agnes) DeRosa of NY, step-sister Francine Starkens of WA, step-brothers Ken DeRosa, of NY, Gary (Carol) DeRosa of MI, step-mother Joyce Savoie of MI and cousins, Roxanne (James) Tedeschi of NY and Lucia (James) Pietras of NY. Calling hours were Thursday, February 17, 2022 at the Timothy P. Doyle Funeral Home, Inc. 371 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. A Graveside Service was held on Friday, February 18, 2022 at Union Cemetery, Hyde Park, NY. To send an online condolence, please visit our website at www.doylefuneralhome.com.

Edward Olson

SALT POINT – It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Edward Olson of Salt Point, New York, who passed away on February 10, 2022, at the age of 73, leaving to mourn family and friends. Leave a sympathy message to the family in the guestbook on this memorial page of Edward Olson to show support. He was predeceased by : his parents, Oscar Olson and Shirley Zwirz; and his brother John Olson. He is survived by : his wife Laurie Medick Olson; his children, Tim Olson (Amanda Friedrich) of Clinton Corners, Amy Pedrero (Louis) of Campbell Hall, Jennifer Strang (Allen) of Pleasant Valley and Jason Seaman (Alysia) of Beacon Falls, CT; and his grandchildren, Clara, Schuyler, Eliana, Annmarie, Julia, Victoria and David. Visitation was held on Saturday, February 19th 2022 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the East Clinton Firehouse (9 Firehouse Ln, Clinton Corners, NY 12514). A funeral service was held on Sunday, February 20th 2022 at 1:00 PM and at 5:00 PM at the Lyall Memorial Federated Church (30 Maple Ave, Millbrook, NY 12545). In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Clinton Volunteer Fire Department in Ed's honor.

Denis Rancourt

POUGHQUAG – Denis J. Rancourt, 80, died peacefully at home on February 14, 2022 surrounded by his family. Born in Canada on July 2, 1941, Denis was the son of the late Eugene and Florence (Champagne) Rancourt. He was the first member of the Rancourt family to immigrate to the United States in 1966. Denis had a 50 plus year career in the logging and land clearing industry, most notably as owner and operator of Rancourt Land Clearing in Poughquag. Denis was a parishioner at St. Denis Church in Hopewell Junction where he volunteered and served as an usher for many years. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus #4065 in Fishkill and a life member of the Beekman Fire Department. Most of all, he loved his family

and enjoyed spending time with them. He is survived by his wife, Liette (Carrier) Rancourt at home; his children, Lucie Rancourt of Arlington, MA, Tania Morelli and her husband Tony of North Wales, PA, and Peter Rancourt and his wife Rachael of Hopewell Junction; his grandchildren, Theodore, Mathieu, Luke, Bennett, Monica, Lianna, Frankie, Peter Jr., and Ryan; his siblings and their spouses, Julien (Solange) Rancourt, Jacques (Andrees) Rancourt, Elie (Christine) Rancourt, Richard (Gisele) Rancourt, Guy (Lucille) Rancourt, Michel (Alice) Rancourt, and Odette (Daniel) Rancourt; his sister-in-law, Agathe Rodrigue; his brother-in-law, Gauthier (Laurier); and many nieces and nephews. IN addition to his parents, Denis was also predeceased by his siblings, Romuald Rancourt and Francine Rancourt. Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered at St. Denis Church, 602 Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction followed by burial at St. Denis Cemetery. Donations may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice. Please visit Denis’ Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Lillian Veronica Sexton

RHINEBECK – Lillian Veronica Sexton, 93, passed away peacefully on February 14, 2022. Born on August 30, 1928, in Philadelphia, PA, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Olga (Urnis) Sullivan. Lillian graduated from Little Flower High School in Philadelphia. She married the late James J. Sexton in 1950. Before retirement, she worked as an Activities Director at the Senator Nursing Home in Atlantic City. Over her lifetime, she had homes in New Jersey, Florida and New York. Lillian was a self-taught artist and enjoyed painting and crafts throughout her life. She loved nature, her beloved birds and pets, and had a passion for cooking and baking — most notably her signature apple, blueberry and key lime pies. Lillian was devoted to family, and often said her greatest achievement was raising a family. Lillian is survived by her four children, Michael Sexton (Christy Price Sexton), Brian Sexton (Charlotte Sentenari Sexton), Patricia Sexton (Peter Muste), and James Sexton (Hope Fitzgerald); her grandchildren Paul, Riley, John, Lily and Kathryn. Her oldest grandson, Brian Jr., passed away in 2020. There are no calling hours. Arrangements are under the direction of the Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, Rhinebeck, NY. Services are private and at the convenience of the family. Memorial donations in honor of Lillian can be made to Hudson Valley Hospice. To send an online condolence, please visit www.dapsonchestney.com.

Jo Ann Wilkinson

HYDE PARK – Jo Ann Wilkinson, 79, a longtime resident of Hyde Park, died peacefully on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at the Renaissance Rehab. & Nursing Care Center in Staatsburg. Born July 29, 1942, in Poughkeepsie, she was the daughter of August T. and Martha Dolfinger Zahn. A graduate of Poughkeepsie High School, she worked at IBM, East Fishkill, for many years. After IBM, she worked for Hudson Valley Mental Health in Rhinebeck until her retire-

continued on page 19



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<p>Notice to Contiguous Neighbors / Public Hearing Notice Town of Union Vale</p> <p>Notice of Public Hearing ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS</p> <p>MARCH 1, 2022</p> <p>The Town of Union Vale ZONING BOARD shall conduct a Public hearing on TUESDAY MARCH 1ST at 7:35 p.m. Via ZOOM on the application of "PETER RODRIGUES for an AREA VARIANCE for a PROPOSED DETACHED GARAGE located at 15 LIBERTY WAY LAGRANGEVILLE NY 12540. PARCEL # 6660-00-728306"</p> <p>All those having an interest in the Application will be given an opportunity to be heard at the Public Hearing and may also submit comments in writing to Emily Cole, Zoning Board Clerk, not later than NOON hour on MARCH 1ST . The Application, including site plan and architectural drawings, may in the interim be examined at the Town Hall during normal business hours.</p> <p>To participate in the public hearing on ZOOM please contact the Union Vale Land Use Secretary @ PBZBA@UNIONVALE-NY.US to receive an emailed invite to watch and to submit your name in order to be called upon to be heard.</p>	<p>Designation of Venue is based upon the situs of the Subject Property</p> <p>Subject Property: 9 Greenbush Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601</p> <p>U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Structured Asset Investment Loan Trust Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-1, Plaintiff,</p> <p>-against- Ronald Eutsey a/k/a Ronald V. Eutsey, if he be living or dead, his spouse, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors in interest, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to Plaintiff; Karen Eutsey a/k/a Karen A. Eutsey "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the Subject Property described in the Complaint, State of New York; Defendants.</p> <p>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, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York) in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to</p>	<p>answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until sixty (60) days after service of the Summons; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint.</p> <p>TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Hal B. Greenwald, a Justice of the Supreme Court, Dutchess County, dated Feb. 10, 2022 and filed with the complaint and other papers in the Dutchess County Clerk's Office.</p> <p>THE OBJECT OF THE ACTION is to foreclose a mortgage recorded in the Public Records of the County of Dutchess on Dec. 5, 2005 at Document Number 01 2005 23608, covering premises known as 9 Greenbush Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 a/k/a Section 6163, Block 4, Lot 504451.</p> <p>NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSNG YOUR HOME</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.</p> <p>YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF</p>	<p>THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FLING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.</p> <p>Dated: September 21, 2021</p> <p>Rochester, NY</p> <p>LOGS Legal Group LLP f/k/a Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff</p> <p>175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624</p> <p>Telephone: (585) 247-9000</p> <p>File No. 20-087516 #99185</p>	<p>The Washington Hollow Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 7:00 PM at Town Hall, 10 Reservoir Drive, Millbrook NY, 12545.</p>	<p>TOWN OF FISHKILL PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>LANDS OF CHARLES & KATHLEEN BROWNELL TWO (2) LOT SUBDIVISION</p> <p>PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Chapter 132-12G of the Code of the Town of Fishkill, that the Planning Board of the Town of Fishkill will hold a Public Hearing at the Town Hall in the Francois R. Cross meeting room located in the lobby of the Town of Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill, NY on Thursday, March 10, 2022 commencing at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as possible, in the matter of an Applicant's request to subdivide a 7.6-acre parcel into two (2) lots. Lot 1 will consist of 6.33 acres and contains an existing residence and Lot 2 will consist of 1.27 acres. A three (3) bedroom two-story single-family dwelling is proposed to be constructed on Lot 2 with minimal site disturbance. The parcel for this</p>	<p>proposal is identified as Tax Map Parcel No.: 6155-03-181469, is located at 149 Old Glenham Road in the R-20 Zoning District. All interested persons will be heard by the Planning Board of the Town of Fishkill at the public hearing to be held as aforesaid. For any persons unable to attend the public hearing, email comments may be submitted in advance to dcolonna@fishkill-ny.gov.</p> <p>BY ORDER OF THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE TOWN OF FISHKILL, NEW YORK</p> <p>Debbie Colonna, Planning Board Secretary</p>	<p>TOWN OF FISHKILL PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>VAN WYCK MEWS AMENDED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN</p> <p>PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Chapter 150-97.B. of the Code of the Town of Fishkill, that the Planning Board of the Town of Fishkill will hold a Public Hearing at the Town Hall in the Francois R. Cross meeting room located in the lobby of the Town of Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill, NY on Thursday, March 10, 2022 commencing at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, in the matter of an Applicant's request for a Site Development Plan Amendment for the final phase of construction of Van Wyck Mews. The Planning Board of the Town of Fishkill granted an approval in 2006 for the construction of 337 units in 19 buildings, 20 units per building. Nine (9) of the buildings containing 175 units have been constructed. The Applicant is seeking to amend the 2006 Site Development Plan</p>	<p>approval by reducing the overall unit count for the project and by changing the style of the building to be constructed. The original Building No. 10, containing 20 units is proposed to be constructed in the same location as previously approved. The remaining units are proposed to be constructed utilizing "townhome" style units with five (5) units per building, three (3) bedrooms per unit for a total of 113 units. A total of 133 units are proposed (20 in the larger style building and 113 in the "townhome" style units). Combined with the 175 previously constructed units the total proposed unit count shall be reduced to 308 units where 337 units were previously approved. As a result of the proposed unit style change there is a net reduction in the impervious surfaces proposed. The parcels for this proposal are located on the southern side of Merritt Boulevard and the northern side of Bennington Drive, are identified as Tax Map Parcel Nos: 6256-00-833123, consisting of 17.9 acres and Tax Map Parcel No.: 6256-00-791048 and both parcels are in the RMF-5 Zoning District.</p> <p>All interested persons will be heard by the Planning Board of the Town of Fishkill at the public hearing to be held as aforesaid. For any persons unable to attend the public hearing, email comments may be submitted in advance to dcolonna@fishkill-ny.gov.</p> <p>By Order of the Planning Board</p> <p>Of the Town of Fishkill, New York</p> <p>Debbie Colonna, Planning Board Secretary</p>

COLLEGE NOTES

<p>ONEONTA, NY — A total of 1,411 SUNY Oneonta students earned Dean’s List honors for the fall 2021 semester, including the following local students:</p> <p>Peyten-Michele Duncan of Hyde Park - Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science;</p> <p>Erika Liguori of Hyde Park - Bachelor of Science in Biology;</p> <p>Colby Whalen of Millbrook - Bachelor of Science in Business Economics Sport Management;</p> <p>Chloe Eckler of Pleasant Valley - Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood/Childhood Education (B-6);</p> <p>Karli Leinweaver of Pleasant Valley - Bachelor of Arts in Music Industry;</p> <p>Victoria Reichert of Pleasant Valley - Bachelor of Science in Adolescence Education: Social Studies.</p> <p>To qualify for the Dean’s List, a student must earn a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher while carrying a course load of 12 hours or more.</p>	<p>CAZENOVIA, NY — Lion Vega of Pine Plains was named to the Cazenovia College Dean’s List for the Fall 2021 semester. Those named to the Dean’s List have achieved a 3.5 or better grade point average.</p>	<p>TAMPA, FL — The University of Tampa hosted a commencement ceremony on Friday, Dec. 17 to honor the 1,063 degree-seeking candidates at the University’s 153rd commencement. The event was attended by the students, their family members and friends, UT faculty and staff members, and the general public. Local graduates included:</p> <p>Anna Anderson of Dover Plains, who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology BS.</p> <p>Alexis Denaut of Dutchess Count, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in International Business and Entrepreneurship BS.</p> <p>Katie Diesing of Dutchess County graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics BS.</p>	<p>SOUTH ORANGE, NJ — Seton Hall University is pleased to announce the following students who qualified for the Fall 2021 Dean’s list and to congratulate them for their outstanding academic achievements.</p> <p>The following local students awarded Dean’s List: Sher Khan of Stormville, Blaise Suozzi of Poughkeepsie and Andrew Tiess of Lagrangeville.</p>	<p>BURLINGTON, VT — Champlain College is pleased to announce that Jonah Goverman of Stormville recently graduated from Champlain College after the fall 2021 semester.</p> <p>Goverman was one of 273 students who completed their degree requirements and received their diploma at this time. Goverman completed a Master of Science degree in Information Security.</p>	<p>NORTHFIELD, VT - John William Cox of Lagrangeville was recognized on the President’s List at Norwich University for the Fall 2021 semester.</p> <p>Full-time undergraduate students, who earned a semester grade point average of 4.0 are awarded President’s List honors.</p>	<p>ITHACA, NY — Ithaca College congratulates students named to the Dean’s List for the fall 2021 semester. Local students include:</p> <p>Lily Babcock of Staatsburg, Harris Billeci of Tivoli and Kate Drickel of Staatsburg.</p>	<p>STATESBORO, GA — Georgia Southern University recently recognized approximately 3,420 students on the Fall 2021 Dean’s List. Shayla Snow of Red Hook has been named to the list for excellence in academics.</p> <p>To be eligible for the Dean’s List, a student must have at least a 3.5 grade point average and carry a minimum of 12 hours for the semester.</p>	<p>SPOKANE, WA (February 4, 2022) - Frankie Ljucovic of Millbrook earned placement on the Gonzaga University Dean’s List for fall semester 2021. Students must earn a 3.5 to 3.84 grade-point average to be listed.</p>	<p>TAMPA, FL — The University of Tampa has honored 2,056 students who were named to the dean’s list for the Fall 2021 semester. Local students include:</p> <p>Erin Robin of Pleasant Valley. Robin is majoring in Communication, Media and Culture BA.</p> <p>Jennifer Martin of Pine Plains. Martin is majoring in Psychology BS.</p> <p>Students must maintain a GPA of 3.75 or higher to be eligible for the dean’s list.</p>	<p>DURHAM, NH — The following students have been named to the Dean’s List at the University of New Hampshire for the fall 2021 semester: Hannah Brown of Millbrook (Honors), Reid Signet of Rhinebeck (High Honors) and Sierra Dahl of Rhinebeck (Highest Honors).</p> <p><i>continued on page 20</i></p>
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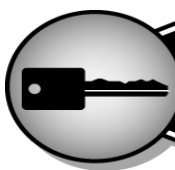
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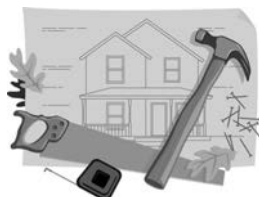
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OBITUARIES

continued from page 16

ment in 2012. On May 1, 1960, in Peekskill, she married James Harold Wilkinson. Her husband predeceased her on June 23, 2006. Family was important to Jo Ann, and she enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. Survivors include her two sons, James T. Wilkinson Sr. of Milan, and Brian M. Wilkinson of Hyde Park; two grandchildren, James T. Wilkinson Jr. of Red Hook, and Erica

Wilkinson of Milan; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she was predeceased by her son, Terence J. Wilkinson in 1986, and sister, Geraldine Zahn Vincent, and her husband, Delmar Slater Vincent. In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place and her ashes will be buried privately in the family plot in Riverside Cemetery, Coxsackie, NY. Jo Ann's family respectfully requests memorial

donations to the Alzheimer's Association, 2649 South Road, Suite 101, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 (www.alz.org), or, the American Cancer Society, 1 Penny Lane, Latham, NY 12110 (www.cancer.org). Arrangements are under the direction of Sweet's Funeral Home, Hyde Park. To send an online condolence, please visit Jo Ann's obituary page at www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

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