

# Like the show, 'life must go on' for retiring Lou Trapani

Love of theater created inspiration

By Jim Donick

Lou Trapani, the man who may have done more than anyone to shape and foster the regional theater landscape of the Hudson Valley, is retiring from his role as Artistic and Managing Director of The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck.

In the early 1990s, he came up to Dutchess County from an Off-Broadway career in New York City. He had roles there with many of the major Off-Broadway groups: Joe Papp's Public Theater, the Circle in the Square, Roundabout Theatre Company, and most of the others.

"I enjoyed acting," he said, "but I thought I wanted to direct ... and from there it made sense that the only way to control the productions to match my vision was to produce them as well."

At that point he was writing some of his own plays and working a full-time job.

"I was using a third of my income to live and the other two-thirds to produce my plays," he recalls. That business model only goes so far, so life brought him to Dutchess County.

In the mid-1990s, The Center - nearly new - was working out of a tent. Lou was a member for a couple of years with the Rhinebeck Theatre Society. That all changed after the Center's Theater was built.

"I was only peripherally involved," he said. "Then there was a big production coming very

soon. The building inspectors were about to close the place down due to several pages of physical problems or infractions. I agreed to come in and get it together. We had two weeks - I think."

The show, which was a concert by Donovan Leitch, opened on time. That was in late '98. By spring of '99, Lou Trapani was a permanent fixture at The Center. He started as Artistic and Managing Director.

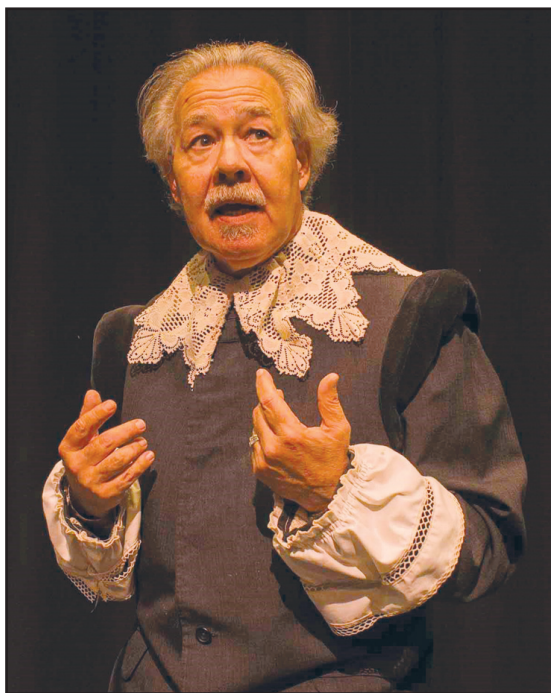
### Theatre challenges

The story of The Center's growth and development moved forward from there, though not without a few bumps in the road. Much like newspapers of late, money to keep the place running was an ongoing issue.

There were and still are a number of important collaborators, who, together, kept it moving: Andy Weintraub, Jim Klosty, Richard Prouse, Ellen Honig, and later the inspirational though now sadly deceased, Kevin Archambault. There have been many others as well.

"We've come a long way," muses Trapani. "Our Globe

*continued on page 3*



Right: Lou Trapani, long time managing director of The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, spent a few minutes with us recently looking back on his leadership of The Center and the creative challenges and pleasures of that role. Photo by Jim Donick. As well as leading The Center, Trapani played countless roles on the stage there in everything from musicals to comedy to serious drama and even Shakespearian productions. Above, he pulled nearly every possibility together and took on the role of William Shakespeare, himself, arguably the father of modern drama. Courtesy photo

## New DA Parisi selects Brady as Chief Assistant District Attorney

New Dutchess County District Attorney, Anthony P. Parisi, has announced that he has chosen Michael W. Brady to fill the position of Chief Assistant District Attorney.

Parisi's opponent in the race for District Attorney and current Chief Assistant, Matthew A. Weishaupt, retired at the end of 2023. Parisi is excited to welcome Brady back to the District Attorney's office.

Parisi said "it is imperative to bring the right people into the DA's office as we move towards a new era in the Dutchess County District Attorney's Office; one of improvement, collaboration, efficiency, justice, and fairness."

Brady was born and raised in Dutchess County and currently resides in Poughkeepsie with his wife, Kelly Brady, Esq, a partner at Brooke, Brady & Schopfer, LLP and their daughter.

Michael Brady is currently serving as the Principal Law Clerk to the Honorable Jessica Z. Segal, Dutchess County Court Judge and has held that position since June of 2021. Mr. Brady previously served 8 years as a Dutchess County Public Defender and approximately 8 years as a Senior Assistant District Attorney from 2013 until 2021 when he left to become Judge Segal's law clerk. Mr. Brady has also served as an Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of

Poughkeepsie and a private criminal defense attorney.

Brady stated that he is "honored and enthusiastic to return to the DA's office under Parisi's leadership. I fully support and join in his focus on public safety, accountability, integrity, transparency, and the modernization of the DA's Office. I look forward to assisting our next District Attorney in implementing intelligence led policing/prosecution in Dutchess County to combat crime effectively and efficiently, while simultaneously building trust between law enforcement and the communities we serve."

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# Dutchess County announces nearly \$2M in Agency Partner Grant awards

Grants totaling \$1.98 million have been awarded for 32 programs through Dutchess County's 2024 Agency Partner Grant (APG) Program, which provides funding opportunities for local 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations on a biennial basis through a competitive grant process based on an organization's ability to demonstrate they fulfill an unmet community need. In addition to \$1.5 million in grants awarded under the traditional APG program, an additional \$484,880 in funds from the Department of Community and Family Services and the Department of Behavioral and Community Health were awarded through the APG competitive grant process to ensure critical services and programs are administered. Entering its 12th year, the APG Program provides vital support to strengthen local communities by funding youth development, homeless prevention, workforce development, mental health and wellness, and literacy programs, among other critical needs.

Projects funded through the 2024 Agency Partner Grant Program include:

Anderson Center for Autism\*\* - \$22,810 to support the Tik Talk program, which teaches social and friendship skills to middle and high school students with special needs to help navigate social situations and develop meaningful relationships at school and in community and work settings.

Boys & Girls Club of Newburgh, Inc.\*\*\* - \$110,864 to continue implementation of a comprehensive afterschool program, Project Learn, formerly known as The Afterschool Project, which targets the academic, social and behavioral development of youth in the City of Poughkeepsie.

Catholic Charities Community Services of Dutchess County - \$37,310 to provide a Homeless Prevention Case Management Program, which offers emergency rental assistance, financial literacy education, crisis intervention and comprehensive case management services to promote long-term housing stability for low-income families in Dutchess County.

Catholic Charities Community Services of Dutchess County - \$33,928 to maintain its Senior Medical Transportation program, which promotes access to non-emergency medical care for seniors, who lack other means of transportation.

Community Based Services, Inc.\*\* - \$36,138 to support Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities, which educates parents and caregivers on available programs and resources for transitional-age students with disabilities who are aging out of school-based programs, as well as collaborating with schools to reach individuals who may benefit from

participation in programs offered by local special needs agencies.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County - \$75,715 to continue supporting 4-H Youth Development: Literacy Assistance for All, which prepares youth of all abilities with financial literacy, writing comprehension, public speaking and leadership skills to succeed as they transition into adulthood.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County - \$116,485 to continue supporting Green Teen and No Child Left Inside: Developing Youth Potential Through Work-Based Learning, which broadens youth exposure to environmental science, provides outdoor workforce development opportunities, and promotes health outcomes.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County - \$53,300 to continue supporting the evidence-based Parenting and Support Education (PASE) program, which enhances parenting skills by utilizing a hands-on learning approach suitable for all literacy levels.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County - \$38,500 to support the Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP), which encourages, educates and supports grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the responsibility of surrogate parenting for parents who are unable or unavailable to care for their children.

CultureConnect - \$31,309 to support CommunityConnect, an afterschool enrichment program for English as a New Language (ENL) elementary school students in Red Hook and Rhinebeck.

DAY ONE Early Learning Community, Inc.\*\*\* - \$165,720 to support the Teacher Apprenticeship Program (TAP), which provides adults with hands-on workforce development training in early childhood education to produce workforce-ready educators upon program graduation.

Dutchess County Pride Center - \$25,211 to continue the Teen Drop-In program to provide services year-round, giving LGBTQ+ teens access to affirming adults and safe spaces to increase self-esteem, lower anxiety, improve school performance and create greater community engagement.

Dutchess Outreach - \$59,000 for food procurement to meet the increasing food access needs for individuals and families served through the organization's food pantry and The Lunch Box community meal program.

Exodus Transitional Community\* - \$69,290 to support an evidence-based Reentry Work Readiness program that includes evidence-based, cognitive-behavioral change and social skills development

curriculum, case management and job readiness skills training to post-incarcerated, safety net-eligible individuals to promote a successful transition to the community and reduce recidivism rates.

Family Services, Inc. - \$47,970 for an afterschool Teen Resource Activity Center that provides mentoring, academic support, healthy living workshops and recreational activities for City of Poughkeepsie youth in a safe environment.

Hudson River Housing, Inc.\*\*\* - \$118,477 to continue providing a Housing Navigator program to County residents with housing navigation and transition services, referrals and emergency rental assistance to prevent homelessness.

Hudson River Housing, Inc.\*\*\* - \$68,819 to support the work of an outreach care manager through the Street Outreach Program, which will provide necessities and engage unhoused individuals throughout Dutchess County, especially in the City of Poughkeepsie, with a special focus on those suffering from behavioral health and/or substance use conditions, to enroll them in a suitable, supportive housing program.

Land to Learn - \$53,300 to support SproutEd, a nutrition assistance program that engages elementary school students in the City of Beacon in nutrition, health, environmental stewardship and social-emotional, math, science and literacy skills, through hands-on experiential learning.

Literacy Connections - \$42,859 to continue the Adult & Family Literacy program which promotes basic literacy skills for adults and children. Adult learners receive student-centered, one-on-one or small group tutoring lessons, while children are assigned a one-on-one book buddy, to promote basic reading and comprehension skills.

Mediation Center of Dutchess County, Inc. - \$116,907 to fund an evidence-based Restorative Justice Initiative that works with schools in Dutchess County to address conflict and behavioral matters, while promoting pro-social outcomes in a diplomatic and non-punitive way.

NAMI Mid-Hudson, Inc. - \$86,376 to provide mental wellness and mental health literacy to individuals affected by mental illness through the Family-to-Family program, as well as an informational seminar, both providing participants with information on the biology of brain disorders, an understanding of diagnoses, treatment options, crisis intervention techniques and available community support and referral options.

North East Community Center - \$48,075 to continue the Community Partnership with Schools and Business program, a paid job skills training program for youths and young adults, where they acquire transferable work readiness skills and training to promote their successful transition to adulthood.

North East Community Center - \$43,427 to implement a year-round Comprehensive Out of School Time program to provide afterschool and summer enrichment activities that will preserve socio-emotional and academic gains and mitigate summer learning loss for Webutuck Central School District students.

North East Community Center - \$37,320 to provide a variety of nutrition-

al Food Access Programs, including the Fresh Food Access Hub, two community gardens, a Summer Food Service Program and youth food access internship opportunities.

Nubian Directions II, Inc. - \$45,309 to support the YouthBuild Innovation Lab, which provides hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) workshops and career education to City of Poughkeepsie youth to encourage critical thinking through creativity, risk-taking and innovation.

Poughkeepsie Farm Project - \$38,429 to support Farm Fresh Home Chefs, a food access and healthy eating program for low-income Poughkeepsie families, which teaches families how to prepare balanced healthy meals.

Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church - \$30,914 to support the Harriet Tubman Academic Skills Center, which provides academic and social support to promote educational and behavioral outcomes of underserved children in the City of Poughkeepsie.

Ramapo for Children\*\* - \$36,309 to expand the Staff Assistant Experience program to include day, evening and residential program services designed to assist youth with learning differences, attention difficulties and developmental disabilities in gaining social, vocational and independent living skills.

Reading & Math, Inc. - \$68,700 to support its Early Learning Corps program, which provides supplemental literacy and numeracy whole-class, small group and one-on-one tailored tutoring services to prepare preschool-age children in the City of Poughkeepsie for success in kindergarten and beyond.

Red Hook Community Center, Inc. - \$15,103 for a School Year Youth Employment program for youth and young adults in northern Dutchess County, providing opportunities for pre-employment and soft job skills training, including résumé writing, mock interviewing and financial literacy, as well as paid employment at a business within the local community.

Taconic Resources for Independence, Inc.\*\*\*\* - \$44,200 to support Special Education Advocacy services for parents of children with special needs. The advocate will help parents navigate the special education system to ensure students have access to the support and accommodations necessary for them to achieve their fullest potential.

The Art Effect - \$166,806 to support the afterschool and summer Youth Workforce Development in Arts & Media program that prepares City of Poughkeepsie youth for higher education and employment opportunities by providing arts-based curriculum, training and hands-on experience in media production and the visual arts.

\*Awarded through APG, administered by the Department of Community and Family Services (DCFS).

\*\*Awarded through APG, administered by the Department of Behavioral and Community Health (DBCH).

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# Governor signs major utility reform bill

Governor Kathy Hochul has signed a sweeping utility reform bill (A.4055/S.4234) sponsored by Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson (D-104) and State Senator Michelle Hinchey (D-41) aimed at curbing chronic late billing by Central Hudson and other utility companies.

The new law prohibits utilities from back-billing for services for which the bill is three months late and requires the disclosure of prior billing data. These reforms protect both residential and small business customers.

“For more than two years, customers of Central Hudson have been plagued with non-billing, late billing, inaccurate bills and excessive use of estimated billing. This new law is an important step in alleviating this intolerable situation,” said Jacobson. “Utilities have a simple responsibility to bill timely and in a transparent manner. This law will ensure that both will happen. Utilities now have an

enormous financial incentive to issue timely bills.”

Hinchey said, “Extreme back-billing creates unexpected financial burdens for families and small businesses, making budgeting nearly impossible since people can’t predict the arrival or amount of their next bill. Our legislation finally cracks down on this predatory billing practice and, for the first time, provides better protections for residents and small businesses alike by preventing utility companies from charging customers if they send a bill more than three months late.”

She added, “One of the biggest problems we’ve heard from constituents is the lack of information about previous bills, preventing people from comparing usage year over year or month over month. For the first time, we’re also requiring utility companies to include past charge history with each bill, increasing transparency for customers to help confirm accurate billing. In the Hudson Valley, the need for

this bill has been clear, and we’re proud it’s now law, providing a real accountability mechanism to put more money back into the pockets of New Yorkers when utilities fall short of their core responsibilities.”

Specifically, the law includes three major reforms. First, it prohibits a utility from back-billing if a bill is issued more than three months late. This gives utilities a financial incentive to get their bills out on time.

Second, the law requires utilities to

include the previous 13 months of usage charges at the customer’s address with each bill they issue. This will include the usage of different customers at that address during the period. This provision allows customers to compare their bill with a similar period to determine if they are being overcharged.

Third, for the first time the law ensures that small businesses are treated the same as residential customers with respect to late billing and disclosure of prior usage.

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## Like the show, ‘life must go on’ for retiring Lou Trapani

*continued from cover*

Theater set has seen a lot of productions and our annual Sam Scripps Shakespeare Festival has been exceptional.

“I’ve been lucky up here to play some marvelous roles. I’ve been Shakespeare’s Sir Toby Belch, in ‘Twelfth Night.’ I got to play Sir in ‘The Dresser,’ opposite Kevin Archambault as The Dresser, Arthur in ‘Camelot,’ Willy Loman in ‘Death of a Salesman.’” There were many more and, together, they represented all sorts of meaty roles that exercised his craft and made The Center a serious focus of theatre in the Hudson Valley.

### Pandemic survival

“We managed to survive the pandemic better than many other theaters,” Trapani said. “We did some of our productions in front of a camera and streamed them. I quickly realized that wasn’t going to work with just one camera sort of where the audience would have been. The effort had to be different from that.”

“I recalled what was part of the genius of Desi Arnaz. He and Lucy created ‘Playhouse 90.’ It was a whole new way to present theater to television and it worked. Desi used several cameras and brought the audience into the production ... right onto the stage. We started with three cameras and moved from one to another, often in a single scene. It worked for us, too.”

“We were shut down by the regulations from having an audience in house. But, there was nothing to say we couldn’t move outside and put people on the lawn at comfortable distances.” That’s exactly what they did.

In theater lore, the overarching mantra is “the show must go on.” At The Center, it did just that.

“It almost felt like New York’s Shakespeare in the Park,” Trapani said. “Folks came, they brought chairs and picnics, and we put on our shows.”

The town loved it because it brought in business during a tough period.

Restaurants did a “to go” business and that helped them as well. That approach was nearly unique in the Hudson Valley at the height of the pandemic.

These days The Center is sometimes busy six or even seven days per week.

“Now we have our dance school,” said Trapani. That’s most days. There are field trips for schools to come and see a show during the day; there are ongoing acting workshops, as well as seminars for many of the theater’s skills. If one may quote the late “Fats” Waller - “the joint is jumpin.”

### Staying busy

Trapani will continue a relationship at The Center, including doing a few productions and advising the new directors.

One promise he as made is to bring back The Center’s long-running holiday production of “A Christmas Carol.”

“I wrote that script,” he said, “so there was no expense to produce it.”

What sets this version apart is that Trapani’s script uses Christmas Carols to tell much of the story.

“Scrooge is one of my favorite roles. I look forward to bringing the production back in 2024,” he said.

What does the future hold? It holds change. Trapani reduces the challenges to simply ongoing normalcy. He said, “Developing technology offers challenge. It always has. Music Halls were once the mainstream genre of their day. They became challenged by movies and reinvented themselves with musicals where the music became part of the story. Movies answered by becoming ‘talkies.’ They introduced sound. Later they ran headlong into television. The answer was the creation of ‘cinemascope’ to overpower the small screen. Today we have streaming and smart phones and we are wrestling with how to best meet the challenge. We will.”

Broadway theatres don’t have a lot to fear for sources of funds. They are a destination event in their own right. Regional



Lou Trapani performs in the role of Professor Henry Higgins in “My Fair Lady” at The Center for Performing Arts in Rhinebeck in 2010. Trapani is retiring from his role as Artistic and Managing Director of The Center. Trapani, though moving on to a new career as a novelist, will continue as a “senior advisor” at The Center. *Courtesy photo*

theater requires donations and government grants. That’s a bit more difficult. The donating “angels” keep it going for awhile, but sometimes they change their priorities to address another social need. Governments have competing interests as well, so sometimes the grants that existed dry up for awhile. Places like The Center need to be creative in their funding.

Theatre is morphing into “entertainment.” That’s an ongoing tension with the concept of theater as art. Theater often

gives one a chance to illustrate a deeper truth of life. Entertainment doesn’t always have the same obligation.

Lou Trapani, though moving on to a new career as a novelist, will continue as a “senior advisor” at The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck a few more years, one expects. So long as his influence continues, then audiences can be assured that the balance between these two competing challenges will be maintained.

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Bill setting all elections in even years is a disservice to local candidates

Editor's note: Former Dutchess County Executive William F.X. O'Neil sent this letter to Governor Kathy Hochul to express his opposition to legislation she recently signed that would set all elections – local, county, state and national – in even years.

The Honorable Kathy Hochul  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor,

I am writing in opposition to your signing of bill A. 4282-B/S.3505-B. This bill will damage the tradition of local elections and suppress interest in the races where the outcome has the most direct impact on the people of this great state.

It was so disheartening to see you push through this legislation late on the day before the Christmas holiday. Your roots are in local government; you have been that public servant walking door-to-door and talking to neighbors; you know although voters pay attention to national and state elections, what impacts them most are the issues in their local communities: when local roads will be paved, whether a new subdivision will be approved, or how much their town/county taxes are. These are decisions made at the local level. These issues deserve a full discussion in their own time and should not be eclipsed by state and national issues.

This legislation forces local candidates for office to have to compete for voters' attention through all of the noise that surrounds national and state elections. Media coverage will be dominated by the "headline" elections, and local candidates will be lost in the shuffle. This is a true disservice to the election process for both the candidates and the voters.

I am disappointed voters didn't have a chance to look closely at this bill before the Legislature voted on the measure and before your signature made it law. No hearings were scheduled and most people are totally unaware of the contents of this bill. This legislation ignores constitutionally home rule powers by preempting county charters and local laws. The timing of elections is a decision that should be left in the hands of local governments. However, once again, one-party rule in Albany has forced another state mandate.

You claim this is "promoting a more inclusive democracy, "expanding access to the ballot box," "making it easier for New Yorkers to vote in local elections," and "will save taxpayers money." Nothing could be farther from the truth. If you truly believed these talking points, why were you not open and transparent and encouraging public feedback?

As you know, this has been universally opposed by the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) and will most likely end up in a prolonged and expensive legal battle, which neither the State nor local municipalities can afford. But we will vigorously oppose your actions because this strikes at the heart of democracy, and you are on the wrong side.

Sincerely,  
William F.X. O'Neil  
[Former] Dutchess County Executive

DC-Poughkeepsie  
Land Bank to hold  
meeting on Jan. 10

The Dutchess County-Poughkeepsie Land Bank Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 10, in person at Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll St., Poughkeepsie, in the library. Members of the public are encouraged and welcome to attend.

To submit comments, for more information, including any requests for reasonable accommodation, including Sign Language Interpreters (requires 5 days' notice), please call (845) 293-3547 or email [info@dcpoklandbank.org](mailto:info@dcpoklandbank.org).

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- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- Letters that include personal attacks will not be published
- Letters written in response to other letter writers must address the issue at hand, rather than mentioning the writer by name and must refer to the headline and date the letter was published.
- Letters referring to news stories must mention the headline and date of publication.
- The Northern Dutchess News will not be used as a vehicle to place misinformation.
- Information must be attributed to a specific individual or published item (ie- tell us where or from whom you obtained the information)
- All letters must contain a name, hometown and phone number for verification.
- Letters appearing on the Viewpoints page are the views of the writers alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Dutchess News.

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Holiday giving at  
Poughkeepsie churches



Members of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church and St. Paul's Episcopal Church, on the north side of Poughkeepsie, joined together to give away over 100 hats and scarves knitted by members of the churches during the recent holidays. They walked around the neighborhood handing them out and also put them on fences and poles and in the Mansion Square Park. It was a joyous experience for those who gave and for those who received. Courtesy photo

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## OFA ENHANCES SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS

For every older adult in Dutchess County there is, or will eventually be, at least one caregiver. Everyday tasks that were once simple for an older adult become more challenging, especially without the help of a caregiver. Often, it's an unpaid family member who takes on the role of caregiver, in addition to their roles as parent, spouse, and all-around helper.

An older adult's resistance to accepting help can also be a challenge. That's why OFA continually reminds older adults that independence does not mean going it alone without help. A key part of an older adult's goal of aging gracefully is to accept help gracefully.

It's a reminder that works for caregivers, too.

Many caregivers don't think of themselves as such, especially when caring for a family member. They're simply caring for parents and grandparents who cared for them as children. Regardless of the nature of the relationship between the carer and the person being cared for, the rewards of caregiving can be outweighed by caregiving's physical, emotional, financial, and mental stresses.

Much as a family member might love the person being cared for, an overstressed caregiver can become like a candle whose wick has burned away; there's nothing left with which to give enough light.

To address the potential for caregiver burnout, we need to first define what a caregiver is: a person who provides physical or psychological care to someone else. For the Office for the Aging's purposes, these are the most common caregiving scenarios:

Are you over the age of 18 and caring for an older adult (age 60+)?

Are you over the age of 18 caring for an individual (any age) with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder (e.g., dementia, traumatic brain injury, mild cognitive impairment, chronic traumatic encephalopathy)?

Are you over the age of 55 and living with and caring for a child (not biological) under the age of 18?

Are you over the age of 55 and living with and caring for an adult (can be a biological child) aged 18-59 with a disability?

If you answered "yes" to one or more of the above questions, you're a caregiver. It's also possible to be more than one kind of caregiver at the same time. The classic example is the "sandwich generation" caregiver, who's raising their own children - and sometimes grandchildren - while also caring for an older adult.

OFA can help Dutchess County caregivers take the next step, to measure the risk for caregiver stress and burnout. This is why we've created [dutchessny.gov/ofacaregiver](http://dutchessny.gov/ofacaregiver), to help a caregiver get a better understanding of their unique role and find out more about supports available to them through OFA.

For caregivers who aren't online, call OFA at 845-486-2555 during business hours to find out more.

### HARDLY ANY SNOW YET, BUT WHEN IT COMES...

...how do older adults find out about weather related cancellations and postponements?

For Office for the Aging activity cancellations, including Friendship Center operations, follow Dutchess County Government on social media at [www.facebook.com/DutchessCoGov](http://www.facebook.com/DutchessCoGov) or [www.x.com/DutchessCoGov](http://www.x.com/DutchessCoGov).

Subscribers to OFA's weekly emails (if you're reading this, you're a subscriber) will also have weather-related advisories emailed to them.

For those who aren't online, we send advisories to area radio and TV broadcasters; however, not all radio stations read cancellation lists over the air.

Each OFA Friendship Center maintains a phone tree where clients can be contacted

when their Friendship Center is closed. OFA Home Delivered Meals clients receive shelf-stable meals in advance of inclement winter weather.

### 'SENIOR PARK PRINTS' IN POUGHKEEPSIE, MILLERTON, EAST FISHKILL

Dutchess County Parks and the Office for the Aging are collaborating again this winter on the free Senior Park Prints Art Series taking place throughout the county, where older adults can pick up painting skills they may have never known they had.

Dutchess County older adults (60+) can sign up for any one of the following sessions. Registration opens at 9 am Wednesday, January 3rd:

- Thursday, January 18th - 2:30-3:45pm - Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie

- Thursday, February 1st - 2:30-3:45pm - Millerton Northeast Millerton Library Annex, 28 Century Blvd., Millerton

- Friday, February 16th - 2:30-3:45pm - East Fishkill Community Center, 890 Route 82, Hopewell Junction

All supplies will be provided, but space is limited to 12 participants per event.

Registration is required by calling OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555.

### IS YOUR GROUP LOOKING FOR A SPEAKER FROM OFA?

The Office for the Aging can send a representative to speak with your seniors' group, faith community, caregivers' group or civic organization on issues of interest to older adults and caregivers. We cover all kinds of topics:

- Successful Aging;
- Caregiving Resources;
- Scam Prevention;
- Senior housing issues;
- Office for the Aging Services;
- Topics related to nutrition;
- Preventing falls and safety at home...and more!

We're available anywhere in Dutchess County for presentations during weekday business hours, and on a case-by-case basis for evening and weekend events.

For more information about speakers from the Office for the Aging, email Outreach Coordinator Brian Jones at [bjones@dutchessny.gov](mailto:bjones@dutchessny.gov).

### YOGA FOR OLDER ADULTS AT SOUTH AMENIA FRIENDSHIP CENTER

Eastern Dutchess older adults looking for an exercise option in the Harlem Valley can add the yoga class at the Office for the Aging Friendship Center in South Amenia (229 South Amenia Rd., Wassaic). Classes meet for an hour, every Tuesday at 10:45 am. For more information and to get signed up, contact OFA at 845-486-2555, and visit [www.dutchessny.gov/seniorexercise](http://www.dutchessny.gov/seniorexercise) for a closer look at all OFA exercise options.

### 'SAIL' REMOTE EXERCISE CLASSES RETURN FROM HOLIDAY BREAK

OFA's remote "SAIL" (Staying Active and Independent for Life) exercise classes resume for 2024 on Wednesday, January 3rd. SAIL's regularly schedule classes take place on Wednesdays at 10 am and Fridays at 2:30 pm. To learn more about SAIL, contact OFA or visit [www.dutchessny.gov/seniorexercise](http://www.dutchessny.gov/seniorexercise).

### 'FRIENDLY CALLS' ORIENTATIONS THIS WEEK

Interested in becoming a volunteer for OFA's Friendly Calls program? We have two orientations scheduled for this week at OFA headquarters (114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie). Pick one:

- Wednesday 1/3, 1:30 pm
- Thursday 1/4, 10:00 am

To schedule your orientation and learn more about Friendly Calls, call OFA at 845-486-2555 during business hours or email [bjones@dutchessny.gov](mailto:bjones@dutchessny.gov).

*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](mailto:ofa@dutchessny.gov) website: [www.dutchessny.gov/aging](http://www.dutchessny.gov/aging)*

## Hochul announces \$25M in capital funding available to support volunteer fire departments

Governor Kathy Hochul recently announced \$25 million in capital grants is available to help volunteer fire departments across the state upgrade their facilities and equipment. As part of Governor Hochul's continued effort to strengthen New York's volunteer fire service, \$25 million was secured in the FY 2023-24 State Budget for this initiative, along with \$10 million to offset the costs of training courses which volunteer firefighters are required to complete. The program's Request for Applications is available at <https://www.dhss.ny.gov/state-funded-programs>.

"The volunteer firefighters of New York are selfless public servants who put their lives on the line to keep their communities safe," Governor Hochul said. "This funding will go a long way in reminding those who continue to serve that we will always support them in any and every way we can."

Senator Michelle Hinchey, who represents District 41, said, "New York's first-ever Volunteer Fire Services Capital Fund is finally open — a huge win for our first responders and local taxpayers that I'm proud to have led the charge in creating. This new capital fund is not only an investment in the safety of our communities but also in the first responders who are always there to answer the call. It's a privilege to champion support for New York's volunteer firehouses, and I encourage all to take advantage of the funds available."

Administered by the State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, the program supports volunteer fire departments by upgrading and improving facilities and response capabilities through the following objectives:

- Ensure fire stations and training facilities are safe, structurally sound, meet current building codes and regulations, and support or promote effective and safe firefighting practices;

- Support volunteer firefighter safety and health and wellness by providing equipment including personal protective equipment (PPE), decontamination equipment & supplies, and effective exhaust removal systems; and

- Support consolidation of fire service resources through regionalization efforts to expand above and beyond jurisdictional boundaries to enhance local, county, and statewide response efforts.

Two funding options are available through the grant program:

- \$20 million for construction, renovation, and/or facility purchase projects including fire stations, substations and joint/shared stations, fire training towers, instructional classrooms and meeting spaces, exhaust systems, and shower facilities for decontamination.

- \$5 million for allowable fire service equipment projects including personal protective equipment (PPE), PPE washer/extractor, PPE dryers, radios/communications equipment, rehab equipment, and mask service unit/air compressor.



## WORDS & MUSIC

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# Dutchess County Parks sets Winter Programming schedule

Residents of all ages looking for fun and educational things to do this winter can look forward to the full lineup of programming at Dutchess County Parks. Popular sessions will return this year, including indoor archery, virtual Base Camp, Senior Park Prints, and Walk Around Wednesdays. The Nordic Cross Country ski outings are scheduled again in 2024 and new to the lineup are Intro to Self-Defense workshops and Friday Night Pickleball sessions. Registration for all programs opens Wednesday, January 3rd and can be found at [Dutchessny.gov/parks](http://Dutchessny.gov/parks).

**Winter Naturalist Program Schedule -** Weekend Public Archery sessions will begin Saturday, Jan. 13 at Bowdoin Park. The program consists of five classes, held on Saturdays, with various time slots offered. The sessions, each an hour long, are designed for individuals ages 9 and up with any level of archery experience. Basic hands-on archery skills are taught, as well as bow and arrow safety. Cost is \$70 per person and includes all five classes and equipment. Limited to 20 participants per time slot. Register at [www.DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation](http://www.DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation).

**Virtual Base Camp** returns on Wednesday, Jan. 11. This free, online nature discovery program will run five weeks, sharing new, virtual content each Wednesday for visitors to explore and discover nature online. The program is open to all to participate at [dutchessny.gov/basecamp](http://dutchessny.gov/basecamp). Registration is not required.

**Senior Park Prints Art Series** will be held in collaboration with Dutchess County Office for the Aging. This free series is for older adults and will be offered at various locations throughout Dutchess County. All supplies will be provided, and participants will be able to take their nature masterpieces home. Limited to 12 participants per class and registration is required by calling 845-486-2555.

**Walk Around Wednesdays** will offer short distance walks of approximately 1-1.5 miles, led by Assistant Park Director Serge Nalywayko. This 5-week program will be held from noon-1pm on

Wednesdays at various Dutchess County Park locations. Walks are free, but registration is required and are weather dependent. To register, call 845-298-4600.

**Rail Trail Nordic Ski Weekend** will be offered if there is snow for novice and intermediate cross-country skiers. Gatherings are free and will be held from 9-11am. The program will include skiing along moderately groomed paths and distances will depend on skiers' level of experience. This program is held in partnership with Hudson Valley Ski Club and the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association. To register, call 845-298-4600. Participants should bring their own equipment and dress appropriately for weather conditions. The event may be cancelled due to weather or trail conditions; call the Parks Hotline at 845-298-4602 for event status.

**Intro to Self Defense** workshops will be offered for adults on Tuesday, Feb. 6 at 1pm and Tuesday, February 20 at 6pm in the Bowdoin Park auditorium. During these 90-minute workshops, adults will learn from skilled Ju-jitsu facilitators the basics of self-defense and proper stretching techniques that focus on improving one's overall wellbeing. Classes are free, but registration is required. To register, call 845-298-4600.

**Friday Night Pickleball Under the Lights** at Quiet Cove will take place on Friday, Feb. 2 and Friday, Feb. 23 from 4-9:30pm. Bundle up and come play some nighttime pickleball. All courts will be illuminated for play and firepits will be lit nearby for attendees and players to keep warm. To register, visit [playtimescheduler.com](http://playtimescheduler.com). In the event of inclement weather such as fog, rain or snow, these sessions will be held on Friday, Feb. 9 or Friday, March 1.

Additionally, group weekday **Archery and Junior Survival** sessions are available by appointment and reservations can be made by calling 845-298-4602. Updates on winter sledding at Bowdoin Park will be shared on the Dutchess County Parks hotline 845-298-2607 and Facebook page.

To learn more about Dutchess County Parks, visit [www.DutchessNY.gov/Parks](http://www.DutchessNY.gov/Parks).

# NYS Legislature Ag Committee leaders pen bipartisan letter urging U.S. senators to bring the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act to the floor for vote

ALBANY – Following the recent passage of the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act in the U.S. House, the Chairs and Ranking Members of the New York State Senate and Assembly Committees on Agriculture, in a bipartisan effort, sent a letter on Thursday urging Senate Majority Leader Schumer and Senator Gillibrand to bring the federal bill for a Senate vote. The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act would reinstate 2% and whole milk in schools, overturning a 2010 decision to remove these options from the National School Lunch Program under the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act.

Senate Agriculture Chair Michelle Hinchey said, "The House's approval of the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids marks a major stride in our fight to bring healthy, nutritious whole milk back to school cafeterias. This first phase of approval is a positive step toward advancing a school meal change that will improve child nutrition while delivering a needed economic boost to New York dairy farmers and rural communities. We now turn to our federal representatives in the U.S. Senate to take the lead and prioritize this important bipartisan-supported legislation."

Senator George Borrello, Ranking Member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, said, "For generations, milk has been known as 'nature's most perfect food' because it is packed with calcium and essential nutrients that promote good health, particularly for growing children. That is why it is crucial that we encourage our kids to drink milk by returning the whole and two percent milk options to school cafeterias. The federal mandate removing them from schools was a

mistake that hurt our kids and our farmers, but the chance to fix it is within our reach right now. We urge the Senate to recognize the bipartisan momentum behind this initiative and advance the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act to the Senate floor for a vote."

Assembly Agriculture Chair Donna Lupardo said, "We originally wanted this change included in the 2023 Federal Farm Bill, which is now delayed until next September. I was very happy to see this standalone measure pass in the U.S. House and hope to see the U.S. Senate take it up as well. Our focus as a group is on the health and vitality of New York's students and dairy farmers alike. This is why we are strongly urging Senate Majority Leader Schumer and Senator Gillibrand to advance the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act."

Assemblyman Chris Tague, Ranking Member of the Assembly Agriculture Committee, said, "A bipartisan U.S. Congress recognized the importance of the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, now it's time for the U.S. Senate to follow suit. As the senior senator from New York, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has always been a friend to upstate rural agriculture, and we need his leadership now more than ever. Bringing whole and 2% milk back into schools will not only help the children grow healthy and strong, but it will also help give the rural economy and dairy industry a much-needed boost. My colleagues and I are asking that the U.S. Senate listen to the facts and bring milk back into our schools!"

## 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE IS LIVE

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

Dialing 988:

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

# January Programs at Pleasant Valley Library

All programs are free. Please visit [pleasantvalleylibrary.org](http://pleasantvalleylibrary.org) to register and for more information.

### ONGOING PROGRAMS

Face/Lymphatic Yoga with Rosalia Henry  
Friday, Jan. 5 1:30pm  
Monday, Jan. 8 6:30pm

Flash Fiction  
Monday, Jan. 8 6:30pm

Chess Club (no registration needed)  
Thursday, Jan. 11 + Jan. 25 5:30pm

Chair Yoga with Samantha Free  
Tuesday, Jan. 16 1:00pm

Pilates with Michelle Pantaleo  
Tuesday, Jan. 16 6:00pm  
Saturday, Jan. 27 11:00am (NEW!)

Senior Movie Morning: "Grumpy Old Men" (1993)  
Wednesday, Jan. 10 11:30am

Gentle Flow Yoga with Samantha Free  
Wednesday, Jan. 24 6:00pm

Meditation with hypnotherapist Susan Olin-Dabrowski

Tuesday, Jan. 30 1:30pm + 6:30pm

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Saturday, Jan. 13 11:30am

Winter Paint & Sip

Create a winter-themed acrylic painting while sipping seasonal "mocktails," with local artist Sarah Kittle. No experience needed - all materials are provided. Open to all ages 13 and up.

Saturday, Jan. 20 10:00am

Sewing Basics Class

Experienced seamstresses will teach basic needle and machine sewing. No experience required - all supplies are provided. Open to all ages 13 and up.

Tuesday, Jan. 23 6:00pm

Winter Seed Sowing

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County Master Gardeners will discuss the importance of native plants and the winter sowing process. Containers of native seeds will be provided to plant and take home. This program is sponsored by Pleasant Valley Climate Smart.

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# Morton Library events

Yoga with Kristin  
Sundays @ 10:00 am

All levels welcome in cozy Morton Hall. The classes are breath-based with an emphasis on thoughtful sequencing and alignment so that practitioners can move with stability, awareness, and grace. This is a drop-in class and all are welcome. Please bring your yoga mat, a blanket, and blocks if you like. \$12 suggested donation. You can purchase a pre-paid card for 10 sessions and get a free 11th class via check or PayPal.

Knit 'n Knatter  
Wednesday January 3 @ 3:00 pm  
(First and third Wednesdays of each

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

Rockin' Rooks Youth Chess at Morton  
Mondays @ 5:30 pm

Join the award-winning Rockin' Rooks every Monday from 5:30-7:00 with D. Suris and Cathy Young! Students in grades K - 12 are welcome to join for fun, learning, and tournament competition. To sign your child up, for more information, or to volunteer contact: D. Suris 845-416-3287 or email racersplace[at]hotmail.com

Rhinecliff Climate Conversation  
Tuesday January 9 @ 6:00 pm

At this meeting Nick Sussillo will follow up on his presentation on Rhinecliff and how climate change affects the hamlet and its residents. This month we discuss "Food Forests" a low-maintenance, sustainable, plant-based agroforestry system based on woodland ecosystems. It incorporates fruit and nut trees, shrubs, herbs, vines, and perennial vegetables, which have yields directly useful to humans and beyond. Join us to learn how food forests can be managed, and how the concept can be applied to plant and human ecosystems to create a positive footprint on the earth.

This is a way to get involved and to help make the hamlet more resilient in times of weather events that are becoming more frequent. All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Hudson River Ice Yacht Preservation Trust Press Conference and Community Meet-and-Greet

Thursday, January 11 @ 7 pm  
The Trust members will discuss their charter, the history of ice boating, and predictions for sailing in the Hudson Valley in early 2024.

"Our event will give us the chance to

*continued on page 8*



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# Birchwood Commons nears completion, reveals model unit



Helping to fill the housing gap in Dutchess County, Birchwood Commons, LaGrange's newest multi-family development, is soon slated for occupancy. For the first time, guests can officially tour a model unit to get a feel of what it will be like to be a member of the Birchwood Commons community. At over 1,150 square feet per unit, each of Birchwood Commons' 20 residencies across four buildings features high-end finishes, open floor plans, individual storage rooms, and private patios. The complex's prime location provides easy access to Route 82, Route 55, and the Taconic State Parkway. Residents will move into Birchwood Commons' first apartments, in its Admiral building, this spring, according to Mid Hudson Construction Management, the project's contractor. For rental applications, or to schedule a tour of the model unit, visit [www.birchwoodcommonsny.com](http://www.birchwoodcommonsny.com). Photos courtesy of Houlihan Lawrence Real Estate



# Plans from the Town of Poughkeepsie's new supervisor

Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor Rebecca Edwards, who is a former Dutchess County legislator, was sworn in on the afternoon of January 1 at the Poughkeepsie Town Senior Center.

"I'm deeply grateful to all the voters who showed how much they care for our community, by coming out to vote in this local election. Local elections are not glamorous or prominent, but they shape our daily lives in so many ways," Edwards said in an email to Northern Dutchess News before the holidays.

Edwards listed her top three priorities:

- to improve the town board's openness, transparency, and communications with residents;

- to find a suitable new location as soon as possible for our town police and courts. For 27 years our police headquarters has been located on a landfill and is sinking into the ground, and a new home is needed as soon as possible;

- to build partnerships and strategies (including new sources of revenue) that will make the Town a more affordable place for our residents.

"It's been a pleasure to meet so many residents of the town and I look forward to meeting many more--as well as working with our terrific town employees," said Edwards.

Coming up this winter, she noted, look for occasional Friday opportunities for "Soup with the Supervisor."

Also sworn in on January 1, were the three incumbents for the Poughkeepsie Town Board (Anne Burger Ward 3; Mike Cifone Ward 4; Ann Shershin Ward 6),



Rebecca Edwards. Courtesy photo

and the three new board members (Bill Reuter Ward 1; Barbara Laird Ward 2; Ryan Sharpe Ward 5), said Edwards. Incumbent Town Clerk Felicia Salvatore and incumbent Highway Superintendent Mike Simon; and two new town justices, Steve Klein and Craig Wallace, each also took an oath of office.

According to information on Edwards' website when she was running for the position, Edwards is "[a] 30-year Town of Poughkeepsie resident who raised her family here, Rebecca is a longtime community leader and educator who cares deeply about kids. She co-founded Day One Early Learning Community to expand affordable, high-quality childcare in Poughkeepsie and beyond."

## SEND US YOUR NEWS:

[cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com](mailto:cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com)

## Morton Library events

continued from page 7

talk about past ice boating escapades and current activities, which include contributing to the planning of the future Town of Red Hook park on former Unification Theological Seminary lands," says Robert Wills, President of the HRIYPT, who continued, "Tivoli South Bay has been sailing "home ice" for the many years the Hudson does not freeze, thanks to the access granted by the former owners. The hope is that this will continue with the Town of Red Hook."

All are welcome! For information call: Robert Wills, (845) 876-2298 or email to: [director@hriypt.org](mailto:director@hriypt.org)

Rhinecliff Community Conversation  
Tuesday, January 16 @ 6:00 pm

New year but same great hamlet. This will be a conversation on events that affect our community - whether it is traffic/parking or the recent weather happenings. Please attend to make your thoughts heard. All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Richard's Rhinecliff Acoustic Show  
Friday, January 19 @ 8:00 pm

Featuring: Many talented local musicians. Donations to benefit the Morton are suggested.



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8 NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living - January 3-9, 2024





# Dutchess Farmers in 2024

A look at what the New Year could bring for local agriculture

The 600 farms in Dutchess County provided us with approximately \$40 million worth of food, flowers and hay last year, despite the uncooperative weather. What's in store for the new year?

Our new Dutchess County executive, Sue Serino, is optimistic:

"As I begin as County Executive in 2024, I look forward to continuing the conversations I have had for many years with farmers across Dutchess County. Agriculture has deep roots in Dutchess County and has always been one of our most important and thriving industries. The state of agriculture is always evolving, and farmers face unique challenges, so I am eager to work with our local farmers to make sure agriculture keeps on growing here in Dutchess.

"Some of the items on the agenda for the new year include getting the eight year Review for Agricultural Districts adopted by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets as well as making sure that agriculture is appropriately addressed in the New York State Open Space Conservation Plan Revision.

"I am also looking forward to listening to and learning from our farmers about urban agriculture, the impact of large scale solar facilities on farmland, particularly prime farmland, as well as other areas of concern and opportunity."

When I reminded Sue that I will be a member of her ag advisory council, she said, "I can't wait to work with you again," a reference to her many years as state senator.

Our new state senator Michelle Hinchey (new to Dutchess County, that is) is chair of the senate ag committee. She is trying to get some help for the beleaguered marijuana growers (10 are licensed in Dutchess County) who are sitting on tons of unsold crops due to the lack of retail outlets. The Cannabis Farmers Relief Fund (NY Senate bill 7295) could become law in 2024, perhaps granting compensation to some of the

farmers who have spent their life savings producing a now worthless crop (it gets stale, not that I would know).

Thirty-five inches of rain, including six inches in August, wrecked the hay crop, which brings in about \$8 million in a normal year. Mark Soukup, who bales hay in addition to growing pumpkins and producing maple syrup, told me his fields were too muddy to harvest a decent second cutting, which is the finer hay that our local horses prefer. A string of washed-out weekends in October meant disaster for the pick-your-own apple and pumpkin farmers. Hopefully, 2024 will cooperate, with all rain falling on Monday nights.

I asked dairy farmer and local Farm Bureau president Isaac Coon for his 2024 wish.

"Whole milk in schools!" A push to replace low fat milk with whole milk (which is 97% fat free) would benefit students, who throw their low fat milk in the garbage because it tastes terrible.

The 2018 farm bill has been extended through 2024 while Congress debates the new 2023 bill. This is a relief to local farmers who are using farm bill funding to help with crop insurance and to finance climate friendly projects.

Mark Doyle, manager of Fishkill Farms and chair of the Hudson Valley Ag Development Corporation board of directors, tells me that local farms have used Natural Resources Conservation Service funding to create buffer zones around streams to prevent runoff, and to experiment with carbon sequestration. The next farm bill should strengthen these programs.

As we begin 2024 with a mix of trepidation and hope, we should all recognize the importance of a strong local food system.

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



Mark Soukup, left, with Isaac Coon. Photo by Mark Adams

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

## THEME: COCKTAILS

### ACROSS

- Great divide
- Priestly vestment
- Took to court
- Haile Selassie's disciple
- 10 decibels
- \*Appletini's \_\_\_\_ schnapps
- Rose oil
- Maui garland
- Birth-related
- \*Old Fashioned liquor option
- \*Gin+vermouth rosso+Campari
- Not him
- Bye, in Palermo
- VA.gov beneficiary
- Puerto follower
- Like Ferris Bueller
- Exclude
- "\_\_\_\_ Your Enthusiasm"
- Green-light
- Tiny coffee cup, or \_\_\_\_-tasse
- Cut mission short
- Not final or absolute
- Makes a sweater
- Wing-shaped
- Bird, in Latin
- One with drug dependency
- Do like a frog
- A U.S. time zone
- Dance with #17 Across
- Anatomical duct
- \*It usually comes in a conical glass
- \*Popular cocktail mixer
- Spy's other name
- Knicks' org.
- Give a speech
- Clan emblem
- Party barrel
- Clean a spill (2 words)
- Part of pump
- Sargasso or Barents
- Same as apse

### DOWN

- Sticking point, in alimentary tract
- Possesses, archaic
- \*Bellini with \_\_\_\_ Spumante
- Squirrel away
- a.k.a. felt-pen
- Competently
- M tley Cr e's Tommy \_\_\_\_
- Russian pancakes
- Practice in the ring
- As far as (2 words)
- Distinctive flair
- Place for a hero
- Fluffy sweater material
- "All My Children" vixen \_\_\_\_ Kane
- 2010 Movie "\_\_\_\_ Pray Love"
- Toyota model
- \*Moscow Mule spirit
- Make corrections
- Shy
- \*\_\_\_\_ Libre
- Forearm bone
- Not dead
- Honkers
- \*Lemon or orange piece
- South American monkey
- Highlands hillside
- Crossbeam
- Religious split
- 252-gallon wine cask
- \*Tequila+grapefruit juice+sparkling water
- Kind of golf course
- Razor sharpener
- S.A.T. section
- Balm ingredient
- Baptism or shiva, e.g.
- Asian weight unit
- John Galsworthy's "The Forsyte \_\_\_\_"
- Nukes
- Sewing case
- Gym set
- \*\_\_\_\_'s Knees

## CROSSWORD

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			68				
69						70				71				
72						73				74				



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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 13

# DCHS emerges in new physical and digital spaces

By Rob Doyle  
DCHS Board President

To the current and prospective members, donors, business sponsors and friends of the Dutchess County Historical Society (DCHS), I want to share my very personal thoughts.

I got involved seven years ago as a DCHS board member, and nearly four years ago as its President, having some understanding of DCHS's great work. But frankly, I underestimated the value (and volume) of its work — and the challenges it faced. This greater understanding has prompted my wife, Sue, and I to make a significant financial commitment that I'll expand on later.

In a polarized nation with briefer attention spans, it becomes easy to ignore and discard the past. Advances in technology have blurred fact and fiction, have prioritized artificial intelligence over human intelligence, and, as with most things, have brought tremendous benefits and risks.

From its inception in 1914, the DCHS has put a priority on preserving not just objects from the past, but stories that reveal human values, conflict and collaboration, the good and bad. We recognize the commitment to the pursuit of historical truth with our annual Helen Wilkinson Award. We believe a source-based, fact and truth-based approach can best inform how we behave in the present, and what we can anticipate in the future. This is among the reasons DCHS publishes the longest-serving historical journal in NY State: the DCHS Yearbook.

In early 2022, with the assistance of the New York State Council of Nonprofits and the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, the DCHS Board completed a strategic plan which called for three main areas to be addressed:

**1. Find a new physical location** - Find a location at a reasonable cost, that can transform public access for the full community, including youth, the disabled, and those not naturally interested in local history. Thanks to the enormous generosity and accommodation of the Bender family of Rhinebeck, in May of this year DCHS began what has been a six-month careful relocation from Poughkeepsie to Rhinebeck.

**2. Rapidly expand our publishing both digital and print** - Our commitment to creative digital publishing is expanding with the 2023 edition of the DCHS Yearbook, being launched with a much richer digital experience including video, further reading suggestions, and references to other related information.

Our commitment to accessible cost-effective printed publications is seen through our successful pilots with Amazon.com as a source. Whether we are buying printed copies ourselves, or whether customers buy them directly, we will be expanding this offering. Our DCHS Yearbook Encore Edition on Black history (the publication of articles related to the topic since 1914 totaling 200 pages) remains available at the cost of printing to be available in schools, where it is increasingly used.

**3. Get on a firmer financial footing** - Our new online auction has become our single biggest fundraiser with a record \$25,000 raised this year. Frankly the public's general interest in gala dinners, which had been our single biggest fundraiser, has been declining. Our most recent online auction provided twice the income as our last gala dinner.

We have dramatically improved our program income. Through the generosity of Frank and Jennifer Castella, who hosted our Historic Preservation and Traditional Awards in June, we had a record income from such an event. This helped enormously offset the unexpected and significant relocation costs.

A new \$200,000 Endowment will yield financial support for Collections management. While DCHS enjoys annual endowment income of around \$11,000 each year from the Denise M. Lawlor Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, we have not been able to rely on regular support of what is arguably our core, but least visible "business:" the management, protection, and presentation of collections.

This prompted my wife Sue and I to give a single gift of \$100,000 contingent on DCHS raising an equal match amount by across the two full years of 2023 and 2024. We are working closely with the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley. Although somewhat distracted by our unanticipated move, we have raised \$34,000 in matching funds so we are at \$68,000 in total.

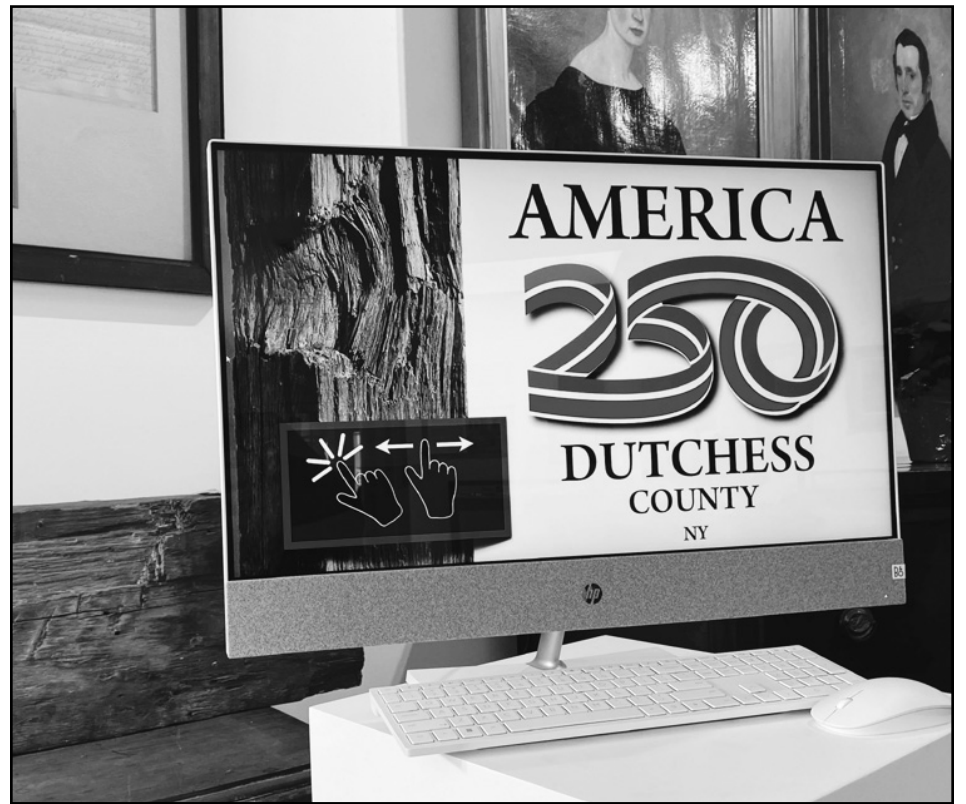
## A & E CALENDAR

**Jan. 5: Open Mic**, Copake Grange Hall, Copake. All are welcome to perform, 7-9 p.m., music, stories, skits, readings, poetry, dance, songs, etc. Or you can just come to relax and be entertained. This is a great venue for both beginning and veteran performers. Free.

**Jan. 5-6: Live Music at the Towne Crier Cafe**, 379 Main St., Beacon. Jan. 5: Buffalo Stack featuring Andy Stack, 8 p.m. After thriving as a sideman musician in the New York City music scene for several years, writer, guitarist and vocalist Andy Stack heeded that call and headed north on a whim to the Hudson Valley (home to luminaries like Bob Dylan and The Band) and founded the group Buffalo Stack. Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 door. Jan. 6: Sharkey & The Sparks, full-band line up featuring

Sharkey McEwen — well known to music lovers throughout the Hudson Valley and beyond as the lead guitarist of The Slambonian Circus of Dreams — Ben McEwen, Sharkey's son, and a select group of talented musician friends, 8 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. (845) 855-1300 or [www.townecrier.com](http://www.townecrier.com)

**Jan. 6: Kakizome**, Arts Mid-Hudson, 696 Dutchess Turnpike (Rte. 44), Poughkeepsie. The Arts Mid-Hudson Folk Arts Program and the Mid-Hudson Japanese Community Association present a Japanese cultural program celebrating the traditional first calligraphy writing of the New Year, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Registration requested, but walk-ins are welcome. Register at: <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/kakizome2024>



DCHS's new location at 6292 Route 9, Rhinebeck, offers the latest in digital technology including kiosks, like the one shown above. In this instance, the kiosk supports self-guided learning related to Dutchess County during the American Revolution as we approach the 250th anniversary of that event in 2027. Henry Livingston's Poughkeepsie home was hit by a British cannonball in the October of 1777 burning of Kingston. The beam shown was retrieved and given to DCHS when the house was torn down in the early 20th century. *Courtesy photo*

Special thanks for Collections Endowment gifts so far: Michael & Connie Boden in Memory of Marcia A. Boden, \$10,000. Newington-Cropsey Foundation, \$10,000. Lillian Cumming Streetscape Fund at the Rhode Island Foundation, \$5,000. Peter Van Kleeck, \$5,200. Eileen & Ben Hayden, \$2,000. Marcy Wagman, \$1,000. Joan Smith \$800.

In addition, DCHS has benefited from a \$30,000 grant from Dutchess County which has allowed us to invest in "back end" preservation and front-end digital engagement technology at our new location at 6282 Route 9, Rhinebeck: We can't say enough about our new 5,000 square feet of archives, libraries and offices. We look forward to being fully open in the New Year.

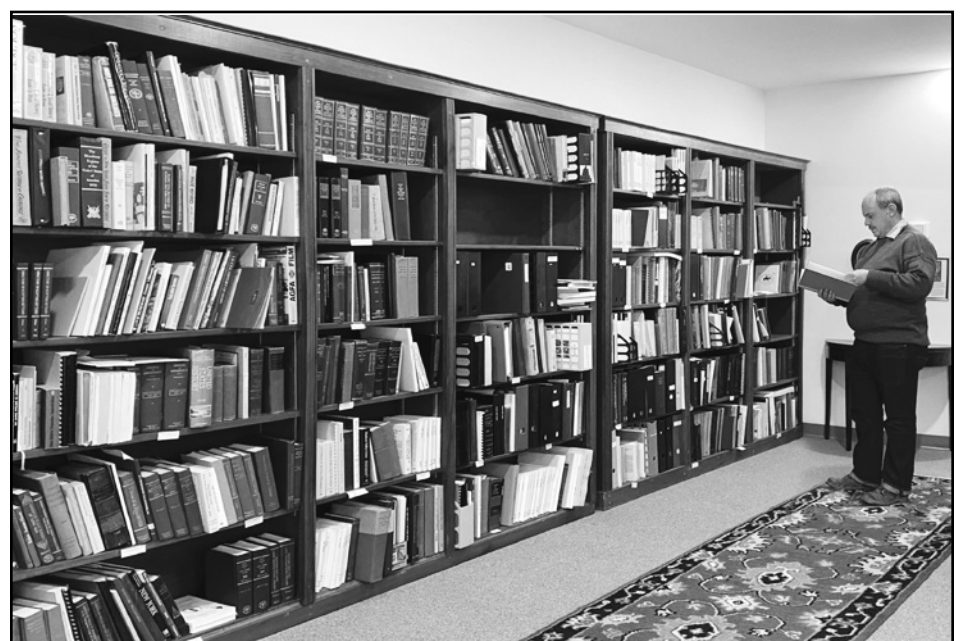
Among the innovations, visitors can search all 13,000 pages of the DCHS

Yearbook published since 1914 for specific words through one of three digital kiosks which offer rich, digital experience. I invite you to strike while the iron is hot! The scale of our commitment now can have a disproportionately positive affect on the future! Please help make this moment a significant, positive and sustainable change in direction for DCHS.

Secure online payments can be made at [www.dchsn.org/secure-pay](http://www.dchsn.org/secure-pay) and checks can be mailed to DCHS, 6282 Rhinebeck, NY, 12572.

For those of you who have given generously over time and recently, we thank you. For any who might be able to help a little bit more, we are grateful!

Sue and I wish you and your family and friends a safe, healthy and warm holiday season!



Dutchess County Historian Will Tatum takes a look at the emerging Arthur & Nancy Kelly Library, a gift of the couple's more than half century of research and publishing through Kinship Publishing. With a genealogical, historical orientation, the 1,500 volumes are in addition to the existing 2,500 volumes in the Dr. Franklin R. Butt's Research library. Both now housed in Rhinebeck. *Courtesy photo*



# Recipe for a New Year

Cooking is a lot like life...

The premise of my articles is that I believe anyone can cook and even love doing it, that it needn't be a chore but an adventure. The rewards and confidence it can bring, the lessons it teaches, the failures and successes, are all part of that adventure and what makes it truly worthwhile. Kind of like life. Actually, just like life. So today's recipe will be for life, fulfillment and happiness, because what better time for it than the start of a brand new year.

A new year brings new beginnings if we let it. New chances, new opportunities, a fresh start full of promise. We can and should reflect on what's in the past, learn from it and do better going forward, but we should also be grateful for the things we got right. It's never too late to do and be better. I promise!

I'm not talking about making New Year's resolutions. Even made with the best of intentions, they can defeat the purpose, creating disappointment and frustration if not fully realized. So instead of making grand promises, I suggest starting small. Acknowledge what you'd

like to improve and think of little ways you can start the process. Don't overwhelm or put undue pressure on yourself. Want to de-clutter your house? Start with one drawer or a corner of one room. Want to get fit? Take a walk a few times a week. Think you should eat better? Find ways to make your favorite recipes a little healthier. You get the idea.

The point is that you don't have to have a grand plan at all. Small changes can go a long way to improving your life. The trick is to do something, anything, and stick with it by making it part of your routine. Before you know it, you may notice you feel better and have more energy to not only keep at it but increase it. The best goals are reached by gradually folding new things into your life seamlessly until they become a positive part of your day-to-day.

I'm not saying it's easy at first. Change is always a little tough. But just being aware of what you want to improve goes a long way. You're worth the effort, and even the smallest success will make a difference in everything you do.

Think of the process as a recipe you've always wanted to try but found daunting. Maybe you think you lack the skill to pull it off. Maybe the ingredients are hard to come by or difficult to work with. It all depends on how willing you are to try it. But no one needs to know if you don't get it right the first time and guess what? You may not. You're doing it for yourself. The recipe is right in front of you, so just assemble what you need, organize your thoughts and jump in. If it doesn't turn out quite right that's perfectly OK. You'll get better each time you do it and can even get to the point where you play with it and make it your own. Once you get results you're happy with, you may even find you don't need the recipe any more and that, my friends, is a great feeling! Then you have something that's not only yours, but can be shared with confidence.

Cooking, like life, is a process. It can and should be a passion. It feeds the soul, brings comfort and is one of the best ways to show love. All you have to do is try it and have fun doing it. Don't get frustrated; there's no judgment or pressure. Make time to work on it and give yourself permission to fail once in a while. It's much easier than you think. If you want it you can make it happen with a little effort. Preparing food and preparing yourself for a brighter future are best handled with love and intent, the ability to forgive and believe in yourself. The recipe is a starting point, a guideline to follow to get the results you want. Once achieved it's yours forever, part of you. You can tuck it away, share it or take

it out to use whenever you want. It can be a comfort just knowing it's there, knowing what it took to master it and all that the process taught you.

Christmas may be over, but I sincerely hope the spirit of it is still with you as it is with me. It's easy to feel a little let down after all the anticipation and preparation leading up to the holidays, and yet I find my heart is still full. The older I get, the more grateful and aware I become, which helps the warmth to linger past the start of the new year and makes anything I set my mind to a little easier and infinitely more rewarding. And that's a good thing, because there are still a lot of recipes to try and things to learn and improve along the way. It's as good a place to start as any, and I'll be working on plenty to make the feast that is my life the best it can be.

No matter what your 2023 was like, you can still hope for a better 2024. I know I am. No resolutions necessary, just a desire to do better and be better. Here's to a Happy and delicious New Year! Enjoy!

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

## Creative Living

is the arts and entertainment section of  
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## EXHIBITIONS

**Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center**, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through Feb. 29:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. is Stacy Pearl; and at 12 Vassar St. is Jane Ehrlich in the Reception Gallery and Rebecca Zeh in the Hancock Gallery. **Free Public Art Opening Receptions:** Fri., Jan. 5, 5-7 p.m. for Jane Ehrlich and Rebecca Zeh at 12 Vassar St.; and again on Fri., Jan. 12, 5-7 p.m. for Stacy Pearl at 9 Vassar St.. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: [cunneen-hackett.org](http://cunneen-hackett.org)

**Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center**, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Through Jan. 28:** "Silver Linings: Celebrating the Spelman Art Collection," the inaugural show in a five-stop, nationwide tour, made possible through the Art Bridges Foundation. Through the work of nearly 40 artists, Silver Linings uplifts the legacy of artists of African descent spanning the 20th Century through the contemporary moment, many of whom have been overlooked by mainstream art museums. (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>.

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

**Morton Memorial Library**, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. **Jan. 5-30:** "Rhinecliff Train Station: A Celebration," art exhibition inspired by the beautiful train station before the renovations begin to take place. **Opening:** Fri., Jan. 5, 5-7 p.m. (845) 876-2903

**Olana State Historic Site**, Hudson. **Through March 24:** "Spectacle: Frederic Church and The Business of Art," a 21st-century way of viewing Frederic Church's great masterwork, "The Heart of the Andes," and this exhibition highlights the showmanship and marketing that Church used to promote the debut of this work in 1859. For more information and to purchase tickets visit [olana.org/spectacle](http://olana.org/spectacle)

**Rhinebeck Bank**, 6414 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. **Through Feb. 9:** "Here, There and Eclectic," paintings by Richard Trachtman.

**Wallace Center**, FDR Presidential Library & Museum, 4097 Albany Post Rd. (Rte. 9), Hyde Park. **Through Jan. 7:** "Hudson Valley Ice Yachts," display of authentic Hudson Valley Ice Yachts - including KRISS, built for FDR's uncle John Aspinwall Roosevelt. Free to the public. [www.fdrlibrary.org](http://www.fdrlibrary.org)

# 'Cabaret' to open at The Center Jan. 6

CENTERstage Productions invites you to step into the world of "Cabaret," the celebrated musical that has captivated audiences around the globe. For a limited engagement from Jan. 6 to 21, audiences can immerse themselves in the enthralling atmosphere that made this show an enduring classic. This high-caliber theatrical experience featuring promising local talent and a timeless story is not one to miss.

Performances will take place on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m.; with special Saturday matinees at 3 p.m. on Jan. 13 and 20. Tickets are available for \$29 at [www.CenterForPerformingArts.org](http://www.CenterForPerformingArts.org).

When American novelist Cliff Bradshaw (Michael Risio) lands in Berlin, his quest for book material leads him to the infamous Kit Kat Club, a den of intrigue and allure. Here, he encounters the enigmatic Sally Bowles (Amber McCarthy), an English cabaret performer, whose confidence and charm weave into Cliff's life in unexpected ways. As their story unfolds amid a cast of compelling characters like Frau Schneider (Stephany Hitchcock), the pragmatic landlady, and Herr Schultz (Andy Crispell), a Jewish fruit vendor, "Cabaret" elevates itself from mere entertainment to a poignant commentary on the human condition. As the world of the

Club spins with vivacity and decadence, the shadow of the Nazi party's rise looms over Berlin.

Presiding over the spectacle is the Emcee (Mary Kate Barnett), whose musical interludes offer both a critique and a mirror to the chaos that ensues. "Cabaret" is not merely a tale of love and life in pre-war Germany; it is a solemn reminder of the importance of action and the costs of indifference.

"Cabaret" is a musical with a book by Joe Masteroff, music by John Kander, and lyrics by Fred Ebb. This production is directed with a deft hand by Peter Risafi, and brought to life with the dynamic musical direction of Paul and JoAnne Schubert, as well as intoxicating choreography by Jordan Stroy.

This CENTERstage production boasts a formidable ensemble, featuring the talents of: Emily Argento, Henry Burkhalter, Jalen Carr, Isabella D'Addario, Emmett Gallinger, Erin Hebert, Cedric James, Brianna Lindgren, Harrison Mark, Sydney Pignatosa, Caleb Sheedy, Jontae Walters, and Anna Xiques.

Secure your tickets by visiting [CenterForPerformingArts.org](http://CenterForPerformingArts.org) at any time or by contacting the box office directly at (845) 876-3080 or [boxoffice@centerforperformingarts.org](mailto:boxoffice@centerforperformingarts.org). The The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck is at 661 Route 308, Rhinebeck.



"Cabaret" is set at the infamous Kit Kat Club in Berlin, a den of intrigue and allure. Courtesy photo



## Old Dutch Village Garden Club ends 2023 with community service, shares plans for 2024

By Nancy Bendiner and Felice Gelman

In November 2023, Old Dutch Village Garden Club (ODVGC) continued its mission of community service to the Red Hook Community with the donation of a bench to Red Hook High School. The bench is near the new high school auditorium and is shaded by a crimson maple tree also donated by the club. Kyle Roddey, Red Hook High School Principal, met with ODVGC President Nola Weit and members Cathy Michael and Linda Lawson to dedicate the bench. Rich Lawson and Hop Michael mounted

a plaque on the back of the bench.

ODVGC traditionally decorates Red Hook village according to the season. Readers may remember our Fall decorations for Hardscrabble Day at the Four Corners. In December, members gathered on a cold, windy day at the Memorial Garden, across from CVS on Route 9. Colorful ornaments and holiday lights were placed to create an eye-catching display.

Another ODVGC tradition is the enjoyment of good food with refreshments at every meeting. To end the year on a celebratory note, the traditional Christmas luncheon was held at Christina's Restaurant in Kingston, where officers for 2024 were installed: Nola Weit, President; Cathy Michael, Treasurer; Janet del Rosario, Recording Secretary; and Carol Annas, Corresponding Secretary.

Members and any interested in learning more about the Old Dutch Village Garden Club are invited to join in the annual January soup luncheon.

The February 8 ODVGC meeting will feature a presentation by Brenda Brockett, past president of the Rhinebeck Garden Club. She will speak on Gardeners of Color- about black gardeners who in years past tended many of the gardens of local estates.

ODVGC meetings are held at 12:30 p.m. the second Thursday of most months at St. John's Reformed Church in Upper Red Hook. Please check out our Facebook site for coming events. We look forward to seeing you!

Left, top: Members of the Old Dutch Village Garden Club (ODVGC) attend the annual Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 14, 2023. Courtesy photo. Bottom: Night view of Memorial Garden, December 2023. Photo courtesy of Nola Weit

### Answers to this week's diversions

(puzzles on page 10)

**Suguru solution**

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

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

**SUDOKU**  
This week's answer

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

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143 Baby-sitting  
145 Adult Care  
150 Announcements  
151 Adoption  
152 Novenas  
154 Lost & Found  
155 Personal Services

201 Home Improvement  
202 Cleaning Services  
203 Lawn Services  
221 Professional Services  
222 Tax Experts  
223 Beauty Services  
225 Business Services  
226 Travel & Services  
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505 Free Items  
506 Computers  
507 Sports Equipment  
508 Exercise Equipment

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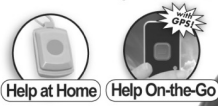
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**Legal Notices**

**NOTICE OF TAX COLLECTION 2024 TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY, NEW YORK**  
**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**, that I, Mary Beth Muir, the undersigned Collector of Taxes of the Town of Pleasant Valley, County of Dutchess and State of New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Pleasant Valley for the year 2024, and that I will attend at Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, in the said Town of Pleasant Valley from today to February 29, 2024 at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 6:00 o'clock in the afternoon on

**Legal Notices**

**TUESDAY and THURSDAY and FRIDAY** collection hours will be 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon. **MONDAY and WEDNESDAY** 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon. **MARCH, APRIL and MAY** collection hours will be 9 o'clock in the forenoon to 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon with the exception of **FRIDAY** collection hours will be 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon, except **SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS and LEGAL HOLIDAYS** for the purpose of collecting the taxes listed on the said roll.

**Legal Notices**

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE**, that taxes may be paid on or before February 29, 2024 without charge or interest. On all taxes received after such date, there shall be a 2 percent added interest if paid on or before March 31, 2024 and an additional 1 percent for each additional month or fraction thereof thereafter until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the county treasurer pursuant to law. **TAKE FURTHER NOTICE**, that pursuant to the provisions of law the tax roll of the Town of Pleasant Valley will be returned to the Dutchess County Commissioner of

**Legal Notices**

Finance on the 1st day of June, 2024. **PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE**, a reminder of unpaid taxes will be sent on or before May 01, 2024. A fee of \$2.00 will be added to your tax bill during the full month of May. **DATED:** January 1, 2024 Mary Beth Muir Tax Collector Town of Pleasant Valley  
 EXTENDING LOCAL ORDERS 1, 2 & 3 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 5/2023 EXTENSION TO DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY ORDERS DECLARED BY DUTCHESS

**Legal Notices**

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE:** Please take notice that on December 24, 2023 at 12:00 am., pursuant to Article 2B of the New York State Executive Law, Article III of the Dutchess County Charter and Administrative Code Section 3.05, Acting Dutchess County Executive William F. X. O'Neil extended Local Emergency Order #1, Local Emergency Order #2, and Local Emergency Order #3 in furtherance of Executive Order No. 5 of 2023, dated May 18, 2023. The text of the declaration of state of emergency and local emergency orders is available at [www.dutchessny.gov](http://www.dutchessny.gov)

**Legal Notices**

Notice is hereby given that the Pleasant Valley Board of Fire Commissioners will hold their Re-organizational meeting for 2024 on Sunday, January 1, 2024 at 10:00 am at the Pleasant Valley Fire District Headquarters, 1619 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York. By order of the Pleasant Valley Board of Fire Commissioners. Signed: Jennifer Broas, District Secretary  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE**  
 The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Pough-

**Legal Notices**

keepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-06-24 Non-Secure Detention Services Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 24th day of January 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

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

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**FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT HEADQUARTERS**

# OBITUARIES



**Dominick Anthony Cama**

In Loving Memory of Dominick Anthony Cama October 19, 1953 - December 21, 2023, Dominick Anthony Cama, a cherished husband, brother, uncle, and esteemed Supervisory Deputy U.S. States Marshal, passed away on December 21, 2023, leaving behind a legacy of love, bravery, and passion.

Born in Brooklyn, New York on October 19, 1953, Dominick was the son of Pasquale and Teresa Cama. Dominick's dedication to his role as a United States Marshal was unparalleled. He served the nation with honor and distinction, retiring in 2013, having served on the prestigious U.S. Marshals Service-Eastern District of New York Special Response Team. Dominick's unwavering commitment to

upholding justice and protecting the community will forever be admired and remembered.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Dominick had a zest for life that extended into his personal pursuits. He had an undeniable passion for music, particularly singing, which brought him immense joy and fulfillment. His collection of guitars, attesting to his love for the craft, was a tangible expression of his artistic soul.

Dominick's adoration for animals, especially dogs, was evident to all who knew him. His Akita, Melo, Rock, the Chow and the Siberian Husky, Ice, were not just pets, but true companions who brought infinite companionship, loyalty, and affection to his life. Their bond symbolizes the depth of Dominick's love and compassion.

Dominick is survived by his devoted wife of 18 years, Sonia Reynoso-Cama, with whom he shared a profound connection marked by love, laughter, and unwavering support. His loss leaves a void in Sonia's heart that can never be filled, but his memory and the strength of their love will forever endure.

He is also mourned by his dear sister, Marie Reveron of Brooklyn, and his brother, Paul Cama, residing in Colorado. Dominick held a special place in the hearts of his numerous nieces and nephews, who will forever cherish the beautiful memories shared with their beloved uncle.

To honor and pay tribute to Dominick's remarkable life, a service will be held at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery on January 5, 2024, at 12 noon. This gathering will provide an opportunity for family, friends, and colleagues to come together, celebrate Dominick's achievements, and find solace in the memories shared with him.

Dominick Anthony Cama will be remembered as a man of integrity, kindness, and unwavering dedication to his work, his passions, and his loved ones. May his soul find eternal peace, and may his memory forever

inspire and uplift us all.

## Ronald R. Pastrana

RED HOOK--Ronald R. Pastrana, 84, of Red Hook, NY, passed away on Monday, December 25, 2023 at the Hudson Valley Hospice House in Hyde Park, NY.

Born on September 5, 1939, in New York, NY, he was the son of the late Anthony J. Pastrana and Melvina (Rose) Pastrana. Ronald married Josephine Kastelic and they were happily married for many years. Josephine predeceased Ron in 2015.

Ronald proudly served in the United State Army Reserves, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and retiring in September 1999 with over 20 years of service.

Ronald worked as a school administrator for Dutchess County BOCES for many years. He took pride in the aid he was able to provide the students he encountered and truly cared about their journey. Known as Dr. Ronald Pastrana, retired NASA scientist, first initiated the Scientist in Residence Program at Mill Road Intermediate School in Red Hook, NY in 2006 as a two-day enrichment program for fourth graders. In 2008, Dr. Pastrana moved the program to first and fourth graders at Chancellor Livingston Elementary School in Rhinebeck, New York, where it subsequently grew into an all-grades week-long event augmenting their standard science curriculum. The program provided students with background information and hands-on experiences to discuss lunar geology, Earth and Life Sciences, as well as other topics related to the U.S. Space Program. The impact of the program on the student's interests may be clearly seen through the many samples of student essay letters, images, and research papers submitted by following the program.

When this program began at Livingston Chancellor Elementary School in 2008, Dr. Ron donated various examples of student artwork and essay letters for the UHCL Archives. These items were housed in the UHCL Archives Vertical File under the term "Scientist in Residence Program (Rhinebeck, NY)" by the year. Dr. Pastrana annually contributed student research essays, images, artwork, thank you letters, and program overview. These items were formally processed out of the Vertical File and into the Scientist in Residence Program Records after the 2011 donation and also includes addenda up to 2013.

Ronald is survived by his daughter, Christine Meara-Kaplowitz of Hudson, NY; his grandson, David Kaplowitz; in addition to extended family and friends.

In addition to his wife, he is predeceased by his daughter, Theresa Pastrana, and grandson, Terrence Meara.

Friends called at the Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Thursday, December 28th from 4 to 7 PM. Services were held at the funeral home. Interment will be private.

Memorial donations may be made in Ronald's memory to the Hudson Valley Hospice-Foundation, 80 Washington Ave., Suite 204, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 or to Camp Hill Village, Copake, NY.

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

## David Alan Bloomer

BARRYTOWN--David Alan Bloomer, 69, passed away on Saturday, December 23rd at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Rhinebeck on July 21, 1954 to parents Harold Delmar and Pearl Godfrey Bloomer Jr. He was raised on Sylvania Farms where he developed a lifetime affection for Barrytown.

David graduated from Red Hook schools in 1973 and won individual, doubles and team events in tennis sectionals during his high school years. After graduation, he worked doing heating and plumbing at Bard College for forty-five years. He held dual 2A class state licenses in sewage and water treatment

and was responsible for the plants at Bard College and the Unification Theological Seminary in Barrytown where he worked for nineteen years. He was a member of the New York State Rural Water Association.

David enjoyed traveling around the United States and Europe, and especially enjoyed family vacations in Aruba and the Outer Banks, North Carolina. He cherished his time being "Papa" to his grandkids and was known by all for his fun-loving personality.

On August 21, 1977, he married Roberta Langhans Bloomer who survives at home. Also surviving are his children David Bloomer Jr. (Courtney) of Westfield, New Jersey and Brenda Palmatier (Eric) of Red Hook and his five grandchildren, Christopher, Isabelle, and Matthew Bloomer and Madeline and Amelia Palmatier.

David was the youngest of five children. His surviving siblings are: his brother Harold (Butch) Delmar Bloomer III (Sallie), of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Deborah Bathrick of Red Hook, and twin sister Diane Warner (Mike) of Great Barrington, Massachusetts. He is also survived by his Aunt Jane Garcia of Barrytown, Aunt Sandy Lydon (Randy) of Barrytown, Aunt Joyce Schmitt (Ken) of Portland, Oregon, longtime friend Robert L. Bathrick of Red Hook and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was predeceased by his sister Donna Gillette, her husband, Peter and his brother-in-law Robert R. Bathrick.

Calling hours were held Thursday, December 28th, at the Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, 51 W. Market St., Rhinebeck. Members of the Red Hook Elks Lodge #2022 conducted services at 7:00 PM. Funeral Services were Friday, December 29th, at the funeral home. Interment followed at St. John's Cemetery, Barrytown.

Donations may be made to the Red Hook/Rhinebeck Benevolent Order of Elks Lodge #2022 where he was a member or the SPCA.

To sign the online register please visit [dapsonchestney.com](http://dapsonchestney.com)

## Janine Elizabeth Gleason

HYDE PARK--Janine Elizabeth Gleason, 91, (nee) Lowery, passed away on Monday, December 18, 2023 at home with her loving daughter and son by her side.

Born February 21, 1932 in Poughkeepsie, NY, she was the daughter of James Lowery and Elizabeth (Horton) Lowery.

Janine grew up in Poughkeepsie and graduated from Poughkeepsie High School. She married John W. Gleason where they resided in Hyde Park, NY.

Janine was a devoted mother and wife. She was a stay at home mother for the early part of her four children's lives. She was a pillar of support during her husband's professional golf career.

She excelled in creativity. She inspired people with her beautiful paintings and delighted them with her personalized caricature drawings. Her beautiful crocheted scarfs, hats and blankets wrapped her family in her love. Her beautiful garden filled her yard with intoxicating sweet fragrance of her cultivated flowers, plants, trees and wild flowers. Birds of all kinds took haven in the well supplied bird houses. Hummingbirds dazzling with fleeting color were magical to spy.

Janine is survived by her daughter Susan E. Ogden and son David and his wife Gina Ogden. Two granddaughters; Kimberly Muszynski and Cindy Loizzo and their families. Grandsons; Bruce and Charles Miller and their families and brother Robert Lowery.

Janine was preceded in death by her husband John Gleason, son William J. Ogden and daughter Janine T. DeMartine, brother Richard Lowery, sisters Patricia Deger, Barbara Hedrick and Sara Rodriguez.

In keeping with her wishes cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Janine's life is pending.



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