



FESTIVAL OF BOOKS
This weekend in Spencertown Page 24



GOING SOMEWHERE?
Check our calendar Page 9



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David Lee

How cool these mortals be

Last weekend's presentation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was a community theater project bringing together a cast from diverse backgrounds and degrees of experience. Director Carol Rusoff envisioned the Shakespeare play being presented within the posts and

beams of the unique Churchtown Dairy round barn, cows having been moved out to pasture for the summer. It was about as close as a theater could get to the feeling of the Globe Theater in London, the play's original venue. See more on Page 14.

Summertime traditions say so long for now

By DEBORAH E. LANS

GHENT—Okay. You may have read about these two groups before. After all, the Ghent Band has been in existence since 1899. And, almost as long as there has been an Oakdale Lake (built in roughly 1916) kids have enjoyed swimming there, and Hudson's Youth Department formally started a camp there in 2007. But

Continued on Page 14

Housing crisis: Who's doing what to ease it?

By DEBORAH E. LANS

GHENT—What Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress (Pattern) wrote in a recent study of the entire Hudson Valley applies equally to the county's housing crisis: The "problems can be summarized in three simple sentences. We do not have enough housing. The housing we have is too expensive for most of our neighbors. And our local codes and review processes make it

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An affectionate thanks and send-off for Deb's Day Care

Debbie Stewart-Waithe knows kids. The Claverack resident operated and cared for hundreds of little kids at her Deb's Day Care. On Sunday, August 27, she was reunited with former students, their parents and some recent graduates. Ms. Stewart-Waithe has been helping families since 1997, the same year she married her husband, retired Hudson Police Detective Rodney Waithe. She credits the Hudson Area Library and the Claverack Free Library as being two great community resources that her day care frequently utilized. Trey Morrison and Treyayne Morrison plant a thank you kiss on Ms. Stewart-Waithe (center) at the Sunday send-off in Churchtown. Ms. Stewart-Waithe also watched Treyayne's 6 year old son.

Lance Wheeler

St. James hosts annual school supply

The St. James Catholic Church of Chatham conducted its 26th annual school supply weekend. Pencils, pens, markers, binders, erasers, glue sticks, colored paper, post-it notes, colored pencils, pocket folders, backpacks, and pencil boxes were collected. They will be distributed courtesy of the Chatham and Ghent Food Pantries. After the service on Sunday morning, August 27, Daniel Langley and his mom Sheila Stumph and Penelope Petty and her mom Katherine Kim sorted through the giant pencil box filled with donations.



David Lee



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Future of HHA property discussed along with current issues

By JEANETTE WOLFBERG

HUDSON—The Hudson Housing Authority’s redevelopment partner presented scenarios that would include closing part of State Street and extending First Street, at the HHA Board of Commissioners meeting July 17, where parking and outdoor sprinklers also received attention.

The HHA (Hudson Housing Authority) runs the income-restricted Bliss Towers and Columbia apartments. Together these have 135 apartments, but only 106 of them currently are rentable as they are now, Executive Director Jeffrey Dodson acknowledged at the meeting. The HHA plans to redevelop its property. This redevelopment will probably include demolishing the existing buildings and rehousing the residents. This April the HHA selected Mountco Construction and Development Corporation to partner with it in this redevelopment. Two Mountco officers, Executive Vice President John Madeo and Development Director Eu Ting-Zambuto, attended the meeting. They reported what their company has done so far, and presented very preliminary visions of the end product. Under the best case scenario, the earliest construction can begin is fall 2024, they said.

“We want to make sure that when we finish, we’ll have improved people’s quality of life,” Mr. Madeo said.

Over the past 3 months, Mountco has commissioned studies of HHA property to determine what construction is possible, while starting preparations to apply for funding from the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal, Mr. Madeo and Ms. Ting-Zambuto reported. The studies include soil boring, topographic surveys, environmental and suitability studies, and property appraisals. The results should be ready by September. However, applying for the funding is a long and complex process. Therefore, the partnership is already preparing for parts of the application, including a preliminary design of what they will build. As part of this preparation, the Mountco officers presented visions of the HHA land after redevelopment, each scenario diagrammed on a big poster, with shapes for buildings.

HHA’s current buildings stand between State and Columbia streets, on land boarded by Second Street and the Schuyler Court buildings. Across State Street lies more HHA land with a basketball court and playground. Plans call for constructing buildings

on both sides of State Street. But Mountco, said its representatives, will initially consider each side as a separate site. They envision first building on the site that has no residential buildings. Then, when it comes time to build on the other side and demolish residences, the inhabitants can move into the already-erected new buildings.

Still, they want to keep the two sites a unified community and maximize open green common space. Thus the proposal to close State Street between the two sites. Some scenarios also call for extending First Street from Columbia Street to State Street, on the grassy strip currently between HHA land and the Schuyler Court apartments. First Street currently runs from Union to Columbia Streets.

“Any reaction to the pedestrianization of State Street?” Ms. Ting-Zambuto asked the audience. Initially, no HHA resident responded. But the Mountco spokespeople said “Anecdotally, there’s a general excitement about” it, and Commissioner Nick Zachos said he felt the same. On that part of State Street, people drive too fast, he said. At earlier meetings, people have said that stretch of State Street does not feel safe.

Of course, Mr. Dodson said,

re-configuring the streets would require state, county, and city approval.

Board Chair Revonda Smith noted that “this area has the highest rate of asthma in the county.” Since trucks could contribute to this, the question arose as to how this reconfiguration would effect truck traffic.

Nobody said anything about the three parcels of additional land the HHA has the option of buying, from the City of Hudson, at a discount price, should it want them in the development.

What do HHA tenants actually want? The Mountco officials said those who talked with them had mentioned basketball and parking. The basketball courts really are used, they acknowledged. If new construction covers them, Mr. Dodson promised that they will be rebuilt.

Mountco’s posters, prepared by Alexander Gorlin Architects, did not clearly indicate how many stories the buildings would have. Mr. Dodson said, “I would really like to see” the number of units doubled. (That would mean 270 apartments.) The Mountco representatives said they also hoped to increase the number of units. But “what’s going to drive this is parking,” Mr. Madeo said.

The number of parking spaces will reflect the shape of the new buildings and more. There will have to be trade-offs, Mr. Madeo said. With fewer parking spaces, one can have more apartments, larger apartments, a larger playground, and more ancillary amenities, such as retail.

Possibilities mentioned at the meeting included one parking space for every two households, one parking space for every one and a half households, one parking space per household, and more than one

parking space per household. “Quite frankly,” said Mr. Dodson, on Bliss grounds, “we see most of the parking spaces empty.” In the about 70 parking spots, there are only about 30 cars. Mr. Zachos said that some HHA parking lots are empty, but the one by the basketball court is full.

A Bliss resident responded that she parks in that lot because she can see her car there from her apartment window. Still, she called closing part of State Street “a good idea.” Furthermore, “I’d park in the street to get a larger apartment.”

Another Bliss resident said that to create more housing while providing enough parking, one should “cut the things we need the least.” Amenities to cut, she said, include grocery stores because of the grocery stores already in Hudson and the shopper’s bus.

But redevelopment is in the future and people live in HHA buildings today.

For the people living in HHA buildings today, a resident proposed running a sprinkler on the lawn on hot days. It would be a way for kids, and some adults, to cool off.

But another resident reported that in New York City such sprinkling is not allowed, because it interferes with the water pressure firefighters need.

Also at the meeting, Commissioner Anthony Bennett, who lives on HHA property, reported that in Providence Hall, across Columbia Street from HHA land, people have laundry cards and asked whether HHA residents could get the same. Mr. Dodson replied that that would require redoing, and perhaps replacing, the machines in Bliss’ laundry room. But “it’s something we can look at in the new development.”

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The Columbia County Fair opens its gates August 30 with midway rides and games, demolition derbies, livestock shows, delicious food, exhibits, contests, magic, monster tractor pull, rodeo and many musical guests. This year on the Main Stage Tom Petty Tribute Band, The Brokenhearted and Bon Jovi Tribute Band, Raise Your Hands both perform on September 3.

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Man charged with groping women at Bard College

By DIANE VALDEN

RED HOOK—State Police arrested Nathan Holmes, 32, of Gallatin for two counts of forcible touching, a class A misdemeanor, August 24.

Investigations into two separate incidents at Bard College, in which victims were sexually groped in public, determined that the perpetrator was allegedly Mr. Holmes, who is not a

student or a member of staff at the college.

He was arraigned in the Town of Red Hook Court and returned to the Albany County Jail where he is being housed for similar offenses. He is next scheduled to appear in the Red Hook Court, September 28.

To contact Diane Valden email dvalden@columbiapaper.com



Owl tangles with net

August 4, Environmental Conservation Officer Matthew Rutherford responded to Craryville for reports of a Great Horned owl entangled in a net. Officer Rutherford carefully cut the net and released the owl. After observing the bird for several minutes after its release, the ECO determined the owl was suffering from injuries that needed further evaluation and brought the bird to the Friends of Feathered and Furry Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Hunter where it was treated for dehydration and an injured wing. The owl was released back into the wild after making a full recovery.

DEC



Garbage truck rolls off ramp

The driver of a County Waste garbage truck refused medical attention after his truck rolled over on the New York State Thruway, Exit B-2 in East Chatham, August 28. Columbia County 911 dispatched East Chatham firefighters, and under automatic mutual aid, Canaan and Red Rock firefighters and Chatham Rescue at 12:20 p.m. for the accident off the eastbound lane on the ramp. Per East Chatham Command, Canaan and Red Rock units were held in their own quarters and then canceled because they were not needed at the scene. The driver refused medical attention and was not transported by Chatham Rescue. A unit from New York State Thruway Traffic Safety was on the scene. State Police from Troop T investigated the accident. East Chatham firefighters were back in service at 12:46 p.m.

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Two collide at Canaan intersection

Columbia County 911 dispatched Canaan and Red Rock firefighters and Chatham Rescue, August 26 at 11:05 a.m. for a reported two vehicle accident at the intersection of County Route 5 and State Route 295 in the Town of Canaan. Red Rock Firefighters were not needed at the scene and were returned to service. There was no transport by Chatham Rescue. State Police investigated. Canaan firefighters were back in service at 11:31 a.m.

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Pet therapy info offered

GREAT BARRINGTON, MA—Fairview Hospital's Volunteer Program presents The Pet Therapy Prescription: How to Become a Certified Therapy Dog, Monday, September 11 at 3 p.m. in the ground floor conference room at Fairview Hospital, 29 Lewis Avenue.

Honor Blume, director of Canine Link Therapy Training in Sheffield, presents an overview of training, benefits, risks, who is a good candidate to consider pet therapy and how training and volunteering pro-

grams are administered.

Certified pet therapy volunteers at Fairview speak about their experience at Fairview and at other organizations in the community. Volunteer Manager, Tammy Risley, gives an overview of Fairview Hospital's program and the requirements of joining the program.

There is no charge to attend but pre-registration is requested. Call the Volunteer Office at Fairview Hospital at 413-854-9635 or email trisley@bhs1.org to register.

Sandra Buchanan joins Beach & Bartolo Realtors

CHATHAM—Chuck Bartolo, principal broker of Beach & Bartolo Realtors, Inc has announced that Sandra Buchanan has joined the agency as a licensed real estate salesperson. Her addition brings Beach & Bartolo to a total of 16 licensees, 9 associate real estate brokers and 7 real estate salespersons.

Ms. Buchanan earned an associates degree in applied science from Columbia-Greene Community College in 2000. She proceeded to graduate in 2002 from the Center For Natural Wellness, in the field of massage therapy, and then went on to graduate from the Hudson Valley School of Esthetics in August 2007. She owned and operated Serenity Wellness Center Day Spa for 15 years, and continues to work there part time.

Ms. Buchanan turned her long standing passion for Real Estate into a career in 2017, when she earned her NYS Real Estate License. She is excited to



Sandra Buchanan

continue her training and advance her career.

She has a podcast called "Iron Sharpener Network," a not-for-profit organization that supports widows and orphans, and fights against human trafficking internationally. She is also an assistant pastor at All Nations Church in Hudson.

Ms. Buchanan welcomes the opportunity to help you with any of your real estate needs, or simply to answer any real estate questions you may have. She can be reached at the office at 518-392-2700 X 124.



Photo contributed

Pictured is the 1st place team that scored 10 under par: Kevin Carolan, Dave Mahoney, Bryan Mahoney and Chris Puls with golf volunteer Arica Cooper of Arica's Insurance.

CMH Foundation's tourney raises \$55K

CLAVERACK—More than 120 golfers from across the region took to the fairways at Columbia Golf and Country Club August 7 to raise \$55,000 to support Columbia Memorial Health's network of health care services in Columbia and Greene counties.

The CMH Foundation is grateful to its featured sponsors: Metzwood Insurance, CDPHP, New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association, Inc., and Davin Healthcare; and to all the generous sponsors, players, and raffle donors who con-

tributed to the tournament's success. To make a contribution or to learn more about the CMH Foundation visit: www.givecmh.org/events or contact Barbara Klassen at bklassen@cmh-net.org

CBS merges with In Flight to enhance services

RED HOOK—Community Based Services (CBS) announced plans to merge with In Flight, Inc., a New York-based organization that provides residential, community and day habilitation services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This transformative partnership will further CBS's mission and reach to provide innovative programs and quality support to people with autism and other disabilities and their families in the New York area.

"This merger not only addresses the post-Covid challenges of staffing shortages, stringent regulations and escalating inflation, but also aligns with CBS's strategic plan to seek collaborations with like-minded organizations that maintain high standards of excellence," said Chief Strategy Officer Bhakar Singh, who is the lead CBS staff member facilitating the merger. Mr. Singh has begun the process of obtaining the necessary New

York State governmental approvals for the merger and expects it to be completed by January 2024.

CBS provides comprehensive services in the lower to mid-Hudson Valley, and In Flight, Inc., based in Red Hook, operates in Dutchess, Ulster, Columbia, and Greene counties. In a press release, Mr. Singh explained that "the merger aims to enhance the quality, creativity, and scope of existing and new support services within the Hudson Valley and Capital Regions. The combined leadership teams will work collaboratively to achieve operational efficiencies and enhanced service delivery."

With compatible organizational cultures, CBS says the merger will not result in any layoffs, and will create greater opportunities for staff growth and development. This, in turn, will empower the organization to continually improve salaries and benefits over time.

Community Based Services

will be the surviving entity of the merger and Chief Executive Officer Vicki Sylvester, PhD, will continue to lead the organization. CEO of In Flight, Inc., Matt Bateman, will assume the role of chief administrator in the newly-merged organization.

"Both agencies are known for high standards and excellence in service delivery. Many of the services provided by each entity complement one another. This enhances the services provided to individuals with disabilities in a larger geographic area. I strongly believe that bringing our two agencies together will create an even stronger, more robust organization," CEO Sylvester said in the release.

"We are enthusiastic about joining forces with CBS. Our collective expertise and shared values will undoubtedly elevate the services we offer and amplify the positive impact on the people we serve," Mr. Bateman said in the release.

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School Queen contest returns to the fair

CHATHAM—The School Queen contest returns to the North Gate Stage of the Columbia County Fair on Friday, September 1, at 6 p.m. This is the 83rd year of this traditional event, in which representatives from the county's six public schools vie for cash prizes. As always, the entrants are all actively involved in school activities, with diverse interests and talents.

•Gianna Stang is Miss Taconic Hills. Gianna loves to volunteer at school events and is an active member of the drama club and field hockey team. Her favorite high school subject is chorus

•Miss New Lebanon is Sage Rogers. Sage's musical interests have landed her in the school's band and choir, and she also enjoys volleyball. She has an artistic side, which includes photography, floral and interior design, and music. Sage also enjoys rescuing dogs

•Germantown Central School is represented by Shea Mudge. Shea's academic interests lean towards science, although she is also active in sports, with a place on both the varsity volleyball and softball teams. She has an artistic side as well, and loves to draw, paint, sing, act, and write

•Isabella DeTorre is Ichabod



Photo contributed
Top row (l to r) Gianna Stang, Sage Rogers, Shea Mudge. Bottom row (l to r) Isabella DeTorre, Jahnyah Armstrong, Lexi Beaumont

Crane's School Queen. Her athleticism is reflected in participation in track and field and the Girls Athletic Council. She is also a member of the National Honor Society and S.A.V.E., Students Against Violating the Earth

•Jahnyah Armstrong is

Chatham High's School's representative this year. Jahnyah's favorite subject is history, and she enjoys tennis, basketball, and ceramics in her free time. Her interests include reading, watching movies -- especially documentaries -- and art

•Hudson High is represent-

ed by Lexi Beaumont. Lexi's favorite subject in school is forensic science, and she plays in the school's jazz band. She also has a strong interest in the arts, teaching younger students while also dancing competitively. A performer in productions across the state, Lexi plans to

attend Russell Sage College during her senior year on a musical theater internship to improve her craft.

The 182nd Columbia County Fair is located off Route 66 in Chatham.

Opening day is Wednesday, August 30, at noon. The fair always runs over Labor Day, and concludes on Monday, September 4. General Admission is \$13 and includes parking and all entertainment. Children 12 and under are free. Daily hours are Wednesday, noon to 11 p.m.; Thursday to Monday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Special ride passes are available only at the ride ticket booth across from the cattle area near the North Gate Entrance.

No pets are allowed on the fairgrounds at any time. Service dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for individuals with disabilities will be admitted. All service dogs must have proof of rabies vaccinations to enter the grounds. Do not leave your dog in the car. Any dog left in a vehicle will be turned over to the local authorities/dog warden at the expense of the owner.

The full fair schedule and additional information is available at www.columbiafair.com

Important words from HCSD's new super

By JEANETTE WOLFBERG

HUDSON—"The diversity of the student body," the strategic plan's "focus on the student," and the beauty of the area are reasons Dr. Juliette Pennyman gave for seeking the position of Superintendent of the Hudson City School District (HCSD), at a media conference in Hudson High School auditorium August 9. "I look forward to being here in this wonderful community," she said.

The HCSD Board of Education, on August 8, named Dr. Pennyman superintendent starting September 1. Dr. Pennyman's contract is for three years, but it gives the board the option of extending her employment at the end of that term.

In response to questions related to the directions she plans to take, Dr. Pennyman said, "We have to be aware of and focus on the whole child." She noted the importance of the students' social emotional development and achievements.

"What I have learned," added Dr. Pennyman, who has almost 30 years experience in education and education

administration, "is always to be in the role of servant. I serve the students, I serve the teachers, I serve the parents, I serve the board."

Moreover, Dr. Pennyman said, "I will be visible in the community and make sure I am available." She said that in finding a place to live, her first choice is Hudson, because "it is important to be seen in the community." She foresaw "working with stakeholders so that Hudson can be a beacon of light."

Although most of Dr. Pennyman's experience has been with grade school and high school education, her latest position has been associate dean of academic services at Cheyney University in Pennsylvania. When asked how her time at a college would influence her, she answered that higher education needs to understand what happens in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, and pre-kindergarten through 12th grade needs to understand what happens in higher education. Students in lower grades need to realize more what will be expected of them in college. Dr. Pennyman

called her time at the university "a great experience."

Meanwhile, when asked what she planned to do for student safety, Dr. Pennyman called the HCSD's recently-created safety plan "very robust."

One thing Dr. Pennyman has labeled a top priority, according to Communications Specialist Austin Crosier, is naming a new Diversity Equity Inclusivity (DEI) manager to replace Dr. Trinidad Hernandez, who resigned, effective at the close of business August 25. "The DEI manager plays a vital role in the Superintendent's cabinet and develops and implements policies to ensure that every student in the Hudson City School District is provided with every opportunity to succeed and thrive in a safe, inclusive learning environment," Mr. Crosier said.

On September 1, Dr. Pennyman will take over as Superintendent from Interim Superintendent Cheryl Rabinowitz, who will then return to her regular position of District Instructional Technology Manager and Data Protection Officer.

Graduates

Dexheimer graduates from BSC

BISMARCK, ND—Sierra Dexheimer, Chatham, graduated from Bismarck State College with an associate in applied science degree in Electric Power Technology during the college's 83rd commencement ceremony on May 12, at the Bismarck Event Center.

Local residents graduate from RIT

ROCHESTER—Rochester Institute of Technology conferred more than 4,800 degrees at all of its campuses in the 2022-23 academic year. RIT's academic convocation celebration was held in May and featured remarks by Thomas Zurbuchen, astrophysicist and the longest continually serving associate administrator for the Science Mission Directorate in NASA's history.

The following local residents received degrees:

Thomas Carroll, Valatie, received a degree in political science (BS); Remi Schneider, Valatie, received a degree in physics (BS).

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Building Decarbonization Grants available

CHATHAM—Partners for Climate Action (PCA), a local nonprofit, has announced a new grant program entitled Building Decarbonization Grants (BDG), which will assist municipalities and local nonprofits in the Hudson Valley that are reducing the carbon footprint of their buildings. Interested parties can apply at www.climateactionhv.org/decarb-grant. PCA will offer an online info session for applicants on September 19; RSVP at the link above.

The Hudson Valley has some of the oldest building stock in the country, and the heating and cooling of buildings is the number one con-

tributor of greenhouse gasses in NY State. Therefore, transitioning to renewable energy sources is crucial. Examples of this include municipalities and local nonprofits converting to heat pumps or geothermal, installing solar, upgrading to more green appliances, adding insulation, and switching out old windows. While there are state and federal programs to help with the costs of these upgrades, the pathway to securing these grants can be complicated and many come with hefty matches. Some of these grants from larger funders require engineering/design work, which costs money upfront. The new grant from

Partners for Climate Action steps in to fill these gaps.

“We have been working closely with municipalities and non-profits through our other PCA programs, and we have been struck by how overwhelming the federal and state grant processes are. Just the other day, a volunteer we work with in Columbia County said her village board won’t be pursuing any of these types of climate change projects because they require matching funds,” explained Vanessa Bertozzi, who co-directs the BDG program, in a press release.

The applications open on September 5, and the deadline is November 21. Municipalities

and local nonprofits from the counties of Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam, Rensselaer, and Ulster are welcome to apply. Grants in the range of \$5,000 to \$100,000 will be distributed to selected applicants. Grantees will have a 1-year period to spend their grants.

“We feel the urgency of this moment and want to see climate action, so we’re offering this helping hand,” adds Paige Ruane, co-director of the BDG and one of the founders of PCA. “In addition to the money, we are also trying to make this process more human.” As part of the BDG program, Ms. Ruane says they

will host guest speakers, lead field trips to inspiring projects, and offer office hours where accepted applicants can bring questions.

PCA has put together a grant selection committee and charged them with a goal of deploying 40% of the grant funds to disadvantaged communities.

Interested parties are encouraged to attend the optional info session or visit www.climateactionhv.org for the application and more details.

HOUSING CRISIS

Continued from Page 1

very difficult to build more of the housing we direly need.”

Okay. So what’s being done to address the problems? Actually, a lot.

The Columbia County Housing Task Force, which has been at work a scant eight months now, has set itself three broad goals: (1) To preserve and expand housing affordability, attainability and availability throughout the county; (2) to increase community awareness and understanding of the issues in aid of energizing community response; (3) to develop and provide to towns the resources they need to achieve their housing goals, such as model zoning provisions, prospective development partners and grant sources.

In line with those goals, the task force is conducting a survey of county employers so as to better pinpoint the needs they see. It is also poised to issue a “toolbox” of actions a community can take to catalyze housing development and it is proposing to the Board of Supervisors that the county apply to the state for a permit to create a local land bank.

A land bank is a mechanism, partially state-funded, by which tax-foreclosed, vacant or abandoned land is acquired and redeveloped for housing.

The Task Force is also looking at what programs have been successful elsewhere and might be implemented here. One such is the HomeShare Woodstock program run by Family of Woodstock (Family).

The concept of the program is simple: identify a “host” who has room in his/her home or in an accessory dwelling unit for a “guest” who needs housing and make a match. The details have

been considered with care. Ultimately, the parties will agree on: a rent amount and some light services to be provided by the guest, such as driving, gardening, shopping, or pet walking.

The key to the program’s success, says Program Director Janice LaMotta, is the “high touch” nature of Family’s involvement. As designed by LaMotta and Family’s long-time volunteer Susan Goldman, the program begins with interviews of prospective providers and of seekers of housing. Each meets at length with Family volunteers, many of whom have social work backgrounds.

In the process the needs, expectations, lifestyle and abilities of applicants are assessed. Extensive background checks are made (criminal, commercial and reference surveys). If the Family team perceives a possible match, the parties are introduced and then may proceed to a two-week trial, if appropriate. Only after the trial is an agreement committed to paper.

Moreover, Family stays in the picture. Not only does a liaison check in periodically with each participant, but Family also offers a 24-hour hotline for any immediate issues and mediation in the event of conflict. Either party can exit the arrangement for any reason or no reason with two months’ notice.

There is no stereotype of housing seekers (who outnumber providers about 3 to 1) but many are in their 40s to 60s, work part-time, and have many skills. Some are artists, some rely on Social Security, but all have income.

The Family program is the first in the state and has the

support of the state’s Office for the Aging, which has provided funding. Ms. LaMotta hopes the program will serve as a model and resource for others, as it not only helps home owners defer the need to move out to assisted living and gives family members the security of knowing that there is a caring presence in the home, but it also provides needed housing at softer rents than usual (often \$400-500/month) and, importantly, it addresses the harmful isolation experienced by many older citizens; as Ms. Goldman says: “Isolation is the new smoking.” For some in the program, meal sharing and companionship are prime benefits.

In a very different vein, five conservation land trusts and five affordable housing groups in the Hudson Valley have joined together to explore how they might collaborate to address the affordable housing crisis.

About two years ago, Steve Rosenberg, who led Scenic Hudson’s Land Trust for many years and had just retired, joined with Rebecca Gillman Crimmins, an affordable housing professional, to convene the groups to explore whether a joint effort might be fruitful. As Mr. Rosenberg said, the Hudson Valley is already experiencing housing and climate challenges, and climate change will exacerbate those as climate migrants move here from places like California. Construction of right-sized, green housing in ways that do not increase rural sprawl is a goal the two groups can readily share.

The Columbia Land Conservancy (CLC) is not only a participant in the working group but obtained and oversees a grant to facilitate some of its work. As CLC President Troy Weldy explained, although conservation groups and housing developers historically have

seen their missions as adverse, the vitality of the area depends on creating more, and affordable, housing, and land trusts can play an important role in doing so in a conservation-minded way.

Al Belenchia, CEO of Columbia County Habitat for Humanity (Habitat) agrees, and says the group has had “eye-opening” conversations about opportunities they can pursue together to build housing that honors conservation principles, does not add to rural sprawl, is right-sized and helps to meet local needs. He notes that manufactured, vertically-operated septic systems now exist that would allow a home of around 1,000 square feet to be placed on as little as a half-acre, removing the need for a community to build major septic services in order to accommodate clustered housing.

The two local groups have been speaking together with landowners and towns to identify parcels for appropriate development, and have been met with enthusiasm in much of the county.

A frequently-cited obstacle to building affordable housing is the single-family orientation of local zoning laws, which preclude or make difficult the permitting of multi-family dwellings or which require minimum lot sizes that effectively bar clustered housing.

The Town of Copake—in a first for the county’s towns—is proposing zoning changes to support affordable workforce housing. A proposed law significantly simplifies the permitting requirements for the construction of accessory dwelling units and the conversion of existing buildings to small multi-family units of 3-6 units. It also allows for multi-family or clustered dwellings of not more than six units to be constructed on a single lot as long

as some of the units are operated as affordable workforce housing. Major new developments would also be required to include affordable units. Copake’s Town Board is expected to vote on the proposal in September.

Meanwhile, in Hudson, an offshoot of the Spark of Hudson, called Hudson Dots, is renovating existing housing to meet local needs. In Hudson, however, gentrification has meant that much of the housing stock has been bought up, renovated, up-scaled and converted to vacation rentals or luxury homes, displacing existing tenants.

In early 2023, Hudson Dots bought three vacant multi-family buildings and renovated them. Then, it bought nine more buildings that were tenanted. The buildings are dotted around the city.

Unlike a typical buyer, who wants to buy vacant properties, Dots affirmatively did not want the tenants evicted. Instead, it is relocating tenants temporarily to the already-renovated units it bought, renovating their homes, and then offering the homes back to them, at affordable rents.

The concept behind the program is to allow long-time residents to stay in Hudson, stabilizing the community while expanding the roster of affordable housing. Kelly Crimmins, the project director, also notes that Dots families are provided supportive services through alliances with Greater Hudson Promise Neighborhood and other local groups.

Behind each of these innovative efforts is a group hoping to model for others a project through which the affordable housing crisis can be addressed in ways that maintain the character of the local community.



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Judy Collins performs at Equine Advocates gala



Judy Collins

Shervin Lainez

CHATHAM—Judy Collins will perform a special benefit concert for Equine Advocates at the organization’s 22nd Annual Gala on Saturday, September 9, in the intimate pavilion of PS21 (Performance Spaces for the 21st Century).

Collins, who has been entertaining and inspiring audiences since the 1960s, has recorded 55 albums and enjoyed huge successes – with her own songs as well as those of such artists as Joni Mitchell (“Both Sides Now”) and Stephen Sondheim (“Send in the Clowns”). Currently on a worldwide tour, she has shown no signs of slowing down. Her latest release, “Spellbound,” is her first album comprised entirely of original songs.

Collins is also an advocate

for social and environmental justice and other causes. “I am delighted to perform at this event benefitting Equine Advocates,” she said in a press release. “For more than 27 years, this organization has been dedicated to the rescue and protection of America’s wild and domestic equines. I urge all of you to join me on September 9 for a night of music and celebration in support of this very worthy cause.”

“It is an honor to have Judy Collins perform at our gala,” said Susan Wagner, president and founder of Equine Advocates, also in the release, “particularly since this 300-seat venue provides an intimate setting where fans will get to experience her performance up close no matter where they are seated.

Given Collins’ background and involvement with humanitarian causes, I was hoping she would find Equine Advocates’ mission compelling and consider performing at our event – and she agreed!”

The festivities at PS21 will begin at 6 p.m. with a live auction, followed by the concert. VIP ticket holders can enjoy a pre-performance cocktail party (and visit the horses), beginning at 3:30 p.m., at the Equine Advocates Rescue & Sanctuary – 3212 Route 66, just a mile from the concert venue. To purchase tickets for the concert only or for the concert plus cocktail party, or for more information, please visit www.equineadvocates.org or call 518 392-0175.

Crandell to embark on major restoration/renovation

CHATHAM—The Crandell Theatre is excited to unveil its Capital Campaign to renovate and restore the beloved landmark cinema. The effort will finance a major restoration plan to bring much needed architectural, structural and technological improvements to the historic 1926 theater. The Crandell is one of the country’s few single-screen movie theaters still operating and the Crandell Board of Directors and staff are dedicated to keeping the magic alive.

“This renovation will not only restore a beloved institution to its former glory, but will enable state-of-the-art operations that will impact generations of movie lovers to come,” said Crandell Board President Lydia Kukoff, in a press release.

Following an expected nine-month construction period, the new Crandell will have a spacious lobby; new wider seats; expanded, ADA-compliant restroom facilities; state-of-the-art lighting, projection and sound; a new box office; a café; a new marquee that will honor the original 1926 one; and many other exciting improvements.

The plan to restore and renovate the Crandell was conceived in 2019, at a cost of \$2.5 million. However, the cost of building materials has doubled in the wake of the pandemic, and without altering plans or construction drawings, the project is now an estimated \$4 million. The Board of Directors and staff have actively fundraised almost half of that amount, secured with the help of the community and supporters of the theater, and are confident that the remainder is also attainable. Additionally, the



Photo contributed
The Crandell Theatre
Capital Campaign
illustration of the new
facade.

Crandell is grateful to Empire State Development and I LOVE NY/New York State’s Division of Tourism, which recently awarded the project a \$323,000 Market New York capital grant to support the theater restoration and renovation.

Television journalists Al Roker and Deborah Roberts, honorary chairs of the Crandell Capital Campaign, are leading the fundraising effort along with board Capital Campaign Chairs Nick Van Alstine and Lael Locke.

“A treasure of this magnitude cannot be cherished without work, and of course, this work will need to be financed,” said Ms. Roberts, also in the release. “We are proud to be a part of this great community of folks who feel just as passionately as we do about taking the Crandell into the next century.”

Mr. Roker and Ms. Roberts, who have a home in the area, are often reminded of their earliest days here in the Hudson Valley with their two youngest children. “What a joy it was to

discover the Crandell,” Roberts said. “We were captivated by the building as we were transported back in time. It was obvious that this grande dame was a bit frayed after decades of use, but she still possessed a beauty and elegance that no other movie theater matched. And, of course, we were completely dazzled by the ticket price of \$5. OK, so the rates are a bit higher today, but the pleasure of sitting back before a big screen in a historic movie house is priceless.”

“The Crandell is a historic landmark, a source of local pride and identity, and a place that brings people together,” said Executive Director Annie Brody. “Over the decades, the Crandell has been a bright light on Main Street. It is an anchor for local businesses, a beacon for community programs and for ten days out of the year, a spotlight on the world with our nationally recognized FilmColumbia festival.”

Even during the pandemic, the Crandell refused to go dark, offering movies, programs, and

festivals online, and developing plans to add new luster to this architectural jewel in Chatham’s downtown.

“People-supported theaters such as the Crandell are not just crucial to the future of film art, they are essential to the health and vibrancy of our local communities,” said Oscar-nominated screenwriter, director and producer James Schamus, a member of the Crandell Board of Directors. “As a shared space of discovery and celebration, the Crandell draws in and radiates outward the best of our town and region.”

To donate securely online, visit <https://crandelltheatre.org/>

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EVENTS

Calendar

To have an event listed here, send the information (including date, time, street address and cost if any) via email to news@columbiapaper.com or mail to The Columbia Paper, PO Box 482, Ghent, NY 12075-0482, at least two weeks before the event.

Because of the high volume of workshop listing requests, we can list only workshops that are free, free-will donations or where all proceeds support a nonprofit community organization.

AREA ATTRACTIONS

AUSTERLITZ HISTORY CENTER, 812 Rt 203, Spencertown. History of Austerlitz area from 1750s to date. Special exhibit: Education in Austerlitz from 1800s to 1970s. Open Sat, 9-11 am, or by appointments: 518 392-7207.

CLERMONT STATE HISTORIC SITE, 1 Clermont Ave. 500 acres on Hudson River. Grounds, hiking trails open daily, 8:30 am–sunset, free. Tours Thurs–Sun, 11 am–4 pm, \$7 adults, \$6 students/seniors, under 12 free. Visitor Center open Fri–Sun, 10:30 am–4 pm. 518 537-4240, nysparks.com/historic-sites/16/details.aspx.

COLUMBIA COUNTY MUSEUM & LIBRARY, 5 Albany Ave, Kinderhook. Research library, galleries featuring rotating exhibits. Galleries open Sat & Sun, 11 am–4 pm, admission \$5. Research appointments 7 days a week by advance request. cchsny.org. 518 758-9265.

COPAKE IRON WORKS, 35 Valley View Rd, Copake Falls. 15-min self-guided tour available on website, podcast providers. Trails open. info@friendsoftsp.org, 518 329-3251.

FASNY MUSEUM OF FIRE-FIGHTING, 117 Harry Howard Ave, Hudson. Wed–Sun 10 am–4:30 pm, closed holidays. Adults \$12, kids 2-17 \$8, under 2 free, family rate (2 adults & 2 kids) \$25. 518 822-1875 fasny-firemuseum.com.

ICHABOD CRANE SCHOOLHOUSE & 1737 Luykas Van Alen House, 2589 Rt 9H, Kinderhook. Open select weekends, 11 am–4 pm. Grounds & trails, including free outdoor exhibit, Early Heritage of Columbia County, open daily dawn to dusk. cchsny.org. 518 758-9265.

JAMES VANDERPOEL HOUSE, 16 Broad St, Kinderhook. Circa-1820 Federal home featuring exhibition galleries, museum shop. Sat & Sun, 11 am–4 pm, admission \$5 (no entry fee for shop). cchsny.org, 518 758-9265.

LIVINGSTON HISTORY BARN, behind Town Hall, 119 CR 19, Weds. & Sat. 10 am–1 pm, or by appt. Collection of items from colonial times through present: personal items, military uniforms, farm implements, more. 518 851-7637.

MARTIN VAN BUREN National Historic Site, 1013 Old Post Rd, Kinderhook. Grounds & trails open year-round, 7 am–sunset. Daily tours at 10 am, 1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm. Half hour tours 11 am & noon. Visitors Center 9 am–4:30 pm. 518-758-9689. nps.gov/mava. MAVA_info@nps.gov.

MUD CREEK Environmental Learning Ctr, 1024 Rte 66, Ghent. Trails open daily, dawn to dusk. Trailhead next to pavilion, half-mile inner loop and one-mile outer loop returns to parking lot. Leashed dogs permitted. Free.

OLANA STATE HISTORIC SITE, 5720 Rt. 9G, Greenport, home & estate of Hudson River School painter Frederic Church. Tours of house & landscape, guided Fri–Sun, 11 am–3:30 pm. Visitors Center & Museum Store Tue–Sun 9:30 am–5 pm. 250-acre grounds daily, 8 am–sunset, free. olana.org. 518 828-0135.

OLD AUSTERLITZ, 11550 Rt 22. oldausterlitz.org.

RIDERS MILLS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, 112 Riders Mills Rd, Chatham. Original 1795 one-room school house, tour by graduate. Available by appointment Sat–Sun, 9 am–5 pm. 518 794-7264 or 518 794-7146.

ROBERT JENKINS HOUSE, 113 Warren St. Hudson. Open for library research, tours on scheduled days, by appointment. 518 828-9764, hudson-dar.org.

ROELIFF JANSEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM, 8 Miles Rd, Copake Fall. The First 40: A Celebration of Local History Preserved. Sat & Sun 2–4 pm. roeliffjansenh.org. 518 329-0652.

SHAKER MUSEUM Mount Lebanon, 202 Shaker Rd, New Lebanon. Self-guided tours, pasture, hiking trails open. 518 794-9100. shakerml.org.

THOMAS COLE NAT'L HISTORIC SITE, 218 Spring St, Catskill. Home, studios of Hudson River School painter. Audio tours. Guided tours Fri–Sun, 10 am–4 pm. Tickets thomascole.org.

CONTINUING EVENTS

Mondays
HATHA YOGA, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 8:30–10 am. Roberta Roll leads all levels. Proceeds benefit library. Info: 518 329-0684. roejanlibrary.org/adult-programs.

HANDWORK & SCONES, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 10:30 am, free. Meet up with your knitting, crocheting, sewing for conversation & scones. Starts Sept 11. chathampubliclibrary.org.

Second Mondays
HEALTH CARE NAVIGATOR, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 11 am–4 pm. Get assistance shopping for, comparing, enrolling in health insurance, applying for financial assistance for health care coverage. Appointments 518 822-9600.

Last Mondays
NONFICTION BOOK GROUP, Hudson Area Library, virtual event, 6–7 pm. Registration, morton@hudsonarealibrary.org, 518-828-1792 X 101.

Mondays, Wednesdays
CATHOLIC CHARITIES FOOD PANTRY, 431 E Allen St, Hudson, open to those in need, Mon 9 am–noon, Wed noon–5 pm. Drop off monetary donations, non-perishable food, hygiene products at agency. 518 828-8660 X 125. Catholiccharitiescg.org.

MAH-JONG CLUB, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, Chatham, 10:30 am Mon, 2 pm Wed. For experienced players. Chathampubliclibrary.org, 518 392-3666.

FIBER ARTS CIRCLE, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 1–3 pm, free. All levels, experiences welcome. claveracklibrary.org, 518 851-7120.

Mondays, Saturdays
COMMUNITY STRENGTH TRAINING, PS21, 2890 Rt 66, Chatham, 10 am, \$10. Led by Jennifer Lawrence of The Firm Exercise Studio. Pre-registration required: ps21chatham.org.

Tuesdays
TAI CHI, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 10 am, free. David Haines leads. claveracklibrary.org, 518 851-7120.

TAI CHI/QIGONG, Hudson Area Library, 51 N 5th St, 10–11 am, free. Learn various Qigong sets, work on traditional Tai Chi Form with instructor Curt Anthon. Hudsonarealibrary.org, 518 828-1792.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC, Col. Cty Dept of Health, 325 Columbia St, Hudson, 1–4 pm, free. Third Tuesday of month 4–6 pm. Many types of vaccines offered. By appointment only, 518 828-3358 (option #4). sites.google.com/a/columbia-countyny.com/health/health-clinics.

COMMUNITY OUTPOST, Our Community Cares, 25 Hudson Ave, Chatham, 2–4 pm, free. Walk-ins encouraged, learn more about services offered, receive training on Narcan, be given Narcan kit. Twincountyrecovery.com.

CHAIR YOGA, Chatham Public Library, virtual event, 4 pm, free. Kathy Schneider leads, all welcome. Registration: merka@chatham.k12.ny.us.

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT CLASSES, Women's Health Center at CMH Campus, 71 Prospect Ave, Hudson. 4:30

pm, free. For pregnant women, breastfeeding moms & their families. 518 828-1400 to sign up or learn more.

First Tuesdays
BOOTS ON THE GROUND, High-N-Mighty, 71 CR 21C, Ghent, 6–7:30 pm. Veterans welcome for evening of equine activities full of hands-on experiences with the herd. Registration recommended, walk-ins welcome. Rachel@high-n-mighty.org, 518 965-3027, danaerin1222@gmail.com.

First & Third Tuesdays
CHATHAM WRITING GROUP, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 10:30 am. All writers welcome. chathampubliclibrary@chatham.k12.ny.us.

Second Tuesdays
TRI-VILLAGE SENIORS, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 1010 Kinderhook St, Valatie, 1 pm. Bring \$10 for October members bbq. Upcoming trip: Nov 14–16 to Lancaster, PA, \$409-\$659. clmatheke@nycap.rr.com.

Third Tuesdays
TECH HELP, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave or virtual, 2:45–5 pm. One-on-one session with tech expert Lloyd the Geek for help with laptops, tablets, smart phones. Appointments 518 392-3666. chathampubliclibrary.org.

BOARD MEETING, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 6 pm. Public welcome. For more information, email director@roejanlibrary.org.

Last Tuesdays
SENIOR COFFEE HOUR, Hillsdale House, 1 Anthony St, 10–11:30 am. Coffee, donuts, conversation. jslapenn@gmail.com.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
COLUMBIA COUNTY DWYER PROGRAM FOOD PANTRY, 389 Fairview Ave, Hudson, 9 am–noon. Supports local veterans. Hours flexible if needed. 518 828-3610.

Tuesdays, Thursdays
COVID VACCINATION CLINIC, Columbia County Department of Health, 325 Columbia St, Hudson, 1–3:30 pm. columbia-countynyhealth.com.

Wednesdays
COFFEE & CONNECTION, Chamber of Commerce, 1 N Front St, Hudson, 8:30–9:30 am. Bring beverage for informal conversation, networking. columbiachamber-ny.com.

STD CLINIC, Columbia County Dept of Health, 1st Floor, 325 Columbia St, Hudson, 9–10 am, free, no appointment needed. STD testing, treatment, counseling; HIV testing, counseling; all services private, confidential. 518 828-3358. sites.google.com/a/columbia-countyny.com/health/health-clinics.

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Continued on Page 10

EVENTS

Calendar

Continued from Page 9

WALKING GROUP, Harlem Valley Rail Trail Parking lot between Herrington's & Roe Jan Brewing, Hillsdale, 9:30 am. Organized by Hillsdale Safe at Home. Water, bug spray provided. Weather permitting. 518 265-6789.

YOGA, PS21, 2980 Rt 66, Chatham, 10:30 am, \$20. Led by Sondra Loring. Registration: ps21chatham.org.

SENIORS ROCK, Canaan Town Hall, 1647 Rt 5, 10:30 am-1:30 pm, \$3 donation. Lunch, speakers, entertainment, games. Information, volunteer to help 518 781-0028, sguelpa@gmail.com.

GENTLE YOGA, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, noon, free. Introductory mat/chair class suitable for all ages, abilities. Bring mat, props if possible. chathampubliclibrary.org.

COMMUNITY OUTPOST, Our Community Cares, New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 Rt 22, noon-3 pm, free. Walk-ins encouraged, learn more about services offered, receive training on Narcan, be given Narcan kit. twincountyrecovery-services.org.

CHATHAM/GHENT SENIORS, West Ghent Reformed Church, 1039 CR 22, 1 pm. Refreshments, guest speaker. Oct: Mark Clarke speaks about County veterans who served in several wars. ghentny@hotmail.com.

ENGLISH CLASS, Hudson Area Library, virtual event, 6-8 pm, free. For adults who want to improve reading, writing, English speaking skills. Free childcare available. Class meets virtually when Library closed. Registration 518 828-1792, colgreene@literacyconnections.org.

GRANGE SPEAKER SERIES, Copake Grange, virtual event, 7 pm, free. Speakers, topics focused on agriculture & food, environment, history, education. To present: copakegrange@gmail.com.

First & Third Wednesdays
TACONIC TOASTMASTERS, CC Chamber of Commerce, 1 N Front St, Hudson, 5:30-6:30 pm, free. Participants improve speaking & leadership skills. Guests welcome. 518 929-5866, taconic.toastmaster-clubs.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP, Kinderhook Tri-Village Rotary, virtual event, 6:30 pm, free. Zoom link, KTVRotary@gmail.com.

Second & Fourth Wednesdays
SOUP SALE, Philmont Public Library, 101 Main St, 3:30-5:30 pm. Premade soups available for pick up. Soups announced a week in advance. Orders 518 672-5010. Philmontlibrary.com.

NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP, Kinderhook Memorial Library, 18 Hudson St, 6-7:30 pm. Peer-led support group for family members, caregivers, loved ones of individuals living with mental illness. Virtual link available. Registration: namiccny.org/event/virtual-family-support-group/2023-02-01. Info: 518 336-0246, namiccny@gmail.com.

Fourth Wednesdays
BOOK GROUP, Hudson Area Library, virtual event, 5-6 pm. Registration, programs@hudsonarealibrary.org, 518-828-1792 X101.

QIGONG, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, noon, free. Led by Curt Anthon. Suitable for all ages, abilities. merka@chatham.k12.ny.us.

COMMUNITY OUTPOST, Our Community Cares, Philmont Community Center, 14 Lake Dr, 2-4 pm, free. Walk-ins encouraged, learn more about services offered, receive training on Narcan, be given Narcan kit. twincountyrecovery-services.org.

WEEKLY IMPROV, Lightforms Art Center, 743 Columbia St, Hudson, 7-9 pm, free. Safe, non-competitive space to explore art of theatre improvisation together. lightformsart-center.com.

First Thursdays
CHATHAM ROOTS GENEALOGY, Chatham Public Library, virtual event, 3-4 pm, free. Michelle LeClair leads beginners & experts in search. Space limited, registration michelle@leclairdesign.com.

MEMOIR WRITING GROUP, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 5-7 pm. Share stories. 518 325-4101, roejanlibrary.org.

Second Thursdays
HEALTH CARE NAVIGATOR, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 1-3 pm, free. Assistance shopping for, comparing, enrolling in health insurance, applying for financial assistance for health care coverage. Appointments 518 822-9600.

BOARD MEETING, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 6 pm. Public welcome. Agenda & materials on website week ahead of time. 518 794-8844. Newlebanonlibrary.org.

Third Thursdays
BOOK MARKS CLUB, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 1-2 pm, free. Nonfiction book group. Led by Robin Gottlieb. circulation@roejanlibrary.org, 518 325-4101.

NY CONNECT PROGRAM, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 1-4 pm, free. Get information, help connecting with services including home care, respite care, care coordination, caregiver supports, transportation, home-delivered meals. 518 828-2273, 800 342-9871.

BOARD MEETING, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 6 pm. Public welcome. Claveracklibrary.org.

Fourth Thursdays
TEA TIME AT THE LIBRARY, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 2:30 pm, free. Tea, coffee, socialize. Roejanlibrary.org, 518 325-4101.

Fridays
WALKING CLUB, locations vary, 10 am, free. Join Chatham Public Library staff for walks on local trails. Register to receive walk locations: merka@chatham.k12.ny.us. chathampubliclibrary.org.

ROE JAN FOOD PANTRY, 2684 Rt 23 (basement of the Sheriff's Substation), Hillsdale, 10 am-noon with appointments as needed. Call ahead if possible: Betty White 518 325-3977 or Vernetta Moore 413 446-9431. Questions roejanfoodpantry@gmail.com.

CHAIR YOGA, Roe Jan Community Library, virtual event, 10-11:15 am, free. Gentle movement, balancing, stretching, breath-work, guided visualization. Sturdy, armless chair needed. Login code roejanlibrary.org/adult-programs.

FUTURE FRIDAYS CLIMATE VIGIL, Chatham Village Green, 3-4 pm. All invited to raise awareness of current climate emergency. Information climatebart@gmail.com.

TECH TALKS, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, by appt. Use library laptop or bring your own. Call 518 794-8844 to make an appt.

OPEN MIC WITH LOKI, Lightforms Art Center, 743 Columbia St, Hudson, 8-10 pm. Refreshments, donations appreciated. lightformsartcenter.com.

First & Third Fridays
LEBANON VALLEY SENIORS, New Lebanon Firehouse, 523 Rt 20, 1 pm. For ages 55 & up. New members welcome. Luncheon at Lakeview on Sept 15. 518 733-0009, lebanonse-niorcitizens@gmail.com.

Second Fridays
CLAVERACK SENIORS, Reformed Dutch Church, 88 Rt 9H, Claverack, 1 pm. Sept: Everlasting Hope Animal Rescue update presented by Linda Guntert. New members welcome. Up coming trip: Oct 18-19, Wind Creek Bethlehem, PA. Sign up: 518 610-1766.

CLASSIC MOVIES & COFFEE, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 2 pm, free. claveracklibrary.org.

STAR PARTY, Lake Taghkanic State Park, West Beach Parking Lot, 1528 Rt 82, Gallatin, time changes, free. Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association. Bring telescopes, binoculars, use those provided. RSVP required one day before, meetup.com/mhastro/events/275468188.

Saturdays
PARENT-TO-PARENT Support Group, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 9:30 am, free. For parents, guardians at any stage of parenting. claveracklibrary.org, 518 851-7120.

CLOTHING BARN, North Chatham United Methodist Church, 4274 Rt 203, 9:30 am-12:30 pm. Bring clothing, shoe donations. 518 766-3535, northchathammethodistchurch.org.

ROE JAN FRIENDS BOOKSHOP, basement of Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 10 am-2 pm. Used books, CDs and DVDs at low prices. Masks required. @roejanfriendsbookshop.

BARGAIN SHOP, Copake United Methodist Church, 1668 CR 7A, 10 am-2 pm. Clothes, household goods. Shop accepts donations of clothes, serviceable household goods, drop items off in outer vestibule any time.

UKULELE JAMS, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 10:30 am, free. Carmen Borgia leads all ages. Ukuleles available from library. chatham.lib.ny.us.

MAHJONG, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 11 am, free. For all skill levels. RSVP librarydirector@newlebanonlibrary.org.



Photo contributed

Clarion Concerts brings Verona Quartet to the area

Clarion Concerts, of Hudson, continues the celebration of its 66th year bringing a wide array of exciting musical experiences to the Hudson Valley and Berkshires, with two chamber music concerts this fall. On Saturday, September 9 at 7 p.m., the Verona Quartet (pictured) will appear at The Stissing Center in Pine Plains, and on Sunday, October 15 at 3 p.m., Young Concert Artists on Tour will perform at St. James Place in Great Barrington. For more information about Clarion Concerts, visit kathryningmedia.com, clarionconcerts.org and call 917 751-8228.

COOKBOOK CLUB, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 6 pm. Take on recipes, meet at library for potluck. Copies of month's book available at circulation desk. RSVP: bit.ly/Jan_CPLCookbookClub. chathampubliclibrary.org.

Thursdays
HATHA YOGA, Roe Jan Community Library, virtual event, 9-10:30 am, donation. Gentle yoga with Roberta Roll. Info: 518 329-0384.

YOGA, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 10 am, free. Brooke Murray leads combination chair & mat yoga. claveracklibrary.org, 518 851-7120.

PILATES, PS21, 2890 Rt 66, Chatham, 10:30 am, \$20. Led by Peggy Wallin-Hart. Through Oct 5. Registration: ps21chatham.org.

QIGONG & TAI CHI, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 10:30-11:30 am, free. Drop in class, open to all. Wear comfortable clothing. Will be outside weather permitting or in library. Roejanlibrary.org, 518 325-4101.

CHESS CLUB, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 3:30-5 pm. Open to all ages, skill levels. roejanlibrary.org.

CONTEMPLATIVE DANCE PRACTICE, TSL, 434 Columbia St, Hudson, 5-6 pm, \$5-\$15. Barbara Dilley leads movement/meditation class. All welcome, no previous experience with dance or meditation needed. Registration timeand-space.org/dance-yoga.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUTORING, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 6-7:30 pm, by appointment. One-on-one or group sessions for adults. Childcare provided for ages 3 & up. Appointments: director@roejanlibrary.org, 518 325-4101.

JUPITER NIGHTS, Basilica Hudson, 110 S Front St, 7 pm, \$12 advanced, \$15 at door, \$10 advanced for Hudson residents with discount code. Regional musicians and creatives present concerts, poetry readings, conversational gatherings, art exhibits, DJ nights, more. basilicahudson.org/programs/jupiter-nights.

First Saturdays
PROSE WRITERS GROUP, Roe Jan Community Library, virtual event. Safe environment offers support, feedback to writers of all levels working on fiction, non-fiction, memoir, essay, Haiku. To join: 914 954-3494.

COMMUNITY GIVING, Copake Grange, 628 Empire Rd, 10 am-noon. Healthy nonperishable foods; hygiene products; nutritional snacks (individual packets); winter hats, gloves, sox, boots. Limited supply NK95 masks to pick up, limit 2 per person. copakegrange.org

FIRST WEEKEND WANDERINGS, Olana State Historic Site, 5720 Rt 9G, Greenport, noon-1 pm, free. Guided walking tour covering 1 mile of artist-designed landscape; wear weather-appropriate clothes, footwear. Tickets olana.org/programs-events.

Second Saturdays
2ECOND SATURDAY Hudson Gallery Crawl, locations vary, 5-8 pm. Galleries, restaurants, shops open late. Pop-up galleries, markets, buskers, concerts, food trucks, community activated art programming. hudson-

gallerycrawl.com, IG: @hudsongallerycrawl.

Third Saturdays
COOKBOOK CLUB, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 2-3:30 pm, free. Choose cookbook, recipe to prepare & share at next meeting; bring recipes to share with fellow foodies. Sign up: outreach@roejanlibrary.org, 518 325-4101.

Fourth Saturdays
MOUNT LEBANON WORK CREW, Historic Mount Lebanon Site, 202 Shaker Rd, New Lebanon, 9:30 am-noon. Maintain seasonal growth, contain spread of invasive species around Great Stone Barn & North Family Site. No minimum commitment needed. Registration shakermuseum.us/events.

ANIME MONTHLY MOVIE, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 1 Pm, free. Check website for details: claveracklibrary.org.

First Sundays
BOOK GROUP, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 11 am. Newlebanonlibrary.org.

FUN ON FIRST SUNDAY, Clark Institute, 225 South St, Williamstown, noon-5 pm. Free admission, activities between 1-4 pm. www.clarkart.edu.

First & Third Sundays
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS, Kinderhook Memorial Library, 18 Hudson Ave, 2 pm, free. For adults. Learn basics, explore new formats, meet new people, develop your characters. kinderhooklibrary.org.

ROE JAN BLUEGRASS BAND, Roe Jan Brewing Co, 32 Anthony St, Hillsdale, 5:30-8 pm, free, tips for musicians encouraged.

Second & Fourth Sundays
LUKE FRANCO, Roe Jan Brewing Co, 32 Anthony St, Hillsdale, 6-8:30 pm, free, tips for musicians encouraged.

Third Sunday
CROCHET CLUB, Germantown Library, 31 Palatine Park Rd, 10 am-noon. Bring your projects, meet other people. Social distanced seating. germantownlibrary.org.

FARMERS MARKETS

Fridays
CHATHAM, 248 Rt 295, 3-7 pm. Vendors, entertainment, special events. Rain or shine. Schedule, more: visitchatham-ny.com/chatham-farms-market. Through Oct 6.

Saturdays
COPAKE HILLSDALE, Roe Jan Park, Rt 22, Copake, 9 am-1 pm. Vendors, music, children's activities, more. Through Nov 18. copakehilldalefarmersmarket.com.

KINDERHOOK, intersection of Rt 9 & Hudson St, 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Over 25 vendors, live music, food, special events. kinderhookfarmersmarket.com.

HUDSON, corner of 6th St & Columbia St, 9 am-1 pm. Over 30 vendors, food, live music. Through Nov 18. hudsonny-farmersmarket@gmail.com, 518 300-3496.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Through August 31
FREE PET ADOPTION, Columbia-Greene Humane Society, 111 Humane Society Rd, Hudson. Adopt cats, dogs, pocket pets. Application: cghs.org.

Through September 4
COLUMBIA COUNTY FAIR, Columbia County Fairgrounds, 182 Hudson Ave, Wed noon-11 pm, Thur-Mon 10 am-11 pm, \$13, under 12 free. Music, shows, rides, exhibits. Full schedule: columbiafair.com.

THE HUDSON EYE FESTIVAL, locations vary in Hudson. Full schedule: thehudson-eye.com/festival.

Through September 8
KISS PROGRAM, local town halls, free. Seniors drop off sensitive documents for shredding services to help protect identity. Questions: 518 828-3339.

Through September 15
CALLING ALL PERFORMING ARTISTS for works-in-progress for 2024 Mark DeGarmo Virtual Salon Performance Series for Social Change. Details: markdegarmodance.org/performance. Applications: forms.gle/VEswdbTg6ivbnF1QA.

Through September 22
APPLICATIONS OPEN for Spencertown Academy's All Write: Fiction Writers Conference on Nov 9-12. Open to all levels of writers ages 18 & up. Scholarships available for local writers. Submission guidelines: spencertownacademy.org.

Continued on Page 12

FINE WOODWORK SHOW
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EVENTS Calendar

Continued from Page 9

September 1

FLOATING FRIDAY, Hand Hollow Conservation Area, 451 Gale Hill Rd, East Chatham, 9 am-noon, free. Volunteers help remove invasive water chestnuts from Meizinger Lake. Bring kayak, limited number available. Registration: clctrust.org.

September 1-4

FESTIVAL OF BOOKS, Spencertown Arts Academy, 790 Rt 203, free. Used book sale, author discussions & readings, children's activities, more. Full schedule: spencertownacademy.org.

WHAT'S COOKING

First Tuesdays

COMMUNITY DINNER, Solaris, 360 Warren St, Hudson, 5:30 pm, free. Details: camphillhudson.org.

Wednesdays

FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAY, Claverack Free Library, 9 Rt 9H, 5-7:30 pm. Rotation of local food trucks. Claveracklibrary.org.

September 3

BELLY BUSTIN' BREAKFAST, Canaan Protective Fire Company, 2126 Rt 295, 8 am-noon, \$15 adults, \$7 kids, 5 & under free. Menu: pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs, home fries, corned beef hash, bacon, sausage, ham, bagels, more. rel1127@yahoo.com.

FOR KIDS Continuing

Mondays

SHAKE & SHOUT TODDLER STORYTIME, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 10:30 am, free. For ages 1-3. Sing, dance, listen to story. Chathampubliclibrary.org.

FAMILY MUSIC & MOVEMENT STORY TIME, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 4 pm, free. Led by Abbey Lappen. Claveracklibrary.org.

First & Third Mondays

LEGO CLUB, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 4 pm, free. Registration kleinr@chatham.k12.ny.us.

Mondays & Wednesdays

THE MENTOR IS IN, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 3-6 pm, free. One-on-one appointments for writing & career help for teens with Wally Rubin. Chathampubliclibrary.org.

Tuesdays

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 10 am, free. Led by Deb Wiede. Claveracklibrary.org.

ELEMENTARY ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 1 pm, free. For grades 1-5. Claveracklibrary.org.

Second Tuesdays

BYO BOOK CLUB, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 3:30 pm, free. For ages 8-12. Come talk about latest favorite read. Registration: kleinr@chatham.k12.ny.us, 518 392-3666.

Wednesdays

LIBRARY PLAYGROUP, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 10:15 am-12:15 pm, free. For caregivers & children ages 0-5. No registration required. chathampubliclibrary.org.

STORY TIME, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 10 am, free. For toddlers-kindergarten with Debbie Wiede. claveracklibrary.org, 518 851-7120.

PLAYGROUP FOR CAREGIVERS & CHILDREN, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 10:15 am-12:15 pm, free. Play, socialize with other families. For children ages 0-5. chathampubliclibrary.org.

SMALL WONDERS STORY TIME, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 10:30 am, free. Younger patrons up to 35 months join Miss Ann for songs, movement, stories. Newlebanonlibrary.org, 518 794-8844.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 11 am, free. Ages 3-6 join Miss Ann for songs, movement, stories. newlebanonlibrary.org, 518 794-8844.

HOMESCHOOL WEDNESDAYS, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 1-2 pm, free. Reading, activity, for home-schoolers & their families. Through end of school year. Roejanlibrary.org.

STORY TIME, Canaan Library, 1647 CR 5, 2 pm. Join Ms Becky for stories, songs, crafts, games. For ages 3-8. chathampubliclibrary.org.

LEGO CLUB, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 4 pm. For grades 2-5. claveracklibrary.org.

HOMEWORK HELP, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 5-7 pm. Tutors available for grades 3-8. Small group study spaces also available. 518 851-7120, info@claveracklibrary.org

Wednesdays, Saturdays PLAYTIME WITH TIA, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 10:30 am, free. Open to preschoolers & families. Socialize, play, craft. roejanlibrary.org.

Thursdays

LEGO THURSDAYS, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, noon-8 pm. Roejanlibrary.org, 518 325-4101.

HOMEWORK HELP, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 5-7 pm. K-12 homework assistance available in English & Spanish. Se habla Espanol. Roejanlibrary.org, 518 325-4101.

DIVERSIFY TEEN GROUP, Taconic Hills High School, virtual event, 7 pm, free. Social justice groups. Collaboration with Pine Plains High School. Email for link, diversifypineplains@gmail.com.

Third Thursdays

GRAB 'N GO SCIENCE KIT, New Lebanon Library, virtual event. Pick up supplies from library (550 Rt 20), tune into blog for instructions. newlebanonlibrary.org.

Fridays

PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 10:30 am, free. Ms. Becky leads stories, songs, take-home craft. For ages 3-5. chathampubliclibrary.org

PLAY GROUP, Kinderhook Memorial Library, 18 Hudson St, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, free. For ages 0-5. Unstructured play time, craft, socializing. kinderhooklibrary.org.

Saturdays

ART WORKSHOPS, Art Omi, 1405 CR 22, Ghent, 10 am-noon, \$18/child or \$30/two siblings. For ages 5-12. Developmentally-appropriate projects encouraging curiosity, experimentation, creative thinking. Registration: artomi.org/education/saturday-childrens-workshops.

First Saturdays

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, noon, free. For beginners. Children led by adult dungeon master through complicated role playing game. Space limited for each adventure, reservations: claveracklibrary.org.

Fourth Saturdays

ANIME CLUB, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, noon, free. Teens, tweens welcome for anime film screening. Details: claveracklibrary.org.

September 12

FAMILY CONCERT, Clark Art Institute, 225 South St, Williamstown, noon, free. The Knights Orchestra performs excerpts from Edvard Grieg, Antonin Dvořák & Frederick Delius. clarkart.edu.

CHESS CLUB, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 3-4 pm, free. For ages 5 & up. Bring chess board. Practice, improve skills. chathampubliclibrary.org.

September 12-November 28

IMPROV CLUB WITH CINDY KUBIK, Hudson Hall, 327 Warren St, Tue 5-6 pm, free. For ages 8-12. Children's theater specialist leads skills-building weekly hour of theater games, improv, movement, storytelling for the stage. Space limited, registration required: hudsonhall.org.

AT THE MOVIES

Through September 3

OPPENHEIMER, Crandell Theatre, 48 Main St, Chatham, times vary, \$12. Tickets: crandelltheatre.org.

Mac-Haydn Theatre
WWW.MACHAYDNTHATRE.ORG | (518) 392-9292

AUGUST 3-13 GODSPELL	AUGUST 17-SEPTEMBER 3 JERSEY BOYS The Story of Friends, Fools & Four Dollars
SEPTEMBER 7-17 The Marvelous Wonderettes	AUGUST 5 & 11 GEORGE DVORSKY Something Wonderful
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MAKING MUSIC

First Friday

LINDA WORSTER, New Lebanon Library, 6:30 pm, singer/songwriter gives virtual concert. Visit newlebanonlibrary.org day of concert for login details.

OPEN MIC NIGHT, Copake Grange, 628 Empire Rd, 7-9 pm, free, all ages. All welcome to perform music, stories, skits, readings, poetry, dance, songs or come to be entertained. Donations accepted. Copakegrange.org.

September 2

THE KNIGHTS ORCHESTRA, Clark Art Institute, 225 South St, Williamstown, 4 pm, free. Edvard Grieg, Nordic folk songs, Antonin Dvořák, original composition by Colin Jacobsen. Bring picnic, seating. clarkart.edu.

THE GAC NONET, First Reformed Church, 23 Kinderhook St, Chatham, 6 pm, free. 9-piece jazz band. With Jon DiFiore. Thegarageatchatham.com.

NEW SONGS, Lightforms Art Center, 743 Columbia St, Hudson, 7:30 pm. Singer/songwriter Jen Zimberg presents new work. lightformsartcenter.com.

September 3

BENEFIT CONCERT, Tannery Pond at Darrow School, 110 Darrow Rd, New Lebanon, 2 pm, \$30. Ron Feldman, cello, Elizabeth Morse, harp, Jackie DeVoe, flute. Reception to follow. Proceeds for restoration of New Lebanon Depot. Reservations: 518 894-8762, emrobertson555@gmail.com.

September 8

EXPERIMENTAL, IMPROVISED & OTHERWISE, TSL, 434 Columbia St, Hudson, 7:30 pm, \$20. Evening of adventurous new music. Tickets: timeand-space.org.

LISTEN & LEARN

Ongoing

DIGITAL NAVIGATOR COMPUTER & Internet Help, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave. Find low-cost options for broadband internet & devices; find resources to learn computer skills and internet basics. In-person or virtual appointments, 518 392-3666, chathampubliclibrary@chatham.k12.ny.us.

DRIVE THROUGH HISTORY Road Trips, Columbia County Historical Society, free. Explore Columbia County with self-guided road trips. Itineraries: cchsny.org/drive-through-history.html.

ONE-ON-ONE JOB SEARCH HELP, Hudson Area Library, virtual event. Beth Gordon helps with resume, brushing up interview skills. Appointments programs@hudsonarealibrary.org, 518 828-1792 X 101.

September 2

BIRD WALK, Olana State Historic Site, 5720 Rt 9G, Greenport, 8 am, free. Led by Alan Devoe Bird Club. Advance registration required: olana.org.

LANDSCAPE HIGHLIGHTS, Clermont State Historic Site, 1 Clermont Ave, 2 pm, free. Walking tour around mansion & restored gardens. Advanced registration required: bookeo.com/clermont.

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE, Roots Holistic Wellness, 25 Main St, Chatham, 2-4 pm, donation. Circle dances, songs from diverse spiritual traditions. Each dance taught, no experience needed, all ages & abilities welcome. malikaliz13@gmail.com, 802 999-8142.

September 2, October 7

HILLSDALE: OUR STORY & PORTRAITS, special screenings presented at Copake Hillsdale Farmers Market, 9140 Rt 22, Hillsdale, 10 am-1 pm. Two-part video documentary on Hillsdale created by Julia Brandi & Marilyn Herrington. Roeliffjansens@gmail.com.

September 5

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, Hudson American Legion Post #184, 107 CR 25, Stockport, 7 pm. Membership open to sons, grandsons & great-grandsons of veterans. 518 821-7179.

ON STAGE

Through September 3

JERSEY BOYS, Mac-Haydn Theatre, 1925 Rt 203, Chatham, times vary, \$45. Musical. Tickets: machaydntheatre.org.

August 31, September 2-3

ANIMA, PS21, 2890 Rt 66, Chatham, 8 pm, \$10-\$45. Immersive Performance Installation by Noémie Goudal & Maëlle Poésy. Tickets: ps21chatham.org.

September 1

SAID AND DONE, TSL, 434 Columbia St, Hudson, 7:30 pm, \$5-\$10. New performance work by Linda Mussman in collaboration with Claudia Bruce & Charlotte Stickles. Tickets: the-hudson-eye.com/festival.

September 1

A NIGHT OF NEO-BENSHI, Hudson Hall, 327 Warren St, 7 pm, \$20. Poets & performers dub movie clips. Tickets: hudsonhall.org.

September 2

SHOWSTOPPERS, Mac-Haydn Theatre, 1925 Rt 203, Chatham, noon, admission. Fundraiser for theatre. Performances of musical theater greatest hits. Tickets: machaydntheatre.org.

September 7-17

THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES, Mac-Haydn Theatre, 1925 Rt 203, Chatham, times vary, \$45. Musical. Tickets: machaydntheatre.org.

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Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' performed in Churchtown

CHURCHTOWN—In production since May, the play came together for three 200-capacity full-house performances on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings at the Churchtown Dairy (see front page photo). For Director Carol Rusoff, theater is about people

and she and her production team saw to it that the broadest range of audience as well as cast would be included. Admission was free and an outreach program including a shuttle bus from Hudson brought audiences to and back from the barn.

When all was said and done, the assessment was that it was a great success.

"It was exhausting in process but when it was finished I felt so gratified. I loved the audience and the outreach worked well," she said. "The cast became like a family. I

think I was most gratified by that."

Asked if she thought this barn might be used for a Shakespeare play again, she said, "They now have this stage so it seems like they could."

And asked if she would direct it, her response was

guarded. "It was exhausting and during the production I thought this would be my swan song, but now I feel as though I could maybe do it again."—**David Lee**

SUMMERTIME TRADITIONS

Continued from Page 1

what makes the two newsworthy even today is the way they nurture talents, support leadership and develop community.

That there even is a lake in Hudson is extraordinary. The lake, and surrounding 14-acre wooded park, was originally constructed by a local landowner hoping to surround it with a small development on Glenwood Boulevard. In 1946 the city of Hudson acquired it (for \$9,750), a beach was created and, later, a beach house. The city's Youth Department held a variety of activities there and in 2007 created the camp.

In recent years, two non-profits, Friends of Oakdale Lake and the Columbia Land Conservancy, have upgraded the facilities and water quality. Another non-profit, Friends of Hudson Youth, has supported the Hudson Youth Department in developing a robust 6-week summer camp program that is open to city residents aged 5 to 13 without charge, and at modest cost to other county children.

Four "pods", sorted by age, rotate through a schedule that includes swimming, basketball, hiking, kayaking, art projects and even acrobatics and stilt-walking lessons from Bindlestiff Family Cirkus members. Free play time is also built in. The kids can also learn to repair and rebuild bicycles at the Bike Coop, can have riding lessons and are even given their own bicycles from the donated and repaired stock at the coop.

The campers can have breakfast at the camp, and lunch is served not only to campers but also to all members of the community.

What makes the program unique is the employment ladder it has built for Hudson youth. Byonte Jones first worked at the camp as a junior lifeguard during high school. As a college student at Wells College, she returned during the summers, because she wanted to help children who are underserved "to learn to make choices in life that support their health and are fulfilling."

At Oakdale, the campers—many of them, her neighbors in

Hudson—have a unique opportunity "to be themselves," acquire social skills and have positive interactions with adults and other youth.

After six summers at Oakdale, during which she rose to become co-director of waterfront activities and learned

lifeguard, they saw an adult in the water trying to make it to a dock. It was obvious the man did not know how to swim, and he was floundering badly. Mr. Brown dove in, brought him to safety, and was rewarded, per Korean tradition, with a gift of fruit.

Mr. Brown was turned on to the mysteries of the ocean by a marine biology class in high school, learned to dive while at the University of Rhode Island,

have a workforce. More importantly, vibrant out-of-school time can change the trajectory of a young person's life." By the end of 2023 Friends will have contributed almost \$500,000 to programs and facilities at the Youth Department.

The 124-year old Ghent Band unites youth and seniors (and all ages in between) in a communal effort to bring free music, ranging from Sousa marches to Broadway medleys,

century ago.

At the turn of the last century, the band played at a bandstand behind the Bartlett House. Since, in addition to its marching gigs at local parades, it mainly plays at the Ghent Town Hall and in Kinderhook. (It used to play in the grandstand but it has outgrown that venue and now plays in front of the grandstand and facing the town green.)

With trumpets, clarinets,



Photos Debora E. Lans

Byonte Jones (l) and Zyon Brown, co-directors of waterfront activities at Hudson's Oakdale Lake.

management skills, leading a younger staff, Ms. Jones is now headed to graduate school. With 9 younger siblings, one of whom is autistic and one who has sickle cell disease, Ms. Jones hopes to build on her background by becoming a pediatric physician's assistant.

Zyon Brown started at Oakdale as a Hudson High School student the same year as Ms. Jones, and he too returned to Oakdale during his high school and college summers, because he loved the chance "to work with kids and help them evolve work and life skills." He spent this summer as the co-director of waterfront activities, mentoring younger employees from the community, and, not incidentally, saving a life.

A Korean group came to the lake this July. As Mr. Brown was working with a younger

and is now embarking on a master's degree in marine biology in Ft. Lauderdale.

Liz Yorck, director of Hudson's Department of Youth, reports that 185 children were registered for the camp this summer, with around 100 attending on any given day.

During the school year, after-school programming continues at the department's building on Third Street, with dinner served at 5. Five to 13 year olds come in the afternoons and teens in the evening. Homework help, as well as sports, arts and other activities are provided, as are computers.

Friends of Hudson Youth, the non-profit, was formed in 2018 to support the activities of the department and provide a means to raise funds for it. As its founder Peter Frank says, "The Youth Department provides year round child care, and without child care we can never

to the county. The band's oldest member is 97-year old Stephen A. Gitto, Sr., a trumpet player and retired Chatham High School music teacher. Its youngest is a 14-year old high school sophomore and flutist.

Among the roughly 40 band members are a garage door installer, retired nurse, carpenter, retired minister, many teachers, an RPI sophomore who has played since high school because of the "community of the band," an autistic youth and a consultant to tech companies, to name a few.

The conductor is Ghent native T.J. Russell, who teaches music at Taconic Hills High School and has attracted current and past students to the band. The band's Historian (who is also the Ghent Town Historian) is Gregg Berninger, an English professor whose great uncle, John, was the band president (and percussionist) a

flutes, saxophones, oboes, tubas, trombones and even French horns as well as percussion, a recent concert drew more than 160 people of all ages, as well as a fair number of seemingly appreciative dogs, to picnic tables and lawn chairs on the green. The playlist included "Summertime," a medley of sailing songs, and favorites from "Guys and Dolls."

As Mr. Gitto, who has been playing with the band since 1952, says, the band is "a group of musicians who get together to enjoy music and give joy to others." Perhaps his philosophy ("in life, what you get is what you give") is what has drawn so many to the band.

The Ghent Band will be marching at the Chatham Fair in the parade on Saturday and will be playing at the North Gate Stage on Labor Day at 10 a.m.

**COLUMBIA
COUNTY FAIR**

County Fair hosts lots of animals

CHATHAM—The Columbia County Fair is justifiably proud of its focus on local farms, food, and families, and 2023 will be also be a banner year for another key player – animals. If you love wandering through the barns, you'll find them nearly bursting with livestock: cattle, sheep, hogs, and goats raised by 4H-ers and the county's best breeders. And don't miss the Poultry Building, housing birds and rabbits.

Beef Cattle Superintendent Phil Trowbridge and Dairy Cattle Superintendent Paul Chittenden have been busily overseeing preparations for the many four-legged creatures who will make the fairgrounds their temporary home.

Both men are pleased with the enthusiasm shown by the number of entrants in all categories. "We haven't seen this many participants in a good long time," Mr. Chittenden said in a press release. "And the 4-H

kids are really impressive. We'll have a busy show ring this year."

The robust 4-H show schedule begins Thursday for poultry, swine, and open cattle classes, dairy cattle and goats on Friday, and dairy cows and sheep on Saturday. Of note are some truly special events: cow chip bingo on Saturday at 5:30 p.m., the animal costume competition on Sunday at 5 p.m., and the 4-H Master Livestock Showperson competition Monday at 9 a.m. The week wraps up with the 4-H Livestock Sale Monday at 1:30 p.m..

Other livestock judging begins August 31 at 1 p.m. for beef cattle, and runs through the weekend, with dairy cattle Saturday at 10 a.m., and sheep on Sunday at noon.

Mr. Trowbridge summed up what makes this summer tradition so special when he was describing all the heart-felt work that everyone does to be a



Photo contributed

4H-ers show off cattle at the county fair.

part of it. "Agriculture is the heart and soul of this fair," he said.

The 182nd Columbia County Fair is located off Route 66. The fair "always runs over Labor Day" and concludes on Monday, September 4. General Admission is \$13 and includes parking and all entertainment. Daily hours are Thursday to

Monday from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Youth under 18 and active military with ID or in uniform are admitted free that day. Children 12 and under are always free.

Please note that no pets are allowed on the fairgrounds at any time. Service dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for individuals

with disabilities will be admitted. All service dogs must have proof of rabies vaccinations to enter the grounds. Do not leave your dog in the car. Any dog left in a vehicle will be turned over to the local authorities/dog warden at the expense of the owner.

Visit www.columbiafair.com for more information.

How Ghent residents can support local climate action

IN A SUMMER of record heat and natural disasters, naturally the question comes to mind as to what we can all do to both mitigate and adapt to climate change. In Columbia County, local Climate Smart Communities are hard at work engaging residents in actions that can be taken locally. The Ghent Climate Smart Task Force recently helped the town achieve Bronze status in the NYS Climate Smart Communities program which reflects significant achievement in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in municipal operations. Now, they are assisting residents in doing the same. Funding available through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) combined with state incentives can help make upgrading your home's heating and cooling or getting a new electric vehicle affordable for you and your family.

If you live in Ghent, the Climate Smart Task Force invites you to be in touch if you're considering a non-fossil fuel powered system to heat and cool your home or purchasing an electric vehicle. Your improvements combined with those of other community members will help the town access grant funding through NYSERDA to pursue its own clean energy upgrades or build up the infrastructure that supports our residents. Let the task

force know where you'd like to see a new EV charging station in town.

The existing Energy Efficient Home Improvement Tax Credit was enhanced by the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) allowing homeowners to claim 30% of the costs on eligible improvements instead of 10%. From 2023 through 2032, New Yorkers can claim up to \$3,200 in efficiency tax credits a year for eligible purchases, up to \$1,200 for home envelope improvements including efficient windows, exterior doors, insulation, and electrical panel upgrades and up to \$2,000 for air source heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, and biomass stoves/boilers. NYS Clean Heat also provides rebates for ground source heat pumps, which are eligible for a 30% IRA tax credit and 25% New York State income tax credit. There are a growing number of electric vehicles that are also eligible for tax credits and rebates. Combined, the IRA tax credit and New York's Drive Clean Rebate can save New York residents up to \$9,500 on a selection of new EV models.

Another simple change the Ghent Task Force invites residents to consider is reclaiming some of your lawn to grow natives instead of grass. Residential lawns require more



Photo contributed

irrigation than any agricultural crop grown in the country. The Ghent Climate Smart Task Force hopes to demonstrate an alternative. Along with New Leaf Ecological Landscapes, the Ghent Climate Smart Community installed a small demonstration garden with the help of some local youth at the West Ghent Community Center this summer to showcase the

types of species that tolerate drought, require less maintenance, and provide habitat and food for wildlife such as pollinators. The task force is hoping to install a 1000 sq ft version featuring these beauties elsewhere on the West Ghent Community Center grounds.

According to the Climate Primer from Partners for Climate Action, Columbia

County in 2050 will experience one third of the year above 90 degrees. Unpredictable thunderstorms and long periods of drought will devastate local ecosystems and agriculture. Even in the last couple of summers the intensity of storms has increased and droughts have made maintaining local agriculture and landscapes challenging. That is why 17 Columbia County villages and towns including the county itself are currently engaged in a Climate Adaptation and Resilience Planning effort led by Cornell Cooperative Extension to identify vulnerabilities to the unique landscapes. These plans will be highly dependent on local feedback. Residents are all invited to offer their input in a simple form at <https://cceecolumbiagreene.org/Columbia-survey>

The Ghent Climate Smart Task Force feels strongly that every town needs to do the most they can to address climate change, and collectively our towns can make a real difference. The NYS Climate Smart Communities initiative provides an opportunity to come alongside work that towns are initiating so that our collective action can have a greater impact. To join the task force or support its initiatives please contact Task Force chair Bob Dandrew at bobdandrew@gmail.com



Create a design fit for a flower show

Barbara Campbell, pictured, gave a demonstration of how to design flower arrangements for flower shows to the Germantown Garden Club at the August meeting. Master Gardener and former president of the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc., Ms Campbell gave ideas and tips for creating arrangements with an emphasis on the club's upcoming flower show titled, "And A Thing Called Love." The show features six design classes of dried and/or fresh plant material along with horticulture, educational and photography divisions. It takes place Saturday, September 9, 1 to 4 p.m. and Sunday, September 10, 1 to 3 p.m. at the Kellner Activity Building in Germantown. The show is free and open to the public as are the club's meetings. Call Fran Bufi at 518-537-4868 for more information.

Photo contributed

Community briefs

Order tickets now for BBQ chicken

ANCRAM—It's time for the St. John's Lutheran Church, 1273 County Route 7, annual Chicken Barbecue, Saturday, September 9.

The event is take-out only, drive-through pick up from 4:30 to 6 p.m. On the menu is open-pit barbecued chicken, sweet corn, homemade potato salad and cole slaw, watermelon.

Tickets are \$18 each. A limited number of tickets will be sold. To guarantee a dinner call by September 2 for a reservation. Call and leave message for: Andrea 518-789-4769, Cindy 518-329-0038, Jim 518-755-8978 or Debby 518-329-7594.

This breakfast can bust a belly

CANAAN—Start getting your stomach prepared for the Canaan Protective Fire Company's Belly Bustin' Breakfast at the firehouse, 2126 Route 295, September 3, 8 a.m. to noon.

The waist-expanding menu includes: plain and blueberry pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs, home fries, corned beef hash, bacon, sausage, ham, bagels with cream cheese, Dunkin' Donut Munchkins, fruit cups, Baker's Special coffee, tea, hot chocolate and orange juice.

The cost is \$15 for adults, \$7 for children, children 5 and under free.

It's all Latin to me

OLD CHATHAM—Free Beginning Latin Classes will be held at the Old Chatham Quaker Meetinghouse, 539 County Route 13, starting in the first week of September. The Meetinghouse is fully handicapped accessible.

Students will be grouped by ages: 9-11, 12-14 and 15-18 with no class larger than 8. Classes will be scheduled once a week for an hour each. The classes will be taught by Bob Elmendorf, who has a degree in Latin and Greek with a minor in Philosophy and English from Union College in Schenectady, and masters level courses in English, Creative Writing (Poetry) and Counseling from SUNY Plattsburgh.

Mr. Elmendorf taught Beginning Latin and Intermediate Latin poetry through SUNY Plattsburgh and Biblical (Koine) Greek for similar academic credit through SUNY at the Newman Center. For 10 years he taught teens Latin in Chatham at the library and then at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. He is a published poet in literary magazines and self-published a book of poetry on Amazon. References are available upon request.

Contact Mr. Elmendorf at: P.O. Box 76, 524 Shaker Museum Road, Malden Bridge 12114; poet2277@gmail.com or 518-610-3735.

Animal rescue needs supplies

CLAVERACK—Linda Guntert gives an update on the Everlasting Hope Animal Rescue at the next meeting of the Claverack Seniors at the Reformed Dutch Church, 88 State Route 9H, Friday, September 8 at 1 p.m.

Any donations will be appreciated.

The rescue is in need of dog treats, biscuits, cat toys, newspapers, laundry detergent, paper towels and disinfectant wipes.

Phyliss Higgins and Barbara Oliver are on the meeting refreshment committee.

All are welcome to go on the following scheduled trip: October 18-19, overnight, Wind Creek Bethlehem, PA, leaves Claverack at 7 a.m., members \$198 single, \$116 double, \$89 triple, \$75 quad (per person), add \$10 for non-members. Receive \$40 comp and \$20 food.

All trips must be paid for at sign-up, otherwise seats cannot be guaranteed. When signing up, include a phone number. Call Debbie Grau to sign up at 518-610-1766.

Make checks payable to Claverack Seniors and send them to Claverack Seniors, P.O. Box 614, Philmont 12565.

Community dinners served again Sept. 5

HUDSON—Camphill Hudson's community dinners return in September thanks to funding awarded by the Ackerman Foundation. Camphill Hudson's community dinners, once a weekly staple at Solaris, 360 Warren Street, will return later this summer, as a monthly event open to the general public.

Organizers are scheduling the dinners to be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., starting September 5.

Camphill Hudson volunteers and community members worked together to offer the community dinners weekly for many years leading up to the pandemic. The dinners were a social melting pot with the Camphill community mingling with locals, people in need, and people of varying abilities from other service-providers. The grant from the Ackerman Foundation will go toward supplies for the monthly dinners. Follow on Instagram and Facebook and sign up at camphillhudson.org to receive emails for more updates. Sponsor, the Ackerman Foundation, was established by David Ackerman, a local businessman and philanthropist, prior to his unexpected passing in January 2022. The Foundation looks to carry on his goal of improving lives and opportunities locally while focusing on activities that build community capability and enjoyment. Camphill Hudson is grateful for the support. In the past, Camphill Hudson also relied heavily on volunteer help to prepare and clean up after these dinners, which were often for 50 or more people. Those interested in volunteering should contact: Billy Shannon, Camphill Hudson, 518-755-2720 or billy@camphillhudson.org

Nature Institute marks 25 years of work

GHENT—To mark the anniversary of the founding of The Nature Institute in 1998, the public is invited to celebrate with institute staff and join in a special evening to reflect on "Towards a Science of Caring: 25 Years of Work at The Nature Institute" and look into the future. The event takes place at The Nature Institute, 20 May Hill Road, Saturday, September 9 at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Another upcoming event is: Color and Form in Nature, a sequel to the popular Drawing Into Nature courses with artist Ella LaPointe. A 10-session class at The Nature Institute starts Tuesday, September 12 through Tuesday, November 14 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. (No class Tuesday, October 31, Halloween.)

The sliding scale fee is \$150 to \$400, or what one can afford. Space is limited. To register for the course, call the institute office 518-672-0116 or email info@natureinstitute.org by September 5. Full payment is due on the first evening (check payable to The Nature Institute or cash).

Legionnaires re-establish 'Sons' charter

STOCKPORT—Hudson American Legion Post #184 has re-established a charter of the Sons of American Legion Squadron that has not been active since 1938.

The Sons of the American Legion is open to any son, grandson or great-grandson of a veteran who served in any branch of the armed forces. Ages range from birth to 17 for junior members and extends to any age for regular members. Members not need be veterans themselves.

The main mission is to sponsor programs that its parent organization, the American Legion, does to improve veterans communities—such as, scholarships, veterans help programs and youth sports. They also support nationalism, security, patriotism and devotion to veterans.

Tom Fisher, the squadron commander and American Legion liaison for the Columbia County Sons of the American Legion, says it is a way for veterans and non-veterans to honor the service of their parents, grandparents or great-grandparents and for veterans to leave a legacy of their own service for their sons, grandsons, and great-grandsons by sponsoring them to become members of the organization.

The initial meeting of the Columbia County Sons of the American Legion will be held September 5, 7 p.m. at the Hudson American Legion Post #184, 107 County Route 25, Stockport. To become a member, sponsor a member or for more information contact Mr. Fisher at 518-821-7179.

THROUGH THE WOODS

By Nancy Jane Kern

The Super Blue Moon

“ONCE IN A BLUE MOON” is a saying that denotes a rare occurrence and is a moon that rises about once in every three years. It is not blue in color and the origins of this name vary. A “supermoon” is one that comes close to us in its elliptical orbit around earth and happens a few times per year. If it is a super full moon, it looks huge, 14% larger and 30% brighter. With a clear sky, it is possible to see more details of the moon’s surface.

The tides will be much higher in the Hudson River. Tradition claims more babies will be born. If you are a photographer, learn how to get the best shot setup for your camera, check the weather, find the best location with minimal stray light and the optimal time.

Bird migration has started and birds can often be seen flying across the moon. The ground is well lit and there is an ethereal feeling in the scene. The combined blue moon and super moon occur together only once in about 10 years. This year, 2023, the super blue moon is on August 30 and 31. For Ghent, NY, the moon will rise in the ENE at approximately 9:30 p.m.

What a great finale for this summer month. The 182nd Columbia County Fair goes on to celebrate the Fair’s kickoff with extra light and features for its session. According to the website space.com the seasonal name of this moon is the fruit moon or barley moon. Both Native Americans and



Full “blue” Moon

Nancy Kern

European settlers to America named the full moon(s) for each month, often based on food sources for the month. This time of year, we have so many fruits like apples, plums, and pears. Growing up we gathered our crops and often entered them in our Fair’s 4-H and Grange exhibits. Our family worked hard on the Austerlitz Grange booth, giving it a theme with farmers and gardeners adding their best baked and canned goods, vegetables, jams, and fruits. Exhibits were judged and given colorful ribbons plus publicity in our local newspapers. We got bragging rights or thoughts of what we could do better next year.

During the winter we studied garden catalogs and planned what seeds to get for spring, what techniques worked best. If I were back in the 1950s again I would be taking my horse out for an evening ride around our farms this week. The highest hill has the best eastern view. An arrowhead was found there dating back 1,000+ years. I would wonder who left it there on an ancient deer run and was the full moon observed by this person.

Katydid and crickets sound, meaning school would start soon. The smell of wood and hay surrounds us, and cattle are mooing in the distance. No photos were taken then, but the vivid imprint on the senses remains.

Engage in hands-on conservation in September

CHATHAM—The Columbia Land Conservancy announces a series of September volunteer events. This series of three volunteer events aims to engage the community in hands-on conservation activities and make a lasting impact on the natural environment.

The “Volunteer Workday Series” consists of three separate volunteer events, each focusing on a specific conservation project. Participants have the opportunity to contribute their time, energy, and skills to meaningful initiatives that help preserve and enhance natural landscapes.

All volunteer work events are at the Ooms Public Conservation Area, 480 Rock City Road, Chatham. All workdays focus on trail maintenance and restoration. Participants will assist in clearing debris, improving trail signage, and ensuring safe and enjoyable outdoor experiences for visitors.

The dates and times are:

September 8 and September 20, 9 a.m. to noon and September 21, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

“Through our ‘Volunteer Workday Series,’ we aim to provide a platform for individuals to directly engage in hands-on conservation activities and make a positive impact on our natural landscapes. We invite community members to join us and experience the satisfaction of giving back to the environment while fostering a deeper connection with nature,” Luke Burt, Public Lands and community engagement coordinator said in a press release.

Individuals of all ages and backgrounds who are enthusiastic about conservation and making a difference in their local communities are welcome. No prior experience is necessary, as all volunteers will receive guidance and instruction from experienced staff.

For more information and to register visit clctrust.org/events



Birdwatchers with their trusty binoculars.

Suzy Allman

Keep eyes and ears open for local birds

GREENPORT—Olana State Historic Site, 5720 State Route 9G, is the place for a Labor Day Weekend Bird Walk with the Alan Devoe Bird Club, Saturday, September 2 at 8 a.m.

Join the bird club on an exploration through Olana’s artist-designed landscape while

keeping eyes and ears open for local birds. Learn more about local bird species, habitats and behaviors with Dr. William Cook, professor emeritus at Columbia-Greene Community College and the curator of C-GCC’s Natural History Museum. Admission is free,

advanced registration is required. This program will meet outside the Olana Wagon House Education Center. For more information contact education@olana.org. Register at <https://tickets.olana.org>

Float your boat on Fridays in New Leb

NEW LEBANON—Returning and prospective volunteers are encouraged to attend Floating Fridays, when good deed weed removal is done. The Columbia Land Conservancy (CLC), a conservation organization which brings people together to conserve the land, announces its upcoming Floating Friday event to unite nature enthusiasts of all ages for a morning of volunteering, September 1 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The event takes place at Hand Hollow Conservation

Area, enter at 4079 County Road 9, or 451 Gale Hill Road, East Chatham, and promises to be an unforgettable experience, offering a unique opportunity for attendees to immerse themselves in the beauty of nature while conserving habitats by removing invasive water chestnut from Meizinger Lake.

Floating Friday is open to individuals of all ages and backgrounds who share a passion for nature and conservation. Participants are encouraged to bring their own kayaks and

equipment, but a limited number of lightweight origami kayaks will also be available onsite for those who need them.

To ensure the safety and enjoyment of all attendees, CLC will implement necessary health and safety measures in accordance with local guidelines, and asks all volunteers to sign a waiver.

For more information and to register for Floating Friday, visit clctrust.org/events

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Fest features food, music, great outdoors

COPAKE FALLS—The historic Church of St. John in the Wilderness announces its 2023 Community Harvest Festival to be held Saturday, September 9, 5 to 7:30 p.m. on church grounds, 261 State Route 344. The event is open to the public and will feature food and drink, a silent auction and live music from the Great American Songbook with husband and wife duo David Shenton and Erin Shields. Tickets are \$75 and may be purchased online at <https://stjohnw.org/event/harvest-fest/> or by sending a check to St. John in the Wilderness, P.O. Box 180, Copake Falls 12517.

“With this event we celebrate the community. As we open our hearts and our campus to friends and neighbors, we get to spend time outdoors celebrating the talents of our congregation and the beauty of fall. Recent upgrades to the grounds: new landscaping and parking improvements, will make the day even more special,” Fr. John Thompson, rector of St. John’s (Episcopal), said in a press release.

NYC husband and wife duo of Erin Shields and David Shenton, whose numerous concert credits include Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, will perform music from their show,



Photo contributed
Erin Shields, singer, and David Shenton, piano man, perform “The Great American Songbook: Retold” along with a tribute to Tony Bennett.

“The Great American Songbook: Retold” along with a tribute to Tony Bennett from 5 to 6 p.m. in the church. These popular songs, that everyone knows and loves, will be presented in fresh and entertaining ways. Ms. Shields is a versatile vocalist, and pianist David Shenton, who records on the Steinway label, is an ace in many styles.

Food is catered by Harvest Smokehouse with wine, water, noshes and desserts from 6 to 7:30 p.m., with tables and chairs arranged under the big tent.

Guests will have an opportunity to bid on many silent auc-

tion items. Gift certificates to local restaurants and shops, vacations, artwork, jewelry and food and wine baskets are just some of the items offered.

All proceeds from this fundraising event will help preserve the historic grounds, graveyard, rectory and church, which was built in 1852, designed by Richard Upjohn, founding president of the American Institute of Architects in 1857. The property is on the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information, contact Jim or Patricia Wann by emailing pjwann23@gmail.com

Letellier reads from ‘The Village Cidiot’

COPAKE—The Roeliff Jansen Community Library will host local playwright and Hillsdale Historian Lauren Letellier as she reads from her most recent work, “The Village Cidiot” on Wednesday, August 30, at 5:30 p.m. In this classic fish-out-of-water tale, a New York City woman loses her big corporate job and moves, reluctantly, to a tiny upstate town where her city skills are no match for rural reality. This tale is a moving and personal journey of navigating life’s disruptions with humor and compassion.

Ms. Letellier is a writer, performer, and town historian who finds inspiration in the art of studying large questions in small places. Her previous one-woman show, “The Fiery Sword of Justice,” exposed the hilarious and harrowing similarities between family and corporate dysfunction. At the 2014 NY International Fringe Festival critics called it “Bold, funny, wise, and brave.”

Ms. Letellier is one-half of the historians of Hillsdale, a role she shares with her husband, Chris Atkins. They research the nooks and crannies of Hillsdale history to bring people, places, and events to life for a 21st-century audience.

This program is free and open to the public.

Roeliff Jansen Community Library, which is chartered to serve Ancram, Copake and Hillsdale, is located at 9091 Route 22. For information on hours and events, call 518 325-

4101 or visit <http://www.roeliffjanlibrary.org>, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/roeliffjanlibrary>, or on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/roeliffjanlibrary/>

Obituaries

John W. DeBell (1956 - 2023)

CHATHAM—With deep sorrow and much love, the family of John W. “Bill” DeBell announces his passing, August 14, 2023.

He will be lovingly remembered by: his wife of 44 years, Karen DeBell; his children, Justin A. DeBell, (Mallory Anderson DeBell), Zachary A. DeBell (Shara Silverberg); his beloved, grandchildren, Finnegan and Oliver DeBell.

He will be deeply missed by: his mother, Carol VanFleet DeBell; siblings, Kristine Trites, Georgine Traver (Todd Traver), Melinda Ammirati (Art Ammirati), Melanie Rote and Daniel DeBell (Rebecca DeBell); his many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father, John Wadsworth DeBell and his son, Cory A. DeBell.

He was born in Hudson, February 20, 1956 and attended Chatham schools and SUNY New Paltz, where he met his wife, Karen. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1978-1982 stationed at Rhein-Main Airbase, Germany, and Warner Robbins Airbase, Georgia. He achieved the rank of staff sergeant. He worked for NY State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as a project manager and supervisor for 30 years. During his time with NYS Parks, he participated as a member of the Search and Rescue Team. He served his

community as a youth soccer coach, influencing a generation of Chatham soccer players through his positive coaching style. He was a founding member of the Chatham Unicycle Club, and although a broken leg cut short his Chatham Men’s Over 30 Club soccer career, he continued to support the team. Following his retirement, he enjoyed biking, hiking, and playing disc golf with his sons and his many friends. He was involved in many volunteer activities, including the Columbia Recovery Kitchen and the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail.

Memorial donations may be made in his name to the Columbia County Recovery Kitchen, [columbiacountyrecoverykitchen.org](https://d.docs.live.net/98bb14a6ac943d34/columbiacountyrecoverykitchen.org) (<https://d.docs.live.net/98bb14a6ac943d34/columbiacountyrecoverykitchen.org>) or Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail [cfetny.org](https://d.docs.live.net/98bb14a6ac943d34/cfetny.org) (<https://d.docs.live.net/98bb14a6ac943d34/cfetny.org>)

His family sends special thanks to the staff at the Albany Medical Center Emergency Department and Surgical/Neuroscience ICU for their great care and compassion. Condolences may be conveyed at frenchblasl.com. A Celebration of his Life will be held at the convenience of the family.

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Obituaries

Avery "Prope" Dietter (1927 - 2023)

ANCRAMDAL—Postman, veteran, "Mayor of Ancramdale," Avery "Prope" Dietter, 95, of Ancramdale passed away peacefully August 17, 2023 in his home surrounded by his beloved family.

Born October 26, 1927 in Ancram Lead Mines, Prope liked to tell people that he was older than Ancramdale because the hamlet's name didn't change until the early 1930s. He was the 10th child of 16 born to his parents, Ernest and Annabelle (Lown) Dietter. Prope would live his entire life along a half a mile stretch of County Route 8.

On September 22, 1950, Uncle Sam came calling, Prope would be trained at Ft. Devens, MA, and then placed on a ship bound for Korea. He would land in Pusan, Korea, just in time for Easter Sunday services in 1951. He was a member of the Army Co. D. 17th Infantry Regiment of the Army's 7th Division, serving in its Heavy Weapons Company. He would direct fire for the 81mm mortars. In one firefight, they would launch 5,096 rounds in a five-day period. The guns grew so hot that water from their canteens and then cold coffee was used to cool the mortar tubes. He would be wounded in action in June 1951, earning him the Purple Heart. In June 1952, he returned to Ancramdale and his family. He continued to serve in the Army Reserves, transferring to the HQ 9th Infantry Division Fort Dix, New Jersey, until August 28, 1956. In addition to the Purple Heart, he earned the Combat Infantry Badge, the Korean Service Medal with two bronze service stars, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit



Prope Dietter

Citation Badge.

On November 28, 1953, he married his beloved Irene "Renie" (Boyles) Dietter. For 69 years they were devoted to each other. Very rarely would you see Prope without his Renie. Together they began a family and lived 67 years in Prope's much loved salt box house. His meticulously-kept lawn was the envy of all who saw it and he enjoyed nothing more than welcoming a neighbor on his front porch for an afternoon chat.

Prope spoke often about his early years working on the Niver Pitcher Homestead and then as a store clerk at the Barton and Hoysradt General Store with his dear friend Ken Barton. It was here that he began his career with the United States Postal Service. He carried mail first in Ancramdale and then later in Copake, serving for 31 years total. He retired in 1986, famously delivering his last round of mail from a limo. After retirement, he settled into a life enjoying his ever-growing family, visiting with friends over coffee at the Farmer's Wife or lunch at the Moose on the Loose and mowing his lawn on his faithful Kubota tractor.

He was a devoted 81-year member of the Ancramdale Presbyterian Church, where he served many years as a trustee and worked on the construction of the church fellowship hall. He was a member of the Cadby-Shuts VFW Post #7552

of Hillsdale and the Pine Plains American Legion Post #426.

In addition to his wife Irene, he leaves his daughters and sons-in-law, Jean and Ron Brant and Gail and Nickie Heath of Ancramdale; two granddaughters and grandsons-in-law, Monica and Brandon Cleveland and Amanda and Edward Bishop of Ancramdale; one grandson and granddaughter-in-law Avery and Jennifer Heath of Standfordville; five great-grandchildren, Sydney and Ronald Cleveland, Karlee Bishop and Lilah and Thomas Heath; and one brother, Ellwood Dietter of Millerton. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his cherished son, Avery Dietter, Jr.; seven brothers, Stanley, Wilber, Fredrick, George, Herbert, Andrew and John; seven sisters, Pauline, Janet, Geraldine, Olive, Barbara, Helen and Carol and his cousin and his wife, James and Eleanor Hoag.

A time for sharing memories and offering condolences was held August 22, 2023 at Peck & Peck Funeral Homes, 7749 South Main Street, Pine Plains. A funeral service was held August 23, 2023 at the Ancramdale Presbyterian Church with Reverend Jan Brooks officiating. Burial followed at the Evergreen Cemetery, Pine Plains. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the Ancramdale Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 99, Ancramdale 12503. In Prope's memory, his family asks you say thank you to a veteran. And take a moment to visit a neighbor, have a seat on their porch and enjoy a good chat. For directions or to leave a message of condolence for the family visit www.peckandpeck.net

Craig A. Demarest (1969 - 2023)

CLAVERACK—Craig Aron Demarest, 53, of Stuyvesant passed away August 16, 2023 in Claverack.

He is survived by: his mother, Sandra; his brothers, Jack and Jason; sister, Jackie; daughter, Erica and an extended family. He was predeceased by his father, John Demarest.

He attended Ithabod Crane and Hudson High School, graduating from the former in 1988. Hudson Valley Community College afforded him an opportunity to study construction engineering. Working many different jobs over the years, he shared that he felt most complete and satisfied when helping others in their struggles. It would be



Craig Demarest

remiss to not mention his quirky sense of humor and love of sports, as he had an uncanny ability to remember statistics from the dynasties of the Boston Celtics era and did so with great enthusiasm.

He had a big heart which was broken during his youth and never healed. He was many things in life, from an all-star athlete to a billiards shark, and a great friend to many. He is survived by a sphere of true

love, hope and faith that can never be shaken. His mother, Sandra Marie, was and will always be his greatest champion. "With the deepest of love, we loved our brother completely, without ever having a complete understanding of the pain he felt. During these trials and tribulations, we ask you to pray for the broken-hearted." To make contributions or donations on his behalf, consider your local boys and girls club, or outreach organizations with the objective of helping individuals find their way back to home plate. Services will be announced at a later date. Arrangements are with the Raymond E. Bond Funeral Home, Valatie.

Mildred T. Leavey (1928 - 2023)

STAATSBURG—Mildred Tyler Leavey, 95, died peacefully Monday, August 28, 2023 at Renaissance Rehabilitation & Nursing in Staatsburg. Born June 14, 1928 in East Taghkanic, she was the daughter of the late Christian Bauhoff and Veronica Nugent Bauhoff, and wife for 22 years of the late Albert B. Tyler, who passed in 1973.

She resided in East Taghkanic most of her life, working on the family farm until 1976 when she moved to Clearwater, Florida. After marrying Joseph Leavey in 1979, they relocated to Jacksonville, Florida. They wintered there for many years until his death in 2005. In 2010, she moved back to East Taghkanic and lived there until September 2021.

Young Mildred enjoyed tating, learning how to drive with her brothers, Frank, and Chris; looking up to big sister, Ruth; playing with her dogs and cats, and was a baton twirler in school. After marrying neighbor Albert "Pete" Tyler in 1951, she created her proudest accomplishment of family farm life. Her three boys (Tom, Peter, Bob) were the joys of her life and with those three and their father, she worked long hours producing a lifestyle that was treasured until her end. At the nursing home for the last two years, she could not remember the morning breakfast but could always remember moving hay and tending to the farm animals. In



Mildred Leavey

addition to her family and farm life which she chronicled with her 8mm video camera, she loved baking, candy and telling stories about "the good old days."

Survivors include: her children, Thomas W. (Karen) Tyler, Peter L. (Norma) Tyler, and Robert O. (Sandy) Tyler. She was grandmother to: Joshua Tyler, Gregory (Billie Jo) Allen, Jeffrey (Michele) Allen, Rebecca (Tim) Spaulding, Emily G. Tyler, and Thomas G. Tyler. She was great-grandmother to nine and is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husbands, she was predeceased by her sisters, Dorothy and Ruth Bauhoff and brothers, Frank and Christian Bauhoff.

In lieu of flowers, contributions to the Columbia-Greene Humane Society in her name are suggested.

Relatives and friends may call at the Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler Funeral Home, 110 Green Street, Hudson, Thursday, August 31 from 4 to 7 p.m., A funeral service will be at St. Thomas Church, Churchtown, Friday, September 1 at 11 a.m. Interment will be in Churchtown Cemetery, Churchtown.

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Obituaries

Charles Siter, Sr.

CHATHAM—Charles Siter, Sr. passed away August 15.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Judy (Davis) Siter; son, Charles "Chip" Siter, Jr. (Robin); his two grandchildren, Jake and Anna Siter; brothers, Kenneth and Peter Siter.

He was predeceased by his

parents, Charles and Catherine Siter; brother, Roger and sister, Gloria. There will be a private family service, no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Chatham Rescue Squad or the Ghent Fire Department. For online condolences visit wenkfunerhome.com

Jeannette D. Jones (1938 - 2023)

SAUGERTIES—Jeannette D. Jones, 85, passed away, Monday, August 14, 2023 at the Northern Dutchess Hospital.

She was born July 6, 1938 in Brooklyn, the daughter of Joseph J. and Helen Veronica (Fathauer) Jones. Along with her eight siblings, she grew up there, attended Bishop McDonald Memorial High School and received her training as a registered nurse at Kings County Hospital. During her 50+ years as an RN she worked at Northern Dutchess Hospital, Yale Hospital, Sloan-Kettering, St. Luke's, Vassar and as a homecare advocacy nurse for United Health Care. Later in life she combined her medical training and experiences with her passion to help people live healthier lives and became an independent Shaklee distributor. She promoted her own health through yoga and tennis.

She was a member of the Amazing Grace Church in Catskill.

She is survived by: her chil-



Jeannette Jones

dren, Dennis Nesel and his wife Jeanette of Germantown, Gerard Nesel and his wife Joanie of St. Augustine, FL, John Nesel, Sr. of Vintonton, NY, and Helen Nesel-Knapp of Rhinebeck. In addition, she is survived by her grandchildren, Meghan, John, Thomas, Molly, Melody (Andrew), Daniel, Becky, Hunter and Lily; six great-grandchildren, Emily, Aiden, Kinsley, Alex, Cody and Caleb; and three siblings, John, JoAnne and James.

Memorial services were August 25 at the Amazing Grace Church, 5073 NYS Route 32, Catskill

Arrangements are under the direction of the Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, 51 West Market Street, Rhinebeck.

To sign the online register visit dapsonchestney.com

MERIDEN, CT—Doris Jean McComb Stalker passed away surrounded by her loving family August 23, 2023 at MidState Medical Center, Meriden CT. Born November 7, 1936, she was the daughter of the late Robert and Doris (Whiffen) McComb. She graduated from Ockawamick High School in 1954 and later graduated from the Albany School of Business. She married Matthew I. Stalker, February 2, 1957. She and her husband moved to Wallingford, CT, where they raised their family. She worked at the Senior Center in Wallingford until retiring to Spencertown in 1994. She returned to Wallingford, CT, in the fall of 2017 to be closer family.

She was a member of the First Congregational Church in Wallingford, and a lifelong member of St. Peter's Presbyterian Church in



Doris Stalker

Spencertown, where she served as presbytery clerk. She loved flowers, sitting by the fire, watching the birds and wildlife, spending time with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, extended family and friends.

She is survived by: her children, Tim (Wendy) of Chatham, Peggy of Wallingford, CT, Tom (Richard Long) of New Marlborough, MA, Scott (Maritza) of Cromwell, CT, Christopher (Julie) of Burke, NY; grandchildren, Matthew (Abigail), Taylor, Connor, Ian Stalker, Travis (Emily) Fahey and Bailey Tuller (Nathan);

great-grandchildren, Elizabeth, Austin, Maverick, Paisleigh and two on the way; her sister, Judy Harrison; brothers, David "Duke" McComb and Frederick McComb, and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, Matthew I. Stalker.

Religious services were celebrated August 28 at St. Peter's Presbyterian Church in Spencertown. Interment followed at the Spencertown Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, send donations to the Hospital of Central Connecticut at MidState Medical Center, 435 Lewis Avenue, Suite 220, Meriden, CT 06451, ATTN: Cancer Center or Friends of St. Peter's Presbyterian Church in Spencertown. Condolences may be conveyed at frenchblasl.com.

Denise L. Donley (1956 - 2023)

CLAVERACK—Denise L. Donley, 66, of Claverack passed away Friday, August 18, 2023. Born December 14, 1956 in Mt. Kisco, she was the daughter of Thomas J. and Anna (Bassett) Fox, Jr. She graduated from Stissing Mountain High School and furthered her education at Columbia-Greene Community College in their licensed practical nurse program. She loved motorcycles and Rock and Roll, (especially Bob Seger), and

enjoyed relaxing at the beach and hanging out with her family at a roaring bonfire. She leaves to cherish her memory: a daughter, Michelle Smith; grandchildren, Donald Speed, III and Samantha Speed; great-grandchildren, Alonzo, Avion, Aliyah, Allura and Elijah; along with her siblings, Dolores Neils, Linda (Tim) Higgins, Kathleen Higgins (Walter Bonn), Marilyn Fox, Patricia Harper, Sharon Fitzpatrick, Teresa Roberts and

Richard (Nora) Fox; many nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, She was predeceased by her husband, Gary Donley and brother, Thomas Fox III. A celebration of Denise's life will be held Saturday, September 2. Contact her family for details. Arrangements are with the Bates & Anderson, Redmond & Keeler Funeral Home, Inc., Hudson.

Public Notices

Notice

356 Warren LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 8/16/2023. Cty: Columbia. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 331 Mt. Merino Rd., Hudson, NY 12534. General Purpose
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC)

The name of the LLC is 431 Lakeview LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on August 23, 2023. New York office location: 431 Lakeview Road, Town of Copake, County of Columbia and the State of New York. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 431 Lakeview LLC; 276 Highland Road, South Orange, New Jersey 07079. Purpose/Character of business: Any lawful business purpose permitted under the New York Limited Liability Company Law. This notification is made pursuant to Section

206 of the Limited Liability Company Law.
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

NOTICE

COLUMBIA COUNTY ECKHOLM STUDIOS LLC

Notice of formation of Eckholm Studios LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 05/31/2023. Office location: Columbia County. Principal business location: 3875 NY-9G, Germantown, NY 12526. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 3875 NY-9G, Germantown, NY 12526. Purpose: any lawful acts or activities for which LLCs may be organized.
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

Notice

Notice of Formation of Eric C. Miller PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-06-30. Office location: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent of Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to The PLLC: 1880 State Route 82 Ancram

NY 12502. Purpose: Any lawful purpose
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Fourth Dimension Architecture PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-05-22. Office location: Greene County. SSNY designated as agent of Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Elizabeth Saunier: PO Box 781 Windham NY 12496. Purpose: Any lawful purpose
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF GALLATIN PUBLIC HEARING
The Public is hereby notified that the Town of Gallatin Zoning Board of Appeals will hold the continuance of the PUBLIC HEARING (originally held on July 11, 2023) September 12, 2023 at the Town Hall-6:30 PM.

The purpose of this meeting is to review the application, supporting documentation and possibly make a decision on the application submitted to the Board by the

following:

Mr. Sham Misir 135 Snyderville Rd. Elizaville, NY 12523 (202-1-4) is seeking relief from section 4.3 of the Gallatin Zoning Ordinance. This is for construction of a shed.

The Public is invited to attend.

Betty Harte/Secretary
Town of Gallatin/ZBA
1T#35

COLLECTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Community Bank will collect school taxes for the Kinderhook Central School District, State of New York, in accordance with a warrant dated August 22, 2023 for the collection of school taxes for the school year commencing July 1, 2023. The Valatie Branch of the Bank of Greene County will receive payment of all such taxes as may be voluntarily paid for a one-month period from September 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023. Notice also is hereby given that Don MacCormack has been appointed as Tax Collector for the collection of school taxes for such District for the school year commencing July 1, 2023. Taxes may be voluntarily paid in person at the Valatie branch of the Bank of Greene County at

2827 US Route 9, Valatie during normal banking hours, by mail addressed to: Don MacCormack, Collector c/o Bank of Greene County, P.O. Box 798, Valatie, N.Y. 12184 or by credit card at www.infotaxonline.com.

The Bank of Greene County will also collect taxes from October 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023. Taxes paid during this period shall bear interest at a rate of 2% for such one-month period or part thereof until paid or until the return of the collecting officer's warrant. The return of the warrant expires on October 31, 2023. All taxes remaining unpaid on that date plus penalty may be paid, pending county board approval, to the County Treasurer's Office, and penalty will be added to the applicable town tax.

** Please note: taxes will not be collected on the following holidays: Labor Day, September 4, 2023 & Columbus Day, October 10, 2023.

2T#35,36

Notice

Notice of Formation of Katherine Moore LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023- 08-04. Office location: Columbia

County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to : 82 N 3rd St Hudson NY 12534. Purpose: Any lawful activity
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

Notice

KATHLEEN HEINS ASSOCIATES LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/15/23. Office: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, P.O. Box 42, Craryville, NY 12521. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

Notice

Mason Plumbing and Heating LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 8/14/2023. Cty: Columbia. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Patrick Mason, 382 Roche Dr., Ancramdale, NY 12503. General Purpose
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Phoenix Initiative, LLC
Office Location: Columbia

County N.Y. Articles of Organization Filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on August 18, 2023. SSNY is designated agent of LLC upon whom process may be served and SSNY shall mail process to Phoenix Initiative, LLC located at 17 High Street, Chatham, NY 12037.
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

Notice

Notice of formation of Pop's Cabin LLC (the "LLC"). Arts. of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on January 17, 2008. Office Location: Columbia County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy to: Lester G. McCarthy, 124 Skyline Rd., Ancramdale, NY 12503. Purpose: any lawful activity.
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

Notice

Rockhill Hudson Valley Holdings LLC. Filed 7/18/23. Office: Columbia Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: 32 Treeland Farm Rd, Hudson, NY 12534. Purpose: General.
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40



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Public Notices

NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE FOR TAXES 2023-2024

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, the Collector of School Taxes for the Taconic Hills Central School District, Counties of Columbia and Dutchess, State of New York, has duly received a tax warrant dated September 1, 2023 for the collection of school taxes for such district for the school year commencing June 30, 2024 and that payment of all such taxes may voluntarily be made to her, Eileen M. Olson, through the Key Bank Lockbox Services.

By mail:
Taconic Hills Central School District

C / O
Receiver of Taxes
P. O.
Box 10716

Albany, NY 12201
For Overnight or Fed Ex Delivery: Key Bank Lockbox Operations
Lockbox 10716
555 Patroon Creek Blvd.
Albany, NY 12206
At the Key Bank NY (MUST bring copy of tax bill):
Copake Branch – Night Drop:

To provide a safe and efficient environment no cash will be accepted in the bank. Checks may be dropped in the Night Drop which is available 24/7.

Online Bill pay is available at www.taconichills.k12.ny.us select Our District and School Tax Information

Checks should be made payable to Taconic Hills CSD. Bills may be paid during the period of September 1, 2023 to October 2, 2023. All Taxes paid after October 2, 2023 shall bear a penalty rate of two percent (2%) until the warrant expires on October 31, 2023. All taxes remaining unpaid after October 31, 2023 are returned to the County Treasurer. Payment can be made to the Columbia County Treasurer's Office between November 16, 2023 and November 30, 2023 with additional penalties added to the tax figure. Contact Columbia County Treasurer at 518-828-0513 for tax payment information. No Taxes accepted after November 30, 2023 regardless of the mailing or delivery date.

AND IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED that the District shall be authorized to accept payments within one dollar (\$1.00) of the taxed amount in the following manner: if taxes are paid in excess of the taxed amount, but within one dollar (\$1.00) of the amount due, the payment shall be accepted and the excess payment, in an amount not to exceed \$1.00, shall not be refunded to the taxpayer; if taxes are paid in an amount less than the taxed amount, but within one dollar (\$1.00) of the amount due, the payment shall be accepted by the District and no further action will be necessary on behalf of the taxpayer. Payments not within one dollar (\$1.00) of the taxed amount shall be accepted and/or rejected in accordance with the New York State Real Property Tax Law and/or procedures established by the Taconic Hills Central School District.

Respectfully Submitted-
Eileen M. Olson
Tax Collector
Taconic Hills Central School District
Counties of Columbia and Dutchess
State of New York
Dated: August 25, 2023
1T#35

Notice of formation of TWIN PONDS SOLAR LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 06/12/23. Office: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall

mail to: The LLC, 160 Nevis Rd., Tivoli NY 12583. Purpose: All legal purposes.
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

Notice
Notice of formation of WOLF SOLAR 1 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 06/12/23. Office: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail to: The LLC, 160 Nevis Rd., Tivoli NY 12583. Purpose: All legal purposes.
6T#s 35,36,37,38,39,40

Notice
Notice is hereby given that a license, number 2235583 for beer, cider, liquor, and wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, cider, liquor, and wine at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 1843 State Route 23, Craryville, Columbia County on premises consumption. Zinnia's Dinetto, Inc.
2T#35,36

Notice
210 MAIN GTOWN, LLC
Notice of formation of Limited Liability Company ("LLC").

Articles of Organization filed New York Sec. of State ("NYSS")

10/26/2022. Office loc. Columbia County. NYSS designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. NYSS shall mail a copy of any process to c/o The LLC, 210 Main Street,

Germantown, New York 12526. There is no specific date set for dissolution. Purpose: to engage in any lawful activity or act. Name and Business Address of Organizer is Adeline P. Malone, Esq.,
7537 North Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571.
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
3512 New Street LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 7/12/2023. Cty: Columbia. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Steven M. Marotta, 105 North Cross Rd., Chatham, NY 12037. General Purpose
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
NOTICE OF FORMATION of Alvarez Homes a Division of Ritz-Craft LLC, Art. of Org filed with Secy of State (SSNY) on 7/6/2023. Office: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 3572 US Rt 9, Hudson, NY 12534. Purpose: any lawful act/activity.
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC)
The name of the LLC is Babb Property LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on July 20, 2023. New York office location: 85 Lake Shore Drive, Town of Copake, County of Columbia and the State of New York. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: Babb Property LLC; 85 Lake Shore Drive, Copake, New York 12516. Purpose/Character of business: Any lawful business purpose permitted under the New York Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC)

The name of the LLC is Babb Property LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on July 20, 2023. New York office location: 85 Lake Shore Drive, Town of Copake, County of Columbia and the State of New York. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: Lochbeorn Spirits LLC; 2201 County Route 7, Copake,

Liability Company Law. This notification is made pursuant to Section 206 of the Limited Liability Company Law.
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC)

The name of the LLC is Cvlziedlife Media Group, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on July 21, 2023. New York office location: c/o Guterman, Shallo & Alford, 21 North Seventh Street, City of Hudson, County of Columbia and the State of New York. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: Cvlziedlife Media Group, LLC; c/o Guterman, Shallo & Alford, 21 North Seventh Street, Hudson, New York 12534. Purpose/Character of business: Any lawful business purpose permitted under the New York Limited Liability Company Law. This notification is made pursuant to Section 206 of the Limited Liability Company Law.
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Notice of Formation of H2OB. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023- 05-25. Office location: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to H2OB: 1824 Harlemville Rd Chatham NY 12037. Purpose: Any lawful purpose
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of JM Custom Builds, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-06-28. Office location: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Justin McGrath: 139 Orchard Drive Valatie NY 12184. Purpose: Any lawful purpose
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
Notice of Formation of Local Resource Partners LLC Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 7/13/23. Office location: Columbia County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: PO Box 952. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC)
The name of the LLC is Lochbeorn Spirits LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on July 20, 2023. New York office location: 2210 County Route 7, Town of Copake, County of Columbia and the State of New York. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: Lochbeorn Spirits LLC; 2201 County Route 7, Copake,

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC)

The name of the LLC is Lochbeorn Spirits LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on July 20, 2023. New York office location: 2210 County Route 7, Town of Copake, County of Columbia and the State of New York. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: Lochbeorn Spirits LLC; 2201 County Route 7, Copake,

New York 12516. Purpose/ Character of business: Any lawful business purpose permitted under the New York Limited Liability Company Law. This notification is made pursuant to Section 206 of the Limited Liability Company Law.
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
Revaben LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 7/11/2023. Cty: Columbia. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Bhavesh Patel, 52 Payne Ave., Chatham, NY 12037. General Purpose
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
Notice of formation of SWEET FLOWER FARM LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with the Sec'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/09/23. Office in Columbia County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 739 CENTER HILL RD COPAKE, NY, 12516. Purpose: Any lawful purpose
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
Notice of Formation of TALON PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 05/31/2023. Office location: COLUMBIA County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: PO BOX 144, KINDERHOOK, NY 12106. Purpose: any lawful activity
6T#s 30,31,32,33,34,35

Notice
BIRKMER HOLDINGS LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sec'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/11/2023. Office: Columbia County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 240 Prospect Hill Rd, Pine Plains, NY 12567. Purpose: any lawful act.
6T#s 31,32,33,34,35,36

Notice
UNION STREET JOINT VENTURES LLC . Filed: 4/7/23 . Office: Columbia Co. Org. in DELAWARE: 01/11/2022. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to : Jonathan Flicker, 224 Union St, Hudson, NY 12534. Foreign add: 221 N. Broad St, Ste 3a, Middletown, DE 19709. Arts. of Org. filed with Jeffrey W. Bullock, Delaware Secretary of State, 401 Federal St, Ste 4, John G. Townsend Bldg., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: General.
6T#s 31,32,33,34,35,36

Notice
COLUMBIA CO. SERVICES, LLC. Filed 7/24/23. Office: Columbia Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: 154 Pond Hill Rd, Chatham, NY 12037. Purpose: General.
6T#s 32,33,34,35,36,37

Notice
Notice of formation of Phoenix Fitness, Spread Your Wings. LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-04-14. Office location: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to United States Corporation Agents, Inc: 7014 13th Ave, Suite 202, Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose
6T#s 32,33,34,35,36,37

Notice
Notice of Formation of RidhySidhy LLC. Arts of Org.

filed with SSNY on 8/07/2023. Location: Columbia County. SSNY has been designated agent of LLC for service of process to RidhySidhy LLC P.O. Box 96, Chatham, NY, 12037 Purpose: Any lawful activity.
6T#s 32,33,34,35,36,37

Notice
Supplemental Summons and Notice of Object of Action SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF COLUMBIA Action to Foreclose a Mortgage INDEX #: E012019015016 WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, vs P.J. KEELER COLUMBIA COUNTY TREASURER, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF ANITA M. GEORGE, WHO WAS SURVIVING SPOUSE OF LEROY K. GEORGE, KRISTINA M. GEORGE, LEROY GEORGE, JR. AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF ANITA M. GEORGE, WHO WAS SURVIVING SPOUSE OF LEROY K. GEORGE, VINCENT GEORGE AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF ANITA M. GEORGE, WHO WAS SURVIVING SPOUSE OF LEROY K. GEORGE, SHARON GEORGE-DUPRA AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF ANITA M. GEORGE, WHO WAS SURVIVING SPOUSE OF LEROY K. GEORGE, GEORGE IF LIVING, AND IF HE/SHE BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; SUCH UNKNOWN PERSONS BEING HEREIN GENERALLY DESCRIBED AND INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN WIFE, WIDOW, HUSBAND, WIDOWER, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, D E S C E N D A N T S , E X E C U T O R S , A D M I N I S T R A T O R S , D E V I S E E S , L E G A T E E S , C R E D I T O R S , T R U S T E E S , C O M M I T T E E S , L I E N O R S , A N D A S S I G N E E S O F S U C H D E C E A S E D , A N Y A N D A L L P E R S O N S D E R I V I N G I N T E R E S T I N O R L I E N U P O N , O R T I T L E T O S A I D R E A L P R O P E R T Y B Y , T H R O U G H O R U N D E R T H E M , O R E I T H E R O F T H E M , A N D T H E I R R E S P E C T I V E W I V E S , W I D O W S , H U S B A N D S , W I D O W E R S , H E I R S A T L A W , N E X T O F K I N , D E S C E N D A N T S , E X E C U T O R S , A D M I N I S T R A T O R S , D E V I S E E S , L E G A T E E S , C R E D I T O R S , T R U S T E E S , C O M M I T T E E S , L I E N O R S , A N D A S S I G N E E S O F S U C H D E C E A S E D , A N Y A N D A L L P E R S O N S U N K N O W N T O P L A I N T I F F ; A S H E I R T O T H E E S T A T E O F A N I T A M . 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Editorial

**IT'S BACK!
...so are we**

THE BIG NEWS is that the Columbia County Fair is up and running (and mooing and clucking and oinking and entertaining and smashing and spinning and parading and you get the idea) for 182 years at the Chatham Fairgrounds. The main entrance is state Route 66.

There's enough to keep kids and their grown-ups busy for a day or more—the fair runs through Labor Day. Kids old enough to know about such things understand that the fair literally makes way for the new school year. Some may plead for that one last ride and risk wandering off only to remember that they need the ride home.

After nearly two centuries the fair hasn't been swamped by cuteness. Its traditions endure and adapt. It's how this county relaxes.

As for us, two weeks ago The Columbia Paper staff shut down for a week for our annual summer "double issue." We added a few extra pages and published the issue of "August 17-24." We also advertised the August 17-24 issue on the front page and in earlier issues before we took that week off.

The calls started coming in as soon as subscribers didn't get the paper that wouldn't be arriving. Callers wanted an explanation. We explained. And then something happened. All of these callers said they were relieved that they would receive this paper. We were too.

Some said they were embarrassed at missing the published alerts. Many of you also told us you loved this newspaper.

We said, please don't be embarrassed. Everybody misses stuff and we love talking with our readers. And don't worry, we don't plan to take another break until the end of the year.

Letters

Faults Molinaro vote record

To the Editor:
Rep. Marc Molinaro (R-19th) has been telling constituents in town halls that he knows he'll need to oppose the MAGA-driven agenda of his Republican caucus at some point and stop voting for "messaging" bills that are reportedly testing the patience of even his fellow Republicans. This week would have been a good place to start. Molinaro did not merely vote with the extremists; he was a full-fledged co-sponsor of the legislation to censure Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) for telling the truth about Russian interference in the 2016 election. That truth was validated when the Republican-led Senate Intelligence Committee released its 1,000-page final report in 2020, concluding that Russia conducted a sophisticated and aggressive campaign to influence the U.S. election, and that members of Team Trump were more than happy to accept help from the Russians.

bipartisanship and has thrown himself in with the Gridlock Gang that is doing nothing to improve the lives of CD-19th voters. Rep. Molinaro has already voted to put more New Yorkers at risk of food and housing insecurity when he voted for the Republican Default bill. And when it comes to propping up the extremist wing of the Republican Congress, he has the same score as his fellow enabler of Speaker McCarthy, Rep. George Santos—100%.

We need a member of Congress who will focus on matters like rural internet, clean air and water, affordable housing, and other issues that affect everyday lives. We do not need "good soldiers" who quake in fear of being primaried and censure a fellow member of Congress for exercising his right of free speech. This is America, after all.

Alan Gelb
E. Chatham

But this vote shows that Rep. Molinaro rejects that



David Lee

The fair is open

Kicking off the talent showcase at the Columbia County Fair were dancers of the Columbia Elite Allstars. The fair opened Wednesday and runs through Monday, September 4.

Letters

Ancram needs civil behavior at meetings

To the Editor:
The July and August Town Board meetings in Ancram have been the scene of disruptive and uncivil behavior on the part of a disrespectful group of Ancram residents. Instead of presenting their concerns and questions thoughtfully and politely, this group has yelled at Town Board members, berated town

volunteers, belittled the work of committee members, and interrupted the comments of

other residents. This sort of angry behavior is negative and counterproductive.

It has been distressing to witness this impolite group behaving in such an ill-mannered way. We hope that reasonable town residents will increase their attendance at Town Board meetings in order to model respectful behavior.

We also encourage the Ancram Town Board members to set guidelines for how to behave at public meetings.

When expressing concerns or questions, everyone should behave in an appropriate and civil manner. Clearly, all attendees at town meetings should be expected to disagree and ask questions respectfully and to treat others courteously. As we all know, there is important work to be done in Ancram, work that can only be accomplished if we treat each other respectfully and with civility.

Jane and Jonathan Meigs
Ancram

There was more to this family

To the Editor:
I very much appreciated and enjoyed the remembrance of Joan K. Davidson in the August 17-24, 2023, issue of The Columbia Paper. I only wish

that the information provided to the paper had included that Ms. Davidson named the Alice award for her mother, Alice Manheim Kaplan (1904–1995). The 2014 program for the Alice

described Ms. Kaplan, a New York City native, as "a distinguished contributor to the city she loved."

Debby Mayer
San Diego, CA



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DEC/Photo by Joseph Valastro

Wild turkey in grassy area

Count your wild turkeys after they hatch

Take a Labor Day weekend wander



CLERMONT—Visit Clermont State Historic Site, 1 Clermont Avenue and embark on Landscape Highlights: A walking tour of Clermont's grounds, Saturday September 2, 2 p.m. starting at the Visitor Center.

Take a guided walk around the mansion and restored gardens with Clermont's knowledgeable staff. Enjoy a Labor Day weekend wander and learn about the natural and architectural history of the site. This event is free, reservations are required. Make reservations in advance on Bookeo: <https://bookeo.com/clermont>

See this landscape highlight.

Photo contributed

GHENT—While you are out exploring New York State this summer, be sure to keep an eye out for wild turkeys and report your observations to the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Since 1996, DEC has conducted the Summer Wild Turkey Sighting Survey to track wild turkey productivity (the proportion of young of the year to adult hens) statewide.

Weather, habitat conditions, and predators during breeding and brood-rearing seasons can significantly impact nest success, hen survival, and poult survival. This index allows DEC to gauge reproductive success and predict future turkey populations and harvest opportunities. Reproductive success (as measured by this survey) remains significantly lower than it was in the early 2000s. The estimated number of poults/hen in 2017, 2019, 2021, and 2022 were four of

the six lowest productivity estimates since the survey began in 1996.

To participate:

- Keep an eye out for wild turkeys as you're out and about
- When you observe a flock, jot down the number of adult females, adult males, and poults (young of the year) that you see

- When you're at a computer or on your phone, enter your observation online at <https://survey123.arcgis.com>

- If you happen to see what you believe to be the same flock later in the month, do not double report the group.

Observing and counting wildlife can be challenging. To not bias the results, only report flocks when you're confident you observed the entire group. Partial flock observations can bias the poult per hen estimates. Using binoculars can greatly improve the odds you're able to observe an entire flock.

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Events

BERNIE'S BLUE LINE BARBECUE at the First Presbyterian Church of Valatie. A Drive Thru Bernie's

Blue Line Pulled Pork BBQ will be served from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at the First Presbyterian Church, 3212 Church Street, Valatie,

NY 12184. The menu consists of pulled pork, salt potatoes with Tuscan herb butter, coleslaw, 2 mini cornbread muffins and cookies. Tickets are \$15.00. For Ticket Sales - Call (518) 929 - 5744. 50% of the net proceeds will be donated to the Valatie Free Library. Thank you for your support.

Classes

DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS: September 16, 2023, 9am-3pm St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Valatie. DMV Approved-Save 10% for 3 Years off Insurance/Reduce 4 points off record. Call: 518-784-5009/www.facetoface-courses.com

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LOCAL EVENTS

By Lorna Cherot Littleway

Spencertown hosts annual bookfest

THE 18TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF BOOKS (FOB), at the Spencertown Academy Arts Center, runs Labor Day weekend, September 1 to 4. The 4-day event includes 7 authors, who discuss their selected works, winners from the 2023 Youth Writers Contest, who will read from their works, a children's program featuring Lyle the Crocodile, and a "gently" used book sale with up to 15 thousand titles to choose from.

In a telephone and email interview with The Columbia Paper, FOB co-chair Carl Atkins was asked about the selection criteria for invited authors. "We try to choose speakers who have something to say about contemporary issues and conditions." Atkins added that selected books, generally, have been published within a year of the festival. CP asked Atkins how the FOB has evolved and if it was a gamble in terms of audience interest to devote a festival to books and writers.

"Not at all. There's a tremendous interest in books. Books are the cornerstone of the arts. People just love books!"

"We hit on a winning formula from the start and it has grown into a major event because of its quality. We make minor changes each year. [We are adding] a section in both the Children's Room and the Main Bookroom that we're calling 'Diverse Voices.'"

Among this year's authors are Hudson resident Tamar Adler. In the Introduction to "The Everlasting Meal Cookbook Leftovers A-Z," Adler writes, "I feel about leftovers as I do empty restaurants and unkempt gardens. I love them because they are unloved." Adler describes her book as "a leftover encyclopedia." If you have ever been stumped by what to do with a food item that time and refrigeration have rendered unrecognizable, Adler's book is for you.

In addition to the alphabetized index, the book is thoughtfully organized by food groups, i.e. vegetables, meat

and tofu, etc. Also, it includes a Useful Conversions page, e.g. 1 cup of chopped cooked meat equals a little over 10 1/2 ounces. Shaina Loew-Banayan, chef and owner of Café

Seligman.

Sunday morning features winners from the 2023 Youth Writers Competition. Atkins said there were 28 entries. Writers received cash awards

Town" as a suburban, gated community, where all the houses have homogeneous exteriors. The monsters are categorized as Banshees, Faes, Nymphs, Vampires and

the bride cries tears of joy while Andy, the best man, sheds tears of loss. Years later, Theo dies in a car accident and Andy helps Alice raise her 10-year old daughter, Jen.

The story ends with an infirmed Andy hospitalized, regretting that in the 78 years he had known Theo he never spoke aloud the words he thought: "I want him. I love you. I still love you. I'm sorry I couldn't tell you."

Ava Young, 3rd Place Fiction Winner, is a Berkshire Waldorf HS 10th Grader. Her "Living For Rose" is a humorous story of sibling envy. "I refused to understand how Rose could look the way she did. We had the same genetics, didn't we? She had a taut, flat stomach and breasts like round pomegranates. I felt like a whale beside her . . ."

The 1st and 2nd Place Non-Fiction Winners are both 12th Graders and both wrote stories about family.

Amelia Scheriff, Chatham HS, tells a charming story about the origin of several nicknames family members have bestowed on her in "Namesake." In "El Otro Lado Del Odio" (The Other Side of Hate) Carlos Lopez, Hudson HS, tells of a son who comes to terms with an overbearing father.

The students read from their works 10:30 a.m. on the Mainstage.

According to Atkins, a 24-person committee and 100 plus volunteers begin planning the FOB in February. Also 100+ donate books. Part of the planning includes "lining up cooks and bakers for the FOB Café," he said.

Festivities begin on Friday, 3 to 8 p.m., with a members only preview of available books. The general public can peruse books Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Monday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free. Teachers with ID get a 20% discount on purchases. Also, Monday is bargain day.

The Spencertown Academy Arts Center is located at 790 State Route 203. Visit www.spencertownacademy.org



Mutton in Hudson interviews Adler, Saturday, September 2, 1:30 p.m., on the Mainstage.

Following Adler, at 3 p.m., is playwright/novelist Wesley Brown. "Blue in Green" is a beautifully written novella based on a true incident, a 1959 confrontation between jazz impresario Miles Davis and New York City police in Harlem, with fictionalized dialogue that explores Davis' relationship with star ballet dancer/wife Frances and fellow jazz greats Cannonball Adderly, Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, etc. Other luminaries include Eartha Kitt, Billie Holiday and Lena Horne.

Brown's sensitive writing makes the reader an instrument. He describes a performance of "Porgy and Bess," "From the get-go, there's a full-blast orchestral screech of reeds and brass . . . an eye-popping roar, deep in the belly of a tuba gives way to Miles playing an ear-piercing wail, full of fury and worry. . ."

Brown is professor emeritus of English at Rutgers University and has taught at Bard College. He is interviewed by Grammy-nominated record producer Gerald



Above, Spencertown Academy's 18th Annual Festival of Books. (l) Author Wesley Brown

Photos contributed

of \$250 - \$100 in the categories of Fiction and Non Fiction.

They are:

Mira Pierce, 1st Place Fiction Winner, is a Chatham HS 9th Grader. Mira assumes the persona of a young gay scientist, Arthur Joyce, to tell the imaginative and alarming story of "Lonesome Town."

WW2 has ended and the U.S. Government is actively looking for spies. The search turns up a document of previously unknown "monsters." An experimental plan is hatched to round up the monsters and relocate them to an isolated area, dubbed Lonesome Town, for the purpose of testing and studying them. Joyce is assigned to provide therapeutic services to the monsters.

Joyce describes "Lonesome

Werewolves. Joyce is given strict instructions not to befriend them. But Joyce cannot help but notice their human characteristics. They look and talk just like him. He, also, realizes that the experiments and tests performed on them are akin to torture.

Abira Khair, 2nd Place Fiction Winner, is a Hudson HS 9th Grader. His "Saturn's Rings" is a sad yet familiar story of unexpressed love between two fellows.

Theo and Andy meet at age 5 when Andy's family moves to a new neighborhood. The outgoing Theo befriends the very shy Andy. They are an inseparable pair from kindergarten through college. Andy is stunned when Theo announces his intention to marry Alice. At the wedding,

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