

# BlueStone Press

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'Dracula' in Widow Jane Mine, how cool is that!

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What's really happening in the local real estate market?

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Support Rondout at the big game with food trucks

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## Back-to-school smiles



**Smiles all around, from kindergarten to high school for Gander students** After a great summer, students of all ages were back to school in the Rondout Valley School District. Above, Marbletown Elementary School students, from left to right, Mara VanLeuven, Giavanna Catapano, and Trey Catapano beam with excitement for the first day of school. Photo courtesy of Rondout Valley School District

## Rental permits limited

### Rochester limits short-term rental permits to 3%, establishes new town parking fines

**Thomas Childers**  
BSP Reporter

The Rochester Town Board meeting was held on Thursday, Sept. 1. All five board members were present, including town supervisor Mike Baden, along with Erin Enouen, Charlotte Smiseth, Adam Paddock and Micheal Coleman. MaryLou P. Christiana, the town's lawyer, was also present.

The meeting started with a discussion of the state reimbursing the town for services with the Highway Department. The reimbursement will be for approximately \$620,000- \$680,000. "A very nice Thanksgiving or Christmas present from the state of New York," said Baden during the meeting.

Baden also discussed a problem that has been affecting not just residents but the town as well, saying, "I believe we're now finally caught up to date with Central Hudson." When asked about this billing issue after the meeting, Baden said the cost for getting caught up with Central Hudson was "approximately \$4,200 for about five to six months, which is the normal amount charged for that amount of time."

There was also discussion of Local Law 7 amending chapter 132, which allows the town to create parking laws and issue court summons for parking in no-parking spaces in town. The fine structure has the first fine at \$50, the second fine in 18 months at \$100, and the third fine within 36 months at \$150.

These fines follow a court hearing; the court has the authority to assess additional separate fines for each day the violation continues after the notice of violation is served. Upon finding liability for a parking violation after a court hearing, the court shall levy a mandatory \$20 surcharge in addition to any other fine or penalty. A person receiving these fines can contest

## Meet Pamela Herrick, new director of the historical society

**Ann Belmont**  
BSP Reporter

The Bevier House, just north of Stone Ridge on Route 209, is one of those beautifully preserved centuries-old stone edifices that Stone Ridge is known for. It's also the home of the Ulster County Historical Society, a venerable institution that got a brand-new director in August, Pamela Herrick, former director of Washington Irving's Sunnyside and Van Cortlandt House Museum in Irvington.

Although the museum will be closing for the season in mid-October, Herrick will be working through the winter, planning for the future of curating the past. Her vision for the role of the UCHS in the community is an expansive one. In an interview with the BSP, Herrick grew animated, describing what she wants to accomplish.

To Herrick, history means "Right up to last week! I'm really interested in collecting, researching and understanding our recent history ... I mean, from the beginning of time until yesterday. It's all history! I think we have a lot to learn and discover ... I think that when we tell the stories of all of us who are in Ulster County it makes for a very rich



**New director Pamela Herrick outside the Ulster County Historical Society**

and engaging museum. One of the things that excites me about taking this job and working with this board of trustees is that they're very interested in telling new stories about the history of Ulster County." Before she came on board, the work of updating the museum had already begun, she noted.

"The board of directors worked very hard over the last couple of years to change the way that visitors experience the muse-

um itself," deciding not to continue keeping a permanent "period room" furnished with antiques. "Now that space is used for changing exhibitions."

Currently, there is a special exhibition at the UCHS all about three former art colonies in the county. Byrdcliffe Colony in Woodstock is perhaps the most well-known, but there was also an artist community in Cragmoor and one called Elverhoj down in Milton. For Oct. 15, the last day that the museum will be open to the public this year, a special event is planned, Herrick said. "At 2 p.m. we're offering a guided tour of the exhibition on Ulster County arts colonies, followed by a reception for our retiring director, Suzanne Hauspurg. Afterward, there will be a short program honoring her ... to thank her for her service as she retires. And then there'll be a reception with food. We invite anybody to come. It's \$15 - free to members. The food is great. And if anybody in the community has worked with Suzanne, it's a wonderful chance to come and wish her well in her retirement."

As for next year at the museum, Herrick is not afraid to think big. "We don't have

See **New director**, page 5

See **Rochester news**, page 4

# Real life wins off the field

Tell us how you made it to this area.

I grew up in White Plains and later settled in Connecticut, where I worked from home for a company called Total Sports. It



## Q&A

Visit the folks next door

had its publishing headquarters in Kingston. I was not familiar with Kingston. I was stunned when I saw the sign that said it was the first state capitol. I worked in a building next to the Armadillo on Abeel Street - and then at Tech City. The

company put me up at what was then the Holiday Inn in Kingston so I could work here two days a week.

In 1999 I was named associate publisher. My father lived in Catskill, so I stayed at his house during the week while my wife, Debbie, investigated where we should live. I remember looking at houses in Kingston, West Hurley, Woodstock, Rhinebeck and elsewhere, but one I did not see was this colonial in High Falls because Debbie thought it was priced too high. She was in the Realtor's office when the call came in saying the price was being lowered. She said I should come see it - immediately. We returned a few days later and I was walking in the yard when I saw that it bordered Stone Ridge Orchard. I was on board from that moment on.

Tell us about your family.

My daughter, Jan, was 2 when we moved here. She now lives in New York City and works in advertising. My son, Tyler, is a sophomore at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. Debbie teaches at SUNY Ulster. She is an assistant professor in the Education Department. She volun-



**Matthew Silverman**

**Age:** 57  
**Profession:** Writer/editor  
**Town:** High Falls

teers on the foundation board at the Stone Ridge Library and is a member of the Ulster Garden Club.

To use a sports analogy, Deb is really the quarterback of our family, the kids are receivers, and I stay in and block - not all that well. Our dogs, Keegan and Colton - beagle mixes who are brothers - are like special teams players: running all over the place for short intervals and then disappearing on the bench, sleeping hard and loud.

What do you do for your work, and how did you get there?

After earning an English degree, I was in journalism with a few small newspapers before I got involved with Total Sports. We produced the official encyclopedias for Major League Baseball and the National Football League, plus other books. When

the internet rendered most sports reference books obsolete, there went the dream job. But we thought this was a good place to raise a family, so we stayed put. I started doing freelance work for different publishers. I had an idea for a book about the team I grew up rooting for: the New York Mets. That led to eight different books on the team plus other books. I recently published my first novel, "Out of a Dog's Mouth," under the pseudonym McNally Berry.

I worked in various fields besides writing. After selling advertising for a couple of years, I decided to return to writing full time, only this time I would not rely exclusively on fickle publishing companies in faraway cities. I started Silverman Editing Services to help individuals with writing projects. I concentrated on networking and it has paid dividends. I am concluding a term as president of the Business Networking International (BNI) chapter in New Paltz. We meet every Wednesday morning at the Plaza Diner.

What are your outside interests and hobbies?

Obviously, I like watching sports. For five years I served as an usher for the Tri-City Valley Cats minor league team in Troy. My son Tyler played just about every level of hockey at the Kiwanis Ice Rink in Saugerties, and we spent so much time there we all became rather obsessed with hockey, so much so that Debbie plays with the Nightmares women's hockey team in Saugerties.

While at my first job in rural Massachusetts, I learned to ski and play golf, which are activities I can do with another person, a group or alone. I also like snowshoeing in the orchard with the dogs. You can't write without doing a lot of reading, so I always have a book or two going plus audio books in the car.

If you could meet anybody past or present who would it be and why?

Most of my grandparents were gone before I came along, so it would be nice to meet them. The vintage baseball game we did the other day for the Ulster County Historical Society (I am secretary for UCHS) got me thinking that it would be fun to witness a game from a century ago, with the bigger ballpark dimensions, the smaller mitts, legal spitballs, and stealing home. I'd love to see legends like Christy Mathewson, Honus Wagner, Walter Johnson, Grover Cleveland Alexander and Cy Young, who I've heard so much about but have rarely even seen clips of in a game. I'd also like to meet some of the authors we studied in school: F. Scott Fitzgerald, Sinclair Lewis, Eugene O'Neill, and Mark Twain. Now if I could get William Shakespeare to confirm or deny that he wrote all those plays, that'd be a real scoop. **BSP**

-Compiled by Jeff Slater, BSP Reporter



Come visit our office on 4301 Route 209 in Stone Ridge. The office hours are Monday through Thur. 10:00 - 3:00 p.m.

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### BSP Correction

On page 7 of the Sept. 2 BlueStone Press in the local news brief, "Friends of Historic Rochester annual meeting," the date of the meeting was incorrect. The meeting is not on Saturday, it is tonight, Friday, Sept. 16, at 7 p.m., at the Harold Lipton Community Center. The updated brief is on page 4 of this issue. The BlueStone Press apologizes for the error.



Seven newly hired, paid EMTs that will be serving KAFAS: Oliver Potter, Emma Post, Isabella Friedman, Allison Yewchock, Mason Wynkoop, Andrew Greer, and Ian Hasagawa

## First Aid Squad gets help with new paid EMT's

**Jeff Slater**  
BSP Reporter

The Kerhonkson-Accord First Aid Squad has added seven new paid EMTs to its roster. The paid EMTs will respond to 911 calls when volunteers are unavailable. The goal of the paid staff is to have a 24/7 ambulance crew available. Previously, when volunteers were unavailable, calls to 911 for ambulance services in the KAFAS area were responded to by crews as far away as Kingston or Sullivan County.

"To best serve our community, we had to look beyond our volunteers. We're pleased to provide the community the care it needs," said Capt. Tammy Avery, an EMT who has been volunteering since 2013.

Charles Nerko, chairman of the KAFAS advisory board, said, "I had the idea to supplement our volunteer staff with paid staff and introduced KAFSA to ES Support, a staffing agency specializing in hybrid volunteer/paid EMS agencies throughout upstate New York. Prior to moving to Kerhonkson in 2021 and joining KAFAS that year, I started volunteering as an EMT 20 years ago."

Nerko, an attorney and partner with Barclay Damon LLP, said, "My professional background has allowed me to see the best innovations in EMS from throughout the country and bring those innovations, like the hybrid staff program, over to KAFAS."

The Kerhonkson-Accord First Aid Squad

is in transition and is evolving to best serve its community. In addition to investing in the hybrid staff model, they have also invested in increased education for its volunteers, according to Nerko.

"The volunteer members work very hard in their professional and personal lives taking care of their own families and have missed out on family functions and sleep to answer 911 calls," said an E5 Support Services regional manager. "It takes a heavy toll on the lives of volunteers, and finally having support is wonderful. I look forward to continuing to work side by side with the Kerhonkson-Accord First Aid Squad to ensure their volunteers receive the assistance they deserve, and the patients receive high-quality care by outstanding emergency medical technicians."

"Our paid staff will provide our neighbors with the safety and comfort of knowing there will be a local ambulance crew ready to respond to a medical emergency. Investments in EMS produce outsized and dramatic returns by making our community a much safer place to live," continued Nerko.

So far it seems to be working. During a week that consisted of four 12-hour shifts, the paid staff responded to 15 total 911 calls and treated 11 critical patients with life-threatening conditions and provided medical support to firefighters responding to a structure fire. **BSP**

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# BlueStone Briefs

## Bakers wanted for the Annual Jennie Bell Pie Contest

Bake two pies in disposable tins and drop them off no later than noon Friday, Sept. 30, to Town of Rochester Recreation Department, 15 Tobacco Road, Accord, for entry in the annual Jennie Bell Pie Contest. Include the baker's name, age, address, phone number, kind of pie, and description. The pie contest will be part of the Friends of Historic Rochester Heritage Day, taking place 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, on Main Street, Accord, with winners announced at 1 p.m. Competing bakers do not have to be present to win. For information call 845-626-2115.

## Friends of Historic Rochester annual meeting tonight!

Join the community, 7 p.m. tonight, Friday, Sept. 16, at the Harold Lipton Community Center, 15 Tobacco Road, Accord, for Friends of Historic Rochester annual meeting.

The Town of Rochester is a historic rural community located in the picturesque Rondout Valley framed by the Shawangunk Ridge in the south and the Catskill Mountains in the north. The town has a long and distinctive agricultural history, distinguished by wheat plantations in the 18th century, dairy farms in the 19th century, and truck farms in the 20th century. Experience the craftsmanship and explore the history of historic barns in and around the Town of Rochester with guest speaker Harry Hansen.

This event will be live streamed on YouTube: Town of Rochester. Light refreshments will be served. For more info, contact the Town of Rochester Recreation Department at 845-626-2115.

## Marbletown Democratic Committee meeting

The monthly Marbletown Democratic Committee meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, via Zoom. The agenda will include updates on current membership and nominations for 2023 local elections, GOTV initiatives, Marbletown referendum on tax transfer, and any new business. The meeting ID is 824 9685 4033. For info, visit [marbletowndemocraticcommittee.org](http://marbletowndemocraticcommittee.org).

## TOR news

from page 1

them in court to show "Good Cause that shall be determined at the discretion of the court," according to Local Law 7.

There was also discussion of an executive order burn ban during the time of the meeting. However, when asked about the status of this burn ban on Sept. 14, Baden said that "the burn ban was rescinded as of Sept. 7," however they are monitoring as fall continues to determine if the ban needs to be reinstated.

Baden also discussed an ongoing issue with finishing the contract for the Halold Lipton Community Center. "We are still waiting on final paperwork from the architect. Both New York state and myself are at wit's end, but until they sign off on everything this project is not completed ... there's literally nothing we can do without that paperwork." In a later discussion Baden said, "this project has been completed for two or three years now ... it took a lot of e-mail communication ... to get reconciliation for final expenses for the project."

There was discussion of the Heritage Day event on Oct. 1. The Jennie Bell Pie Contest part of the celebration is still looking for contestants, with both adult and youth categories for pie makers, and Ashley Sweeney of the Town of Rochester Recreation Department said on Sept. 14 that "there are still openings." There is an unspecified cash prize for winning the contest. If you wish to sign up, contact the Recreation Department at 845-626-2115.

There was also a discussion of the 2023 new permit cap for non-owner-occupied short-term rental units. The purpose

of this Local Law 3 amending Chapter 140 says, "With the increase in tourism over the past several years in the Town of Rochester and adjacent areas, there has been an increase in the number of property owners renting to tourists on a short-term transient basis. Many residents list their properties as short-term transient rentals on web-based booking sites such as Airbnb and VRBO. Short-term transient rentals offer many benefits to property owners and residents in our town such as increased income, however, they also create potential health, safety, and quality-of-life detriments to the community ... this local law is to regulate the safety and use of short-term transient rentals as home businesses in line with the goals of the Town Comprehensive Plan."

The cap was originally proposed as 50 new permits and amended to be a cap of 40 new permits for the upcoming year. The permits available for this year do not roll over to next year. "As of Aug. 1 there are 42 available permits," said Baden in a later discussion. Baden said that "the 2020 census has identified 4,062 housing units in the Town of Rochester so we are at approximately 3%. Ironically, that is the number that, when we adopted this law, we were kicking around at the board - 3% seemed like a reasonable number."

Adam Paddock said, "The original law really was simply a shot in the dark. We didn't have a lot of numbers to work with, but with all our due diligence we're actually very, very close." Baden said that the intent of the law "is to not have people buying houses to rent on a for-profit basis."

There was also a call for people to apply to join the Housing Advisory Committee. Baden said that this committee

## Rochester seeks housing advisory committee members

The Town of Rochester is seeking five to seven members to join the newly formed Housing Advisory Committee. This committee was formed to review and analyze the housing needs of the citizens of Rochester, to advise on housing policies and initiatives, to develop strategies to improve housing options, and to recommend zoning changes or the adoption of local ordinances that best serve the housing needs of Rochester's citizens.

The board welcomes a diverse pool of applicants. Please apply by sending a letter of interest and a resume to [mbaden@townofrochester.ny.gov](mailto:mbaden@townofrochester.ny.gov) before Sept. 30, 2022.

is made to help work toward solving the "severe lack of housing ability for working families and lower-income families that don't have incomes low enough for subsidies." The committee membership would involve around one meeting a month, with some independent research, for the committee reporting to the Town Board with recommendations. Anybody with interest in the community and housing is invited to contact the town supervisor's office with a letter of interest. **BSP**

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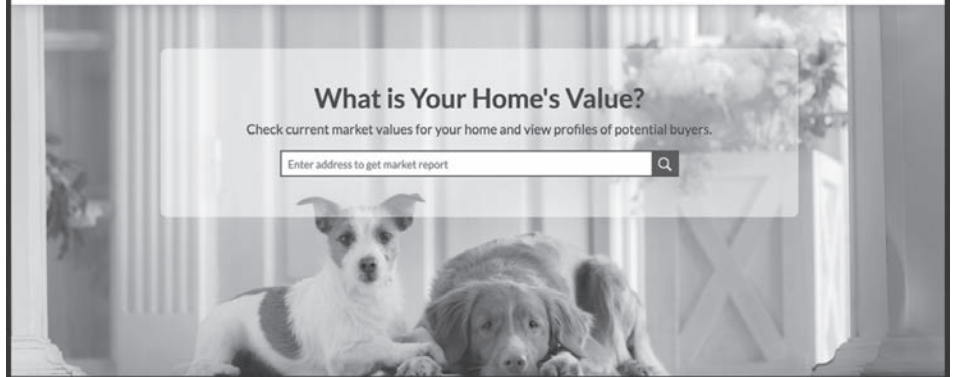
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## New director

from page 1

an opening date yet. Traditionally we've opened in May or June, but we're looking to expand our hours and our season." It sounds like Herrick will be working hard during the off-season. "Oh, absolutely. The work is never done. There are a couple of things that are high priority for me as the new director," she said. "One of them is expanding the stories we tell and working with new audiences. Another is to create a whole year of engaging public programs for audiences of all interests and ages, some at the museum and some out in the community ... We're going to be creating a brand new volunteer program to provide training for people who are interested in working with museum collections, with archives, and with public."

"We are working right now to discover what our main exhibition for 2023 will be ... there's plenty of opportunity to tell new stories, and it's very exciting for me, a longtime resident of Dutchess County, to find myself in a new community. I get to go around and meet everybody."

Herrick's interest in historical research started pretty early in life. "In 1976 I was in a phenomenal public school that did superb programs that took me out to historic sites, and it changed my perspective completely. I was so fascinated by what I witnessed during the Bicentennial celebration. It directly led to me seeking work in history museums." Trained as a museum curator, she has a master's degree from the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture. In 2019, she started a business, called A Houseful, researching and writing house histories for property owners in the Hudson Valley. Understandably, that business has taken a back seat to her new job, although, she said, "there's a house in Germantown in Columbia County that I'm still doing research on. In walking through the house with a team of researchers, preservationists and an archaeologist, one of our group noticed by chance the neck of a hand-blown glass bottle wedged into the dry-laid cellar wall ... The archaeologist was able to give it a rough date, based on the way that it was made. Sometimes you get wonderful bits of physical evidence when you're working on

the history of a very old house."

Herrick is from Maine, but she moved to Red Hook in the '90s. It seems natural for a historian to research her own family's genealogical history, which Herrick did during the pandemic. "I'm a 12th-generation Mainer ... I discovered that the family had been here much longer than I knew." Her ancestors were among the first Europeans to settle in coastal Massachusetts, she found.

Herrick reflected that "since Covid, things have changed a lot for the museum. One of the things we'll be looking at is how best to serve the school-aged population. We have a lot of work ahead of us to learn to use the things that educators learned during remote programming and expand our audience."

"I'm very much looking forward to partnering with all the cultural organizations in the county: the historians, municipal historians, the other historical societies, the museums, educators, community organizations. It's a very interesting county, and it's a privilege to get to know it." **BSP**



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# Change comes to the High Falls Food Co-op

**Ann Belmont**  
BSP Reporter

Change is always jarring. The High Falls Food Co-op, a beloved local institution since its founding 46 years ago, is still there on the corner of Lucas Turnpike and Route 213, a place locals rely on for organic goods, local produce, and low prices on bulk foods. But the Covid-19 pandemic has proved to be a sort of social earthquake, permanently altering the business landscape, and the HFFC finds itself having to adapt to a time very different from 1976.

Members of the co-op who read the monthly HFFC newsletter may already be aware that, starting on Oct. 1, instead of paying an annual fee, members will be required to make a one-time payment to buy a single "share" in the HFFC. They will be considered member-owners, with the right to vote for – or run for – the co-op board positions. They will receive a refund at the end of each year that the co-op turns a profit. (Current members will get credited for the money they have already paid this year; their share price will be reduced accordingly.) Discounts at the register are going to be discontinued.

"We're giving people the option to pay in one lump sum or on the installment plan over five years, so that would be \$40 a year," explained general manager Lucy Georgeff. Those who might experience financial hardship in coming up with the \$200 share price can receive assistance through what HFFC is calling its Solidarity Fund: "To ensure that everyone in our community – regardless of financial situation – can access our healthful, sustainably sourced food, we created the Solidarity Fund to help people who can't afford the full price of co-op shares. We will also have the Food for All discount program for members who need help at the cash register at times of financial stress," read

a statement mailed to the membership recently. Georgeff added, "If you apply for solidarity funds, you will be asked to pay what you can afford, according to our guidelines. The fund operates on the honor system, without your having to show proof of income"

Members who are comfortably off can contribute to the Solidarity Fund. "Under the old system we give out discounts at the register before we even know if we're profitable," Georgeff said. "We're asking people to become owners now." She pointed out that buying a share in the co-op is an investment, "just like an investment somewhere else."

For the past few years at least, the co-op has been operating at a loss. "There are a number of reasons for that," said Georgeff. "This co-op in particular didn't really see itself as a for-profit enterprise. It gave money back to the community in the form of discounts ... and then it didn't change with the times. What we're shifting to now is more of a reciprocal relationship between the member-owners and the store itself, which is a living, breathing enterprise ... The store has never really asked its members to step up and help with the financial health of the co-op, which directly affects our ability to serve the community." Didn't the old system of annual membership dues help support the co-op's operations? "Well, we pay taxes on that income. On the other hand, income from shares is booked as member equity and is not taxable. And as we build the member equity side of our balance sheet, the more attractive we become to banks. That could help us expand our operations. We simply will be worth more."

Will prices go up? "No. We've actually lowered a bunch of prices because we joined a national co-op. We're one of 150 co-ops [that buy together] so we're able to get better prices on a lot of the groceries we're carrying." Any profits will either be



Lauren Dingman, who worked in produce over the summer, and general manager Lucy Georgeff wax poetic over a bounty of vegetables.

reinvested back into the business – the co-op has aging equipment that needs to be replaced – or given back as annual patronage refunds to members, Georgeff said. Fortunately, "we got a great Covid relief loan," enabling the co-op to pay for a resurfaced parking lot ... no more pot-holes!

There may or may not be patronage refunds for members in any particular year, depending on whether the co-op turns a profit, but in Georgeff's view, the "very small" discount that members have received up till now at the register was "hardly an incentive, when you think about it." There are other, more compelling reasons for people to join the HFFC. They gain "a co-op in their community that can last another 50 years into the future ... equitable wages for our staff, who are also part of the community ... People join the co-op for all different reasons. Some people want the promise of sustainably sourced local foods; some people want the community, to come in and shop and see their friends. Some people really care about the democratic nature of the business, and that it's an alternative to corporate structure. Some people like

getting the patronage refund at the end of the year."

When the co-op was founded, there were few other local sources of the bulk grains, beans and other goods that the co-op specializes in. "Food co-ops brought local and organic and sustainable foods to the market. We did such a good job over the years that other businesses popped up. But co-ops return profit to the community," Georgeff said.

To the question of why some items the co-op used to carry are being dropped, Georgeff replied, "We did do a reset of our bulk department about a year and a half ago. We took a hard look at which items were selling throughout the whole store," resulting in some items that sold too slowly being dropped. "It's a tough decision to have to make. It's a constant refrain here: If only we had more space!" However, she added, "We are always open to suggestion," and can make custom orders for members who want something they don't see on the shelves.

"The board and the staff have spent a long time thinking about these changes," she continued. "We've had to ask ourselves, What does the co-op mean to this community? I keep coming back to the democratic nature of the organization. We are a social enterprise ... I think it could be really revolutionary if more businesses were community-owned." Georgeff believes that "a lot of our membership are proud to be part of a cooperative business."

Printouts of a FAQ sheet about the new membership structure, and financial guidelines for the Solidarity Fund, can be picked up at the cash register at the co-op. This information will be also emailed to members again before Oct. 1, said Georgeff, and the FAQ sheet is available at the co-op's website, [highfallsfoodcoop.com](http://highfallsfoodcoop.com). **BSP**

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## Change is in the air... We are here to assist

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# The public showed up to planning board meeting with questions about Cherries' expansion plans

**Perry recommended that Cherries start measuring water use to establish a baseline with which to compare**

**Amber Kelly**  
BSP Reporter

Marbletown's planning board met on Sept. 12 at the Rondout Municipal Center and was attended by chairman Paris Perry, town attorney Tracey Kellogg, board secretary Shawn Marks, and board members Scott Boyd, Sharon Klein, David Cobb, Harry Hansen, Max Stratton and alternate Ilan Bachrach. The meeting was live-streamed on Facebook as well.

First on the agenda was a new application for a lot line adjustment involving two parties, one from 226 Van Wagenen Lane, Kingston, NY, 12401, and Kathryn Cooper 63 Lapla Road, Kingston, NY, 12401. Zoning requires a minimum of 3 acres per house. The proposed adjustment gives parcel A 3.00 acres, parcel B 16.9 acres, and parcel C 4.1 acres. This agreement includes a conveyance of 1.38 acres from parcel B to parcel A, and a conveyance of 6.47 acres from parcel B to parcel C. This also eliminates a 25-foot right of way through one property. The board accepted the lot line determination. To proceed, the owners, who wish to prohibit further subdivisions, will submit specific wording to the town attorney for approval to put on the deed.

Next on the agenda was an application

from Robert Everett Jr. regarding property on Kripplebush Road, #80 and #90 County Route 2, Stone Ridge, NY, 12484. Parcel A has 1.05 acres and parcel B has 1.52 acres. This agreement would convey 0.34 acres from parcel B to parcel A. These lot line changes were approved.

Third on the agenda was the public hearing for Cherries' special use application. Quite a few neighbors showed up. Many agree that installing a parking lot would improve traffic flow greatly, but the fact that the parking lot is being installed prior to approval is worrisome. Perry assured the public that if something was built that that did not meet code, it would need to be remedied, even if it meant restoring it to what it was.

Neighboring property in one spot is just 12 feet from the proposed new parking lot. Could there be an improved border fence installed? Diego Celaya, architectural designer for Cherries, said that once the lot is installed, the fence will be installed.

A garage footprint is being renovated into an open dining room. Neighbors worried that it could become an event space. Perry said that it is for indoor seating only. The building may be a little larger than the footprint, but in that case, a new foundation will be laid.

Timothy Shea said that he has lived there all his life. He said water use affects each other. A public bathroom will increase water usage. He said that wells in the neighborhood come from a common aquifer and that they have experienced water shortages in the past. The whole neighborhood sits on solid rock. Digging deeper wells is therefore problematic.



Diego Celaya shows a diagram of the proposed new parking area and garage renovation for indoor seating at Cherries at a recent Marbletown Planning Board meeting with owner Lawrence O'Toole. Photo by Amber Kelly

Perry recommended that Cherries start measuring water use to establish a baseline with which to compare. A similar thing was done at the High Meadow School, so when they have a big event, extra water is brought in.

Questions about septic were assuaged by the fact that these raised septic systems are entirely self-contained.

Stratton said that picnic tables out front will need to be cleared from the right of way along the highway. Celaya said that was in the plan.

Neighbors asked if construction times could be limited to reasonable hours, like after 8 a.m. citing that recently landscaping was done at 12:30 a.m., and other loud work started at 6:30 a.m.

An immediate neighbor complained that trash pickup has become a daily chore, with utensils, cups and napkins littering her yard.

She asked if perhaps they could put more trash cans around? Cherries readily agreed.

Several board members expressed concerns about the issue of cars stopping along 209 and causing accidents on that busy highway.

Neighbor Paul Shea said that he recently contacted the state and was told that the traffic accidents in the area were generally from stupidity.

Entering and exiting Cherries has always been a problem since the entrance is just a residential curb cut. Historically, the property was a walk-up ice cream joint.

Traffic analysis recommends clearing foliage for greater visibility while exiting. The owner of Cherries, Lawrence O'Toole, has worked with Celaya to come up with solutions. The Department of Transportation is involved for approval of curb cuts, signage on Route 209, and enforcement of speed and traffic laws.

The plan is to have separate curb cuts for entering and exiting in front of Cherries. To the right of Cherries, a wider curb cut would lead to an entirely new parking area installed east-to-west. Board members expressed concern that one entrance to a line of parking spots could potentially get jammed up.

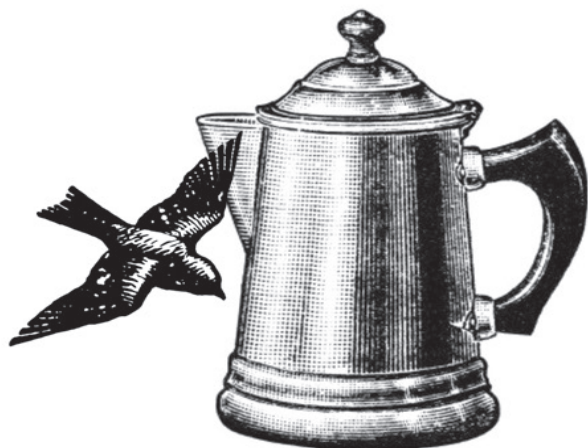
Since the old ice cream sign got knocked over, a new sign has been installed. Shea inquired whether the lighting could be mitigated.

This public hearing will continue. Look online for the Marbletown Planning Board agenda posted on the Friday before the second Monday of the month. **BSP**

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# BlueStone Memoriam

## David H. Rosenbaum, M.D.

ROSENDALE—David Herbert Rosenbaum, M.D., died Sept. 3, 2022, at the age of 77. He was born during the last year of World War II, in Pune, India, to Edmund and Senta Lucia Rosenbaum, refugees of the Holocaust. David immigrated to Brooklyn via ocean liner at the age of 5. David graduated from Erasmus Hall high school as a member of the National Honor Society and attended Brown University, majoring in French literature, graduating cum laude. He studied medicine at Duke University and later at New York University. David then served as a visiting fellow at the National Hospital for Nervous

and Mental Diseases in London before completing his internship and medical residency at Bellevue Hospital. Dr. Rosenbaum then completed his neurology residency at Columbia Presbyterian in June of 1974 and began a long career at Mount Sinai by becoming an instructor in neurology the following month. David met his wife, Catherine, at the Paris Health club in 1979. They married in May 1983 in their apartment on 95th Street and Riverside Drive in Manhattan. Dr. Rosenbaum continued working at Mount Sinai, the Bronx VA, Montefiore Hospital and St. Barnabas Hospital for decades, during which time he served on numerous committees, boards, task forces and working parties, earning scores of awards and accolades. He was the author or co-author of over 50 contributions to the medical literature in neurology. In 2000 Dr. Rosenbaum began practicing in North Bergen, New Jersey, and became an attending physician at Englewood hospital, a position he held until his passing. Dr. Rosenbaum is survived by his wife, Catherine; his sister, Elenor; his sons, Nicholas, Raphael and Colin; and his grandson, Simon. A lover of the Hudson Valley, David was laid to rest on Sept. 8, 2022, in a private ceremony with his immediate family in the Natural Burial Ground at the Town of Rhinebeck cemetery in Rhinebeck. A memorial service will be held at Plaza Jewish Community Chapel, 630 Amsterdam Ave., New York, NY 10024 on Sept. 21, 2022, at 3 p.m. Memorial donations can be made to the Rosendale Food Pantry (P.O. Box 8, Tillson, NY 12486) or the Rosendale Theatre Collective (<https://www.rosendaltheatre.org/donation/>)

## Mary Regina Cicale

HIGH FALLS—Mary Regina Cicale died peacefully on Sept. 13, 2022, after a long battle with progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP). She was 62. Born in Kingston to the late Roy and Mary Elizabeth Cicale, Mary graduated from John A. Coleman High School in 1978 and lived for many years in High Falls. Mary loved nature and cared deeply about all of creation, training dogs with pet owners and sharing her own home with a number of needy dogs and cats over the years. She was a self-taught songwriter and guitarist who wrote and played music with passion. An original recording from the 1990s was re-mastered last year to share

hope in suffering of all kinds; Mary wanted to leave her faith-filled music as a legacy to help and inspire others. Her CD is called "Metamorphosis" to signify the transformation from earthly to eternal life. Mary is survived by two devoted sisters, Virginia "Ginny" Provost (Steve) of Hooksett, New Hampshire, and Diane Rolfe (RC) of Beaufort, South Carolina, as well as nephews Mike Provost (Stacia), Chip Provost (Jill), and James Rolfe (Lauren). She will be dearly missed by her family and many cousins and friends. An infant niece, Anne Elizabeth Provost, predeceased Mary in 1994. The family wishes to thank Hudson Valley Hospice of Ulster County, Greg Howard and the staff of Ivy Lodge Assisted Living (Saugerties) and Ms. Nadine Daley for their extraordinary kindness and compassionate support. A funeral liturgy will be held at



Cicale

St. Joseph's Church in Kingston at 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 19. Per Mary's wishes, there will be no calling hours. However, a luncheon gathering for family and friends will be held after interment in Mary's memory. Arrangements are being made by Keyser Funeral Home, Kingston.

## Jane Heaton Civill

STONE RIDGE—Jane Heaton Civill, a former resident of Stone Ridge, Ellenville and Catskill, passed away on Aug. 31, 2022, at MidHudson Regional Hospital in Poughkeepsie after a serious illness. Jane was born July 28, 1945, at Kingston Hospital to Edward John Civill and Evelyn Alice Roosa Civill. In addition to her parents she is preceded in death by her brother, John Clark Civill. She is survived by sisters Sarah Ann Phillips and Carolyn Civill Birk, both of North Carolina. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Jane worked for many years as a machine shop machinist for Variab Inc. in High Falls, J.A. Reinhardt Co., Mountainhome, Pennsylvania, and at Imperial Schrade in Ellenville. Later, she worked as a housekeeper at St. Cabrini, Esopus, Hutton Nursing Home, Kingston, and for Unlimited Care Inc., Kingston. She enjoyed listening to country and gospel music. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Sat., Sept. 24, at the Fairview Cemetery in Stone Ridge. The Rev. Linda Miles will officiate. The family requests those who wish may make a donation to their favorite charity in Jane Civill's name. George J. Moylan Funeral Home Inc., Rosendale, is assisting the family with arrangements.

## Florence 'Chickie' Kilmer

COTTEKILL—Florence "Chickie" Kilmer, beloved mother and sister, died at her home in Cottekill on Sept. 4, 2022. She was 69. Chickie fought a long, hard battle with cancer for over 10 years. She worked hard all through her lifetime. She was employed at Golden Hill for many years. She had so many friends who loved her. She was always lending a helping hand to anyone in need. Her heart overflowed with love for her family. Adam, her son, and his fiancée Samantha. Desire and her beloved daughter. She was especially proud of her grandson, Julian. Her sister, Maryann Lynch Bresciani, and her brother, Lawrence Lynch, will hold all those wonderful family years in their "forever memories." Visitation for family and friends was Sept. 12 at the George J. Moylan Funeral Home, after which Father Kevin Malick officiated her funeral service, where there was a time of sharing memories. Cremation will be held privately. Memorial donations can be made to alleviate medical expenses and family needs; P.O. Box 137 Cottekill NY 12419. ([www.GJMoylan-FuneralHome.com](http://www.GJMoylan-FuneralHome.com))



Kilmer

## Pauline O. Shurter

STONE RIDGE—Pauline O. Shurter, a former lifelong Stone Ridge area resident, died Sept. 7, 2022, at Ten Broeck Commons in Lake Katrine where she had been a resident for the past five years. She was 87. She was born in Kingston on March 12, 1935, a daughter of the late Alfred E. and Lucinda Styles Terwilliger. Pauline worked as a waitress at several area restaurants prior to her retirement. She was an avid bird watcher, she enjoyed playing bingo, and she especially enjoyed spending time with her family. Her husband, William L. Shurter, died Sept. 12, 1993. Pauline is survived by five sons, Alfred Schwegler (Heather) of Bloomington, Joey Schwegler (Brenda) of Ellenville, Arnold Schwegler (Hope) of Florida, Donald Hughes (Christine) of Highland and Keith Hughes (Kathy) of Kingston; and a daughter, Kathy Arnold (Kathy) of Florida. She is also survived by 21 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. A son, Sean Derosier, and grandsons Dannie Hughes and Sammy Schwegler died previously. She was also predeceased by her four brothers, Ivan, John, Roy and Jim Terwilliger. Cremation will be held privately. Inurnment will be held at the North Marletown Cemetery at a later date. Her family suggests



Shurter

memorial donations to the Community Church of High Falls, P.O. Box 68, High Falls, NY 12440.

## Richard D. Holten

NEW PALTZ—Richard D. Holten passed away Sept. 4, 2022, in New Paltz. He was born Nov. 11, 1931, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was 90 but had a mind of a 30-year-old. He was a chess champion, loved history, people and his family. His childhood was extremely hard, he raised himself at the age of 9. His mother had died of TB and his father left them when he was born. Because of that background, he always choose to be positive and appreciate all of God's blessings. His wife, Denise P. Holten, died Jan. 9, 2019. Richard was a U.S. Navy veteran. He will be so missed by



Holten

his daughter, Simone, and grandchildren, Natalie Casado and her husband, Paul, and their children, Olivia and Owen, and his grandson, Brent Cimino. Richard's family would appreciate any memorial donations to go Walden Animal Shelter, 2489 Albany Post Road, Walden NY 12586. Graveside funeral services were Sept. 9 at the New Paltz Rural Cemetery, 81 Plains Road, New Paltz. The Rev. Arlene Dawber officiated. Military honors were bestowed by the U.S. Navy and American Legion Post 1219.

## Deborah A. Wilber

BLOOMINGTON—Deborah A. Wilber, "Our Loving Sister and Beloved Aunt," died peacefully on Sept. 2, 2022, at her home surrounded by her loving family. Debbie was a courageous warrior in her battle with cancer and was an amazing positive and strong woman. She was born on June 13, 1959, in Kingston, the daughter of Hermine Wilber, who recently passed away on May 29, 2022, and William L. Wilber who died June 7, 2005. Debbie resided in Stone Ridge for much of her life and previously worked as a nursing supervisor at Golden Hill. Debbie loved all animal critters "big and small" and



Wilber

her two cats "Blue" and "Red." She loved going out to dinner, and she enjoyed spending time with her family and especially her loving nieces and nephew, who she truly adored. In addition to her parents, she was also predeceased by a sister, Hermine Marie Wilber, who died on July 25, 2004, and her best canine friend, Clancy, who passed away on May 17, 2022. Debbie is survived by her sister, Rosamond Wandell (Carl) of Stone Ridge, and her brother, Stuart Wilber (Martha) of Las Cruces, New Mexico. She is also survived by her loving nephew, Thomas Wandell; loving nieces Nicole Cruci, Tammy Garcia, Rigel Oquendo, Denise Lobatos, Zuria Butler and Amanda Wilber; grandnephews Ben Cruci and Rapheal Lobatos; grandnieces Olivia Cruci, Annalysse Garcia, Aislinn Wilber and Briseis (Bebe) Oquendo; and former sister-in-law Leigh Montague of North Carolina. Visitation and the funeral service were at the George J. Moylan Funeral Home Inc., 2053 Route 32, Rosendale, on Sept. 9. Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery, Stone Ridge. Memorial donations are requested to the UCSPCA, 20 Wiedy Road, Kingston, NY 12401.

## Charlotte Riedel

HIGH FALLS—Charlotte Riedel, a former longtime resident of High Falls, died on Sept. 3, 2022, at Golden Hill Health Care Center in Kingston. She had been a resident there for the past five years. She was born in Leipzig, Germany, July 3, 1924. Charlotte's husband, Kurt Riedel, died March 14, 1980. She had been employed for many years as a seamstress for various clothing manufacturers in Kingston until her retirement. She is survived by a son, Freddy Riedel, and wife, Linda, of Ellenville, and a daughter Christa Robinson (wife of the late Robert Robinson) of Mannsville. Also survived by grandchildren, Robert (Takako), Tammy Rinehart, Amy Engle (Clay), Jason (Krissy), Zachary (Rebecca), Emma Quinn (Michael), Lori

See Memoriam, page 9

*George J. Moylan  
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Annual Meeting & Election of Officers**

Saturday, October 8, 2022 @ 2PM

**OLIVEBRIDGE  
FIREHOUSE**  
Corner of Route 213  
& Mill Road



# Memoriam

from page 8

Kunzing (Daniel), Edythe Robinson. A grandson, Steven Riedel, predeceased her. Nineteen great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren also survive. Graveside services were Sept. 7 at the Rosendale Plains Cemetery, Springtown Road, Tillson. George J. Moylan Funeral Home of Rosendale assisted the family. ([www.GJMoylan-FuneralHome](http://www.GJMoylan-FuneralHome))

## Arnold Joseph Yongen

ACCORD—Arnold Joseph Yongen passed away unexpectedly on Aug. 30, 2022, at the age of 91. Arnold was born on June 27, 1931, in Brooklyn to the late Russell and Anna (Young) Yongen. Arnold served his country in the United States Marine Corps at the end of the Korean War. He worked hard his whole life, even at a very young age he worked delivering ice to all the bars in Brooklyn with a horse and wagon. He was a self-made man who was a 70-year member of the Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 28 and Local 38 and was a head draftsman for over 20 years before his retirement. In



Yongen

the late 1970s, he headed up the HVAC work for the cancer wing of the King Faisal Memorial Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, which was his crowning achievement. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He loved to read and enjoyed gardening and taking care of his flowers, plants and fruit trees. He was a member of the Wawarsing Rod and Gun Club and a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. He and Joyce, his loving wife of 68 years, have been members of Christ the King Reformed Baptist Church in Wawarsing for over 30 years. Nothing was more important to him than his family, and he will be missed by all who knew him. He is survived by his wife, Joyce (Leudesdorff) Yongen; his daughters, Gail (Jerry) Yongen-VanNatta of Kerhonkson and Brenda Sellers of Accord; his grandchildren, Joshua Sellers, Daniel Sellers (Becca Edwards) and Andrew Sellers (Dallas Sumski); and his great-grandchildren, Zoe and JT. Also surviving are his brothers, Russell, Raymond and Warren, and his sister, Doris Polski, and many nieces and nephews. The visitation and funeral service were held at the Christ the King Reformed Baptist Church in Wawarsing, followed by the burial in the Ulster County veterans section of New Paltz Rural Cemetery. Arrangements were under the guidance of Humiston Funeral Home, Kerhonkson. Memorial contributions may be made in Arnold's name to Christ the King Reformed Baptist Church, 7227 Route 209, Wawarsing, NY 12489 or [christthekingny.org](http://christthekingny.org). Condolences may be left for Arnold's family by visiting [humistonfuneralhome.com](http://humistonfuneralhome.com).

## Daniel 'Danny' Kelly

ACCORD—Daniel "Danny" Kelly, a former longtime resident of Accord, died on Sept. 12, 2022, at Ten Broeck Commons in Lake Katrine, where he passed away peacefully at age 79, surrounded by his family. He was born in Brooklyn on Dec. 23, 1942, son of the late Edward and Lillian Gallagher Kelly. He had been employed as a truck driver for 43 years, working for Channel Master in Ellenville for many years and Yellow Freight in Maybrook until his retirement. He received an award for over 5 million miles of safe driving. Danny loved his family and spending time with them. He especially



Kelly

enjoyed teaching his grandchildren new things. He loved to travel and go on cruises with friends. He was a "snowbird" and loved his home in Del Ray Beach, Florida. He was a patriotic man and loved sports, especially the NY Mets. Dan had a sweet tooth and could always be found sneaking the snacks. He was also a man who thought he could fix anything with duct tape! His wife of over 40 years, Barbara Kelly, died Jan. 11, 2020. He is survived by a son, Tom Kelly (Krista) of Accord, a daughter, Colleen Paes (her late husband Jimmy) of Ellenville, a stepdaughter Kellie Boydston of Kansas City, Missouri, and two sisters, Jo Ann Treutler (Russell) of Saugerties, and Maureen Finch (John) of Port Ewen. Also survived by three grandchildren, Danielle Paes, Daniel Kelly and Matthew Kelly, two step-grandchildren Taylor and Austin Boydston, brother-in-law Gene Brice, sister-in-law Shirley Kelly, and many nieces and nephews. A sister, Kathleen Brice, a brother, Timothy Kelly, and a stepson, Shawn Robinson, all died previously. Visitation for family and friends was held Sept. 15 at the George J. Moylan Funeral Home, Rosendale. Cremation will be held privately. Memorial donations are requested to the Kerhonkson-Accord First Aid Unit, P.O. Box 67, Kerhonkson, NY 12446.

# He was giving, loving, fun, crazy, creative, and everyone's 'Uncle Chris'

## Christopher Lee Ronda

ACCORD—Christopher Lee Ronda passed away on Aug. 31, 2022, at his home in Accord. He was born to Ricardo Ronda and AnnMarie Ronda at Albert Einstein Hospital in the Bronx.

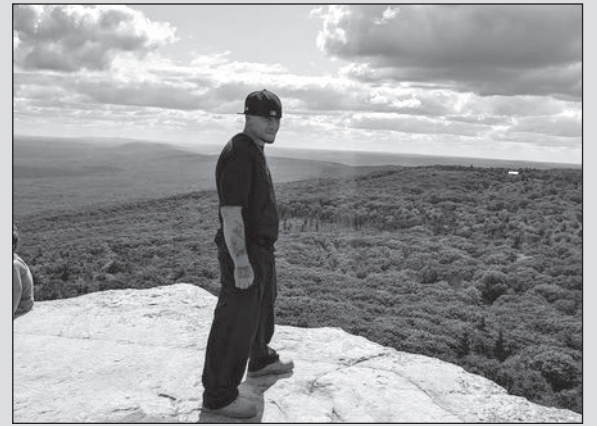
He grew up in Rosendale. As a little boy, he would wander around the development in Tillson Estates asking for milk and cookies, and he was so cute people would give him those cookies. His early days were spent running around the Rosendale woods, swimming in the Rondout creek, hunting for diamonds on the creek rocks, and catching fireflies. He spent most summer days at the Rosendale pool with the Flying Dutchmen, and during the fall, he played baseball for Rondout Valley Little League. He was an original member of the "Clue Club" with Frank Perez, Andrea Perez, and Ricky Ronda. He was a hard worker. His first job was delivering the Daily Freeman newspaper. He was an excellent swimmer and worked multiple jobs as a lifeguard, and later, for several years at Benedictine Hospital. He graduated from Rondout Valley High School and trained as a plumber with the late Rick Born. He worked as a plumber for many years and enjoyed doing jobs with his brother. He more recently began studying welding at the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

He was always the most fun person and could always lighten up a room. He never cared about what people thought about him and would do the most ridiculous and crazy things in public. He especially loved when he had his boys there to act crazy with him. He really loved his music and Tupac. It always had to be loud. He would sing his heart out even if he did not know the words (he would call it his remix). And he could always bust out some pretty nice dance moves too. He loved the thrill of scary movies and rollercoasters (especially with his riding partner Jay-rock). He loved scaring us. He would make up crazy stories and yell during the suspenseful parts of the movie or scream "bread truck!" before break checking us. We could almost never scare him, though his "boo-nagi" was too good. He was the most generous and selfless man. He always put others before himself. He would help everyone he could, whether it was putting air in the tire, fixing the heat or hot water for a neighbor, helping a friend with car problems, or fixing someone's smashed phone screen. He always knew how to fix everything, and if he did not know, you just had to give him a minute and he would YouTube it and get the job done. Every winter he would spend hours shoveling driveways, working on furnaces and hot water heaters because he believed "people need heat."

He loved animals more than he loved most people. He never cared how stinky the dogs were, they could always give him all the smelly wet kisses they wanted and then cuddle up with him in bed. He often left a door open for the stray cats to come in. He would never trap a mouse because "the little fellas need someplace warm too." He kept and took care of two little birds that got inside through the wood stove chimney. He even jumped out of his chair mid-movie because he got the idea to pile snow around his picnic tables to make igloos for the stray cats.

He was a very proud father. His kids were his life. He loved them with all his soul. He was so proud of all that his Princess Janelle had accomplished, graduating with honors from Rondout Valley High School, earning a full scholarship to SUNY Ulster, and following her dreams. Jayce and Isaiah, these are his dreams for you, too.

He also had a strong faith in God and spent significant time in Bible studies. He wanted his family and friends to believe in Jesus Christ, and we imagine



Above: I know he is looking down on all of us singing "We are the mighty Rondas!" and "Uncle Chris rules!" I know it would bring him great joy to know that the first thing my daughter said to me after learning he died was "Uncle Chris rules!" ~ Jocelyn Ronda, Chris' sister. Below: When they were young, Chris and his sister Jocelyn

him now dancing in heaven with Gianni, Uncle Ray, Mama Frances, Nana Skiff, Carol Perez, Frank Perez, crazy Eddie, Bobby Digital, Tasha, Baci, Taz and Esco. He was "everybody's favorite uncle!" "Uncle Chris rules!"

He gave the best hugs. He would squeeze you just before the point of suffocation and he always knew just when to let you go or hold tighter. He always said I love you.

He is survived by his love, Robin Michelle Krom (aka Flower) of Accord; three of his children, Janelle Lee Ronda, Jayce Anthony Ronda and Isaiah Christopher Ronda of Accord; by his parents Ricardo Ronda and AnnMarie Ronda of Accord; his brother Ricky Ronda and sister-in-law Julie Ronda and nephews Little Ricky Ronda, Anthony Thomas Ronda, Kayden Ronda, and Isiah Lesmes of Accord; his sister Jocelyn Ronda and brother-in-law David Bisson and niece Syra Soroushian Bisson of Wakefield, Massachusetts; his siblings by love Andrea Perez of Kingston and Frank Perez of Albany; a huge Puerto Rican and Italian family including uncles Luis Ronda of Meriden, Connecticut; Paul Bellino of Yonkers; Anthony Bellino of Accord; Bert Colon of Chicago, Illinois; Hector Ronda of Martinsburg, West Virginia; Tito Ronda of San Juan, Puerto Rico; Frank Pagan of Tampa, Florida; Eddie Perez of Orlando, Florida; aunts Eyleen Ronda Perez of Orlando; Emily Roche of Tampa; Vivian Suckocki of Tampa; and by his pets Mango and Khloe. He was predeceased by his son Gianni Christopher Michael Ronda; uncle Raymond Scott Bellino; grandmother Frances Bellino (aka Mama Frances); and pets Tasha, Baci, Taz and Esco.

Arlene Dawber officiated a celebration of his life service, held on Sept. 6, at George J. Moylan Funeral Home Inc., 2053 Route 32, Rosendale. Cremation was private. Memorial donations are requested to [innocenceproject.org](http://innocenceproject.org).

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## RV girls soccer... high hopes and a new coach

**Jeff Slater**  
BSP Reporter

Rondout Valley High School's girls varsity soccer team might have lost their first two games, but hope runs high on the team. With coach Kayley Jensen at the helm, they're in good hands. Jensen teaches science at RVHS and played soccer in Kingston High School as well as on a travel team and was recruited by the College of Saint Rose, giving her strong background in the sport.

"One thing that has stood out to me as a new coach is how welcoming and respectful the girls have been. They really went out of their way to make me feel welcome. They have demonstrated to me that they're very eager to learn and put in the necessary work for our season. There is a good team dynamic with all of the girls, which I think is rare. They are very positive and encouraging of each other on and off the field. It has been very refreshing to witness," said Jensen.

In terms of players, the team is led by three seniors, co-captains Madeline Malik, Kayla Oakes and Faith Avello. "They have really stepped up this season and showed tremendous leadership. I can confidently put them in any position and know they will succeed," continued Jensen.



Rondout varsity girls soccer team talking it up before their game against Lourdes on Tuesday, Sept. 13.

Oakes, a seasoned varsity player, said, "I am excited for this season because all my teammates are eager to learn new things and work together to improve our game as a whole."

The team plays 13 total games, and they get to play on the new turf at Rondout.

"Right now, we are focusing on building our attack and improving the basics. I always tell them 'the basics' are what helps teams win games. Our biggest strengths are our defensive line and our team chemistry. Our team chemistry will be a big help

to us as the season progresses. We just need to score some goals.

"My favorite part of the team is how all everyone gets along. Every practice, no matter what we are doing, each of the players shows up in great mood. The girls are always laughing and having a good time and yet still know when it's time to be serious and put in work," said Jensen

The playoffs start in mid-October.

"We have a tough season ahead of us, but it is my hope we will be able to win some games and make it to the postsea-

### Double Overtime win for boys Soccer

Rondout Valley High School boys soccer got a big win on Wednesday, Sept. 14, against Marlboro. Marlboro took the lead in the first period 1-0. Rondout was able to come back in the second period and score to tie the game up, with Marley Pileggi scoring the tying goal on a penalty kick. The game went into overtime. In the first OT the teams did not score. In the second overtime, with the boys on both teams were playing hard but were really tired. Finally, in the second OT, Jake Lawlor passed the ball to Marley Pileggi for the winning goal. What a game! This was Rondout's first win and against a quality opponent.

son," said Jensen.

"I am excited to see where the season takes us and how we continue to work together as a team," said Sydney Allen, a player on the team.

So come out to the next home game and cheer on these athletes. **BSP**

## Gander Homecoming games and Food Truck Festival

Join the community, 5-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, for the second annual Rondout Valley High School Homecoming Food Truck Festival, in the 2nd Street parking lot, at 122 Kysyerike Road, Accord. Enjoy delicious food, student booths, and all-around family fun!

Food trucks will serve 5-9 p.m. with selections ranging from barbecue, tacos, burgers, gyros and nachos to corn dogs, French fries, kettle corn, mac & cheese, lobster rolls, kettle corn, cupcakes, and so much more. Dine in the outdoor Gander Garden or bring chairs/blankets for lawn seating.

There will be two athletic games this year during the festival. The evening will

kick off with a Homecoming soccer game at 4:15 p.m. followed by the Homecoming football game at 7 p.m. under the lights. Show Gander pride by wearing blue and white!

The Food Truck Festival was a huge success last year. To further ensure the safety and security of all visitors, Rondout will be increasing their staff and security presence during this year's event. Parking will be available on 1st Street and 3rd Street, and note that 2nd street will be closed and reserved for the vendors only. Admission to the festival is free.

For more information, call 845-687-2400, ext. 2401 or email dgottstine@rondout.k12.ny.us.



Rondout Valley High School's principal, Jessica Torok, at last year's homecoming game with the Gander mascot and Rondout Valley English teacher Robyn McDonough, sampling some treats at the 2021 Homecoming Food Truck Festival.



## Alexandra Kassian is a New Paltz Hawk swimmer

Alexandra Kassian of Kerhonkson is on the SUNY New Paltz swim team for the Hawks' 2022-23 season. Kassian graduated from Rondout Valley High School in 2021 and is the daughter of Orest Kassian and Irina Sarakama.



Her high school accolades included New York state qualifier in 2019, three-time OCCIAs and Section IX High qualifier and placer in 2017-2019. She was Rookie of the Year in 2017.

In her 2021-22 season with the Hawks she placed third in the 200 individual medley (2:12.59), fifth in the 100 breaststroke (1:09.34), and sixth in the 200 breaststroke (2:31.45) In the SUNYAC

Championships she scored 10 first-place finishes: 200 freestyle (Western CT), 200 breaststroke (Hartwick/Oneonta Tri-Meet, Vassar and Cortland), 200 individual medley (Hartwick/Oneonta Tri-Meet, Oneonta), 100 breaststroke (Hartwick/Oneonta Tri-Meet, Cortland), 400 individual medley (Cortland), and 50 backstroke (Oneonta); finished third in 100 breaststroke (Vassar); at the TCNJ Invitational placed second in the 100 breaststroke, third in the 200 individual medley and 200 breaststroke, seventh in the 10 backstroke; member of the second-place 200 medley relay and 400 medley relay, fourth place 200 freestyle and 400 freestyle relay; recorded four personal bests: 100 freestyle (:55.40), 200 breaststroke (2:31.45), 200 individual medley (2:12.59), and 200 freestyle (2:06.64). She was named to the 2022 SUNYAC Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll and earned a spot on the Hawks Academic Honor Roll for the fall 2021 and spring 2022 semesters.

Kassian said, "I have participated in competitive swimming for 10 years."

## 9th Annual NRA Women on Target Instructional Shooting Clinic in Marbletown

The Marbletown Sportsmen's Club will host their 9th Annual NRA Women on Target Instructional Shooting Clinic, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at their clubhouse and shooting range, 95-105 Scarawan Road, Stone Ridge. The event is specifically geared for ladies with no or very little handgun experience.

Under the direction of Ken Cooper, head instructor, and John Jenerose, assistant instructor, participants will

receive extensive classroom instruction on Handgun Safety, NY Article 35 Defense of Justification, Rules of Range Safety and much more. Students will then experience one-on-one instruction on how to safely handle, load and shoot a handgun, conducted on the club's firing range.

The cost is \$65. All students will receive an NRA Women on Target Certificate of Recognition for completing this firearm education class and marksmanship orientation.

The New York State Gun Law, which went into effect on Sept. 1, requires 16 hours of instruction and two hours of range time when one applies for a NYS pistol permit.

Preregistration and a valid NYS pistol permit is required. For more information, contact clinic director Carol Wills Laurito at 845-687-7735, or email ckf3@msn.com.



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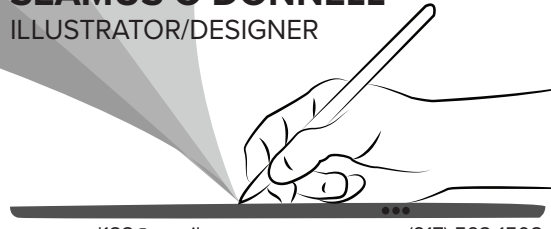
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# Rosendale Town Board approves geothermal utility study among other board actions

**Michelle Vitner**  
BSP Reporter

The Rosendale Town Board meeting, held on Sept. 14 at the Rondout Municipal Center in Cottekill, was attended in person by town supervisor Jeanne Walsh, along with councilmembers Carrie Wykoff and Christopher Pryslopski. Councilmembers Ernest Klepeis and Joseph Havranek were not in attendance.

Rosendale pool lifeguard Joshua McGann will remain in employment on a per diem basis, now as a cleaner for the facility.

A series of resolutions were passed:

1. Yearly RMC firewall protection renewal for \$563.
  2. Proposal from CT Male Associates for landfill monitoring and reporting services for the Town of Rosendale, located on Whiteport Road. Done on a yearly basis.
  3. Bid award for tennis courts. Supervisor Walsh, in conversation with Dennis Larios, engineer on the project, determined the lowest bid was from Arold Construction for \$226,248.
  4. Records access officer responsibility to change from town clerk and deputy town clerk for police-related records to the chief of police, and sergeant in his absence, for police-related records/FOIL requests.
- A bid for slightly over \$92,000 for a basketball court will not be awarded at this time. The cost is deemed too high for the proposed work, and instead the priority will be the renewal of playground equipment in the future.

Speaker Lisa Jerkowski discussed the Rosendale Runs event, to be held in October. Application is in place and event logistics were discussed. They will need to confirm that an EMT will be present. Fee waived as proceeds benefit the Town of Rosendale.

Speaker Peter Cody, for the Gunks Climber Coalition. The event application is in place for the 2022 climbing festival, to be held at Stone Mountain Farm. Total participants to be determined, with cap at 300. Approval by Ulster County Board of Health in place; fee to be determined. Event to take place Oct. 7-10.

Supervisor authorized access for the Rosendale Environmental Commission to gather further documentation from the town records that pertain to energy use for support of the Climate Smart Communities program application to New York state. Members of the committee present: Amie Worley, Susan Gillespie, Darrell Hamlin and Penny Coleman. They spoke with the board about the Climate Smart communities (CSC) status, in regards to satisfying the criteria.

This has been an ongoing and nuanced process over time that involves five main steps: passing a resolution in your municipality; completing an online registration form; selecting specific climate-smart ac-

tions as suggested by the program; collecting documentation of actions achieved; and finally, submitting an application. Supervisor Walsh expressed concern that they may still need greater clarification between all parties as to the various guidelines met and also that information does not become redundant in this process.

Penny Coleman said the application gets submitted in January 2023, but she is looking further into the review process, attending a workshop this fall that gives even greater details on what will make a successful application. New York state grant funds may be available.

In addition, they discussed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), state legislation that was approved in 2019 to reduce greenhouse gases. "The goal of the CLCPA is to eliminate 100% of the climate pollution caused by humans, calling for an 85% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, with an interim target of 40% by 2030," according to the website. The commission has put forward its own goals to meet targets in Rosendale that parallel much of the CLCPA goals. In it are suggestions, a set of proposals that a scoping plan would investigate at this stage for Rosendale.

Walsh along with councilmember Christopher Pryslopski expressed concern as to feasibility and the practical implementation of such proposals for the needs of residents, some who may find it difficult to attain the goals set forward should there be economic barriers or limited access to green energy solutions, or under challenge of extreme weather in the area, where some solutions may not meet the needs of residents and wood stoves or gas may still be necessary for backup. The supervisor stated, "it was estimated that it would cost Ulster county \$6.2 million to retrofit all homes in the county."

All parties expressed interest in the greenhouse and carbon reduction goals but discussed how it will require more

dialogue to see how it will best be implemented. It was stated that the scoping plan would lead to more data. The committee stated that the proposals would not impose a burden on households but, instead, may be tied to new construction as well as offer options for retrofitting homes. It was decided that further discussion will take place around these matters in the October board workshop meeting.

The board approved a scoping study to investigate whether Rosendale may benefit from a Utility Geothermal Network, a study similar to that being done for Marbletown and High Falls currently. The speaker Tom Su discussed how the study will determine if using geothermal could become a useful method of energy infrastructure for heating of 10 or more homes, using either a closed loop or thermal exchange method. Geothermal uses water lines through ambient ground temperatures or deep-water sources below the freeze line to assist in efficient heating and cooling of buildings or homes.

In this case, they would be incorporating old wells as a resource (wells no longer used for drinking due to past issues with contamination in High Falls). This system could meet the energy needs for even more homes. Initially they would need 10 homeowners willing to become part of the program in order for NYSERDA to cover the funding for the scoping study. Currently, Su said, there are 14 other New York communities pursuing this approach through the program, including Woodstock. He also said that Utility Geothermal Networks have been implemented by a

few hundred communities around the country as well as many more in Europe. Su explained geothermal water infrastructure is not in any contact with municipal drinking water and this kind of system has been used in New York City. There are currently 44 Rosendale residents in the High Falls water district.

Supervisor Walsh and speaker Sarah McGinty reviewed how the new outdoor fitness facility, to be constructed in the coming week at the Recreation Center grounds, will be finished in time for a ribbon-cutting event to be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27. The event will also feature some area seniors participating, and also ambassadors who will guide people in the safe use of the equipment.

Application was approved by the board for the Rosendale Pickle Festival. Sarah McGinty presented information about the upcoming festival, proceeds to benefit the town so event fees are waived. Traffic patterns were taken into consideration - there will be a shuttle service provided for off-site parking as well as fliers handed out with off-site locations for people to park if needed. Walsh noted that there had been a new propane tank and lines installed at the Recreation Center, that a map of underground propane lines will need to be recognized. An event location map was reviewed to see that the pop-up food vendors would be safely situated on the grounds. Also, advertising and social media are underway. **ESP**



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# Rondout celebrates on-time transportation and successful move-in after renovations

**Amber Kelly**  
BSP Reporter

The RVSD Board of Education meeting at 7 p.m. on Sept. 13 at the District Office began with district clerk Debra Barbiani officiating the swearing-in of the two student board members, Sierra Hikade, and returning Emily Bartolone.

Board president Dawn Van Kleeck opened up the floor to board members.

"I just want to say kudos to the administration, our teachers, our principals, and our assistant principals," board member Nicole Parete said. "This year was smooth. I mean it went off without a hitch. Transportation was on time – kudos. The amount of work that went in, especially at the schools where the teachers couldn't get in until the day before because of construction. I went to the school that evening and teachers were there late, setting up their classrooms, and the administration. It just goes to show the dedication. It was awesome, I got chills."

"That middle school has not been renovated for 50 years," Van Kleeck said. "I mean, walking through with the new ceilings, new tiles, the lighting, new safety pieces, and the new updated cafeteria – it is beautiful. I can't wait for the teachers to enjoy the new windows."

Dr. Joseph Morgan, superintendent of schools, said, "This was phase III of the project. We got almost all-new LED lighting, and still coming is a new high-efficiency boiler."

"New floors also, and getting rid of those awful accordion walls that you can hear through," Lee Cutler, principal of the Intermediate School, said.

Board member Chris Schoonmaker gave kudos to Rondout Valley schools and to the busing, then announced the merging of the budget and policy committees.

"There's something I've been thinking about for a long time, and that is to maybe develop an apprentice program," board member Lucy VanSickle said. "Seniors could be interested, maybe juniors. We

could develop a school-to-work program, and students could find out what it is like to work and maybe have a job when they graduate. We could partner with local business and contractors. I am assessing the interest and wondering how to contact local employers."

"Our athletics have been kicking off for the past two weeks," board member Carolyn Peck said. "We have this beautiful stadium. Modified will start next week. Please come and support your Ganders. I also want to honor those who are not involved in athletics but are involved in the arts. So good luck to all our bands, and chorus. We have one of the best music programs in the country for a reason – because we have amazing music and art teachers and have students recognized on a national level."

"It's been a great start," principal Andrew Davenport said. "At Marbletown, the kids are focused on building community. We want kids to get to know each other using restorative practices and games. I just want to talk a little about what is going on at Marbletown. Wednesday, Mrs. D. (Felice Digennaro) has been our advocate for International Peace Day. It is our No Place for Hate event, and we have a lot of students involved. We have a book that the kids will be reading. On Thursday we have curriculum night back at Marbletown with parents."

"I want to give a huge shout-out to the library goddess, our librarian, Alisa Finck," Davenport continued, "She applied for a program called Busload of Books. This is a husband/wife team; Matthew Swanson and Bobbi Behr, who write and illustrate children's books. They are going to one Title I school (40% poverty rate) in every state. This bus will be parked out in front of Marbletown Elementary this Friday. We are going to have assemblies. Kindergarten and first grade, we are going to have the illustrator talk to them about using illustrations to tell a story. Grades 2 and 3 are going to learn more about the parts of the story – character, plot, setting, things of that nature – utilizing the books they have written. Every kid in the school will



Student school board members Emily Bortalone and Sierra Hikade take the oath of office at the Sept. 13 meeting. Photo by Amber Kelly

Jessica Torok, Rondout Valley High School's principal, said, "We had a really strong start and the staff came in refreshed and energized. The mantra this year is that we are putting the 'R' back into relationships. Oct. 7 is homecoming food truck festival. Last year we had seven trucks, and this year we have 12 trucks."

"That food truck thing was fabulous last year," Van Kleeck said. "The food was great, and the stands were packed for the game. It really shows that Rondout is just so spirited. I know that it helps the football team to win the game. Thank you for setting that up and thank you for making it a tradition."

Nicole Kappes-Levine, director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, gave a presentation, saying, "I'm excited to be able to give you the major take-aways for the school climate survey from last year. We contacted the parents in a variety of ways. We sent a postcard, then an email, but no day was bigger than the day we sent a text with a link to the survey." To increase participation, classroom time was given to students for the survey, and staff were given the survey during meeting time.

RVSD strength was that most students have found a friend at school, and have a staff member or teacher to connect with. Parents say they feel that staff treat them with respect.

"I believe that this survey is requiring us to confront some hard truths," Kappes-Levine said. "Our students are telling us that all is not well, saying that they have experienced harassment and derogatory name-calling at school. We will be bringing in various programs to help change that." **ESP**

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## National vs local: How rising interest rates are impacting the local real estate market

**Chelsea Miller**  
BSP Reporter

Upstate has seen a historic real estate boom in recent years. Spurred by the pandemic, the area saw what some unnamed sources are dubbing “the great exodus of Brooklyn,” combined with relatively low interest rates, resulted in real estate agents working overtime, navigating multiple offers within days – or even hours – of a property hitting the market. The pandemic market. However, with interest rates soaring and taking their place among the hallowed and feared halls of 2008, as well as the impending risk of the R-word (recession), the market is cooling. Despite the cooling, inventory remains low, which makes Ulster County a unique – and challenging – market for a buyer.

On a national level, on Sept. 14, the Mortgage Bankers Association announced that for the first time since 2008, the average interest rate on a 30-year home loan hit 6%. For context, according to Joel Kan, associate vice president of economic and industry forecasting at the trade group, this is roughly double what rates were one year ago (in January 2021 the rates were as low as 2.6%), due in large part to the Federal Reserve keeping its benchmark rate at net zero while the U.S. funneled millions into the economy through stimulus programs. Each percentage point can add hundreds of dollars to a new home owner’s mortgage, and applications fell 1.2% the week of Sept 5 from the previous period. According to the National Association of Realtors, the percentage of existing homes fell every month during the first half of 2022 and a whopping 20.2% year over year. The Mortgage Bankers Association noted that purchase load application are roughly 23% lower than this time one year ago.

Locally speaking, according to the Maxine Rosola, of Hello Dolly Real Estate (which was recently acquired by Stefan Bolz), when looking at the numbers for the summer of 2021 and 2022, sale prices have been up. “The median sale price for residential real estate in Ulster County in July/August 2021 was \$360,000 with 311 sales. In July/August of this year, the median was \$420,000 with 289 sales,” says Rosola. Crunching the numbers, this means that there was an overall 8.5% increase from 2021 to 2022 compared to a 20% increase from 2020 to 2021.

Inventory remained an issue, however. Laurel Sweeney, of Berkshire Hathaway Nutshell, points out that inventory is still in tight supply and moving at a quick rate with an average of 14 days on the market, as opposed to 96 days back in 2011. “Despite the recent rise in rates and home prices, the median days on the market is just 14, with 82% of homes listed sold in just one month,” explains Sweeney.”

Jim Allred, of Mary Collins Real Estate, says that the shifting market has changed the game for sellers. “Some sellers are finding that it isn’t as easy to get the price they initially had in mind, and are having to adjust to new market conditions, which have developed over the past five – or so – months,” says Allred. “In the current environment it is not uncommon to see a property go on the market, and then undergo a few downward adjustments of its asking price before it sells. During summer 2021, that was seldom the case.”

Sweeney is seeing a similar trend. “I think most buyers see the market changing and are not so eager to make offers over ask,” she says. “Inspections and appraisals that were being waived are now back in place. Some sellers are under the impression that we are in a ‘hot’ market and that pricing from 2021 should prevail, but that is not the case. We are seeing some homes staying on the market longer and making price corrections depending on style, condition, etc.” Rosola says that if buyers can manage the



High Falls custom built home, currently pending on the market from Mary Collins Real Estate at \$1,320,000. The home has mountain vistas, on 13 acres of pastures and woodlands. Home is completely updated with French style kitchen, new primary bathroom, 7-person sauna and multiple guest suites.

higher interest rate, it could present more opportunity. “The market is much calmer now, even though the prices went up. Whereas there were at times 10 offers on a well-priced, sellable home last summer, this summer there were perhaps three. Buyers have much better chances of actually getting a home this summer, compared to last year when some buyers didn’t get any homes and were still looking this year.”

The rising interest rates are impacting buyers of all price points, causing hesitation to jump into the housing market. “Everyone is always concerned when interest rates go up,” says Sweeney. “However, I remind everyone that current interest rates are still below the 30-year historical average of 8%. The impact is definitely seen with first-time or modest-price home buyers because the difference from 3% to 6% is huge.” Rosola says that, to her eye, first-time home buyers continue to bear the brunt of the market and that those seeking homes up to \$350,000 are among the most impacted. “The higher sale prices, combined with rate increases, make it even more difficult for most local and first-time homebuyers to get a home,” she says.

Looking toward the fall, one of the historically strongest times for local real estate (who can resist the call of upstate after a day spent apple picking?), most agents and brokers are anticipating what some are calling a “correction” or return to normal of the market. Sweeney says she believes that there will be a “continued return to a ‘normal’ market, with pricing settling down and days on market slightly increasing” and Allred says that he is expecting a “dampened” market. “With interest rates expected to continue to increase, a buyer’s ability to purchase – if they are financing their purchase – will continue to be dampened, or at least made much more expensive,” says Allred.

“The winter will be interesting,” says Rosola, “because that is the time when we probably will see the first real effects of the rate increase. The first rate changes came in June. It takes three months to see the numbers change, and fall will most likely still be strong, so we’ll probably see if there was an actual effect, by looking at the November and December numbers.” She remains optimistic

about the local market, however. “It’s hard to say but Ulster County might be one of the counties where we won’t have as strong an effect from the rate increase,” Rosola points out, “due to Ulster County becoming more and more of a vacation and weekend, dual residence destination where interest rates don’t have as much of an impact as in a purely local market.”

Allred says, “The current market presents an opportunity for properties with universal appeal (well located, maintained, attractive, with potential), and for strong investors (particularly cash buyers),” says Allred. “When other markets, such as the stock market and the crypto market, have become volatile (as is the case today), real estate continues to prove to be a steady and strong investment over the long haul. **BSP**

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# Synchronized swimming

I know a few things about this night: I pulled down my pants to combat the unseasonal swelter. I was very tired – a situation that ended with me prostrating myself to the velveteen mercy of the nearest sofa. After that, the events lose any sense of sequence and they only make sense the way a kaleidoscope makes sense.



**Dear Wally**  
Wally Nichols

You've been warned. A few hours prior, I had consumed nachos, which is an outlier detail save for the accompanying rooster-tailed hot sauce (sriracha) that sometimes has a near-hallucinatory effect on me when consumed in larger-than-suggested serving sizes – probably because it causes respiratory irascibility, diminishes available oxygen, and subsequently alters one's mental status.

(I once saw a documentary on the Huy Fong factory that makes the world-famous hot sauce. The dark secret – it's a doc, not a major motion picture! – is that the townsfolk were suffering because the vaporized red hot chili peppers, wafting on the gentle California air currents to every nook and cranny of nearby mucosal membranes, caused constant gagging, choking and running eyes. Can't even risk opening your mouth to complain. Terrible place to live, apparently. And the factory owner gave not one half a crap. So there was tension, and litigation, and posturing and barf bags, UFO sightings, and goggles, and prosperity that sits like a frozen goose turd in the palm of oppression, but no formal reports of hallucinations.)

My night had featured a squirt or two of this hot sauce gut putsch on the nachos, which has nothing to do with me later finding myself running from the police. (Would make more sense if the Fire Department was after me to extinguish the five-alarm in my viscera.)

Well, technically, most of my attempt to get away from the authorities was in the water, so immersion "running" lands a bit more as a figure of speech than a literal translation. Water running is extremely unsatisfying, especially when one is in the pool to water dance and entertain fluidly, rather than make some sort of meaningful escape

for one's life.

You see, somewhere along the way, in addition to other things I am perfectly proud of, like casting out a people's column that mostly reels in fan mail but occasionally dredges up soggy invective over the gunwale, I picked up and perfected the lost art of synchronized swimming.

I don't remember practicing. Ever. Yes, I'm shocked and surprised (and a little bit pleased, if I'm being honest) about me having the ability to compete at the highest (Olympic!!) level in this odd sport, if you can even call it that. (No offense fellow accomplished theatric swimmers. If anything, I come from a long line of swimmers who sink, not swimmers who sync, so me being this good makes no genetic sense.)

But you'll have to trust me that I was (am?) pretty damn good, despite the range of motion limitations imposed by having one's nuts crushed in a Speedo. Good enough at panicky water sprinting to keep just ahead of the authorities, their whistles, their billy clubs, their handcuffs, their judgment, their furrowed brows, their guns, tasers, dogs, and all other law enforcement crudite. This pack of cops ranges in rank from public fountain security guards to federal agents.

I know I originally said pool, but next thing I know it's a public fountain, maybe the one on the Cours Mirabeau in the Aix-en-Provence, or maybe the illuminated one at the Prudential Center in Boston? Both places I have been to in my past, but when way closer to 18 years old than now. Both places have seen me sneak in and get flushed out by the unamused authorities. The memories are waaaay back in the brain, back where I store my junior high school locker combo. Maybe it was the Bellagio fountain in Vegas? I think I saw flamingos in the water as well as cops. Definitely anacondas. Some big-bellied dude I saw selling cars on the TV recently was in the mix. Oh, and my kindergarten teacher was there cheerleading. Not cheerleading me but cheerleading a classmate I've not thought about is 49 years. Or maybe it was a huge wedge of Jarlsberg cheese. Everything was washed in cerulean blue, and as mentioned, the details bleed.

But this night, the security guards are joined by federals who are joined by U.S. special forces (eek! this must be baaaaadddd!) who have guns drawn. This seems a little extreme, but way out of my control so I'm just trying to escape with my life. I'm thrashing and flailing and

they are closing in on me as I slog through the viscous water, or maybe it's honey. Or motor oil. I hear Donald Trump's wounded mewling. He's right there on the edge of the fountain wagging his butter finger indignantly at an enormous flash mob of human carrots and caterwauling. Someone carved his countenance out of a fat hunk of the same gelatinous Spam we've all come to mock. This pickled presidential debauchee was holding it up next to his real face to prove how dissimilar it was (it was pretty exact). "See? See? What the liberal media tries to do to me? It's sad. Trust me, they will pay..." And that whole thing made me chuckle.

But fearing the carrot mob, I go to take a step (out of the pool? Public fountain? Airplane? I don't remember). I miss the step and my entire body convulses in a free fall that should hurt a lot but doesn't. I never impact anything because now I'm rollerblading in NYC AND on the Hurley rail trail (at the same time).

Then it smells like cooking spices so intensely that I am convinced someone is preparing a meal I have no intention of eating. Then my face is being mopped by some wet putty knife that turns out to be my dog's tongue – her unspoken code for, "Let me out now to pee or you will be sorry." But I'm too tired to move. Also, I have to pee. Damn. She's barking at me, but it's not a bark after all, it's the jarring alarm of my iPhone bleating at me like a hungry mountain goat, which is also what Stevie Nicks sounds like on her more recent recordings.

I rise from the sofa and look around. A few things are clear. It is morning. I still cannot account for my clothes. I am not in the middle of a fountain swimming with a faceless team of professional synchronized swimmers. It's pulling into focus that my kindergarten teacher died 40 years ago so couldn't possibly have been doing anything with or to me last night. There are no cops, guns or mace. I still don't like Spam. And, most importantly, it's time to wake and get the kid off to school.

So, if you are still with me, I forgot to put this week's reader question up top. And that is: Dear Wally, any strange dreams lately?

Um, yes ...

Got a question for our advice columnist or just want to watch him synchronize swim? (Because IRL, he sucks at it!!) Email him at [cwn4@aol.com](mailto:cwn4@aol.com). **BSP**

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Yo, Chip - How do you like them **APPLES?**

## Director Katie Scott-Childress on the role of the library and the power of a good book

**Chelsea Miller**  
BSP Reporter

The Rosendale Library is quietly reimagining the role of the library in local community. Under the direction of executive director Katie Scott-Childress, the library has evolved into not just a place to discover your new favorite author but also a hub of community resources, connection and creativity.

Scott-Childress grew up in Berkeley, California, and after high school headed to UC Santa Cruz, where she double majored in linguistics and comparative literature. Upon graduation she took a job in the publishing world, in print production for a computer magazine, before transitioning solidly into the high tech industry. Craving a change of pace, in 1992 she returned to school and obtained her master's degree in library and information sciences, as well as American Studies, at the University of Maryland. It was while at the University of Maryland that she met her now husband, who was also in the American Studies program. After graduation, she accepted a position at the Greenbelt Museum, a history museum focused on Greenbelt, Maryland, an experimental cooperative community created in 1937 by Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal administration as a model of city planning. In 2005, when her husband accepted a tenure track position at SUNY New Paltz, Scott-Childress and the family moved to the area, settling in Kingston.

Scott-Childress transitioned into development work, accepting a job at the Women's Studio Workshop. "I had had experience with grant writing and some fundraising from the museum, and so I applied that toward my work at the Women's Studio Workshop," says Scott-Childress. The new position also gave her the opportunity to expand on a long-treasured practice of ceramics, and during this time she built her practice, started a small ceramics business and began teaching ceramics class. The next logical step was expanding her ceramics business, and she began teaching yoga. In 2012, she accepted the position of library director, and it was then that her career in library sciences fully began.

Scott-Childress says that each library has its own flavor. "I certainly think the library is a reflection of the community, and the interests and the aspirations of the community," says Scott-Childress. "What is going to be a popular program in one community won't necessarily fly in another. The role of the library is to be responsive to what people are interested in and the ways in which they aspire to grow and be together and create connections with other community members. If a library decides that it is just one thing and then pushes programs and materials due to that belief and stops being responsive - it's going to die. This is a live conversation that we're having with the community - what does the community need?" It is with this deep sense of listening and responsiveness that Scott-Childress began at the Rosendale Library in September of 2019 and set about talking to and listening to the community about what they needed, wanted, and hoped for the Rosendale Library. "It just takes one person saying I want to connect with other people and do this thing," says Scott-Childress. "As long we can accommodate with the staff and the budget we will try it.

"We definitely need to be responsive at all times and keep asking the question what is a library? What is our role? What are we as a resource, and it depends on what the community needs now, and that is always changing."

When the pandemic hit, the library does what it does best, shifted yet again to respond to a new need in the community. "The pandemic took us all by surprise and we had to figure out how to keep serving the community while keeping everyone safe," explains Scott-Childress. "We pivoted to curbside service and online Zoom programs pretty much immediately and did (and still do) quite a bit of home delivery. It was a time of such confusion, and we wanted to make sure what we were a place where patrons could get information they needed running food drives and then, when vaccines became a possibility, getting the word out and help people navigate how to find and make appointments."

The pandemic also gave space to revisit the strategic



Executive director of the Rosendale Library, Katie Scott-Childress. Photo by fellow librarian, Kristina Knott

plan, take a deep dive into existing policies and begin to percolate - and act on - about a much needed renovation. "There were a lot of challenges but we kept moving forward," says Scott-Childress. Efficiency and encouraging community were at the heart of the renovation. "The way that the library was laid out was not practical in a lot of ways," explains Scott-Childress. "The computers were located at the far back wall, and the staff and circulation were at the front part of the library, and a lot of the patrons who come in to use the computers need help and it wasn't practical to have staff so far away. We also didn't really have space for programs and meetings. We don't have a lot of space now but we did carve out some space so you can push tables together and have a program or a meeting." The renovation has been met with nearly universal approval, and the renovated space feels airy yet functional and invites patrons to linger and gather.

While the library does have core mission goals related to literacy and civic participation, the programming is very much driven by the community, and with pandemic restrictions beginning to loosen, programming is back in full swing. To date in 2022, the Rosendale Library has hosted 250 in-person programs, attended by just north of 2,100 people. "One of the big things we heard when we did outreach is that people wanted ways to make connections in the community, and a lot of people feel our culture has become divisive with social media and other things," says Scott-Childress. "The general sense was that these factors are contributing to people not working together so much, and what we heard over and over is that our patrons wanted opportunities to heal that divide and get to know their neighbors." What's evolved is a packed programming schedule that is as interesting as the community itself. Arts for preschoolers, conversational French, Scrabble club, a writers accountability group, book discussions, crafts for all ages, and talks with local experts that span the gamut from fungi to the history of horror and sci-fi movies (the latter is happening on Oct. 20th!).

While programming is the heartbeat of the library, rest assured that books are still the heart itself. Scott-Childress says the memory of having her library card revoked from the Berkeley Public Library as a child still stays with her and pushes her to think about how

to expand access to books. "That experience is one of the reasons that I am steadfast that library's need to be fine-free, especially when children are borrowing. They are often not the ones in control of returning books and a library record is a permanent record until the fines are settled, meaning they could come back in as teenagers or adults and still not be allowed to borrow until their account is settled."

And Scott-Childress believes that reading is not only essential on a personal level, but on a societal level. She's currently on an Octavia Butler binge. "I'm always trying to connect people to books that they will deeply enjoy. I want them to know that everything that they ever wanted, anything they ever wanted to know, can be found in a book. There is just this sense of adventure and of infinite possibilities and the world being much more interesting that can be found in a unique way through reading. When you make a real heartfelt connection to a book, where it somehow answers deeply felt question you have or the language itself comes alive to you, it changes and expands your world. I'm always hoping when I start a new book that it will rock my world and change how I see the world, and I feel like books have that potential."

Scott-Childress is particularly committed to creating pathways to reading for children. "I think that's one of the roles that libraries have to play now, to open those doors for kids. When my children were young we would go to the library once a week and get a huge pile of books, and we discovered so many of our favorite books through that. Those books became some of our favorite memories we made together and introduced us to now treasured authors - they shaped our lives. I wish that more parents would make that part of their ritual, of coming to the library and stocking up and spending that time reading different books with their kids - you never know when you are going to stumble on your new favorite book." She also feels that reading and its unique ability to cultivate both personal and collective imagination is needed now more than ever. "We are facing so many daunting crises in our world, and imagination is one of the really important tools that we will need to navigate this time. I think it's important that we keep cultivating our ability to imagine. If we're always just being fed and consuming prepackaged imaginative material we don't have as much room to cultivate that skill ourselves. It's part of why I love Octavia Butler - she explores the question of what does it mean to be human, and we need to figure that out. And while it is a question that has always been asked through the ages, we're facing compounding threats and challenges that makes it a particularly urgent question now. What is our moral imperative? Reading gives us the space to even contemplate these questions."

To find out about everything happening at the Rosendale Library, visit <https://rosendalelibrary.org>, and for book recommendations or to weigh in on what you would like see happening at the library, call 845-658-9013, email [info@rosendalelibrary.org](mailto:info@rosendalelibrary.org) or stop in. **BSP**

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# 'Hard Dinero'

Artist, David Gonzalez premieres a mixed medium, bilingual performance exploring the struggles of the undocumented Spanish speaking population

Chelsea Miller  
BSP Reporter

Local storyteller, performer and award-winning luminary David Gonzalez is set to premiere his newest work, "Hard Dinero," at the Rosendale Theatre at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8. The piece, which weaves theater, sound, video and many more mediums, explores the often overlooked voice of the undocumented Spanish-speaking population.

Gonzalez grew up in the Bronx, born to a Puerto Rican (or, as Gonzalez says, "nuyorican") mother and Cuban father. "Everyone is from somewhere. I grew up in a very mixed neighborhood and my tribe was a glorious rainbow," explains Gonzalez. He is quick to point out that this does not mean that there wasn't racism and injustice, but rather, that growing up hanging out with a diverse group of nationalities was simply the norm.

"I grew up in the days when it wasn't a playdate - you just left the house and got back in time for dinner," he says. "There was a great deal of social fabric in the neighborhood. We had stoop culture - we all knew each other and kept tabs on each other." Gonzalez came of age in the era of Vietnam, and this particular slice of history would shape his artistic life. "Those values of 'give peace a chance' have always informed my work as an artist and an activist," says Gonzalez. He recalls that his first exposure to storytelling happened around the kitchen table. "Whoever had the best story and delivery would get the most attention," says Gonzalez. "Another reason is gossip. My grandmother was one of 11 siblings, and listening to the stories they told about one another growing up in Puerto Rico was a master class in timing, comedy and tragedy."

When pressed as to whether or not he grew up in an "artistic" family, Gonzalez is quick to point out that art in his family was all around him, even if not traditionally recognized. "My mother is a creative person, but she worked two jobs. I remember that she took a wall in our living room and painted it white and then painted a mural of the ocean that was beautiful and made you feel as if you were there - it was immersive, evocative, sucked you in and made you imagine.



David Gonzalez, photographed by Carl Cox

"I had three uncles who played the guitar, and one of my uncles was an actor who had even been in a Scorsese film as well as some off-Broadway shows. I had another uncle, who not only played but made guitars - and he lived in a little apartment and he used our basement as a workshop, and he made me - with his two hands - my first guitar."

Gonzalez was also exposed to more public-facing art events. "I don't know how my mom did it but she rustled up the money for me to go with a teacher to hear Leonard Bernstein do his Young People concerts a few times at Lincoln Center. I had an English teacher who hustled and got free tickets to theater and music. He literally just said 'jump the (subway) turnstile and get down there' and so it was in high school that the exposure to art and music really blossomed. These experiences that get under your skin and invite possibility in unconscious ways, and I can track those to my life today."

In his early 20s Gonzalez experienced a storytelling workshop with his then-wife, who was a performer, that lit a spark. By his mid-20s Gonzalez was incorporating storytelling into his work, and it was while he was volunteering at a school telling stories that a teacher overheard him and mentioned Gonzalez to a friend who was an agent. The agent called Gonzalez and asked if storytelling was something that he ever considered doing professionally. It wasn't. But suddenly it was. Over the next 12 years, Gonzalez held a life of multiplicity - juggling music therapy, performing and raising two kids. "The kids got raised and the work got done," says Gonzalez. "Looking back, it's these moments of struggle and emersion that are really the meaning-making years. Everything is so at hand - so immediate. There's something about that precise engagement that, later in life, that's when you realize you built yourself!"

When Gonzalez initially made the transition to full-time storyteller, performer and magician, he says he made a conscious decision not to be a "cultural" performer (read: Latino). "I didn't want to be pigeonholed and so I con-

sciously held that at bay and I got known for other things. It wasn't until my grandmother passed in 1994 that I made a concerted effort to celebrate my cultural heritage and roots. I wanted to hold her stories and her certain ways of being in the world. She was from the farmland in Puerto Rico. She made her own medicine, she was constantly telling stories, and there was this typical way of Puerto Rican folk life that she inhabited even in the States; she maintained a live connection to her roots and it impacted how she was in the world. When she passed I felt like storytelling was one way I could keep her spirit alive and to share the values that she had."

"In music there is a spaciousness, a non-specificity that is moving, grounding, centering," says Gonzalez, "and it opens up inquiry and wonder. And in narrative arts it's all about specificity. Naming the places, the things, the feelings, the occurrences. Music in story together can create really deep experiences of wonder and engagement." Throughout, community outreach has been a touchstone, often with Spanish-speaking populations at the request of venues he was performing at throughout the country. "My work has been a combo of glamour and grit - I perform on beautiful stages but also mano a mano. I need both to survive in a spiritual sense. I need the stage for glamour but the community work gives meaning."

His newest work, "Hard Dinero," was inspired by his friends and neighbors. "This piece has its origins here, in Ulster County. As a home owner and community member, I've employed and made friends with so many undocumented, essential workers. It's a whole strata that is unseen, untended and ignored. This piece grew out of relationships from people who I know and trust and rely upon and whose stories need to be told." Gonzalez began interviewing and having intimate conversations with the undocumented and marginalized people who made his life possible and who also lacked the safety net that all humans deserve. What began to emerge is a little too nuanced and interesting to categorize; a performance piece, certainly, however to reduce it to simply performance would be to do the work injustice. In a way, it connects to the seascape that his mother painted on the apartment wall all those years ago - evocative and immersive, an invitation to dive in and imagine. Told both in English and Spanish, Gonzalez weaves together stories from our undocumented community with a decidedly journalistic feel through monologue, video, poetry and sound. A balance of the struggle, but, yes, also the hope.

"Hard Dinero" is premiering at the Rosendale Theatre at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at the Rosendale Theatre. Tickets are by donation. For more nuts and bolts information, visit <https://www.rosendaletheatre.org>. For more about "Hard Dinero," visit <https://hard-dinero.org>, and for more about David Gonzalez, visit <https://www.davidgonzalez.com>

BSP

## Holistic Healthcare Day

Holistic Health Community of Stone Ridge will offer its ongoing in-person Holistic Healthcare Day from 4-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at the Marbletown Community Center, 3564 Main St., Stone Ridge, and a Virtual Holistic Healthcare Week, Monday-Friday, Sept. 26-30, via Zoom and telephone sessions.

Practitioners for the in-person Holistic Healthcare Day include Cornelia Wathen, Emotion Code; Donna Cohen, spiritual counseling; Dr. Jerry Wintrob, holistic optometry; Judy Swallow, Rubenfeld Synergy; Kate Loye, Soul Listen-

ing; Katy Bray, Resonance; Larry Balestra, Reiki; Lauren Schaub Mokino, Brennan Healing Science; Mary Zak, Reiki; and Maureen Smith, hypnotherapy.

For Virtual Holistic Healthcare Week, practitioners include; Alannah Henneberry, Shamanic Reiki; Wathen; Cohen; George Jacobs, PsychSpiritual counseling; Joanna Leffeld, 'Healing Your Money Story'; Karin Reynolds, life coaching; Katie Tod, 'The Flow of Grace'; Kris Journey, astrology consultations; Lightfield session; Rob Norris, reconnective healing; Sarah Carlson, health coaching; Sharon Lococo, consciousness shifting; Shulamit Elson, sound healing; Vicki Kramer Nathan, resilience and wellness coaching; Wendy Wolosoff-Hayes, spacious heart guid-

ance; Bobbi Esmark, free qigong classes; Circle of Friends of the Dying, free Death Cafes; Jadina Lilien, free Systemic Constellations; Shivaram in Hawaii, free Yoga Nidra; Shulamit Elson, free MediSounds® Sounding; and Therese Bimka, daily community meditations.

Community Holistic Healthcare Day is held on the third Tuesday of each month. To make an appointment, go to <http://hhcny.simplybook.me>.

Visit their website to donate and for more information about the Holistic Health Community, its practitioners, and the modalities offered at [holistichealthcommunity.org](http://holistichealthcommunity.org) or call 845-867-7008.

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## Stones for the path

I have a photograph of my house from the 1920s. There's some kind of carriage/auto hybrid in front of it, parked practically in the middle of the unpaved road. It's right at the foot of the walkway to the house, a sturdy square-cut bluestone path that led to one of the house's two front doors.



**Susan Krawitz**

A lot has changed in a hundred-ish years; the road's twice as wide and covered in asphalt. It's no longer safe to park in its middle, and the door the walkway led to is no longer there.

The old square stones are, however. But for years, there was no real path to the remaining front door, which sits at the other end of the house, just a worn stripe

on the grass trailing from street to porch. A real walkway is important, in my opinion. Aesthetically, it gives the entrance definition, and practically, it keeps tracky lawn dirt out of the house. But with an old house there's always some bigger, more imperative fish to pay someone else to fry – a leaking roof, a plumbing problem, a crumbling chimney.

I finally realized that the only way I would ever get a front walk was to build one myself. Not that I've ever done stonework. But how hard could it be? Unfortunately, the do-it-yourself books and internet sites I consulted weren't very helpful.

There was a lot of discussion about frost heaving and the importance of leveling. And all agreed that this job

would be A Lot Of Work. You must first, they instructed, mark out the walk-to-be with string, dig the entire thing to the depth of 10-18 inches, and then shovel in thick layers of sand and crushed rock before even thinking of setting down a stone.

Fortunately, a landscaper friend gave me Homeowner Make-Do Shortcut advice I was really hoping to find: "Don't worry about all that," she said. "If you don't mind it looking lumpy, just dig down 3 inches and add a layer of stone dust."

My first impulse was to use the stones from the old walk, but I could barely crowbar up one end of those monster slabs, let alone carry them. Fortunately, there's a plentiful supply of bluestone pieces in the woods around the house. None of them are very big, flat or square, but nearly all are extremely lift-able.

The builders of the original walk probably used a horse-drawn sled called a stone boat to drag rock out of a nearby quarry, but I just drove my smallish sedan across the pasture to a huge stone wall at the wood's edge and piled it in the trunk until the struts started to groan.

I started small, with just a 3-foot section. The actual digging was unexpectedly easy; 3 inches down is half a shovel blade's length, which isn't quite deep enough to dislodge the rocks lurking everywhere below the surface on this property. A half-wheelbarrow of stone dust filled the indentation nicely. And then it was time to lay stone.

I chose a good-sized triangular one for the start of the path. The next stone aligned to it by a straight edge, but its other side was curved. The following one had an inward curve that fit the last one just perfectly, but a funny little cutout on its other side that was going to be tricky. It was

like putting together pieces of a big, clunky puzzle.

At first I saw the rocks as just shapes; straight, curving, jagged or angular. But then I started to notice that they weren't just gray, they were pale blue and reddish, deep blue, and mottled. They were patterned too – imprinted with fossil shells, spangled with green lichen, and mapped with brown lines, trails perhaps, of ancient mudworms.

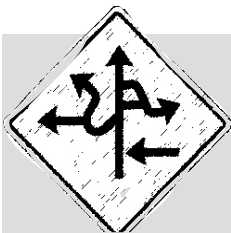
Little by little, the walk took form. My favorite pairings looked like they were stone soulmates who'd been smashed apart by the sweep of the last glacier, and miraculously reunited in my front yard.

Project Path began in July, and I thought surely I'd be done by September. But by the time frozen ground stopped work in December, I'd gone only about 8 feet. All in all, it took nearly three years to complete it. Homeowner shortcut or no, it still turned out to be A Lot Of Work. And though I really enjoyed the finished product, I also liked the process. Working these fragments was good labor. The stones were a just-right weight in my hands that unexpectedly carried a warm, spicy smell, like minerals, like earth. Creating a path from them was a satisfyingly tangible way to create order from chaos – a perfect antidote to times when the rest of life seemed hopelessly jumbled.

I'm glad I didn't use any of the stones from the old walk. I like seeing it on the other side of the lawn, a sturdy, well-made promenade that no longer leads anywhere. It's square and level and perfect ... and very clearly someone else's path. Mine is lumpy and rough and far from professional. And that suits me just fine. **ESP**

## Go fish

On Sunday, I went to the High Falls Café for brunch with a friend because who doesn't love brunch? She brought her son and his friend because they wanted to go fishing while we ate and gossiped. I had so many thoughts floating around my head about this scenario. I loved that these two teens would rather fish than watch television, play video games, or mess around with their phones. I



**Kelly Wright**  
Around town

honestly wondered for a moment if they were from a different planet because what teen doesn't have their face permanently planted in a phone? I would have to investigate this further at another time.

Also, I could not help but think about the differences between boys and girls. My girl would need convincing just to go out in the rain. You know, the hair, the wet, the makeup, the soggy outfit choice. I know she would choose a hundred other things to do on a rainy day. If it were a sunny day, she could possibly be convinced to go fishing if I promised her a

Pumpkin Spice Latte and to bait the hook. However, I am not 100% confident that she would agree. The boys, however, were happily running down to the river in the rain to play with lures and fish. Or maybe they had worms ... I didn't ask because I was feeling a little more rock 'n' roll that day. I mean, I was a tomboy so I fully appreciate all of the above. But, like I said, I wasn't feeling my country self. I'd blame it on the rain but it was probably the Bellini's fault.

Anyway, their rainy day agenda just struck me funny



Juan and Wyatt had a reel good day. Photo by Kelly Wright

and made my heart smile a bit. It was so simple and pure. Now, I am sure both boys can be terrors and bratty and whatever else teen boys are. But there I was, sipping a much-needed cocktail at 11:30 a.m., contemplating life, chatting about whatever ladies who brunch chat about, while watching two boys with their fishing poles enjoy life and each other. Then it hit me. I needed to go buy a fishing pole.

So, if you come across two boys in galoshes, please let them fish in your pond or allow them access to the river. They catch and release. They bring out what they take in. They are just trying to enjoy the simpler things in life that most people take for granted. When I asked them if I could take a picture, they caught a fish! I must admit, I

was impressed, even if it was a small fish they didn't care. They caught one! My photo request turned out to be a slight struggle because they were very busy and I was infringing on their time. But they acquiesced, posed, and then returned to the task of gently taking the hook out of said fish, putting the fish back where it belonged, and carrying on with their carefree end-of-summer day.

Maybe we should all take note of these two teens from Rondout (not Roundout) and enjoy the little things. The little things we forgot that we loved to do. Rain or shine. Big or small. Being an adult is hard, and I think we all deserve a little childhood delight. I know I do. In fact, instead of buying a fishing pole, I'm just going to buy a pack of cards. I'll play Go Fish instead. Takes less effort. Oooh! Better yet, I'll buy Old Maid cards. I used to love that game. Probably knew I would become an old maid one day. I mean, jeez, talk about your foreshadowing.

After our amazing brunch – the Café never disappoints – we headed over to the D&H Canal Museum. I hate to say it but I have never been there before. I know, that's a disgrace, but I've remedied that. We went on a Five Locks Walk Tour and learned all about the history of the canal. I would definitely suggest taking some time to go visit. Whether you're new around town or have been here forever, it's definitely worth a trip. The house is beautiful, and the history is amazing. Oh, and don't pay any attention to the energy shift as you walk around the house. My friend felt it. I didn't because I was too busy talking to Seamus and admiring the double Dutch door. Now, I'm not saying it's haunted, but, if you feel the shift, you may just want to say a proper 18th-century greeting to Mrs. Depuy. Or, at least wash the fishy smell off your hands. **ESP**

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Rosendale

Fall is the 2nd planting season!

# Put a (bamboo) fork in it

When school lunches head out the door these days, I can be sure that some significant number of spoons will not come back. Lost, like socks and water bottles, to the greedy, mischievous, purloining gremlins out there trying (with success) to flummox me. The attrition rate is staggering, and the retrieval rate ...? damn close to nil.



## Put a fork in it

Wally Nichols

I definitely hate the idea (and use) of disposable plastic cutlery. It is a pervasive, globally wasteful menace only slightly offset by its drive-thru and takeout convenience. It's the single-use plastic bag's obnoxious little sibling. Thankfully, we have done a decent job lately of legislating the plastic bag into dormancy and oblivion. (But now, my house is overrun with reusable shopping bags whose circulation and

staging I have poorly managed, which is why I have to keep buying more at the store, essentially defeating the

purpose in the first place.) But plastic forks and spoons and knives are still everywhere.

When I first saw bamboo utensils at a farm wedding of 200 people that we hosted a few years ago, it felt a little ratchet. Here's this fancy, expensive wedding, and they are using disposable wooden (bamboo) cutlery AND bamboo plates!?!? (Are people also wearing bamboo underwear? Thought that was a joke until I recently saw that bamboo delicates are a thing).

Forks, knives and spoons that are made out of thin, disposable wood? Meh. I would have also thrown shade if the fancy wedding had plastic cutlery even though they now have plastic cutlery that is so realistic it could fool the Queen mum (too soon?). But it's still plastic, and as such, landfill or ocean bound. And that (royally) sucks.

Now I kneel humbly at the altar of forgiveness for the judgment back then because bamboo/wood makes so much sense for not only cutlery but also cooking essentials like spatulas, ladles, cutting boards, salad bowls, etc. Those wedding planners were ahead of their time.

Bamboo is a highly renewable resource and one of the most ubiquitous plants in the world. It is, essentially, a fast-growing weed that is very difficult to kill and therefore

easy to grow. It can be harvested without killing the plant, which is a major benefit. And finally, harvesting and production innovations have caught up with design and global demand. Or the other way around. Doesn't much matter. Bamboo is having its day. In China (the biggest grower) it's a \$39 billion industry.

So, the pros: It's cheap, lightweight, biodegradable within three months, fast growing (bamboo can reach full maturity in three months. According to [www.ambientbp.com](http://www.ambientbp.com), one species can grow 35 inches in a day (1.5 inches per hour!?!)). It's durable, attractive, eco-friendly, stain resistant, and it won't scratch nonstick pans or fancy plates. At 28,000 pounds per square inch, it has a much higher tensile strength than steel, which is 23,000 pounds per square inch (sbc magazine).

Cons: Sounds like "bamboozle."

You can order 100 bamboo spoons online and have them the next day. That's 100 days of applesauce that doesn't need a household spoon to eat with and then lose.

So, if utensils for school lunches start to grow legs and walk, consider this eco-friendly, affordable alternative.

ESP

## BlueStone Horoscopes

Halfway through the month of September we continue to deal with the five outer planets in retrograde motion: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. They are temporarily joined by Mercury - and are all in retrograde motion. Mercury, of course, has significant results on daily events (things don't work out the way we expect) while the outer planets have long-term effects on our lives. Mercury started the month in Libra and regressed into Virgo and affects both work and relationships. The new Moon on the 15th arrives in the 7th solar house of relationships. Remember, Libra is the sign for relationships just as Virgo is the sign for attention to details.

**ARIES:** 3/21 to 4/19: Mars, your ruling planet, remains positioned in your 3rd solar house of communication and education. It is square the personal planets - the Sun, Mercury, and Venus. As a result, you may feel blocked from making progress in your career or in a particular study in which you're interested. The new Moon in Libra may offer a solution.

**TAURUS:** 4/20 to 5/20: Venus, your ruling planet, is positioned with the Sun and Mercury retrograde. The three planets concentrate on the details of daily life but are looking for a relationship that will allow you expand your thinking. The new Moon in Libra will provide the opportunity to expand your viewpoint into different areas.

**GEMINI:** 5/21 to 6/20: Mercury, your ruling planet, is retrograde and included with the personal planets in your 4th solar house of home and family - square Mars. This may result in trouble at home - possibly due to the retrograde of so many planets. The new Moon in Libra suggests the possibility of one partner overstepping boundaries.

**CANCER:** 6/21 to 7/20: The new Moon on the 3rd in the sign of Libra suggests partnership discussion - wheth-

er a major disagreement or minor conflict as to where to vacation. Since Mercury is retrograde, it's likely the parameters will change. Remember, when Mercury is retrograde, nothing is certain.

**LEO:** 7/21 to 8/22: The Sun, your ruling planet, is positioned on the cusp of the 3rd solar house of communication and education. It is also conjunct both Venus and Mercury retrograde in the 2nd house of money. Take this as a signal to not make a major financial decision now. The new Moon in Libra promises an interesting new course of study.

**VIRGO:** 8/23 to 9/22: Mercury, your ruling planet, is retrograde in your 1st solar house of personality. It is also conjunct both the Sun and Venus - with results that seem to move in several directions but get nowhere. However, you continue to keep busy with the details. The new Moon in Libra finds you becoming interested in socializing more.

**LIBRA:** 9/23 to 10/22: Venus, your ruling planet, is positioned in your 12th solar house that is basically shielding information from you - it is unknown. The Sun is on the cusp of the Ascendant while Mercury is retrograde. This results in feeling you're about to embark on an expanded social scene - meeting new people and enjoying new experiences.

**SCORPIO:** 10/23 to 11/22: Mars and Pluto, your two ruling planets, continue in poor aspect to each other. However, they may be working toward a new goal. Pluto wants to learn something new while Mars is looking to make a change in routine. Fortunately, the new Moon in Libra encourages them to work together.

**SAGITTARIUS:** 11/23 to 12/21: Little is changed from the last column. Both children and career need your en-



## Your Zodiac

Joanne Ferdman

ergy and attention. With Mercury is continuing its retrograde motion, you're apt to be working on a short fuse. Try to meditate more often to gain patience. The new Moon in Libra offers looking forward to an exciting fall season.

**CAPRICORN:** 12/22 to 1/20: Saturn, your ruling planet, is positioned in your 2nd solar house of money. Since ambition is always a strong motivator for you, it is no surprise to find the Sun on the cusp of your 10th solar house of career urging your forward. However, with Mercury placing bottlenecks on the path, a good idea would be to slow down for now.

**AQUARIUS:** 1/21 to 2/19: Uranus, your ruler, is positioned in your 4th solar house of home and family. The personal planets - the Sun, Mercury and Venus - are positioned in your 8th house of change. This is a fine chance to plan for the future, especially with the retrograde and the new Moon on the 15th.

**PISCES:** 2/20 to 3/20: Neptune, a slow-moving planet continues to be positioned in your 1st solar house of personality. Fortunately, Jupiter, the planet that brings good things in a big way, is positioned in your 2nd house of money. This is a good time to think in terms of a different area with an increased income - especially after the new Moon.

Joanne is available for private/personalized consultations at 561-744-9962. Treat yourself - learn what to expect from the current transits and receive an overview of your long-term goals. ESP

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## FOR THE FAMILY

**'Rondout, then and now,' a presentation by Stephen Blauweiss** This local history lecture with Stephen Blauweiss, independent filmmaker, historian, graphic designer and author, will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, at D&H Historical Society, 1315 Main St., High Falls. Admission is \$5/person or free for members. For more information, visit [canalmuseum.org/events](http://canalmuseum.org/events).

**Rondout Valley Lions Club Fall Festival** Enjoy food by the Accord Fire Department and Woodstock Eats, music by Connor Schaeffer and Ramona Lane, face painting, Rondout Valley Lions Club raffle table, local vendors, and family fun activities, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, rain or shine, at Veterans Park, 50 Scenic Road, Town of Rochester. For more information, visit the Rondout Valley Lions Club on Facebook or contact Sue Curcio, president, at [otrlsc@gmail.com](mailto:otrlsc@gmail.com) or Janet Sutter, treasurer at [janet.sutter@aol.com](mailto:janet.sutter@aol.com).

**Ashokan Flea Market in Olivebridge** Shop locally and sustainably, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 19, rain or shine, at the Ashokan Flea Market, on the top of Hoot Hill by the main parking lot of the Ashokan Center, 477 Beaverkill Road, Olivebridge. Enjoy food, live music, and an array of local vendors. There will be unclaimed lost and found items from the summer and other interesting odds and ends for sale, and it all benefits the Ashokan Center. Admission is free to attend and \$25 to vend. For more information, visit [ashokancenter.org](http://ashokancenter.org) or call 845-657-8333.

**Clove Valley Community Farm work party** Join Aileah, the farmer, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays (Sept. 20, 27 and Oct. 4) and/or 4 p.m.-dark, Thursdays (Sept. 22, 29 and Oct. 6) to spend time outdoors, connect with the soil, be and work with the plants, and celebrate the summer and falls seasons (through November) with others in the gardens, at Clove Valley Community Farm, 81 Clove Valley Road, High Falls. Open to all ages and abilities. Text Aileah, at 570-762-2872, and visit [clovevalleycommunityfarm.com](http://clovevalleycommunityfarm.com).

**Arts Mid-Hudson together we create presents 'Have you seen my friends?' with Jill Obrig** Discover the world of extinct birds. Travel back in time to learn about these birds over a four-week series, 4:30-6 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11 and 18, at the Hurley Library, 48 Main St., Hurley. Participants will create a paper bird sculpture that will be turned into a book. For registration and more information, visit [hurleylibrary.org](http://hurleylibrary.org) or call 845-338-2092.

**Rosendale Seniors meetings** The Town of Rosendale Seniors meetings are held at 1 p.m. every second (Oct. 12) and fourth Wednesday (Sept. 28) of the month, (excluding November and December), at the Rosendale Recreation Center, 1055 Route 32, Rosendale. The second Wednesday is a social meeting and includes trivia and/or bingo. For more information, contact tour guides, call Chickie Steritt at 845-658-2414 or Hal Sampson at 845-658-9020.

**Marbletown Seniors meetings and trips** The Seniors hold their meetings at the Marbletown Community Center, 3564 Main St., across from Key Bank in Stone Ridge, at noon on the first Friday, Oct. 7 (bring a dish to share or drop \$3 in the basket on the food table), and at 1 p.m. on the third Friday, Oct. 21 (bring a dessert to share or drop \$2 in the basket on the dessert table), each month. On Wednesday, Oct. 19, the bus takes off at 9:30 a.m. to travel to the Riverview Inn, Matamoras, Pennsylvania. The group will sing, dance, laugh and remember as Rich Wilson sings songs of "Days of Yesterday." Appetizers will be given upon arrival, and lunch at noon includes salad, breast of chicken and top round beef, vegetables and potato, with dessert, coffee, tea, iced tea, soda and open bar with beer and wine. Cost \$52. All trips leave from, and return to, Marbletown Reformed Church, 3750 Main St./Route 209, Stone Ridge, across from the post office. Call Sharon Letus, trip chairperson, at 845-687-9162 for information.

**Register ASAP for a blood donation at the Marbletown Community Center, appointments book fast** There is an urgent need for blood donors. Make a difference in the community and beyond. The gift of lifesaving blood may seem small but can change more than one life for the better.



David Smilo as Dracula, in the Widow Jane Mine, Rosendale

# 'Dracula,' the original Broadway version in the Widow Jane Mine

Theatre on the Road, a traveling company based in Rosendale, will produce and stage "Dracula" at the Widow Jane Mine in Rosendale, 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2.

From the Bram Stoker novel, this is the original Broadway production that premiered in 1927 and was revised in 1997 starring Frank Langella. The performance is presented by arrangement with Samuel French, dramatized by Hamilton Dean and John L. Balderston, and directed by Frank Marquette.

"Lucy, whose father is in charge of an English asylum, has been attacked by a mysterious illness," explained Marquette. "Dr. Van Helsing believes Lucy is the victim of a vampire, a certain Count Dracula. Renfield, an inmate, suffers from delusions and is under the spell of the Count. Will he be found and finally laid to rest?"

Marquette added, "With the 1920s and period costumes and more, I'm making full use of the spooky wonders of the Widow Jane Mine."

The cast features a roster of accomplished local actors including David Smilo as Dracula, Nanette Ayers as Van Helsing, Zach Gibson as Jonathan Harker, Dan Anderson as Dr. Seward, David Britton as Renfield, Caitlin Connelly as Lucy, Ellen Pavloff as Miss Wells and Marquette as Butterworth. John Piergiorgi will provide sound effects and lighting, and Sue Regan will stage manage. Kristen Marquette, Frank's wife and Theatre on the Road's co-owner, will provide costumes and styling.

Tickets are \$21 and \$16 for Century House members and can be purchased by visiting [centuryhouse.org](http://centuryhouse.org).

For more information, visit [theatreontheroad.com](http://theatreontheroad.com) or call 845-658-9900 or 845-475-7973.

Create a ripple effect, with a blood donation, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at the Marbletown Community Center, 3564 Main St., Stone Ridge. For more information and to make an appointment, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

## ARTS, MUSIC, BODY & MIND

**Music with the Kelly Green Trio and more, at Lydia's Café** Enjoy live music 7-10 p.m. Saturday nights at Lydia's Café, 7 Old Route 209, Stone Ridge. Upcoming performances include the David Gilmore Trio with Gilmore on guitar; Gary Versace, organ, and Peter O'Brien, drums, Sept. 17; the Kelly Green Trio with Green on piano and vocals, Luca Soul Rosen-

feld, bass; and Evan Hyde, drums, Sept. 24; and the Peter Einhorn Quartet, Oct. 1. There is a suggested \$20 donation for live music events. Reservations are highly recommended. For more information, call 845-687-6373 or visit [lydias-cafe.com](http://lydias-cafe.com).

### 'The Bridge Music Dance Project' documentary, at the Rosendale Theatre

This special program, 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, at the Rosendale Theatre, 408 Main St., Rosendale, includes a pre-screening presentation by Bridge Music composer Joseph Bertolozzi, the film itself, and a post-screening discussion with Bertolozzi, creative coordinator Livia Vanaver, director of photography Jesse Brown, and choreographers Alison Chen and Angela Chen.

One summer night, 212 feet above the Hudson River, dozens of dancers convened to celebrate the connecting force of bridges to their communities. "The Bridge Music Dance Project" is a documentation of that performance produced by HUDSY. Karnatic dance juxtaposed alongside hip-hop, Soca, tap, post-modern, ballet, world, Latin fusion, and more. Each dance interprets a movement from Bertolozzi's "Bridge Music," an opus using only sampled sounds from the Mid-Hudson Bridge. After the program, everyone is invited to meet in community in the theater. Food and drink will be available in Uncle Tony's Tavern. For more information, visit [rosendaletheatre.org](http://rosendaletheatre.org) or call 845-658-8989.

**Rosendale Theatre's Music Fan Series presents 'Hallelujah,' Leonard Cohen, a journey, a song** "Hallelujah," a new musical documentary, presented by Rosendale Theatre's Music Fan Series, about the singer-songwriter-poet Leonard Cohen and the genesis of his enduring 1983 classic song, "Hallelujah," will screen one night only, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 21, at the Rosendale Theatre, 408 Main St., Rosendale. The date marks what would have been Cohen's 88th birthday. The film explores the life and work of Canadian troubadour Cohen, focusing on the creation of his best-known composition, which took nearly seven years to complete and was initially rejected by the record company. This feature-length documentary weaves together three creative strands: the songwriter and his times; the song's dramatic journey from record label reject to chart-topping hit; and moving testimonies from major recording artists for whom the song "Hallelujah" has become a personal touchstone. Reminiscences of Cohen's life and work, as well as his spiritual exploration of Zen Buddhism, are provided by several musicians, including John Cale, the late Jeff Buckley, Judy Collins, Rufus Wainwright, Regina Spektor, Brandi Carlile, Myles Kennedy and Eric Church. The film is directed by Dan Geller and Dayna Goldfine. A committee of music and film lovers has been curating the Music Fan Series at Rosendale Theatre, programming more than 75 films and live concerts for appreciative audiences. Tickets for "Hallelujah" are \$10/\$6 members. Masks are being worn inside the theater unless at a seat eating or drinking. For more information, visit [rosendaletheatre.org](http://rosendaletheatre.org) or call 845-658-8989.

### Olive Free Library's exhibit, 'Hudson Valley Watercolors,' curated By Staats Fasoldt, opens Sept. 24

The Olive Free Library Association presents "Hudson Valley Watercolors," showcasing the works of 24 Hudson Valley artists who have dedicated their time to creating watercolor artworks. The show, curated by Rosendale artist Staats Fasoldt, runs Sept. 24-Nov. 5, with the opening reception 3-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at the library, 4033 Route 28A, West Shokan. "I have known all the artists I selected for a long time," said Fasoldt. "I have worked with them and learned from them, and they are artists I admire." He added, "In many ways this exhibition is autobiographical, revealing what I have seen and been moved by during my time living in the Hudson Valley." Fasoldt is president of the board of the Woodstock School of Art and has taught painting and drawing there for more than 35 years. He is an active member of the Woodstock Artists Association, the Arts Society of Kingston, and a member of Longreach Arts, the Hudson Valley's premier mobile artists co-op. Participating artists in this show include Bruce Ackerman, Robert Barnes, Beverly Bennett, Nancy Campbell, Carol Davis, Barry DeBaun, Beth Dixon, Claudia Engel, Staats Fasoldt, Mira Fink, Angela Gaffney-Smith, Betsy Jacaruso, Alex Martin, Kate McGloughlin, Alan McKnight, Linda Novick, Mary Ottway, Walter Pokowitz, Richard Segalman, Susan Silverman, Wayne Sittner, Thomas Stratton, Anna Wang and Joyce Washor. For more information, visit [olivefreelibrary.org](http://olivefreelibrary.org) or call 845-657-2482.

### Saturday Creature Features at the Rosendale Theatre presents 'Spider Baby' (1967)

This film will be shown 10-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Rosendale Theatre, 408 Main St., Rosendale. Lon Chaney Jr. stars as the caretaker of three orphaned adult sib-

See **More events**, page 21




## October Music on Market Concerts

**Music on Market "Coffee House" presents Madárka** on Saturday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 pm at MISU for Eastern European sounds mix of traditional dance sounds, Hungarian, Balkan, Roma, and Yiddish and more!

**Music on Market presents Cecily Fortescue Memorial Concert** on Thursday, Oct. 20 at 7:30 pm at St. John's. Featuring Duo Soli-Tude with David Fielder, violin and Anastasia Solberg, viola with solos and duos from Mozart to Villa-Lobos and beyond

For more information visit [misucatskills.org](http://misucatskills.org) or call (845) 377-3727 and leave us a message

MISU and St. John's are located at 40 Market St. Ellenville, NY 12428

**Events** continued from page 20

lings who suffer from Merrye syndrome, a disease that causes abnormal mental, social and physical regression. The horror kicks in when greedy relatives show up to steal the valuable estate and pack the siblings off to an insane asylum. A wonderfully crazy dark horror comedy executed perfectly by director Jack Hill, "Spider Baby" was a lost film until its rediscovery in the 1990s. It has since become a cult fave and also inspired a musical. Addams Family fans will love this! Admission to this late-night showing is \$10 or \$6 for members and those in "ghoul face" or "ghoul costume." For more information, visit [rosendaltheatre.org](http://rosendaltheatre.org) or call 845-658-8989

**Mary Anne Erickson's 'Impressions of India, Surrendering to the Journey' exhibit at Lifebridge** Enjoy the Meet the Artist Wine-and-Cheese Reception for local artist Mary Anne Erickson's "Impressions of India, Surrendering to the Journey" exhibit, 2-4 p.m. Sunday Sept. 25, at Lifebridge Sanctuary, 333 Mountain Road, Rosendale. The exhibition will be on display through January 2023. Erickson's love of photography started when she was given her first Brownie camera in the third grade by her Grandpa Joe. She has used photography as an important tool in her artwork, much like a pencil, to capture the fleeting moments of light and color that create mood, an important part in her images. "There's something fascinating about stopping the action to see more deeply into an apparently mundane moment," she said. Travel writing for the Huffington Post and TripAdvisor have brought her passion for expression and sharing her insights about "the road of life" to a much larger audience. In 2015, a trip through northern India created openings for experiencing new aspects of humanity and culture, diverse landscape, light and shadow, and essential design elements. This current show was an outgrowth of that trip. As a multi-faceted artist, she enjoyed exploring photography as a painterly medium. "These images called to me to be printed large scale on fabric," said Erickson. "Printing them on Indian fabrics, Dupion silk and cotton, enhanced their 'other worldly' quality." Lifebridge Foundation is an NGO associated with the Department of Global Communications of the United Nations. The "Impressions of India, Surrendering to the Journey" exhibit focuses on The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals #14, Life Below Water, and #15, Life on Land. For more information, contact the Lifebridge Foundation at 845-658-3439 or visit [lifebridge.org](http://lifebridge.org) and [maryanneerickson.com](http://maryanneerickson.com).

**Stone Ridge Library Foundation online auction, sneak preview, Sept. 25-Oct. 1** It's that time of year again! SRLF's annual online auction supports the library and the community. Check out the products and services from local businesses with a sneak preview, Sunday, Sept. 25-Saturday, Oct. 1, and online bidding, Oct. 2-16. Auction items include gift certificates for local lodging, restaurants, gift shops, bookstores; wine; artwork and classes; wellness services; pet sitting, music concerts and lessons; garden design consultation and sculpture; flowers; and more. To donate, sponsor, or for more information, contact SRL Foundation coordinator Aimee Trumbore at [foundation@stoneridgelibrary.org](mailto:foundation@stoneridgelibrary.org), 845-687-7023, ext. 7, and visit [stoneridgelibrary.org](http://stoneridgelibrary.org).

**Bobolink migration art and theater workshop with Stone Ridge artist and educator Jill Obrig** Join the community, noon-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, at Mohonk Preserve for a four-hour family friendly workshop taught by award-winning artist and educator Jill Obrig of Stone Ridge. Families will create materials to perform a dance of the bobolink migration from the Hudson Valley to Argentina for a captive audience. Registration is required for all participants ages 5 and up. Children must always be accompanied by a registered adult. Cost is \$45/family. The public is encouraged to attend the 3:45 p.m. performance at the Slingerland Pavilion. For registration information, visit [mohonkpreserve.org/events](http://mohonkpreserve.org/events). For questions, contact [iborer@mohonkpreserve.org](mailto:iborer@mohonkpreserve.org) or call 845-255-0919 ext.1239.

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From top: Community members browse a variety of vendors on Main Street in Accord; Face painting by volunteers from the Bruderhof Community; There is still time to enter the car show at Friends of Historic Rochester Heritage Day; The Town of Rochester Recreation Department's very own Ashley Sweeney and Bethany Dennin serve pies at the annual Jennie Bell Pie Contest.

## Friends of Historic Rochester present Heritage Day and fireworks, a community-wide event

Heritage Day will be held 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct 1, in Accord at the Museum, 12 Main St., the nearby firehouse, and the Harold Lipton Community Center. There will be a car show, Fiber Arts Workshop and the annual Jennie Bell Pie Contest; an open house at the Museum, with hayrides, face painting, pumpkin painting; food



vendors and demonstrations at the Accord Fire Company; a variety of activities for children; live music under the pavilion, 5:30-7 p.m., and fireworks at dusk in the town park.

For more information, call the Town of Rochester Recreation Department at 845-626-2115.



Come and explore tow trucks, ambulances, cement mixers and more at Little Ones Learning Center Truck Day.

## Little Ones Learning Center Truck Day, Towpath Run & Walk, and Indoor Yard Sale

Truck Day will be held 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Sept. 17, at Little Ones Learning Center, in the Rochester Reformed Church, 5132 Route 209, Accord. The event is free. Come and explore tow trucks, ambulances, cement mixers and more. Enjoy truck-themed stories and activities.

Little Ones Learning Center has story times, 10 a.m.-noon every Wednesday and Saturday, at the church. Friends of Little Ones, which operates the Little Ones Learning Center, is planning two fundraisers to support their free, early literacy program.

The 6K Towpath Run/Walk will be held on Sunday, Sept. 25. Registration is 7:30-8:30 a.m. at the Harold Lipton Community Center, 15 Tobacco Road, Accord. Runners

will be bused to the start line in Alligerville for the run along Towpath Road back to the Community Center.

Check Little Ones Learning Center Facebook page to download the registration form, sign up online, and more.

A huge indoor yard sale will be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. over Columbus Day weekend, Friday, Saturday and Monday, Oct. 7, 8 and 10, at the Rochester Reformed Church. There will be great prices on everything from toys and Christmas decorations to household goods and jewelry.

For more information on all these events, contact Mary Lee at 645-750-1341 or [marylee2440@gmail.com](mailto:marylee2440@gmail.com)

## Rondout Valley Growers Association dinner at Stone Ridge Orchard

Join the Rondout Valley Growers Association for their delicious, locally sourced dinner event with live music and dancing, 5-7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24 (rain date Sept. 25), under the iconic, historic oak tree at Stone Ridge Orchard, 3012 Route 213, Stone Ridge. This autumn feast, available for dine in or takeout, will celebrate the growing season, the abundance of the Rondout Valley and, most of all, the farmers who go above-and-beyond to ensure healthy foods for the community, its food pantries, and farm-to-school programs.

Purchase a dinner basket for two and enjoy it while listening to live Americana music from the Hey Y'alls, with seating available or bring chairs, picnic blankets, and/or small pop-up tent. The basket, which has vegetarian options, includes coppa, prosciutto and salami picante, Moonlight and Nimbus cheese, pickles, fruit chutney, house-made cider mustard, house-made crackers, local vegetable salad, sourdough loaf, house-smoked kielbasa sausages, house smoked Merguez sausages, confit duck leg, apple hand pies, and two drink tickets for draft beer, wine, cider and/or non-alcoholic items. Unable to dine at the Orchard? Purchase a dinner for two ready for pickup in a handmade wooden produce basket, with all the same delicious items listed and two cans of hard cider.

Proceeds from this event will go directly toward supporting agriculture in the Rondout Valley, and a portion of the ticket price may be tax-deductible. If interested in sponsoring this event, for tickets, and more information, visit [rondoutvalleygrowers.org](http://rondoutvalleygrowers.org) or [stoneridgeorchard.com](http://stoneridgeorchard.com).

## Fungi in food and ecology talk and walk for National Mushroom Month of September

Join mycologist Luke Sarrantonio, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, at the High Falls Food Co-op, on the corner of Route 213 and Lucas Turnpike, High Falls, for a discussion on fungi ecology, safe and sustainable mushroom foraging practices, simple cooking techniques and much more. Following the discussion, the group will meet at the O&W rail trail parking lot on Marcott Road for a wild mushroom foray.



Sarrantonio

Sarrantonio grew up in Rosendale and spent much of his childhood exploring the surrounding landscape. It wasn't until college at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry that he truly discovered fungi. After graduating in 2011, he was discouraged by the lack of learning resources around fungi and ecology and has been developing programming and consulting ever since.

The fungi talk and walk will be held rain or shine. There is a suggested donation of \$10.

For more information, visit [highfalls-foodcoop.com](http://highfalls-foodcoop.com) or call 845-687-7262.

Events continued from page 21

**Art & music in the woods and more at the Rail Trail Café** There is a natural backdrop and canopy of trees, a small sound system, a few lights, and open ears and hearts at the Rail Trail Café, 310 River Road Extension, Rosendale. Upcoming performances and events include World Dance with Bill and Livia of Vanaver Caravan, 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16; Sarah Ulrich singing jazz standards and songs with musicians Ann Belmont, Todd Anderson, Fre Atlast and more, 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17; acoustic guitarist and vocalist Marji Zintz, 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18; the Ukuladies, 5:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23; Poem Journeys with Gisela Stromeyer, at 1 p.m. and Madelaine Grace, at 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24; singer-songwriters the Stoller Brothers Band, 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25; Barely Lace, 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30; and Brazilian and American jazz vocalist and instrumentalist Ann Belmont, at 1 p.m., and singer-songwriter and guitarist Stephen Johnson, at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1. A basket is passed at all events, and \$10 or pay-what-you-can is suggested. "Please bring cash," says the Rail Trail Café website. Visit railtrailcaferosendale.com or call 845-389-7714 for information.

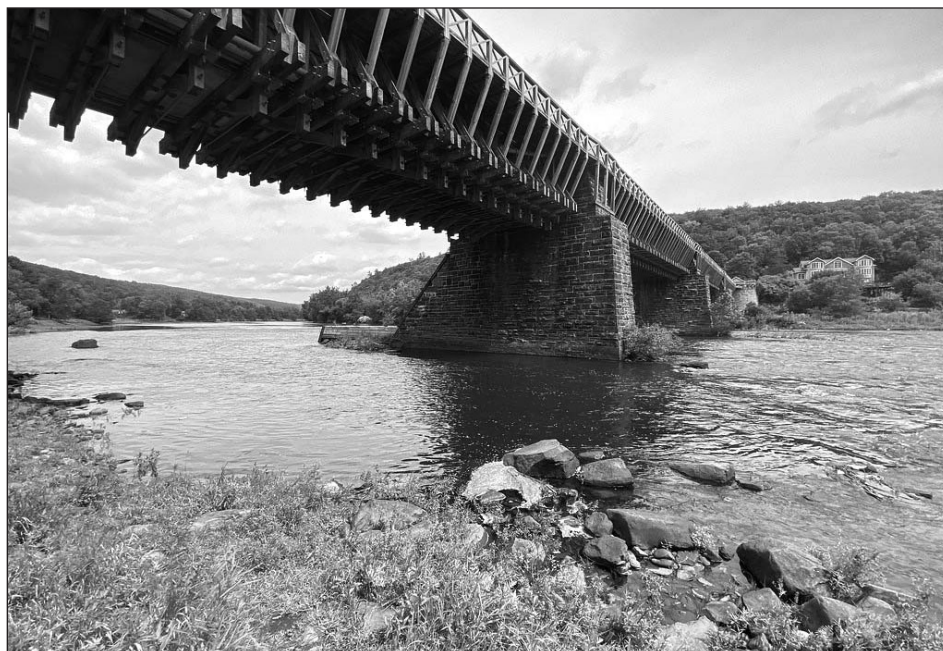
**September at the Kiva in Stone Ridge** This month, at the Kiva, behind Marbletown Multi-Arts, MaMA, at 3588 Main St., Stone Ridge, experience Sounding with Onome Om, 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, for \$27/\$20, and 11 a.m.-noon each Saturday is Nia with Jane Mielo, featuring cardio movement blending dance, martial arts with mindfulness, for \$15-\$20 sliding scale. Email jaynemielo@gmail.com for more information and to register.

**Fishbowl's Freak Out Disco Costume Party at the High Falls Café** Enjoy the music of local dance rock band Fishbowl and their disco dance party, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at the High Falls Café, 12 Stone Dock Road, High Falls. Fishbowl is Nicole Ryan on vocals; Harvey Boyer, keyboards, sax and vocals; Greg Dinger, guitar and vocals; Bob Wallner, bass guitar and vocals, and Sevan Melikyan, drums and vocals. For more information and reservations, call 687-2699 or visit highfallscafe.com.

**Theatre on the Road of Rosendale presents 'Voices From the Past'** In collaboration with the Historical Society of Woodstock, Theatre on the Road, a traveling company based in Rosendale, presents an original play, "Voices From the Past," that allows guests to meet seven characters from Woodstock's illustrious past. Performances will be held outdoors at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, at the Historical Society's Eames House, 20 Comeau Drive in Woodstock. Guests are encouraged to bring folding chairs. Both performances will be benefits for the Historical Society of Woodstock. Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$15 for students and seniors; and can be purchased by visiting historicalsofiyofwoodstock.org or by calling 845-679-2256. For more information, visit theatreontheroad.com or call 845-475-7973.

**SahasraYoga in-person and Zoom classes with Kyra Sahasrabudhe at RidgeWell Fitness** All levels and abilities are welcome to join these in-person hatha yoga classes taught by Kyra Sahasrabudhe (CYT) of Stone Ridge, 10-11:15 a.m. Mondays (Sept. 19, 26 and Oct. 3) and 9-10:15 a.m. Wednesdays (Sept. 21, 28 and Oct. 5), at RidgeWell Fitness, 3555 Main St., Stone Ridge; and in the virtual (Zoom) class 5-6:15 p.m. Tuesdays (Sept. 20, 27 and Oct. 4). Props and modifications are offered in class allowing students to make each pose/asana their own. For cost and all info, email sahasrayoga21@gmail.com or call 845-750-7808.

**The Stone Ridge Library Saunters** The group will continue their weekly sojourns: noon-12:45 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 22 at Granit Road parking lot at Town Park on County Route 27, and Sept. 29 at WV Rail Trail, meet at the Trestle Bridge parking lot on Binnewater Road. The Sept. 29 saunter will culminate with a picnic lunch, 1-2 p.m., on the library lawn to celebrate the program. Wear comfy walking shoes, sunscreen and bug spray. For info, visit stoneridgeli-brary.org or call 845-687-7023.



Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct

## Guided tour and lecture on Roebling's D&H Canal Aqueducts with Paul King

Join the community for this local history lecture with Paul King on Roebling's D&H Aqueducts, 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, at D&H Historical Society, 1315 Main St., High Falls. King, a professor of architectural technology at New York City College of Technology, also serves as a historical

consultant to the National Parks Service, providing tours of Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct. King will host a guided tour at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8.

Admission is \$5/person or free for members. For more information, visit canalmuseum.org/events.

## 'We Remember, Songs of Survivors' Tibor Spitz exhibit events, screening, Q&A

Join the community, 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, at Unison Arts, 68 Mountain Rest Road, New Paltz, for a very special presentation of the PBS documentary film "We Remember: Songs of Survivors," created by local filmmakers Ilene Cutler, Tim Miller and Tim Guetterman.

This film is being presented in tandem with the Tibor Spitz exhibit, "Stories, Remembrances." Tibor's story, because of the collaborative effort between the community arts organization SageArts and Jewish Family Service of Orange County, was recently featured in the documentary.

The Q&A after the film will be moderated by Slovak American scholar of comparative literature Dr. Julia Friday. The documentary is the story of two local organizations - SageArts and Jewish Family Service of Orange County - collaborating to bring Holocaust survivors and singer-songwriters together. They forged meaningful relationships, and the songwriters were able to turn their life experiences into powerful music for a community concert. The resulting songs, filled with joy and healing, celebrate



Singer, songwriter and instrumentalist Kelleigh McKenzie with Survivor and artist Tibor Spitz

the extraordinary lives of this resilient generation. The film screening time is not an opportunity to view Tibor's exhibit, as the focus will be on the film. To fully view the exhibition and purchase work, come to the closing reception, after the film, 4-6 p.m. Admission to the film screening is \$15, \$12 for Unison members, and \$10 for SUNY students and kids under 12.

For info, visit unisonarts.org/events and weremembersongsofsurvivors.com.

## High Holidays at Kerhonkson Synagogue

Join the community for the most solemn days of the year at the Kerhonkson Synagogue sanctuary, 26 Minnewaska Trail, Kerhonkson, via Zoom, and on the Kerhonkson Synagogue YouTube channel.

Celebrate a sweet Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, with the Erev Rosh Hashanah Service, at the synagogue. The following day, Rosh Hashanah, 9:30-10 a.m. enjoy contemplative songs of praise; 10 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Shacharit and Torah reading; 1 p.m., Oneg of apples and honey; and at 1:30 p.m., Tashlikh and shofar followed by potluck lunch in the Jewish Center.

Jewish tradition teaches the need to engage in the process of Teshuvah, repentance, year-round. The High Holy Days are a reminder to get moving on this life-fixing process with the six steps of the Laws of Repentance: regret, recognizing the errors;

renounce, admonition of the actions; confess, acknowledgement; reconcile; making amends; and resolve to make the changes.

On Tuesday, Oct. 4, spend Erev Yom Kippur at the Kerhonkson Synagogue, at 6:15 p.m. with the Kol Nidre service. And on Wednesday, Oct. 5, Yom Kippur, begin the day at the Synagogue, 9:30 a.m. with meditative morning praise; 10:15 a.m., Hineni followed by Shacharit and Torah; Yizkor at noon; break until 2 p.m. for a contemplative walk; 3 p.m., sermon followed by conversational Mincha; 5:30 p.m., Teaching with Bill Magaliff; 6:30 p.m., Neilah; and at 7:15 p.m., Havdalah candle lighting followed by potluck breakfast in the Jewish Center.

For more information, to hear the Shofar blown to bring in the New Year, and for the Zoom link, visit kerhonkonsynagogue.org.

## 60th Annual Rondout Valley Lions Club Fishing Contest

For over 60 years, the Rondout Valley Lions Club has been sponsoring their fishing contest for kids, grades preschool through ninth. And for 41 of those past 60 years, Bill Brooks of Rosendale has organized the event. Brooks loves being a part of the contest for one very special reason. "It's a chance for a day of interaction between parents and kids," he explained, "just a day outside with a family and their fishing poles."

This year's fishing contest will be held on Sunday, Sept. 25, beginning with registration at 1 p.m. and the official start time of 1:30 p.m. Kids can continue to reel them in through 3 p.m. The fishing contest is, as it has always been, a free event, held rain or shine at the Lyonsville Pond

The Lyonsville Pond property is owned by John and Rita Neidhart and the DeFranco family. The late Frank DeFranco was a member of the Lions Club for many, many, many years, and so enjoyed providing the fishing hole for the annual contest. His son, the late Frank Jr., had maintained a lifelong friendship with Brooks and continued to carry on the tradition.

The Lions Club will give out soda and chips. Fishing awards for the kids are also presented in three categories for each of the three age groups. From preschool to third grade, fourth to sixth grade, and seventh to ninth grade; kids are recognized for catching the largest, the smallest, and the most fish.

"We stock the pond occasionally," admitted Brooks, who likes to fish himself but especially loves to see the kids catch their first fish. There is no experience required, and the contest is open to everyone. "All that is needed is a pole and some worms for bait, which you can buy at Stewart's or find in your backyard," said Brooks. "When the ground is nice and wet, it's great for finding worms."

Although he stressed that there is no area restriction on the event, "kids, from far and wide; from anywhere are invited," Brooks sadly admitted that fewer families are taking advantage of the day. "Kids have other things going on." But whether there are 10 or 100 kids who show up to fish, "no matter, it's always worth it just to see their faces as they catch that first fish!"

For info or contact Brooks at 914-388-0845 or 845-658-9649.



The husband-and-wife team, Dempsey/Nelson Way of Stone Ridge, at the Falcon

## The Dempsey/Nelson Way perform at the Stone House Tavern in Accord

The husband-and-wife team from Stone Ridge of DeWitt Nelson on upright bass and vocals by Barbara Dempsey, the Dempsey/Nelson Way will perform 6-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, at Stone House Tavern, 4802 Route 209, Accord. For information, visit thedempseynelsonway.com.

# BlueStone Classifieds

September 16, 2022

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## TOWN OF MARBLETOWN

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marbletown.net  
845-687-7500

## Town Board

September 20 @ 6:00pm

## Housing Committee

September 27 @ 7:00pm

## Zoning Board of Appeals

September 28 @ 6:00pm

## Environmental Conservation

September 29 @ 7:00pm

## Town Board

October 4 @ 6:00pm

## MPIC Meeting

October 11 @ 5:00pm

## Housing Committee

October 11 @ 7:00pm

## Historic Preservation

October 13 @ 6:00pm

## TOWN OF ROSENDALE

All meetings held at  
Rondout Municipal Center  
unless otherwise noted,  
1915 Lucas Avenue, Cottekill  
townofrosendale.com  
845-658-3159

## Zoning Board of Appeals

September 20 @ 7:00pm

## Economic Development

September 21 @ 5:30pm

## Recreation Commission

September 21 @ 7:15pm

## Police Commission

September 27 @ 3:30pm

## Town Board

October 10 @ 7:00pm

## Environmental Commission

October 13 @ 6:30pm

## Planning Board

October 13 @ 7:00pm

## TOWN OF ROCHESTER

All meetings held at  
Harold Lipton Community  
Center unless otherwise noted  
15 Tobacco Road, Accord  
townofrochester.ny.gov  
845-626-7384

## Historic Preservation

September 19 @ 2:00pm

## Recreation Commission

September 21 @ 9:30am

## Environmental Conservation

September 27 @ 6:00pm

## Town Board Audit

September 29 @ 6:00pm

## Town Board Meeting

October 6 @ 6:30pm

## Planning Board

October 10 @ 7:00pm

## Historic Preservation

October 17 @ 2:00pm

## RONDOUT VALLEY CSD BOARD OF EDUCATION

District Office, Kyserike Rd, Accord

## BOE MEETING

September 27 @ 7-9pm

Confirmation of meeting times  
through individual town  
offices is recommended.

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