



NEW LEBANON SCHOOL PROPOSED 2024-25 BUDGET
 Spending plan goes above tax cap Page 3

GOING SOMEWHERE?
 Check our calendar Page 10



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Child care: The provider's perspective

Third in a series

By DEBORAH E. LANS

GHENT – Basic economic theory says that as demand for a product or service increases so too does supply. Child care seems to defy the theory.

In Columbia County the demand for child care far exceeds the supply of slots, especially for infants and toddlers. As one administrator put it, “there is an endless infant waitlist.” Yet, the number of programs and slots has been steadily declining.

Child Care Connections in Hudson (CCC) supplies training for and technical assistance to providers, assists parents to locate licensed providers and administers the subsidy program for the county, among other things. Its program director, Suzanne Holdridge, notes that there is very little interest in opening child care programs, 61 of which have closed since 2014.

CCC, in partnership with Columbia-Greene Community College and its Workforce Investment Board, opened a

Continued on Page 7



David Lee

Judging from the scale of things, those are mighty big fish

Ethan Milos holds his fish while his cousin Wesson Davey looks on at the Ghent Sportsman's Association's annual kids fishing derby held on April 27. For more information on the winners see Page 2 of this issue.

Road fix needs parking plan in Copake hamlet

By DIANE VALDEN

COPAKE – The great Copake hamlet road and sidewalk fix-up is coming!

But when it gets here, where will everyone park?

That is the question weighing on the Town Board's mind as it strives to get another hamlet parking lot in place before the long-awaited major hamlet project starts.

For anyone who has somehow missed all the project publicity over the years, this extensive multi-million dollar Copake hamlet fix-up enterprise has been talked and dreamed about for 20+ years. Finally construction on what is formally called the County Route 7A Reconstruction and Preservation Project is set to start in the spring of next year.

The project involves the reconstruction of 1.75 miles of County Route 7A through the hamlet starting at Center Hill Road and continuing out in a Y-shaped formation to the north and south entrances to the hamlet on State Route 22.

The project will be paid for with federal, state and county funding.

Though town funds are not required for the basic project, Copake has been putting aside money in a capital reserve fund for extra amenities such as plantings, park benches or street lights not paid for by the federal, state or county funds.

In addition to the tearing up and reconstruction of roads and sidewalks, the project will have a significant adverse impact on parking and by extension, if

not remedied, hamlet businesses that rely on parking for their customers.

Gone forever will be the pull-in parking spaces in front of many hamlet businesses. Instead, limited on-street parking will be available in parallel parking spaces only.

With the coming reduction in parking in mind, Copake Supervisor Richard Wolf told The Columbia Paper this week, that the town attorney has been negotiating with the owners of the four parcels that make up the Main Street parking lot that is accessible off Main Street between the Copake General Store and the Copake Wine Works. The town wants to acquire permanent easements to the total 0.326 acres of land

Continued on Page 7

INDEX

- Blotter.....4
- Business/Health.....5
- Classifieds.....27
- Communities.....16
- Entertainment.....8
- Obituaries.....20
- Schools.....6

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David Lee

A group photo of all the winners at the Ghent Sportsman's Association kids fishing derby

Sportsman's Association hosts annual fishing derby

By DAVID LEE

GHENT — The Ghent Sportsman's Association, located at 1128 County Route 9, held its annual kids fishing derby on Saturday, April 27. 134 kids signed up to participate and 102 fish were caught.

Results were as follows:

1-6 year-olds:

1. Carson Hoyt 13-1/2" 11oz.
2. Kailie Rogers 13" 11oz.
3. Wesson Davey 12-3/4" 11oz.

7-9 year-olds:

1. Ava Rimerez 13" 9oz.
2. Tyler O'Connell 13" 7oz.
3. Abigail Zuniga 13" 8oz.

10-12 year-olds:

1. Ryan Kaninberg 13-3/4" 8oz.
2. Tristen Pulver 13'1/4" 9oz.
3. Isabella Snyder 13" 9oz.

13-15 year-olds:

1. Matthew Pierro 13" 10oz.
2. Silas Rivers 12-1/2" 9oz.
3. Cordel Brockett 12-1/2" 8oz.



Photo contributed

Ronnie Cleveland (center), is pictured with his parents.

Cleveland earns Boy Scout's highest rank

ANCRAMDAL — Ronald K. Cleveland, 17, a resident of Ancramdale, earned the rank of Eagle Scout, April 8.

Ronnie is a member of Boy Scout Troop #128 of Rhinebeck and the son of Monica and Brandon Cleveland. He is a junior at Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School in the Pine Plains Central School District and is studying to be an

electrician through the Dutchess County BOCES program.

Ronnie's Eagle Scout project consisted of removing overgrown and dead shrubbery from the Ancramdale Presbyterian Church property and replacing it with a hydrangea bed. Ronnie thanks all of those in the community who helped to make his project succeed.

Chatham Middle School names Students of the Month

Chatham Middle School announces its March Students of the Month, who are (l to r) 6th graders Lila Macchiaroli and Rasa Macchiaroli, 7th graders Nicholas Butta and Nelly Cruz Tapia, and 8th graders Nico Katz and Narayan Flores.



Photo contributed

New Lebanon continues to lead in climate action

NEW LEBANON — New Lebanon has become the first town in the Capital Region to achieve the silver level in the Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) ClimateSmartCommunities (CSC) program.

The DEC announced news of this accomplishment on Earth Day (April 22). To qualify for silver, volunteers on the New Lebanon CSC Task Force performed various actions to reduce the town's greenhouse gas emissions and to increase the town's resilience to climate disruption.

Many of the actions taken were for energy-saving programs like installing heat pumps and solar panels at Town Hall. These actions reduce the town's carbon footprint and save taxpayers money.

The silver certification comes three years after New Lebanon was the first town in Columbia County to gain bronze certification. It is now among only six other towns or cities in New York State that have achieved silver status. Considering that New Lebanon is a small, rural town, these accomplishments are particularly remarkable.

Reaching the silver level also boosts the town's status in



Photo contributed

Members of New Lebanon's CSC program.

NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities program which qualifies the town for a \$175,000 grant that can be used for other energy and cost savings projects on town buildings.

Steve Powers, CSC chair and Town Board member, thanked the eight members of the CSC Task Force for this accomplishment, with special thanks to "advisor extraordinaire," Marc Anthonisen. He also noted the help provided by Cornell graduate students Michelle Parks and Alejandra Plaza Limon, as well as Cornell Professor Rebecca Morgenstern Brenner for her partnership with the town.

He concluded his announcement by saying, "We could not have gotten this far without the foresight and support of Supervisor [Tistrya] Houghtling

who started this process when she was Town Clerk and solicited the approval from the past and current Town Boards. So, thanks to them and all of our neighbors who cheered us on!"

Supervisor Houghtling was thrilled that the town had reached silver status. She said, "I never believed that when I urged the town toward more environmentally sound practices that it would lead to such a great achievement and such wonderful support from the residents. Going green does not have to be a burden and in fact benefits the Town in so many ways. There is no way that as Supervisor I could have done this alone - I thank the many volunteers from the Climate Smart Task Force who have helped us achieve silver."

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New Lebanon school budget will exceed tax cap

By DOUG LAROCQUE

NEW LEBANON — If the headline to this report seems dire, that is because the New Lebanon School Board and the district administration indicated at the recent board meeting held to adopt a budget, it is.

The board pushed back its April meeting a week, hoping to get some final state aid figures once the legislature and the governor came to a state budget agreement. The initial budget put forth by the governor eliminated the so called “save harmless” provision for education aid, meaning districts were no longer guaranteed that they would receive at least the same amount of foundation aid as they had the year before. It also used a 20-year school population averaging formula that meant New Lebanon would actually lose state aid. Superintendent Andrew Kourt indicated that average showed New Lebanon’s student population to be decreasing, when he said it was actually up 7% this year.

So, what did the new state aid figure show? New Lebanon would receive exactly the same amount of aid for the 2024-25 school year as they did this year. That figure is pegged at \$2,591,363. Superintendent Kourt said that left the board with the unenviable chore of how to balance a budget with effectively no increase in revenue, while expenses, many of which the district has no control over, are up by 10%.

The district was looking at a \$1.7 million budget gap, which meant to stay under their property tax cap of just over 4% a number of programs and positions would have to be cut. Board President Michael Brutsch said, “How do we do business without a state increase? If we had an increase, we would not be having this discussion.” He also said with expenses increasing as they are, staying under a tax cap is simply “not sustainable.”

The board members put forth a proposal that would hike

taxes 6.5% and still require staff cuts, including one instructional position. Then came the public’s time to speak and something very unusual happened. There were about 20 people who addressed the board, and to a person, they all asked the board to hike the taxes even more to save three specific positions. The budget draft before them called for the elimination of two part-time student aids, whose role was to look over outside recess for the elementary students. Without them, there would no longer be recess. That did not sit well with both parents and the instructors. A full-time office secretary would have been eliminated, with a clerk-typist being shared between the two schools. According to the speakers, it would mean the school’s main offices would at times not be staffed. Since these offices also control egress to the buildings, this was labeled inherently dangerous. The third objection came to the elimination of the district’s technology instructor.

Parents and students vehemently objected, citing the programs the instructor has instituted and the need for technological instruction in the 21st century.

The board asked Superintendent Kourt and the business manager to add these three positions back in and come up with a new tax figure. That number meant another \$270,000 would have to be raised by taxes, jumping the levy to 8.91%. The supporters of the increase felt the difference between the 6.5% and 8.91% was significant but not overbearing.

For this proposed budget to be passed by the voters, it would require a super majority, or a 60% approval margin. Mr. Kourt told those in attendance that the board listened to their concerns but that the district will need their help selling the increase to the voters. Just a few years ago the district found itself in a similar position and voters gave that budget the super majority it needed.

If this current spending plan

were to fail, the board would have one more chance to either place the same proposal before the voters or perhaps bring back the budget with a 6.5% hike. That would also require a super majority. The board could also go back to a spending plan that does not exceed the tax cap. If a second vote were to fail as well, the district would by law have to operate on a contingency budget, that would mean no tax hike. If that were to happen, Mr. Kourt said the pain “would be real.”

The budget totals \$14.7 million. There will be a public hearing on the budget on Wednesday, May 8 at 7 p.m. at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School. The budget vote will take place at the same location on Tuesday, May 21 from noon to 8 p.m.

There are two open seats on the board of education. They are currently held by board president Michael Brutsch and William Buckenroth. The two incumbents are the only persons to have filed nominating petitions for the seats.

Protesters rally at County Dems event

By DAVID LEE

GREENPORT — Governor Kathy Hochul was in Hudson on Sunday, to rally the party faithful at the Columbia County Democrats fundraising event in the community room at the Falls at 158 Union Turnpike.

Billed as the Blue Wave Brunch, the event featured speakers New York State Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D-106th), state Senator Michelle Hinchey (D-41st), actor Stephen Lang of Kinderhook, and Josh Riley who is running for the 19th Congressional District currently held by Republican Marcus Molinaro.

Outside on the street, a group of about 35 demonstrators assembled to protest both the policies of the Hochul administration regarding Israel’s war in Gaza and candidate Josh Riley’s statements regarding the same.

According to protest organizer Jim McCabe, a group called Columbia County for Palestine was joined by members of Upper Hudson Code Pink to hold signs, chant and parade.

The list of demands handed out to the press called for a halt to all U.S. funding of weapons to Israel, a resumption of funding for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), and immediate and permanent cease fire in Gaza, an end to military occupation in the West Bank and



David Lee

Demonstrators at the Blue Wave Brunch on Sunday.

East Jerusalem, a release of all hostages by Israel as well as Hamas and to hold Israel accountable for war crimes and crimes against humanity, including abuse and torture in prisons.

The paper faults Governor Hochul for stifling the Boycott Divest and Sanctions movement that has worked to stop investment in Israel. It calls for rescinding Executive Order 157 which directs state agencies and authorities to divest public funds supporting BDS campaigns against Israel.

On October 13, 2023, the

New York State Common Retirement Fund purchased an additional \$20 million in Israel bonds offered by Development Corporation for Israel. The paper calls for Governor Hochul to “order the Comptroller to divulge all New York State investments in Israel and divest from those investments.”

Inside the banquet room, there was no acknowledgment of the protest beyond the recognition of the American right to freedom of speech. Speaking after the meeting, Columbia County Democratic

Committee Chairman Sam Hodge said, “This was an incredible event. We had 230 Democrats, excited motivated and ready to win in November.”

“The speakers were great; Governor Hochul brought the house down and Josh Riley reminded us why it’s so important that we vote for him and flip control of the house and Michele Hinchey did a great job providing a contrast between what Republicans do and what Democrats get done,” he said.

Asked about the protest outside, Mr. Hodge said, “Free

speech is great and people have a right to protest.”

Asked whether he thought this situation could cut into Democrats’ support, he said, “I have a lot of faith in Joe Biden’s leadership and his ability to navigate what, of course, is a very difficult situation.

“Secretary of State [Antony] Blinken is working tirelessly to secure a ceasefire and release of hostages and I am confident they are going to get it done and ultimately this is a decision between tyranny and democracy— Trump or Biden, and America is going to choose President Biden.”

Regarding divestiture Mr. Hodge declined to comment until he’d been able to examine the specific demands. “I think every speaker spoke about the importance of protecting democracies around the world and that’s the aim of the United States Government,” Mr. Hodge said.

In a statement to The Columbia Paper, Josh Riley said, “After October 7 I said and I believe that Israel has a right to defend itself. Hamas is a barbaric terrorist organization and it needs to be eliminated. At the same time, I have serious concerns about the way this war has unfolded and support an immediate ceasefire to get our hostages out, get humanitarian assistance in, and to get us back on a path to a two-state solution where the Israeli and Palestinian people can live in peace, side by side.”

14-year-old charged with making terroristic threat

By DIANE VALDEN AND DOUG LAROCQUE

NEW LEBANON – The Columbia County Sheriff’s Office has made an arrest in connection with its investigation into a terroristic threat made to the New Lebanon Central School District.

The Sheriff’s Office received a report from the New Lebanon School District that a threat had been received via email to the school district in general as well as to a student within the district, Tuesday, April 23 at 8:13 a.m., according to press release from Sheriff Donald J. Krapf.

Sheriff’s patrols were immediately dispatched and responded to the district to ensure the safety of the students, staff and the school. The district has two schools (the elementary and high schools), and both were immediately placed in lockout protocol.

Sheriff’s Office investigators were dispatched to the school district to continue the investi-

gation. Investigators, in conjunction with the State Police Computer Crimes Unit, were able to identify the source of the email and determine that there was no credible threat to the school district or any student in it.

Multiple search warrants were executed during the investigation, and a 14-year-old juvenile has been arrested and charged with making a terroristic threat. If charged as an adult, this would constitute a class D Felony. At this time, it appears this juvenile acted alone.

"When it comes to investigations of this nature, my office is committed to ensuring the safety of all involved and conducting a thorough investigation. We will collaborate with local, state, and federal agencies as needed to ensure that we have the necessary resources to identify the source and gather the evidence required for a successful prosecution. No one should feel afraid to attend school or work, or worry about the safety of their children," Sheriff

Krapf said in the release.

District Superintendent Andrew Kourt told The Columbia Paper, he immediately ordered a lockout at both the Jr./Sr. High School and the Elementary School as well as notifying law enforcement. A lockout means students, parents or community members were not allowed to leave or enter the district buildings without permission from police or the district office.

Throughout the day, the superintendent sent out multiple emails to parents and the community updating the situation. A heavy police presence was noticeable throughout the school day and all after-school activities were canceled, except the school board meeting, which had to take place to meet state-imposed budget deadlines. A deputy was in attendance at that meeting. The lockout was lifted that evening and school resumed business as normal the next day.

To contact Diane Valden email dvalden@columbiapaper.com

District attorney establishes conviction integrity unit

HUDSON – Area defendants who believe they were wrongfully convicted have an opportunity to seek review of their convictions through the establishment of a Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU) within the Columbia County District Attorney’s Office.

"We are here to seek justice in all cases. A wrongful conviction means not only that a person must be exonerated, but that we must identify and prosecute the true culprit and attain real justice for crime victims," District Attorney Chris Liberati-Conant said in a press release.

The National Registry of Exonerations website shows 14 of New York’s 62 counties have established Conviction Integrity Units as of November 2023. Ten of them have recorded exonerations and they include: Bronx, Erie, Kings, Nassau, New York, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk, and Westchester. Four counties have established CIU’s but have no recorded exonerations. These include: Monroe, Oneida,

Orange and Ulster. The state’s attorney and the United States attorney’s offices in New York also maintain Conviction Integrity Units.

In order to be considered by the Columbia County District Attorney’s Office for review, anyone—either the defendant or a family member—can complete a one-page form found on the website: www.columbia-countyny.com/da under the heading Conviction Integrity. The form must be returned via a dedicated email address.

The information provided will then be reviewed by the Conviction Integrity Unit. If it’s found there’s no reason to question the court’s ruling a letter will be sent advising the defendant of this. Where the investigation reveals infirmity in the conviction, the officer will produce a report and take appropriate action in court after consultation with any victims.

The national registry shows that 3,509 exonerations have taken place since 1989, accord-

ing to the website’s homepage. These include cases in which DNA played a limited or no role in the exoneration. It shows 153 exonerations occurred in 32 states, according to its 2023 Annual Report. New York ranked third last year with 21 exonerations, preceded by Illinois with 24 and Texas with 22. Of New York’s 21 exonerations, 15 are from the five boroughs of New York City.

In January, Renay Lynch of Western New York became the 250th person freed through the work of the Innocence Project. She was exonerated nearly 26 years after being wrongly convicted for the 1995 murder and robbery of her landlord in Amherst, according to the release.

"Even in the absence of wrongdoing, innocent people can be convicted of crimes they did not commit. As prosecutors, it is our moral, ethical, and legal obligation to correct any such errors," DA Liberati-Conant explained in the release.

Fire consumes barn in Hillsdale

Multiple agencies were summoned to a blaze of an undetermined origin which destroyed a sizable barn at the Bradway property, 164 Whippoorwill Road, Hillsdale, April 27. Columbia 911 dispatched Hillsdale firefighters along with the Community Rescue Squad at 11:47 a.m. Craryville, Copake, Ancram, Egremont and Taghkanic firefighters responded to provide mutual aid while Millerton and Austerlitz fire companies stood by. State Police and Columbia County Fire Coordinators assisted on the scene. NYSEG was called in to cut the power. Hillsdale Fire Chief Joshua Stalker said the cause of the fire is unknown. No animals or people were injured, but most of what was in the barns was not salvageable. The Facebook page says that the Hillsdale Fire Company thanks all the responding companies and personnel for their mutual aid. Firefighters were back in service at 6:35 p.m. that day.



Hillsdale Fire Company Facebook Page

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2024 Makers Market season launches on May 4

GHENT – Hawthorne Valley Farm Store, 327 County Route 21C, has announced the 2024 season of the Makers Market. The first market will be held on Saturday, May 4 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in conjunction with Hawthorne Valley Waldorf School's May Day and Spring Fair Celebration.

This series of five markets over the summer will feature a selection of handcrafted items made by Hawthorne Valley artisans.

"These markets began as a way to elevate the artistic endeavors of our colleagues across Hawthorne Valley who happen to be amazing artisans and crafters," said Jeremy

Laurange, director of Retail & Enterprise Development, in a press release. "It's been great to see the positive response from the community, and we're excited to offer these markets again this year."

May's artisans include: Peglet Life, Double M G Crochet, Aprilsaladino, Jenifer Rosete, Macrons by Addie, Pamela Dalton Scherenschnitte, Helen Suter Jewelry, Flowering Heart Homestead, Tekverk Leather, and Delsia Hilton.

The full line up of artisans at each market will be posted at hawthornevalley.org/events.

Additional markets will be held on June 1, July 6, August 3, and September 7.

Local companies launch campaign to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association

GHENT – Price Chopper/Market 32, in collaboration with trade partner Freihofer's Baking Co., has launched a campaign to help raise funds for the Alzheimer's Association. From May 1 to June 30, for every purchase of select Freihofer products marked with specially designed shelf tags, Price Chopper/Market 32 and Freihofer's will each donate \$.05 to the Alzheimer's Association.

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization focused on research as well as care and support for the 6.9 million Americans living with Alzheimer's Disease, the most common cause of dementia. As the largest nonprofit funder of

Alzheimer's research, the Alzheimer's Association is committed to advancing vital research toward methods of treatment, prevention, and ultimately, a cure.

"At Price Chopper/Market 32, we are pleased to be a part of this collaborative effort to help the Alzheimer's Association as they lead the way to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia," said Pam Cerrone, Price Chopper/Market 32's director of Community Relations, in a press release. "Teaming with our longtime trade partner on this important venture doubles the impact for this important cause."

For additional information, visit www.pricechopper.com

The scourge of drug overdoses hits home

BY DOUG LAROCQUE

KINDERHOOK – Every now and then, a county or a law enforcement agency releases statistics about the amount of drug overdoses they have handled recently, including the number of fatalities. An open panel discussion on the overdose and fentanyl crisis in the Hudson Valley was hoping to bring the problem from the headlines and into the hearts of those around us.

The discussion took place on Friday, April 12 in the auditorium of the Ichabod Crane High School. State Senator Michelle Hinchey (D-41st), who represents Columbia and Greene counties, was joined by Assemblyman Scott Bendett (R-107th), whose district covers portions of Columbia, Rensselaer and Washington counties. Mr. Bendett said these forums "are a start." He hopes to hold more of these around his district, as part of a program entitled "Finding Hope" sponsored by the minority caucus of the state Assembly. Assemblymen Bendett labeled the program as a way to continue the conversation. He told those gathering at the school, "If you think it doesn't affect you, you're wrong. It affects everyone." That includes the assemblyman. He related the impact drugs has had on a close family member to hammer home his point.

Senator Hinchey said she knows of five people who have passed recently in her district from an overdose. She called it "a real problem not only in the cities but in the rural towns around her district as well." To emphasize that point, she noted there are 62 counties in the state, and Columbia County ranks 26th highest in the state for drug overdoses, Greene County is 34th.

That point was driven home



Doug LaRocque
Assemblyman Scott Bendett (R-107th) speaks on drug addiction during the panel discussion of overdoses and fentanyl held at the Ichabod Crane High School auditorium.

even further by county Sheriff Donald Krapf, who said data collected from 2018-2023 indicated the rural community of Philmont had the most drug overdose incidents in the county. The City of Hudson was second. The sheriff said they deal with it every day. Not only from the law enforcement side of the department, but in the jail as well, where corrections officers have to work with inmates who suffer from various degrees of drug dependence. He called the work very stressful. Statistically, the sheriff said the drug problem impacts those from 13 to 78 years of age. He also said it involves more men than women.

Treatment programs may not always work. That was the message brought to the panel by one woman, who said the popular 12-step program failed her son, who passed away from an overdose three years ago. She claimed programs that tout total abstinence are not the answer and promoted such facilities as "safe injection sites."

Others, involved with recovery and rehabilitation, spoke of the success of such efforts as the 12-step program. Created by Alcoholics Anonymous, it uses peer support to help people recover from substance abuse, behavioral addictions and sometimes other co-occurring mental conditions.

Several others spoke about the impact drug addiction has had on their families, including the passing of a loved one. They indicated the stigma attached to drug addiction was a real problem for those who would like to seek treatment. Assemblyman Bendett agreed and said we all have to help to find ways past this. Senator Hinchey added her voice to the that quest and was hopeful there is some progress being made. She said, "For far too long we have not had the ability to have these discussions."

We are not going to arrest our way out of it said Sheriff Krapf, who pointed out that communication is the key. There are many out there who are not pushers or involved in drug-oriented violence. "These people should not go to jail for a small marijuana crime," he said.

Though, there are times, according to the sheriff, when incarceration is part of the answer. Not only for the safety of the public, but because "in such controlled atmospheres, we have a better chance of affording them a treatment program that will have success versus just releasing them back on the streets."

There is always help available, you just have to ask – there, of course, lies the rub. Stigma, lack of resources, transportation and other factors get in the way of "you just have to ask." All the panelists spoke about the available of treatment programs that can be found in county health departments, community clinics and even law enforcement. It helps not only with dependency, but also with the many other factors that lead to addiction.

Toward the end of the session, Sheriff Krapf summed it up best when he said, "Just because it is not my child doesn't mean it's not my problem."

NAMI seeks volunteers, support group meets

KINDERHOOK – Celebrate National Volunteer week and help those with a Mental Health Disorder. Whether you have a few hours to spare or a lifetime of experience to share, there's a place for you at the National Alliance on Mental Illness Columbia County (NAMI-CC). Create a future where mental health is understood, supported, and prioritized. Contact NAMI at 518-336-0246, info@namiccny.org. Learn more at <https://namiccny.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

The next NAMI Family Support Group—You Are Not

Alone takes place in-person or via Zoom at the Kinderhook Memorial Library, 18 Hudson Street, Wednesday, May 8, 6 to 7:30 p.m.


Caregivers of those with a mental health disorder are welcome to this free group. Register for login credentials to join the virtual support group at <https://namiccny.org/event/hybrid-family-support-group-2nd-wednesday/2024-05-08/>.

NAMI Family Support Group is a peer-led support group for family members, caregivers and loved ones of individuals living with a mental illness. Gain insight from the

challenges and successes of others facing similar circumstances. Join the hybrid Support Group on designated Wednesdays of each month. All are welcome to this free support group.

Register at <https://namiccny.org/event/>.

The group discusses: major depression, borderline personality disorder, bipolar disorder, manic depression, schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder, panic disorder and obsessive-compulsive disorder, co-occurring brain disorders and addictive disorders.

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Voter information for ICC annual budget vote and election

KINDERHOOK – In order to be eligible to vote on May 21, residents must be registered to vote.

Qualified voters are those who are citizens of the United States, who have been residents of the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote, who are at least 18 years of age and who are not otherwise prohibited from voting under section 5-106 of the Election Law. Qualified voters may register with the district clerk in Central Office, Monday to Friday (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or with the County Board of Elections and must be registered by May 16, to participate in this year's annual budget vote and election on May 21.

Absentee Ballots and Early Mail Voter Ballots are available to any registered voter in the district. In addition to residents

who will be out of town or unable to vote in person because of illness or disability, those who wish to vote early for any reason, may do so. Applications for absentee ballots and early mail voter ballots must be received at the office of the School District Clerk by 4 p.m. on May 14 if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or by 4 p.m. on May 20 if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Completed ballots must be received by the School District Clerk no later than 5 p.m., May 21.

Please contact the district clerk at MPotts@IchabodCrane.org or 518 758-7575, ext. 3001 if you are unsure of your voting eligibility, to receive an absentee or early mail voter ballot application or if you have any voting questions.



Photo contributed

Coxsackie-Athens Central School District Art Teacher Kayla Ramundo with her student Jade Stratton's art, "Capricorn."

Questar III announces winner of annual juried art exhibit

CASTLETON – On Tuesday, April 16, Questar III BOCES hosted its 35th Annual Juried High School Art Exhibit at its main office. Thirty-two pieces of art were entered by students in grades 9 through 12 from 10 school districts and two Questar III schools. Susan Grybas was the juror for the exhibit, and she named Averill Park Central School District's senior Mikayla Malenfant as the winner for her piece titled "Let the Light In." Jayli Capasso, a junior from Berlin Central School District placed second for her piece titled "Entangled" and Jade Stratton, a junior at Coxsackie-

Athens Central School District came in third for their piece titled "Capricorn."

Four additional students were recognized with honorable mentions. Questar III BOCES' Robert H. Gibson Technical School junior Jasear Williams for his piece "Me," Greenville Central School District senior Mikaela Crawley for her piece "Windows of Insecurity," Ichabod Crane Central School District senior Gabriella Wendelken for her piece "Blue and White Vase," and New Lebanon Central School District senior Cori Batuk for her untitled piece.

Chatham board appoints Miles Wheat CHS principal

CHATHAM – The Board of Education has appointed Miles Wheat as Chatham High School's next principal. His appointment was made effective July 1 to replace outgoing CHS principal John Thorsen, who is retiring. Mr. Wheat is an experienced, progressive administrator who currently works as the principal of W.E.B. Du Bois Regional Middle School in Great Barrington, MA.

"My philosophy is that school should level the playing field upward. I want to provide students with as many opportunities as I can and make sure that when they leave high school they are on a path of their choosing that will serve them well their whole lives," Mr. Wheat said in a press release.

He lives in Great Barrington with his wife, who is a music teacher, their three school-age children, and the family's



Photo contributed

Miles Wheat

German Shepherd-Poodle mix. In his free time he enjoys growing his own food in his garden, kayaking and canoeing, folk dancing, and taking the kids camping.

"We often find ourselves driving over to Chatham to find fun things to do and it seems to be a great community to be a part of," he said, also in the release.

Mr. Wheat holds a master's degree in environmental educa-

tion from Lesley University and a bachelor's in environmental geology from Susquehanna University. He has 17 years' experience as an educator, working for the past eight years at W.E.B. Du Bois, seven of which as the school's assistant principal. Prior to that, he was the assistant principal for grades 6-12 at BART Charter School in Adams, MA. He started his career as a seventh-grade math and science teacher at Christa McAuliffe Charter Public School in Framingham, MA, before becoming a high school science teacher for BART.

Looking forward to next school year, Mr. Wheat says, "Priority one for me is getting to know Chatham High School, both the school itself and all of the communities that make up the school district. I plan to have a lot of conversations and meet a lot of people."

ICC announces candidates for the Board of Education elections

KINDERHOOK – Ichabod Crane Central School District announces the following people returned petitions to run for election of Board of Education Member: Valerie Spensieri, Cal Waits and Anne Schaefer.

Three vacancies are to be filled on the Board of Education. All seats are for three-year terms, commencing July 1, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2027 to succeed Jennifer Allard, Anne Schaefer, and Jared Widjeskog, whose terms expire on June 30, 2024.

To provide voters with more information, each candidate pre-

pared a biography or statement which will be posted on the district website, www.ichabodcrane.org. Additionally, a Meet the Candidates Night will be hosted by the Participatory Government Class in the High School Auditorium and simultaneously streamed on May 15 at 6 p.m..

The district's Annual Budget Hearing is scheduled for May 7 at 7 p.m. to be held in the High School Library. Additional information can be found on the district's website, <https://www.ichabodcrane.org/district/budget/> and in the district newsletter, which will be mailed

to all district residents after the budget hearing.

The annual school budget vote and board member election will be held on Tuesday, May 21, from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the High School Gymnasium. In order to be eligible to vote, voters' names must appear on the County Voter Registration List or the School District Listing.

Questions about voting can be directed to the Ichabod Crane District Clerk Mindy Potts at 518 758-7575, ext. 3001 or via email at mpotts@ichabodcrane.org.

Chatham Board of Education announces candidates

CHATHAM – The Chatham Central School District has three candidates running for two open seats on the Board of Education.

The candidates will appear on the ballot in the following order: Linda Collett, Beth

Hover and Nikki Lundy.

Chatham's School Board Election will be held as part of the annual School Budget Vote on May 21 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School gym. Candidates elected to the board will serve three-year

terms starting July 1 and ending June 30, 2027.

More info is available on the Chatham CSD website's Board of Education Election page at www.chathamcentralschools.com/page/board-of-education-election

Kelly performs in spring musical at Western New England University

SPRINGFIELD, MA – Valatie resident Gabe Kelly performed in the spring musical "The Rocky Horror Show" at Western New England University on April 12-14. In this 1975 cult classic that features memorable raunchy rock ballads such as "Time Wrap,"

"Damn It Janet," and "Science Fiction Double Feature," the audience is offered a wild and electrifying journey filled with audacious plot twists and infectious energy.

Mr. Kelly assumed the role of Booth Coordinator with expertise gained from his

involvement in numerous high school productions. His diverse experience includes roles in "42nd Street," "Newsies," and "Shrek Jr." (Pinocchio), along with sound coordination for past Stageless Players productions. He is pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice and Chemistry.

PARKING PLAN

Continued from Page 1

there so it can fix it up and maintain it in perpetuity as a municipal parking lot, said the supervisor.

That privately-owned parking lot is currently in bad shape with craters that rival those on the surface of the Moon.

But time is of the essence, Mr. Wolf said, noting that construction/repair of the lot must get underway this year before it gets too cold and asphalt producers shut down production and materials will not be available. The lot must be usable prior to the start of the major hamlet road reconstruction project in Spring 2025.

The Town Board will conduct a public hearing in accordance with Eminent Domain Procedure Law prior to the May 9 board meeting to hear from residents about the town's Main Street

parking lot construction idea before the land is acquired.

In conjunction with the public hearing, the Town Board adopted Resolution #19, which in part states that "Copake Town Board has sought and will continue to seek to acquire said real property interests through negotiation and agreement, or if such agreement cannot be reached, then through eminent domain procedure..." which is the right of a government to take possession of private property for public use, with payment of compensation, according to the Oxford Languages dictionary.

The public hearing starts at 6:40 p.m. at Town Hall, 230 Mountain View Road.

To contact Diane Valden email dvalden@columbiapaper.com.

Board talks Comprehensive Plan and playground upgrades

By PETER FLIERL

AUSTERLITZ — Town Supervisor Robert Lagonia led the Austerlitz Town Board through the routine with a full membership present, including: Greg Volger, deputy supervisor; Christopher Schoeber, member; Cara Humphrey, member; Ken Kaplan, member; and Susan Haag, town clerk.

Supervisor Lagonia reviewed bills and noted a 7% drop in Columbia County sales tax revenues; opening

of a new account for credit cards; and interview of a candidate for Town Assessor to start in September 2025, who is certified. Plastic recycling legislation was mentioned, as well as negotiations with the Teamsters. The recent Repair Café made a total of 160 fixes.

Councilman Volger led discussion of the draft Town Comprehensive Plan which has been put out for public comment and is available online. Residents are encouraged to read the plan and

share their observations and concerns, noting that it is a roadmap for future development.

The draft Comprehensive Plan is available on the town's website at <https://www.austerlitzny.com/comprehensive-plan-advisory-committee>

Parks in Austerlitz are in need of upgrading and repair with input and advice is needed on best practices for children, such as ground materials, types of equipment. Creating a pickle ball court is also in the works.

PLEASE RECYCLE

CHILD CARE

Continued from Page 1

Family Childcare Training Program in 2023 to train and assist individuals to open home-based care programs. The program supplies the trainings required by state regulations, and the board pays the costs not only of materials to run a program but also of the expenses of attaining regulatory approval, so that an individual interested in opening a program can do so at no out-of-pocket cost.

As a measure of the difficulty of finding providers, in the first two cycles of the quarterly program, there were few enrollees and only one went on to open a program, and it closed after three months.

Christopher Nardone of the Workforce Board sees a number of hurdles that the program is working to address: first, prospective providers come to child care out of a love of children and working with them. But child care is also a business, and many lack the skills to run a small business, so the program has added entrepreneurship courses and support to the training of would-be providers. Second, a family child care program cannot be operated in subsidized housing, eliminating many prospective providers. Third, the state's child care regulations "overwhelm people," dousing interest.

Pattern for Progress recently issued a deeply-researched report on "Childcare in the Hudson Valley." As Pattern's President Adam Bosch noted, virtually every child care provider and administrator Pattern interviewed cited the state's regulations as a reason why centers close. While everyone involved in the system recognizes the importance of regulations to assure the safe and healthy

operation of programs, most also now state that the delicate balance between safety on the one hand and operational efficiency on the other has tipped too far toward regulation. Where, as Mr. Bosch puts it, "operating margins are already as thin as dental floss," the regulations discourage businesses and individuals from entering, or staying in, the field.

Moreover, as Ms. Holdridge notes, there is scant funding available to help providers defray the costs of regulatory compliance.

What does the state regulate? To start with, there are 34 pages of general regulations that define the types of day care and numbers of children and of what ages that can be served by each of "day care centers," "group family day care" or "family day care." The staffing levels and qualifications for each staff function is also specified.

Beyond that, each care setting has its own set of regulations: 58 pages each for group family day care and family day care and 78 pages for a day care center.

Most regulations are sound, covering areas such as programming, including the inappropriateness of leaving children in front of TV screens or strapped to car carriers, and the structural and safety requirements of facilities, staffing levels, staff screening, education and training requirements.

But, overall, the regulations are dense, repetitive and, to an extent, written in an unnecessarily verbose manner. For example, there are detailed, specific and unobjectionable requirements as to the training providers and staff must

receive, but these are virtually verbatim repetitive of the separately stated requirements for operating a facility. Could not the training section simply state that all aspects of the requirements must be the subject of training? Likewise, pages are devoted to stating the contents of the application to be a provider, which the application form itself could include.

There are also requirements which, in the current environment of low pay for staff and resulting high turnover, seem impossible to achieve, such as the requirement that centers establish and maintain continuity of care for every child. The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics cites child care as having one of the highest turnover rates (nearly 20% per year) of any industry. Realistically, continuity of care cannot be achieved until the underlying causes of turnover are addressed.

There are also regulations that seem to state the obvious. A quarter-page is dedicated to mandating that medications should be given to the right child, in the right dose and the right manner. There is a regulation that defines a "nap."

There are regulations that require that children of different ages each have a defined area of any playground, so there is no mixing — a safety requirement which some would say defeats the socialization goals of day care or limits the opportunity for younger children to learn from their elders.

The assembled regulations (in all, more than 100 pages for a day care center) intimidate prospective providers. Indeed, according to numerous sources, many businesses—recognizing the substantial benefit that child care for their employees would represent—have considered operating centers, only to be deterred when confronted by

the regulations. The same is true for individuals interested in offering smaller group family day care or family day care.

In addition, providers note that the regulations are often administered inflexibly by the state's Office of Children's and Family Services. Sarah Cote-Bennett, board chair of the Columbia Children's Center gave an example. In February the center's HVAC system failed in certain areas, including a room designated for toddlers (18-36 months of age). Since heat must be supplied at all times, the center had to close the toddler classroom. However, the heating system was operational in a classroom fitted for infants, and that room was temporarily vacant because the teacher was out with the flu. The infant room fully met the requirements for a toddler room but was not officially designated (as is required) as such.

The center called the state's licensing department and asked to be able to use the infant room for the toddler group for the one or two days until the heating would be restored in the toddler classroom. Permission was denied. The result was that the center had to contact all the toddler parents to pick up their children, causing the parents disruptions in their work and other plans; and the center (already financially strained) had to issue credits to the families affected and to pay the staff of the shuttered toddler room.

The Pattern report similarly spoke about a Dutchess County center that for many years had no citations for its physical layout until a new state inspector was assigned who noted that one of its classrooms was four feet short of requirements. The center was compelled to take down the walls and door of a closet in the room to comply with the technicality.

Finally, with regulation comes paperwork, in ever-increasing amounts. As reported by Pattern, providers worry "that compliance with state regulations often takes the focus away from common sense, the warmth of good care, and the best pedagogical methods for early-childhood education."

As a result of declining and inadequate capacity, the solutions to the child care crisis adopted by the state government, like subsidies that assist parents to meet the steep costs of care, have largely failed. The Pattern study found that although significant subsidies are available to families to defray child care costs and the eligibility requirements have been relaxed to afford relief at higher income levels, throughout the Hudson Valley only about 50% of the subsidies were used in 2022, and in Columbia County that figure was 33%.

In other words, substantial funding intended to ameliorate the child care crisis was not even being utilized. While there are a number of reasons — an initial lack of marketing and cumbersome application processes, issues which have since been addressed — the more serious barriers are the manner in which subsidies are administered, making them unappealing to providers, and, ultimately, the simple paucity of providers.

Put simply, if there are no openings for child care, then the cost of that care is irrelevant.

Likewise, the state has been offering workforce retention grants where a workforce cannot readily be recruited and is grossly underpaid and under-recognized over the long term. The cart has been put before the horse.

The next article will address the flawed subsidy system and the staffing challenges that confront providers.

Forge Project transitions to nonprofit status

TAGHKANIC – Forge Project, the decolonial arts and culture initiative located on the unceded homelands of the Moh-He-Con-Nuck, has announced major new steps to further expand its Native-led organizational structure, deepening its model of Indigenous self-determination. This includes the formation of an Indigenous Steering Council, a memorandum of understanding with the Stockbridge-Munsee Community, and a transition to 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.

Under the leadership of Executive Director & Chief Curator Candice Hopkins (Carcross/Tagish First Nation) and Director of Indigenous Programs & Relationality Sarah Biscarra Dilley (yakit̓'utit̓'u yakt̓ilhini [Northern Chumash]), Forge has directly supported nearly 300 Indigenous artists, hosted dozens of cultural practitioners and knowledge keepers, and built new audiences and platforms for their work.

“Forge has a unique vision and is unlike any other organization in the country: We are looking to reshape dialogues on Indigenous culture. The absence of Indigenous voices from national conversations on history, politics, and culture broadly should not be tolerable,” said Ms. Hopkins, in a press release. “I believe Forge has the opportunity to become the foremost platform for Indigenous leaders and those who will lead us in the future.”

Co-founded in 2021 by Becky Gochman and Zach Feuer, Forge was initially established as a private organization to facilitate an immediate, direct impact within the arts and cultural landscape. Since its founding, Gochman has provided seed funding to facilitate the development and implementation of Forge’s Native-led organizational models. Building upon the momentum Forge has



Forge Project Executive Director & Chief Curator Candice Hopkins (l) and Director of Indigenous Programs & Relationality Sarah Biscarra Dilley.

achieved over three years, this transition into a nonprofit organization now enacts Indigenous-led governance structures and ensures the organization’s sustainability and long-term impact.

With this shift, the ownership of Forge’s property and assets—including its 60-acre campus, buildings designed by Ai Weiwei, and an art collection of over 175 works, all by contemporary Indigenous artists—have now come under Forge as a nonprofit organization. This transferral of property, assets, and institutional oversight affirms Indigenous self-determination by providing complete agency to Forge’s Native leadership to collectively shape the future of the organization.

“Zach and I hope that Forge can serve as a model for supporting self-determination for other long-term Native initiatives,” said Ms. Gochman, co-founder of Forge Project, also in the release. “It has been an honor to support Forge’s leadership in their development of Native-led institutional models, and we look forward to seeing how this next chapter will further cement their impact in

uplifting Indigenous cultural production and fostering decolonial infrastructures. I hope others will be inspired by the possibilities for pursuing alternative pathways for meaningful philanthropy and wealth redistribution.”

The Indigenous Steering Council (ISC), a regionally diverse, intergenerational group of seven Indigenous leaders, will set high-level priorities and guide the direction of the organization, positioning continuous and collective Indigenous governance at the core of Forge’s organizational framework. The Indigenous Steering Council currently includes Chair and Board Liaison Kerry Swanson (Michipicoten First Nation), Vice-Chair and Board Liaison Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians), and members Monique Tyndall (Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohicans), Jeffrey Gibson (Choctaw and Cherokee), G. Peter Jemison (Seneca Nation, Heron Clan), Jasmine Neosh (Menominee), and Jolene Rickard (Tuscarora Nation, Turtle Clan). Vice-Chair Hopinka and Chari Swanson will additionally serve on Forge’s Board of Directors, led by



Photo contributed

Board President Mimi Joh-Carnella, alongside board members including John Haworth.

Forge’s initiatives include the Forge Project Fellowship, supporting Indigenous cultural workers; the Forge Project Collection, a lending collection of work by contemporary Indigenous artists; Forging, a digital-first journal centered upon Native futures; land remediation efforts; public and relational programming; and more.

Forge’s partners, collaborators, and program participants across and beyond the Mahicannituck River Valley have included Stockbridge-Munsee Community Cultural Affairs Department; Bard College; Braiding the Sacred; Gakwi:yoh Farms; Ganondagan State Historic Site; Iroquois White Corn Project; Kite’s Nest; Lil’ Deb’s Oasis; Sky High Farm; and Upstate Color.

As they continue to grow in this new phase, the organization aims to continue to hone their impact across their focus areas as well as better support cross-disciplinary practices.

Nonprofit status additionally enables Forge to expand their ecosystem as an organization, offering new ways for commu-

nity members to join in efforts to invest in Indigenous futures, countering historical and ongoing inequities through the redistribution of resources and wealth. They are continuing to develop the various channels through which donors may demonstrate support, including through networks such as Changemakers for Native Art: Collection Stewardship, Equity, and Institutional Change, a group of Forge supporters investing in the future of contemporary Native art by advocating for institutional change in service of Indigenous art and artists. For more information visit forgeproject.com/support/build-native-futures.

The Two Of Us presents ‘It’s Only A Play’

CLAVERACK – The Two Of Us Productions presents “It’s Only A Play,” the comedy by Terrence McNally. Performances are May 10 through 19, in the Marilyn & Bob Laurie Gallery at the Claverack Library. You don’t want to miss this comedic yet true-to-life story of producing a new play on Broadway, sitting in pins and needles for your opening night reviews to be published.

It’s the opening night of “The Golden Egg” on Broadway, and wealthy producer Julia Budder is throwing an opening night bash in her Manhattan townhouse. Downstairs the celebrities are pouring in, but the real action is upstairs in the bedroom,

where a group of insiders have staked themselves out to await the reviews. The group includes the excitable playwright; the possibly unstable wunderkind director; the pill-popping leading lady, trading the boards after becoming infamous in Hollywood; and the playwright’s best friend, for whom the play was written but who passed up this production for a television series. Add to this a drama critic who’s panned the playwright in the past and a new-in-town aspiring singer, and you have a prime recipe for the narcissism, ambition, childishness, and just plain irrationality that infuse the theater—and for comedy.

“It’s Only A Play” features Mark Leinung as playwright

Peter Austin, Constance Lopez as producer Julia Budder, Brian Yorck as theater critic Ira Drew, Bill Solley as director Frank Finger, Jackie DiGorgis as star actor Virginia Noyes, Fred Sirois as best friend James Wicker, and Karissa Payson as fresh off the farm hired-help Augusta (Gus) Head.

Performances are two weekends only – May 10, 11, 12, and the following weekend of May 17, 18, and 19. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 3 p.m. The Marilyn & Bob Laurie Gallery at the Claverack Library is located at 629 NY-23B. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors. Call for group rates. For advance reservations visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call 518 758-1648.

TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call 518 758-1648.

These performances are supported with funds from Hudson River Bank & Trust Foundation, Stewart’s Shops, Bank of Greene County, Rheinstrom Hill Community Foundation, Greylock Federal Credit Union, Key Bank Foundation and The Ackerman Fund. This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Re-grants Program, a program of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature and administered in Columbia County by the Columbia County Council on the Arts dba. CREATE Council for the Arts.

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B. Docketor

Taconic Hills Elementary 4th, 5th and 6th graders tell their stories at "Real People Real Stories Taconic Hills Edition," November 2023.

Go behind the scenes to support community storytelling

ANCRAM – Ancram Center for the Arts will host "Behind the Scenes: Real People Real Stories," on Saturday, May 11 from 5 to 7pm to raise funds for its many free storytelling and theater-making workshops throughout the year. The benefit will feature performances by Ancram Center storytellers and conversations that pull back the curtain on how to turn personal experiences into memorable tales. Hors d'oeuvres and wine, courtesy of Copake Wine Works, will be served. Tickets are \$100 and tax deductible to the extent allowed by law, and available at ancramcenter.org.

Much has been written about how storytelling builds trust, cultivates empathy, and helps people connect. "Storytelling is one of the oldest forms of communication; it's how we come to

know ourselves and each other," said Paul Ricciardi, co-director of Ancram Center and professor of Theater Arts at City University of New York-Kingsborough Community College, in a press release. Ricciardi developed "Real People Real Stories," a production featuring local storytellers, that has become an Ancram Center audience favorite. He also leads the center's storytelling workshops for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders at Taconic Hills Elementary School.

"Over the last nine years Ancram Center has hosted 224 free workshops, 22 storyteller events with 51 storytellers, and coached more than 900 students from Taconic Hills Elementary in the art of storytelling," said Ricciardi. "We love doing this work, having seen first hand that when people tell

their stories, it can have a transformative effect on their lives. But like everything else, these programs require resources, and that's why we're inviting our Ancram Center community to support our efforts."

"Behind the Scenes: Real People Real Stories" will take place at the center, 1330 County Route 7.

Housed in an historic Grange Hall, Ancram Center has since 2016 presented theater and musical performances by nationally recognized theater artists. Ancram Center for the Arts receives significant annual support from the New York State Council on the Arts and in 2023 was awarded a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. For tickets and information visit www.ancramcenter.org.

Noyes & The Boyes play final concert

COPAKE – Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Road, presents an evening with Noyes and The Boyes, Saturday, May 18, 7 to 9 p.m.

Noyes and The Boyes, a Grange open mic night favorite, have been playing folk rock and beyond together for 50 years.

Everybody is welcome at this community entertainment event sponsored by the Grange Program Committee.

Noyes and The Boyes, featuring Copake's own Harry Hussey, will be playing a rare live concert.

Founding members, Audrey Ludemann (née Noyes), Harry Hussey, Mark Lebow and Greg Smith are uniting for one last show at the Grange, one of their favorite venues, before yet another member heads South. Noyes and The Boyes evolved from a musicians' "collective"



Photo contributed

Audrey Ludemann (née Noyes), Harry Hussey, Mark Lebow and Greg Smith are Noyes and The Boyes.

that has been performing and recording in southwest Connecticut since 1971, attracting a small, but broad fan base. Their music spans a range of acoustic styles from traditional to what some call "psychedelic folk."

The band has been playing at the Copake Grange (and trying out new material) in various combinations periodically over the past four years as part of

the monthly Open Mic Night. The show will feature originals and covers of other artists' songs including material from the band's past studio albums.

There will be a 15 minute intermission. Tickets at the door are \$15 or what one can afford. Advance reservations are not required. To get more information email Harry Hussey at hmbhuss1@yahoo.com or call 617-894-3538



Photo contributed

Pablo Shine Latin Jazz Band (l to r): Rick Altman (songwriter and musical director on vibes), Pablo Shine (conga drums and minor percussion), John Dreschler (upright bass), and Paul Anthony Duffy (keyboard).

Spencertown Academy presents Pablo Shine Latin Jazz Band

SPENCERTOWN – Spencertown Academy Roots & Shoots Concerts Series presents the Pablo Shine Latin Jazz Band on Saturday, May 11 at 8 p.m. at the academy's Blanche Grubin Auditorium. General admission tickets (\$25 public, \$20 academy members) are available via www.spencertownacademy.org.

"Pablo Shine and his band are masters of jazz with a Latin beat, and they'll be playing the classics as well as originals," said Wayne Greene, who co-chairs the academy Music Committee with Michele Quigley, in a press release. "Whether it's an Afro-Cuban rhythm, or a Brazilian samba or bossa nova, I expect the audience will be dancing in their seats, and in the aisles!"

Founded in 2018, Pablo Shine Latin Jazz Band's repertoire includes tunes by Latin jazz legends, such as Cal Tjader, Dizzy Gillespie, Mongo Santamaria, and Tito Puente. Band members include Pablo Shine (conga drums and minor percussion), Rick Altman (songwriter and musical director on vibes), John Dreschler (upright bass), and Paul Anthony Duffy (keyboard).

Shine was born in Puerto Rico, where he was exposed from an early age to live Latin music. His uncle taught him the basic tumbao—the rhythm that's the life blood of salsa and Latin jazz. He kept learning the different Afro-Latino rhythms by watching and/or listening to congueros, such as Mongo Santamaria, Ray Barreto, and Eladio Perez. Later, after moving to Kingston, he studied Afro-Cuban folkloric and religious music under master percussionist Nadhir Velez. In addition to his own group, he has played extensively with

other local bands, including Passero, Free River, and Stephen Johnson's Future 350 Nu Bossa.

Altman is a vibes and marimba player, composer, arranger, and music director. His jazz journey began in 1970 with legendary big band vibraphonist Terry Gibbs, who remains Altman's primary source of information and inspiration.


Upright bass player Dreschler performs regularly at numerous venues throughout the Hudson Valley and on recordings with many of the area's exceptional musicians. In addition to playing with the Pablo Shine Latin Jazz Band, he currently performs jazz standards from the American Songbook in a duo format with vocalist Megan Henry.

Keyboard player Duffy is a jazz musician living in Ulster County. He was born in Ireland, and has been playing piano in bands since he was 12. He is currently working on an album of jazz standards and is employed at the Music Dept. of Bard College as a staff accompanist.

Roots & Shoots Concerts is an ongoing academy series that showcases artists who reach back to earlier traditions in music (Americana, jazz, blues, rock, and world music) for inspiration while incorporating more recent forms and influences of the present.

This program is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

Housed in a landmark 1847 Greek Revival schoolhouse, the academy is located at 790 State Route 203. For more information, contact info@spencertownacademy.org.


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Sun. May 5 @ 1:30 PM: **MACBETH**
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48 MAIN STREET, MILLERTON, NY

Church's memorial landscape paintings debut at Olana

GREENPORT — The Olana Partnership has announced that this season's special exhibition "Afterglow: Frederic Church and the Landscape of Memory" will open May 12 in the Sharp Family Gallery at Olana State Historic Site. "Afterglow" brings together for the first time a series of intimate memorial landscapes painted by Church, 19th-century America's foremost landscape painter, and highly personal family artifacts — never before exhibited — from Olana's collections. The theme of landscape as a vehicle for personal reflection and healing continues outdoors at Olana with Memories in the Landscape, a self-guided tour of Olana's dedicated rustic benches that bring to life the stories and memories around loved ones.

The centerpiece of "Afterglow" is "To the Memory of Cole" (1848), the painting that Frederic Church painted and exhibited three months after the sudden death of his mentor, Thomas Cole. This and "The Evening Star" (1858) are on loan from private collections. This exhibition marks the first time this significant memorial painting will be on public view in the region which includes the homes and studios of artists Cole and Church. The exhibition is accompanied by a full-color catalogue.

"I'm thrilled to share many of Frederic Church's rarely seen memorial paintings with our visitors this year," said Allegra Davis, The Olana Partnership's associate curator, in a press release. "By



Frederic Edwin Church, "The After Glow," c. 1867, Oil on canvas, 31 ¼ x 48 ¾ inches. New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Olana State Historic Site, OL.1981.48.a

Image contributed

bringing these pieces together, we'll be able to shed light on not only an overlooked theme of Church's career as an artist, but also the wider role of landscape in grief, remembrance, and healing in the nineteenth century and today."

While Church is best known for his monumental, panoramic paintings of natural wonders, he also created smaller, intimate works full of personal symbolism for a primary audience of friends

and family. As he experienced personal losses, Church expressed grief through his paintings and immersed himself in the natural world to heal, gaining a reputation as a maker of memorial art. These landscapes are key documents of nineteenth-century America's search for spirituality in nature as a source of comfort, health, and spiritual well-being.

"Afterglow promises to be a fascinating exhibition examining a

little-known but very important element of Frederic Church's career as a painter. The Olana Partnership is also planning dynamic programs that will engage all visitors in his masterwork, Olana's living landscape," said Sean Sawyer, Washburn and Susan Oberwager president of The Olana Partnership, also in the release.

Programs will be presented in connection with both "Afterglow" and the Centennial of New York

State Parks, including a series of wellness walks and workshops in the landscape focusing on topics like forest bathing, agricultural mindfulness, and art and wilderness therapy; a series of artmaking; and webinars focused on public parks and rural cemeteries.

The exhibition will open May 12 and run through October 29. For more information and to purchase tickets visit, OLANA.org/Afterglow.

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

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 FIREFIGHTING, 117 Harry Howard Ave, Hudson. Open Wed–Sun 10 am–4:30 pm. Closed major holidays. Adults are \$12, children aged 2–17 are \$8, and children under 2 are free. 518-822-1875. fasnyfiremuseum.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 Falls. Holiday Exhibit celebrating the bicentennial of classic holiday poem Twas the Night Before Christmas. Sat & Sun 2–4 pm. roeliffjansenhs.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, lantern tours, 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.

MEDITATION WITH ANNIE, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 1 pm, free. Feel free to bring journal and a stone, crystal, or other small item that's meaningful to you. 518 392-3666, chathampubliclibrary.org.

First Mondays
EXERCISE FOR SENIORS: Live a physically safe, vibrant and functional life, Malden Bridge Community Center, 1087 Albany Turnpike, 10 to 11 am with Ihor Evanick. Get more info at nnc-c1info@gmail.com.

CHATHAM LETTER WRITING SOCIETY, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave., 6 pm. Letter writing socials to practice the art of handwriting letters and cards for loved ones. The library will supply stationery and cards. Bring your favorite pens and some of your own stationery and cards to share with the group. Refreshments will be provided. All ages welcome.

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, Tuesdays

OPEN ACCESS HOURS, Columbia County Mental Health Center, 325 Columbia St, Hudson, 8:30-10:30 am. columbiacountymhc.com.

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. Catholiccharitiescsg.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 pm, free. All levels, experiences welcome. claveracklibrary.org, 518 851-7120.

OPEN SWIM, New Lebanon Junior/Senior High School, 14665 Rt 20, 5:30-7 pm, \$10 one time fee, \$25 for family of 4 & \$5 each for additional children. bbuckenroth@newlebanoncsd.org.

Mondays, Thursdays

EXERCISE: BALANCE, CARDIO AND SOCIAL TIME 9-10 am, Hall of Church of Immaculate Conception, 732 Rt 20, New Lebanon. Silver Seniors Program. Free, all are welcome. 518-794-7617.

Tuesdays

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

QIGONG/TAI CHI, Hudson Area Library, 51 N 5th St, 10-11 am, free. Learn various Qigong sets, work on traditional Tai Chi Form. No registration required for in-person sessions. To access Zoom stream: programs@hudsonarealibrary.org.

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/columbiacountyny.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. Twincountyrecoveryervices.org.

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

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, 11 am. \$5 dues collected at February meeting, pizza will be served, \$2/2 slices. clmatheke@nycap.rr.com.

Second & Third Tuesdays

Senior Scene, New Lebanon Library, 550 State Rt 20, 2 pm. Join other seniors for friendly conversation. Different activity each time, such as painting, games, puzzles, and crafts. 518-794-8844 or www.newlebanonlibrary.org

Third Tuesdays

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. Dr. Pier Boutin, orthopedic surgery specialist will join for April Coffee Hour. Presented by Hillsdale Safe at Home Committee. Hillsdalesafeathome@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, Saturdays

NEW LEBANON FREE STORE, New Lebanon Community Center, 523 Rt 20, Tue 6-8 pm, Thur 5-8 pm, Sat 11 am-3 pm. Clothing, footwear, children's items, more to help reduce, reuse, recycle. Donations accepted at Town Hall. 518 794-8888, townclerk@townofnewlebanon.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/columbiacountyny.com/health/health-clinics.

WALKING GROUP, Harlem Valley Rail Trail Parking lot between Herrington's & Roe Jan Brewing, Hillsdale, 9:30 am. Begins April 24 through end of October. Organized by Hillsdale Safe at Home. Weather permitting.

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

CLAVERACK BRIDGE CLUB, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, noon. claveracklibrary.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. twincountyrecoveryervices.org.

CHATHAM/GHENT SENIORS, West Ghent Reformed Church, 1039 CR 22, 1 pm. Refreshments, guest speaker. ghentny@hotmail.com.

BEAUTIFUL RACKET, First Presbyterian Church of Hudson, 369 Warren St, 5-6:30 pm, free. Beginner master class series of sound healing in collaboration with master sound medicine practitioner Sister Redhawk. beautifulrackethudson@gmail.com.

READ BIPOC BOOK CLUB, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave., 5:30 pm. A collaboration between the Chatham Bookstore and the Chatham Public Library. Email: merka@chatham.k12.ny.us.

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.

ROE JAN FOOD PANTRY, Hillsdale/Copake. Submit orders by Wednesday for Friday pickup. Call Betty White 518 441-2789 or Jackie Dextraze 518 965-5770. Questions to roejanfoodpantry@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.toastmastersclubs.org.

MOVING WITH MUSIC, Kinderhook Memorial Library, 18 Hudson St, 6-7 pm, free. Led by Sandra Tolosa; for those who like upbeat tunes with their workouts. kinderhooklibrary.org.

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

Second & Fourth Wednesdays

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 Register for login credentials namiccny.org/event/hybrid-family-support-group-2nd-wednesday/2024-05-08/ to join our virtual support group Info: 518 336-0246, namiccny@gmail.com.

Third Wednesdays

LA LECHE LEAGUE, Hudson Area Library, 51 N 5th St, 4-5:30 pm, free. Meet up & support for nursing families. hudsonarealibrary.org.

Fourth Wednesdays

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

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.

Wednesdays, Saturdays

YOGA WITH REGINA, Germantown Library, 31 Palatine Park Rd, Wed 5:15 pm, Sat 9 am, \$10/class. Bring mat & towel. Germantownlibrary.org, 518 537-5800.

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.

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.

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

KNIT CLUB OF THE HUDSON VALLEY, Copake Memorial Park Building, 305 Mountain View Rd, 1-3 pm, \$2 donation. For all generations & crafters; bring current project to work on in company. Questions: 518 929-7682.

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. twincountyrecoveryervices.org.

RECOVERY CAFE, The Mental Health Awareness and Creative Arts Gallery, 717 Columbia St, Hudson, 3-4 pm, free. Weekly art/recovery classes based on the eight dimensions of wellness. Art supplies & coffee provided. stigmafreesart.

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 timeandspace.org/dance-yoga.

WATER AEROBICS, New Lebanon Junior/Senior High School, 14665 Rt 20, 5:45-6:45 pm, \$40/8 week session plus one \$10 pool facilities fee. Led by Joe Ogilvie. newlebanoncsd.org/nlcommunityeducation/home.

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.

First Thursdays

CHATHAM ROOTS GENEALOGY, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 2 pm, free. Michelle LeClair leads beginners & experts in search for family. Space limited, registration michelle@leclairdesign.com.

MEMOIR WRITING GROUP, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 5-7 pm. Share stories in supportive environment. 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. No February meeting. 518 794-8844. Newlebanonlibrary.org.

Third Thursdays

COMMUNITY DAY, Olana State Historic Site, 5720 Rt 9G, Greenport, 11 am-3:15 pm, free. Monthly tours & programs; Dos visitas guiadas en español se ofrecen durante este día. olana.org.

EVENTS

Calendar

Continued from Page 11

HEALTHCARE CONSORTIUM REPRESENTATIVE AVAILABLE, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 1 pm. Meet with a Healthcare Navigator for help signing up for affordable health coverage, including Medicaid and Child Health Plus. Newlebanonlibrary.org.

MAKE IT & TAKE IT: CRAFTS MEETUP FOR ADULTS, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 6:30 pm. Weave a mini, heart-shaped basket. All materials provided. Registration is appreciated, call 518-794-8844 or email info@newlebanonlibrary.org.

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, Pick up orders 10 am-noon. Appointments as needed. Call ahead if possible: Betty White 518 441-2789 or Jackie Dextraze 518 965-5770. 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 TUTOR, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 3-4 pm, free. High School student teaches adults basic computer skills or how to better use device. Sign up at library or: chathampubliclibrary@chatham.k12.ny.us.

TECH HELP, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, by appt. Use library laptop or bring your own. Appointments: 518 794-8844.

First Fridays
BOOK CLUB, Livingston Free Library, 90 CR 19, 11:30 am, free. New members welcome. 518 851-2270, livingstonlibrary105@gmail.com.

First & Third Fridays
LEBANON VALLEY SENIORS, New Lebanon Firehouse, 523 Rt 20, 1 pm. Sign up for Mar 15 St Patrick's Day lunch. For ages 55 & up. New members welcome. 518 733-0009, lebanonseniorcitizens@gmail.com.

Second Fridays
CLAVERACK SENIORS, Reformed Dutch Church, 88 Rt 9H, Claverack, 1 pm. 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
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. chathampubliclibrary.org

MAHJONG, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 11 am-1 pm, free. For all skill levels. RSVP librarydirector@newlebanonlibrary.org.

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; personal hygiene products; nutritional snacks (individual packets); winter hats, gloves, sox, boots. 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. hudsongallerycrawl.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.

First Sundays
BOOK GROUP, New Lebanon Library, 550 Rt 20, 11 am. "This Other Eden" by Paul Harding. Copies of the book are available by request at local libraries. Newlebanonlibrary.org.

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
COPAKE HILLSDALE Farmers Market, 9140 State Route 22, Copake (across from Roeliff Jansen Community Library). Open Saturdays from 9 am-1 pm, May 18 - November 23, 2024.

SPECIAL EVENTS
Through May 14
RESIDENTIAL BRUSH BURNING PROHIBITION. Annual statewide spring burn ban to reduce wildfires, protect lives and property. www.dec.ny.gov

May 3
BLOOD DRIVE, Taconic Hills High School, 73 Route 11A, Craryville, 8 am-3 pm. To book a time to give visit RedCrossBlood.org, download Red Cross Blood Donor App or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

May 4
SPRING MIGRATION BIRD WALK, Olana State Historic Site, 5720 State Route 9G, 8-10 am. Alan Devoe Bird Club explores landscape, looks for visiting birds. Free, advanced registration required. Meet outside Wagon House Education Center. Contact education@olana.org.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION, Columbia County Fire Training Center, 50 Grandinetti Drive, Ghent, 8 am-noon. Proof of residency required, rain or shine. Questions regarding the collection should be directed to Solid Waste Administrative Office at 518-828-2737.

OPEN HOUSE, Ancram Fire Company, 1306 County Route 7, 9 am- noon. Tours, fire trucks, get fire extinguishers recharged, inspected or buy new ones, purchase 911 sign, give-aways, refreshments, rain or shine.

BLOOD DRIVE, Tri-Village Fire Company, 111 County Route 13, Old Chatham, 9 am-2 pm. To book a time to give visit RedCrossBlood.org, download Red Cross Blood Donor App, or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

RIVER STREET PARK CLEANUP, River Street, Valatie, 10 am-1 pm. Free. Riverbank clean up, invasive vine removal, native vegetation planting project at River Street Park, meet at gazebo. Bring gloves & tools. More info contact Laura at 518-929-9285.

MOTHER'S DAY MARKETPLACE Vendor & Craft Fair, Ghent VFW Post 5933, 2237 State Route 66, 10 am-4 pm. Free admission, raffles, food, Ghent Band, Sheriff's Office demons, vendors Follow VFW on Facebook event page for announcements and a complete vendor list.

DQ BENEFIT FOR Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA, Ghent Dairy Queen, 2319 Route 66, 10:30 am-3 pm. Shop for Mother's Day gifts: jewelry, kitchen items, hand lotion; dog/cat carriers, swimming pads, harnesses, homemade treats.

RIVERKEEPER SWEEP OF ROE JAN KILL, Roeliff Jansen Park, 9140 Route 22, Copake, noon-2 pm. Cleanup, remove invasive plants and other types of shoreline restoration. To participate, register at carano.nordenstrom@hillsdaleny.com. Gretchen Stevens speaks about ecological importance of streamside areas. Learn more at Riverkeeper.org and Parks.ny.gov.

I LOVE MY PARKS DAY, Olana State Historic Site, 5720 State Route 9G, Greenport, 1-4 pm. Volunteers, staff get Olana ready for spring. Free special tours 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Park cleanup, trash removal; invasive removal; plant flowers 2:30-4 pm Questions education@olana.org. Email sign up for activities lmillier@olana.org.

May 5
SPRING HAM SHOOT, Kalicoontie Rod & Gun Club, 333 Schneider Road, Livingston, 10 am-2 pm. Competitions: .12g and .20g birdshot, slugs, center fire rifle, .22cal rim fire pistol & .22cal rim fire rifle. Entry fee \$3. Frozen hams, turkeys, pork loins awarded as first prize; second prize kielbasa. Raffle tickets \$3 each. More info or tickets call Scott at 845-757-2552 (day) or Joe 518-537-3997. www.Kalicoontie.com.

May 8
BLOOD DRIVE, Kinderhook Elks Lodge 2530, 2750 Route 9H, noon-6:30 pm. To book a time to give visit RedCrossBlood.org, download Red Cross Blood Donor App or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

May 9
BLOOD DRIVE, Hudson Elks Lodge No. 787, 201 Harry Howard Ave.1- 6 pm. To book a time to give visit RedCrossBlood.org, download Red Cross Blood Donor App or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

S'MORES AT SCHOR, Schor Conservation Area, 58 Shoreview Drive, Canaan, 4- 6 pm. Around the campfire with a s'more, participants learn about volunteer roles, upcoming activities, sign up for events. Walk to pavilion over uneven terrain. Bring friend, lawn chair. Social, leashed dogs are welcome, but bring bags for waste. Visit ColumbiaLand.org/Events to register or sign up to volunteer.

May 11
FLEA MARKET & BAKE SALE, Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Rd, 9 am-noon. Kitchenware, household goods, art, linens, accessories, small furniture, gifts, baked goods for sale. Donations of gently-used items accepted May 8 from 1-2 pm or by appt. Vendor space available. Contact roberta.roll@gmail.com or 518-329-0384. To get more information email copakegrange@gmail.com or visit copakegrange.org

FRIENDS' ADOPT-A-BOOK, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 10 am - 3 pm (Rain date: May 18). The Friends of the Chatham Public Library are holding a book sale to benefit the library. Gently used items for sale by donation on the library lawn. Books for children, teens, adults, DVDs, CDs, puzzles, and more. Bring a seedling to participate in the seedling swap. chathampubliclibrary.org

BOOK SALE, Valatie Free Library, 1036 Kinderhook St, 10 am - 1pm. Support the library by shopping for books that need a new home. valatielibrary.net

WHAT'S COOKING

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

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.

Second Fridays

VERNON HIGGINS SUB NIGHT, Philmont Fire Company, 1 Maple Ave, 4-6:30 pm, \$10. Serving pepperoni, meatball, sausage & peppers, chicken Parm subs, chicken fingers & fries, fish fry sub, fish fry dinner with fries & coleslaw. Eat in, take out. Delivery available. Pre-orders: 518 610-1766, 821-0170 through Apr 12.

May 4

SPRING CHICKEN BBQ, Stuyvesant Falls Fire Co, 9 Firehouse Ln, 3:30-6 p.m. \$15, half chicken, cole slaw, potatoes, baked beans, roll & dessert. Call firehouse at 518-799-6433.

May 11

BAKE SALE in front of Family Dollar, 500 State Route 20, New Lebanon, 9 am-3 pm or until sold out. Mother's Day cakes, cookies, breads, pies, brownies. Lebanon Valley Woman's Club event to benefit Lore Squier Memorial Scholarship Fund.

FOR KIDS**Continuing Mondays**

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.

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

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.

HIP HOP CLASS, Hawthorne Valley Waldorf School, 330 County Rte 21C, Ghent, 3:30-5 pm. Join Loki and his friend, "Henry The Patchwork Whale," for dancing and spoken word. For grades 3-6. Open to Hawthorne Valley School students and children in the community. Hawthornevalley.org

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

LEGO CLUB, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 4 pm, free. For ages 5 & up. Registration kleinr@chatham.k12.ny.us.

Mondays & Wednesdays

FREE PLAYGROUP, Martin H. Glynn Municipal Bldg, 3211 Church St, Valatie, 10 am-noon, free. Open to preschool aged children with their parents & caregivers. Parking in rear of building, enter door on far left hand side of building. familyresourcecenterscc.org.

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.

CHESS CLUB FOR KIDS, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 3-4 pm, free. Designed to give students an opportunity to practice the game of chess, improve their skills, and to enjoy challenging their peers. For ages 5 & up. chathampubliclibrary.org

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.

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.

HOMESCHOOL WEDNESDAYS, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 1-2 pm, free. Reading, activity, for homeschoolers & 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.

BILINGUAL STORYTIME / HORA DE CUENTOS BILINGÜE, Hudson Area Library, 51 N. 5th St, 4-5 pm. April 3 to May 29/ Miércoles, 3 de abril - 29 de mayo. Señora Sonia host series of bilingual storytimes, presented in Spanish and English, includes craft activities. Únase a la Señora Sonia para una serie especial de cuentos bilingües, presentados en español e inglés, que incluirán actividades artesanales. Email youth@hudsonarealibrary.org or call 518-828-1792 x101. Para registrarse, envíe un correo electrónico a youth@hudsonarealibrary.org o llamar al 518-828-1792 x101.

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

Tuesdays & Thursdays

FREE PLAYGROUP, Christ Episcopal Church, 431 Union St, Hudson, 9:30-11:30 am. Sponsored by Family Resource Centers of Columbia County, familyresourcecenterscc.org. Thru June. Open to pre-school aged children & their parents and caregivers.

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

BABY & ME STORY TIME, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 11 am, free. claveracklibrary.org.

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

HORA DE CUENTOS (Spanish Story Hour), Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 3 pm. With Senora Sonia. Bilingual stories, songs, rhymes in Spanish and English. For ages 3-5. Chathampubliclibrary.org.

MOVEMENT & MUSIC STORYTIME, Hudson Area Library, 51 N 5th St, 4 pm, free. Songs, stories, fun moves led by Abby Lappen. Through Mar 28. Registration appreciated: youth@hudsonarealibrary.org, 518 828-1792 x101.

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

MUSICAL STORY TIME, Claverack Library, 9 Rt 9H, 10 am, free. With Abby Lapenn. Suggested for ages up to 5. Claveracklibrary.org.

STORY HOUR, Germantown Library, 31 Palatine Park Rd, 10-11 am, free. germantownlibrary.org.

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, \$20/child or \$36/two siblings. For ages 5-11. 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.

First & Third Sundays

MAKERS SPACE OPEN HOUSE, Germantown Library, 31 Palatine Park Rd, 2-4 pm, free. Follow theme for day or do your own thing. Germantownlibrary.org, 518 537-5800.

Through June 1

REGISTRATION OPEN for Panorama Summer Art & Nature Program at Olana State Historic Site, 5720 Rt 9G, Greenport. Sessions run from July-August for ages 6-11. Early bird discount before Feb 29. Registration: olana.org.

Through July 1

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP with Columbia County Youth Theatre. Sessions in July for ages 3-18 with public performance at end of each session. Registration: ccyt.org/programs.

May 4

WHAT'S A MUSEUM? Kids Tour & Story Hour, Clermont State Historic Site, 1 Clermont Ave, 2 pm. Tour of mansion for families with young children, museum-themed story time. Ages 4-8 years. \$5/person, pay at door. All children must be accompanied by adult. Space limited. Register in advance at bookeo.com/Clermont

AT THE MOVIES**May 2**

SHORT FILM DOUBLE BILL: Manhatta (1921) and Rien que les heures (1926), Clark Art Institute, 225 South St, Williamstown, 6 pm, free. clarkart.edu/events

May 2,4,9

WICKED LITTLE LETTERS, The Crandell Theatre, 48 Main St, Chatham, times vary, \$11 adults, \$7 children, \$8 members. crandelltheatre.org

May 2, 5

MACBETH, The Moviehouse, 48 Main Street, Millerton, times vary, \$25 / Superstar Members \$20. Filmed live at Dock X, a custom-built theatre space in London. Starring Ralph Fiennes & Indira Varma. www.themoviehouse.net

May 3,4

INDIGO GIRLS: IT'S ONLY LIFE AFTER ALL, The Crandell Theatre, 48 Main St, Chatham, 7 pm, \$11 adults, \$7 children, \$8 members. crandelltheatre.org

May 4

THE OLD OAK, The Crandell Theatre, 48 Main St, Chatham, 1 pm, \$11 adults, \$7 children, \$8 members. crandelltheatre.org

THE ROLLING STONES ROCK AND ROLL CIRCUS, Hudson Hall, 327 Warren St, 7 pm, \$13/\$8 student (includes \$3 fee). Screening followed by Q&A with director Michael Lindsay-Hogg. hudsonhall.org

May 5

FOOD, INC. 2, The Crandell Theatre, 48 Main St, Chatham, 1 pm, \$11 adults, \$7 children, \$8 members. crandelltheatre.org

ONE LIFE, The Crandell Theatre, 48 Main St, Chatham, 4 pm, \$11 adults, \$7 children, \$8 members. crandelltheatre.org

MAKING MUSIC**Thursdays**

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 Friday

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

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EVENTS

Calendar

Continued from Page 13

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.

Friday

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

Third Sunday

JAMMIN' AT THE GRANGE, Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Road, 4-5:30 pm. Join with other musicians for music playtime. Bring instrument, voice, song, join jam. All welcome. Free. Donations welcomed. lennybarham@gmail.com or visit www.copakegrange.org/events.

Through June 6

HUDSON COMMUNITY CHOIR, Hudson Hall, 327 Warren Street, Thurs, 6-8pm, free, registration required. Led by Andrew Stein and Sharece Johnson, in collaboration with Beautiful Racke. hudsonhall.org

May 4

EDDIE HENDERSON, Clark Art Institute, 225 South St, Williamstown, MA, 6 pm, \$10 (\$8 members, \$7 students, \$5 children 15 and under). Presented in collaboration with Jazz in the Berkshires. Call 413 458-0524 or visit clarkart.edu/events.

May 4,5

VIOLINIST AS COMPOSER, Bard Fisher Center, 60 Manor Rd, Annandale, Sat 7 pm, Sun 2 pm, \$15-\$35. A Carnegie Hall preview concert. Eugène Ysaÿe, Grażyna Bacewicz, George Enescu, Joseph Joachim. Tickets: ton.bard.edu.

May 5

CONSTANT SMILES AND AVA MIRZADEGAN, Clark Art Institute, 225 South St, Williamstown, MA, 5 pm, free. Presented in collaboration with Belltower Records. Call 413 458-0524 or visit clarkart.edu/events.

May 11

PABLO SHINE LATIN JAZZ BAND, Spencertown Academy Roots & Shoots Concerts Series, 790 State Route 203, 8 pm, \$25, \$20 academy members. www.spencertownacademy.org.

LISTEN & LEARN

Ongoing

DIGITAL NAVIGATOR COMPUTER & Internet Help, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave. Help 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.org

DRIVE THROUGH HISTORY Road Trips, Columbia County Historical Society, free. Explore Columbia County with themed 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.

May 2

DOWNSIZING & DECLUTTERING: You Can't Take It With You, Canaan Congregational Church, 1670 County Route 5, 10:30 am. Free. Community seminar series presented by AARP speaker bureau member Alexandria Douglas-Bartolone.

SAVING THE NIGHT SKY: DARK SKIES AND LIGHT POLLUTION, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 6:30-7:30 pm, free. Film screening and presentation and discussion on the importance of dark skies and learn about a citizen science project to help measure and report light pollution in our area. www.roejanlibrary.org

May 4

COMPOSTING AT HOME, Valatie Free Library, 1036 Kinderhook Street, 1-2 pm. Master Gardener tells everything you need to know about composting. All welcome. More info contact Laura at 518-929-9285.

May 4,5

NYS SAFE BOATING CLASS, Philmont Community Center, 14 Lake Shore Drive, 9 am-1 pm. Attendance required both days (8 hours). 10 and older. Register at www.register-ed.com/events/view/212482. Free. Class size limited.

May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7.

MAKERS MARKET, Hawthorne Valley Farm Store, 327 County Route 21C Ghent, 11 am-3pm. The first market is in conjunction with Hawthorne Valley Waldorf School's May Day and Spring Fair Celebration. hawthornevalley.org

May 8

FROM BIRDWATCHER TO BIRDER: Moving Beyond Your Bird Feeder, North Chatham Free Library, 4287 Route 203, 10 am, free. Enhance your birding experience. northchathamlibrary.org

May 9

AUTHOR EVENT with Susan Stessin-Cohn, Hudson Area Library, 51 North Fifth St, 6-7:30 pm, free. Author of "In Defiance: Runaways from Slavery in New York's Hudson River Valley." hudsonarealibrary.org

POETRY READING: IRENE MITCHELL, Roe Jan Community Library, 9091 Rt 22, Copake, 6:30 pm, free. Formerly the poetry editor of Hudson River Art Magazine, Mitchell is known for her collaborations with visual artists and composers. www.roejanlibrary.org

May 10

GHENT HAMLET HISTORY WALK WITH GREGG BERNINGER, Chatham Public Library, 11 Woodbridge Ave, 10 am. The Library Walking Club will be joined by Ghent Town Historian Gregg Berninger, as he leads us on a History Walk around the Hamlet of Ghent. Meet at the Ghent VFW. Chathampubliclibrary.org.

May 11

ART OMI: WRITERS READING, Benenson Center, 1405 Rte 22, Ghent, 5-6 pm, free. Art Omi: Writers-in-Residence share new and in-progress writing produced during their residence at Art Omi. Advanced registration appreciated. artomi.org

DANCE

First Sundays

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE, 25 Main St., Chatham, 2-4 pm, at Roots Holistic Wellness. Circle dances and songs from diverse spiritual traditions. Each dance taught, no experience needed, all ages and abilities welcome. By donation for space rental. malikaliz13@gmail.com, 802-999-8142; or farid@taconic.net; 518-860-3108.

May 17

BEYOND BALLET/BEYOND HIP-HOP: The Dying Swan and Its Cause of Death and Encounter, PS21, 2980 Rte 66, Chatham, 8 pm. Tickets \$35. ps21chatham.org

ON STAGE

Thursdays

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

May 10-12, 17-19

IT'S ONLY A PLAY, The Marilyn & Bob Laurie Gallery, the Claverack Library, 629 NY-23B, Claverack, times vary, \$20, \$15 for students and seniors. Call for group rates. The Two Of Us Productions. Visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org, 518-758-1648.

May 11

BEHIND THE SCENES: REAL PEOPLE REAL STORIES, Ancram Center for the Arts, 1330 County Route 7, 5-7 pm, \$100. Benefit will feature performances by Ancram Center storytellers. Hors d'oeuvres and wine, courtesy of Copake Wine Works. www.ancramcenter.org

ON VIEW

ART OMI, 1405 CR 22, Ghent. Olalekan Jeyifous: Even in Arcadia..., thru June 2. Benenson Center open daily 9 am-4 pm. artomi.org, 518 392-4747.

ART SCHOOL of Columbia County, 1198 Rt 21C, Childhood Revisited: by Sabina Curti. Mon, Tue, Thurs, Sun noon-3 pm. 518 672-7140. Artschoolofcolumbiacounty.org.

BASILICA HUDSON Back Gallery, 110 S Front St. Erika DeVries: Seven Sisters. Basilicahudson.com.

CALDWELL GALLERY Hudson, 355 Warren St. Fri-Sun 11 am-5 pm. 518 828-7087, jay@caldwell-galleryhudson.com.

CARRIE HADDAD Gallery, 622 Warren St, Hudson. All Figured Out, April 26-June 16. Daily 11 am-5 pm, Tue by appt only. 518 828-1915. Carriehaddadgallery.com.

CCS BARD Galleries, Hessel Museum of Art, 33 Garden Rd, Annandale. 2024 Graduate Exhibitions, April 6 - May 26. Tickets ccs.bard.edu/visit/reservations. Sun noon-5 pm.

CIRCLE 46 GALLERY, 46 Green St, Hudson. Silver & Gold: Winter Group Show. Sat 1-5 pm, Sun 1:30-4 pm & by appt. 518 303-6446. gallery.at46@gmail.com.

CLARK ART INSTITUTE, 225 South St, Williamstown. Tue-Sun, 10 am-4 pm. clarkart.edu.

CLAVERACK LIBRARY, 9 Rt 9H. HCS Student Art Show, thru April. Open library hours. claveracklibrary.org.

CLERMONT STATE HISTORIC SITE, 1 Clermont Ave. Visitor's Center: Spero Meliora: Life In The Land Of Livingston. Fri-Sun 10:30 am-4 pm. friendsofclermont.org.

D'ARCY SIMPSON ART WORKS, 409 Warren St, Hudson. Fri-Sun noon-5 pm.

ELIZABETH MOORE FINE ART, 105 Warren St, Hudson. Fri-Sun noon-6 pm. elizabethmoorefineart.com.

FASNY Museum of Firefighting, 117 Harry Howard Ave, Hudson, admission. Then, Now & Always: Firefighting from the Cradle of Rome through the 1900s. Wed-Sun 10 am-4:30 pm. 518 822-1875 fasnyfiremuseum.com.

510 WARREN STREET Gallery, 510 Warren St, Hudson. Fri & Sat, noon-6 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 518 822-0510. 510warrenstreetgallery.com.



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www.jamesnewburyhotel.com | www.wireeventcenter.com
kate@jamesnewburyhotel.com

FLOW CHART SPACE, 348
Warren St, Hudson. Of the Sign: Art of Marjorie Welish. Second & fourths Sats, 11 am-5 pm. flowchartfoundation.org/exhibitions.

FOUNDATION Gallery, Arts Ctr,
C-GCC, 4400 Rt. 23, Greenport. Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. 518 828-4181 x 3241.

FRG OBJECTS & Design / Art,
217 Warren St, Hudson. Spectrum Observed, work by John Donovan. Thurs-Mon, 12-6 pm or by appt. 646 483-9109. frgdesignart.com.

FRONT ROOM GALLERY, 727
Warren St, Hudson. 718 782-2556, frontroomles.com.

GALLERY@CREATE, 398 Main
St, Catskill. Fri 4-7 pm, Sat & Sun 11 am-6 pm. createcouncil.org.

HENRY, 348 Warren St, Hudson.
Fri-Sat noon-6 pm, Sun 11 am-4 pm. 518 828-2354.

HUDSON AREA LIBRARY, 51 N
5th St. Open library hours. A Dialogue Across Generations: Making Connections through the BLACC Collection until April. hudsonarealibrary.org.

HUDSON HALL, 327 Warren St.
Michael Lindsay-Hogg, April 20 - June 2. Tue-Fri, 9 am-5 pm, Sat & Sun, noon-5 pm. 518 822-1438. hudsonhall.org.

IZZY'S ROOM, 80 Green St,
Hudson. amiezimmerman.com/izzys-room.

J. DAMIANI Gallery, 8 Anthony St,
Hillsdale. Every painting is a journey. By appt. jdamianigallery@gmail.com. Sat 11 am-4 pm.

JOYCE GOLDSTEIN Gallery, 19
Central Square, Chatham. Horizon Line. Thurs-Sat 1-5 pm, Sunday 1-3 pm. 518 764-8989. joysgall@fairpoint.net.

KAATERSKILL Gallery, C-GCC,
4400 Rt 23, Greenport. Mon-Thurs 8 am-9 pm, Fri 8 am-4:30 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 518 828-4181.

KINDERHOOK KNITTING MILL,
8 Hudson St. Fri & Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 11 am-4 pm. Palm to Poplar: Devotional Labor, through April 29. shakermuseum.us, kinderhookknittingmill.com.

LABspace, 2642 Rt 23, Hillsdale.
Sat & Sun 1-5 pm, no appt necessary. Two Solos, April 6-28. Opening reception April 6. julielab-space@gmail.com. 917 749-2857.

LIGHTFORMS Art Center, 743
Columbia St, Hudson. Stars & Objects: Group Exhibit & Small Works Show. Fri 3-7, Sat-Sun 12-6 pm. By appointment 917 330-6262. lightformsartcenter.com

LIMNER Gallery, 123 Warren St,
Hudson. Small Works: Holiday Show & Sale. By appt. 518 828-2343.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS & Creative Arts Gallery, 717
Columbia St, Hudson. Art/recovery books display. For information on artists & associated activities, stigmfree.art Donations for operating costs accepted: facebook.com/Mental-Health-Awareness-and-Creative-Arts-Gallery-280179699521974.

NORMAN ROCKWELL Museum,
9 Glendale Rd / Rt 183, Stockbridge, MA. Between Worlds: The Art & Design of Leo Lionni, up through May 27, 2024. Mon-Tues/Thurs-Fri 10 am-4 pm, Sat-Sun 10 am-5 pm. Private tours available Wed. Admission. nrm.org.

OLANA State Historic Site, 5720
Rt 9G, Greenport. Afterglow: Frederic Church and the Landscape of Memory, opening Sunday, May 12. Members Exhibition Preview, Saturday, May 11, 5-7 pm. 518 828-0135. Olana.org.

PAMELA SALISBURY Gallery,
362½ Warren St, Hudson. Screening and Artist Discussion: Lothar Osterburg: A Celebration of the Small, Saturday May 4, at 6 pm, at TSL. 434 Columbia St. Screening with live music. Thurs-Mon 11 am-6 pm, or by appt. 518 828-5907. Pamelasalisburygallery.com.

PHILMONT LIBRARY, 101 Main
St. Canned Food for Thought, March 15-April 27. Artist reception, March 16, 2-4pm. philmontlibrary.com.

PRIVATE PUBLIC GALLERY, 530
Warren St, Hudson. Chad Weckler's Creative Exposure / Portraits of Hudson, April 20-May 4. 212 286-0075, privatepublicgallery@gmail.com.

PS21, 2980 Rt 66, Chatham.
James Casebere: Solo Pavilion for Two or Three. 518 392-6121. PS21chatham.org.

ROE JAN COMMUNITY LIBRARY,
9091 Rt 22, Copake. Open library hours. roejanlibrary.org.

ROSE Gallery, 238 Warren St,
Hudson. 518 828-5825. Rosegalleryfineart.com.

SEPTEMBER Gallery, 4 Hudson
St #3, Kinderhook. Fri-Sat 11am-5pm, Sunday 11am-4pm. Kristen@septembergallery.com. SHAKESPEARE'S FULCRUM, 612 Warren St, Hudson. Terry Fulgate-Wilcox. shakespearesfulcrum.com

SPENCERTOWN ACADEMY ARTS CTR,
790 Rt 203. Sat & Sun 1-5 pm. Perspective: Six Artists, April 13 - May 12. Spencertownacademy.org. 518 392-3693.

SUSAN ELEY FINE ART, 433
Warren St, Hudson. Talking Thread, April 4 -May 12. Talk moderated by Karlyn Benson, guest curator. Sunday, May 5, 3 pm. Thurs-Mon, 11 am-5 pm. susaneleyfineart.com.

TANJA GRUNERT SALON,
Princess Beatrix House, 21 Prospect Ave, Hudson. Fri-Mon noon-6 pm, or by appointment. 646 944-6197, tanjagrunert.com.

THE FIRST GALLERY, 369
Warren St, Hudson. firstpreshudson.org.

THE SCHOOL: Jack Shainman
Gallery, 25 Broad St (Rt 9), Kinderhook. Sat, 11 am-6 pm. Jackshainman.com.

THOMAS COLE NAT'L HISTORIC SITE,
218 Spring St, Catskill. Virtual gallery, explorethomascole.org/gallery. Pop-up exhibition, Imaginary Wilds thru April 7. Grounds open daily. thomascole.org. TSL Gallery, 434 Columbia St, Hudson. Fri-Sun. Fly on the Canvas, April 13-May 12. 518 822-8448. Timeandspace.org.

TURLEY GALLERY, 98 Green St,
Ste 2, Hudson. Care & indignity. Fri-Sun noon-5 pm, by appointment. turley.gallery.

WINDOW ON HUDSON, 43 S
3rd St, Hudson. Nancy O'Hara: Pressing Matters, March 26-May 12. windowonhudson.org.

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County collects hazardous waste

GHENT – Columbia County sponsors a Household Hazardous Waste Collection event Saturday, May 4 between the hours of 8 a.m. and noon. The collection will be held at the Columbia County Fire Training Center, 50 Grandinetti Drive (in the Commerce Park, entrance off Route 66). Participants must provide proof of Columbia County residency. The collection will be held rain or shine.

Items not accepted are: radioactive waste, commercial/industrial or agricultural wastes, fire extinguishers, infectious and biological waste, prescription medicines, syringes, asbestos, ammunition, explosives, fireworks and non-contaminated motor oil or antifreeze, 55-gallon drums or empty containers.

Materials accepted include: From the Workbench—oil-based and latex paints, stains, varnishes, wood preservatives, solvents, adhesives and lighter fluids. From the Garage—fuels,

gasoline, kerosene, engine degreasers, brake fluid, carburetor cleaner, car wax, polish, roofing tar, driveway sealer and swimming pool chemicals. From the Yard—poisons, insecticides, fungicides, chemical fertilizers, weed killer, mothballs, flea control products, pest strips and aerosol cans. From the House—rubber cement, airplane glue, fiberglass resins, photo chemicals, chemistry sets, furniture polish, floor and metal polish, oven cleaner, drain and toilet cleaner, rug and upholstery cleaner, hobby and art supplies and spot remover.

No charge to residents to participate in this collection. Residents with large quantities (full pick-up or van-loads) of material must contact the Solid Waste Administrative Office prior to participating. To ask questions regarding the collection or for further information regarding proper disposal or handling contact the Solid Waste Administrative Office at 518-828-2737.

Make sure Olana is ready for spring

GREENPORT – Join in a day of stewardship and service at Olana State Historic Site, 5720 State Route 9G, and help make sure Frederic Church's artist-designed landscape is ready for another great season during I Love My Parks Day Saturday, May 4, 1 to 4 p.m.

This state-wide event brings together Olana volunteers, The Olana Partnership's staff, and a New York State Parks Team to help get these public lands and Frederic Church's vision ready for spring.

Free special tours take place,

1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Kick off the day with optional free tours about Olana's history or how New York State's stewardship team manages invasive plants. Questions email: education@olana.org.

Volunteer activities led by Olana staff take place, 2:30 to 4 p.m. Activities include: park cleanup and trash removal; invasive removal; planting flowers at Cosy Cottage and indoor classroom cleanup at the Wagon House.

Sign up for activities by emailing lmiller@olana.org.

Drop by the firehouse, see what's going on

ANCRAM – The Ancram Fire Company, 1306 County Route 7, holds an Open House, May 4, 9 a.m. to noon.

The event includes:

- Tours and fire trucks for children to see as well as sit in
- Recharge fire extinguishers, get fire extinguishers inspected or buy new ones
- Instructional fire extinguisher display to show people

the proper way to use a fire extinguisher

- Sign up to purchase your 911 sign
- Give away of CO detectors, smoke detectors, bicycle lights, walking/biking reflective vests and pet reflective vests (limited availability).

Doughnuts, bagels, coffee and drinks will be offered.

This event takes place rain or shine.

Time is here for spring chicken BBQ

STUYVESANT FALLS – The Stuyvesant Falls Fire Company will host its spring chicken barbecue at the firehouse, 9 Firehouse Lane, May 4, 3:30 to 6 p.m. The cost is \$15 for a half a chicken, cole slaw, potatoes, baked beans, a roll and dessert. For more information call the firehouse at 518-799-6433.

Have binoculars ready for spring bird walk

GREENPORT – The Alan Devoe Bird Club takes a Spring Migration Bird Walk at Olana State Historic Site, 5720 State Route 9G, Saturday, May 4, 8 to 10 a.m.

Join the bird club and The Olana Partnership on an exploration of Olana's artist-designed landscape and learn more about visiting birds and the species that call this region home. Free, advanced registration required. This program will meet outside the Olana Wagon House Education Center. For more information, contact education@olana.org.



Photo contributed

Two birds in one bush.



Photo contributed

Clermont in springtime.

Tour shows kids what a museum is

CLERMONT – Calling all curious kids! Clermont State Historic Site, 1 Clermont Avenue, offers a unique tour of the mansion for families with young children during "What's a museum? Kids Tour and Story Hour," Saturday May 4 at 2 p.m.

The tour will begin in the

Visitor Center with a museum-themed story time. After that, take a special 30-minute first floor tour of the mansion. Children will see how people lived more than 100 years ago, identify animals and objects, and practice museum etiquette. This event will run for about an

hour and is best suited for children ages 4 to 8 years old.

The cost of the event is \$5/person, pay at the door. All children must be accompanied by an adult for this children's program. Space is limited. Visitors must register in advance at bookeo.com/Clermont

Complete a course, drive a boat

PHILMONT – A New York State Safe Boating Class will be taught at the Philmont Community Center, 14 Lake Shore Drive, Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Attendance is required both days (8 hours).

Participants must register for the class at <https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/212482>.

The course is open to anyone 10 years of age and older. Class size is limited. This is a free course. Successful completion of the class will allow students to receive certificates issued by the state at \$10. Effective in 2025, all operators of power operated ves-

sels must have a NY State Certificate or equivalent. Power-operated includes electric motors.

The course is sponsored by the Village of Philmont and the Philmont Rod and Gun Club. Teachers are Doug Cropper and Julia Veronezi. Light refreshments will be available.



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Library hosts ‘Saving the Night Sky’ on light pollution

COPAKE – Roeliff Jansen Community Library will hold a workshop on dark skies led by DarkSky International member Susan Bachelder on Thursday, May 2 at 6:30 p.m., in person at the library.

Dark skies are not just important for seeing the stars, but for the health of our planet and ourselves. Light pollution threatens many animal species, from migrating birds to hatching sea turtles. It also impacts human health as it disturbs our sleep patterns. Unnecessary lighting wastes money and energy and contributes to climate change. Join the library for a film screening and presentation and discussion with Susan Bachelder on the importance of dark skies and learn about a citizen science project to help measure and report light pollution in our area.

Ms. Bachelder, a resident of Egremont, has been a member of DarkSky International for over a decade. She has posted a local STAR DATE blog for 15 years for her neighbors, encour-

aging star gazing using simple ID skills to identify stars and planets while explaining the underlying astronomical structures, both in contemporary and historical terms to underpin her observations. As a Classics major, her studies right now are in Persian star charts of the 1600s.

After the program, check out the Roe Jan Library’s new Dark Sky Citizen Science kit created with funding from the Mid-Hudson chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club, and become part of a collective effort to safeguard the beauty of the night sky for generations to come, promoting healthier ecosystems, and a more sustainable future for all.

This program is free and open to the public.

Roeliff Jansen Community Library is located at 9091 Route 22, approximately one mile south of the traffic light at the intersection of Routes 22 and 23. For information on hours and events, call 518-325-4101 or visit <http://www.roejanlibrary.org>

Hudson hosts author event with Stessin-Cohn

HUDSON – On Thursday, May 9, 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the Hudson Area Library, 51 North Fifth Street, Susan Stessin-Cohn, former professor of social studies education at SUNY New Paltz and Director of Education at Historic Huguenot Street, and current New Paltz Historian, will speak on her 20+ years of research into the history of slavery in the Hudson River Valley, with a particular focus on the plight of the “runaways”—enslaved persons who sought freedom by escaping from their enslavers.

Ms. Stessin-Cohn and coauthor Ashley Hurlburt-Biagini, the former Manager of Collections and Archives at Historic Huguenot Street, combed through newspaper archives and databases, microfilm and library special collections—even dusty attics—seeking newspaper notices placed by Hudson Valley enslavers offering rewards for the return of their “property.” They found over 750 such advertisements, plus local notices for runaways apprehended, advertisements for enslaved persons for sale, and offers to purchase. In 2016 they published “In Defiance: Runaways from Slavery in New York’s Hudson River Valley, 1735–1831.” Continuing their research, Ms. Stessin-Cohn and Ms. Hurlburt-Biagini discovered more than 250 additional runaway notices that prompted them to rewrite and greatly expand “In Defiance” in this newly released Second Edition. This primary source material offers fleeting glimpses of hun-

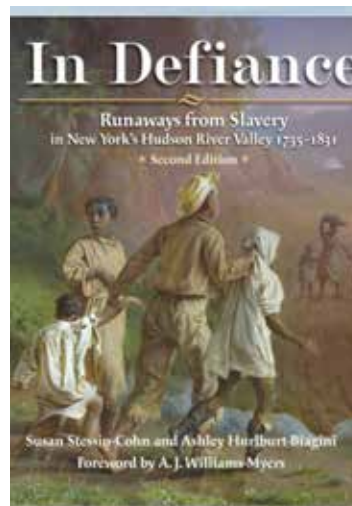


Image contributed

Cover of “In Defiance: Runaways from Slavery in New York’s Hudson River Valley, Second Edition.”

dreds of lives caught up in the cruelty of slavery—right here in the Hudson Valley.

Following the presentation, Ms. Stessin-Cohn will be on hand to meet and answer questions, and to autograph copies of “In Defiance.” Books available for sale courtesy of Spotty Dog Books & Ale.

In 1799 New York State passed its first emancipation act, “An Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery,” giving hope to thousands of enslaved persons held on farms and in villages along the Hudson River Valley from Westchester and Orange Counties north to Albany, Schenectady and Troy. But many held in slavery were not willing to wait for what turned out to be a very gradual emancipation, as evidenced by the hundreds of newspaper notices posted by Hudson Valley enslavers promising

rewards for runaway enslaved persons throughout the early 19th century all the way up to 1831. The stories these newspaper notices tell, together with the stories of hundreds of other enslaved persons who ran for their freedom earlier, in the 18th century, shed revealing light on the life of enslaved persons held in the Hudson Valley.

Most enslaved persons held in the Hudson River Valley lived and worked and died and left behind no historical record—no birth certificates, no marriage records, no death certificates, unmarked graves. But “In Defiance” rescues over 900 of those individuals from obscurity because they decided to free themselves; when their enslavers placed notices in local and New York City newspapers offering rewards for their return, they not only gave identity to some of the enslaved people, but also unwittingly indicted themselves before the bar of historical judgment. Surnames synonymous with Hudson Valley history—names like Schuyler, Van Rensselaer, Beekman, Rockefeller, Van Cortlandt, Van Buren, Livingston—appear throughout the book as the authors of the notices advertising rewards for the return of their enslaved “property.”

Had these freedom seekers not run away, they too, like the tens of thousands of enslaved persons who did not run, would have been lost to history, but by running they prompted reward notices for their return—notices that often provide at least their first names, sometimes a surname as well, and detailed descriptions of their age, color, gender, origin, language proficiency, and skills.

In addition to the reproduction and transcription of 774 archival newspaper notices for runaways from Hudson Valley enslavers, the book also includes notices advertising runaways captured, notices advertising enslaved persons for sale, notices offering to purchase enslaved persons, and selected runaway notices from outside the Hudson River Valley region. Nine tables analyze the data in the 774 notices for runaways from Hudson Valley enslavers, and the book includes a glossary, indexes of names, locations, and subjects, 36 illustrations, and 5 maps from the 18th and 19th centuries.

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Photo contributed

Kathryn Schneider

NCFL presents 'From Birdwatcher to Birder'

NORTH CHATHAM – If you are a bird devotee, make sure to attend author, ornithologist, and conservationist Kathryn Schneider's presentation based on her recent book, "Birding in the Hudson Valley," on Wednesday, May 8 at 10 a.m. This free event is located at 4287 Route 203.

Enhance your birding experience as she provides tips, guidance, and encouragement for bird enthusiasts of all skill levels to leave their back yards and explore the diversity of bird life beyond the bird feeder.

Through her wide-ranging presentation, which includes numerous photos of birds from her book, Schneider provides an introduction to bird food and habits, ways to become a better birder, as well as recommendations for selecting binoculars and hints for finding birds.

Ms. Schneider grew up in Claverack, went to Hudson High and then attended Cornell

and Princeton universities, where she completed a PhD. She taught college courses in general biology and ornithology at the University of Richmond and later at Hudson Valley Community College.

In 1986 she returned to Columbia County and for 14 years directed the NY Natural Heritage Program, a biodiversity inventory program run jointly by The Nature Conservancy and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

As a consultant, she conducted bird surveys for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. She is past President of the New York State Ornithological Association, a former member of the Columbia County Environmental Management Council, and a Columbia Land Conservancy volunteer. She currently co-chairs the Steering Committee for NY's third Breeding Bird Atlas Project.

Mitchell reads from book of poetry at library

COPAKE – The Roeliff Jansen Community Library will host local poet Irene Mitchell on Thursday, May 9 at 6 p.m. Ms. Mitchell will read from and discuss her most recent book of poetry, "My Report from the Uwharries" (Dos Madres Press, 2022).

Ms. Mitchell is a long-time teacher of English and Writing in inner city and rural New York. She is the author of several earlier books, including "Selected Poems" (FutureCycle Press, 2021), "Clerestory" (Dos Madres Press, 2020), "Fever" (Dos Madres Press, 2019), "Equal Parts Sun and Shade: An Almanac of Precarious Days" (Aldrich Press, 2017), "Minding the Spectrum's Business" (FutureCycle Press, 2015), "A Study of Extremes in Six Suites" (Cherry Grove Collections, 2012), and "Sea Wind on the White Pillow" (Axes Mundi Press, 2009).

Formerly Poetry Editor of Hudson River Art Magazine, Ms. Mitchell is known for her collaborations with visual artists and composers. Her poems have been presented for gallery exhibition as a series of broadsides, the text incorporated into the artwork. Her poetry has also been set to music for piano and voice in cycles of art songs, the marriage of music and poetry. She was a 2019 Associate Artist in Residence at the Atlantic Center for the Arts.

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.roejanlibrary.org>, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/roejanlibrary>, or on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/roejanlibrary/>.

Clean up River Street Park, learn to compost

VALATIE – Show up for a River Street Park clean-up in the morning and stay to learn about composting in the afternoon, Saturday, May 4. The Valatie Climate Smart Communities Task Force is planning two events, free and open to the public. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. join volunteers for a riverbank clean up, invasive vine removal, and native vegetation planting project at River Street Park, at the end of

River Street in the Village of Valatie. Volunteers should meet at the gazebo. Wear appropriate clothes to deter ticks and bring gloves and garden tools for planting natives and cutting back invasives. Three clean-up events have been planned for River Street Park this spring. The May 4 event is part of the 13th annual Riverkeeper Sweep, a day of service for the Hudson. More info about Riverkeeper Sweep can be found at [https://](https://www.riverkeeper.org)

www.riverkeeper.org.

From 1 to 2 p.m., Maureen Mooney, Master Gardener with Cornell Cooperative Extension in Columbia and Greene Counties, presents an introduction to everything you need to know about composting at home at the Valatie Free Library, 1036 Kinderhook Street, Valatie. All are welcome. For more information about these events, contact Laura at 518-929-9285.

DQ continues its humane society support

GHENT – The Ghent Dairy Queen, 2319 Route 66, puts on its 15th annual benefit for the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA, Saturday, May 4, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shop for Mother's Day gifts like: jewelry, kitchen items, hand lotion, dog/cat items such as carriers, swimming pads, harnesses and homemade treats.

The shelter thanks the crew at DQ for this ongoing support. This benefit has raised more than \$15,800 for shelter animals.



Photo contributed

"I'll have mine in a dog biscuit cone, please!"

Volunteers perform Riverkeeper Sweep of kill

COPAKE – The Roeliff Jansen Park Steering Committee hosts a second volunteer day this spring at Roeliff Jansen Park, 9140 Route 22, Saturday, May 4, noon to 2 p.m. To participate, volunteers are encouraged to register with liaison and Councilperson Jamie Carano Nordenström at carano.nordenstrom@hillsdaleny.com.

I Love My Park Day at Roeliff Jansen Park features a

Riverkeeper Sweep of Roeliff Jansen Kill. Riverkeeper Sweep volunteers across the Hudson Valley engage in cleanup, removal of invasive plants and other types of shoreline restoration. The Roeliff Jansen Kill, as part of the Hudson River watershed, is a valuable ecological, scenic and recreational resource in the park.

This event will begin at noon with a public presentation by

Gretchen Stevens, a celebrated Hudsonia Ltd. field biologist and member of Hillsdale's Conservation Advisory Council. She will speak about the ecological importance of streamside areas, beaver activity, buffer zones of undisturbed vegetation along streams and non-toxic ways to manage invasive plants.

Learn more at Riverkeeper.org and Parks.ny.gov.

Shop for Mother's Day gifts at marketplace

GHENT – Ghent VFW Post 5933 and its Auxiliary, 2237 State Route 66, present their second annual Mother's Day Marketplace Vendor and Craft Fair, Saturday, May 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event features: free admission, raffles—50/50 and baskets, cheesecake, choc-

olate gift box, 3D dragon, cupcake bouquet; Mama Jean's food truck; Rollin' sundaes; burgers and dogs by the VFW, refreshments, Ghent Band and Sheriff's Office demonstrations. Vendors include: crafts, homebaked goods, jams, honey, jewelry, stones

and minerals, customized clothing and tote bags, bake-wake, a genealogist, fragrance, skin and body care. Many community organizations will be there, too. Follow the VFW on Facebook event page for announcements and a complete vendor list.

Frozen hams and turkeys are prizes

LIVINGSTON – The Kalicoontie Rod & Gun Club, 333 Schneider Road, holds its annual Spring Ham Shoot, Sunday, May 5, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. No hogs will be harmed at this event, the hams are a frozen prize. Competitions include: .12g and .20g bird-shot, slugs, center fire rifle, .22cal rim fire pistol, and .22cal rim fire rifle. The entry fee is \$3. Frozen hams, turkeys, and

pork loins will be awarded as first prize; second prize is kielbasa. Winners can also choose from sports-related gear on prize tables if they prefer. The club supplies .12g, .20g, and .22cal ammo. Participants must bring their own slugs and center fire ammo. Raffle tickets will be available at \$3 each with a chance to win one of five prizes. The drawing will be held immediately following

the end of the ham shoot. For more info or to purchase raffle tickets call Scott at 845-757-2552 (day) or Joe 518-537-3997. Coffee, water and soda will be sold along with breakfast sandwiches in the morning and hot dogs and hamburgers after noon. For information on upcoming events and fire-arm safety training, visit the club's website at www.Kalicoontie.com.

Libraries host annual Book It! 5K

CLAVERRACK – Book It! 2024, a 5K run or walk event to benefit youth activities and adult programs at the Claverack and Philmont libraries, will be held on May 19. The prior Book It! events have been huge successes because of the support the libraries have received from their sponsors, volunteers and participants.

Register by May 12 to receive a free hat, embroidered with the Book-It logo. The hat can be picked up at the Churchtown Firehouse on the day of the 5K event, or at the Claverack Free Library if unable to attend.

At the end of the race, age-bracket winners will be awarded prizes. The overall fastest male and female will also receive a fresh homemade loaf of bread.

The proceeds for this event will help each library expand their e-resources and programming.

Library Registration forms can be picked up at either library or may be downloaded from either library website: <https://claveracklibrary.org/book-it-5k/> or www.philmontlibrary.org and mailed to Claverack Free Library, PO Box 417, Claverack, NY 12513.

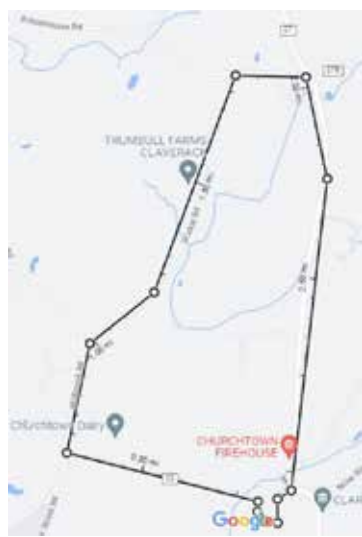


Image contributed
Book It! 5K map.

The form can also be completed and entered directly on the active.com website: Book It! 5k2024-Hudson (Churchtown), NY 2024 (active.com) website.

The registration fee is \$25 for adult participants. Kids 18 and under are \$10. Registration is also available the day of the race for \$30 for adults, \$15 for 18 and younger.

Learn about volunteering over s'mores

CANAAN – Whether one is a seasoned volunteer or hoping to volunteer for the first time, the Columbia Land Conservancy (CLC) is excited to connect at this fun volunteer kick-off orientation event S'mores at Schor at the Schor Conservation Area, 58 Shoreview Drive, May 9 at 4 to 6 p.m. Around the campfire with a s'more, participants will learn more about volunteer roles, upcoming activities, and sign up for events.

Participants will walk about 0.1 miles to the Schor Pavillion over uneven terrain. Bring a friend and a lawn chair. Social, leashed dogs are welcome, but bring bags for waste.

Visit ColumbiaLand.org/Events to register or sign up to volunteer.

Can't make it, but would like to get involved? Join the volunteer email list at www.clctrust.org or email info@clctrust.org.

AnimalKind seeks donations now

HUDSON – AnimalKind is in desperate need of funds for its life saving programs to spay/neuter and medically attend injured and sick cats, according to a press release.

AnimalKind is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) animal welfare organization and shelter at 721 Warren Street, working to strengthen the natural bond between humans and animals with programs and services to enhance the well-being of all, according to the website www.animalkindny.org

It's kitten season now and funds are depleted to spay/neuter and medically attend the many stray and injured cats which now need help.

AnimalKind alters 2,000+ cats annually and now it's most important since breeding season started.

If help does not happen

now—many more homeless and unwanted kittens will be born in the near future, too many to attend without funding.

Without addressing the issue now, there will be more suffering of unwanted and sick felines, the release said

No donation is too small. Visit AnimalKind's "Go Fund Me" link: <https://gofund.me/e8d5607c>



Photo contributed
Kitten season is here.

Sale has treasures and treats for the finding

COPAKE – Browse for treasures you've been searching for: kitchenware, household goods, art, linens, accessories, small furniture and gifts at a Flea Market and Bake Sale at Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Road, May 11 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Baked goods will be for sale, as well.

Everyone is invited to donate their unwanted, gently-used

items; find new treasures and snack on delicious cookies or find the perfect cake for a dinner party.

The Grange Program Committee sponsors this event.

Drop off times at the Grange for donated items are: Wednesday, May 8, 1 to 2 p.m. or by appointment

Some vendor tables are available.

Accepted items include:

kitchenware, household goods, art, linens, accessories, small furniture, gifts; no CDs, DVDs or books. Items must be in good condition. Worn out or unusable items will not be accepted.

To bake for the sale, email or call Roberta at roberta.roll@gmail.com or 518-329-0384.

To get more information email copakegrange@gmail.com or visit copakegrange.org

West talks about OFA senior programs

CLAVERRACK – Kate West from the county Office for the Aging speaks at the next meeting of the Claverack Seniors at the Reformed Dutch Church, 88 Route 9H, Friday, May 10 at 1 p.m.

Ms. West will discuss programs for seniors. Debbie Peles and Susan Harmon are on the refreshment committee. Sign-ups will be taken for June 14 luncheon at Pine Haven. Those who cannot attend the May meeting, but plan to attend the luncheon should call Linda Guntert at 518-821-8292 by June 5.

All are welcome to attend the following scheduled trips:

- May 29, Circle Line Tours, Manhattan, \$50, leave Claverack at 8 a.m., pay for dinner on way home

- June 11, Round Out Lighthouse and Maritime Museum, Kingston, \$50/person. Dinner on the way home is included, leave Claverack at 9 a.m.

- July 10, Mac-Haydn, Chatham, \$70, "Sister Act," show starts at 2 p.m., lunch included, carpool to theater after lunch

- August 13, Aqua Turf, CT, \$65, includes lunch, The Legends Live—The Songs You Love, leave Claverack at 8:30 a.m.

- September 18, Big E, Springfield, MA, \$25, leave Claverack at 8 a.m.

- October 28-29 overnight at Atlantic City, \$75/person, \$20 comp, leave Claverack at 7 a.m.

Sign up one month prior, non-members pay \$10 extra. Call Debbie Grau to sign up at 518-610-1766.

Make checks out to and mail to Claverack Seniors, P.O. Box 614, Philmont 12565.

Vendors sought for Memorial Day weekend event

HILLSDALE – The Town of Hillsdale's popular flea market returns May 25, the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend.

Organizers of the town-sanctioned event are seeking vendors to sell a wide variety of goods, ranging from kitchenware, furniture, toys, garden items and clothing to antiques and collectibles. "It's a great opportunity to let some of the treasures you've been hanging on to find a new home," Tim Stookesberry, a co-organizer of the event, said in a press release. Artisans who create works by hand are also encouraged to sell their wares, such as makers of wooden bowls, birdhouses, pottery, pillows and hand-tooled

jewelry. For more information, contact Mr. Stookesberry at hillsdalenyparks@gmail.com.

The flea market takes place in the Hillsdale Hamlet Park, just southwest of the traffic light at the intersection of State routes 22 and 23. For more information or a vendor application, contact the organizers at hillsdalenyparks@gmail.com.

Vendors have two options: a \$40 donation for a 15-by-15-foot space, with one parking spot next to the booth, or \$25 for a 10-by-10-foot space, with the requirement that vehicles be unloaded and parked in a designated spot. Vendors must supply their own table, small tent or other items. The market is held on grass.

The market will open at 9 a.m. for early-bird shoppers who give a donation of \$10/person. Money raised from the early birds benefits Hillsdale Fire Company #1. The fire company will also be raising funds by serving breakfast sandwiches and coffee at the event.

The market will be open free to the public from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. As this is an outdoor event, the rain date for severe weather is Sunday, May 26 at the same times. Notice of a rain delay will be posted on Hillsdale's Facebook pages as well as the town website <https://hillsdaleny.com> and other social media outlets.



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Obituaries

Robert W. Burns (1981 - 2024)

HILLSDALE – Robert W. Burns, 42, better known as “Rob,” died Monday morning, April 23, 2024 at his home in Hillsdale, after a 15-month battle with cancer.

He was born October 31, 1981 in Great Barrington, MA, where he attended local schools.

He was a very active member of his community. He was second assistant chief of the Hilldale Fire Company and was a Copake Rescue Squad board member. He was a wrestling coach as well as a mentor.

He worked for the Taghkanic Highway Department.



Rob Burns

He is survived by: his son, Robert Burns, Jr.; brother, Ethan Hendrick; sister, Shawna Hamblin and his girlfriend, Maggie McBroom.

He was predeceased by: his mother, Sharon (Gleason) Hamblin, and his maternal grandparents, Don and Grace Gleason.

His family received friends

April 29 at the Finnerty & Stevens Funeral Home in Great Barrington, MA.

A graveside service was held April 30 at Hillside Cemetery, 177 Egremont Plain Road, Egremont, MA.

A reception followed at Hillsdale Fire Company, 9387 State Route 22, Hillsdale. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Hillsdale Fire Department for a scholarship fund in his memory c/o Finnerty & Stevens Funeral Home, 426 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230. To send remembrances to his family visit www.finnertyandstevens.com

Phillip E. Hamm (1941 - 2024)

MELLENVILLE – Phillip E. Hamm, 82, of Mellenville entered into eternal rest April 25, 2024 surrounded by his family. Born in Catskill, July 31, 1941 to the late Robert and Myrtle (Finch) Hamm. “Phil” is survived by: his loving wife of 62 years, Patricia A. (Mossman) Hamm at home; daughters, Melissa Mastro and Diane (David) Delamater; grandchildren, Anthony and Nicole Mastro, Darren (Elizabeth) Delamater and Daniel Delamater as well as five great-grandchildren.

After graduating from Ockawamick High School, he



Phil Hamm

became a master mason in the Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen Union Local #6. He was well-known for his expertise and pride in the trade. Throughout his life he enjoyed being outdoors and had a great appreciation for the beauty of nature. He spent time skiing out West, hunting,

fishing, camping and gardening. He had a special fondness for the ocean where he snorkeled and became certified to scuba dive in the Florida Keys. In his later years he found great pleasure sailing his boat with his First Mate Patricia, his wife. Calling hours were April 29, 2024 at the Sacco Funeral Home, 700 Town Hall Drive, Greenport. Services followed with Pastor Ken Coddington officiating. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to stjude.org/donate or to the Columbia-Greene Humane Society, 111 Humane Society Road, Hudson 12534.

W. George Grant (1951 - 2024)

ALBANY – Lifelong Chatham resident, Willard George Grant, known to all as George, died unexpectedly at 72, after complications from surgery at Albany Medical Center, April 24.

A Chatham High School graduate, he went on to attend Columbia-Greene Community College. He worked as an expert on oil tank installation and later became the owner and operator of the landscape and property management company Mowin’ By George/ Plowin’ By George. He was a long serving member of the Chatham Fire Department and Chatham Rescue Squad, served as a trustee for the Village of Chatham and was on Crellin Park’s board. He played saxophone in the CCS band and as a member of the



George Grant

Ghent Band. Besides his big and warm personality, he also had a unique and remarkable ability to identify challenges and find solutions that eluded others.

A lifelong classic car enthusiast, he loved restoring antique cars and was actively involved in the Columbia Car Club. He was a racecar fan, spent many happy moments at Lebanon Valley Speedway, and was a NASCAR enthusiast. He had a giant heart for both animals and humans, and always

had multiple dogs by his side or waiting for him at home. He enjoyed the fine food and even better company at Valatie’s Main Street Diner almost daily.

He was predeceased by his parents, Willard and Eunice Grant. He leaves: his loving wife, Ethel (Christiana) Grant; his sister, Katherine (Grant) Gannett; his brother, David; many loving cousins, nieces and nephews. Calling hours were April 30 at the Wenk Funeral Home, Chatham. A funeral service was held May 1 at the funeral home. Interment followed in St. James Cemetery. Donations in his honor may be made to the Chatham Fire Department or the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA. For online condolences visit wenkfuneralhome.com

Peter Michielen (1943 - 2024)

HUDSON – Peter Michielen of Hudson, age 80, passed away April 21, 2024 at home with his wife and daughter at his side. He was born in Rotterdam, Netherlands, and he immigrated with his parents to the U.S. He graduated from Hudson High School in 1961. After high school, he joined his father in running the family dairy farm.

He was an avid bowler and competed in many leagues in Hudson, Catskill, Chatham and East Greenbush.

He is survived by: his wife of 59 years, Judy (Pomeroy); his three daughters, Jennifer Michielen (Eric Arlund), Vanessa Ort (David) and Melanie Boone (Berthold); five grandchildren, Anna, Peter, Linus, Zach, Lauren; his



Peter Michielen

brother, Hans and many cousins in the Netherlands. He was predeceased by: his mother, Cornelia (Kropmans) and his father, John Michielen.

A memorial service will be held at the Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack, May 18, 2024 at 2 p.m. All are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Parkinson’s Foundation. Visit www.batesanderson.com to leave condolences.

Kenneth Every (1947 - 2024)

ALBANY – Kenneth “Butch” Every passed away peacefully, April 27, 2024 at St. Peter’s Hospital after a brief illness. Born March 2, 1947 in Pittsfield, MA, he was the son of the late Kenneth and Mary Garzone Every.

He was a graduate of Chatham High School and excelled in basketball there. He went on to participate in many area sports leagues: County Men’s Softball, golf and bowling. He spent many fun times with his family and good friends, playing cards and watching sports. In his later years, he especially enjoyed reminiscing with his buddies on his front porch, enjoying a cold beer.

He is survived by: his sister, Joanne Every Dixon; his nieces, Shari Franks and Kelly (Nick) Baccaro; his nephews, Kevin Dixon, Ron (Sandi)



Butch Every

Dixon and Corey (Jodi Munson) Dixon; several grand-nephews, -nieces and cousins.

There will be no calling hours, a memorial service will take place Saturday, May 4 from 11 a.m. to noon at the French, Gifford, Preiter & Blasl Funeral Home, Chatham. The family thanks the staff at Columbia Memorial Hospital and St. Peter’s Hospital for their kind and attentive care. Contributions in Mr. Every’s name may be made to the Morris Memorial Association. Condolences may be conveyed at frenchblasl.com.

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Obituaries

Maureen E.R. Commisa

VALATIE – Maureen Elizabeth Rielly Commisa, 76, passed peacefully April 24, 2024 after a courageous 11-year battle with cancer. She was surrounded by those she loved at her home in Valatie.

She was a beloved mother, grandmother, sister and friend. Born in Troy, she grew up in Scarsdale, and raised her children in Valatie. She worked with her family at Rielly Company for many years before she fearlessly moved west and built a whole new life. “Reen” expanded her career, met new friends who became family to her and fell in love with the Southwest. She traveled as often as possible before retiring to the Valatie area she loved most. A woman of many talents, she was a voracious reader with a passion for history both as a historian and one of her family’s archivists. A music lover to the core, she shared her enthusiasm with everyone.



Maureen E.R. Commisa

A true artist whose ability included multiple forms of expression; her talent was inherited by her grandchildren. Nature was her happy place and her muse; she never missed the opportunity to appreciate its beauty. She was always up for a drive to take pictures or chase sunsets. In spring she planned her garden. Summer was full of horse racing and she enjoyed all aspects of the sport. Fall brought hopes of the post season for her beloved NY Yankees and apple picking, and winter was full of family time, ice skating and joy of the holidays. She was also an amazing cook. She loved to discuss cooking and

recipes with her friends and family. She experimented with flavors, loved to use fresh herbs from her garden, and her pesto was always in high demand.

She leaves decades of fond and colorful fun memories to her family: Jenna Commisa, Dana (Greg) Gideon, Aimee (Chris) Chaves; her grandchildren, Keegan Williamson, Hannah Gideon, Gregory Gideon Jr., and Riley Chaves; siblings, nieces, nephews and friends. She was predeceased by her parents, Gerard and Barbara Rielly, and brother, “Jack” Rielly.

A celebration of life for family and friends will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to New Vocations Race Horse Adoption Program: New Vocations Memorial Gift. Arrangements are with the Raymond E. Bond Funeral Home, Valatie. Visit raymond-bondfh.com

James R. Mesick (1962 – 2024)

ALBANY – James Richard Mesick passed away April 28, 2024 at Albany Medical Center. He was born May 22, 1962 in Hudson to John A. Mesick, Sr. and Frances Gustafson Mesick.

He grew up in Chatham, graduated from Chatham Central School in 1980 and attended SUNY Delhi.

He worked for Callahan Outdoor Signs and WhiteCo Sign Company. In 1994 had an accident that left him paralyzed. Despite his paralysis, “Jim” went on to Hudson Valley Community College and earned a degree in com-



Jim Mesick

puter architectural drawing, while also weight training with Warriors on Wheels. He worked for the state as a computer architectural drawer until his retirement in 2018.

He is survived by: his wife of 10 years, Brandy Jackson Mesick; his son, Tyler James Mesick (Sara); grandsons, Joey,

Stevie and Alan; stepchildren, Corissa (Steven), Logan and Felicia; sisters, Patricia Mesick-Kiel (Brad), Christine Callahan Torrey (Marty); sister-in-law, Edie Mesick; many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by: his brother, John A. Mesick, Jr.; father, John A. Mesick, Sr.; mother, Frances Gustafson Mesick and stepson, Alan Keefner.

There will be no calling hours or funeral service as the family wants to celebrate his life with family and friends at a later date. Condolences may be conveyed at frenchblasl.com.

Sarah A. Holmstrom (2002 - 2024)

NORTH CAROLINA – Sarah A. Holmstrom, born March 14, 2002 in San Antonio, TX, succumbed to the disease of addiction April 28, 2024.

She was a bright, funny creative woman, who had hopes of one day becoming a math teacher. She fought the disease of addiction for years, attending rehab, 12-step meetings, and outpatient treatment. She was outspoken about the stigma attached to this disease, and unashamed



Sarah Holmstrom

to speak her truth. She was a graduate of Ichabod Crane High School. As a military child, she sacrificed selflessly as her family moved from base to base.

She had a love for the men and women in uniform, and an appreciation for the sacrifices they made. She was loved immensely, and her passing will be felt by many. She is survived by: her mother, Traci Kern; her brother, Zachary Donohue; her sisters, Rachael Kern, Casey Holmstrom and Leah Holmstrom. The family has chosen to hold a private memorial. Condolences may be conveyed at frenchblasl.com.

Work begins to replace boardwalk this spring

CHATHAM – The Columbia Land Conservancy (CLC) announces that construction is expected to begin on the boardwalk at Ooms Public Conservation Area, 480 Rock City Road, in May.

Plans for replacing the boardwalk have been reviewed by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and approved, ensuring the site’s sensitive wetland habitats and their inhabitants will be minimally disturbed during this process.

Construction of the new boardwalk is scheduled to begin in early May and expected to take eight to ten weeks. The boardwalk area will be closed during this time, but other trails will remain open. CLC thanks all site visitors for being patient during the construction season and treating the contractors with kindness.

CLC is contracting with Build Hudson, LLC to build the boardwalk. Build Hudson trains local young people in carpentry skills while engaging, mentoring, and employing young people. Apprentices are paid living wages and can eventually become partners and coopera-

tive owners of the business.

“We are so excited to start the next phase of this project. The new boardwalk is going to be beautiful, more accessible, better for the wetland, and provide more opportunities for enjoying the beauty of Sutherland Pond. Working with Build Hudson and employing local youth to build the new structure makes this a win-win!” Vice President of Conservation Heidi Bock said in a press release.

All are invited to join in a community celebration of the completed boardwalk June 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. as part of CLC’s new Let’s Get Out Together event series.

For more information about happenings at CLC public lands, join the email list at ColumbiaLand.org/info.

Construction was supported with funding from the New York State Conservation Partnership Program (NYSCPP) and New York’s Environmental Protection Fund. The NYSCPP is administered by the Land Trust Alliance, in coordination with the State Department of Environmental Conservation.

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Public Notices

COLUMBIA COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING, BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing on the proposed 2024-2025 Budget for the Taconic Hills Central School District shall be held in the Board of Education Room of the Taconic Hills Central School, Craryville, New York, on May 7, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. prevailing time. The budget will be available for review from May 7, 2024 to May 20, 2024 at the District Office located at 73 County Route 11A, Craryville NY 12521.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of the qualified voters of the Taconic Hills Central School District will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, in the Veteran's Community Room of the Taconic Hills Central School, Craryville, New York, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting by machine, early mail ballot, or absentee ballot on the following items:

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBER SEATS

To elect two (2) members of the Board of Education, each to a five (5) year term commencing on July 1, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2029 to succeed Board Members, Joseph Costa and Alicia O'Rourke, whose terms expire on June 30, 2024. The candidates that are running to fill the two (2) vacant seats are Joseph Costa and Jeanine Earnhart.

1. 2024-2025 BUDGET

Shall the Board of Education of the Taconic Hills Central School District be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the budget, for the 2024-2025 school year, in the amount of \$40,284,996.00 and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

2. FUNDING OF CAPITAL RESERVE

Shall the Board of Education of the Taconic Hills Central School District be authorized to (a) fund the Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$3,000,000.00, to be used for capital improvements or equipment, at a cost not to exceed \$10,000,000.00; (b) and to expend \$3,000,000.00 from the unallocated fund balance?

3. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – BUILDING & SITE IMPROVEMENTS

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to (a) reconstruct various District buildings and District sites, perform miscellaneous site work and improvements at various locations, and acquire original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose for which such buildings are to be used, including but not limited to replacement of roofing above the Lyle G. Hamm Performing Arts Center and replacement of HVAC unit above Aquatic Center and pay incidental costs related thereto at a maximum estimated cost of \$2,130,000.00 (b) expend such sum for such purpose; and (c) expend \$2,130,000.00 from the Capital Reserve Fund?

4. PURCHASE OF SCHOOL VEHICLES AND BUSES

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to (a) acquire three (3) small buses (two regular, one handicap), two (2) SUVs and one (1) truck with plow and at a maximum aggregate cost of \$515,000.00; (b) expend such sums for such purpose; (c) expend from the unallocated fund balance; and (c) levy the necessary tax therefor, to be levied and collected in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid received?

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the School District's budget for the 2024-2025 school year, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained by any taxpayer in the District during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the Annual Meeting except Saturdays, Sundays or holidays, at District school buildings between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prevailing time and also at said District Election. A report of tax exemptions, showing how much of the total assessed value on the final assessment roll or rolls used in that budgetary process is exempt from taxation, shall be annexed to the budget document.

The election and budget vote shall be by machine or absentee ballot. The hours during which the polls shall be kept open shall be from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., prevailing time or for as long thereafter as necessary to enable qualified voters who are in the polling place at 9:00 p.m. to cast their ballots.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications for early mail and absentee ballots will be obtainable and are returnable between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, from the District Clerk. Completed applications for early mail and absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days prior to the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, May 14, 2024; or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter, May 20, 2024. Early mail and absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on **May 21, 2024**.

A list of all persons to whom early mail and absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available in the office of the District Clerk from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., prevailing time on each of the five (5) days prior to the day of the election, except weekends, up to the day set for the election. Any qualified voter may challenge the acceptance of the ballot of any person on such list, by making his/her challenge and reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls. A challenge against an early mail ballot cannot be based on the reason that the voter should have obtained or applied for an absentee ballot.

The Education Law makes special provisions for absentee voting by "permanently disabled" voters of the District and any questions regarding these rights should be directed to the Clerk of the Board. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available in the office of the District Clerk from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., prevailing time except weekends, up to the day set for the election. Any qualified voter may challenge the acceptance of the ballot of any person on such list, by making his/her challenge and reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Education Law also makes special provisions for absentee voting for "military" voters of the District. Specifically, the law provides a unique procedure for "military ballots" in school district votes. Whereas absentee ballots must be received by the voter by mail, a military voter may elect to receive his/her absentee ballot application and absentee ballot by mail, email or facsimile. If a military voter does not designate a preference, the board of education shall transmit the military ballot application or military ballot by mail. If a military voter designates a preference for facsimile transmission or electronic mail but does not provide the necessary facsimile number or e-mail address, the board of education shall transmit the voter registration application, military ballot application or military ballot by mail and request the omitted information. The military voter must, however, return his/her original military ballot application and military ballot by mail or in person, regardless of how the absentee application or ballot was received. The Clerk of the Board shall transmit the military voter's military ballot in accord with the military voter's preferred method of transmission, or if no preference, by mail, not later than April 26, 2024. The Clerk of the Board must then receive the military voter's military ballot by mail not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the vote.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a rule adopted by the Board of Education in accordance with Sections 2035 and 2008 of the Education law, any referenda or propositions to amend the budget, or otherwise to be submitted for voting at said vote and election, must be filed with the Board of Education on or before April 22, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. prevailing time; must be typed or printed in the English language; must be directed to the District Clerk; must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) of the qualified voters of the School District; and must state the name and residence of each signer. However, the School Board will not entertain or place before the voters any proposition if its purpose is beyond the power of the voters, or is illegal, or any proposition requiring the expenditure of moneys which fails to include specific appropriations for all such expenditures required by the proposition.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the qualified voters of the School District shall be entitled to vote in said annual vote and election. A qualified voter is one who is (1) a citizen of the United States of America, (2) eighteen (18) years of age or older, and (3) resident within the School District for a period of thirty (30) days preceding the annual vote and election. The School District may require all persons offering to vote at the budget vote and election to provide one form of proof of residency pursuant to Education Law section 2018-c. Such form may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a redacted tax return or any identification containing the person's physical address. Upon offer of proof of residency, the School District may also require all persons offering to vote to provide their signature, printed name and address.

Dated: May 2, 9, & 16, 2024
Craryville, New York
Alexsis Miller, District Clerk, Taconic Hills Central School District

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Dunn and Done LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/11/2024. Office location: Columbia. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Kristal Heinz, Esq.: 551 Warren Street, Suite 3F, Hudson, New York 12534. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Two Eighty Six Manor Rock Road LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/23/2024. 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 c/o The Company: 210 W 101st St. Apt. 10J, New York, New York 10025. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Bellwether Home Inspections LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/21/2024. 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 Secretary of State: 64-66 Harry Howard Avenue, Hudson NY 12534. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD TOWN OF NEW LEBANON COUNTY OF COLUMBIA

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Special Meeting of the Town Board will be held at the Town Hall at 14755 Route 22 in New Lebanon on Friday, May 3rd, 2024, at 5:00pm for the purpose of discussing the positions of Court Clerk and Deputy Court Clerk.

Marcie Robertson
Town Clerk
4/25/2024

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Betty and Ruth LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/22/2024. 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 Kristal Heinz, Esq.: 551 Warren Street, Suite 3F, Hudson, New York 12534. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Livingston Liquor and Wine, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/24/2024. 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 Kristal Heinz, Esq.: 551 Warren Street, Suite 3F, Hudson, New York 12534. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY SUMMONS

INDEX NO.: E012022019142 Date Filed: 04/16/2024 SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS WITH NOTICE MORTGAGED PREMISES: 1941 State Route 66, Ghent, NY 12075 a/k/a 1941 Route 66, Ghent, NY 12075 SBL #: 84-3-14.2 Plaintiff designates COLUMBIA County as the place of trial; venue is based upon the county in which the mortgaged premises is situate. STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF COLUMBIA M&T Bank, Plaintiff, vs. Columbia County Treasurer, as Public Administrator of The Estate of Catherine P. Arsenault A/K/A Catherine Arsenault A/K/A Catharine P. Arsenault; Tracey King, as Heir of the Estate of Catherine P. Arsenault A/K/A Catherine Arsenault A/K/A Catharine P. Arsenault; Stacey Brian, as Heir of the Estate of Catherine P. Arsenault A/K/A Catherine Arsenault A/K/A Catharine P. Arsenault; Unknown Heirs at law to the Estate of Catherine P. Arsenault A/K/A Catharine Arsenault A/K/A Catharine P. Arsenault, and all the heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, devisees, grantees, trustees, lienors, creditors, assignees and successors in interest of any of the aforesaid defendants, next of kin, distributees, devisees, grantees, trustees, lienors, creditors, assignees and successors in interest of any of the aforesaid classes of person, if they or any of them be dead, and their respective husbands, wives or widows, if any, and all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to plaintiff, except as herein stated; New York State Department of Taxation and Finance; United States of America d/b/a Internal Revenue Service; Whittier Health Services, Inc., d/b/a Whittier Rehabilitation & Skilled Nursing Center; John Doe #1 through #6, and Jane Doe #1 through #6, the last twelve names being fictitious, it being the intention of Plaintiff to designate any and all occupants, tenants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises being foreclosed herein Defendants. TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Amended Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Amended Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the attorneys for the Plaintiff within 20 days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING PAYMENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. THE OBJECT of the above captioned action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure \$176,000.00 and interest, recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Columbia on October 18, 2005 in Book 554, Page 2014, covering premises known as 1941 State Route 66, Ghent, NY 12075 a/k/a 1941 Route 66, Ghent, NY 12075, SBL #: 84-3-14.2 The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above. The Plaintiff also seeks a deficiency judgment against the Defendants and for any debt secured by said Mortgage which is not satisfied by the proceeds of the sale of said premises. TO the Defendants Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Catherine P. Arsenault A/K/A Catherine Arsenault A/K/A Catharine P. Arsenault, and all the heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, devisees, grantees, trustees, lienors, creditors, assignees and successors in interest of any of the aforesaid defendants, next of kin, distributees, devisees, grantees, trustees, lienors, creditors, assignees and successors in interest of any of the aforesaid classes of person, if they or any of them be dead, and their respective husbands, wives or widows, if any, and all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to plaintiff, except as herein stated, the foregoing Supplemental Summons with Notice is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Richard Mott of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Columbia, dated and filed April 8, 2024. Dated: April 16, 2024 /s/ Deborah Gallo Deborah Gallo, Esq. McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC 420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 840 New York, New York 10170 Phone: 347.286.7409 Fax: 347-286-7414 Attorneys for Plaintiff, M&T Bank HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE NEW YORK STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT WE SEND YOU THIS NOTICE ABOUT THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY. SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME. IF YOU FAIL TO RESPOND TO THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION, YOU MAY LOSE YOUR HOME. PLEASE READ THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT CAREFULLY. YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT AN ATTORNEY OR YOUR LOCAL LEGAL AID OFFICE TO OBTAIN ADVICE ON HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF. SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE. The State encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. In addition to seeking assistance from an attorney or legal aid office, there are government agencies and non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about possible options, including trying to work with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by the New York State Banking Department of Financial Services at 1-800-342-3736 or visit the Department's website at www.dfs.ny.gov. FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS Be careful of people who approach you with offers to "save" your home. There are individuals who watch for notices of foreclosure actions in order to unfairly profit from a homeowner's distress. You should be extremely careful about any such promises and any suggestions that you pay them a fee or sign over your deed. State law requires anyone offering such services for profit to enter into a contract which fully describes the services they will perform and fees they will charge, and which prohibits them from taking any money from you until they have completed all such promised services.

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Public Notices

COLUMBIA COUNTY BID NOTICE

NOTICE OF INVITATION FOR SEALED BIDS, VILLAGE OF CHATHAM – WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP) IMPROVEMENTS: UV DISINFECTION SYSTEM REPLACEMENT.

Notice is hereby given, that the Village of Chatham will accept sealed bids for upgrading equipment, including replacement of ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system process equipment, at the Village of Chatham Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), located at 13 Brookside Ave., Chatham, NY 12037. Detailed drawings, plans, and specifications may be examined in person at the Chatham Village Hall, 77 Main Street, Chatham, NY or online through Eastern Contractors Association at (<https://www.ecainc.org/>) or through Dodge Data & Analytics at (<https://www.construction.com>). Bidding and contract documents may be obtained from LaBella Associates at 4 British American Blvd., Latham, NY 12110. For inquiries, or to request a bid specification packet, please contact LaBella Associates, Jackie Farrell at (518)-540-4934, ext. 7738. Only bidders who register with LaBella Associates will receive notification of addenda. The project requires compliance with New York State Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rate Schedule and anti-discrimination regulations. **Bids must be returned to the office of the Village Clerk for the Village of Chatham at Tracy Memorial Hall, 77 Main Street, Chatham, NY, no later than 2:00 pm on Wednesday, May 29, 2024.** Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked: 1. Enclosed is a sealed BID. 2. WWTP UV Disinfection Project. 3. May 29, 2024; 2:00pm. 4. <Company name>. Bids will be opened at the Village Hall immediately following the deadline for submission of bids. Bidders are invited to attend. The Village of Chatham retains the right to waive bid irregularities or reject any or all bids without explanation. Desiree Kelleher, Village Clerk

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COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

The name of the LLC is Copake Connect LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on April 3, 2024. New York office location: 1676 County Route 7A, 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: Copake Connect LLC; 37 Cove Road, Hillsdale, New York 12529. 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.

COLUMBIA COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

CHATHAM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CHATHAM, NEW YORK 12037 NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Annual Budget Hearing on the proposed 2024-2025 budget for the Chatham Central School District will be held by the Board of Education on May 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Chatham High School, located at 50 Woodbridge Avenue, Chatham, New York 12037. **NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN** that the Annual Meeting and Election of the Chatham Central School District, will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, in the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School gymnasium, located at 50 Woodbridge Avenue, Chatham, New York 12037, at which time, the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine or absentee or early mail voter ballot on the following items: 1) To elect two members to the Board of Education for two (2) 3-year terms commencing July 1, 2024, and expiring June 30, 2027, to succeed, [Beth Hover, Christopher Spencer]. 2) To vote on the annual budget of the Chatham Central School District for the fiscal year 2024-2025 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District. 3) To vote on the following proposition: **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND Shall the Board of Education be authorized to establish a reserve fund to be known as the Capital Reserve Fund, the purpose of which is to finance the cost of additions to and reconstruction of various District buildings, including site work thereat and deposit into the Capital Reserve Fund in each of the next ten fiscal years such portion of the unallocated fund balance as determined by the Board of Education. The ultimate amount of such Fund is \$9,500,000. The probable duration of such is ten (10) years; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Clerk is hereby directed to include notice of such proposition in the notice of the annual meeting; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.** 4) To transact such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting pursuant to the Education Law of the State of New York. **AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the election and budget vote shall be by optical scanner machine, absentee ballot or early mail in voter ballot. The hours during which the polls shall be kept open shall be from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. prevailing time or for as long thereafter as necessary to enable qualified voters who are in the polling place at 9:00 p.m. to cast their ballots. A copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required for the ensuing year for school purposes may be obtained by any resident of the District during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the aforesaid Annual Meeting and Election, beginning on, May 1, 2024 (other than a Saturday, Sunday or Holiday) at which the budget vote will occur. District residents may obtain this information at the office of the District Clerk at the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School, Chatham, New York, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., or at any of the following school houses in said District: Chatham High School, Chatham Middle School, and during normal business hours at the Chatham Public Library. **AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that petitions nominating candidates for the office of Member of the Board of Education are available between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., except Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, in the Office of the District Clerk at the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School, Chatham, New York. Petitions must be filed not later than 5:00 p.m. Monday, April 22, 2024, in the Office of the District Clerk. Each nominating Petition must be directed to the Clerk of the District and shall be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District or two percent (2%) of the voters in the previous annual election, whichever is greater. Petitions shall describe at least the length of the term of office, the name of the last incumbent, and shall state the name and the residence of the candidate and each signer. **AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that personal registration of voters is required either pursuant to the Education Law or pursuant to Article 5 of the Election Law. If a voter has heretofore registered pursuant to the Education Law and has voted at an annual or special district meeting within the last four (4) calendar years, he or she is eligible to vote at this election; if a voter is registered and eligible to vote under Article 5 of the Election Law, he or she is also eligible to vote at this election. All other persons who wish to vote must register. The Board of Registration will meet for the purpose of registering all qualified voters of the District pursuant to §2014 of the Education Law on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School lobby, and again on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. in the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School lobby to add any additional names to the Register to be used at the aforesaid election, at which time any person will be entitled to have his or her name placed on such Register, provided that at such meeting of the Board of Registration he or she is known or proven to the satisfaction of said Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at such election for which the register is prepared. The register so prepared pursuant to §2014 of the Education Law, will be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the School District and will be open for inspection by any resident of the District between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and by appointment from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Saturday on each of the five (5) days prior to and the day of the said meeting, except Sunday. The Board of Registration also will meet on May 15, 2024, between the hours of 4:00-8:00, prevailing time, at the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School, 50 Woodbridge Avenue, Chatham, NY, to prepare the Register of the School District to be used at the annual election or special district meetings that may be held after the preparation of said Register, placed on such Register provided that at such meeting of said Board of Registration he/she is known or proven to the satisfaction of such Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at the school election for which said Register is prepared, or any special district meeting held after May 21, 2024. **AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that applications for absentee or early mail voter ballots may be applied for at the Office of the School District Clerk. Applications for absentee ballots can be requested no earlier than April 22, 2024, and must be received by the School District Clerk by or prior to 4:00 p.m., (EDST) on May 14, 2024, if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter; or by or prior to 4:00 p.m. (EDST) on May 20, 2024 if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. All absentee or early mail in voter ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on May 21, 2024. The Education Law makes special provision for absentee voting by "permanently disabled" voters of the District and any questions regarding these rights should be directed to the Clerk of the board. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for inspection on each of the five (5) days prior to the day of the election (except Saturday and Sunday) and on the day of the election in the Office of the School District Clerk, during regular office hours between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Any qualified voter may challenge the acceptance of the absentee voter's ballot of any person on such list, by making his challenge and the reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls. The Education Law also makes special provisions for absentee voting for "military" voters of the District. Specifically, the law provides a unique procedure for "military ballots" in school district votes. Whereas absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots must be received by the voter by mail, a military voter may elect to receive his/her absentee ballot application and absentee ballot by mail, email or facsimile. The military voter must, however, return his/her original military ballot application and military ballot by mail or in person. The Clerk of the Board shall transmit the military voter's military ballot in accord with the military voter's preferred method of transmission not later than twenty-five (25) days before the vote, April 26, 2024. The Clerk of the Board must then receive the military voter's military ballot by mail or in person not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the vote. **AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that pursuant to a rule adopted by the Board of Education in accordance with §2035 and 2008 of the Education law, any referenda or propositions to amend the budget, or otherwise to be submitted for voting at said election, must be filed with the Board of Education at the District Office, 50 Woodbridge Avenue, Chatham, NY, on or before April 22, 2024, at 5:00 PM prevailing time; must be typed or printed in the English language; must be directed to the Clerk of the School District; must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District; and must state the name and residence of each signer. However, the School board will not entertain any petition to place before the power of the voters to determine, or any proposition which fails to include a specific appropriation where the expenditures of monies is required by the proposition. Deborah Pottenburgh DISTRICT CLERK CHATHAM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MARCH 2024



COLUMBIA COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION & ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING FOR THE KINDERHOOK (ICHABOD CRANE) CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education will hold the District's *Annual Budget Hearing* on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at Ichabod Crane Primary School, 2910 U.S. Route 9, Valatie, to present the proposed 2024-2025 budget to District voters.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the Annual Meeting and Election of the Kinderhook Central School District, (Ichabod Crane) will be held at *Ichabod Crane High School*, 2910 U.S. Route 9, Valatie, on *Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.* at which time the polls will be open to vote by voting machine upon the following items:

1. To adopt the annual budget of the School District for the fiscal year 2024-2025 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.
2. To elect three (3) members of the Board of Education, to three-year terms, commencing July 1, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2027 to succeed Jennifer Allard, Anne Schaefer and Jared Widjeskog, whose terms expire on June 30, 2024.
3. To vote on the following propositions:
 Proposition #2 Bus Purchase
 SHALL the Board of Education of the Kinderhook Central School District be authorized to: (1) acquire five (5) school buses, at a cost not to exceed \$665,654 which is estimated to be the maximum cost thereof; (2) expend such sum for such purpose; (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 416 of the Education Law taking into account state aid and trade-in value; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds, notes and/or installment purchase contracts of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$665,654, and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?
 Proposition #3 Student Board Member
 Shall the board of education of the Ichabod Crane Central School District allow a high school student to serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Board subject to the requirements of the Education Law? 4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting pursuant to the Education Law of the State of New York
NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money required for the ensuing year for school purposes may be obtained by District residents during the 14 days preceding the Annual Meeting (except Saturday, Sunday, or holiday) at Ichabod Crane High School, Ichabod Crane Elementary School, Ichabod Crane Primary School, Ichabod Crane Middle School, and the Central Administration Office (in the High School), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that petitions nominating candidates for the office of Board of Education member must be filed with the District Clerk between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., not later than 5:00 p.m. *Monday, April 22, 2024*. Each petition shall be directed to the Clerk of the District and shall be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District, and must state the full name and residence of the candidate. Information packets are available from the District Clerk.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that pursuant to Education Law Section 2014 personal registration of voters is required and no person shall be entitled to vote at said meeting whose name does not appear on the District's register or who does not register as hereinafter provided, or who is not registered to vote under the provisions of Election Law Article 5. The voter register shall include all persons who shall be registered for and who shall have voted at any annual or special District meeting or election held or conducted within the four calendar years prior to 2024. Individuals may register to vote with the District Clerk on school days from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the District Clerk's office. An individual must be registered at least five days preceding an election in order to vote in that election. The register of voters will be open for inspection between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday (by appointment) on each of the five days prior to and the day of the meeting, except *Sunday, May 19, 2024*.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Absentee Ballots may be applied for at the District Clerk's office beginning April 22, 2024; completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on May 21, 2024. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for inspection in the District Clerk's office on each of the five days prior to the day of the election except Saturday and Sunday. Any qualified voter present in the polling place may object to the voting of the ballot upon appropriate grounds for making their challenge and the reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Elections before the close of the polls.

The Education Law also makes special provisions for absentee voting by "permanently disabled" voters and for "military" voters of the District. Specifically, the law provides a unique procedure for "military ballots" in school district votes. Whereas absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots must be received by the voter by mail, a military voter may elect to receive their absentee ballot application and absentee ballot by mail, email or facsimile. The military voter must, however, return their original military ballot application and military ballot by mail or in person. The Clerk of the Board shall transmit the military voter's military ballot in accord with the military voter's preferred method of transmission not later than 25 days before the vote. The Clerk of the Board must then receive the military voter's military ballot by mail or in person not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the vote. **AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to a rule adopted by the Board of Education in accordance with 2035 and 2008 of the Education law, any referenda or propositions to amend the budget, or otherwise to be submitted for voting at said election, provided a proposition is filed with the District Clerk on or before April 22, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. prevailing time; said proposition must be typed or printed in the English language; must be directed to the Clerk of the School District; must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District; and must state the name and residence of each signer. The School Board will not entertain any petition to place before the voters any proposition the purpose of which is not within the powers of the voters to determine, or any proposition which fails to include a specific appropriation where the expenditure of monies is required by the proposition.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF KINDERHOOK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, COLUMBIA AND RENSSELAER COUNTIES, NEW YORK
Mindy M. Potts, District Clerk

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of 268 Forest Hill Drive Holdco, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/06/2024. 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 Jennifer Dundas: 57 Pumpkin Hollow Road N, Hillsdale, NY 12529. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of STONYKILL TREE SERVICES LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/02/2024. 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 Josh Wood and Johannes Zyga: 104 Black Bridge Rd East Chatham, NY 12060. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of CRYSTAL PEAK CONSTRUCTION, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/04/2024. 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 CRYSTAL PEAK CONSTRUCTION, LLC: 4375 County Route 7, Ghent, NY 12075. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Public Notices

COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

ASSESSMENT ROLL AND GRIEVANCE INFORMATION

Pursuant to Sections 506 and 526 of the Real Property Tax Law:

Notice is hereby given that the Tentative Assessment Roll for the Town of New Lebanon is completed, and a copy thereof is available at the Town Clerk's Office. The Roll may also be viewed online at www.townofnewlebanon.com and www.columbiacountyny.com.

Notice is hereby given that the Assessor will be in attendance with the Tentative Assessment Roll for the Town of New Lebanon on the following days:

- May 6, 2024 8-12 in person or phone appointment
- May 11, 2024 8-12 by phone appointment
- May 13, 2024 8-12 in person
- May 20, 2024 4-8 by phone appointment

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Assessment Review for the Town of New Lebanon will meet to hear and examine all properly filed complaints in relation to assessments of Real Property on May 29, 2024 1-4pm and 4pm-8pm.

More information is available @ www.townofnewlebanon.com. Meetings will be held in the meeting room at the New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 Route 22, New Lebanon, NY 12125.

Property owners needing to grieve their 2024 tentative assessment are strongly encouraged to submit their grievance application and supporting documentation to the Town Assessor prior to May 29th by mailing to Town of New Lebanon Assessor, PO Box 328 New Lebanon NY 12125

A publication containing procedures for contesting an assessment is available online at www.townofnewlebanon.com Or <http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/publications/orpts/grievanc ebooklet.pdf>

Dated this 1st day of May, 2024
Kimberly Smith
Assessor, Town of New Lebanon

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

The name of the LLC is Crowhill Orchards LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on April 4, 2024. New York office location: 4537 Crow Hill Road, Town of Austerlitz, 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: Crowhill Orchards LLC; 90 Riverside Drive, Apt. 2G, New York, New York 10024. 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.

COLUMBIA COUNTY BID NOTICE

Section 001110-ADVERTISEMENT FOR Separate sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Education, Chatham Central School District (herein referred to as the "Owner") for the Chatham Central School District

Chatham High School Capital Improvement Project
Bids shall be received by the Owner, in the District Office at 50 Woodbridge Avenue, Chatham, NY 12037, until 3:00 P.M., local time, on Tuesday May 21, 2024, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids transmitted electronically or via facsimile will not be accepted. All bids received after that time will be returned to the respective bidder unopened.

Contract 101: General Construction
Contract 102: Mechanical Construction
Contract 103: Electrical Construction
Contract 104: Plumbing Construction

The Architect for the Project is: SEI Design Group Architects, D.P.C., 2 Winners Circle, Suite 101, Albany, NY 12205. The Instructions to Bidders, Form of Proposal, General Conditions, Drawings, and Specifications may be examined at the offices of the Owner, Architect and the following locations:

- Construction Journal, 400 SW 7th St., Stuart, FL 34994, <http://www.constructionjournal.com>
- Syracuse Builders Exchange, 6563 Ridings Rd., Syracuse, NY 13206
- Northern New York Builders Exchange, 22074 Fabco Rd., Watertown, NY 13607
- Eastern Contractor Association, 6 Airline Dr., Albany, NY 12205
- Mohawk Valley Builders Exchange, 10 Main Street, Suite 202, Whitesboro, NY 13492
- iSqFt, 30 Technology Pkwy S., Ste. 100, Norcross, GA 30092
- Dodge Data & Analytics, 4300 Beltway Place, Suite 180, Arlington, TX 76018,

A pre-bid walkthrough will be held on **Thursday May 7, 2024, at 3:00pm** at Chatham High School, 50 Woodbridge Avenue, Chatham, NY 12037. **Contact Andy Davey for additional information, (518) 518-392-2400 x 4030.** Bidders for Prime Contract Work may obtain Contract Documents at the offices of **Dataflow, 2215 Central Avenue Schenectady, NY 12304 (518-463-2192)**, upon payment of a deposit of \$100 per set and a non-refundable shipping and handling fee for each set (make checks payable to Chatham Central School District). Electronic copies of the Contract Documents are available for download via the Dataflow portal upon payment of \$79 to Dataflow for each set as required. **NOTE TO BIDDERS: Post Bid: To obtain your refund, drawings and specifications must be returned to DataFlow, 2215 Central Ave Schenectady NY, 12304. - 518-463-2192** Bids shall be on the form provided in the documents, prepared in duplicate as set forth in the Instructions to Bidders and enclosed in an envelope bearing on its face the name and address of the bidder and the title of work to which the proposal relates. If submitting for more than one contract, submit each contract bid in separate envelope. Any Bidder upon returning such set in good condition within thirty (30) days after Bid opening will be refunded the deposit. Any Bidder after thirty (30) days after Bid opening or Non-Bidder so returning such a set will not be refunded. The Board of Education hereby reserves the right to waive any informalities and reject any or all Bids or to accept the one that in its judgment will be for the best interest of the school district. A Bid Bond or Certified Check made payable to the Owner in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Bid, subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders, must be deposited by each Bidder with his Bid as a guarantee that, in the case the contract is awarded to him, he will then, ten days thereafter, execute such contract and furnish a satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond, and the Bidder shall not withdraw his Bid for a period of forty-five days after the above date of Bid opening, and to guarantee the performance of all other obligations of the Bidders as set forth in Instructions to Bidders. Attention of the Bidders is called to the requirements as to the conditions of employment and minimum wage rates to be paid under this Contract as well as to other provisions set forth in the Instruction to Bidders. Work shall be commenced and continuously and diligently prosecuted immediately after contracts have been signed.

Contract Documents at the offices of **Dataflow, 2215 Central Avenue Schenectady, NY 12304 (518-463-2192)**, upon payment of a deposit of \$100 per set and a non-refundable shipping and handling fee for each set (make checks payable to Chatham Central School District). Electronic copies of the Contract Documents are available for download via the Dataflow portal upon payment of \$79 to Dataflow for each set as required. **NOTE TO BIDDERS: Post Bid: To obtain your refund, drawings and specifications must be returned to DataFlow, 2215 Central Ave Schenectady NY, 12304. - 518-463-2192** Bids shall be on the form provided in the documents, prepared in duplicate as set forth in the Instructions to Bidders and enclosed in an envelope bearing on its face the name and address of the bidder and the title of work to which the proposal relates. If submitting for more than one contract, submit each contract bid in separate envelope. Any Bidder upon returning such set in good condition within thirty (30) days after Bid opening will be refunded the deposit. Any Bidder after thirty (30) days after Bid opening or Non-Bidder so returning such a set will not be refunded. The Board of Education hereby reserves the right to waive any informalities and reject any or all Bids or to accept the one that in its judgment will be for the best interest of the school district. A Bid Bond or Certified Check made payable to the Owner in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Bid, subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders, must be deposited by each Bidder with his Bid as a guarantee that, in the case the contract is awarded to him, he will then, ten days thereafter, execute such contract and furnish a satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond, and the Bidder shall not withdraw his Bid for a period of forty-five days after the above date of Bid opening, and to guarantee the performance of all other obligations of the Bidders as set forth in Instructions to Bidders. Attention of the Bidders is called to the requirements as to the conditions of employment and minimum wage rates to be paid under this Contract as well as to other provisions set forth in the Instruction to Bidders. Work shall be commenced and continuously and diligently prosecuted immediately after contracts have been signed.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Stonykill Coffee, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/27/2023. 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 Anthony Lovenheim Irwin: 112 Hudson Ave. Apt. 1 Chatham, NY 12037. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

OK SOCIAL LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/15/24. 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, 3193 County Route 21, Kinderhook, NY 12106. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Henrik Billqvist LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 1/16/2024. Cty: Columbia. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Registered Agent Solutions, Inc., 99 Washington Ave, Ste. 700, Albany, NY 12260. General Purpose

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of 2690 HILLSDALE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/04/2024. 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 THE LLC: 2690 NY-23, HILLSDALE, NY, 12529. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of WALTERMIRE PROPERTY, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/29/2024. 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 WALTERMIRE PROPERTY, LLC: 123 Waltermire Road, Ghent, NY 12075. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Rolling Hill Farm Freehold, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/12/2024. Office location: Greene County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Rolling Hill Farm Freehold, LLC: 177 Loomis Road, Chatham, NY, 12037. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY BID NOTICE

Notice to Bidders The Board of Education of the Hudson City School District is accepting the submission of sealed bids for the 23-24 School Year Transportation Routes:

To Donald R. Kline GED Mondays & Wednesdays Only

Bids must be received by 9am on May 14, 2024 at which time all bids will be publicly opened in the district conference room of the Hudson City School District. Please reply by mail to Hudson City School District, Transportation Bids, 215 Harry Howard Avenue, Hudson, New York 12534.

Please call (518) 828-4360 ext. 2100 for specifications and bid forms. The District/Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part thereof.

Tabatha Biggane, Transportation Coordinator

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Lilac Fawn LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/17/2024. 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 David J. Sirani: 219 Konig Road, Ghent, NY 12075. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

M & C MEXICAN ENTERPRISES LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/18/24. 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, 701 Warren Street, #2, Hudson, NY 12534. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Yandik Brothers Green Acres Farm LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/23/2024. 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 Michelle Lawrence: 383 Pitts Rd, Old Chatham, NY 12136. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

WANT TO PLACE YOUR LEGAL NOTICE? Visit quickadcreator.com

COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

Part-Time Library Director - Philmont Public Library
The Philmont Public Library services a population of about 1,300. The Library Director is responsible for the operations of the Library and the development and implementation of its services and programs. Candidate qualifications include excellent skills in communications and customer service. Hours: part-time (25-30 hours/week). Salary: \$30,000 - \$35,000/year. To apply, send a cover letter, resume, and 3 references, one of which should be a current or recent employer, in one PDF to: librarytrustees@philmont.org A full job description: <https://philmontlibrary.com/director-posting/>

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Aguila Real LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 2/2/2024. Office location: Columbia County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 749 Columbia Street, Hudson, NY 12534. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Old Chatham FarmStays LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/23/2024. 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 Stephen Yandik: 269 Schneider Road, Hudson, NY 12534. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Copake Lake Outfitters LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/13/2024. 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 Reagan Anderson: 6 Washington Dr, Hillsdale, NY 12529. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Pro Canine Coaching LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/08/2023. 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 Anne Kaufman: 56 State Farm Rd, Valatie, NY 12184. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Fey Design LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/10/2024. 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 James Fey: PO Box 716, Kinderhook, NY 12106. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of The Hounds of the Cauterskill LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/13/2024. 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 The Hounds of the Cauterskill LLC: 122 Cauterskill Road, Catskill, NY 12414. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Wiljabob Farms, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/20/2024. 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 Jason Krzeminski: 220 Paradise Lake Road, Catskill, NY 12414. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Grounded Flower Farm, LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 03/18/2024. Office Location: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 177 Loomis Road, Chatham, NY, 12037. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Compass Fields LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/09/2023. 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 Emma Baiada: 235 Bradleys Crossing Road, East Chatham, NY 12060. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of PDK Bulldog Leasing LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/04/2024. 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 Penny Black: 49 New Road, East Greenbush, NY 12061. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Pelle Waldron Photography, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/29/2024. 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 Pelle Waldron: 3356 County Route 9 East Chatham NY 12060. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Formation of GOLF COURSE ROAD, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/11/2024. Office loc.: Columbia County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Joseph Kobzan, 441 Ocean View Terrace, Encinitas, CA 92024. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

J & K HANSON LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 4/5/24. Office in Columbia Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to PO Box 534, Nassau, NY 12123. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Principal business loc: 106 Silver Bridge Rd., Nassau, NY 12123.

COLUMBIA COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Divine Media Team, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on March 26, 2024. Office location: Columbia County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC at c/o PO Box 280, Austerlitz, NY 12017. Purpose: any lawful activity.

THROUGH THE WOODS

By NANCY JANE KERN

A dairy farmer “retires”

MY FATHER WAS a dairy farmer as far back as I could remember starting in the late 1940s. All the local farmers had a cow for milk, butter and possibly cheese which was mostly for family needs and not the main source of income. Our Town of Austerlitz had been a big sheep and wool area, probably because of demand and possibly because it was hilly and rocky with clay soil suited for these animals. Sheep could graze almost anywhere and eat almost anything. When demand for wool diminished my father decided the better paying dairy cattle farming was the way to go. He was recently married and needed to prepare for supporting a family. I remember seeing the skull of our farm’s last big Merino ram down in the corner of a pasture below the barn. It had huge, curled horns. My father said he was mean, and you couldn’t turn your back on him, or he would butt you flat on your face.

My father seemed happy to say goodbye to the sheep and start on a new career with cattle. We had a few mixed heritage cows and a big red and white Ayrshire bull, and then when he could afford it, he bought a few registered Holsteins (the black and white cows).

My mother didn’t like potentially dangerous bulls around so when the new artificial insemination service became available there were no more bulls. Artificial insemination also gave us access to some of the top Holstein bulls in the country via their frozen semen. We used nothing but the best until we had a small, but high-quality herd of registered Holsteins with great milk production. Back then we hand carried the pails of milk to the refrigerated bulk milk tank, and a good cow could produce more than 50 lbs of milk twice a day.

You had to become very strong to do this every day of the week, and at some point, we all did our share of it. By the 1970’s most of us kids had left home. My brother remained and decided farming wasn’t for him and became an auto mechanic. My parents were getting older and when my father turned 62 he decided to “retire.” We all felt awful to see those cattle loaded on the trucks; my father was quietly devastated. He couldn’t face not having his own fresh milk, so he kept one favorite cow that had a calf in late spring. It was a bull calf which would normally have been sent off to a local livestock auction. My father continued to get up each morning and milk this cow, and then milk her again before dinner. There was no way all that milk could be used so he let the calf stay with the cow and it got the excess. The calf grew fat, happy, and started eating grass with his mother. By fall my father suddenly decided if he had to go through all the work to milk one cow, he might as well milk the whole herd. It had been a good transition for him, but he ended it before winter. He found he could tolerate store milk.

The cool fall weather was always butchering time, so the last cow was sold, and the young bull was processed for our freezers. He had a happy summer of romping around, drinking his fill of milk, eating grass, grain, and



Nancy Kern

Young Holstein

corn, and produced what looked like regular beef. However, it was not. It turned out to be the most delicious beef I had ever eaten. We ate like royalty for almost a year and my father was a very happy man. He no longer had a herd to worry about and had much

more flexibility in his day. If the weather was horrible, he could do a little snow plowing and relax. As for actual retirement, it never happened. He enjoyed doing useful work of one kind or another around the farm all the rest of his life.

Public Notices

**COLUMBIA COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY**
Notice of Formation of Five
Fourteen White Birch Road
LLC. Articles of
Organization filed with
Secretary of State of NY
(SSNY) on 04/17/2024.
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 c/o
The Company: 528 White
Birch Road, Germantown,
New York 12526. Purpose:
Any lawful purpose.



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Letters

She hopes readers will flock to her views

To the Editor:

On a recent trip to several southern African countries, a guide led us on an incredible voyage through several national parks. We saw the most majestic animals including lions, zebras, giraffes, hippos and baboons. We learned the names of groups of these animals. Lions, of course, belong to a pride. Zebras belong to a dazzle. A group of giraffes are a tower. Hippos belong to a pod or thunder. Baboons had a very interesting title. Baboons belong to a congress.

Baboons appear to care for each other. They work together in the interest of the group. As

“intensely social animals, baboons work hard to maintain their large, well-run families and insist on order in their households.” “All five species of baboons are considered intelligent.” (Animalinyou.com).

Our Republican-led “Congress” should take cues from these highly productive animals. Or consider a renaming, something like a “cackle, the name for a group of hyenas. Or a committee, for vultures. Or just a bunch of lemmings (sometimes called a plague) following Donald Trump over the cliff. Consider the following, which the Republican-led congress has:

— Failed to admit that the Hunter Biden Investigation was a sham

— Failed to pass a Senate-passed bi-partisan border bill

— Failed to pass military aid to Ukraine in a timely way

— Failed to protect women’s reproductive rights

— Failed to protect this great country from the dangerous grifter called Donald Trump and the rest of his “plague.”

Start earning the title “Congress” or we will lose everything we hold dear, our Democracy!

Rena Liggio
Valatie

American Legion Women’s Auxiliary set to distribute poppies!

To the Editor:

Each year around Memorial Day and during the month of May, American Legion Woman’s Auxiliary volunteers distribute millions of bright red crepe poppies in exchange for donations to assist disabled and hospitalized veterans.

The poppies are mostly handmade by veterans who earn a small wage and who benefit from the therapeutic effects of making the poppies. Every American should see a poppy and instantly recognize it as a symbol for veterans and the sacrifices they have made in support of the freedom we are afforded in the United States of America. It is not just a flower with a label on it.... when you look at it, the poppy should bring tears to your eyes.

Everyone is asked to wear the crepe paper poppy with

pride as you tell others you remember those who served. Veterans are solid gold and the price they paid for our freedom must never be forgotten. It allows us to live in the greatest country in the world.

The Auxiliary memorial poppy is a blood-red emblem of the battles Americans fought for God and country; miracles purveyed and lives lost. This small flower looms large as a reminder of the sacrifices the nation’s veterans have made, and continue to make, for the United States of America. The poppy has become a symbol of honor and respect for military service past and present. Remember, honor and respect those whose lives were lost in service by wearing a poppy. Throughout the years, new wars have been fought and the tribute and tradition continue to honor new generations of

veterans. Poppies brighten the community, brighten the lives of veterans, bring smiles to those who wear them, bring funds for rehabilitation and bring joy to those who offer them. Joan Ostoyich, President & Poppy Chairman of the Jennings-Willets American Legion #346 Auxiliary, will put containers of poppies all around the town of Germantown during the month of May. Women’s Auxiliary members will also have them available at the Germantown Memorial Day Parade for donations. Each spring, the poppies return to show that freedom should never die. Some veterans lived, some died, but the poppy lives on. Get a poppy and help keep the memory of our veterans alive!

Joan Ostoyich
Germantown

Will money make the difference in House race this fall?

To the editor

Earth Day prompts us to ask what we’ve done to protect the planet that supports our lives. Individual actions matter but can’t remedy a global problem. However, in an election year our cumulative votes can.

Many pressing issues affect our daily lives, but now many increasingly relate to climate change -- fires and floods destroy homes and businesses, extreme heat sends vulnerable people to emergency rooms, and erratic weather patterns destroy crops.

Across our Congressional District voters acknowledge

this and want the federal government to do more. Recent polls found from 68 to 82 percent of voters in our NY 19 counties feel that way, a number capable of changing the outcome of an election.

Nonetheless Representative Molinaro downplays climate policy. On his campaign website he offers a vague nod to the need for a “smart balance of renewables, natural gas and nuclear energy,” as if he assumes his constituents won’t discover that he’s received at least \$97,402 in campaign donations from businesses in the Energy and Natural Resources Sector, \$56,809 of

which comes directly from oil and gas interests. His votes also function to obscure his views. He abstains on non-binding votes that denounce serious climate legislation, but on a bill to remove important clean energy funding from the Clean Air Act he voted Yes.

The difference between Mr. Molinaro and his opponent Josh Riley is stark. Take a look at Riley’s campaign website to see what someone who understands the problem says. Don’t elect a candidate who appears to mislead us.

Eleanor Saunders
Hillsdale

Lane reduction expected along Taconic State Parkway

TAGHKANIC – The New York State Department of Transportation is advising Columbia County motorists that one lane of the Taconic State Parkway southbound will close between County Route 10 and Exit 80 (State Route 82) in the Town of Taghkanic, beginning Monday, April 29, at 7 a.m., through Friday, May 3, at 5 p.m., to facilitate roadway paving, weather permitting.

Motorists are urged to slow down and drive responsibly in

work zones. Fines are doubled for speeding in a work zone. Convictions of two or more speeding violations in a work zone could result in the suspension of an individual’s driver license.

For up-to-date travel information, call 511, visit www.511NY.org or download the free 511NY mobile app.

Follow New York State DOT on Twitter: @NYSDOT and @NYSDOTHV. Find NYSDOT on Facebook at facebook.com/NYSDOT.

New Lebanon offers free water testing

NEW LEBANON – New Lebanon is a town of all wells, as there is no municipal water system. If your well’s water source is in bedrock or an aquifer, odds are your water is fine. However, E.coli can become a concern, and in that regard, the town is offering free water testing to its residents.

The New Lebanon Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) is assisting the town with the testing. To request a test, reach out to Donald at the CAC by email at nlcac.lamonca@gmail.com. In

the email, please share your address, contact information, any current concerns you may have, if you have any filtration on your water and the depth of your well if you know it. You will be contacted to schedule the test, which takes about 15 minutes.

The results will be sent to the landowner and are completely confidential. There are no state regulations which would force a well change, as private wells are not regulated.

If needed, the CAC can advise a well owner on remediation efforts.

Gardeners dig terrariums

Gardening in a small green space that is created in a transparent container was the subject of the Germantown Garden’s Club latest program. Club member and Master Gardener Linda Levitt (pictured) gave a demonstration on how to properly plant a terrarium including tools, suitable plant material, containers and design. Terrariums can be used to brighten up a home or give as a gift. They are also suitable for gardeners who cannot garden in a traditional way. Club meetings are free and open to the public.



Photo contributed

SOFT PAWS

By GUEST COLUMNIST RON PEREZ

New state bill helps abandoned animals

A NEW BILL sponsored by Senator Hinchey is worthy of support. Senator Michelle Hinchey (D-41st) recently sponsored a bill that would require property owners to inspect vacant properties within three days after the tenant's departure for abandoned animals. This would get my vote!

First let us make sure we're relaying correct information. This story first was published in other newspapers on Wednesday, April 11. The article had some incorrect information pertaining to abandoned animals. The story printed reporting referring to the

Agriculture and Markets Law Article 26 section on Abandonment of Animals as section 377; however, the correct section for Abandonment of Animals is 355. This is the section that would likely be amended to accommodate the new legislation. In addition, the newspapers also printed a quote stating that to "temporarily" abandon animals is currently illegal under Agriculture and Markets laws. I immediately received phone calls and emails asking what the above mentioned was referring to. So, for the record, under NY State Agriculture and Markets Law there

is no reference to "temporary abandonment." Under section 355, any person who is the owner or possessor or having charge or custody of an animal and abandons such animal is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

CGHS/SPCA has experienced numerous situations where animals at rental homes were left behind and the tenants neglected to notify anyone that there were animals still on the property. Sadly, some of these animals were found deceased. Pets that were found alive have been brought to CGHS/SPCA for rehabilitation and



Photos contributed
Roxy, pictured with CGHS/SPCA Adoption Counselor Sam Link, has been waiting at the shelter for over a year for her fairy-tale ending of a forever home. The CGHS is putting out an APB on this loving little American Staffordshire cross - no dog, especially one as sweet as Roxy, should ever have to spend a year of their life in a shelter when there are so many caring families out there who have room for her.

rehoming. Often in our two rural counties, rental homes are isolated houses without nearby neighbors who might notice and contact authorities if they suspect animals were left behind. Sometimes these include even large animals such as horses or farm animals.

So why do people leave animals behind? From our investigations, it is almost always financial issues that lead to the abandonment of animals. More specifically, they cannot afford veterinary care. Of late, you may remember Barney, the Cane Corso that was abandoned in eastern Columbia County. Barney was found on the side of the road incapacitated because of what was later discovered by the CGHS/SPCA medical team to be advanced osteosarcoma (bone cancer). Investigators found the owner and, when questioned, he stated he abandoned Barney because he could not afford medical treatment. To help combat this very familiar scenario, CGHS/SPCA offers low-cost veterinary services to the public through our Harold Grubin, M.D. Clinic and Health Center. This service has been immensely popular

and widely used by pet owners. I continually hear from our clients how much they appreciate this service, and that without us their animals would not receive medical treatment. We're thrilled to help. In fact, CGHS/SPCA is currently investigating the possibility of expanding the Grubin Clinic to a full-service Veterinary Hospital to serve low-income pet owners.

So, kudos to Senator Hinchey. I believe if this bill becomes law, it will save the lives of abandoned animals. In the meantime, to be clear - abandonment is NEVER an option. Anyone in Columbia or Greene counties facing financial distress and difficult decisions about their own animals can always call CGHS/SPCA to help figure out how to avoid abandonment.

Feel free to call us with any questions at 518 828-6044 or visit our website at www.cghs.org. Our Food Bank is open to any from the public in need of pet food or for those wishing to donate food from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily.

Ron Perez is the President/CEO and a Peace Officer and Cruelty Investigator at the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA. He may be contacted at ronperez@gmail.com.



Barbara Slate

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Items wanted

COLUMBIA COUNTY HABITAT ReStore is looking for donations. Are you doing home improvements? Do you have appliances, building materials, bathroom fixtures or kitchen cabinets that you are pulling out of your home or building site? Please email donations@hudsonrestore.org with pictures of items to be donated.

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HISTORY

By BRENDA SHUFELT, HISTORY ROOM COORDINATOR, HUDSON AREA LIBRARY

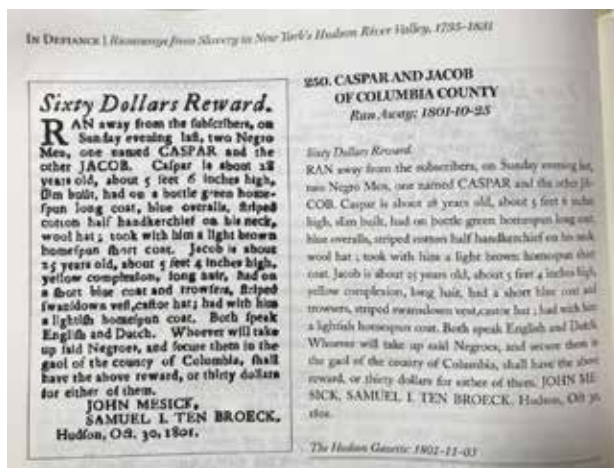
Caspar Freeman, Jr. and Sr.: Two Free Men

WE LEARN ABOUT the lives of well-known people through historic biographies but what about anonymous people throughout history, especially those whose voices have been silenced? We can catch glimpses of individuals from the past through research and following others' research into historic documents. Susan Stessin-Cohn, who is speaking on her book, "In Defiance: Runaways from Slavery in New York's Hudson River Valley, 1735–1831," at the Hudson Area Library on Thursday, May 9, 6 p.m. provides us with a great deal of information about persons who have been previously lost in history.

Part of the thrill of learning about and even researching history is when individual persons come alive through the, oftentimes, scant information we discover about them. Such was the case when I learned about Caspar Freeman.

In doing research for the Hudson Area Library's current exhibition, "A Dialogue Across Generations: Making Connections through the BLACC Collection," based on our Black Legacy Association of Columbia County (BLACC) Oral History collection, our volunteer Elaine Eichelberger came across xeroxes of the cover of a Deed Book and a couple pages of manumissions, legal documents in which enslaved persons were set free. I reached out to Holly Tanner, Columbia County Clerk, and, coincidentally, her records clerk, Denise Keegan, had just seen the manumissions in a Deed Book and Clerk Tanner referred me to them. This Deed Book at the County Clerk's office at Warren and 6th Street, contained 47 pages of manumissions of individuals in Columbia County that were "given" freedom. One manumission stood out in particular because a man, Caspar Freeman of Claverack, freed his own son, Caspar Freeman, Jr.

Then coincidentally, in preparing for Stessin-Cohn's author talk, I saw an image from the "In Defiance"



Photos contributed
A page from "In Defiance: Runaways from Slavery in New York's Hudson River Valley, 1735–1831."

book of the 1801 runaway notice of an enslaved person named Caspar. In this notice Caspar's enslaver is listed as Samuel Ten Broeck and the manumission from the Deed Book stated that Samuel Ten Broeck owned Caspar's son before another enslaver, George Crawford, purchased him. Caspar Freeman Jr.'s 1819 manumission states that Caspar purchased his son from Crawford five years earlier and he was now manumitting him.

The runaway notice details that Caspar ran away with another man and describes Caspar as "...about 28 years old, about 5 feet 6 inches high, slim built, had on bottle green homespun long blue overalls, striped cotton half handkerchief on his neck, wool hat; took with him a light brown homespun coat."

In the notice Samuel Ten Broeck then asks: "Whoever will take up said Negroes, and secure them in the gaol of the county of Columbia, shall have the

above reward [\$60], or thirty dollars for either of them." So, if these two documents are indeed about the same person, Caspar, at age 28, ran away in 1801 then in 1819 he manumits his son, who is now himself age 28. It seems that Caspar had a child at age 18, ran away ten years later and then, within 13 years is able to purchase his son (then aged 23), and legally manumits him in 1819.

I have spoken with Stessin-Cohn about this manumission and the tie-in with one of the notices she published in her book and she is currently researching the Freemans and has already found some information she promises to share during her author talk on May 9.

With or without more information, the questions that result from these two documents already give Caspar and his son life in our understanding and imagination. Was Caspar recaptured? Did he reach an agreement with Ten Broeck, his enslaver, to work for his freedom or did he escape captivity and earn money to purchase his freedom? What was the process (and the feeling!) of giving himself the last name of Freeman? (Stessin-Cohn told me she knew of other men who gained their freedom and changed their name to Freeman.) Did he have a wife (the mother of Caspar Jr.) and what happened to her? Were father and son able to communicate during the ensuing years between the time Caspar Jr.'s dad ran away and the time he purchased his freedom? What life did they have in freedom? Where are their descendants now and do they know of their ancestors' history?

"A Dialogue Across Generations: Making Connections through the BLACC Collection" is on view through June 30 during library open hours when the Community Room is open. Call 518 828-1792 x106 or email brenda.shufelt@hudsonarealibrary.org for a more detailed schedule. The Author Talk with Susan Stessin-Cohn on May 9 is free and open to the public.



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518: RATINGS WHIPLASH, TOURNAMENT NEWS, CLINICS AND LEAGUES

DUPR and the tournament software giant Pickleball Brackets came out with news - again - that they are teaming up and DUPR would be their rating system. Hooray!



518: PICKLEBALL CLUBS COMPETE, COURTESERVE TIPS, LEAGUES AND TOURNAMENTS

The 2nd Annual Dink for a Cure tournament is picking up steam. I am the tournament director on this event, which is raising money for the Arthritis Foundation.

DINK FOR CURE
PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE "DINK FOR A CURE" PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Registration is open for the "Dink for a Cure" pickleball tournament at Siena College on June 21, 22 and 23.

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