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| **Politics and Elections Because That’s What We Do** |
| **Saugerties Democratic Primary Results**  Kayleigh Zaloga and Kevin Freeman won the Saugerties Town Board Primary, with 529 and 491 votes respectively. Falling short were Nina Schmidbaur (293 votes), Lauren Ruberg (257 votes), Tim Scott (206 votes), and Diedre Miller (123 votes). In the Legislative District 2 race, Joe Maloney won with 254 votes followed by John Schoonmaker with 189 votes and Chris Allen with 120 votes.  We thank all the candidates for stepping up. Vying for public office is not easy. Now we will put the primary behind us and work together for solid victories in November. In the weeks and months ahead, please follow and support the issues-based campaigns of our candidates as they focus on promoting affordable housing, growing the economy and helping small businesses, supporting the environment, and working on other important issues that affect the people of Saugerties.  **November Slate**  As of now, our Democratic candidates are Kevin Bryant and David Gandin for New York State Supreme Court Justices, March Gallagher for Ulster County Comptroller, Aaron Levine for District 1 Legislator, Joe Maloney for District 2 Legislator, Arick Manocha for District 3 Legislator, Fred Costello for Town Supervisor, Julie Dunn for Town Receiver of Taxes, and Kevin Freeman and Kayleigh Zaloga for Town Board.  On July 13, the Ulster County Democratic Committee will meet to choose between Sarah Rakov and Liz Corrado to be our candidate for Family Court Judge. With the recent announcement of Family Court Judge Marianne Mizel’s retirement, there was insufficient time to include the Family Court position on the primary ballot, leaving the County Democratic Party to decide who will round out our November ticket.  **National Events and Actions**  In what is considered to be the most consequential voting rights decision in decades, the Supreme Court voted to uphold Arizona’s voting restrictions, which Justice Elena Kagan rightfully identified as targeting minority voters. Joined by Justices Stephen Breyer and Sonia Sotomayor, Kagan wrote in the dissent that the restrictions upheld by the decision “stacks the deck against minority citizens’ voting rights.” She additionally pointed out that nearly one in three of discarded votes in the U.S. was cast in Arizona.  This conservative Supreme Court, [created by Mitch McConnell](https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2021/06/mcconnell-biden-breyer-supreme-court.html), has shown its hand about voting rights and democracy. Passage of the [John Lewis Voting Rights](https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/how-to-restore-and-strengthen-voting-rights-act) Act and [For the People Act](https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/policy-solutions/annotated-guide-people-act-2021) is more urgent than ever. [Sign up](https://www.mobilize.us/commoncause/event/376178/?fbclid=IwAR0JqXr_jF3lq1dNosxUkZ4_rtsRTBe0qFZXRzgnbVzLPwh3tVu5baOdCVo) for Indivisible NY19’s weekly phonebank to push for voting rights or attend the [Deadline for Democracy Rally](https://act.indivisible.org/event/local-actions/163367/signup/?fbclid=IwAR1T-5w88DzkhqN9nSx4MXDwV8syom2nE7IjulM2C8PHJEA23XGziYs_hWI) on July 7 at 6:00 PM in Rhinebeck. |

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| **Monthly Meeting News** |
| **June SDC Meetings Highlights**\*  The Saugerties Democratic Committee met on Tuesday, June 22, via Zoom. The Committee voted on two executive committee positions—treasurer and secretary. Tim Scott resigned as treasure to comply with a Town of Saugerties ethics rule stating that members of any Saugerties Town boards or committees cannot hold an office in a political party. Bill Barr resigned as secretary to run for the SDC treasurer position. The Committee elected Bill as the new treasurer and Louise Bloomfield as secretary.  The committee also agreed to participate in the Saugerties Fourth of July Parade. Justine Tomkiell and Brigid Walsh volunteered to coordinate the SDC contingent ([*see photos on SDC Facebook page*](https://www.facebook.com/SaugertiesDemocraticCommittee/posts/2023806017774962?__cft__%5b0%5d=AZXiCUD3OpOLNAJHxcY4xWGxAEtLsmLlgpWYsrRxkMyntMvnyJUAJcucTAgd8vFjXtGDmg3ue7DpYpn3CHDKQaFkhAXQ7URA1xz77eAuRkPytRGu3BOB_FC5aNYJdERVDLJXfWlFuvBVEpcKvfTxJ1C9pOfzGA7oD2z1CxK_m8LiVHr0sXpQqTzWeA0_rJkhkbs&__tn__=%2CO%2CP-R)). The fundraising committee announced it planned a barbecue with drinks and entertainment for Thursday, September 9, at 6:00 PM at the Cantine Field Pavilion. There was a discussion about resuming in-person meetings without a decision being reached. Final details pending. Additionally, Matthew Maloney discussed his ongoing work with Native Americans and urged the committee to become more involved in Native rights and issues.  \*For a copy of the full minutes, please email [saugertiesdemocraticcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:saugertiesdemocraticcommittee@gmail.com) or check [saugertiesdemocrats.org](file:///C:\Users\Christine\Documents\Democratic%20Committee\saugertiesdemocrats.org). Also please email Louise Bloomfield at [saugertiesdemocraticcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:saugertiesdemocraticcommittee@gmail.com) for upcoming virtual meeting links. The remaining 2021 regularly scheduled monthly meetings are July 27, Aug. 24, Sept 28, Oct.26, and Nov. 23. All are welcome. |
| **News and Newsworthy** |
| [**Seasoned Gives**](https://www.seasonedgives.org)**,** the not-for-profit arm of Saugerties residents Tamika and Martin Dunkley’s Seasoned Delicious, is having a “soft” grand opening of its Evolution Center on Saturday, July 10, from noon to 4:00 at 11 Lohmaier Street, Lake Katrine. Music, vendors, kids activities.  [**Good Work Institute**](https://goodworkinstitute.org/)is offering an online Just Transition Primer to better understand the framework and principles for building systems that will help us care for each other and the Earth. July 18 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Register [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/just-transition-primer-registration-157073782913).  **Dance for Democracy**, a Woodstock Democratic Committee fundraiser, will feature the [Marc Black Band](https://www.marcblack.com/) with Amy Fradon and guests on Sunday, July 25, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Colony, Rock City Rd, Woodstock. $20 per person with cash bar.  A [**Vote Mama**](https://www.votemama.org/) fundraiser at the home of Nejla Liias is planned for July 25 to support mentorship and funding for endorsed female candidates with a child under 18, pregnant, or a primary caregiver of a person with a disability. Watch for an SDC email with details soon. |