



Hudson River View

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Vol. IX Number 10 - Serving Northern Dutchess & Southern Columbia County December 2024

Postal Customer

United Methodist Church Community and Christmas Services

By Lisa Dudley

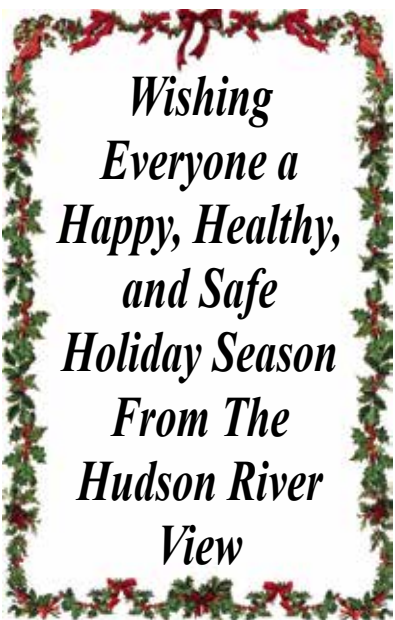
As you drive around the Hudson Valley you will see United Methodist Churches lovingly maintained and attended - with doors open where all are welcome. Cooperation is one thing United Methodist Churches (UMC) believe in. **Our Cooperative Parish** is called The North Western Hills Cooperative Parish consisting of 6 local churches: Rhinebeck UMC & Rowe UMC (in Milan), Rev. Nan Ernst, Director of Open Gate Coffee House Ministries. Red Hook UMC, Rev. Stephen Ernst and Parish Coordinator of our Parish. Pine Plains UMC, Elizaville UMC & Pleasant Valley UMC, Rev. Caroline Berlinger "As a Cooperative Parish we have been supporting each other by promoting and attending each other's special events that we offer to our community at large," says Rev. Nan Ernst, spokesperson



Rev Nan Ernst and Rev Steven Ernst

for the local Cooperative Parish. Here is a schedule of Christmas services, "with multiple times to make it easy to attend one that fits your schedule," she adds. **Our Christmas Eve Services** Red Hook & Rhinebeck UMC 7:30pm - Nine Lessons & Carols (Candlelight Service) Service held at Red Hook, UMC, 4 Church Street, Red Hook. Rowe UMC in Milan 5:00 pm. - Candlelight Service Pine Plains UMC 7:00 pm - Candlelight Service (Christmas Bizarre Dec. 6&7th) Elizaville UMC 4:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service Pleasant Valley UMC - Musical Celebration of Christmas

Continued on page 8



Pop-up Holiday Art Show featuring work by 35 artists at the coolest gallery in the Hudson Valley



Renee Samuels, *New Blue*, mixed-media collage, 5.5" x 6.8", 2018

Saturday, December 7, 1-3 pm
The ReInstitute
1395 Boston Corners Road
Millerton, NY 12546
Run by artist Henry Klimowicz
518-567-5359
TheReInstitute@gmail.com
www.TheReInstitute.com

Artists Choice ~ Member Selected Work

**January 10 – February 2, 2024
Opening Reception
Saturday
January 11, 2025**

The Tivoli Artists Gallery members will exhibit their imaginative works that challenge traditional notions of art. We will show their unique artistic styles, diverse mediums and thought-provoking themes. They will make free association between ideas, concepts, emotions, memories and symbols. The purpose is to promote the individual creativity of current and new members.

We have many new and accomplished members who enjoy the freedom of wild ideas. They have many years of experience and dedication to their art.

Please join us at our gallery during weekend hours or make an appointment for a weekday tour. **Hours:** Friday 5-8:30pm, Saturday 12-8pm, Sunday 1-5pm. 845-757-2667 at www.tivoliartsgallery.com.

Theatre on the Road's Interactive Dinner Theater Performance of "A Christmas Carol" Returns for Its 25th Year

The popular performance celebrates its silver anniversary with 13 performances of the Dickens classic (plus Victorian caroling) at select venues around the Hudson Valley

It wouldn't be the holiday season without Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," and it wouldn't be a Hudson Valley holiday season without Theatre on the Road's live performance of the nostalgic classic.

For 25 years, Theatre on the Road has been sharing their family-friendly tribute at some of the region's most loved venues, and next month the traveling theater troupe returns with a run of 13 shows over 11 dates (listed below) at locations including the historic Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck, the accessible Venue Uptown at the Best Western in Kingston, and the stunning Hudson House Distillery in West Park. True to the traditional tale,



Scrooge and Tiny Tim 2024

guests can experience the joy of Christmas as they're invited to feast with the Cratchit family: Bob, Mrs. Cratchit, Belinda, and everyone's favorite—Tiny Tim. In scenes right out of Dickens' classic novel, you'll be treated to visits from Ebenezer Scrooge, his Nephew Fred, the Man of Goodwill, the ghost of Jacob Marley, and the three spirits of Christmas. Included within the ticket price of this live and interactive performance is a three-course dinner and Victorian holiday carolers

Continued on page 3

THE WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS™ RETURNS TO RHINEBECK: SPARKLING HOLIDAY MAGIC AND SPECIAL COMMUNITY DISCOUNTS

November 28 through December 29, 2024



The magic of the holidays returns to Rhinebeck with THE WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS™, illuminating the Dutchess County Fairgrounds from Thursday, November 28 through Sunday, December 29, 2024. This beloved drive-through display, now in its fourth year, will once again enchant families and visitors with an array of festive light installations set to the sounds of the season, creating an experience that's both heartwarming and unforgettable.

This year, THE WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS™ offers an exciting new addition – Sensory Night. On Monday, December 16, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., the experience will be adjusted for children and adults with sensory sensitivities, featuring displays without strobe lights or animated effects to ensure an inclusive experience for everyone.

Nancy Sheehan, Executive Director of the Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce, expressed her excitement, stating, "We are thrilled to be able to offer this enchanting event to the community once again. The joy it brings to families and friends is truly heartwarming and knowing that a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Hudson Valley Make-A-Wish Foundation makes it all the more special. It's a wonderful way for us to give back to the community and create holiday memories. This year, for the first time, we are offering a special discount just for Rhinebeck residents on December 17 and 18 through our 'Rhinebeck

Continued on page 2

HOLIDAY WHODUNIT A "HISTORY MYSTERY" FOR CHILDREN AT STAATSBURGH STATE HISTORIC SITE

Staatsburgh State Historic Site will host the *Holiday Whodunit*, a mystery for children to solve on the first four Sundays in December. Children ages 6 to 11, and their family members, become detectives and solve a mystery by interviewing costumed interpreters, who portray Gilded Age houseguests and servants. Advanced registrations are required at www.Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS. One of Staatsburgh's most popular programs, the *Holiday Whodunit* has become an annual tradition for many families, who come each December to enjoy the holiday decorations and crack another Gilded Age case.

The *Holiday Whodunit* will take place on December 1, 8, 15, and 22, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (last reserved entry time at 2:30 p.m.). Advanced registrations are required at www.Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS.

Staatsburgh will open for holiday touring beginning Friday, November 29. Touring hours will be Thursday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. through December 23. The site will be closed Christmas



Eve and Christmas Day, and then will be open every day from December 26 through December 30. Site admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors; children 12 and younger are free. Parents should plan about an hour for the children to make their way through the mansion. After an introduction to the mystery, the children go room to room interviewing suspects to uncover clues. In each room, they find Mrs. Mills' guests or Mrs. Mills' servants, all of them eager to prove their innocence and implicate someone else. At the end of the visit, children submit a ballot with their vote for whom they suspect.

Continued on page 4

THE HUDSON RIVER VIEW ONLINE!

Visit our website to read our current edition, view our advertising rates and distribution, publication schedule and deadlines. Visit often to view updated and additional editorial received after publication and throughout the month. Hudsonriverview.net

The January Edition Of The Hudson River View Will Be In Area Homes On January 2nd The Deadline For Advertising And Press Release Submission Is December 18th

ACCORDING TO QUACKERS



Christmas Wishes For You

© Sherry Asbury
 May peace dwell with you,
 may prosperity huddle near.
 May family gather together
 without heartache or tear.
 There is a star shining
 in the night sky ... just there.
 It is for you to wish upon
 to keep you safe from care.
 May everything you need
 be yours to have and proclaim
 as you're due;
 just close your eyes
 and ask it in His precious name.
 Merry Christmas to you, friend.
 Let your season be a blessed one
 filled with love and cheer and
 more.
 Smile, laugh, and enjoy the fun.



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The Wonderland of Lights from page 1

Nights' promotion. Anyone using the code "CHAMBERS" will receive \$5 off their ticket for those two nights, making it an extra-special way for Rhinebeck to enjoy the festivities."

Tickets start at \$30 per vehicle for up to eight passengers and are available online at www.thewonderlandoflights.com or at the gate. Military discounts are available for in-person purchase with a valid military I.D.

Event Schedule:

November 28 – December 1

December 5 – December 8

December 12 – December 29 (nightly)

Sunday-Thursday: 5 p.m.-9 p.m.

Friday & Saturday: 5 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Make-A-Wish

Thursdays: December 5,

December 11, December 18

Location:

Dutchess County Fairgrounds

6636 U.S. 9, Rhinebeck, NY

12572

<https://www.dutchessfair.com>

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit www.thewonderlandoflights.com.

About the Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce:

The Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce promotes local businesses and fosters a vibrant community in Rhinebeck. Learn more at RhinebeckChamber.com.

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American Landscapes by Bennett Harris Horowitz

Art Gallery 71 is pleased to invite the public to view American Landscapes, a collection of works by this month's guest featured artist, Bennet Harris Horowitz. Horowitz explores the pictorial tension between flat geometry and the illusion of space in his large, colorful landscape paintings.

American Landscapes will be on display from December 6 – January 5, during gallery hours listed below. Please join us for the opening reception on Saturday, December 7, 4-6 pm.

Gallery address: 71 East Market Street, Rhinebeck, NY 12572

Gallery hours:

Fridays: noon-6pm

Saturdays: noon-6pm

Sundays: 10am-4pm

For more information, visit our website: <https://www.artgallery71.com>

Morton Memorial Library – Rhinecliff Fashion for Morton

Thursday, Dec 5: 4:00-7:00pm

Come to Morton and get some finery for all of your holiday shindigs. Women's clothes, shoes, and accessories for sale. The collection includes vintage and designer items. Check, cash, or PayPal accepted. Proceeds for the library.

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When you think about it, every season is tax season.



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Theatre on the Road's from page 1

as tableside entertainment both before the show begins and during the dinner break. Adapted from Charles Dickens' classic, the script was written by Theatre on the Road founders **Frank and Kristen Marquette**. Kristen is also providing her high-quality handmade costumes, while Frank, who is also the producer and co-director, will be sharing the role of the Narrator with Ellen Pavloff. **Marisa Gorsline**, who is co-directing this year, is a 20-year veteran of musical theater and acappella Victorian caroling. This 25th anniversary production also features the talents of Griffin Stanger, Bob Greffrath, Dennis Wakeman, Steven Giammettei, Erin Hebert, Heather Roland Franco, Joe

Maxwell, John Thayer, Scarlett Gorsline, and Georgie Berman. **The 2024 season lineup includes:** Sun., December 1 at 1pm & 5pm: **The Beekman Arms, Rhinebeck** Sun., December 8 at 5pm: **The Meadowbrook, New Windsor** Mon., December 9 at 6pm: **VFW, Kingston** Wed., December 11 at 7pm: **The Beekman Arms, Rhinebeck** Fri., December 13 at 6pm: **Historic Hotel Broadalbin, Broadalbin - SOLD OUT!** Sun., December 15 at 4pm: **Restaurant Six at Curry Estate, Hopewell Junction** Wed., December 18 at 7pm: **The Venue Uptown at the Best Western, Kingston** Thurs. & Fri., December 19 & 20 at 6pm: **Buttermilk Falls Inn, Milton** Sat. December 21 at

12pm: **Soyuzivka Heritage Center, 216 Foordmore Rd, Kerhonkson** Sat., December 21 at 7pm: **Hudson House Distillery, West Park** Sun., December 22 at 7pm: **The Eldred Preserve, Eldred** "This annual event has grown to become a Hudson Valley holiday tradition for many of our audience members, and we're thrilled to share the joy that this classic story brings," says **co-owner Frank Marquette**. Originally founded in Las Vegas, **Theatre on the Road** owners Frank and Kristen Marquette moved the company to the Hudson Valley in 2009. In the ensuing years, they cemented the brand's reputation for quality shows with high-caliber actors by performing at some of the region's top venues, entertaining nearly 100,000 people in seven states and two countries. **About Theatre on the Road** Theatre on the Road, founded by Frank and Kristen Marquette, offers traditional theatre pieces such as *Poe Live*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Whiskey Women*, *War of the Worlds*, *Dracula*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *A Taste of Shakespeare*. These productions, along with a selection of music, comedy, drama, and variety shows are available to be

performed at almost any location including cafes, restaurants, theaters, performance spaces, and schools. Theatre on the Road also specializes in "living history" and produces and performs at historic sites in Kingston, Hurley, Woodstock, and Rhinebeck, New York.

sewn, embroidered, knitted, crocheted, beaded, baked, brewed, cooked, quilted, woven, tatted, painted and more. Auction is open to the public. Bidding begins at 10:30am. All sales final; cash or check only, please.

Skyllkill Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America

On December 4th, the Skyllkill Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America will be holding its Annual Holiday Auction at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rt. 55, Lagrangeville, NY. Get a jump on your holiday shopping! Bid on new, unused handcrafted giftables that have been stitched,

Morton Memorial Library - Rhinecliff

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

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ACROSS

- Kill with kindness
- Two threes, for one
- Having land
- Ethiopian princess of opera
- Storybook monster
- Comedy alternative
- Advertising medium
- Similar to
- "Curb Your Enthusiasm" star
- Post-Thanksgiving fare
- Mocked
- Uracil stuff
- Balance sheet heading
- Contemptible coward
- Way down for mail or laundry
- Etching liquid
- "Once upon a midnight dreary" poet
- Deli order, sometimes
- Aussie avian
- Leave off the list
- Family symbol
- Regret deeply
- Equestrian beasts
- Geller of mind games
- Boyfriend
- Feature of heavy traffic, on the rails
- Apt rhyme for "anticipate"
- Touch borders with
- Teeny biter
- "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" writer
- Mathematical sets of points
- "Beetle Bailey" dog
- Inquired
- "Touching" Olympic event
- Sticky semiliquid

DOWN

- Pessimist's word
- "In ___ of flowers ..."
- Unpleasant smell
- Tug
- Coral creatures
- Nimble
- Rankled
- Popular snorkeling destination
- Accessories
- Ascot relative
- Carry on wildly
- Islamic leader
- Father figures
- Consumed
- Plumbing or carpentry, e.g.
- Suffered with dull pains
- Cause of a red face
- Describe concisely
- Fraternity vowel
- Topic of many a New Year's resolution
- Architectural recesses
- Stir to action
- Insolvency causes
- Summit
- Greek X
- Corinthian's cousin
- Clean with elbow grease
- Commit a faux pas
- Like a wolf
- Spoke from the soapbox
- McDaniel of "Gone With the Wind"
- Kind of jazz
- Draw forth
- Coffee, slangily
- Inspires wonder in
- Blemish
- Leafy vegetable
- Very excited
- "... and ___ the fire"
- Cold War-era alliance
- Word in an octagon

SANDWICHED By Gary Cooper

Solution on page 4

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Holiday Whodunit from page 1
 “We try to hit the sweet spot between not too hard and not too easy,” said Staatsburgh Educator, Donald Fraser. “We want a mystery that is easy enough that a 6-year-old could figure it out, maybe with some help from the parents, but not so easy that an 11-year-old would see through it right away. If the children pay close attention, they’ll pick up the

clues that will help them deduce the one right answer.” All ballots will be entered in a drawing for a prize, to be awarded after the *Holiday Whodunit* is over at the end of December. Winners will receive a \$20 gift certificate from the *Holiday Whodunit’s* sponsors, Oblong Books & Music and the Friends of Mills at Staatsburgh. Visitors can also enjoy a stroll along the Hudson River in Mills Memorial State Park

(the grounds of the mansion), and time to shop in the site’s award-winning gift shop, filled with toys, books, apparel and other wonderful gift items. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches and more, which saw a record 84 million visits in 2023. For more information on any of these recreation areas, visit parks.ny.gov, download the free NY State Parks Explorer app or call 518.474.0456. Join us in celebrating our Centennial throughout 2024, and

connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), and the OPRHP Blog.

The Claverack Free Library

invites patrons, donors, neighbors and friends to celebrate its fifth anniversary in its new building on Sunday December 15, 2024 from 3 to 5 p.m. The event will feature music, refreshments ... and of course, birthday cake.

Opened debt-free in October, 2019, the library made its new home in the completely renovated former-AB Shaw firehouse at the corner of State Routes 9H and 23B. The decades-long effort to expand the original 1,400 square foot library, which now temporarily houses the operations of the Claverack town board and town court, resulted in the creation of a new modern, light-filled facility that more than quadruples the size of the library. Board President Stephen

King acknowledges, “It was a very big lift, but the energy and commitment of the entire community made it happen. We are so happy to celebrate this anniversary with the whole town, and I hope everyone will stop by and say hello.”

Director Thea Schoep says, “This building lets us offer so much more to the community. There’s a beautiful conference room dedicated to Claverack history, our community room hosts yoga classes, bridge groups, and live performances — and as always we still offer a generous print collection and online and electronic resources.”

Mario Verna, chair of the Friends of the Library, credits the engaged participation of volunteers. “Volunteering for the library gives everyone a way to use their talents to make the library stronger. There’s a place for everyone here.” RSVPs for the event are advised but not required.

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Church Street Deli Copake	Craryville Xtra-Mart	Fairview Wine & Spirits	Hudson Polish Deli	

KEEPING THE HOLIDAY SEASON FUN & SAFE FOR YOUR DOGS

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It is hard to believe but the holiday season is once again rapidly approaching, and I would hope that we can all have happy and safe celebrations. Please keep in mind that good times with family and friends; decorations, parties, gifts and all the excitement that goes along with the holidays can be stressful for our dogs that don't quite understand what is going on. While we humans try to get more done in the time we have, our dogs may only see an upset to their normal routine, trees growing in the living room and, in many homes, an unusual amount of kitchen activity that produces amazing aromas.

HOLIDAY FOODS

While the array of food that comes from our kitchen are treats to be had by the humans, they can be dangerous when consumed by our dogs. These include fatty or spicy foods, bread dough, fresh herbs, alcoholic beverages and sweets of all kinds, especially those with chocolate or xylitol. Particularly dangerous are cooked poultry bones that easily splinter, and bone shards can cause choking or get stuck in your

dog's gums. Ask your trainer or veterinarian for suggestions.

Secure all trash cans and discourage your dog from foraging. While a small taste of turkey or sweet potatoes can make your dog happy, don't over do it. **DECORATIONS ARE NOT PLAYTHINGS**

Many holiday plants are poisonous, such as holly, mistletoe, poinsettias and amaryllis. Keep them out of reach from your dog. Snow globes can contain antifreeze, which is extremely toxic to dogs. Keep any antifreeze products away from your happy, tail-wagging dog. If there is an antifreeze spill, send your dog out of the room while you clean up the liquid. Dilute the spot with water and floor cleaner to ensure your dog does not lick the area later.

Don't leave lighted candles unattended. A lit candle knocked over by a swinging tail can burn your pet or cause a fire.

CHRISTMAS TREES CAN BE HAZARDOUS

Anchor the tree to the ceiling or wall to prevent it from tipping over.

Hang non-breakable ornaments near the bottom of the tree. If ingested, tinsel can twist in your dog's intestines and be deadly. Don't use it!

Christmas tree water may contain preservative chemicals, which can trigger severe indigestion in dogs. Stagnant clean water can breed bacteria

and cause nausea or diarrhea to the pet which imbibes. Don't let your dog drink water from the base of your tree.

Sweep up fallen pine needles regularly, as they can puncture holes in a dog's intestines if ingested. **HELP YOUR DOG FEEL SAFE AND RELAXED**

Most dogs get excited when guests arrive. To help your dog be calmer, exercise him prior to the festivities. After 30 minutes of walking or playtime, your dog will likely be relaxed or want to nap.

As a general rule, don't allow the family dog to greet unfamiliar guests since unusual activities and commotion can cause him extra stress.

Give your dog a break from the hub-bub by putting him in his crate or in a quiet room with his bed. Allow him to rejoin the festivities after guests have arrived. Don't put your dog outside, especially in cold temperatures, where you might forget about him.

Pets stressed by unfamiliar events typically pant more, so keep your dog's water bowl filled with freshwater. **PETS LIKE PRESENTS TOO**

Help your dog stay busy and out of the holiday trimmings by giving him fun, safe gifts.

Shop for puzzles, games and toys that require your dog to think and keep him entertained. **A FINAL NOTE**

Please, please, please don't give a pet as a surprise gift.

A cute puppy might seem like the perfect gift choice, but many of these holiday presents end up in animal shelters. Owning a dog takes a genuine commitment of time and responsibility, and adoptive owners must be ready to participate in training and other activities. If you are certain the recipient is up to the challenge and wants the responsibility, seriously consider giving a leash and a collar or a note saying a dog of the recipient's choice will come with it. This helps ensure the lucky person gets just the right pet to bring into the family.

Caution and common sense in caring for your dog during the holidays will help ensure a safe and happy holiday season for all. And the results? Happy Dogs = Happy Families

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For more information about Bark Busters, please visit our website at www.BarkBusters.com where you can take a free 20 question quiz to rate your dog's behavior. You can also contact Barbara directly by phone at 845-535-5302 and join in the fun by "liking" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/>

Non-insulin Alternative for Cats with Diabetes

By Julianne Porter, DVM

Diabetes mellitus, referred to in this article as diabetes, is a well-known condition among people. The CDC reports that 11.6% of the U.S. population has diabetes, approximately 1 out of every 8.5 people. Dogs and cats are at risk for diabetes as well. The exact numbers are more difficult to determine, but it is estimated that approximately 1 out of every 300 dogs and 1 out of every 100-200 cats may develop diabetes in their lifetime.

Just as there are different types of diabetes in humans, cats and dogs have different types as well. Type I is an insulin dependent form where the cells in the pancreas no longer produce insulin, resulting in elevated glucose (sugar) levels in the blood. Type II noninsulin dependent form is where the pancreatic cells have impaired function or the cells in the body are resistant to insulin, resulting in the same elevated glucose levels. Type III is much less common and is associated with pregnancy or hormonally induced, resulting in insulin resistance. Type II diabetes occurs in cats, but not in dogs. Type I and III can occur in both species, with Type I as the most common in dogs. In this article, we are focusing on a noninsulin treatment for Type II, which occurs in cats. It is important to note that the main treatment for dogs with diabetes is still insulin.

The most significant risk factor for developing diabetes in cats

Continued on page 10

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2024 Rhinebeck Farmers Market Scholarship Winners Announcement

This year's scholarship program has awarded a total of \$5000 to students committed to promoting agricultural and environmentally sustainable practices in the Hudson Valley. Named after Rhinebeck Farmers' Market founder, the John Honey Annual Scholarship is intended to support the education and future success of students dedicated to promoting local agriculture and enhancing the social, economic, and environmental sustainability of the Hudson Valley. The new Jeff Scales Community Advocacy Scholarship,

sponsored jointly by Long Wave Financial and the RFM board of directors, honors a student who is deeply engaged in environmental awareness and advocacy in the Hudson Valley. In addition to the John Honey Scholarship and the Jeff Scales Scholarship, four additional awards were granted by the scholarship committee. These scholarships can be used for any school-related expenses such books, academic fees, and tuition.

The RFM was established in 1994 and for the past thirty years has supported and promoted farmers, farming, sustainable practices and open space in the Hudson Valley. The Market is proud to report that over \$16,000 in scholarships have been awarded to deserving students since 2010.

The 2024 Grand Scholarship Winners:

Izzi Popolizio has been awarded the \$2000 John Honey Scholarship. Izzi is an environmental studies major at Bard College. She is passionate about sustainable food systems and looks forward to hands-on work redesigning agricultural

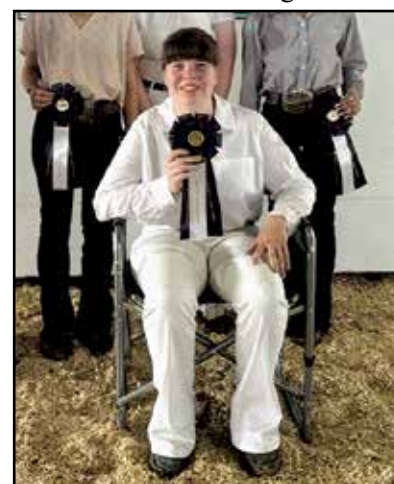


waste water production to render it less harmful. She has been a prime mover in the Anaerobic Digester Project at Bard.



Abrielle Hamilton has been awarded the \$1000 Jeff Scales RFM Community Advocacy Scholarship. She is deeply engaged in environmental awareness and advocacy in the Hudson Valley. Abrielle is finishing her undergraduate degree at SUNY ESF and will be entering a new program at the Culinary Institute of America based on the three pillars of sustainability: environment, society, and economics. She has been involved in public outreach and engagement,

connecting local farmers and businesses to help reduce carbon emissions associated with food transport while supporting small-scale agriculture.



Lauryn Menz has been a member of the 4H club since she was six years old, when she started showing dairy goats and hogs. She has held several officer positions in her 4H club. Lauryn is the 2024 recipient of the Master Showmanship Award at the Dutchess County Fair. Currently a student at Dutchess Community College, she plans to continue for a bachelor's degree in environmental science with a minor in

sustainability and conservation.



Annette Prezzano, now a junior at Cornell University, began her involvement with agriculture at a very young age. She is now working on an agriculture science degree with a concentration in business and a minor in animal science. She will be traveling abroad this winter with the Cornell Dairy Science Club to study dairy production and agricultural production techniques in Europe. Annette intends to pursue a graduate degree and then work toward establishing her own goat production facility with the hope of expanding and improving

Continued on page 7

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2024 Rhinebeck Farmers Market from page 6

overall goat production in the Hudson Valley and regionally.



Joshua Harkness is working on apple genetics with a focus on the evolutionary biology of several apple varieties for his senior project. While attending the College of the Atlantic, Josh has served as research assistant to a faculty historian and researcher whose work focuses on the conservation of heritage and otherwise rare apples in Maine.



Fern Schlitt is a junior at the Culinary Institute with a concentration in farm-to-table in the Applied Food Studies program. A hard-working student with a bent towards activism, Fern plans to pursue a graduate degree in sustainable food systems after completing the bachelor's program. Passionate about a vocation in food studies, Fern's self-described goal is "to improve our local Hudson Valley food systems and advocate food justice for the large and diverse population who live here."
Donate to the scholarship fund: To receive a tax deduction for amounts of \$500 or more make checks to: Good Work Institute & write "RFM Scholarship"

on the check's memo line. For donations of less than \$500 please make checks payable to: RFM Scholarship Fund. Please mail donations to: Dorothy Crane, RFM Scholarship, 78 Livingston Street, Rhinebeck, NY 12572. Donations can be made online via the Good Works Institute: [https://goodworksinstitute.org/projects.app.neoncrm.com/forms/13](https://goodworksinstitute.org/projects/app.neoncrm.com/forms/13)
About the Rhinebeck Farmers' Market

In 1994, a group of residents founded the Rhinebeck Farmers' Market. The goal then, as now, is to promote Hudson Valley agricultural products, support local farmers, and enliven the town and Village of Rhinebeck economically and socially. Hosted from our inception by the village of Rhinebeck in the municipal parking lot, our market has become Rhinebeck's Sunday morning gathering place - a weekly popup neighborhood to munch, meet, mingle, and revel in the bounty of the seasons. The Rhinebeck Farmers' Market is committed to investing in the future through our scholarship program as well supporting fresh food access for all. For more information on the John Honey Scholarship or the Rhinebeck Farmers' Market, please contact Andrea Bartolomeo, Market Manager, info@rhinebeckfarmersmarket.com or 845-479-2072

You're Invited to Germantown Garden Club's Christmas Market

The Germantown Garden Club will be holding its annual Christmas Market on Saturday, December 7, from 10 am to 3 pm and on Sunday, December 8, from 1 pm to 3 pm, at the Palatine Parsonage Parsonage, 52 Maple Ave., Germantown. The show will feature 'Winter Container Plants.' Houseplants from members will be on display along with information about how to grow and take care of them and will offer viewers great



ideas about what plants would be suitable to give as presents for the holidays. Some of them will be offered for sale. Also offered will be raffles of specialty baskets. There will also be a bake sale of delicious homemade treats. Hand-decorated, one-of-a-kind, fresh wreaths and table arrangements made by garden club members will be for sale. Come early. The wreaths are a best seller for the

club and sell out quickly. There will also be a Boutique Sale with items to purchase. Please attend to support us, as funds raised from this event benefit the club's local high school scholarship fund and other community donations and projects. Other holiday events that the club will be doing include the Annual Holiday Luncheon on Tuesday, December 10 at noon,

at the Palatine Parsonage, 52 Maple Ave., Germantown. At this meeting, the installation of club officers will take place. Members are asked to bring a gift for one of the residents at the Livingston Hills Nursing Center. Before the meeting, the annual Adorn-A-Door contest will take place. The club sponsors this holiday decorating competition for the senior residents at Palatine Manor in Germantown each year. Members will be judging this event and prizes will be awarded. The seniors are very enthusiastic about this and do a fabulous job decorating the doors to their apartments. For more information about these events, please call Irene Clum, at 518-537-4793. The Germantown Garden Club is a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc.



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God's Corner

The Night Before Christmas

By Naomi Fata

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse; The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there; These familiar words of a famous Christmas poem echo sentiments of anticipating the big man in a red suit, who lands his reindeers powered sleigh on your roof, and comes sliding down your chimney with a sack of gifts. It is the anticipation of wonderful gifts on Christmas morning that delights the children.

What if we redirected that wonder of anticipation to expecting the baby born in a manger? He also comes bringing gifts like salvation, eternity, and inner change. Santa's gifts will wear out and break within a few months, but Christ's gifts will last forever.

The magical legend of St. Nicholas dazzles children's attention to possibility and imagination, while Christ came quietly, without the flashy suit and fancy sleigh. This humble baby was not the representation of who people expected to be the Savior of the world. However, Christ's arrival could also be shrouded in mystery and possibility. Doesn't it seem mysterious that God planted his seed in a woman to conceive his Son? What about the mystery of inner change—that with Christ in us we have the hope of glory? (Colossians 1:27) This is the mystery that when we know Christ, He can exchange our hatred for love, our anger for compassion, our anxiety for peace.

Rather than focusing on the tangible gifts of Christmas, that are marketed through Black Friday sales, colorful paper, and the latest trends; the gift that Christ gives never needs to go on sale because it is already free.

It will never trend out of fashion because everyone wants to be free from hatred, anger, and anxiety.

The red man coming down the chimney is a fun story, but let's separate between the fairy tale and the reality. This Christmas let's anticipate the coming of Christ which is a mystery that can change your life. Instead of looking for the present you can hold, remember the gift of transformation as Christ changes you from the inside out.

On the night before Christmas who will you expect to arrive? Santa or Christ?

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF JESUS!

“And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10,11). **PROPHESIES OF JESUS' BIRTH FULFILLED!**

It was prophesied in the Old Testament that Jesus would be born of a Virgin 700 years before it occurred. “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign, Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14). The Old Testament prophesied that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). The Angel Gabriel came to Mary who was engaged to Joseph to tell her that she was chosen to give birth to Jesus. She was a Virgin and asked “How shall this be, seeing I know not a man.” Gabriel told her that the Holy Ghost would overshadow her and that she would conceive (Luke 1:26-38) Mary willingly accepted God's Will for her life. “And Mary said, Behold the hand maid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her” (Luke 1:38). Joseph was troubled when he found out that Mary was with child. He was informed by the angel of the Lord is a dream not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife. “Fear not to take unto

thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 1:20b). Like Mary, Joseph was obedient to God's Will. “Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and called his name JESUS (Matthew 1:24,25). **THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH**

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Eternal Word of God. “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (John 1:1). Notice it says very clearly that the Word was God. This is very clear in the Greek. The Apostle John also wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that the Word was made flesh. “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth” (John 1:14). Immanuel means God with us!

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS TO THE SHEPHERDS

Mary gave birth to Jesus in Bethlehem as it was prophesied by the Prophet Micah. Mary and Joseph were from Nazareth and had to travel ninety miles to Bethlehem for the registration because of the Roman decree of a taxation. They needed to go to Bethlehem because they were of the House and Lineage of David. Mary was ready to give birth to Jesus. When they got to Bethlehem there was no room in the Inn. The birth of Jesus was at a place outside the Inn. He was born and placed in a manger. When Jesus was born His birth was announced by the Angel of the Lord to Shepherds outside of the Town of Bethlehem. “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger” (Luke 2:11,12) The Shepherds went to Bethlehem with haste to see Him. The Wise

Men (Magi) came sometime later to see Jesus that was born King of the Jews. They came to Worship Him and present gifts to Him of gold, and frankincense, and myrrh (Matthew 2:1-12). **JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS!**

We are Blessed to know that Jesus was born of Mary, the Virgin. He was born in Bethlehem. Jesus is Perfect God-Perfect Man. He came into the world to save sinners. “This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief” (1 Timothy 1:15). The Lord Jesus Christ lived a perfect life, shared the Gospel, did many miracles and marvelous works, spoke the truth with authority, and reached out to those in need with compassion. Then at 33 years old He willingly gave His life by dying for our sins on a Cross. On the third day He rose victoriously over death and the grave. Salvation is a gift of God's grace to all who call upon the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13).

The best gift you will ever receive is the gift of salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ. He paid the price in full for our sins. Salvation is a gift of God's grace offered to all that believe on Him and receive Him into your life as Personal Savior and Lord (Ephesians 2:8,9). I trust that you will come to the Lord Jesus Christ today. I trust that you have room in your Heart for Jesus. “Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift” (2 Corinthians 9:15). If you would like to know more about the Birth of Jesus and the Blessing of being a Christian, please contact us. We are here to help and support you in what it means to be Christian, and the way in which to live the Christian Life. We have excellent Christian material for all ages. If you would like to know more about the Ministries at GBFC, please contact us by Email at fdcirone@aol.com or by telephone at (845) 876-2122 or (845) 876-6923. Grace Bible Fellowship Church is an Independent Bible Church. We are located at the intersection of Route 9 & Route 9G, 1/4 mile north on Route 9 in Rhinebeck, NY. Frank L. Cirone, Pastor.

United Methodist Church Community from page 1

Service, 3pm, Sunday, Dec. 22 and Christmas eve Candlelight Service 7pm “But Church isn't just about Christmas,” Rev. Nan reminds us. Here is a write up of local events which they call **Faith Communities in Action** including a Saturday evening weekly service in Rhinebeck: **Rowe UMC in Milan** Rowe UMC welcomes everyone to join their 10:00 am Service on Sundays. This past year Rowe UMC has been very busy reaching out to the local needs of their community by raising money at their Rummage Sale and offering the community to participate by offering them a free table of their own. Rowe's proceeds went to the local food Banks. Rowe also sponsored free events: The Vintage Visitors, Country Square dance at the Town Hall. Participated by having their own table in Milan Community Day where Rev. Nan Ernst was honored when asked to offer a Special Blessing over the Members of Milan Fire Department and their Equipment.

Rhinebeck UMC & Open Gate Coffee House Ministries

Praise & Worship every Saturday evening at 5:00pm. Friday Concert Series working with Ehren Hanson, CEO of Viewcy who is helping to bring the community together with Music/Culture from musicians worldwide. **Open Gate Coffee House Ministries - Everyone Welcome** Members from the Healing Ministry continue to volunteer 3 days a week Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10:00am - 2:00pm.

Women of The Vine - Friday, 2:00pm is a women's ecumenical group studying Women of the Bible. Fundraiser and Community Tag Sale every August. Music Events featuring musicians from our local area. Meet the Authors Night, Authors & Poets from our local area. Healing Ministry SHP (School Of Healing Prayer) Level 1 Class will be offered after the Holiday's TBA It's not too late to sign up.

Red Hook UMC Sunday Morning Service 10:30am Food Pantry - Open to the public every Sunday 12 Noon - 2:00pm Various Fundraising Dinners throughout the year Women's Bible Study Mondays 2:00pm **Elizaville:** Pasta Night, Dessert Night, All Saints Graveyard Illumination Service **Continued on page 11**

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Grace Bible Institute and the Women's Bible Study: Mondays 7:00-8:20pm
Children & Teen Ministry: Fridays at 6:45-8:30pm. Children & Teens 4-18.
Christmas Concert with Niah & Allisha Merrill: Sunday, December 15 at 6:00pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: Tuesday, December 23 at 7:00pm. All Are Welcome.
Grace Bible Institute: Winter Term Course offered: The Epistle of James. Classes begin Monday, January 6, 2025 at 7:00pm. For more information contact us.
For information about Grace Bible Fellowship Church, please call (845) 876-6923 or (845) 876-2122 or email us: fdcirone@aol.com

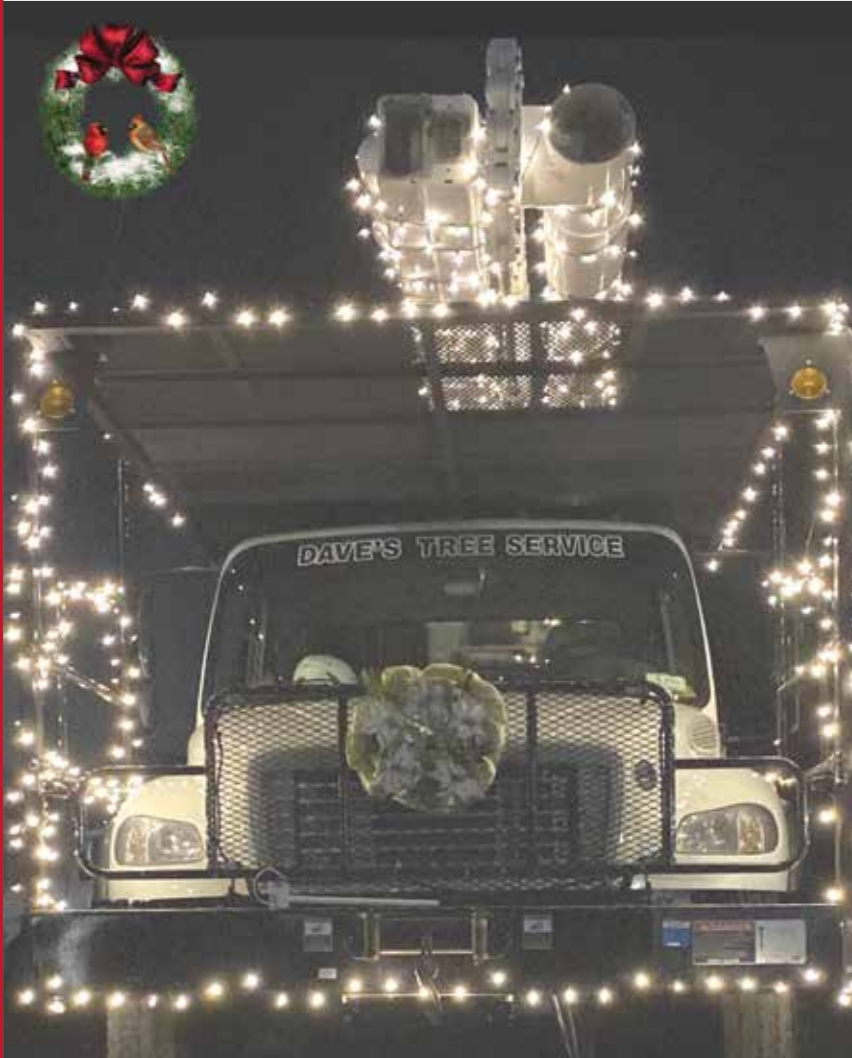
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HAVE YOU HUGGED YOUR TREE TODAY?

Insulin from page 5

is obesity. Age, inactivity, and the overuse of steroids can also increase the risk, but obese cats are four times more likely to develop diabetes compared to cats of a healthy weight. Male cats seem to be at a higher risk than female cats. There does not appear to be a breed predilection in the United States.

If your cat has been diagnosed with diabetes, the treatment is aimed at normalizing blood glucose concentrations, maintaining a healthy weight and healthy activity levels. Previously, insulin and diet were the combination used to achieve these goals, but oral medications have been developed for cats to reach the same objectives.

Just over this past year, medications known as SGLT2 (sodium-glucose cotransporter2) inhibitors were developed for cats, a class of medication used in humans for the past decade. These medications lower the concentration of glucose in the body by excreting it through the kidneys. This lowers the insulin resistance in the body and reduces damage to the pancreas, allowing the cells in the pancreas to make more insulin. It is very important to say that if a cat cannot make its own insulin, this medication is not appropriate, and insulin must be implemented to treat it. Currently, there are two approved medications in the United States – a liquid (brand name Senvelgo) and a tablet (brand name Bexacat).

Because of the requirement that a cat must still be able to make its own insulin, it is very important to discuss this treatment with your veterinarian, as it is not for every cat. There is no easy way to tell if a cat has type I vs. type II diabetes, so education and initial close monitoring are very important. These medications are approved for use in newly diabetic cats who have not yet been on insulin. If a cat is given this medication and they cannot make their own insulin, it will not help to control the diabetes, and the cat can become very sick.

Just as humans with Type II diabetes, it is important to make sure cats are on an appropriate diet. Foods low in carbohydrates are the most effective. Canned food is often preferred as there is increased water, which is beneficial to cats for several reasons including maintaining

a lean weight, regulating insulin levels, and improving kidney and urinary health. The option of oral medications to treat feline diabetes is very exciting, but it requires careful consideration and close monitoring. Be sure to discuss with your veterinarian.

A Gilded Age Christmas At Staatsburgh State Historic Site Nov 29 – Dec 30, 2024

Staatsburgh State Historic Site will present *A Gilded Age Christmas* from late November through December 30, featuring lavish decorations across two floors of a Gilded Age mansion. The decorations create a stunning and festive touring experience in the Beaux-Arts country home, one of the great estates of the Hudson Valley. Visitors can self-conduct at their own pace to enjoy the festive displays, and children can search for hidden mouse house tableaux and enjoy a scavenger hunt in the mansion with a prize on completion.

Staatsburgh will open for

holiday visits starting Friday, November 29. Reservations for an entry time are required, and can be made at www.Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS. Tickets are purchased on arrival at the site; only an entry time reservation is required in advance. The site cannot guarantee availability for drop-in visitors. Admission is \$10 per adult; \$8 for seniors and students; children ages 12 and younger are free.

Staatsburgh was the Gilded Age country home of Ruth Livingston Mills, a prominent figure in New York society, and her husband, financier and philanthropist Ogden Mills. Their stately home overlooking the Hudson River was redesigned and expanded to 79 rooms in 1895 by famous architect Stanford White, and contains its original furnishings, art and décor. Guests to Staatsburgh will enjoy decorations that evoke the spirit of the turn of the century. Staatsburgh's holiday décor reflects the style of Gilded Age Christmases, from the over-the-top dining room ornamentation to the old-fashioned plain white

Continued on page 11

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**United Methodist Church
Community from page 8**

Pleasant Valley: Always serving the community

Pine Plains: Blessings of The Animals. Collecting Cleanup Buckets for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) According to their website, "The **New York Annual Conference** is a regional unit of United Methodist churches and people" she explains. The conference includes all of Long Island, New York City, Connecticut west of the Connecticut River and an area on both sides of the Hudson River as far west as Walton and as far north as Chatham and North Blenheim. More than 100,000 people belong to the over 430 United Methodist congregations in this area. "As United Methodist people of the **New York Annual Conference**, we trace our ancestry to all but one of the

seven continents of the world: North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia. We have significant ethnic constituencies from South America, Africa, Central America, the Caribbean, Korea and China. "Our Conference provides opportunity not only for cross-cultural pastoral appointments, but also opportunity for the laity to gather in multi-cultural settings for a diversity of worship experiences and traditions. "Our music varies from traditional and classical to experimental, praise and gospel. Our prayers are always from the heart, be they formal or spontaneous. "We are a people of the Bible reading many translations and basing our life decisions on Scripture, tradition, experience and reason. We cherish our 270+year-old heritage initiated in 18th century England by John Wesley.

"Our faith vision focuses on the future God has opened for the people called United Methodist." Rev. Nan is proud of the UMC mission which states: "We strive to share God's love by creating safe places where all are accepted and welcomed, connecting the needs of people to the presence of God, and transforming the world through Christ. "We have a vision to see strong leaders who develop vital congregations that eagerly make new disciples, actively nurture existing disciples, and passionately advocate for the needs and concerns of all people. "Our core values are a deep love for God and unconditional love for all people. We value collaboration and partnerships that demonstrate God's love to a world that divides and alienates. We value relationships that foster accountability, excellence, and an ability to engage in open, honest, and respectful conversations. We value the hope that we have in Christ that, when discovered, brings us a unity of purpose, a joy that enlivens our spirit, and a peace that surpasses all understanding. "We strive to share God's love by creating safe places where all are accepted and welcomed, connecting the needs of people to the presence of God, and transforming the world through Christ." "We are a diverse people," she proclaims. "As always, we pray for peace on earth, goodwill to all." For more information, contact Rev. Nan Ernst, Pastor of the Rhinebeck United Methodist Church & Director of Open Gate Coffee House Ministries, 83 E. Market St., Rhinebeck, NY 12572, 845-516-5333, pastor.nan.ernst@gmail.com. www.rhinebeckumc.org.



Blogger. Staatsburgh's events are listed at Parks.NY.gov/Events. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches and more, which saw a record 84 million visits in 2023. For more information on any of these recreation areas, visit parks.ny.gov, download the free NY State Parks Explorer app or call 518.474.0456. Join us in celebrating our Centennial throughout 2024, and connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), and the OPRHP Blog



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Cheeseburger Soup



Ingredients

- 1/2 pound ground beef
- 4 tablespoons butter, divided
- 3/4 cup chopped onion
- 3/4 cup shredded carrots
- 3/4 cup diced celery
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes
- 1-3/4 pounds (about 4 cups) cubed peeled potatoes
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 8 to 16 ounces Velveeta, cubed
- 1-1/2 cups whole milk
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- Optional: Onion rings and thinly sliced green onions

Directions

In a large saucepan over medium heat, cook and crumble beef until no longer pink, 6-8 minutes; drain and remove from pan. In same saucepan, melt 1 tablespoon butter over medium heat. Saute onion, carrots, celery, basil and parsley until vegetables are tender, about 10 minutes. Add potatoes, broth and ground beef; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, covered, until potatoes are tender, 10-12 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a small skillet, melt remaining 3 tablespoons butter. Add flour; cook and stir until bubbly, 3-5 minutes. Add to soup; bring to a boil. Cook and stir 2 minutes. Reduce heat to low. Stir in cheese, milk, salt and pepper; cook until cheese melts. Remove from heat; blend in sour cream. If desired, serve with onion rings and green onions.

**A Gilded Age Christmas
from page 10**

gift-wrap paper used on presents heaped under the mansion's 18-foot Christmas tree. The tree is decorated with electric lights, as trees might have been in other mansions of the period. Tree lighting was an early application of electricity, first used by one of Thomas Edison's engineers on his Christmas tree at home.

Visitors can tour the mansion through December 23. The site will be closed on December 24 and 25. From December 26 through December 30, Staatsburgh will be open every day. The site's giftshop will be open during all tour hours, offering a wide range of books, jewelry, apparel, toys, and other gift items.

Staatsburgh State Historic Site and the Ogden Mills & Ruth Livingston Mills Memorial State Park are located on Old Post Road in Staatsburg, off Route 9 between Rhinebeck and Hyde Park. The historic site is one of 6 sites and 15 parks administered by the Taconic Region of New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. For more information, call 845-889-8851, or visit Staatsburgh's websites at Parks.NY.gov, Facebook, and

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The Old Dutch Village Garden Club makes some beautiful wreaths!

By Nancy Bendiner and Felice Gelman

The Old Dutch Village Garden Club, at its November meeting, learned how to make a stunning Christmas wreaths. Three very knowledgeable teachers — Jennifer VanVoorhis, an ODVGC member, with her mom Beverly Van Voorhis, and Lisa Teator-Gooderham demonstrated how to combine pine, ribbons, ornaments and other decorations for an impressive result. Battenfeld's, the well known Christmas tree farm in Red Hook, contributed interesting and varied materials so members were able to create unique and beautiful wreaths for their homes.

Beverly Voorhis and her husband Jim managed and owned the flower shop, E.A. Coon, right across from Northern Dutchess Hospital. Jim started working there in the 1960's and purchased the shop in 1981. The couple



ODVGC Ciska Hard with her wreath

retired in 1996. Lisa Teator-Gooderham works at Battenfeld's (as well as at Rhinebeck's Wonderland Florist) and built experience at E.A. Coon while she was still in school. Lisa's grandmother Ms. Teator opened the first flower shop in Red Hook. These local experts brought deft hands to wreath making. And, as you can see, the creation of the wreaths was accompanied by some real local history.

October's meeting featured a presentation by Amelia Legare, proprietor and owner of The Ozone Sustainability Center and native plant nursery Flower



ODVGC Jennifer VanVoorhis displays decorated wreath



ODVGC Jennifer VanVoorhis demonstrates how to decorate a wreath

Power on Pitcher Lane in Red Hook. Her nursery focuses on selling native plants rather than cultivars. (Do you know that most nurseries offer plants derived from clones?) Amelia explained how to promote biodiversity and support pollinators who are most likely to benefit and maintain their life cycles from native plants that they recognize. Offerings at The Ozone Center include educational workshops and a community compost program. To learn more, go to theozonehv.com and on instagram, @THEOZONECENTER.

ODVGC members are looking forward to their annual December Christmas luncheon, this year at Texas Road House, and to an interesting and informative series of meetings in 2025. February's meeting, on Thursday, February 13 at 12:30 will focus on pruning shrubs, a presentation by Michelle Decker. ODVGC invites the community to our meetings, held at 12:30 the second Thursday of most months at St.



ODVGC members decorating their wreaths



ODVGC image of native plants provided by Amelia Legare

John's Reformed Church, Upper Red Hook. Keep up with our activities on our Facebook page. We look forward to meeting you! Photos credited to Nancy Bendiner

THE MOVIEHOUSE

announced today a grant award totaling \$10,000 from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) to support the nonprofit arts and culture sector. Through New York State's continued investment in arts and culture, NYSCA has awarded \$82 million this year to 509 artists and 1,497 organizations across the state.

Continued on page 13



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- books,
- clothing (and merch),
- decor,
- experiences,
- food,
- jewelry,
- kids, and
- self-care/wellness.

By publishing the guide one week before Black Friday, we aim to support our local businesses in competing with the frenzy of online sales that peak the weekend after Thanksgiving. In addition to the online guide—which is easily accessible through the Chamber’s homepage—we’ll be sharing gift ideas on our Instagram account (@redhookchamber), and distributing printed postcards in Village shops.



The front of our promotional postcard



The back of our promotional postcard

The Moviehouse from page 12

“As the unparalleled leader of arts and culture, New York’s creativity and innovation inspires the world,” Governor Hochul said. “Our continued investment in our dynamic creative sector will further boost tourism, strengthen our local economies and continue New York’s success as a rich and vibrant place to live, work and visit.”

Executive Director of NYSCA Erika Mallin said, “On behalf of the Council and staff, I am so proud that we are supporting the critical work of so many nonprofit organizations all across the state, including work of The Moviehouse. New York State’s art and culture nonprofits make us a global leader, strengthening

our connections to each other and the larger world. I thank you for your dedication and service and look forward to all your work in the coming year.”

About the New York State Council on the Arts

The mission of the New York State Council on the Arts is to foster and advance the full breadth of New York State’s arts, culture, and creativity for all. To support the ongoing recovery of the arts across New York State, the Council on the Arts will award \$162 million in FY2025, serving organizations and artists across all 10 of the state’s regions. The Council on the Arts further advances New York’s creative culture by convening leaders in the field and providing

Continued on page 14

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Whether you’re new to town or a long-time resident, you’re sure to uncover hidden gems and endear yourself the shops and business owners that make Red Hook feel like home. We hope this guide becomes your go-to resource for holiday shopping that strengthens our local economy and community spirit! Happy Holidays everyone, Agatha Bacelar and the Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce.



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The Moviehouse from page 13

organizational and professional development opportunities and informational resources. Created by Governor Nelson Rockefeller in 1960 and continued with the support of Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature, the Council is an agency that is part of the Executive Branch. For more information on NYSCA, please visit arts.ny.gov, and follow NYSCA's Facebook page, on X @NYSCArts and Instagram @NYSCouncilontheArts.

End of an Era, Start of the Next

The Crandell Theatre is now officially, though temporarily, closed while we complete the long-anticipated renovation and restoration of the nearly 100-year-old cinema. After a flurry of packing and sorting and categorizing by staff, board members and volunteers, the movers arrived last Wednesday to collect the pieces of the Crandell's storied past and take



them to storage. Some of the more beloved items, like the 1970s-era painted red usher that stood for decades inside the front doors, are in very safe keeping with staff.

The Crandell Office will be moving to 2 Park Row in early December. They will be able to answer any of your questions during the closure.

We'll be sharing photo updates from the builders in future e-newsletters, now coming out on a bi-weekly schedule. Stay tuned!

UPCOMING OFF-SITE SCREENINGS

Dec. 14 @ 1 pm: FREE Crandell Kid Flicks/Winterfest Screening at Morris Memorial
The Crandell may be closed for construction and renovation,

but **Crandell Kid Flicks** is starting up a new winter season just around the corner at Morris Memorial. Come see the lovable and zany holiday favorite, **Elf**, at a free off-site screening, part of Chatham's 2024 Winterfest. Expect a visit from **Santa and Mrs. Claus!** Candy will be also available for sale. PLEASE NOTE: Morris Memorial has limited seating. Families are encouraged to bring your own blankets and pillows to spread out on the floor. **Mark you calendars:** Crandell Kid Flicks returns to Morris Memorial at 1 pm on January 12, February 9, March 9, April 6, and May 11.

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Have a Seat!

We are continuing to raise funds for the capital campaign into 2025. As we return the theater to its former glory and renovate the facilities with plush, comfortable seating, consider taking your seat among the 82 others to date who have already purchased a commemorative nameplate. It's an important time in the Crandell's history

and we want everyone who loves this theater to be a part of making its future happen. Why does this matter? Hear writer **Ralph Gardner Jr.**'s persuasive argument in **his recent commentary on WAMC**. The Crandell Theatre is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit community cinema in Chatham, NY. It is one of a few community-based, nonprofit theaters in the United States devoted to film and one of fewer than one hundred single-screen movie theaters nationally. The theater is supported by ticket sales and earned revenue, contributions of members and friends, and private and public grants, including the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. Since 2010, Crandell Theatre, Inc., has raised more than \$1 million to purchase the historic theater and make needed repairs. The current Crandell board is engaged in a multi-million-dollar campaign to renovate and restore the area's oldest, largest, single-screen theater and enhance the moviegoing experience for generations to come. For more information, visit crandelltheatre.org, or call 518-392-3445.

Germantown Garden Club Hosts Decorating for the Winter Months

At the November meeting of the Germantown Garden Club member Triona Fritsch presented a program on 'Natural Decorating for the Winter Months'. Triona spoke about and demonstrated how to use natural materials from the garden to decorate during the winter months. She incorporated elements of the garden in wreaths, garlands, dried arrangements and even Christmas trees in a fun way to a 'fresh' take on interior spaces during the holidays and beyond. This month's meeting was held on a Saturday morning. The club holds two meetings in the year on a Saturday for those members that cannot attend a meeting during the week.

The annual election of officers was held at the meeting: President Irene Clum, Vice-president Maureen Lockwood, Recording
Continued on page 15

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Germantown Garden Club Hosts from page 14

Secretary, Andi Brenkash, Corresponding Secretary, Kate Kennedy, Treasurer, Joyce Vale.

The agenda also included a discussion of the annual holiday events including the Adorn-A-Door competition held at the senior residence Palatine Manor and the 'Christmas Market' held the first weekend in December at the Historic Site in Germantown, the Palatine Parsonage. Plans for the 2025 year's program's were begun.

The Germantown Garden Club is a member of the Third District, Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc., Central Atlantic Region and National Garden Clubs.



Triona Fritsch member, Germantown Garden Club

For more information about the Germantown Garden Club meetings and its activities call President Irene Clum at 518-567-2191.

"The True Story of Murder Café" Tells the Good, the Bad, and the Hilarious Tales Behind Running a Murder Mystery Theater Co.

Frank Marquette, owner of Hudson Valley-based Murder Café, chronicles life behind the scenes of a 25+ year-old theater company, both on-stage and at-home, in his new autobiographical book.

For a quarter of a century, **Murder Café**, a Hudson Valley-based murder-mystery theater company, has entertained audiences near and far. And now, founder Frank Marquette is releasing an autobiography to tell the tale from behind the scenes.

On Sunday, December 1, "**The True Story of Murder Café: How One Family's Plunge into Mystery Dinner Theater Made the World a Better Place**" (*Troy Book Makers, \$20*) will be available for purchase both through Amazon and several local booksellers.

The book tells the story of Murder Café through the eyes of the Marquette family, their actors, clients, and audience members. It's filled with astounding anecdotes relaying the triumphs and challenges faced by the company during its ever-growing production; a testament to one man's obsession

and the smiles it's brought to everyone involved over the years.

Whether you've enjoyed a Murder Café performance, simply love theater, or are fascinated by the stories behind quirky family businesses, then you'll appreciate this tell-all story of how a middle-aged father of three living in Albuquerque, New Mexico decided to pursue his passion for acting by reluctantly auditioning for a local murder mystery dinner theater, and after becoming a featured player, eventually started his own company.

Murder Café originally enjoyed an 11-year run in Las Vegas before being relocated to the Hudson Valley, "where it's brought joy to thousands of people—including myself—since then," Marquette says. "I'm thrilled to pull back the curtain to reveal the real-life stories behind the production."

This incredible journey has involved every member of the Marquette family, hundreds of actors, and countless venues, and other live experiences, that are both dramatic and hilarious.

The book is currently available for preorder, exclusively in paperback, by visiting www.murdercafe.net. Once released, it can be purchased on Amazon or found at a variety of bookstores including Barnes & Noble in Kingston, Inquiring Minds in New Paltz, Oblong Books in Rhinebeck, and many others. Beginning in January, Marquette will host a series

of launch parties at notable venues in the Hudson Valley and Albany region, including: Restaurant Six at Curry Estate in Hopewell Junction The Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck The Best Western in Kingston Historic Hotel Broadalbin in Broadalbin

Over the last 26 years, Murder Café has entertained nearly 100,000 people in seven states and two countries, at hotels, restaurants, banquet halls, community centers, casinos, and historical societies. Murder Café has also helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for national charitable organizations like ARC, American Red Cross, United Cerebral Palsy, and the American Cancer Society.

Originally founded in Las Vegas, owners Frank and Kristen Marquette moved the company to the Hudson Valley in 2009. In the ensuing years, they cemented the brand's reputation for quality shows with high-caliber actors by performing at some of the region's top venues: Mohonk Mountain House,

The Beekman Arms, Hudson House Distillery, and more.

About Murder Café: Murder Café is the creation of actor, writer and director Frank Marquette along with his wife and producing partner, Kristen. They have been serving quality entertainment for both public and private events since 1998 and their menu includes: original and customized scripts, professional performers and singers, one-of-a-kind production values and the marketing and publicity skills needed to ensure the success of each event.

THE CRANDELL THEATRE IN CHATHAM, NY, AWARDED \$40,000 BY THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The Crandell Theatre, the historic single-screen, nonprofit cinema on Chatham's Main Street, is pleased to announce it has been awarded a grant of

Continued on page 16



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MILAN - 123 Acre Parcel. Great for hunting, motor sports or family compound. Rolling topography, has stream on property and is subdividable. Nice forest. 5 minutes from Taconic. Priced right at **\$699,000**. Call Tom

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HAVE A VERY Merry CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR

HAPPY HANUKKAH

The Crandell Theatre from page 15

\$40,000 from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) to support the nonprofit arts and culture sector. Through New York State's continued investment in arts and culture, NYSCA has awarded \$82 million this year to 509 artists and 1,497 organizations across the state. "As the unparalleled leader of arts and culture, New York's creativity and innovation inspires the world," Governor Hochul said. "Our continued investment in our dynamic creative sector will further boost tourism, strengthen our local economies and continue New York's success as a rich and vibrant place to live, work and visit."

The \$40,000 grant, awarded for the FY2025, will support Crandell off-site programming during the theater's temporary closure and regular programming when the cinema reopens in Summer/Fall 2025. To learn more about Crandell construction updates and

off-site programming while the theater is closed for renovation, visit <https://crandelltheatre.org/construction-update-newsletter/>

Executive Director of NYSCA Erika Mallin said, "On behalf of the Council and staff, I am so proud that we are supporting the critical work of so many nonprofit organizations all across the state, including the work of The Crandell Theatre. New York State's art and culture nonprofits make us a global leader, strengthening our connections to each other and the larger world. I thank you for your dedication and service and look forward to all your work in the coming year."

About the New York State Council on the Arts
The mission of the New York State Council on the Arts is to foster and advance the full breadth of New York State's arts, culture, and creativity for all. To support the ongoing recovery of the arts across New York State, the Council on the Arts will award \$162 million in FY2025, serving

organizations and artists across all 10 of the state's regions. The Council on the Arts further advances New York's creative culture by convening leaders in the field and providing organizational and professional development opportunities and informational resources. Created by Governor Nelson Rockefeller in 1960 and continued with the support of Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature, the Council is an agency that is part of the Executive Branch. For more information on NYSCA, please visit arts.ny.gov, and follow NYSCA's Facebook page (NewYorkStateCouncilontheArts) on X @ NYSCArts and Instagram NYSCouncilontheArts.

About the Crandell Theatre
The Crandell Theatre in Chatham, NY, is one of a few community-based, nonprofit theaters in the United States devoted to film and one of fewer than one hundred single-screen movie theaters nationally. Beginning in 2010, Crandell Theatre, Inc., raised more than \$1 million to purchase the historic theater and make needed repairs. The current Crandell board is engaged in a multi-million-dollar campaign to renovate and restore the area's oldest, largest, single-screen theater and enhance the moviegoing experience for generations to come. For more information, visit crandelltheatre.org, or call 518-392-3445.



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Village of Red Hook, NY: Two Family Investment!
Spacious duplex on a corner lot, plenty of yard & 2 Car GAR. Features two townhome-style homes w high ceilings & vintage details.

Large LR, KIT & Dining on 1st floor, three large BR'S & BTH up. Full Bsmt in each unit w laundry & storage. New propane heating. Live in one/ rent out the other or rent both! Minute to schools, Bard shuttle/Loop, restaurants, & shops. **\$595,000**



Germantown, NY: Two Family Investment!
Charming Livingston Barn framed

w flowing views of endless farmland & Catskill Mtns. Lucrative investment w 1 BR Apt. on the first floor & 2 BR Apt. on the second. Each tenant pays for their own utilities & shares common laundry. Red Hook schools w Columbia County taxes. 10 minutes to Hudson, Red Hook, or Germantown. **\$324,000**



Milan, NY: 7 Family Investment w Opportunity for Additional

Income! Full occupancy! **Unit 1:** 2 BR/ 1 FB. **Unit 2:** 1 BR/ 1 FB. **Unit 3:** 2 BR/ 1 FB. **Unit 4:** 2 BR/ 1 FB. **Unit 5:** 2 BR/ 1 FB. **Unit 6:** 1 BR/ 1 FB. **Unit 7:** 3 BR/ 1 1/2 BTH, Owner occupied. TOTAL of 13 BR'S / 8 1/2 BTHS. Property has been maintained to perfection & grounds have a Park-Like quality. There are several outbuildings that provide add'l income & versatile usage. Located within 10 minutes to TSP & Villages of Red Hook / Rhinebeck. Red Hook SD. **\$1,250,000**



Red Hook, NY: Charming Farmhouse Situated on 5+ ac., just minutes to the village! A charming front porch

g greets you as you walk into an EIK w gleaming HW Floors & plenty of cabinet space. Off the KIT is a Bonus Rm, perfect for an Office / Playrm. Separate Laundry w an abundance of closet space. The spacious LR guides you to a first-floor Primary En suite & a separate Sunroom to enjoy outside in all weather! This home has an array of charming details w modern updates including, new furnace, C/A, charcoal water filter & electrical system. Want more land? Boarding 4+ Acres is also for sale. Let's Make a Deal! **\$499,000**



Amenia, NY: Located in the picturesque, storybook town of Amenia is this Vintage 1930's charmer featuring modern updates w a comfy, country home vibe. Enter a welcoming entryway & enjoy convenient

built-ins to store coats & shoes. An open LR & DA w pellet stove for cozy, efficient heating, floats effortlessly into a sparkling KIT w Quartz counter, new cabinets & updated appliances. Gorgeous HW flrs, new windows, & recessed lighting create a bright & airy ambiance. Off the KIT is a spacious LA, guest BTH, & door to Trex deck, blue stone patio, & fenced yard. Mature shrubbery & plantings create a PVT oasis where the whole gang can gather around the fireplace. A large Primary, FB & 3rd BR complete the picture. Walk to the Rail Trail, shops, & restaurants, just a short drive to Metro-North. Webutuck SD. **\$439,900**



Red Hook, NY: Set at the end of a picturesque Cul de sac, just a stone's throw from the rec park,

& within walking distance to village! This lovely single level features a spacious entryway that flows seamlessly to open LR, DA w bright, cheerful KIT that boasts plenty of workspace, pantry & glass doors to deck. Primary En-suite is located on the opposite side of home making for its own pvt retreat. Gorgeous HW flrs & soaring ceilings create a light & airy ambiance. Oversized 2 Car GAR. The beautiful 1+ AC is a gardener's dream w garden shed, mature perennial gardens, vegetable garden, fruit trees & woodland. **\$485,000**



Rhinebeck, NY: Located in a friendly neighborhood & tucked at the end

of a Cul de sac sits this 1960's Ranch. A bright & sunny LR welcomes you in & has a brick FP that will warm your chilly nights. The formal DR is a place to gather & enjoy a great meal prepared in the "Betty Crocker" KIT overlooking the yard. The full w/o BSMT allows for add'l living. The yard backs up to woods for privacy w room for swing set, garden & pool. Minutes to Village, 10 minutes Kingston Bridge & TSP. **\$434,900**



Red Hook, NY: Privately set on 1+ AC., is this one level 3 BR/ 2 BTH Ranch. Chilly

winter nights have been spent cuddled up to the brick FP in the spacious LR, festive holiday meals in the formal DR & large Country KIT w Skylights & plenty of workspace. The screened porch invites you on a sultry summer day to sip lemonade w a good book. The full BSMT allows for future growth & 3 Car DET GAR is perfect for studio/ wkshp. The level yard is a perfect place to play / garden & backs up to a lovely forest. 5 minutes to Bard, Village, & Kingston. **\$399,000**



Red Hook, NY: Retro 1956 Ranch has a Mediterranean flare w a SPECTACULAR VIEW OF THE CATSKILL MOUNTAINS & steps to 1700 acres of "forever

wild" Tivoli Bays. The enormous LR has JAW DROPPING SUNSETS from a large picture window facing West, a pellet stove & access to an expansive deck w awning & gazebo which overlooks the prettiest fields of wildflowers & rolling meadows. The KIT features custom brick finishes, abundant cabinetry & a formal DA that accesses a breezeway w a full wall of sliders & a custom brick FP. There are 3 BR's, a tiled BTH, finished lower-level w FR, second FP, FB, wkshp & two car GAR. Minutes to Bard, Tivoli & Kingston. **\$699,900**



Livingston, NY: Steps to Private Lake Front. Set on 1/3 AC partially wooded corner lot & blends in beautifully w the landscape. Built w great attention to quality & detail.

Open & light filled LA w electric FP provides heat, ambiance & the sound of a blazing fire. Gorgeous HW throughout. The KIT open to the DR is functional w granite & workspace. The DR leads to a deck, perfect for entertaining. 3 BR's includes Primary w FB. Stairs to upper unfinished area, roughed in for add'l living space & FB. This gem is located directly across from gorgeous pvt lake access for swimming, kayaking, eagle watching & fishing. Plus, rights to pvt community beach & picnic area. Existing outbuilding perfect for office, studio/wrkshp. Convenient to TSP, Red Hook & Hudson. Pine Plains SD. **\$619,000**

Land for Sale:

Red Hook, NY: Minute to Village. 4.98 Acres **\$175,000**
Red Hook, NY: Views of Catskills & Farmland 7.5 Acres **\$110,000**
Tivoli, NY: Garage with Water & Electric. 16.27 Acres **\$259,000**
Germantown, NY: BOHA, 1.8 Acres **\$149,900**
Elizaville, NY: Corner Lot, Minutes to Taconic Pkwy, 3 Acres **\$95,000**
Rhinebeck, NY: BOHA & Picturesque Pond Views 14.34 Acres **\$299,000**

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