Remembrance services to honor 20th anniversary of 9/11

By Kristine Coulter

Dutchess County and municipalities throughout the southern part of the county will host remembrance ceremonies on the 20th anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks.

Dutchess County Family Court Judge Tracy MacKenzie will host the Dutchess County September 11th Memorial Ceremony on the steps of the Family Court Center at 50 Market Street in Poughkeepsie on Friday, Sept. 10. The ceremony will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will honor the victims of the 9/11 attacks.

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro and Chancellor, New York Archdiocese John P. Cahill, will offer remarks. Reverend Dr. Edward Hunt of Bethel Missionary Baptist Church will lead attendees in prayer followed by a rendition of “God Bless America” by Karen Johnson. The service will also include a ceremonial lowering of the flag and moment of silence to remember all the lives lost on that day, twenty years ago. The ceremony is open to the public, all are welcome to attend, according to a press release.

The Town of Wappinger will recognize the 20th anniversary with its annual September 11th Remembrance Ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 11 at 8:30 a.m. at the Sergeant Mark C. Palmateer 9/11 Memorial Park, at the corner of Route 9, Old Hopewell Road and Sgt. Palmateer Way.

According to Town information, The Sgt. Mark C. Palmateer 9/11 Memorial Park serves as a memorial for Sgt. Mark C. Palmateer, the first Dutchess County soldier killed in the line of duty in the War on Terror, as well as all the service members and first responders who lost their lives on and since September 11, 2001. Sgt. Palmateer, 38, originally from the Town of Wappinger, lost his life on June 26, 2008 during combat in Afghanistan.

The Town of Wappinger will recognize the 20th anniversary with its annual September 11th Remembrance Ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 11 at 8:30 a.m. The service will take place in the Town of Wappinger Falls, 1095 Main Street, Fishkill.

The Town of East Fishkill will host its annual 9/11 Ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 11, at the East Fishkill Recreation near the Davis House at 5 p.m. The Prelude is set for 5:45 p.m. Attendees should bring chairs or blankets.

Continued on page 3

Hurricane Ida leaves devastation in local area

The remnants of Hurricane Ida hit the area on Wednesday and Thursday, September 1 and 2. Pictured is the flooding of businesses on Elm Street in the Village of Fishkill. Village of Fishkill Mayor Kathy Martin said Elm Street is “the most problematic area for the village.” She said Village officials worked in conjunction with the Village and Town of Fishkill police departments, Department of Transportation and County Emergency Response to close down Route 9 and Elm Street. On Friday, Sept. 3, Martin noted that “the water has receded. We are monitoring the situation.”

• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

-Photo courtesy of Robert Marsillo
Better childrens mental health planning needed to address Hudson Valley’s growing need

To the Editor:

In August, the NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) issued a request for proposals to add 10 new Youth Mental Health Crisis teams across the state. Once contracts are awarded, children in 17 counties will have access to the Medicaid-funded program, which features a psychiatrist, licensed mental health counselors, care coordination, peer support and other in-home supports for children and their families. The Hudson Valley children who can access the new service must live in Westchester, Albany, Schenectady, Warren, Washington or Saratoga counties. Sadly, youth in Rockland, Orange, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster, Columbia and Greene counties are left out.

This is a repeat story for children’s mental health services: there just isn’t enough of it to go around and families need to make sacrifices to get that support.

COVID-19 changed the lives of children in many ways. Youth suicide rates and emergency department calls are up. Every community needs more children’s mental health services than what was available prior to the pandemic.

Let’s ensure the expansion and investment in children’s mental health services meets the needs of every county. For starters, the request for proposal should be revised to close geographic gaps in services and clinical practitioner shortages, and address family homelessness, rises in suicide rates and emergency department presentation instead of population. Let’s also add metrics on the communities and families hardest hit by COVID-19 fatalities, illnesses, and infections so we are reducing the long-term impact of the pandemic on children as best we can.

Yvette Hainan,
Chief Executive Officer,
Astor Services for Children & Families

Wappinger sends out WSD tax bills

Lee Anne Freno, Receiver of Taxes for the Town of Wappinger, announced that the 2021 Wappinger Central School District school tax bills were mailed out on September 7. Payments may be made by mail, online or at the tax office at Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Collection hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Taxpayers who have escrow accounts at banks or other lending institutions are reminded that their bills may have been forwarded directly to those institutions. If you have not received your tax bill and have it sent directly to your home, please call the tax office. Bills must be paid by October 12, to avoid penalty. For further information, please call the tax office at 845-877-4342 or visit the Town’s website at townofwappingery.gov.

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