

THE CHAMBER CHRONICLE

News, Notes, and Business from Hyde Park



July 2026 Edition

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Issue #6

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAMBER PRESIDENT



Happy 250th, America!

Hyde Park just hosted its largest Fourth of July parade ever, and what a celebration it was. The energy, creativity, and community spirit were on full display as new participants joined longtime favorites to make this year's parade truly unforgettable.

Kudos to everyone who helped bring it all together — from the dedicated volunteers to the hardworking teams behind the scenes. A special congratulations goes to the Hyde Park Recreation Department for organizing such a successful event.

Spectators came from all across Dutchess County, many staking out their favorite spots as early as 6:00 AM to catch the action. Local fire departments spent countless hours polishing every inch of chrome, while civic organizations showcased their pride with colorful floats, banners, and costumes. And of course, the parade wouldn't be complete without the traditional Brandl Towing centipede closing out the festivities. Despite the scorching heat, the day was a triumph — a true reflection of Hyde Park's community spirit.

Please note: There will be no Chamber Breakfasts in July or August. Enjoy the sunshine, stay cool, and have a wonderful summer!





Hyde Park
Chamber of Commerce

16th Annual
CAR SHOW

Sunday, July 26th, 2026

Rain Date August 2nd 2026

10 AM to 4 PM

OLD HYDE PARK MOTORS
(Rt. 9 & ACROSS FROM TOWN HALL)

CAR REGISTRATION BEGINS 10 AM

\$20 REGISTRATION FEE • TROPHIES AWARDED AT 3 PM

Visit www.HydeParkChamber.org for more information.

Spectators
FREE!

Live Music
by HARVEST



NOURISH YOUR BODY. INSPIRE YOUR MIND.
BUILD OUR COMMUNITY.
EVERY SATURDAY — 9AM TO 2PM
JUNE THRU OCTOBER
4390 ALBANY POST ROAD
HYDE PARK, NEW YORK



The Hyde Park Farmers Market Is Off to a Fantastic Start — and the Season Is Just Beginning!

June arrived with sunshine, smiling faces, and an incredible opening day for The Hyde Park Farmers Market. We're thrilled to share that our 2026 season launched on Saturday, June 6 with outstanding community turnout, energetic vendors, and that unmistakable Hyde Park spirit. It's clear — the market is back, and better than ever.

This year, shoppers can enjoy 20+ weekly vendors offering the very best of the Hudson Valley: fresh produce, meats, eggs, baked goods, prepared foods, artisan creations, handmade goods, and so much more. Every Saturday brings new flavors, new neighbors, and new reasons to shop local and support the small businesses that make our town special.

We're also proud to introduce our brand-new POP Club (Power of Produce Club). June's kickoff was a hit with local families, and we're excited to see even more children join in the fun all season long. POP Club encourages healthy eating, financial literacy, and hands-on learning through activities and produce tokens kids can spend right at the market. To keep this wonderful program growing, we are actively seeking POP Club sponsors of all sizes. It's a meaningful way for local businesses and organizations to support Hyde Park's youth while gaining valuable community visibility.

For sponsorship details, vendor updates, and everything happening this season, please visit: thehydeparkfarmersmarket.com. Here's to a successful June — and an amazing market season ahead. Hyde Park, we'll see you every Saturday!

Currie Chick Peas with Spinach

Serves: 4 Prep Time: 10 min Cook Time: 20 min

Ingredients

- 1 can chickpeas, drained
- 1 onion, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp grated fresh ginger
- 1 tsp curry powder
- 1 cup coconut milk
- 2 cups fresh spinach, chopped
- 1-2 tbsp olive oil, for sautéing

Instructions

- Warm the olive oil in a skillet over medium heat. Add the diced onion and cook until soft and translucent.
- Stir in the garlic and ginger, cooking just until fragrant.
- Sprinkle in the curry powder and toast it for 30 seconds to deepen the flavor.
- Add the chickpeas and toss to coat them in the spices.
- Pour in the coconut milk, bring to a gentle simmer, and cook for about 15 minutes to thicken slightly.
- Fold in the spinach and cook until wilted. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Show your market love!

NOMINATE US!

Hyde Valley
BEST
OF HUDSON VALLEY
2026



FARMERS MARKET

NOMINATE NOW!

<http://bestof.hvmap.com>



CORPORATE SPONSOR



BOARDROOM ODDITIES AND BLUNDERS

Business loves to dress up like it’s auditioning for “Most Serious Institution on Earth”—spreadsheets lined up like they’re in military formation, charts marching upward as if they’ve been threatened, and forecasts whispered with the hush of someone leaking state secrets. Then come the meetings, where everyone nods so gravely you’d think Q3 results were being carved into stone tablets. But peel back the polished slide decks and you’ll find a traveling circus of mishaps, misunderstandings, and mild chaos, proving once again that the workplace isn’t just human... it’s a beautifully organized disaster wearing a tie.



The Coffee Crisis

Someone replaced the office coffee with decaf “for wellness.” Productivity dropped 40%. HR quietly reinstated caffeine and called it a morale initiative.

The PowerPoint That Wouldn’t End

A manager presented a 97-slide deck titled “Quick Update.” By slide 42, the projector overheated. By slide 83, so did the audience.

The Chair Rotation Policy

To promote fairness, the board decided everyone should rotate chairs each meeting. By week three, no one remembered where they sat — or what they voted on.

The Brainstorm That Got Too Literal

The CEO asked for “blue-sky thinking.” The team booked an outdoor meeting. It rained. They called it “authentic innovation.”

The Confidential Memo

A memo marked “For Internal Use Only” was accidentally sent to the Chamber mailing list. It was about improving communication. Feedback was overwhelming.

The Mission Statement Makeover

The board spent three hours rewriting the company mission statement. They ended up with: “To innovate, inspire, and occasionally remember what we actually do.” It was unanimously approved.

Community Spotlight: The Vanderbilt Mansion – Hyde Park’s Crown on the Hudson

There are places in a town that feel less like landmarks and more like old friends — familiar, steady, and woven into the rhythm of everyday life. For Hyde Park, the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site is exactly that kind of presence. Rising above the Hudson River with its sweeping lawns and stately Beaux-Arts architecture, the mansion has watched over our community for more than a century, quietly reminding us that history isn’t something locked behind velvet ropes — it’s something we live alongside.

Built between 1896 and 1899 for Frederick and Louise Vanderbilt, the estate was designed as a country retreat, a place where elegance met fresh air and the pace of life slowed just enough to appreciate the view. Today, thanks to the National Park Service, the mansion remains one of the best-preserved Gilded Age homes in the country. But for locals, it’s more than a museum. It’s a backdrop for morning walks, family photos, first dates, school field trips, and those quiet moments when you just need to stand by the river and breathe.

Step inside and you’re greeted by the kind of craftsmanship that feels almost impossible today — carved wood, marble fireplaces, tapestries, and rooms that seem to whisper stories from another era. Guided tours bring the Vanderbilt family’s



world to life, but it’s the small details that stay with you: the sunlight catching the gold leaf in the dining room, the hush of the library, the sense that time moves differently inside those walls.

Outside, the grounds are a world of their own. The formal gardens bloom in waves from spring through fall, each turn of the path revealing a new burst of color. The overlook above the Hudson remains one of the most breathtaking views in the entire valley — a place where locals bring out-of-town guests just to watch their jaws drop. And the trails, winding through meadows and down toward the river, offer a peaceful escape that feels miles away from the everyday rush.

What makes the Vanderbilt site truly special, though, is how deeply it belongs to the community. It’s where runners train at sunrise, where families picnic on summer afternoons, where photographers chase the perfect golden-hour shot, and where generations of Hyde Park residents have created memories without ever needing a ticket or a reservation. It’s a reminder that some of the most extraordinary places in the world are right in our backyard.

As Hyde Park continues to grow and evolve, the Vanderbilt Mansion stands as a bridge between past and present — a place that grounds us, inspires us, and invites us to slow down long enough to appreciate the beauty around us. Whether you’re visiting for the first time or the hundredth, the estate has a way of making you feel like you’re stepping into something timeless.



BUSINESS UPDATES

Employer Guide to the Aging Workforce:

Workers 55 and older now make up nearly a quarter of the U.S. workforce and represent the labor force’s [fastest growing age group](#). Further, while the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the overall labor force participation rate will slightly decline between 2020 and 2030, the rate for those in the 75-and-up age group is expected to grow by 96.5% during this same decade. What does an aging workforce mean for employers?

Age Discrimination Risks

An aging workforce heightens the importance of careful compliance with age discrimination laws. This is especially true considering a recent [AARP Research survey](#) of workers age 50-plus, which showed that:

- 22% of respondents felt they were being pushed out of work because of their age.
- 64% reported seeing or experiencing age discrimination in the workplace.

The federal Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) generally protects employees and applicants age 40 or older and applies to employers with 20 or more employees. The ADEA prohibits [age-based discrimination](#) with respect to any term or condition of employment, including hiring, firing, compensation, layoffs, promotions, and benefits. Some state and local laws add additional protections based on age. An aging workforce means more employees who are protected by the ADEA, and employers should be cautious to ensure they are compliant with those protections.

Subtle forms of age discrimination are not uncommon, including jokes about different generations and assumptions that older employees are less tech savvy or resistant to change, that they may be close to retirement, have “only a few good years left,” or will struggle to “keep up.” Employers should be mindful of additional provisions for release agreements that include a release of claims of age discrimination and special considerations should be taken when planning reductions in force to avoid disproportionately impacting older workers.

Practical Takeaway: Employers should take [proactive compliance efforts](#) to avoid violating the ADEA (or state/local laws) and limit exposure to age-based discrimination claims. Job interviews and hiring decisions can be a primary source of age discrimination, so make sure to train your hiring managers and update job postings or descriptions as needed to combat potential age bias. If you receive a complaint, you should follow up quickly and document any steps taken to decrease potential litigation and foster a more positive and productive workplace. If you plan to offer a severance agreement to an employee over the age of 40, you should consult legal counsel to ensure your agreement covers the necessary provisions.

Source SHRM.org



New Member Spotlight

Tucked into the heart of the Hudson Valley, Dirt Road Designs by Roe, LLC has quickly become one of the region’s most beloved small businesses — a creative studio where craftsmanship, outdoor spirit, and community pride meet. With more than 480 followers cheering them on and a growing reputation for quality, the brand has carved out a niche that feels both rugged and refined.

Founded by Marie “Roe,” the business is built on a simple but powerful idea: **gear should tell a story — your story.** Whether it’s a custom patch hat that captures a favorite trail, a laser-engraved keepsake, or a one-of-a-kind apparel design, every piece is made with intention and a personal touch. Proudly based in the Hudson Valley and a member of the **Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce**, Dirt Road Designs by Roe is more than a shop — it’s a neighbor. The business has earned a **100% recommendation rating** from reviewers, who consistently praise the quality, creativity, and friendly service. Customers describe the experience as personal, collaborative, and fun — the kind of small-business relationship that keeps people coming back year after year.



In a world of mass-produced merchandise, Dirt Road Designs offers something refreshingly different:

- **Authenticity** — Designs that reflect real passions: the outdoors, adventure, family, and local pride.
- **Customization** — Every piece can be tailored to the customer’s vision.
- **Craftsmanship** — High-quality materials and meticulous attention to detail.
- **Community Connection** — A business that supports and celebrates the Hudson Valley.

Whether you’re looking for branded gear for your business, a meaningful personalized gift, or apparel that stands out from the crowd, Dirt Road Designs by Roe delivers with style and heart.

Explore more of their work at their Linktree: linktr.ee/Dirtroaddesignsbyroe

Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce
16th Annual CAR SHOW
Sunday, July 26th, 2026
Rain Date August 2nd, 2026
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Spectators FREE!

At the Old Hyde Park Station (Across from Town Hall Rt. 9 Hyde Park)
CAR SHOW: REGISTRATION FOR SHOW CARS
\$20.00 - BEGINS AT 10:00 AM, TROPHIES AT 3 PM
DASH PLAQUES, TROPHIES, FOOD, 50/50 & DJ
Check www.hydeparkchamber.org for more information and cancellations.

EVENT SPONSORS:

Hudson Valley Credit Union (845) 453-2211	DS Home Services (845) 340-1238	Anderson Center for Autism (845) 395-4234
Northside Auto Body (845) 432-5235	Chemical Mobil Dack Consulting (845) 228-6200	Key Construction (845) 456-1132
Grounded (845) 340-1234	Hyde Park Vintage Emporium (845) 228-6200	Freelance CPA (845) 455-5577
Delamater's Auto Body (845) 228-1232	Swad's Funeral Home (845) 228-2034	Jeff Timon State Farm (845) 228-4300
McDonald's Hyde Park (845) 228-1800	Dunkin' Donuts (845) 228-6146	Shorebank Bank (845) 228-6100
Jim's Auto Body (845) 228-6132	S+S Vac & Sewing Center (845) 452-4122	Rapides Pizzeria (845) 473-5134
Cappella's Bistro (845) 228-6111	Hyde Park Jewelers (845) 228-2021	Tekona's Pizzeria (845) 228-6077
Sterling Pump (845) 228-2069	STAT Construction (845) 228-2060	Hartland Auto (845) 228-6100
Jimmy's Auto Care (845) 228-6100	Joseph's Steakhouse (845) 473-5200	Hudson View Auto (845) 456-5545
James Seglio Service (845) 452-1133	Woodman Press (845) 228-7079	Brewster Chiropractic (845) 228-6000
Arlet Richard Wambach (845) 417-5277	Dutchess Scale (845) 444-6010	Ron & Cathy Lane
Hyde Park Florist (845) 228-6022	Ruger's	

Musicians in the Park

4:30 - HPCSD Band	Wonderful Miles
4:50 - The Band Everything Else	Wonderful Miles
4:57 - Thunder Ridge	Wonderful Miles
4:59 - The Crew	Wonderful Miles
5:01 - That Guy Larry Ryan - 4 Groups in Disguise Type	Wonderful Miles
5:06 - Southern Dutchess Concert Band	Wonderful Miles
5:09 - Reese & The Storm	Wonderful Miles
5:10 - Matt Jordan	Wonderful Miles
5:16 - Florio's With Disaster	Wonderful Miles
5:18 - Way Behind The Sun	Wonderful Miles
5:20 - West Point Military Band	Wonderful Miles

June 8 July 19th August 6-8 PM
*The musicians are not located in the Town Hall, but in the
Park Grounds at 11 Old Post Road, West Point, New York 10986
Band who will have a rock date of August 19th.
The song recommendations or changes, please check the Hyde Park Summer Festival page.

NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

Chamber Board-Member Focus

Dave Stewart

Dave brings a hands-on approach and decades of experience in home maintenance, repair, and improvement. His business, DS Home Services, has earned a reputation for reliability, craftsmanship, and neighborly care — qualities that mirror the Chamber’s own commitment to community service.

As a Chamber board member, Dave is known for his practical insight and steady support of local initiatives. Whether lending a hand at events, offering advice to fellow business owners, or helping homeowners solve everyday challenges, he embodies the spirit of Hyde Park’s working board — dedicated volunteers who serve with pride and purpose.

Outside of his business, Dave enjoys connecting with residents and sharing his knowledge to make homeownership easier and more rewarding. His belief in “doing the job right the first time” has made DS Home Services a go-to resource for homeowners throughout the Hudson Valley.

Thank you, Dave, for your commitment to Hyde Park and for helping strengthen our local business community.





Winnakee Land Trust — Protecting the Places That Make Hyde Park Home

In a world that moves a little too fast, Winnakee Land Trust stands as one of Hyde Park’s quiet heroes — preserving the woods, fields, and trails that give our community its character. Founded in 1989, Winnakee has spent decades safeguarding open space across northern Dutchess County, ensuring that the landscapes we love today will still be here for the generations who follow.

Their work goes far beyond conservation on paper. Winnakee maintains miles of public trails, restores habitats, protects farmland, and partners with schools and local groups to teach the next generation about stewardship. Whether you’re hiking through the Winnakee Nature Preserve, walking your dog along a shaded trail, or simply enjoying the peace of undeveloped land, chances are you’re benefiting from their efforts.

What makes Winnakee special is its deep connection to the community. Volunteers help clear trails, plant trees, and support restoration projects. Local families explore the preserves year-round. And the organization’s commitment to keeping land accessible — not locked behind gates — reflects a belief that nature should be shared, not hidden.

In a town known for its history, Winnakee reminds us that our natural spaces are part of that story too. They’re the backdrop to our daily lives, the places we breathe a little easier, and the quiet corners that make Hyde Park feel like home.

Winnakee Land Trust continues to protect these spaces with care, vision, and a whole lot of heart — ensuring that the beauty of our region remains not just preserved, but alive.



Hyde Park Historical Society — Preserving the Stories That Shape Our Town

Every community has a heartbeat, and in Hyde Park, part of that pulse comes from the Hyde Park Historical Society — a dedicated nonprofit committed to preserving the stories, artifacts, and everyday moments that define who we are. While the town is known for its presidential legacy and iconic landmarks, the Historical Society focuses on something just as important: the local history woven through neighborhoods, families, and the places we pass every day.

Housed in the restored 1845 Stephen T. Miller House, the Society serves as both a museum and a gathering place for anyone curious about Hyde Park’s past. Inside, visitors find carefully curated exhibits, photographs, documents, and artifacts that might otherwise have disappeared into attics or been lost to time. Volunteers catalog, preserve, and interpret these pieces of history with a level of care that reflects genuine love for the community.

But the Society’s work extends far beyond its walls. They host lectures, walking tours, school programs, and community events that bring history to life — not as something dusty or distant, but as something living, relatable, and surprisingly fun. Whether it’s a program on local architecture, a deep dive into Hyde Park’s early industries, or a celebration of the town’s cultural heritage, the Society creates opportunities for residents to connect with the stories that shaped the place they call home.

What makes the Hyde Park Historical Society truly special is its spirit of stewardship. It’s run largely by volunteers who give their time, energy, and expertise to ensure that Hyde Park’s heritage isn’t just preserved, but shared. Their work reminds us that history isn’t only found in textbooks or famous estates — it’s in the people, the traditions, and the everyday moments that make a community unique.

