



# Hudson River View

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## HOLIDAY WHODUNIT A "HISTORY MYSTERY" FOR CHILDREN AT STAATSBURGH STATE HISTORIC SITE SUNDAYS, DECEMBER 7, 14 & 21

Staatsburgh State Historic Site will present the *Holiday Whodunit*, a mystery for children to solve on the first three 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 of the Mills family, and their servants. Advanced registrations are required at [www.Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS](http://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; a new "history mystery" is offered each year!

The *Holiday Whodunit* will take place on December 7, 14, and 21, 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](http://www.Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS). Parents and guardians should plan about an hour for children to make their way through the mansion. After an introduction to the mystery, young sleuths go room to room, interviewing suspects to uncover clues. In each room, they find a house guest of Mrs. Mills or one the

Continued on page 2

## Give Your Child's Immune System a Healthy Head Start

By Joseph V. Cassarino  
Every parent knows the pattern, school starts, fall arrives and the sniffles follow. With kids spending more time together indoors, sharing supplies, and juggling new routines, their immune systems work overtime. The result? More stress to their immune systems, more colds, coughs, and missed school days. *Why Kids Get Sick More Often in Fall*: During summer, children's exposure to germs is limited. Once classes begin, they're suddenly surrounded by new bacteria and viruses. Add in less sleep, more stress, and processed snacks, and it's no wonder their defenses weaken. *The Processed Food Problem*: Convenience foods are quick, but they're often stripped of vital nutrients like glutathione, zinc, and vitamin C — all crucial for keeping the immune system

strong. Artificial additives can harm gut health, where most of our immunity begins. Over time, this can leave kids tired, distracted, and more prone to illness. *A Natural Breakthrough for Stronger Immunity*: Now there is an all-natural way to give your child's immune system the daily support it desperately needs. *ProImmune*, a scientific discovery created by a physician-scientist, Dr. Albert B. Crum, M.D., DSc.(Hon), M.S., right here in Rhinebeck, NY, helps the body naturally produce *glutathione* directly inside cells exactly as nature intended for optimal glutathione replenishment. Glutathione is a master antioxidant that protects cells and boosts immunity. However, synthetic glutathione products and IV drips do not penetrate the cell membrane effectively and only enter the bloodstream. The scientific breakthrough of *ProImmune* replicates how nature designed glutathione synthesis to occur, directly inside cells. By combining three simple amino acids in a precise ratio and in a minute particle size. Dr. Albert B. Crum spent ten years of extensive research to unravel the enigma to intracellular glutathione synthesis and improved how glutathione is replenished effectively and efficiently, directly inside cells, to reduce harmful oxidative stress and lower inflammation. Thereby, enhancing the body's natural immune system to better help

Continued on page 3

## Kitchen Table Conversation – Red Hook Town Comprehensive Plan Update

What do we want our town to look and feel like now and in the future? Historic Red Hook invites town residents to a Kitchen Table Conversation on the Town of Red Hook's comprehensive plan update. Share your ideas about quality of life, the built environment, economic resiliency, and natural resource protection. Discussion facilitated by a member of the Community Engagement Subcommittee with findings submitted to the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee.

Thursday, December 4  
6–7:30 PM

Elmendorph Inn, 7562 N.  
Broadway, Red Hook

RSVP encouraged: [www.historicredhook.org/upcoming-events/kitchentable-conversation](http://www.historicredhook.org/upcoming-events/kitchentable-conversation). Survey available for those unable to attend.

## Annual Holiday Gift Show at Tivoli Artists Gallery

The Tivoli Artists Gallery (TAG) is pleased to announce our **Annual Holiday Gift Show**, featuring work by gallery members and other local artisans.

This popular show will feature a wide variety of affordable products, suitable for gift-giving and holiday decorating. Locally created pieces include artwork, ceramics, jewelry, wood and leather works, soaps, fabric arts, crocheted items, wreaths, ornaments and many more unique handicrafts.

The show will be open every weekend between Friday, November 21st to Sunday, December 21st, Fridays 5-8:30, Saturdays 12-8, Sundays 11-7 and as many additional days that we have coverage at the gallery. Please join us for the opening reception on Saturday, Nov 22nd 5-7 pm

Tivoli Artists Gallery is located at 60 Broadway, Tivoli NY 12583  
Phone: (845) 757-2667 Email: [tivoliartistsgallery.com](mailto:tivoliartistsgallery.com)

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## Spencertown Academy Presents "For the Love of Me" Staged Reading of New Play by Kate McLeod December 6

Spencertown Academy presents "For the Love of Me" staged reading of a new play by Kate McLeod on Saturday, December 6 at 7:00pm. This tale, set at Olana in the late 1800s, weaves stories of the Frederic Church family with two Irish immigrants who join their household. General admission tickets (\$20 public, \$15 Academy members) are available via [www.spencertownacademy.org](http://www.spencertownacademy.org).

"Kate has been a member of the Spencertown Academy community for nearly three decades," says Academy Administrator Eve Zatt. "We are thrilled to present her original play on our stage. Its intriguing local subject will be of special interest to our audience." "For the Love of Me" is set in 1886. A young woman packs her few belongings and her determination into a shabby bag,



Kate McLeod

boards a coffin ship in Dublin landing in the rat-infested streets of New York City. After a year with the rats, she finds work on her knees scrubbing floors in the household of the famous artist, Frederic Church—Olana—in the Hudson Valley. At Olana, life changes for Emilia. She begins to understand her desires and her gifts through the connection with the Churches and others. Her dreams expand. But with the changes, come unexpected challenges. A young man, who has made the same journey tends the barn animals. His conversations with

Continued on page 4

## The 26th annual interactive dinner theater performance of *A Christmas Carol* returns to the Hudson Valley.

You've seen Scrooge, Tiny Tim, and the Ghosts of Christmas from a theater seat. This season be a part of the story during Murder Café's interactive dinner-theatre performance of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. Kick off the holiday season with merry songs, laughter, and heart-warming nostalgia as actors and carolers bring the story to life at the Venue Uptown at the Best Western on Washington Avenue in Kingston and the Hudson House Distillery in West Park, New York.

There are two performances scheduled at the Venue Uptown at the Best Western for Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, one at 1:00 pm and the other at 5:30 pm. Both will include a buffet dinner and cash bar. During dinner guests will be entertained by Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim and the Cratchits, Nephew Fred, carolers in authentic Victorian costume, the Ghosts of Christmas and author Charles DeJackson@[HUDSONVALLEYONE.COM](mailto:HUDSONVALLEYONE.COM) [tobi@HUDSONVALLEYONE.COM](mailto:tobi@HUDSONVALLEYONE.COM) [deb@HUDSONVALLEYONE.COM](mailto:deb@HUDSONVALLEYONE.COM) will act as the Narrator.

A Christmas Carol will also be performed, during a three-course plated dinner, at the Hudson House Distillery on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Audience members are



Scrooge and Tiny Tim 2024

encouraged to interact with the Dickens' characters throughout the performance. Adapted from Charles Dickens' classic, this production is a tribute to the spirit of a traditional holiday, with script written by Frank and Kristen Marquette.

"There's no better way to feel the enchantment of the holiday season than by gathering with friends and family to enjoy a performance of this holiday classic over a delicious meal," says Frank Marquette. This year he is co-directing with Kingston resident, Marisa Gorsline.

Continued on page 3

The January  
Edition Of The  
**Hudson River View**  
Will Be In  
Area Homes On  
January 7th  
The Deadline For  
Advertising And  
Press Release  
Submission  
Is December 23rd

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[Hudsonriverview.net](http://Hudsonriverview.net)

# ACCORDING TO QUACKERS



## The 12th Month

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer  
December the 12th month of the year  
Brings happiness and fear.  
Fear of shorter days,  
Oh, drive the darkness away.  
But happiness is found in the Christmas lights  
Oh, how they shine and they are so bright.  
The days are getting colder but snuggle up we do  
The cuddly blanket is warm and soft too.  
December marks the end of the year  
We spend the 31st with friends who are dear  
We celebrate as the end draws near  
And the beginning of a brand new year.

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## HOLIDAY WHODUNIT from page 1

family’s servants, each eager to prove their innocence and implicate someone else. At the end of the visit, children submit a ballot with their deduction of “whodunit.” All ballots will be entered in a random drawing for a prize, to be awarded 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.

“The *Holiday Whodunit* introduces children to the historical guests, staff, and family members who once inhabited Staatsburgh. Each year, we incorporate details that are not only particular to Staatsburgh, but to a lifestyle typical in an American upper-class home during the Gilded Age.” According to Museum Assistant, Deborah Coconis, “If the children pay close attention, they’ll pick up the clues that will help them deduce the one right answer.”

Staatsburgh will open for holiday touring, by reservation, beginning Friday, November 28. 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. Reservations are

strongly recommended: [www.Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS](http://www.Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS)

The site’s giftshop will be open during all tour hours, offering a wide range of books, jewelry, apparel, toys, and other gift items. Visitors may also enjoy a stroll by the Hudson River, or a hike on woodland trails in adjacent Mills Memorial State Park. Staatsburgh State Historic Site and the Ogden Mills & Ruth Livingston Mills Memorial State Park are located on Old Post Road in Staatsburgh, 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 <https://www.Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS>, [www.Facebook.com/StaatsburghSHS](http://www.Facebook.com/StaatsburghSHS), and [www.staatsburghstatehistoricsite.blogspot.com](http://www.staatsburghstatehistoricsite.blogspot.com). Staatsburgh’s events are also listed at [parks.ny.gov](http://parks.ny.gov)

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, and welcomes over 80 million visitors annually. For more information on any of these recreation areas, visit [parks.ny.gov](http://parks.ny.gov), download the free *NY State Parks Explorer* app or call

518.474.0456. Connect with us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/oprhp), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/oprhp), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/oprhp) (formerly [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/oprhp)), the [OPRHP Blog](https://www.facebook.com/oprhp) or via the [OPRHP Newsroom](https://www.facebook.com/oprhp).

## Rhinebeck Chamber Kicks Off New Annual Tradition: Holiday Carol Crawl & Fireside Finale at the Beekman Arms

Bring your holiday cheer and join us for a merry good time in the heart of the Hudson Valley! The Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the first annual **Holiday Carol Crawl**, a new community tradition celebrating local businesses, holiday spirit, and the joy of giving back. On **Friday, December 13th**, professional holiday carolers will fill the Village of Rhinebeck with festive music from **3:00 PM to 5:00 PM**, visiting shops and boutiques throughout the Village. The full Shop Crawl experience continues until **6:00 PM** (or until participating shops close). The Carol Crawl will **kick off at Foster’s Coach House**, a beloved Rhinebeck landmark, before continuing to a lineup of cherished local businesses including **Land of Oz Toys, Rhinebeck Mercantile, Winter Sun, Summer Moon, Montgomery Row**, and newcomer **Twin Tides Tattoo**. Shoppers are invited to enjoy the performances, explore local stores, and check off their holiday gift lists while supporting the vibrant small business community.

Continued on page 4

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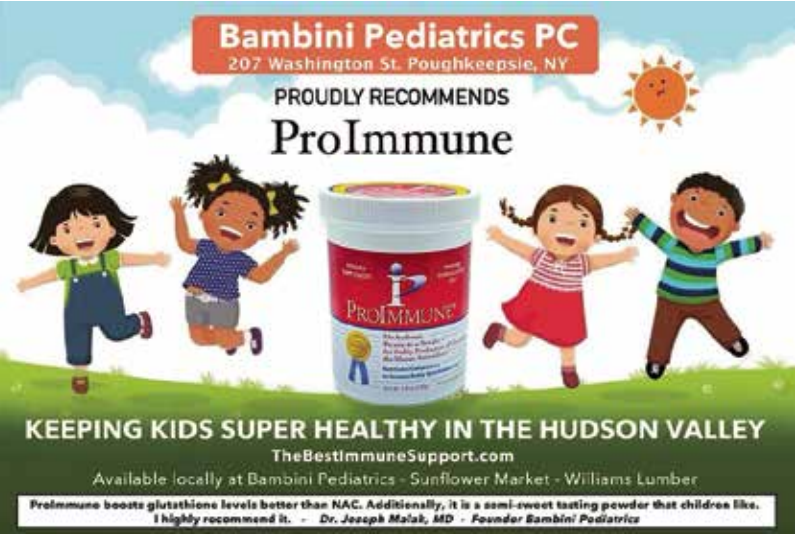
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Give Your Child’s Immune System a Healthy Start from page 1

fight off infections. ProImmune, being all-natural, synergizes with medications and is a perfect added immune support for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. Backed by extensive peer-reviewed studies supported through the NIH, trusted and recommended by leading pediatricians and pharmacies (including Bambini Pediatrics

outdoor playtime and encourage children to play in the sunlight. Research shows sunlight provides essential vitamin D and provides cells with energy. - Limit late-night screen use and Wi-Fi exposure and turn off WiFi and routers at bedtime to reduce EMF exposure. - Have children use Blublocker glasses to reduce harmful blue light emitted from cell phones, tablets and screens, visit: Blublocker.com for a good selection.



in Hyde Park), ProImmune is a gentle, effective supplement that helps kids stay healthy year-round. Parents love how daily supplementation with ProImmune also supports energy, cognition focus, and overall wellness especially during the busy school season. *Simple Tips for Everyday Wellness:* Choose fresh fruits, veggies, eggs, nuts and seeds, berries and whole live foods over processed packaged foods. - Keep processed and sugary snacks to a minimum. Encourage plenty of rest and

Blublocker glasses technology initially came from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory while studying the harmful properties of light in space. To combat this, they developed a lens capable of absorbing, filtering and scattering the dangerous light. Read the *our history* section of the website for additional information. (I receive no compensation by recommending them, and only do it to help improve health). - Add one scoop of ProImmune daily into childrens drinks, yogurts, applesauce, or sprinkle

on cereal to naturally strengthen immunity. *A Strong Start for a Bright Future:* Your child’s health is their greatest asset. By combining good nutrition, quality rest, and natural immune support, you’re setting them up for success inside and outside the classroom. Available locally at: Bambini Pediatrics, Sunflower Market, Williams Lumber, and Hempability; in Red Hook, NY at Medical Magica; and in NYC at Willner Chemists and Vital Health. View the map on the website for national locations. ProImmune is also available online at TheBestImmuneSupport.com and Amazon and Walmart online, distributed by Best Immune Support.

The 26th Annual Interactive Dinner Theater from page 1

To purchase tickets, visit the home page of [www.murdercafe.net](http://www.murdercafe.net); for information call 8 4 5 - 4 7 5 - 7 9 7 3 . The cast features Marisa

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Gorsline, Griffin Stanger, Lara Acevedo, Courtney Constantino, Georgie Berman, Charleigh Gorsline, Mac Freeman, Bob Greffrath and Jeremy Ratel. Founded in Las Vegas in 1998, Murder Café is the creation of actor, writer and director Frank Marquette, along with wife and producing partner, Kristen Marquette. Since returning to their native New York in 2009, they have been serving quality entertainment for both public and private events. Primarily known for comedies, musicals and murder mysteries, Murder Café provides entertainment for company parties,

fundraising events, schools and colleges, historic sites and dozens of public venues.

ST. NICHOLAS DAY CELEBRATION RETURNS TO PHILIPSE MANOR HALL

Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site is pleased to welcome back St. Nicholas—also known as Sinterklaas—this holiday season for our annual St. Nicholas Day Celebration. The event will be on Saturday, December 6, 2025, from 12:00  
Continued on page 4

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ACROSS  
1) Shower alternative  
5) Identify a caller  
10) "Clueless" catchphrase  
14) Largest continent  
15) Refute with evidence  
16) Nevada gambling mecca  
17) Kit and caboodle  
20) Keyboard neighbors  
21) Jersey reply  
22) Dada artist Jean  
23) Had a conference  
24) Main arteries  
27) Fledgling's place  
29) Make legislation  
32) \_\_\_ Maria (coffee liqueur)  
33) Volcanic emission  
36) To the full extent  
38) They may let out some steam  
41) Became overcast  
42) Color that makes one stop  
43) Yodeler's perch  
44) Slightest amount  
46) Big event for baby  
50) Way to be jealous or interested  
52) Org. for attorneys  
55) Dir. opposite WSW  
56) \_\_\_ step further  
57) It's blank for a bluff  
60) Reason to watch what one eats  
63) Hodgepodge  
64) Not yet used, as a match  
65) "I'd be happy to!"  
66) Beam with pride  
67) Lima and green  
68) Drove 90 instead of 55

HOLE IN ONE By Timothy E. Parker

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17				18						19				
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60	61					62								
63						64					65			
66						67					68			

DOWN  
1) The Caped Crusader  
2) On terra firma  
3) Traffic jams  
4) Hems' partners  
5) Overused theme  
6) Make a meaningful connection  
7) Slumbering  
8) Utter a few choice words  
9) Ordinal suffix  
10) Shady retreat  
11) Abalone eater  
12) Hotel relative  
13) Poor visibility cause  
18) Skirt bottom  
19) Expressive  
24) Person in a cast  
25) Is sick  
26) Make a statement  
28) Fish holder  
30) Requirements  
31) Nelson Mandela's org.  
34) Thin varnish  
35) Treat for a bear  
37) Wines for beef  
38) Masculine one  
39) Pianist's challenge  
40) Place for sheep  
41) North or South state abbr.  
45) Provide lodging for  
47) Rip to shreds  
48) Concert hall cry  
49) Deprived of coats?  
51) Opposite of "in every way"  
53) Surpasses  
54) Museum display  
57) Type of cornbread  
58) Highly spiced stew  
59) Come clean (with "up")  
60) Take the lion's share  
61) Beastie Boys album "\_\_\_ Communication"  
62) Wheel center

Solution on page 4

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SPENCERTOWN  
ACADEMY PRESENTS  
from page 1

the horses give him an idea: write a book—“Parables From the Barn.” A Catholic priest, intent on saving souls, pays particular attention to the Irish servants residing in Protestant households. The Church is a weapon against faithlessness and he is the savior—a maniacal one obsessed with Emilia. What happens when these three souls cross paths? What happens to the dreams and deep-seated beliefs when confronted with the realities of class, ambition, and vulnerable human drive

Kate McLeod is a playwright, lyricist, librettist, author, and former journalist. Most of her 20 plays have received productions and readings throughout the northeast, in London, and Alaska at Edward Albee’s Last Frontier Theatre Conference. Recent recognition for her work includes being a finalist at The Secret Theatre’s One Act Festival and receiving Best Storyteller at

United Solo in 2022 for her solo play, “By the Light.” Her play, “For the Love of Me” received readings at Julia’s Reading Room and American Irish Historical Society. McLeod was commissioned to write a play for the anniversary of the Lincoln Funeral Train. She conceived and produced The First and Possibly Only Bacon Theatre Festival in NYC in 2013. She is lyricist, book writer, and conceiver of a musical titled “I Heart My Car, The Musical,” which she is developing with composer Megan Cavallari.

McLeod is a member of the Kennedy Center Playwriting Intensive, The League of Professional Theatre Women, where she serves on the membership committee, and The Dramatists Guild. She is indebted to Arthur Giron, Mac Wellman, Jeffrey Sweet, Austin Pendleton, and many other teachers and received an MFA from Catholic University.

Founded in 1972, Spencertown Academy Arts Center is a cultural center and community resource

serving Columbia County, the Berkshires, and the Capital region. Housed in a landmark 1847 Greek Revival schoolhouse, the Academy is located at 790 State Route 203 in Spencertown, New York. For more information, please contact [info@spencertownacademy.org](mailto:info@spencertownacademy.org).

**RHINEBECK CHAMBER** from page 2

that makes Rhinebeck so special. The event will culminate in a **Fireside Finale** at the historic **Beekman Arms**, the flagship stop of the Carol Crawl. Beginning at approximately **4:30 PM**, guests can gather in the Beekman’s charming lobby — complete with a real crackling fireplace — for a 30-minute caroling performance to close out the afternoon in true holiday style. This festive finale will include **hot cocoa** and special offers from the **award-winning Tavern at the Beekman Arms**. In the spirit of giving, the Chamber will host both a **Toys for Tots drive** and a **canned food drive**, encouraging attendees

to bring new, unwrapped toys or non-perishable food items to help support families in need during the holiday season. “At its heart, this event is what the Chamber strives for every day: bringing people together, uplifting the businesses that make Rhinebeck special, and giving back to the community we serve,” said Liana Galardi, Executive Director of the Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce. “We’re thrilled to begin what we hope becomes an annual tradition — one that supports our local shops, celebrates the season, contributes to important local causes, and offers a festive shared experience for all.” For details and participating locations, visit @ [rhinebeckchamber](#) or [www.rhinebeckchamber.com](http://www.rhinebeckchamber.com) **This event is free for attendees. The Chamber encourages anyone planning on coming to register on their website to receive updates, and electronic maps and timelines. These will also be available at select locations throughout the village.**

Day Celebration is based on the Catholic feast day of Turkish bishop St. Nicholas of Myrna, which became a popular Dutch holiday in the 17th century. Join us for a visit from St. Nicholas himself, historical games, ornament crafts, gingerbread decorating, live music, and more! Featuring live music and stories with storyteller April Armstrong, accompanied by Mario Sprouse on piano. Award winning storyteller April Armstrong weaves melodies and words for a refreshing and compelling style of storytelling. Her story programs are fun and interactive. She tells stories for schools, colleges, libraries, museums and festivals. She tells multi-cultural folktales, including African-American and Latino stories. April’s stories delight, inform and inspire audiences of all ages. See the full schedule at <https://www.philipsemanorhall.com/programs-and-events/st-nicholas-day-celebration-2025> All crafts, gingerbread decorating, and admission are free

Continued on page 6

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**St. Nicholas Day Celebration** from page 3

p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site (29 Warburton Avenue). PhilipseManorHall’s St. Nicholas





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Germantown Gulf Station	Dad’s Copake Diner	Cobble Pond Farms Route 9H & 66	ShopRite	A Cut Beyond
Bank of Greene County - Germantown	Sweet Peas	Hudson Subway Mobil Station	66 Food Mart	Morabito’s
Blue Stores Xtra-Mart	Hillsdale 4 Brother’s Pizza	Wash & Dry Fairview Ave	Mountain View Animal Hospital	Restore
Livingston Post Office	Hillsdale Cobble Pond Farms	Plaza Diner	Trustco Bank - Hudson	Craryville Gulf Station
All Town Fresh	Freshtown Market Place	Bank of Greene County - Hudson	The Antique Warehouse	Blue Agape Beauty
West Taghkanic Citgo	Craryville Xtra-Mart	Fairview Wine & Spirits	Speedway Gas Station	Clippers Hair Salon
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# God's Corner

## What are your expectations?

By Naomi Fata

A baby.

Born in a manger.

Wrapped in cloth.

The angels sang.

The shepherds knelt.

A king.

In a dark crowded church.

The candles are lit.

The voices rise.

*Fall on your knees*

*O hear the angel voices*

*O night divine, O night when*

*Christ was born*

*O night divine, O night, O night*

*divine*

A tingle of goosebumps moves up the spine, as we are caught up in the holy moments of the season. It is wonderful to remember the birth of our Savior.

Yet if we were to strip away all the holiday cheer, the nostalgia of the familiar story, and the beauty of the Christmas hymns, could you be honest about your feelings concerning the babe in the manger? Has He disappointed you this year? Has He fallen short of your expectations?

Perhaps we have all experienced moments during the year when we've been disappointed in the outcome. Maybe prayer wasn't answered the way we wanted, or family tragedy, or a broken relationship.

All around me I hear the words edged with bitterness, "I didn't expect ....." What if the problem isn't that the unexpected happened, but that our expectations of that baby in the manger are a bit misguided?

Is it that our expectation revolves around the verses of Scripture that promise 'a future and a hope' such as Jeremiah 29:11? Naturally this can cause expectation to be fixated on the circumstances around us as we see them. While this verse is an amazing promise – that we do indeed have a future and a hope, we must remind ourselves that the future and hope have to do with the kingdom of God.

Jesus did not come to be a magic genie, making everything in life perfect. (Although I do believe that when we surrender to Him, He will help us to change our lives for the better.) In John 6, Jesus reminds us, "I have come down from heaven to do the will of God...For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life." (vs 38-40)

In what way would our expectations of Jesus change if our expectation is that He is drawing all people to eternal life? In a world so focused on instant gratification, sometime we forget the big picture of God's plan. If your expectations of Him have been disappointed this year may He comfort you, fill you with His peace, and reveal to you an expectation that extends into eternity.

## Rhinebeck Reformed Church Cookie Walk

Saturday December 13th from 9:00am until all gone. Snow date is Sunday December 14th at 11:30am. Many varieties of home-baked holiday cookie for \$12.00 per pound. Come early for the best selection

## RHINEBECK CHURCH TO PRESENT A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

On Sunday, December 14, at 4 p.m., the choir and soloists of the historic Episcopal Church of the Messiah in Rhinebeck, NY, will present a Festival of Lessons and Carols. The Christmas story will be told in a series of brief readings, each followed by one or two carols.

The theme this year is "An English Village Christmas." Selections for the program will include traditional and contemporary carols by British composers including John Rutter (Nativity Carol), Philip Ledger (Sussex Carol), John Goss (See

amid the winter's snow), John Tavener (God is with us), and Gustav Holst (Lullay my liking).

Those in attendance will have the opportunity to sing favorite Christmas carols in the candlelit church, accompanied by the magnificent E.M. Skinner organ. Congregational carols include "Once in Royal David's City," "Joy to the World," and "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen." Both the church and its 1921 organ have recently emerged from a three-year restoration effort.

Admission is free. Donations gratefully accepted to support the numerous programs of the church in the community.

The origin of the Lessons and Carols service dates to 1880 when E.W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, drew on ancient sources to create a carol service for use on Christmas Eve at the Cathedral in Truro, England. The format was further developed in 1918 by Eric Milner-White, Dean of King's College, Cambridge, who had served as an army chaplain during World War I. Since then, the combination of carols, readings and prayers—the backbone of the service—has remained virtually unchanged.

Further information is available through the church office at 845-876-3533 or [Office@Rhinebeck-Episcopal.org](mailto:Office@Rhinebeck-Episcopal.org).

## HOLIDAY AUCTION

Dec 3 - Skyllkill, a 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, sewn, embroidered, knitted, crocheted, beaded, baked, brewed, cooked, quilted, woven, tatted, painted and more. Auction is open to the public. Doors open and Preview begins at 9:30am. Bidding begins at 10:30am. All sales final; cash or check only, please.

## OLD DUTCH VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB

If you are like most of us, when cold weather comes and your flowers stop blooming and turn brown, you trim them back. Stop! Don't do it. You can use these materials for amazing seasonal decorations. That is what Old Dutch Village Garden members learned from Claverack artist and "plant person" Triona Frisch at the November meeting of the club.



Triona collects blossoms, stems, and seed pods of many plants throughout the fall, drying them in buckets in the cool, dry darkness of her barn. Hydrangeas, asters, clematis blossoms, goldenrod, even mugwort provide materials for swags, garlands, and standing arrangements. And it's never too late to collect materials. Plants like asters that have already shed their seeds retain interesting shapes that can compliment an arrangement. Don't forget to mix in some spots of color using sumac, winterberry, arbor vitae, juniper, and pine cones. Triona urges everyone to avoid using invasive species like bittersweet or phragmite grasses in arrangements. They are beautiful but disturbing them allows their seeds to scatter and colonize new territory.

Swag arrangements start with large pieces for background. Arbor vitae or some other evergreen can be a good choice. Then layer on consecutively smaller materials, adding a spot of color here and there. Her trick for wreathmaking is to create small swags and incorporate them into a wreath frame or a grapevine wreath. This keeps fragile materials from damage as they are attached. ODVGC members left Triona's



presentation inspired to pick up their clippers and get out into their gardens to gather materials for arrangements.

The Old Dutch Village Garden Club meets at 12:30 pm the second Thursday of most months at St Johns Reformed Church in Upper Red Hook. For more information, follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/ODVGC](https://facebook.com/ODVGC). The January meeting will be an open meeting and the club's annual soup luncheon.

## December's Balance

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer  
The days are full, a bustling scene,  
Holidays wrapped in red and green.  
Shopping lists and festive cheer,  
The busiest time of the year.  
But as the evening softly glows,  
The chaos fades, the calmness grows.  
A fireside crackle,  
a book in hand,  
A quiet moment,  
simply grand.



Join Us

## Rowe Methodist Church

*Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

**December 24th  
at 3:30 pm**

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9:45 am – Third, 31 Livingston St., Rhinebeck  
11:00 am – St. Paul's, 7412 So. Broadway, Red Hook

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[www.lutheranparishnortherndutchess.org](http://www.lutheranparishnortherndutchess.org)  
Rev. James Miller, Pastor 845-876-4471

*Christmas Eve Candlelight Services*  
5:30 pm at Third Lutheran  
7:30 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran  
Christmas Day  
10:00 am at Memorial Lutheran  
December 28 – Joint Worship Service  
10:00 am at St. Paul's Lutheran

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Wednesday Night Prayer Service 7:00pm

**St. Nicholas Day Celebration from page 4**  
and open to everyone, sponsored by the Friends of Philipse Manor Hall. Pre-registration is not required, but all children must be accompanied by an adult.

**About Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site**  
Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, located at 29 Warburton Ave., Yonkers, NY, 10701, is open for tours Wednesdays through Sundays, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Dating back to the 1680s, Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site sits near the confluence of the Nepperhan (Saw Mill) and Hudson Rivers, the site of a Munsee Lunaape village. Used by four generations of the Philipse family and worked by the people they enslaved as well as European tenant farmers, the Philipse Manor was once over 200,000 acres and helped make the Philipse family the richest in New York. Loyalists during the American Revolution, they fled to England and the Hall was owned by several individuals before becoming the Yonkers

Village Hall and later Yonkers City Hall. When a new City Hall was built in the early 20th century, the house was preserved through the generosity of Eva Smith Cochran and donated to New York State to serve as a historic site. Today, Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site provides visitors with a balanced approach to interpreting the lives of Indigenous, European, and African people to understand the complex relationships that took place at the Manor from the earliest days of the Dutch Colony of New Netherland to the American Revolution and beyond. Learn more at Philipse Manor Hall’s Virtual Wing at [www.philipsemanorhall.com](http://www.philipsemanorhall.com).

**About the Friends of Philipse Manor Hall**  
The Friends of Philipse Manor Hall, Inc. is dedicated to supporting and enhancing Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site. Friends of Philipse Manor Hall offers a variety of events and activities throughout the year, from family-friendly festivals to lectures, concerts, and

movie nights. The organization’s goal is to foster public interest in and support for Philipse Manor Hall, to make PMH more accessible and inviting to the local community, and to provide funds and volunteers for programs and activities offered by the site staff. Learn more at [www.friendsofphilipsemanorhall.org](http://www.friendsofphilipsemanorhall.org).

**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, and welcomes over 88 million visitors annually. For more information on any of these recreation areas, visit [parks.ny.gov](http://parks.ny.gov), download the free NY State Parks Explorer app or call 518.474.0456. Connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn, the OPRHP Blog or via the OPRHP Newsroom.

### DECEMBER WEEKENDS AT KAATSBAAN AIMÉE ALLEN JAZZ QUARTET

*A brilliant singer and even more thoughtful lyricist*  
– H. Allen Williams, *JazzTimes*  
With [Chamber Music America](#), Kaatsbaan presents an evening of jazz performed by Rising Star jazz vocalist (*DownBeat*’s Critic’s Poll) [Aimée Allen](#) with [François Moutin](#) (bass), [Tony Romano](#) (guitar), and [Kenn Salters](#) (drums). In addition to playing standards and bossa nova, the quartet will perform original songs by Allen, who is


also an accomplished composer. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 7 PM  
\$30 General Admission  
\$15 Students with ID  
60 minutes (TBC)  
Black Box Theater, Studio Complex  
Co-presented with [Chamber Music America](#), the national network of ensemble music professionals that develops and supports an evolving chamber music field through professional development services, networking events, publications, and grant programs.

**HOLIDELIC IS BACK! EVERETT BRADLEY’S HOLIDELIC**  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 8 PM  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 8 PM  
\$45 General Admission  
90 minutes  
Black Box Theater, Studio Complex  
The highly anticipated return of GRAMMY-nominated performer and percussionist Everett Bradley’s [HOLIDELIC](#) arrives at Kaatsbaan December 12 and 13. This sensational holiday-themed funk band will electrify your senses. Critics have raved about HOLIDELIC, describing it as “a flashy, bass-heavy retro-futuristic take on the holidays” (*The New Yorker*) and “a holiday funk-tacular” (*Time Out New York*). Bradley, known for his work with Bruce Springsteen and Bon Jovi, takes on the role of **Papadelic, Funk’s Father Christmas**, an amalgamation of Funkadelic’s

George Clinton and Santa Claus. With original songs and an ensemble of top-notch musicians, HOLIDELIC will transport you to a world where funk meets Christmas joy. Don’t miss this two-day run—get your tickets now for an unforgettable experience that will liven up your holiday festivities with pulsating rhythms and fresh spins on familiar sentiments.

**NUT/CRACKED RETURNS AFTER SOLD-OUT PERFORMANCES**  
NUT/CRACKED  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 7 PM  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 7 PM  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2 PM  
\$45 General Admission  
\$30 Students with ID  
90 minutes  
Black Box Theater, Studio Complex  
*Nut/Cracked* is [The Bang Group](#)’s beloved, witty response to *The Nutcracker*. Choreographer David Parker draws inspiration from across the dance spectrum, blending tap, ballet, disco, and even bubblewrap to create a unique performance that reimagines Tchaikovsky’s iconic score. With renditions ranging from Duke Ellington to Glenn Miller, *Nut/Cracked* transforms the familiar into something delightfully unexpected. Praised by the *New York Times* as “immensely entertaining” and “intensely musical,” this production combines humor

**Continued on page 7**



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## The Holiday Season

By Julianne Porter

We all know that the holidays are equal parts chaos and joy, and we can't forget to include our pets in that mayhem. From foods to plants to travel plans, this upcoming time of year can be a haphazard time for our four-legged family members. Food – There tends to be a lot of treats and cooking that occurs around this time, and many of our pets are quick to try to catch a bite. Be sure to keep uncooked dough, bones, fat trimmings, chocolates, and other candies out of reach. Don't forget that foods containing raisins and macadamia nuts can be deadly. If you are unsure if what your pet just ate is toxic or not, call your veterinarian or one of the poison control numbers listed below. You may be instructed to induce vomiting or bring your pet straight to a hospital for immediate care.

Plants/trees – Holly and mistletoe are poisonous when eaten. Poinsettias can cause gastric distress if chewed. While not a common flower around this time of year, it is always important to remember that lilies are deadly to cats. While pine needles can be toxic and cause massive gastrointestinal irritation if ingested, the tree itself can also be problematic if a pet tries to climb it or knocks it over with their tail. Pets can also electrocute themselves or start fires if they chew the cords. Keep them away from the tree and make sure your tree is anchored to your wall. If you have a real tree, don't allow them to drink

the water and avoid putting any sugar or aspirin in the water.

Ornaments/string – Ornaments, tinsel and ribbon are enticing to our pets and eating them is one of their first thoughts when they encounter them. These can cause intestinal obstructions, which can be life threatening and require surgery. Broken ornaments can also cause injuries if chewed or stepped on. Lastly, some homemade ornaments can contain toxic levels of salt and would be very dangerous if ingested.

Company/Travel – Whether you're traveling or having guests over, this can be a stressful time for your pet. Be sure they have a calm space to hang out if they prefer to be away from people, and be sure that they cannot accidentally sneak out of the house in all the commotion. If you are traveling with your pet, be sure you have all of their medications and medical information if needed. If your pet gets particularly anxious during this time of year, be sure you have the appropriate calming supplements or medications at home to help them get through it. Update their collars with your contact information in case they do manage to escape and always know your closest emergency veterinarian.

Wishing everyone a safe and joyous holiday season!

Here are some helpful resources during this time: <https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/dogs-plant-list> <https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/cats-plant-list>

[control/cats-plant-list](https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/people-foods-avoid-feeding-your-pets) <https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/people-foods-avoid-feeding-your-pets> ASPCA Animal Poison Control 888-426-4435 <https://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/> - Helpline 855-764-7661

## The Columbia-Greene Humane Society/ SPCA (CGHS/SPCA)

extends its heartfelt appreciation to The National Bank of Cossackie for their support of our organization and the local community. The bank recently donated \$5,000 to benefit CGHS/SPCA and the many programs that our shelter offers to pets and people throughout the region.



Photo from left to right: CGHS/SPCA President/CEO Ron Perez; The National Bank of Cossackie Athens Branch Manager Alison P. Phoenix; CGHS/SPCA Director of Development and Community Outreach Rebecca Warner; Diesel; and The National Bank of Cossackie Cairo Branch Manager Lisa D. Dixon-Watson.

“On behalf of our Board of Directors, volunteers, staff, and of course, our animals, I'd like to thank The National Bank of Cossackie for their generous gift to our shelter,” said CGHS/SPCA President and CEO Ron Perez. “Assistance from civic-minded businesses such as The National Bank of Cossackie helps us to serve thousands of animals each year—many of whom are unwanted, hungry, lost, or victims of cruelty. We are deeply grateful for the Bank's generosity and their commitment to our mission.”

This contribution will directly provide for care, housing, and medical treatment of animals in need, helping us to offer a safe and loving environment for homeless and neglected pets as they await their forever homes.

## December Weekends at Kaatsbaan from page 6

and artistry in a way that will leave you seeing *The Nutcracker* in a whole new light. *Not only immensely entertaining but also intensely musical and witty, melding tap, disco, ballet, and contemporary dance. . . Combines fantasy and silliness to marvelous effect.* — Roslyn Sulcas, *New York Times* **KAATSBAAN BALLET INTENSIVE 2026 AUDITIONS** Kaatsbaan Ballet Intensive is holding **auditions** in January

2026 for our world-renowned summer program! There are multiple ways to audition for this intensive, including in-person and video submissions. NYC Auditions Friday 1/16/26, 4:00-5:30 pm Saturday, 1/17/26, 1:30-3:00 pm Saturday, 1/17/26, 3:30-5:00 pm Gibney Studio 5-2 890 Broadway - 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Tivoli Audition Sunday, 1/18/26, 12:00-1:30 pm Kaatsbaan Cultural Park 120 Broadway, Tivoli, NY Video Auditions Video Submissions are accepted from Dec 1, 2025 to Mar 8, 2026 [kaatsbaan.org/kbi-auditions](https://www.kaatsbaan.org/kbi-auditions) **IN THE NEW YEAR** MAEVE GILCHRIST: *12 DANCES*

In this new multidisciplinary venture by harp innovator and composer Maeve Gilchrist, time is slowed down through the process of careful observation and imagination. The performance is the culmination of a year-long residency at Kaatsbaan in 2025, during which Maeve wrote a solo-harp composition each month. Into *12 Dances*, she interweaves site-specific recordings, poetry, and

visual stimulation she gathered in each day while at Kaatsbaan. **SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 7 PM** \$30 General Admission \$15 Students with ID 70 minutes Black Box Theater, Studio Complex **ANNOUNCING WINTER DATES FOR WEEKEND RETREATS** January 30-February 1 February 27-March 1 March 27-29 **Kaatsbaan Weekend Retreats** are tailored to accommodate individual artists and small groups—spanning various creative disciplines—who work independently on their own works. This residency program offers affordable access to spacious studios and specialized workspaces for dancers, writers, visual artists, composers, musicians, and designers. Residencies are generously subsidized and include essential amenities such as individual, hotel-style rooms and healthy, locally sourced, chef-prepared meals shared with fellow retreaters.



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# Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County Launches 2025 “Cultivating Resilience” Campaign

Appeal highlights the importance of strengthening the foundation that sustains local programs and community impact. Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC) has announced the launch of its 2025 Year-End Appeal, themed “Cultivating Resilience,” calling on

community members to invest in the foundation that supports more than a century of education, sustainability, and service across Dutchess County.

The campaign aims to raise \$10,000 by December 31, 2025, to strengthen CCEDC’s operational infrastructure; funding essential technology upgrades, staff development, and modernization that keep its long-standing programs thriving. “For 112 years, CCEDC has stood beside our neighbors, helping Dutchess County grow stronger through education, collaboration,

and care,” said Mary Lou Carolan, Executive Director of CCEDC. “True resilience isn’t just about surviving challenges. It’s about maintaining the tools, training, and teamwork that allow our community to adapt, respond, and keep thriving.” This year, CCEDC programs have:

- Guided youth through 4-H and Green Teen initiatives to build leadership, job readiness, and community engagement.
- Supported families through nutrition, parenting, kinship family support, and financial literacy programs that empower self-sufficiency and wellbeing.
- Helped local growers and gardeners through Agriculture and Horticulture programs, including the Master Gardener network.
- Expanded local food access and small-business growth through Taste NY at Todd Hill, showcasing products from Dutchess County farms and artisans while strengthening the regional food economy.
- Advanced clean energy and environmental stewardship efforts to promote sustainability across the county.

The Cultivating Resilience campaign underscores the essential role of operational support in delivering these community outcomes. While grants often fund programs, unrestricted donations allow CCEDC to invest in the behind-the-scenes resources that keep those programs running smoothly.

Community members are invited to give online at [www.ccgedutchess.org/](http://www.ccgedutchess.org/) or by mail through the year-end appeal. All gifts made by December 31, 2025, are tax-deductible and directly contribute to the longevity and stability of CCEDC’s services. “Every contribution- large or small- helps strengthen the foundation that supports the programs people in Dutchess County rely on,” added Carolan. “With community support, we can ensure CCEDC remains a trusted resource for the next generation.”

CCEDC delivers research-based programs in agriculture, youth development, environmental sustainability, nutrition, and more. Key initiatives include Green Teen, Master Gardeners, Dutchess County 4-H, Taste NY at Todd Hill, Family and Consumer Education and the Mid-Hudson Clean Energy Hub. Rooted in Connection. Growing through Collaboration. Thriving as a Resilient Community! For more information on CCEDC’s programs and services, visit [www.ccgedutchess.org/donate](http://www.ccgedutchess.org/donate) call 845-677-8223.

**Arts Mid-Hudson Awarded \$236,511 by the New York State Council on the Arts**  
CONTACT: 845-454-3222: [info@artsmidhudson.org](mailto:info@artsmidhudson.org)

MID-HUDSON VALLEY, NY: Arts Mid-Hudson announced today grant awards totaling \$236,511 from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)

to support the arts and culture sector. Through New York State’s continued investment in arts and culture, NYSCA has awarded \$80.9 million in FY 2026 to arts and culture nonprofits across all 10 regions and a historic number of artists.

“New York’s arts and culture sector is a cornerstone of the state’s identity, and we’re making bold investments to ensure it remains strong,” Governor Hochul said. “These grants will lift up artists and organizations in every region, fueling local economies and expanding access to the arts. Congratulations to all the grantees – your talent and dedication help power New York’s future.” New York State Council on the Arts Executive Director Erika Mallin said, “During these challenging times, the New York State Council on the Arts has been a stalwart and innovative funder. These grants will serve artists

and organizations in every region and county, fueling our economy and serving our communities. We know this support isn’t just an investment in the arts; it’s an investment in New York’s future. Congratulations to Arts Mid-Hudson and thank you for your perseverance, your creativity, and your tireless service to New York State.

New York State Council on the Arts Chair Patrick Willingham said, “With the unwavering support of Governor Hochul and our Legislature, the Council is proud to congratulate this year’s grantees, whose collective efforts strengthen and benefit us all. I also want to recognize the work of NYSCA’s panelists, staff, and the entire Council, whose dedication has ensured that this critical support will reach every corner of New York State.”

Arts Mid-Hudson’s Executive  
**Continued on page 10**



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## Baked Boneless Pork Shoulder



### Ingredients

3-4 lbs boneless pork shoulder  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
4 cloves garlic, minced  
2 tablespoons brown sugar  
1 tablespoon smoked paprika  
1 tablespoon salt  
1 teaspoon black pepper  
1 teaspoon onion powder  
1 cup chicken broth or apple cider

### Instructions

Preheat the Oven: Set the oven to 300°F (150°C).  
Prepare the Rub: In a bowl, mix olive oil, garlic, brown sugar, smoked paprika, salt, pepper, onion powder, and cumin.  
Season the Pork: Rub the mixture all over the pork shoulder, ensuring it’s well coated.  
Sear the Meat: In a large skillet, sear the pork on all sides over medium-high heat until browned (about 3-4 minutes per side).  
Bake: Place the pork in a roasting pan, add chicken broth or apple cider, and cover tightly with foil. Bake for 3-4 hours, or until the internal temperature reaches 190°F (88°C).  
Rest and Serve: Let the pork rest for 15-20 minutes before slicing or shredding. Serve with your favorite sides.

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Arts Mid-Hudson Awarded from page 8

Director Melissa Dvozenja-Thomas said, “Support from the New York State Council on the Arts—through both General Operating Support and the Statewide Community Re grants services—strengthens Arts Mid-Hudson’s mission to expand access to the arts and invest in the creative voices of our region. We are grateful to partner with NYSCA in ensuring that artists, cultural organizations, and communities across the Hudson Valley continue to thrive.”

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 over \$161 million in FY 2026, serving organizations and artists across all 10 state 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 Kathy 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.

EMPRESS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OFFERS SPECIAL PARAMEDIC RECRUITMENT SIGN-ON DEAL

Empress Emergency Medical Services, covering eight counties in the Hudson Valley, as well as the Bronx, New York City and Connecticut, has announced a special offer for paramedics who join Empress’s staff by the end of this year. Paramedics who are hired by Empress during this window will receive a \$10,000 sign-on bonus. Those who live more than 60 miles away from the coverage area will also receive \$2,500 to help cover relocation costs. “We are bringing New York City-level salaries to the Hudson Valley,” said Empress President Michael Minerva, Sr. “Since 1985, we’ve been a key part of emergency medical services in this region. We genuinely care,

not only about the patients we serve, but also about the people we employ. By working together, we will expand capabilities, improve systems, and continue delivering the high-quality care residents and healthcare partners deserve. We want qualified professionals to know they have fulfilling career paths ahead of them when they become part of our team. We offer an exceptional benefits package, and we look forward to seeing who will take us up on this opportunity. To apply for this position, visit [empressems.com/careers](https://empressems.com/careers) or fill out this [online questionnaire](#), and someone will be in touch. About Empress EMS Empress Ambulance Service, LLC, a PatientCare EMS Solutions Company, has served the greater New York area since 1985. Empress provides 911 emergency medical services to the City of Yonkers, mutual-aid response throughout the Hudson Valley and holds emergency and non-emergency service contracts with municipalities, hospitals, correctional institutions, and private care providers throughout Westchester County and the Hudson Valley. Additionally, Empress has a growing Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) unit providing out-of-hospital care to patients in those areas. For more information about Empress and PatientCare, visit [empressems.com](https://empressems.com) and [patientcareems.com](https://patientcareems.com).



You’re Invited to Germantown Garden Club’s Annual

Holiday Marketplace The Germantown Garden Club will hold its Annual Holiday Marketplace on Friday, December 5, from 4 to 8 pm, and on Saturday, December 6, from 10 am to 3 pm, at the Kellner Activity Building, Palatine Park Rd, Germantown. Start your holiday shopping early! The show will feature hand-decorated, one-of-a-kind, fresh wreaths and table arrangements made by garden club members, a bake sale of delicious homemade treats, raffles of specialty baskets, a boutique sale, and member-donated houseplants with information about how to grow and take care of them.



On Friday, December 5, the club will be offering a 10% discount and free holiday refreshments. Please attend to support us, as funds raised from this event

Continued on page 11

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## Germantown Garden Club from page 10

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 9, at noon, at the Kellner Activity Building, Palatine Park Rd, 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 Linda Levitt at 860-729-3486.

The Germantown Garden Club is a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

## NDSO Celebrates the Holidays with “A Christmas Carol” and Festive Favorites

Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra (NDSO), invites you to celebrate the holiday season with a special USA Premiere performance of *A Christmas Carol* and other festive favorites.



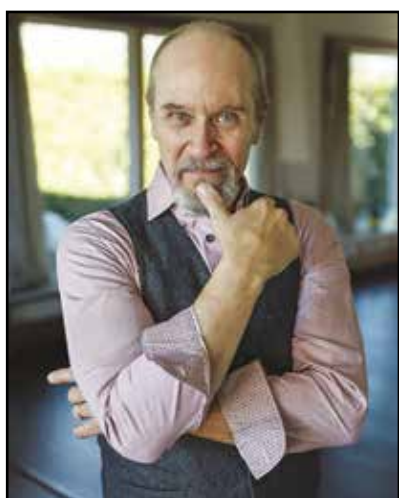
NDSO Holiday Winter Concert

Conducted by guest conductor, William Stevens, the concert will take place on Saturday, December 6, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at Rhinebeck High School, 45 N Park Rd., Rhinebeck, NY 12572.

Featuring *Sinfonietta: A Christmas Carol* for narrator and orchestra, this piece—based on Charles Dickens’ timeless tale—has previously been performed only in England. Now, it will make its U.S. premiere right here in Rhinebeck, NY. Local voice-over actor Jason Dempsey will narrate this beloved story, accompanied by familiar carols, original music, and cherished American and English holiday favorites. As a special treat,



William Stevens Guest Conductor  
Photo Credit Guy Peifer



Jason Dempsey

children in the audience will be invited on stage to conduct “Jingle Bells Forever.”

Tickets for this concert are priced at \$38 per person, with special discounts available for seniors and students. Family ticket packages are \$40 for one adult and two students. Season subscriptions are also available, offering patrons a ticket to each concert with a 15% discount. To learn more and purchase, please visit [www.ndsorchestra.org](http://www.ndsorchestra.org) or call (845) 445-9606.

Formed in 2006 to bring live orchestral music to northern Dutchess County and the surrounding Hudson Valley, the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra is now celebrating its 20th season. Recognized as the Arts Mid-Hudson 2025 Art Organization Awardee, the orchestra continues its mission of offering outstanding live performances of classical and popular music at family-affordable prices. Since its founding, NDSO has been under the dedicated leadership of Kathleen Beckmann, who serves as both conductor and artistic director.

## FREE HOLIDAY EVENTS AT FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND HOME OF FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

**Saturday, December 13, 2025**  
Holiday Open Houses with Decorations, Holiday Book Fair, Fala Impersonator “Dickens,” Music, Holiday Cards for Sailors on the USS ROOSEVELT, Photos with Santa

On Saturday, December 13, 2025, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Home of FDR National Historic Site will host a **full day of free holiday events**. The Museum will be open to visitors free of charge from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Home of FDR (Springwood) will have self-guided tours available from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be holiday decorations, refreshments and special activities -- including the **Holiday Book Fair, Fala Impersonator “Dickens”** and **free photo time with Santa** -- beginning at Noon in the Henry A. Wallace Center. **Holiday Book Fair, Photos with Santa, and Holiday Cards for Sailors**

Beginning at Noon, children can make **holiday cards for sailors** on the USS FRANKLIN AND

**ELEANOR ROOSEVELT** ([www.surflant.usff.navy.mil/ddg80/](http://www.surflant.usff.navy.mil/ddg80/)) and meet with Dickens, a little black Scottie dog who loves to impersonate **President Roosevelt’s famous dog, Fala**. There will be holiday music and **free photo time with Santa** from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served throughout the afternoon.

The **Holiday Book Fair** -- presented by the Roosevelt Library and the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District -- will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Authors of children’s books and family-friendly titles will visit with attendees and sign copies of their books. This year’s authors will include **Della Ferreri, Jonathan Hollingsworth, Barbara Ann Mojica, and A.J. Schenkman**. Featured books will be available for purchase in the New Deal Store in the Wallace Center. **Holiday Open House - December 13, 2025 - Roosevelt Library and Home**

Holiday Open House on December 13 is from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Home of FDR National Historic Site and at the Roosevelt Library. Both the Home and the Roosevelt Library study will be decorated for the holidays as they were during the Roosevelt presidency. Admission is free to the Home and Library throughout the day. For more information please call: Cliff Laube, Roosevelt Library, (845) 486-7745; or Franceska Macsali Urbin, National Park

Service, (845) 489-8513. **Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum**  
Designed by Franklin Roosevelt and dedicated on June 30, 1941, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is the nation’s first presidential library and the only one used by a sitting president. Administered by the National Archives and Records Administration since 1941, the Library preserves and makes accessible to the American people the records of FDR’s presidency. The Roosevelt Library’s mission is to foster a deeper understanding of the lives and times of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and their continuing impact on contemporary life. This work is carried out through the Library’s archives and research room, museum collections and exhibitions, innovative educational programs, and engaging public programming. Visit [www.fdrlibrary.org](http://www.fdrlibrary.org).

**The National Park Service**  
administers the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Sites in Hyde Park, New York.

Visitors to the sites can enjoy guided tours of the historic buildings, beautiful gardens, lush green lawns, and miles of hiking trails. Special park events are offered throughout the year, and kids can participate in free junior ranger programs. For more information visit [www.nps.gov/hofr](http://www.nps.gov/hofr).

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**MID-HUDSON VALLEY, NY:** Arts Mid-Hudson proudly announces the recipients of the 2025 Empowered Artist Award, honoring three exceptional artists from Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster Counties: Carlton Lee Brown, Shari Diamond, and Georgi Jean. The *Empowered Artist Award* is an annual fund that provides three unrestricted awards of \$3,000 each to three artists. One of the most critical needs for artists is access to unrestricted funds, which allow them to continue their practice, advance their careers, and increase their visibility within their communities. These funds enable artists to create new work, purchase necessary equipment, access educational opportunities, and pay for living expenses.

The *Empowered Artist Award* was established in 2022 by Linda Marston-Reid, former Executive Director of Arts Mid-Hudson, who used her retirement after ten years of service to the arts community to create a fund that provides unrestricted support for local artists. In 2025, the Ruth and Harold Chenven Foundation transferred its assets to Arts Mid-Hudson in support of the *Empowered Artist Award*. The mission of the Chenven Foundation is to support the work of artists living and working in the United States and to foster a greater public appreciation for the arts. Over the past 40 years, the Chenven Foundation has awarded unrestricted grants to 231 individual artists. Many of the Chenven Foundation's grantees have gone on to receive increased public recognition and appreciation. The Chenven Foundation follows on the lifelong commitment to the arts by both Ruth and Harold.

*Carlton Lee Brown, Dutchess County*  
“The Award helps me to continue to publish my writing and gives me a real sense of support from the arts community. The award inspires and encourages me to push forward into my next project.”  
*Shari Diamond, Orange County*  
“Through photography and related processes, I explore

questions of identity, mortality, and human connection. Working across digital and analog processes—from cyanotypes and tintypes to drawing and bookmaking—my work layers image and process to mirror the complexity of lived experience. The *Empowered Artist Award* allows me to expand these explorations and develop new directions in my practice.” *Georgi Jean, Ulster County*

“This is the most exciting award I’ve ever received! Thank you Arts Mid-Hudson so very much for believing in my work and inspiring me to keep creating, in an even bigger, reach for the stars kinda way, ha! I’ve honestly been pinching myself daily since you gave me the news - THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!” Arts Mid-Hudson congratulates Carlton Lee Brown, Shari Diamond, and Georgi Jean on their remarkable achievements and looks forward to witnessing the continued growth and impact of their artistic journeys. These artists exemplify the spirit of creativity and innovation that enriches our communities and inspires us all.

## Celebrate the Awardees

Join us for the Empowered Artist Award Reception on Thursday, November 13, 2025, from 5:00–7:00 PM at The Inn at Bellefield, 25 Old Vineyard Place, Hyde Park, NY. This event is free and open to the public. Please RSVP: <https://wl.donorperfect.net/weblink/WebLink.aspx?name=E231621&id=546> For more information about the *Empowered Artist Award*, including current and past awardees and updates on the 2026 application deadline, please visit [www.artsmidhudson.org/empowered-artist-award](http://www.artsmidhudson.org/empowered-artist-award).

*“December is the time for remembering the past and reaching toward the future.”*  
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Spencertown  
Academy Presents  
Laura Anglade and  
the Ben Roseblum  
Trio  
Vintage Jazz  
Concert on Saturday  
December 13**

Spencertown Academy Roots & Shoots Concerts Series presents Laura Anglade and the Ben Rosenblum Trio—charming fresh takes on the vintage sound of classic jazz in both French and English—on Saturday, December 13, 7:30pm at the Academy’s Blanche Grubin Auditorium. General admission tickets (\$30 public, \$25 Academy members) are available via [www.spencertownacademy.org](http://www.spencertownacademy.org).

“We are so pleased that audience favorite Laura Anglade is returning! We’ve watched Laura achieve national acclaim with her recent performance on the “Late Show with Stephen Colbert” and are delighted to have her ‘come home’ and grace our stage once again,” says Wayne Greene, who co-chairs the Academy Music Committee with Michele Quigley. “Laura will be joined by her usual group of stellar musicians, including Ben Rosenblum on piano and accordion, Marty Jaffe on bass, and drummer Ben Zweig. I’m especially looking forward to hearing selections from her new album, ‘Get Out of Town.’”

Brooklyn-based jazz chanteuse Laura Anglade is originally from the village of Brousse-le-Château in the south of France, though she grew up in the United States and spent several years living in Canada. Her performances are a reflection of her roots: rich in simplicity, an appreciation for the past, and finding wonder in ordinary moments. Drawn from the legacy of Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, Shirley Horn, Carmen McRae, Michel Legrand, and Barbra Streisand, she brings grace and nuance to

**Continued on page 13**

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## Spencertown Academy Present Laura Anglade from page 12

every phrase. Yet, it is her own refined sensibility and quietly compelling presence that give her interpretations a singular charm.

Anglade's 2022 release "Venez Donc Chez Moi" earned a Juno nomination and in 2023 she was awarded the Prix Opus for Jazz Concert of the Year. An international touring artist, she has headlined jazz festivals across the US, Canada, Mexico, UK, and Europe, captivating audiences through her innate storytelling. Her conversational style bridges the gap between singer and listener, making each performance intimate and personal. She has performed at renowned stages including Paris' Olympia, London's Royal Festival Hall, New York's Town Hall, and she is a regular at the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal. She has also toured in support of acclaimed artists like Melody Gardot and Gregory Porter.

Award-winning New York City jazz musician Ben Rosenblum has been described as "mature beyond his years" (Sea of Tranquility) and an "impressive talent" (All About Jazz) who "caresses [the music] with the reverence it merits" (Downbeat Magazine). Since the release of his debut trio album, "Instead" (4 stars, Downbeat), he has toured extensively throughout the United States and has appeared at prestigious venues throughout the world. Rosenblum's musical interests also extend beyond jazz to include work in numerous world music scenes, including musical styles from Brazil, Peru,

Croatia, Bulgaria, India, Ireland, Jewish traditions, and more. 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.

Founded in 1972, Spencertown Academy Arts Center is a cultural center and community resource serving Columbia County, the Berkshires, and the Capital region. Housed in a landmark 1847 Greek Revival schoolhouse, the Academy is located at 790 State Route 203 in Spencertown, New York. For more information, please contact [info@spencertownacademy.org](mailto:info@spencertownacademy.org).

## PHILIPSE MANOR HALL TALK ON THE OLD CROTON AQUEDUCT IN MANHATTAN

Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site and the Friends of Philipse Manor Hall are pleased to present "The Thirst for Development: Building the Original Croton Aqueduct in Manhattan," the second of two talks on the building of the Old Croton Aqueduct and its impact on landowners, labor, and the landscape. The talk will take place on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. It is accessible in-person at Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site (29 Warburton Ave. Yonkers, NY)

and online via YouTube Live.

By the 1820s, Manhattan had literally been dying for a dependable, plentiful supply of fresh water for nearly a century. The construction of the Old Croton Aqueduct and its successors solved this problem, but also displaced large numbers of people, destroyed preexisting structures, and dramatically impacted the original topography—as well as today's cityscape—in a variety of ways. Historically, it represents the bridge between the largely rural Manhattan of the Colonial Era and the ever more urbanized Manhattan of the late 1800s. Join us as we explore the impact of the aqueduct—good and bad—on Manhattan residents from wealthy estate owners on the Upper West Side to the humble farmers of Seneca Village in today's Central Park and everyone in between.

**J. Keith Doherty** is a Westchester County native who grew up along the Old Croton Aqueduct. Currently serving as a researcher at Philipse Manor Hall, he was a Professor of Art History for twelve years at Boston University and has in recent years been researching the infrastructure and early history of Westchester. He has lectured extensively on the original Croton Aqueduct and has an article

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in publication on the subject.

In-person tickets are \$6 for adults, \$3 for seniors and students. Tickets available at the door — museum opens at 6:30 PM. To reserve your spot call 914-965-4027 or email [philipsemanorhall@parks.ny.gov](mailto:philipsemanorhall@parks.ny.gov). Virtual access is free and open to everyone. Visit <https://www.philipsemanorhall.com/programs-and-events> The Philipse Manor Hall History Lecture Series is sponsored by the Friends of Philipse Manor Hall and Tompkins Bank.

### About Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site

Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, located at 29 Warburton Ave., Yonkers, NY, 10701, is open for tours Wednesdays through Sundays, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Dating back to the 1680s, Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site sits near the confluence of the Nepperhan (Saw Mill) and Hudson Rivers, the site of a Munsee Lunaape village. Used by four generations

of the Philipse family and worked by the people they enslaved as well as European tenant farmers, the Philipse Manor was once over 200,000 acres and helped make the Philipse family the richest in New York. Loyalists during the American Revolution, they fled to England and the Hall was owned by several individuals before becoming the Yonkers Village Hall and later Yonkers City Hall. When a new City Hall was built in the early 20th century, the house was preserved through the generosity of Eva Smith Cochran and donated to New York State to serve as a historic site. Today, Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site provides visitors with a balanced approach to interpreting the lives of Indigenous, European, and African people to understand the complex relationships that took place at the Manor from the earliest days of the Dutch Colony of New Netherland to the American Revolution and

**Continued on page 15**

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**Pine Plain Farm w/ Eyebrow Colonial**



This historic 87-acre farmstead in West Pine Plains features an 1840s colonial with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, and wide-board floors. The property includes a guest cottage, classic barn, meadows, woodlands, and a pond—offering timeless character and endless potential in a tranquil rural setting. Priced at \$1,175,000.

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Philipse Manor Hall Tall on the Old Croton Aqueduct from page 13

beyond. Learn more at Philipse Manor Hall’s Virtual Wing at [www.philipsemanorhall.com](http://www.philipsemanorhall.com). About the Friends of Philipse Manor Hall

The Friends of Philipse Manor Hall, Inc. is dedicated to supporting and enhancing Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site. Friends of Philipse Manor Hall offers a variety of events and activities throughout the year, from family-friendly festivals to lectures, concerts, and movie nights. The organization’s goal is to foster public interest in and support for Philipse Manor Hall, to make PMH more accessible and inviting to the local community, and to provide funds and volunteers for programs and activities offered by the site staff. Learn more at [www.friendsofphilipsemanorhall.org](http://www.friendsofphilipsemanorhall.org). 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, and welcomes over 88 million visitors annually. For more information on any of these recreation areas, visit [parks.ny.gov](http://parks.ny.gov), download the free NY State Parks Explorer app or call 518.474.0456. Connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn, the OPRHP Blog or via the OPRHP Newsroom.

HRMM Announces Wrecked and Abandoned: Forgotten Vessels of the Rondout Creek and Hudson River Lecture

Contact: Emma Cariello / Museum Educator / [ecariello@hrmm.org](mailto:ecariello@hrmm.org) Program Title: Wrecked and Abandoned: Forgotten Vessels of the Rondout Creek and Hudson River Date & Time: Wednesday


December 3, 2025 - 7pm Location: Hudson River Maritime Museum - 50 Rondout Landing, Kingston, NY Pricing: \$10/non member - \$5/HRMM members Presentation Topic: In the 19th century, Rondout Creek was a center of transportation and industry. The entrance to the over 100-mile-long Delaware and Hudson (D&H) Canal was accessed through Rondout Creek, here in Kingston, allowing barges carrying thousands of tons of Pennsylvania coal, Hudson Valley bricks, and other resources between the two ends of the canal. The Mary Powell, one of the “floating palaces”, as these large passenger steamboats were called, had its home port in Kingston and brought thousands of passengers across the Hudson River to New York City and back every year. Hundreds of sloops and schooners sailed the Hudson River, many travelling back and forth in Rondout Creek. Over the years, many boats and barges have been neglected, left to rot on the creek. Accidents were unfortunately inevitable, and the Rondout Creek and Hudson River is home to a plethora of forgotten, wrecked and abandoned vessels. Join museum educator Emma Cariello as she discusses these vessels. The Follow the River Lecture Series is sponsored by Rondout Savings Bank. Bio of Speaker: Emma is an educator at the Hudson River Maritime Museum. She holds a journalism degree from SUNY New Paltz. She has previously worked as a historic interpreter at the Senate House State Historic Site and as a tour guide at the Reher Center.

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart. Wishing you happiness.” — Helen Keller

ART OMI NOW ON VIEW YATTA: Iron + Palm Wine Art Omi presents Iron + Palm Wine, a solo exhibition from artist and musician YATTA on view from November 15, 2025 through February 1, 2026. An immersive installation comprising video, sound, digital collage, and a series of original interviews, the exhibition will reimagine the pastoral as a site of reckoning, rather than escape. The show is framed by the music of renowned Sierra Leonean guitarist S. E. Rogie, a pioneer of palm wine music and YATTA’s great uncle. Palm wine—a form of finger picking guitar music created by merchant sailors in coastal West African cities at the turn of the century—was an early foundational style of West African guitar music and a historically significant antecedent to globally popular genres such as highlife and soukous. In addition to influencing these genres, palm wine music was popular among 2000s-era indie-folk musicians in the US. Positioning these histories as a backdrop, *Iron + Palm Wine* uses music as a lens through which to examine a romantic, colonial notion of nature exploration and leisure that YATTA names “the white wander.” For YATTA, the white wander is “unburdened, meadow, Walden, Thoreau. White wander scores earth music. Earth music is Fleet Foxes, Vampire Weekend, and Iron & Wine—music that reaches towards a rootedness that, I think, can only be found in a real, real way, on the continent of Africa.” Inspired by their research into the connections between these sounds and their reflections on nature culture, YATTA seeks to posit West African guitar music and Black wandering as “a balm for the psychic wounds”

of the transatlantic slave trade and the fraught relationship that Black people have had to land in the United States as a result of forced migration and labor. By presenting interviews with scholar and NTS radio host Jamal Khadar and Mississippi Records director Cyrus Moussavi, as well as a newly commissioned performance film made in collaboration with *Seeking Mavis Beacon* filmmakers Jazmin Jones and Yeelen Cohen, *Iron + Palm Wine* seeks to engage in a form of scholarly inquiry based in YATTA’s practice as a musician, operating with the understanding that the musics with which the exhibition engages are active, alive, and moving into the future. By acknowledging the possibility of this futurity, YATTA creates an expanded framework for those historically excluded from access to an unburdened relationship to the earth full of ease, leisure, and the right to wander. *YATTA: Iron + Palm Wine* is


curated by Guy Weltchek, Curatorial Assistant. ABOUT YATTA YATTA is a Sierra Leonean-American artist and composer whose work spans experimental music, performance, installation, sculpture, and sound art. Their music blends textural electronic elements, looped vocals, and rich storytelling, rooted in improvisation, humor, and surprise. They have performed at MoMA PS1, The Kitchen, Sonic Act Festival, and New Forms Festival, and have shared stages with artists such as Beverly Glenn-Copeland, Cardi B, Laraaji, L’Rain, and, The Sun Ra Arkestra. A recent MFA graduate from Bard College and a former artist-in-residence at Pioneer Works and Flux Factory, they continue to explore sound as a medium for storytelling, identity, and transformation. Their work has been featured in *Pitchfork*, *The Quietus*, *Nylon*, *Fact* Continued on page 16






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## ART OMI NOW ON VIEW from page 15 *Magazine*, and *The Wire*. ABOUT ART OMI

Art Omi is a not-for-profit arts center in New York's Hudson Valley that is home to the Sculpture & Architecture Park and Newmark Gallery, international residency programs, and thriving arts education programs. Art Omi forms community with creative expression as its common denominator for artists and the public alike to celebrate the transformative quality of art. **ART OMI: EXHIBITIONS** is a laboratory for artists and architects to challenge conventions, take risks, and shape urgent cultural conversations. We champion artists and architects at critical moments of their careers, offering a platform to test new ideas. Through exhibitions, events, and publications, we foster projects where playful irreverence meets critical inquiry. Our program is designed to build community and provoke dialogue, self-reflection, and experimentation. We serve as an open invitation to all.

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**COOL-AGE** by Sandy  
Cool Collages for Holiday gifts  
I am a creative collage artist with a passion for Color and the hope to inspire everyone to appreciate the Art World at a price that is affordable. I execute my collages on sundry paper with frames or directly on wood or canvas. My inspiration comes from decades of a professional advertising and a marketing career and from linkage to all great art in the world. I do not name my artwork as I believe the viewer should speak to each piece and the piece should speak to each viewer, and when it speaks to you....you name it! I am a resident of Rhinebeck and teach collage at Red Hook Community Center supervising the free open crafts room. **SANDY FRAIMAN / sandy@fraiman.net**  
**Sonny Fraiman JUNKART** by **SONNY**  
New York City as an exclusive designer of ultra-high end diamond showpieces for A-list celebrities on various red-carpet at all the major award shows. After stepping back from all the glamour and glitz I still felt the need to create art but with a twist. Instead of using precious stones to express my talents I decided to use junk! That's right! Found pieces of everyday items: nails, bottle caps, tools, bits of wood, old bottles, in fact whatever you consider junk, I see as art. Hence: JUNKART BY SONNY  
It's rougher around the edges and doesn't sparkle or shimmer like diamonds. But after perusing my pieces I hope you'll be able to discover a piece or two – of what I call: “A DIAMOND IN THE RUST”  
**SONNY FRAIMAN / sonny@fraiman.net**  
Art purchases and donations for the library are welcome. Library open hours for exhibition **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 [racerplace\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:racerplace[at]hotmail.com)  
**Rhinebeck Grange/Rhinecliff Holiday Weekend**  
**Rhinecliff Wreath**  
**Saturday, Dec 13 @ 10:00 am**  
Dress warmly and join us to help make a gigantic wreath for the community to be displayed in the center of Rhinecliff. Meet at the Rhinecliff monument. Bring gloves and prepare to have fun.  
**Morton / Rhinecliff Holiday weekend**  
**Driftwood Presents: December Concert - Saturday, Dec 13 @ 3:00 pm**  
A not to be missed concert! If you were lucky enough to have attended the prior concerts of Driftwood/the Morton Community Chorus, you got a taste of the glorious music that this group creates led by the incomparable Eva Salina. This is a concert that combines Georgian, Balkan, Serbian, Roma, songs plus so much more.  
**Morton/Rhinecliff Holiday Weekend**  
**Rhinecliff Festival of Lights**  
**Saturday, December 13 @ 5:00**  
Saturday evening we will shine some literal and figurative light on the hamlet! We ask everyone to pick up luminaria kits at the

library and then line the streets with candles. That evening we can enjoy the sights by walking and visiting with neighbors while enjoying a complimentary hot beverage from the Epicurean and a holiday cookie at Kips Tavern. You can also stop and have your picture taken in front of the Rhinebeck Grange wreath. Luminaria kits will be available at Morton for pick up beginning Wednesday, December 3. Each kit will contain 10 candles, bags, and sand and we are asking for a donation of \$20 per kit. The money will go to Red Hook Responds. For more information: [sandy\[at\]mortonrhinecliff.org](mailto:sandy[at]mortonrhinecliff.org)  
**Morton / Rhinecliff Holiday Weekend**  
**Holiday Cookie Swap**  
**Sunday, December 14 @ 2:00 pm**  
The cookie swap returns! Bring 3 dozen cookies and plan to swap! It makes holiday baking a snap. Join us as we taste, socialize, and drink hot cocoa. Call 845-876-2903 for details.  
**Richard's Rhinecliff Acoustic Show**  
**Friday, Dec 19 @ 8:00 pm**  
Featuring: Pat Lamanna, Paul Clarke, Klezmer Berl's Hotsie Totsie Orkester. Donations to benefit Morton are suggested.  
Morton Memorial Library & Community House  
82 Kelly Street, Rhinecliff, NY

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