

(Published weekly)

Northern Dutchess News & Creative Living is a division of the Southern Dutchess News, produced and printed in Dutchess County since 1959. The Southern Dutchess News is an official newspaper of Dutchess County, as voted by the Dutchess County Legislature on Jan. 6, 2009. Submit all legal notices to sdnlegals@aol.com.

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Deadline is Thursday at 3 p.m.

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and calendar events:
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Creative Living deadline is Thursday
at 3 p.m. for publication the following week.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS welcomes your letters. Letters must be submitted via e-mail to be considered for publication; e-mail to northerndutchess@sdutchessnews.com and include the phrase "Letter to the Editor" in the subject line. Include a telephone number and address for verification purposes. Letters may be edited for legal considerations, reader interest and length. We look forward to hearing from you.

Tyner a valuable public servant

To the editor:

I made my first political donation when I was a wee lad back in 1976. I was in love with Amy Carter and my Dad brought the family to a fundraiser. I put a few precious coins in a Ball jar, and walked around with my cute little sister getting donations. We take credit for his [Jimmy Carter's] victory.

While I have always been a political person, I can count the donations that I have made over the last decades to under a dozen. There are so few decent public servants out there worthy of my pitance of disposable income.

Joel Tyner is worth his weight in gold. I would be very happy to have him represent us throughout the Hudson Valley in the future.

I work for my money; Joel works for us. Please consider keeping him in office and allowing the working people to continue to have a voice. A voice and a hope for the future.

Mike McCarville
Newburgh

NOTE: Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Dutchess News.

Letters must be e-mailed to be considered for publication. We cannot accept handwritten or faxed letters.

Supporting Whitton for Clinton Town Board

To the editor:

I am writing to endorse Michael Whitton for Clinton Town Board.

Michael Whitton was one of the first neighbors we met when my family moved to Clinton, at a community function in Fran Mark Park. We immediately connected over our environmental concerns, both expressing our respect for the awe-inspiring beauty of the Hudson Valley, and our desire to protect it for future generations.

Michael successfully campaigned the current town board to take the Climate Smart Communities Pledge, a vetted roadmap to environmental responsibility. Hearing that, I thought, "Wow, this guy isn't just sitting around a dinner table complaining, he's actually putting in the sweat."

As a native of Clinton, Michael has been an entry point into the community for our family. Through our Clinton Democratic Club, we've gotten to know him as a sensible, dependable and inexhaustible organizer, and I trust him to find common ground with all of my neighbors. Focused on local concerns, Michael wants to protect our library, improve cell service and make regulations for solar panels more reasonable. He wants to update our town website to offer more transparency and make documents more readily available. He vows to be fiscally responsible, and as a small business owner, I trust that he will be watching the pennies.

If you haven't met with Michael Whitton, reach out to him through WhittonforClinton.com. I am confident you will find him to be a qualified and kind-hearted candidate, deserving of your vote for Clinton Town Board.

Scott Duquette
Clinton

Calling All Champions

Editor's Note: New York State has the highest demand for domestic violence services in the country, with one in every four women becoming a victim of abuse in her lifetime. Grace Smith House is a non-profit domestic violence agency dedicated to empowering individuals and their families to live free from the shadow of abuse. For more information, please visit www.gracesmithhouse.org or call their 24-hour crisis hotline: (845) 471-3033. The articles are printed as a public service in the Northern and Southern Dutchess News.

by Jamie D.

You may not realize it, but our community is full of heroes - real, every-day heroes who step forward to help their neighbors and complete strangers.

Some of these heroes are already familiar to you - firefighters, social workers, police officers, teachers and countless, unsung volunteers. There are others you may be less familiar with, because the work they do and the gifts they give our community are done in quiet moments and personal gestures. In taking a stand against abuse and bullying, we are the champions our community needs to combat domestic violence.

Grace Smith House is calling on all champions to help in this effort. On Friday, Sept. 22, Grace Smith House will be hosting their Afternoon of Champions at the Mid-Hudson Children's Museum pavilion.

This annual summer event is an opportunity for both men and women in the Dutchess County community to come together and support survivors of domestic violence.

Taking a stand against violence does not usually involve putting on a mask and a cape, but this is a special event in which our champions are encouraged to dress up and put themselves to the test.

Participants register in teams of two to compete in fun physical challenges. Fifty teams will compete to be the 2017 Champion and lift Grace Smith House up to achieve the ultimate triumph: empowering survivors of abuse to live free from violence. Sign up now, and join the growing ranks of champions in our community.

To register a team, visit www.gracesmithhouse.org/aoc-event. Businesses and organizations are encouraged to register a team or buy a sponsorship to support the event. For questions, please contact Grace Smith House's development department, at events@gracesmithhouse.org.

Grace Smith House is an open door for mothers and their children seeking shelter from domestic violence. They provide individuals and their families with crisis shelter, counseling and advocacy. If you would like to learn more about Grace Smith House, or contribute to their mission, please visit www.gracesmithhouse.org.



Golf Classic raises \$52K for Health Alliance



Casey Scanlon holds the championship plaque from the HealthAlliance Foundation's 2017 Golf Classic presented by CDPHP. He is surrounded, from immediate left, by Rich Siegel, Nick Freese and John Deforest. Glenn L. Decker, Golf Classic chairman (far left) and Steffen T. Kraehmer, HealthAlliance Foundation executive director (far right) presented the plaque to the winning foursome from Scanlon's Cleaning and Restoration, which surpassed 34 other teams competing in the tournament with a score of 14 under par. The Golf Classic, held at Apple Greens Golf Course in Highland, raised \$52,000 for HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley, a member of the Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth). *Courtesy photo*