

# Poughkeepsie Journal

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## Relaxing on the water

Serene scenes along rivers and streams.

Picture Our Valley, 4A



**USA TODAY** THE LATEST ON THE VIOLENCE AND PROTESTS IN BALTIMORE **PAGE 1B**

## Sick pup is made well. The bad news?

# \$9,473 TAB.



ALEX H. WAGNER/POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

Muffin, a Heeler/Jack Russell terrier mix hospitalized for eight days with parvovirus, sits in her home in Wappingers Falls. Her owner, Geniene Arnold, said she is better and very playful.

**MARY BETH PFEIFFER**  
POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

The story goes like this. Student, 20, buys sweet pet-store puppy.

Nine days later, puppy gets sick. Student, sister and mom vow to make pup well.

And so, after eight days in a veterinary hospital, Muffin, 16 weeks old and a little worse for wear, rallies. Score one for a spunky tan-and-white terrier mix in her battle with parvovirus, a deadly canine disease that attacks the intestinal tract and can cause lifelong heart problems.

The not-so-happy ending is the veterinary tab: \$9,473, carried by said student who already has \$30,000 in car and college loans.

Though it's not what she signed up for when she bought a puppy to share with

her sister, Geniene Arnold of Wappingers Falls doesn't regret a thing.

"No matter how much I hate having these bills," she said, "I do not, for one second, regret what they were used for, because my little Muffin survived."

Arnold, a paralegal student at Dutchess Community College who hopes to return to the University of New Haven, learned firsthand what animal welfare advocates say are the risks of buying a dog produced by an industry they refer to as "puppy mills," as reported in the Poughkeepsie Journal March 29. The breeding farms produce, ship and sell some 2 million puppies a year, according to the Humane Society of the United States.

Muffin, born Jan. 2 to a Missouri breeder and trucked to New York by an Iowa broker, was bought March 25 from

See **PUPPIES**, Page 2A



See this story at

<http://pojnews.co> to read the latest inspection report. Visit <http://pojnews.co/investigations> for extensive coverage on the mistreatment of puppies and puppy mills, including video reports on the issue.



POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL FILE  
Kenneth Stahl

## Stahli trial set to start

Jury selection continues today in toddler's death

**NINA SCHUTZMAN**  
POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

KINGSTON — Juror selection continues today in Kenneth Stahl's murder trial, which is set to begin on Wednesday. Stahl, 27, is charged with second-degree murder, depraved indifference murder of a child, in the death of 2-year-old Mason DeCosmo.

Jury selection for the trial started Monday in the Ulster County Court, and six jurors were selected by the end of the day.

Stahl's trial could last until May 8, said Judge Donald Williams. District Attorney Holley Carnright, who is prosecuting Stahl, said his case will take five to six days to present.

Williams and attorneys for both sides are still wading through a pool of potential jurors — they started with 151 — to determine who among them can give Stahl a fair trial.

By Monday afternoon, that pool had shrunk as prospective jurors answered a series of questions about their backgrounds, experiences and prior knowledge of the case. Potential jurors were also asked if they had any knowledge of Mason's Voice, an advocacy group that

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## Medical marijuana growers can apply in NY

**JOSEPH SPECTOR**  
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ALBANY — Attention medical-marijuana growers: The state is accepting applications.

The state Department of Health announced Monday it has opened the application process for businesses interested in becoming registered organizations to manufacture and dispense medical marijuana in New York.

The state plans to award five contracts to private marijuana growers, who will each be permitted to open up to four dispensaries to distribute the drug to certified patients across the state. State officials have estimated it would take about nine months to grow the marijuana.

Acting Health Commissioner Howard Zucker said the start of the application process is "an important step in implementing the medical-marijuana program."

"We have laid out an ambitious timeline in getting the program up and running and we are meeting our goals,"

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## Dutchess groups join Nepal relief effort

**CRAIG WOLF**  
POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

POUGHQUAG — Nepal may literally be on the other end of the world from Dutchess County, but to some local people, it is compellingly close.

And they are swinging into action to help. The powerful earthquake that struck Nepal Saturday killed an estimated 4,000 or more and left masses homeless, especially in and around the capital of Katmandu. Global organizations are pouring in aid, and at least two local outfits with Nepalese connections are, too.

Adam Friedensohn had been planning to go to Nepal when he learned of the disaster, and quickly changed his plans. Known as Lama Rangbar within his Poughquag-based Bodhivastu Foundation, he and other members added relief to their missions practically overnight.

"We had already mobilized some cash and people on the ground," he said. "We are taking in funds and we've already sent several thousand dollars over to Nepal." The local group is partnering

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### LOCAL HELP

In addition to national and international charities, two local charities are raising funds for Nepalese earthquake relief. Both are listed in Internal Revenue Service references as tax-deductible charities. Bodhivastu Foundation, 119 Roosevelt Dr., Poughquag, NY 12570 Online: [www.thegreatawakening.org/nepal-relief](http://www.thegreatawakening.org/nepal-relief) or [info@bodhivastu.org](mailto:info@bodhivastu.org) Himalayan Health Initiative, 23 Manor Way, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

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