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Special, Inside

Millbrook Winery plans upgrades, ends bring-your-own seating policy

By **GRAHAM CORRIGAN**
grahamc@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — The owners of Millbrook Vineyards & Winery are changing how visitors may use their property, ending a long-time policy that allowed guests to bring their own food, beverages and lawn chairs onto the vineyard grounds.

The changes come as the winery introduces new seating areas, expanded food offerings and updated visitor accommodations ahead of the summer season.

To support the shift away from open lawn-style seating, the winery is installing several designated seating areas across the property. A newly created adults-only patio will feature Adirondack chairs,

private tables and sofa seating available for a small table fee that has not yet been finalized. Guests will also be able to reserve tables in advance, though walk-ins will still be welcome.

Additional picnic tables are also being added to the winery's existing all-ages seating area.

Weekend food trucks are scheduled to return beginning June 1, but they will now be supplemented by expanded local food offerings inside the winery's renovated tap room space, now renamed The Overlook. Local producers, including Millbrook Beef & Dairy and Chaseholm Farm, will offer cheese, charcuterie and prepared foods.

See **WINERY, A8**



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Wassaic-based cannabis grower Douglas Broughton in his basement greenhouse at his home on Old Route 22 on Sunday, May 17.

Cannabis dispensary faces uncertain timeline as grower navigates OCM red tape

By **NATHAN MILLER**
nathanm@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — A cannabis dispensary planned for Main Street is facing lengthy delays that the Wassaic-based grower behind the project attributed to bureaucracy at the Office of Cannabis Management.

Doug Broughton, who operates a commercial cannabis farm at his home on Old Route 22 in Wassaic, plans to open a retail wing of his licensed cannabis microbusiness at 32 Main St. in downtown Millerton. Broughton first announced the plans earlier this year, target-

ing March and April openings that were later pushed back.

He now hopes to open the shop in early summer, but said he can't peg a specific date due to delays at New York State's Office of Cannabis Management.

Broughton attributes sluggish administration at OCM to interference from larger cannabis businesses. Those businesses, he said, consume much of the agency's time and resources, creating delays that can place significant financial strain on smaller microbusinesses like his own.

He said selling his cannabis wholesale to retailers has been

keeping him afloat as he pays \$1,800 per month on rent for the space on Millerton's Main Street. Despite that, he's confident the quality of his products and his shop will make up for the wait once it's over.

"We have a lot of options and we can be very competitive," Broughton said, adding he believes his cannabis is of a higher quality and better value than larger, corporate producers. "They threw huge amounts of money into bullying their way into a market and now nobody wants their weed."

See **DISPENSARY, A8**



PHOTO BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

The Washington town pool in the hamlet of Mabbetsville along Route 44 sits ready for the start of the 2026 season.

Washington officials eye improvements to town pool

By **GRAHAM CORRIGAN**
grahamc@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Members of the Washington Town Board are calling for upgrades to the town's recreation area in Mabbetsville along Route 44, saying the park's roughly 80-year-old pool is outdated and increasingly difficult to maintain.

Former Washington Councilmember Mike Murphy presented a new report to the Town Board during its regular meeting on Wednesday, May 13, detailing the needed updates to the park.

His report is part of a larger Washington project called the Recreation Area Strategic Plan-

See **POOL, A8**

Man flown to Westchester hospital after lawn mower injury

By **NATHAN MILLER**
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MILLERTON — A man was flown by helicopter to a regional hospital Friday after a lawn mower caused injuries to his foot.

New York State Police troopers

arrived at 43 Scenic View Drive in the Scenic View trailer park at 3:15 p.m. on Friday, May 15, after a 52-year-old man had gotten his foot stuck in the blades of his lawn mower.

A police spokesperson said the man sustained serious injuries.

A helicopter operated by private ambulance company Life Flight landed in Eddie Collins Memorial Park to transport the man.

He was taken to Westchester Medical Center for treatment. The man's identity and current conditions are unknown as of press time.



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Local Matters

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OUR TOWNS

North East home prices hold steady while sales activity slows

By **CHRISTINE BATES**
Special to the Millerton News

MILLERTON — North East's housing market continued to cool this spring, with home prices holding relatively steady and sales activity slowing compared with the post-pandemic surge that drove prices sharply higher across the region.

The 12-month trailing median sale price for residential properties in the Town of North East, including the Village of Millerton, was \$420,000 for the period from May 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026. That figure remained essentially unchanged month-to-month, but marked the second consecutive year of declining annual median prices.

The residential median includes all types of housing sales — from modest village homes to large estates with significant acreage — but excludes commercial properties and vacant land sales. Among the higher-end transactions during the period was the sale of 5-15 Homestead Lane for \$3.1 million.

Outside the village, where homes are generally situated on larger parcels, the median sale price reached \$575,000. Within the Village of Millerton, where lots are typically smaller, the median price for the 10 homes sold during the period was \$410,000.

The townwide median price of \$420,000 was down 2% from the \$430,000 median recorded during the 12-month period ending April 30, 2025. It was also 4% below the median recorded the year before that, continuing a gradual market slowdown following the price increases seen during and immediately after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sales activity has also slowed considerably. North East recorded 24 residential



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Known as the "Ice House," 12 State Line Road on 3.81 acres was sold by the mortgage holder after standing vacant for years. The property was later renovated and resold for \$400,000 on April 15.

transactions on a trailing 12-month basis at the end of April, down from 37 sales during the previous year.

Housing inventory showed modest improvement entering the spring market. In early May, 14 homes were listed for sale in North East, including four properties with asking prices above \$1 million. Among them was the Hudson Valley Magazine "design home," listed for \$3.99 million.

Only two residential properties were listed for sale within the Village of Millerton in early May. Meanwhile, four commercial properties remained on the market in the village, along with eight parcels of vacant land throughout the town.

Town of North East March and April property sales

710 Smithfield Road — 23.89 acres were sold on April 20 for \$190,000.
26 South Center St. — An

investment property in the Village of Millerton was sold on April 15 for \$700,000.

12 State Line Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath renovated home on 3.8 acres sold on April 15 for \$400,000.

5-15 Homestead Lane — 3 bedroom/2 bath home built in 1950 on 258 acres sold on March 27 for \$3.1 million.

Town of North East and Village of Millerton closed sales for March and April from realtor.

com with property details from Dutchess Parcel Access. Median price and activity calculations for all residential properties from NY State Sales Web transfers through February 2026 with updated residential sales for March and April. Current market data from One Key MLS. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Local volunteers

Enhancing educational opportunities for students in the Millbrook Central School District since 2001, the Millbrook Educational Foundation took part in the Millbrook Volunteer Fair on Saturday, May 16. Residents were invited to learn about volunteer opportunities with the foundation and a variety of other local and regional organizations. The event, now in its fifth year, was held at the Millbrook Library.

YOUR NEWS

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DUTCHESS COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Harlem Valley area activity report May 10 to May 13

May 10 — Deputies responded to Kings Apartment located at 20 Pine Drive in the Village of Pawling for multiple 911 calls reporting a disturbance. Three tenants at that location reported getting into a verbal and physical altercation with a female at the same location. The matter was resolved without further police intervention.

May 11 — Deputies responded to a residence in the Town of Stanford for a fraud complaint. The caller reported that she was contacted by a local realtor who made her aware of the fact that he received correspondence through a messaging app where the sender was trying to sell her home. Caller reports that another realtor showed up at her home to look at it after receiving similar correspondence. Caller reported that her home is in fact not for sale. Investigation on-going.

May 12 — Deputies responded to Oak Summit Road in Washington for a verbal domestic dispute between a mother and son. The matter was resolved without further police intervention.

May 13 — Deputies responded to Old Route 22 in Amenia for a domestic dispute between a boyfriend and girlfriend. The matter was resolved without further police intervention.

PLEASE NOTE: All subjects arrested and charged are alleged to have committed the crime and are presumed innocent until proven guilty and are to appear in local courts later.

If you have any information relative to the aforementioned criminal cases, or any other suspected criminal activity please contact the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office tip line at 845 605 CLUE (2583) or email dcotips@gmail.com. All information will be kept confidential.

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PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Tim Watson sits in his living room that used to serve as a waiting area for a dentist's office on Route 44 in Millerton.

New home a 'blessing' for Millerton family after home evacuation

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — More than three months after a malfunctioning furnace forced the Watson family from their Main Street apartment, Tim Watson said life is finally beginning to stabilize.

The Watsons were tenants of 7-9 Main St. on Jan. 31 when a malfunctioning furnace filled the apartment building with carbon monoxide, forcing emergency responders to evacuate the building. Authorities ruled the building unsafe after the emergency and it has remained vacant since. The Dutchess County Supreme Court granted a foreclosure to US Bancorp for the property in late March.

Watson and his family have found a permanent home in a former office space on Route 44 just outside the Village of Millerton. The office space was originally available for just 30 days, but North East's recent commercial rezoning now permits residential use on the property. He said the move — made possible through help from relatives, friends and local organizations — has dramatically improved life for his family.

"Our whole life has changed," Watson said as he sat in his new living room that used to serve as a waiting area for a dentist's office. He pointed to the space, from the walls to the sofas, as an example of Millerton's impact.

Family and friends donated furniture to replace what had been ruined at the Watsons' old apartment. Members of the Millerton Fire Company initially provided a warm place to stay in the firehouse on Century Boulevard in the blistering cold hours following the evacuation. The owner of the family's new residence on Route 44 — Millerton local Basil Gabriel, owner of local mechanic shop Basil Auto Service — discounted their rent at the beginning of their stay.

Other circumstances have changed for the family, too. Michelle, Tim's wife of 37 years, recently finished her first round of chemotherapy.

She was first diagnosed with pancreatic cancer over a year ago.

Shortly after beginning treatment, Michelle broke her femur and had to start using a wheelchair. She said another benefit of the new space is its accessibility. Michelle and Tim, who also uses a wheelchair after losing both his legs, had to install a stair lift on an exterior staircase to get in and out of 7-9 Main St.

Michelle said the new home will allow her more comfort during her cancer treatments.

"It's a better place to live," Michelle said. "This is a blessing."

Although the evacuation was stressful, Tim said it put his family in a better, more stable place. The long-term viability of the space was under question during the Watson family's first weeks there. But they were allowed to stay after North East passed its overhaul of zoning regulations that now permits residences and updated commercial zoning along Route 44.

Tim said he wants to stay there indefinitely.

"I think we found our forever home," Watson said.

Innisfree Garden to host annual Spring Community Day

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
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MILLBROOK — Innisfree Garden is set to welcome northeast Dutchess residents for its annual Spring Community Day.

The beloved community event returns Saturday, May 23 — with free admission for residents of Millerton, North East, Amenia, Assinippi, Pine Plains, Clinton Corners, Dover Plains, Pleasant Valley, Stanford, Wingdale, Washington, and of course, Millbrook. Visitors seeking free admission must present identification showing residency in one of the listed towns or hamlets.

There's a day of programming in store, too. The garden opens at 10 a.m., then Qigong exercise lessons with

Cris Caivano kick off at 10:30 a.m. Discounted tickets for the day's events are available to Dutchess County residents, who are invited to "stretch like a tiger, twist like a dragon," through guided stretching and acupressure exercises.

Then at 2:30 p.m., visitors are invited along on The Great Pollinator Ramble. Part scavenger hunt, part live theater, the Ramble features larger-than-life pollinator puppets spread across Innisfree's 185 acres. Nature lovers can use the provided habitat map to find and identify 10 key pollinators that frequent the garden.

"We're always looking for ways we can introduce the arts into Innisfree," said Innisfree Executive Director Laura Palmer. "It's a celebration of

the natural environment and all the richness of the natural world."

Birds, butterflies, beetles and other pollinators will be represented through the oversized puppets, which were designed by Processional Arts Workshop, a Red Hook-based collective led by co-directors Alex Kahn and Sophia Michalhes.

The concept dates back five years, when the COVID pandemic challenged Processional Arts to develop outdoor programming that could activate public spaces.

"The idea was, if you set loose pollinator puppets in a natural environment, you can encourage people to look deeper at their surroundings," Kahn said. "It becomes a kind of hide and seek with these species."

After successful rambles at Catskill's Thomas Cole House, Hudson's Olana State Historic Site, and Brooklyn Botanical Garden, Kahn and Michalhes are bringing their pollinators to Innisfree.

The puppeteers are instructed to be elusive and shy, hiding in the garden's remote corners — as their real-life counterparts might. In that way, visitors are encouraged to investigate parts of the grounds they might bypass.

Spring Community Day is in its sixth year at Innisfree. It serves as the kickoff to the garden's warm-weather programming season, which includes guided nature walks, wellness workshops, calligraphy classes and live music. A full calendar is available at innisfreegarden.org/events

Amenia Housing Board to submit potential uses for remaining \$13K in grant funds

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Housing Board members agreed on three potential uses for remaining grant funds, moving a step toward utilizing the money that was leftover from a Foundation for Community Health grant.

Board members voted on Monday, May 11, to draft a report for FCH detailing three initiatives for the leftover \$13,000 aimed at clarifying local housing regulations, defining the board's responsibilities related to the Housing Trust Fund, and expanding resources for residents seeking to create accessory dwelling units.

The funding will support regulations for homeowners, develop guidance for Housing Board members regarding their oversight responsibilities, and create a step-by-step guide for residents interested in building an accessory dwelling unit, or ADU.

Grant consultant Christina Gast attended the meeting to help guide the discussion and ensure the proposals met both funding requirements and project deadlines. The agreed-upon initiatives closely mirrored ideas discussed at the previous Housing Board meeting on Monday, April 13.

Board members agreed that local housing and zoning regulations can be confusing to residents. They also pointed to a need to draft local legislation to provide a tax exemption for property owners who create an accessory dwelling unit, also known as an accessory apartment unit.

The board estimated that about \$3,000 of the grant funding could be used to clarify the Housing Board's role and responsibilities, particularly regarding oversight of the Housing Trust Fund.

In the coming weeks, the Housing Board will determine passages where the codes are unclear and ask the Planning Board attorney to clarify. The effort would also include preparation of an onboarding handbook for future Housing Board members, outlining the board's duties and responsibilities.

The third initiative, with an estimated cost of \$7,000, would see the development of step-by-step instructions about the process that residents need to follow in order to create an approved ADU. The instructions would be a clear guide toward creating a unit, along with a list of available resources.

Since her professional qualifications align with what is needed for the project, Gast offered to take on the work of drafting the materials. However, board members agreed with a suggestion from member Juan Torres that they should seek an additional outside quote for the work. Concerns about the appearance of a potential conflict of interest were first raised by member Shannon Roback.

"A handbook is a good use of a relatively small amount of funds," Housing Board member Josh Frankel said.

Local equine therapy facility celebrates horse's 35th birthday

By NATHAN MILLER
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AMENIA — Local equine therapy facility Hope Rising Farm celebrated a special birthday on Saturday, May 16.

People from across Dutchess County and neighboring Connecticut celebrated Atticus the appaloosa pony's 35th birthday with a party featuring a bouncy castle, a mechanical bull, a petting zoo and live music in the evening.

Jacqueline Wikane, owner and executive director of Hope Rising Farm, said she adopted Atticus about 20 years ago from a former rider. Under her care, he works as a therapy horse in Wikane's therapeutic riding program at the farm.

The program serves adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. "We teach them all about

horses," Wikane said, adding that interacting with and riding horses has a calming effect on the nervous system.

"It relaxes your blood pressure," Wikane said. "It makes you calm."

Although the horse has reached an advanced age, Atticus participates in the therapy program and even takes people for rides. Wikane said the activity is good for therapy clients and the horse. The aging horse needs regular exercise, and slow trail rides are stimulating without being too taxing, she said.

Atticus' old age requires special care, too. The horse has lost most of his teeth, so Wikane and her volunteers

have to feed him a soft mash and fine hay for his meals so he doesn't have to chew as much. A steamer softens and moistens the hay in the winter, Wikane said, to ensure Atticus gets enough water.

"We do a lot for him," Wikane said, adding that horses often live into their 40s naturally.

For his birthday, Atticus got a soft cake made of oats, carrots and other treats — all mashed to his liking.

Hope Rising Farm provides semi-private lessons starting at \$65 for one hour and private lessons for \$85 per hour. More information is available online at www.hoperisingfarm.org



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Jacqueline Wikane, right, executive director of Hope Rising Farm and equine therapist, leads Atticus the appaloosa pony out of the barn on Saturday, May 16.

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Protecting grassland birds' nesting areas has become a priority in New England as these birds are declining in population due to over-development and decreasing habitat. Mass Audubon has an excellent primer on the best practices for managing fields to support the nesting and fledging of these birds, such as Bobolinks, Eastern Meadowlarks and Upland Sandpipers to mention a few. The most effective practice is to simply not to mow the fields during the nesting and fledging times which are mid April to mid August. For other recommendations, please visit: www.massaudubon.org/our-work/birds-wildlife/bird-conservation-research/grassland-birds.



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OBITUARIES

Dr. Paul J. Fasano

SHARON — Dr. Paul J. Fasano DDS, of Brewster, Massachusetts, passed away peacefully after a long illness on May 10, 2026, in Boston.

Born in Boston to Philip and Laura (Stolarsky) Fasano on Dec. 13, 1946, he grew up in Dorchester with his two brothers Philip and William. Paul attended the Boston Latin School and graduated from Boston College in 1968. He later completed Dental School at New York University in 1972.

He had a successful dental practice in Sharon, Connecticut and enjoyed coaching basketball at Housatonic Valley Regional H.S in Falls Village. After retiring to Brewster, he taught at the Dental Hygiene program at Cape Cod Community College. Paul was a passionate Boston College Eagles fan following all of their teams and his devotion to the Red Sox never faded. He delighted in coaching his three sons in basketball and cheering them on during their football games.

Paul leaves behind the love of his life, Judy, whom he

married on Dec. 31, 1973. He is survived by his three sons; Christopher of Alexandria, Virginia, Peter of Orleans, Massachusetts, and Matthew of Kennebunk, Maine, along with his four grandchildren Jack, Lily, Zoey, and Chase whom he loved very much.

Visiting hours will be Wednesday, May 20, 2026, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at Chapman Funerals & Cremations, 678 Main Street Harwich, MA 02645.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at Our Lady of the Cape Church at 11:00 a.m., 468 Stony Brook Road Brewster, Massachusetts 02631.

In lieu of flowers, the Fasano family requests that a donation may be made to the Peter Frates ALS Foundation on Paul's behalf, as well as his close friend and late brother-in-law, Tom Kane. Peter Frates was a BC Baseball Player and founder of the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. Donations can be made at www.petefrates.com.

Notes of comfort may be made to his family at www.chapmanfuneral.com.



KENT — David Niles Parker, 88, of Middletown, Connecticut, passed away at home on May 6, 2026.

Born January 20, 1938, in Wellesley, Massachusetts, the first child to Franklin and Katharine Niles Parker, David graduated from Wellesley High School, received his undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University, studied at the University of Chicago Divinity School, and earned his master's in education from Harvard.

David met his future wife, Borngy Hammer, at a college mixer, and in 1962 they married at her family home in South Kent. Together they raised four children and were married nearly 64 years.

He taught English in the Boston public schools, and at the New Milford, Connecticut High School, and took on extra work as a stringer for the Waterbury Republican, covering Kent and Gaylordsville, thereby launching his lifelong career in journalism. In 1968 he took on the job of running a small-town paper, The Millbrook Round Table in Millbrook, New York, where he worked as a reporter, managing editor, photographer, circulation manager and ad sales representative and everything in between. He went on to work at the Lakeville Journal, the Waterbury Republican, the Litchfield County Times, the Torrington Register-Citizen, and the Kent Good Times Dispatch. He also taught journalism courses at UConn, Tor-

rington and took on diverse freelance writing projects, including articles for the New York Times, and a biography of Revolutionary War figure, Dr. Thomas Young. During the Vietnam War he participated in peaceful protests with his fellow Teachers

Against War. Never one to speak of himself, his family would find out by other means of his many talents, awards, and accomplishments. He did not belong to a religion, and considered himself an agnostic, but was a most fine example of a moral, ethical, honest, humble, kind, and good human being; he truly treated every person he ever met with kindness and respect.

He was a great lover of poetry, including that of Richard Wilbur, William Yeatts, Dylan Thomas and Carl Sandburg. He was especially fond of reading aloud poems by A. E. Housman. Literature was such an integral part of his life, and he would often explain himself by quoting a passage or referencing a literary character.

He had a lifelong love of singing and enjoyed doing so for children when they were young. He was especially fond of folk and classical music. In his later years one of his pleasures was to remember and share songs he had learned many decades earlier. When his children were young—and not so young, each night he would let his children choose the songs he'd sing them, many songs he learned from his father (which his children went on to sing to their children,



David Niles Parker

and their children to sing to his great-grandchildren.)

He also sang in various choirs, including the Kent Singers of which he was a proud and a beloved member.

For eighty-seven years, he spent every summer at his beloved family's cottage in West Falmouth, Massachusetts. Many summer mornings were spent reading the paper at West Falmouth Market, followed by swimming at Champoquoit Beach. There he spent many evenings sitting on the porch, singing and looking out onto West Falmouth Harbor.

He was also known to many as an avid sports fan, closely following the Boston Red Sox and UConn Women's Basketball, a passion that he closely shared with his daughter, Caitlin.

Family was very important and dear to him, and he is remembered fondly and in high regard by family, both close and extended.

David is survived by his wife Borgny of Middletown,

his children Stephen of Brattleboro, Vermont; Rolf also of Brattleboro, Vermont; Abigail of Kent, Connecticut; and Caitlin of Durham, Connecticut; grandchildren Julia Holly of Portland, Oregon; Madeleine Holly of Salem, Connecticut; Lily DiTota of Falmouth, Massachusetts; Emma Bournival of Watertown, Connecticut; Allison Mullins of New Haven, Connecticut; Finn Bournival of Durham, Connecticut; and Morgen Parker-Houghton of Brattleboro, Vermont; and great grandchildren Klaus and Grant Schubel of Salem, Connecticut; siblings Anne Schmalz of Bedford, Massachusetts; Theodore Parker of Wellesley, Massachusetts; John Parker of Yarmouth, Massachusetts; as well as many nieces, nephews and family friends.

Services include a private burial at Bulls Bridge Cemetery, at 1 p.m. on May 31, which will be followed by a Celebration of Life at the Kent Community House at 2 p.m.

For more obituaries, see page A7

Memorial Service

Huntington Williams

CORNWALL — Beloved and greatly respected Cornwall resident Huntington ("Hunt") Williams, surrounded by family, died April 10, the result of an injury sustained from a fall. He was 95 years old and had lived in Cornwall, a town he loved

deeply, for the last 45 years.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, May 31 at 1PM at the North Cornwall Meeting House, burial is private.

A full obituary may be found on <https://www.kennedyfuneralhomes.com/obi>

John Edward Calhoun

CORNWALL — John Edward Calhoun died peacefully at home on the evening of April 30, 2026, at Cathedral Pines Farm in Cornwall, Connecticut, surrounded by family. He was 86 years old. Born March 20, 1940, in Torrington, Connecticut, to parents Francis "Frank" Ellinwood Calhoun and Mary "Polly" Everett Swift Calhoun, John was the fourth of six children who grew up on the family's dairy farm located in Cornwall's Coltsfoot Valley. His family's multi-generational presence in Cornwall dated back to 1792, fostering in John a deep sense of stewardship for the valley that stayed with him throughout his life.

John attended Cornwall Consolidated School through the eighth grade and graduated from The Hotchkiss School in the class of 1958. He attended Colby College in Maine for one year before graduating from Windham College in Vermont in 1964. At Windham, he met and married Elizabeth "Timme" Quay and had two sons, Nathan and Christopher, before divorcing in 1968.

As a young man, John ran the family dairy farm, taught English at the Rectory School, and ran a successful landscaping business with his first cousin John "Denny" Frost. In 1970, John married Nancy Clark Gray at her family's summer home on Yelping Hill in Cornwall before immigrating to New Brunswick, Canada, in 1975. There, John and Nancy built Shikatehawk Farm in Glassville, began raising llamas, and had two daughters, Caroline and Sarah.

After eight years of farming in Canada, John and Nancy returned to Cornwall in 1983 as their daughters began their schooling. Together, on a trea-

sured piece of Calhoun land, Nancy designed and John built their 18th-century style farmhouse. There they established Cathedral Pines Farm, set on a hillside apple orchard overlooking Cornwall Village and bordered by its 200-year-old namesake—a 42-acre grove of old-growth white pines recognized as one of the largest, most significant remaining stands east of the Mississippi River.

This historic forest was a testament to the family's legacy of conservation. The Calhouns originally purchased the preserve in 1883 to prevent logging, later donating it to The Nature Conservancy in 1967. The land was ultimately deeded to the Cornwall Conservation Trust in 2020. Decades before that final transfer, however, a tornado decimated most of the ancient pines in July 1989. The destruction created years of daunting cleanup—a monumental task for which John was uniquely suited, given his penchant for the outdoors and his prowess with a chainsaw.

At Cathedral Pines Farm, John and Nancy spent the next 40 years building a life as hardworking entrepreneurs, breeding and selling llamas and running a bed and breakfast; raising their daughters; and contributing to Cornwall's civic life. John served as Cornwall's first Zoning Enforcement Officer for 15 years; as a trustee of The Cornwall Library for 17 years; and as treasurer for the Cornwall Cemetery Association for nearly 20 years. But it is perhaps his unofficial role as steward of Coltsfoot Valley for which John will be best remembered. As part of

an intergenerational team of Calhoun family members,

John worked alongside his relatives to navigate the legal complexities of subdividing the family land and incorporating the Coltsfoot Valley Association in 1989 to permanently protect and conserve the valley. Well into his retirement, and despite living with chronic lymphocytic leukemia for twenty years, John spent countless hours bush hogging the valley and trimming Birdseye Brook—a labor of love that kept Coltsfoot Valley the natural focal point of Cornwall Village.

John found his greatest peace in nature, relishing its colors, sounds, and especially the birdsong. Often, he took in this natural world while wielding a maul, methodically splitting and stacking firewood—a source of pride right up to the end of his life. A lover of history, literature, classical music, and language, John possessed a sharp wit and sense of humor that belied his quiet reticence. His facility with words often shone through in memorable puns, witty jokes, and well-timed quips delivered from the head of his hand-hewn dining table—much to the delight of family and friends enjoying dinner and drinks on the hill. Cathedral Pines was a hub for those in John and Nancy's orbit, and together they were the ultimate hosts, providing a seemingly effortless hospitality fueled by Nancy's home-cooked meals, John's well-provisioned bar, and his masterfully built, roaring fires.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Polly Calhoun; his paternal grandparents, John Edward and Marjorie Ellinwood Calhoun;

his maternal grandparents, William Everett and Mable Alice Runner Swift; his siblings, David Swift Calhoun, Gordon Swift Calhoun, and Susan Gordon Calhoun Heminway; and his brother-in-law, James Calender Heminway, Jr.

He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 56 years, Nancy Gray Calhoun; their daughter, Caroline Claire Calhoun and her husband, Declan Patrick Curtin; and their daughter, Sarah Clark Calhoun and her fiancée, Emily Claire Garlough.

He is also survived by his siblings, Theodore Warner Calhoun (Karrin) and Faith Jade Calhoun; sister-in-law, Mimi Kenta Calhoun; sons, Nathan John McKay (Kate) and Christopher David Calhoun-McKay (Susanne); grandchildren, Colby John Calhoun McKay, Mackenzie Elizabeth McKay, and their mother, Dawn Marie Clark; grandchildren, Jonathan William Calhoun McKay and Liv Christine Calhoun McKay; step-grandchildren, Ryan Patrick, Brayden Michael, Collin Phillip, Brennan Blake, and Ronan Allen Curtin; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, extended Calhoun relatives, and dear Gray family members.

John's passing leaves a larger-than-life hole in the fabric of the Calhoun family and the Cornwall community. He will be dearly missed.

The family held a private celebration of John's life on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at Cathedral Pines Farm. To honor John's deep Cornwall roots and lifelong love of local history, memorial gifts may be made to the Cornwall Historical Society or The Cornwall Library.

Online expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family by visiting www.thurston-rowefuneralhome.com



 Worship Services Week of May 24, 2026	
Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org	The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442
Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627	St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) Rev. Dr. Johan Johnson, Priest-in-Charge In-Person and on You-Tube www.stjohnssalisbury.org
North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232 FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org	ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078
Congregation Beth David A reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly - Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org	UCC in Cornwall Cornwall Village Meeting House Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community
The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net	The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall in person and on zoom Warm fellowship following service All Are Welcome! www.allsaintscornwall.org Rev. Mary Gates
Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194	St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality
The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net	Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org
The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building	Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 8:00AM - Worship Service 2nd & 4th Sunday "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-824-5534 canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!
All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us	
Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org	

THE MILLERTON NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE A5

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026

EDITORIAL

Let's hear it...

One of the things that sets a community newspaper apart is that its readers are participants in the communities it covers. The people who pick up this paper, read us online, or engage with us on social media are the same people making decisions at town hall, running the organizations that support our communities, and living with the consequences of the issues we report on.

"Let's Hear It..." is a new weekly feature in which we pose a question to our readers and publish a selection of responses. Questions may touch on issues we're covering, invite readers to share their experiences and expertise, or simply be worth thinking about together. We'll share each week's question in print, online, and across our social media channels. Selected responses will appear in this section next week. Send responses to publisher@lakevillejournal.com.

So, let's hear it...

What is one change you'd make to your town center to make it more welcoming?
Include your name and town in your response.



"And one day, all you will wish for is sanctioned nap time..."

The views expressed here are not necessarily those of The Millerton News and the News does not support or oppose candidates for public office.

We accept gifts, grants and sponsorships from individuals and organizations for the general support of our activities, but our news judgments are made independently and not on the basis of donor support.

Accepting financial support does not mean we endorse donors or their products, services or opinions.

Letters to the editor deadline is 10 a.m. Monday for that week's publication. No more than 500 words. Send to editor@millertonnews.com. Include town and phone number for confirmation.

EARLY DEADLINE
The deadline for letters to the editor for the May 28 issue is 10 a.m. on Friday, May 22.

Cause and effect of tariffs

The problem with tariffs is that it weakens the political hold on the population, setting up an adversarial relationship as prices rise. Tariffs, in other words price control – for that is in effect what tariffs do – are a governmental restriction to free trade for the population. Even if the goal was to balance import/export trade balance, the real effect is that the government is telling the population that the price of goods is politically controlled by the government. In America this is seen as loss of freedom, loss of getting what you want at a price you could previously afford, and, more than anything, a loss of your individual sovereignty.

America is made of people who demand control over their own lives – even if it's illusory at times. Americans, spoiled as many foreign cultures seem to think, cannot fathom not being able to do as they damn well please, buy what they darn well want to, and especially want to feel in control of their own happiness.

When you suddenly have to pay 50% more for gasoline or diesel, as an American you do not blame yourself for needing the fuel, you blame "them" for raising the price without your consent. You go to your local gas station and get angry at that supplier. Yesterday I watched a man filling his diesel truck, cursing at the state of affairs as he slammed the nozzle back into the pump. I asked him who he was angry at for the ridiculous diesel price. "We were promised no damn wars, and this is what I get." The key part of that response is "...what I get." Personal pronoun. It's being done to him, taking away his control over his own destiny.

Compare the situation here to China. The same top-down control of prices is put into place but the difference is the Chinese people do not

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Peter Riva

have a feeling of entitlement to happiness, they know their happiness, their personal sovereignty, is controlled by the state. As China moves slowly to a market-oriented economy, or seen another way staled capitalism, there will come a time when people expect to be able to control their own happiness rather than have it bestowed at the state's whim. For now, however, that same top-down control in Russia is the very reason there has not been a popular uprising of any effect since the people in Russia are completely devoid of that individualistic desire to be in sole control – or even think they can be in sole control – of their happiness.

Think of tariffs and top-down price control as a stretched rubber band. It can only stretch so far. Pressure is building in America and unlike a true top-down socialist or communist government full control, American political control over tariffs or perhaps the adverse effect of imposed tariffs at an American consumer level, could suddenly cause the rubber band to snap, causing chaos. That could cause a ripple effect across all markets, across the globe, and political upheaval. This pressure, this stress, is always the risk of top-down control of a population's desires. Unlike socialist countries' populations, Americans' desires, American's happiness quotients, are always tied to the individual, not the state. If the state gets this wrong – and so far they really have -- a repeat rebellion is assured in one form or another.

Peter Riva, a former resident of Amenia Union, New York, now lives in Gila, New Mexico.

Poppy Day, spelling, Warrior's mascot, teachers

The following excerpts from The Millerton News were compiled by Kathleen Spahn and Rhiannon Leo-Jameson of the North East-Millerton Library.

May 16, 1935

Poppy Day To Be Observed In Millerton

Poppy Day is to be observed in Millerton on Saturday, May 25. when the Millerton American Legion Auxiliary will conduct its annual sale of poppies to be worn in honor of those who died in the World War. A part of the national observance of Poppy Day, activities here will be under the supervision of an Auxiliary committee comprised of Mrs. Gertrude Manning, chairman Mrs. Margaret Blanchard, Mrs. Mary Silvernail, Mrs. Maxine Richardson, Mrs. Grace Tabor and Mrs. Emily Brewer. The distribution of the flowers will be carried on by a large corps of volunteer workers.

Win Elimination Spelling Contest

Ann Pulver, Frances Miller, Frances Decker, the winners of an elimination spelling contest conducted at Millerton High School Saturday morning, will compete in the Dutchess County contest to be held in the future. Pupils from the various rural schools in the Town of North East participated in addition to students of the local school.

The winner of the county contest will represent Dutchess County in the state spelling bee to be held at the New York State Fair in Syracuse next fall.

May 20, 1976

Photo caption:

DAIRY PRINCESS... The Dutchess County Dairy Princess contest was held Friday night at the Farm and Home Center in Millbrook. Marnie Briggs of Millbrook, 3rd from left, was crowned the happy winner. Posing with her are, from left, Nancy Knapp of Stormville, Lauren Lyle of Millerton, Briggs, last year's Princess Molly Pulver of North East and last year's alternate Katie Loughlin of Amenia. Missing in the picture are contestants Debra Akin of Pawling and Mary Buglion of Clinton Corners.

Town Board Won't Act; Rezoning Proposal Dies

The North East Town Board took no action on a rezoning application at its Thursday, May 13, meeting, thereby denying developers the right to build a shopping center outside of the Village of

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

Millerton. General Development of Connecticut (GDC) applied last fall to the Town Board to rezone approximately 5 acres of land on Route 44 at the New York Connecticut State line from residential to commercial. The developers sought to build a small shopping center on a 10-acre parcel. About 5 acres is already zoned highway commercial at the site.

Watering Trough

The Board approved a proposal to place an old watering trough, found by Fred Finkle, on the lawn in front of the Town Hall. Perotti said that the Village would erect the old stone trough and make it into a fountain. The 4½ foot round trough used to stand near where the diner is now on Main Street.

Cemetery Stones

Louis Peck inquired whether the highway superintendent had permission to straighten stones in the Winchell Mountain Cemetery on Oct. 5, 1975. Town Attorney Robert Trotta said that the stone-straightening was in the superintendent's jurisdiction since he cannot mow the grass at the cemetery if the stones are down.

Briggs Crowned Dairy Princess

Marnie Briggs of Millbrook was crowned the 1976 Dutchess County Dairy Princess on Friday, May 14. The alternate princess is Mary Guglion of Clinton Corners. Dairy Maids are Lauren Lyle of Millerton, Debra Jane Akin of Pawling, and Nancy Knapp of Stormville.

Marnie is the daughter of dairy farmer Ted Briggs. She attends Millbrook High School where she is active in the student government and is a cheerleader. She is a member of the 4-H and Junior Holstein Club. Marnie plans to stay associated with the dairy industry.

May 17, 2001

Webutuck Panel Likes Warriors Mascot

WEBUTUCK - Members of the Webutuck School District's newly formed mascot committee expressed a variety of ideas concerning the use of Native American mascots in schools.

Yet the majority of those present wanted to retain Webutuck's current "Warriors"

name, and some wished to keep the Indian head mascot as well.

Elenor Campbell, who has been working in the Webutuck School System for 12 years, said, "It's petty to even be considering something like this."

At MES, Teacher Ellen Terni Wants Students 'To Stand On Their Own'

MILLERTON — Ellen Terni began teaching at a New Jersey school because she "needed a job."

"The year I was hired, they were very hard up for math teachers, and I was a math major," said Ms. Terni. Though Ms. Terni basically "fell into" teaching, it is clearly her calling.

Ms. Terni, who had a hunch that teaching was the career for her, said, "Those gut feelings really were right."

Tarsia on Dean's List

MILLERTON - Jake Tarsia has been named to the dean's list for the spring quarter at Rochester Institute of Technology. A first-year student, Mr Tarsia is studying computer technology.

He is the son of Stacie Tarsia of Millerton and Frank Tarsia of Lakeville, Conn. Mr. Tarsia is a graduate of Webutuck High School

From YESTERYEAR:

Millerton Grandly Celebrated Centennial

THE YEAR was 1951. In Millerton, they were

preparing for its 100-year celebration and now in the year 2001, Millerton is preparing for its 150-year celebration.

Julia Becker, 95, was chosen as queen of the celebration. Who will be chosen as the 2001 queen? and get to ride in a convertible down Main Street to the Sesquicentennial committee?? How about a king for the 150-year celebration?

The Centennial Committee held a talent show at the Millerton Theater. Admission was free and Charlie Johnson, a 1951 graduate of Millerton High School, stole the show as he played his own inimitable type of boogie woogie on the piano. The second place winner was Kent Pitcher, who sang a ballad. Third place winner was Laurie Berger with her song and dance routine. Other contestants were Happy Miller, Darryl Steven, Patsy Kelsey and the Smoky Mountain Boys.

Some events that took place during the first 100 years were:

- The Millerton Electric Company joined with Central Hudson in 1928 and our town is still served by Central Hudson.

- In a special election in July of 1936, the taxpayers of the village voted to purchase the Millerton Driving Park, today called Eddie Collins Field.

- The fire department's so called "Millerton Days" started in 1939.

THE MILLERTON NEWS

(USPS 384600)

An Independent New York Newspaper

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Thursday, May 21, 2026

Mission Statement

LJM Media, Inc., Publishers of

The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News

Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, and to foster the free flow of information and opinion.

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In bloom

PHOTO BY CAITLIN HANLON

OUR TOWNS

North East officials explore Amenia partnership in Town Hall plans

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — North East's plans for a new Town Hall continue to move forward as officials explore alternatives for a courtroom that was included in the original proposal.

Town Supervisor Chris Kennan explained during the Town Board's regular meeting on Thursday, May 14, that the town is exploring contracting with the Town of Amenia to host North East court services at Amenia's Town Hall on Route 22. The move would allow North East to forego building a courtroom in a new town hall set to occupy the former Jehovah's Witnesses hall on Route 22,

saving floorspace that could be used for other offices and record storage.

Town attorney Warren Replansky said he believes state law allows for intermunicipal courtroom sharing, but is awaiting a response from Amenia's legal counsel.

Town officials have yet to finalize plans for the building's interior. North East completed the purchase of the former Jehovah's Witnesses hall in 2023 and contracted engineering firm LAN to design the renovations in November 2025.

Since receiving preliminary plans late last year, Town Board members have discussed getting a head start on some demolition work at the building in advance of the

total renovation.

The building's bathrooms will require complete remodels to meet accessibility standards set by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Otherwise, the single-story building is largely compliant with accessibility standards.

Lack of accessibility and space are the major factors driving town officials to leave the current Town Hall on Maple Avenue in Millerton. The two-story building is more than 100 years old and hosts less space for town business and public meetings than the proposed new space.

The Jehovah's Witnesses hall offers a little over 4,500 square feet of floor area, whereas the current town hall

has just over 2,700 square feet.

In other business, town officials approved a measure allowing taxpayers to use a credit card to settle tax bills with the town. Town Clerk Tilly Strauss said the move would allow for more convenience for some property owners and bring North East in line with surrounding communities.

The plan will require North East to pay an upfront cost to establish the service. After the service is available, there will be no further cost to the town but taxpayers using credit cards will have to pay a service charge of up to 3% on the transaction. Cash and check payments will still be available at no additional charge.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Plant sale days

Gardeners turned out for the 33rd annual Master Gardener Spring Plant Sale at the Dutchess County Cooperative Extension Center in Millbrook Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16. Master Gardeners were on hand to answer questions about the vast array of plants available.

Millbrook approves \$1.5M in wastewater upgrades

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — The village's project to upgrade wastewater treatment operations took a major step forward as the Board of Trustees accepted a bid for a total of \$1.5 million in new processing equipment at its regular meeting on Wednesday, March 13.

By unanimous vote, the Trustees approved the purchase of Sequencing Batch Reactors for a total cost of \$1,070,600 and Cloth Media Filters for \$438,560. The solicited bid was provided by Aqua-Aerobics Systems of Loves Park, Illinois, the sole bidder for the equipment. Project Engineers with Tighe and Bond had reviewed the details of the bid and determined that it was reasonable.

A sequencing batch system treats effluent in batches, rather than continuously. An

advantage is that it is a one-tank system that aerates and clarifies in a sequence that includes fill, react, settle, draw, and idle.

Since Millbrook is likely to experience fluctuating flow rates throughout the day, the new system allows for control over treatment times and it takes up less physical space than would be needed for a continuous flow system.

The filtration system needs specialized cloths within its mechanical filtration system to separate solids from liquids. The cloths are also designed to capture microplastics and particles of phosphorus before the water is discharged safely.

In other business, during public comment, a resident who had spoken at the April Planning Board meeting, addressed the Board of Trustees to present her concerns about an application under

consideration by the Planning Board. Of concern was the project located at 3265 Franklin Ave., where developers are seeking to create new apartment units.

The resident felt that there had been insufficient public notice before the April Planning Board meeting and questioned the accuracy of the meeting minutes. She also questioned the number of apartments being planned for the site and had additional concerns about parking and traffic impacts near Merritt Avenue, which she described as an already congested and heavily traveled area.

"It's deserving of a hard look," she said, arguing that the application, if approved, would allow expansion of a non-conforming use in a residential neighborhood. She suggested a moratorium on approvals until the zoning regulations can be examined.

Correcting Errors

We are happy to correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention. We are also happy to correct factual and/or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company Name: Bluestem Fieldworks LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on March 6, 2026 Office Location: Dutchess County, NY. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

04-16-26
04-23-26
04-30-26
05-07-26
05-14-26
05-21-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of HAWKSVIEW ADVISORY LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 03/02/2026. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to THE LLC, PO Box 431, Millerton, NY 12546. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

04-16-26
04-23-26
04-30-26
05-07-26
05-14-26
05-21-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Castillo & Sons Landscaping & Masonry LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 3/29/2026. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail any process to THE LLC, 160 Holsapple Rd Lot 49, Dover Plains, NY 12522. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

04-16-26
04-23-26
04-30-26
05-07-26
05-14-26
05-21-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Grand View Property Maintenance LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/14/2026. Office

location Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served.

SSNY shall mail process to the Balance Sheet Inc 1100 Route 295 East Chatham NY, 12060. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

04-16-26
04-23-26
04-30-26
05-07-26
05-14-26
05-21-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Application for Authority of CHRISTINA GAST, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/20/2026. Office location: Dutchess County. LLC formed in Florida. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: CHRISTINA GAST, LLC, 57 Sheffield Rd, Amenia, NY 12501. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

04-23-26
04-30-26
05-07-26
05-14-26
05-21-26
05-28-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of RHINE COMMONS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/24/2026. Office location: Dutchess County, NY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 316 Rhinecliff Road, Rhinebeck, NY 12572. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

04-23-26
04-30-26
05-07-26
05-14-26
05-21-26
05-28-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of a Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC). J. Kevin Webb, Attorney at Law, PLLC. Articles of Org. were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) office

on: 4/08/2026. The County in which the Office is to be located: Dutchess. The SSNY is designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the PLLC is: 144 Skunks Misery Road, Millerton, NY 12546. Purpose: law.

04-30-26
05-07-26
05-14-26
05-21-26
05-28-26
06-04-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Theda and Charlessa Wellness Essentials, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on April 20, 2026. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Legal Zoom USCA, Inc. 45 Main Street, Suite 238 Brooklyn, NY 11201. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

05-07-26
05-14-26
05-21-26
05-28-26
06-04-26
06-11-26

Legal Notice

Please take notice that a meeting of lot owners in Irontdale Cemetery located in Millerton, N.Y. 12546, will be held at Northeast Muller Inc, at 5654 rt 22 Millerton, N.Y. 12546, on May 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm for the purpose of electing trustees and for other matters that may come properly before the meeting.

The annual meeting of trustees will immediately follow the meeting of the lot owners.

Please take notice we will do a cleanup of cemetery the week of May 11, 2026 of all decorations and anything past its prime (especially plastic decorations as we do not allow after April 15, 2026).

Cindy L Heck
Irontdale Cemetery
Inc Sexton
05-14-26
05-21-26

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May 13 - May 23

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Millbrook High School recognizes top seniors

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

Dylan Vasquez— Valedictorian

Confident leadership skills, diligence in academics, and strong communication abilities have combined to help Dylan Vasquez earn his designation as Valedictorian of the Millbrook High School's Class of 2026.

Dylan's time in the Millbrook School District began with his Kindergarten class and continued through his senior year.

"It's fun how many people I've known for now 13 years," Dylan said, noting that many of his graduating classmates have been with him since the beginning. He also attributed much of his success to his teachers.

His school activities have centered on clubs, sports and cheerleading. Dylan has served as President of both the Student Council and the Environmental Club, the latter aligned with his career interest. He has also served as



Dylan Vasquez,
Valedictorian

President of Students Against Destructive Decisions and has been inducted into the National Honor Society.

Dylan participated in the Model U.N. program for his first two high school years and in cross-country track for all four years as well as Winter and Spring Track and Field. His first two years included a stint in Winter Cheerleading.

He has a career interest in urban architectural design and climate policy. He said he is considering Bard College's



Lydia Kacsak,
Salutatorian

architecture program.

Dylan's sister, Isabella Vasquez, is in her sophomore year at Millbrook High School. An older brother, Julian, 23, also graduated from Millbrook and now resides in Millerton.

Millbrook High School Principal Eric Seipp shared his impressions of Dylan's high school years.

"Dylan exemplifies what it means to be a student leader at Millbrook High School. His ability to balance academic excellence, leadership across multiple organizations and elite athletic performance is truly remarkable," Seipp said.

PHOTOS PROVIDED

OBITUARIES

Madeline M. Metzger

SALISBURY — Madeline M. Metzger, 78, passed away peacefully on Monday, May 11, 2026. She was the beloved wife of Thomas "Tom" Metzger, with whom she shared many devoted years of marriage.

Born on May 4, 1948, in New York, New York, Madeline was the daughter of the late Anthony and Antoinette (Murphy) Brescia. She was a proud graduate of St. John's University, where she earned her Master's Degree in History, a subject she cherished throughout her life.

Madeline will be remembered for her warm spirit, quiet intelligence, and appreciation for life's simple joys. She enjoyed long walks, crafting, watching movies, and



challenging herself with crossword puzzles. She found happiness in learning, creativity, and time spent with those she loved most.

In addition to her loving husband, Tom, Madeline is survived by her sister, Marie Brescia. Madeline was predeceased by a brother, Tony Brescia.

A Celebration of Madeline's Life will be held on Thursday, May 28, 2026, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Ryan Funeral Home, 255 Main St., Lakeville.

Memorial contributions in Madeline's honor may be made to GEER Village Memory Care (geercare.org/donate)

To offer an online condolence, please visit ryanfhct.com

Lydia Kacsak— Salutatorian

Since her first day when she entered Kindergarten within the Millbrook school district, Lydia Kacsak has forged successes along her educational path, now having earned the honor of being named Salutatorian of the Class of 2026 at Millbrook High School.

Participation in sports and activities both in school and in the community served to round out Lydia's academic strengths.

"It's a great school and community," Lydia said.

"I put a lot of work into my sports," Lydia recalled, noting her time on varsity teams including Volleyball and Basketball, serving as captain of the basketball team for the past two years. Active in Student Government, Lydia served as vice-president of the Student Council as well as past Treasurer.

A point of pride for the school, Lydia noted that during her freshman year in 2022 the Basketball team won the State Championship.

"It's a big deal," she emphasized.

"I do a little bit everywhere," Lydia said of her community service, including summers as a Teller at the Bank of Millbrook, describing her fondness for interacting with community members. She has also valued her volunteer service for the local nonprofit Angels of Light.

"I would tell them to keep up with things," was Lydia's advice to younger students. "Even the little things matter; put in extra effort and accept help. You might need extra help, so don't be embarrassed. All knowledge builds on earlier steps."

In the fall, Lydia plans to enroll at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey, with an intended major in Bio-medical Engineering.

Millbrook High School Principal Eric Seipp shared his impressions of Lydia's exemplary student years.

"Lydia represents the very best of Millbrook High School," Seipp said. "She is an exceptional student, athlete, and leader who consistently demonstrates integrity, work ethic, and a genuine commitment to others."

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For more obituaries, see page A4

WINERY *Continued from Page A1*



PHOTO BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Millbrook Vineyards & Winery's winemaker Ian Bearup surveys ongoing landscaping work from the wedding loft on Monday, May 18.

"We want to reinvigorate the brand," said Ian Bearup, a winemaker at the vineyards.

The changes come during a period of broader transition for the wine industry, which has seen declining consumption levels following a pandemic-era surge, according to the International Organisation of Vine and Wine. Owner John Dyson recently reduced his stake in a California winery to refocus on Millbrook.

Millbrook's winemaker Bearup said the renewed focus on Millbrook Vineyards & Winery exemplifies Dyson's commitment to his hometown. "We take a lot of pride in still keeping agriculture in Dutchess County," Bearup said. "This pullback has forced us to ask, how can we change things? And how can we still stay authentic to who we are, which is really just a family farm winery."

Bearup acknowledged some visitors may be unhappy with the changes, but said growing crowds have made it increasingly difficult to manage the property during busy weekends.

"It's gotten difficult for us to oversee the grounds during busy weekends," Bearup said. "There's a lot of liability. There's a lot of garbage, and the grounds get quite beat up."

The winery said visitors will still have access to the property's ponds, trails and vineyard views, but the new seating arrangements are intended to better organize crowds and reduce wear on the grounds.

"We're already hearing from a lot of upset people, which I completely understand," Bearup said. "But we can't operate this business as a park anymore, unfortunately."

New farmer's market opens on Wassaic's Main Street

By **GRAHAM CORRIGAN**
grahamc@millertonnews.com

WASSAIC — The Wassaic Commons Farmer's Market welcomed its inaugural vendors this past weekend at the newly renovated barn at 3 Main St., launching what owners hope will become a seasonal hub for local makers and food producers.

The market, housed in the building's former dairy barn, will operate on weekends through Nov. 1. The opening weekend featured baked goods from crumble + melt, handmade jewelry from JP Anderson Creations, Safi's Spices, Berkshire Place Tables, holistic gifts from Akasha's Journey, and produce curated by Maggie's Delivery Service. The newly-renovated space can accommodate 22 vendors.

Wassaic Commons Market is the second commercial effort by the barn's owners, Munawar Ahmed and Matthew Schenpf. After Vitsky Bakery, a baked goods mecca from former Troutbeck baker Ariel Yotive, moved into an adjoining section of the century-old barn, the couple was inspired to rehabilitate the larger space.

There was work to be done. "That barn was dead for decades," Ahmed said. "It was a hoarder's paradise."

Schenpf, an architect, worked with master carpenter Anthony Masina to replace rotted wood, install new plumbing and electrical lines, and re-insulate the lower level.

At first, the work was done in the hopes of finding a new owner for the space.

After renovations concluded in May 2024, Ahmed and Schenpf put the barn up for sale. But two years later, it remains unsold.

"That's a really bad look," Ahmed said. "Psychologically, nobody's going to buy that barn. So why don't we breathe new life into it?"

Signs of life abounded during the market's first weekend. Foot traffic from Vitsky Bakery and Wassaic Project, the neighborhood contemporary arts institute, drifted in from the street. The vendors had high praise for the space.

"It's got great potential as a market," said crumble + melt's Ed Gabriels. "Everything's already set up; you don't have to bring a table. And it's located right at the end of the train line."

The market will be open from 4 to 8 p.m. on Fridays, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

DISPENSARY *Continued from Page A1*



Plastic packaging is not Broughton's preference, but it can sometimes be a necessary evil. He said fuel prices have driven the costs of containers for retail sale of cannabis to skyrocket in recent months.

Broughton's business has also faced other challenges. Rising fuel and commodity prices due to the Trump administration's conflict with Iran have increased shipping costs, cutting into Broughton's wholesale profits.

Those price hikes hit Broughton in multiple ways, affecting the cost to purchase packaging for his cannabis and the cost to ship it to retailers.

"I just got containers. I ordered a year ago and the shipping cost would be \$2.50," Broughton said. "Now, it was \$6.50."

The situation isn't dire, though. Standing in his basement greenhouse in his Wassaic home, Broughton explained that he's only utilizing just over one-tenth of his legally allowed grow area.

Under OCM regulations, licensed microbusinesses such as Broughton's are allowed up to 5,000 square

feet of mixed-light growing space, his preferred growing method.

Mixed-light growing means Broughton uses a combination of artificial and natural light to grow his cannabis plants. He said he exercises scientific precision over his crops, manipulating artificial light color, humidity levels, nutrients and temperature to ensure his ideal product.

Broughton said he uses just over 600 square feet of his allotted growing space currently, so the business has plenty of room to expand to cover rising costs. But Broughton encouraged proponents of small business and legal cannabis to write to state officials about the effects of long licensing periods on small businesses.

"If people want to get this open, write a letter," Broughton said. "I'm wholesaling still. It'll be fine, but I'm excited to get it open."



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER

Doug Broughton, right, and Stephen Hilliard work to harvest a winter crop in Broughton's basement greenhouse in Wassaic in early January.

POOL *Continued from Page A1*

ning Committee. Starting in 2024, Murphy and a committee of 11 community members undertook a comprehensive evaluation of the property, focusing on the town pool and its facilities. "It's nobody's fault," Murphy said. "But over the years, it's just aged out."

The committee was made up of various community experts including contractors and environmentalists. The group used last year's Community Day to field suggestions from local residents, asking what changes they'd like to see at the park.

An online survey followed, and the committee compiled those suggestions for the town board. Suggestions included indoor facilities, a children's playground, a dog park and pool improvements.

The Town Park consists of the pool and several athletic fields. The town bought the lower part of the property in 1946 for \$16,000, and it became a municipal pool soon after. The athletic fields were added in 2006.

The 29 acres "are a jewel within the town," Murphy said. "We need to figure out how to get people to use it." But the pool's aging infrastructure has made maintenance and upkeep unwieldy. It also lacks modern amenities popular in other municipal pools, like splash pads or fountains. Millerton and Newburgh, Murphy noted, both included those elements in their new pool plans.

Washington has more serious fixes to make, like updating the pool's filtration system. One estimate Murphy received approximated

that cost at six figures. "The tax structure of this community will never be able to handle the major costs that are coming down the road," Murphy said.

Instead, the Committee to Re-Imagine the Town Park proposed several non-structural ways to stimulate the park's activity, and resulting revenue: extended hours, a

third pavilion, more athletic facilities, and an easier way to access the park.

Currently, there's only one way in or out of the park. It makes for a crowded drop-off — especially when summer camp is in session. Murphy said connecting the park's entrance to Little Rest Road to the west is one feasible solution.

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PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

May Castleberry at home in Lakeville.

May Castleberry's next chapter

By Richard Feiner And Annette Stover

May Castleberry is a ball of sunshine and passion, though she grew up an introverted child, moving with her family from Alberta to Colorado to Texas, finding comfort in mountains, books and wide-open skies. Today, the former art book editor and museum curator has found a new home in Lakeville, where the natural beauty of the Northwest Corner continues to captivate her. Whether walking with friends, painting, reading or visiting beloved local libraries in Salisbury, Norfolk and Cornwall, Castleberry has embraced the region since making her move permanent in 2022, bringing with her a remarkable career shaped by a lifelong love of books

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

LIFESTYLE

Hoarding With Style: Sarah Blodgett's art of collecting

By Kerri-Lee Mayland

There is something wonderfully disarming about walking into a space where nothing feels overly polished, overly planned or pulled from a catalog — a place where history lingers in the corners, where color is fearless, where the objects on the shelves have stories to tell and where, if you are lucky, a cat named Cinnamon may be supervising the entire operation.

That is the world of Sarah Blodgett. Now part of the creative orbit inside Liz Macaire's sprawling gallery in West Cornwall, Blodgett's "Hoarding With Style," tucked into the upstairs space, feels less like a shop and more like an unfolding conversation about aesthetics, storytelling and the art of living with things that matter.

Born in Manhattan, Blodgett spent weekends and much of her childhood in Gallatin, New York where her family owned a late-1700s farmhouse on a property that once housed an antique store, leaving the barns packed with treasures and forgotten finds.

"I was dusting off antiques instead of playing with toys as a child," she said, laughing.

In sixth grade, she recruited friends to venture into an abandoned house, move things around, style found objects and create little vignettes while her mother supervised from a nearby chair. Looking back, it seems inevitable that Blodgett would eventually build a business rooted in collecting, storytelling and visual imagination.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

COMMUNITY

Plans to revitalize Norfolk's Infinity Hall unveiled

By Jennifer Almquist

Nearly 200 people packed the wooden seats of Norfolk's historic Infinity Hall on Thursday, May 14, as David Rosenfeld, owner and founder of Goodworks Entertainment Group, a live entertainment and venue management company, unveiled ambitious plans to restore the restaurant and bar, expand programming and reestablish the venue as a central gathering place for the community.

Since the Norfolk Pub closed on Jan. 31, 2026, the need for a restaurant and evening gathering place has become paramount, and for years residents have wanted Infinity Hall to be more engaged with the community.

"We have a real opportunity to bring the residents of Norfolk closer together and add to a community already steeped in a rich history of the arts," Rosenfeld said. "Thursday's turnout and the positive energy we experienced are the very reason Goodworks exists. We are thrilled to help support and build upon the vibrant community spirit here."

Built in 1883, Norfolk Village Hall — the former opera house, barber shop and saloon in the center of Norfolk — was designed by Palliser & Co. In 2007, the building was restored as the 300-seat performing arts theater Infinity Hall.

Goodworks Entertainment Group took over Infinity Hall in April 2019. Rosenfeld said he plans to realign the organization with his original dream of doing good works — hence the name.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Infinity Hall, built in 1883.

He also spoke of a large-scale arts and music festival for Norfolk and of conversations with Melvin Chen, director of the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival-Yale Summer School of Music, about a possible winter classical concert series featuring Yale musicians.

After a question-and-answer session, attendees stayed to enjoy live music, food and drinks organized by Lisa Ludwig, general manager of Infinity Hall.

Norfolk resident Tony Kiser praised Rosenfeld's vision.

"If there is anything to be done, he's the guy to do it," Kiser said. "He's got the experience, some capital to invest, and he has a vision."

Henry Tirrell, Norfolk first selectman, welcomed the prospect of renewed activity at the venue.

"I am excited to see an op-

tion for dinner and drinks in town, as well as increased activity at Infinity Hall," Tirrell said.

Cheryl Heller, chair of the Norfolk Economic Development Commission, said the announcement represents an important moment for the town.

"Infinity is a key part of Norfolk's identity, and for the last few years that it's been quiet,

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4

ART

Janet Andre Block is 'Catching Light'

By L. Tomaino

What do Johann Sebastian Bach's Goldberg Variations, Richard Wagner's Ring Cycle, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's piano concertos and a quiet room have to do with Janet Andre Block's work? They are among the many elements that shape how she paints, helping guide her into the layered, luminous worlds she creates on canvas.

Block makes layered oil paintings in rich, deep, misty colors. She developed her technique as an undergraduate at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University and then at New York University, and also time spent in Venice earning a master's degree in studio art.

Block speaks warmly of her printmaking teacher, the well-known artist Kiki Smith.

"She was incredibly kind and generous," Block said. "What I learned in art school is what I want to do."

During the pandemic, she painted in a world of swirling colors that suggest another world just within this one.

Block's work will be on display at "Catching Light, 75," at David M. Hunt Library from May 23-June 19. The opening reception will be Saturday, May 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. and she will give an artist talk Thursday, June 4, at 5:30 p.m.

The exhibit features 75 small paintings representing her varied painting modes.

"I'm offering these as a gift to the library," she said. "Each

donor who gives \$75 can choose a painting."

The paintings are 2-inch squares.

Block has worked with nonprofit groups in the Northwest Corner for many years. She has been a volunteer for Project SAGE, the Lakeville-based organization committed to ending relationship violence, for many years. She has also served on Trade Secrets Underwriting Committee — the annual gar-

den event that serves as Project SAGE's largest fundraiser — for 25 years and remembers the first meeting around her dining room table. She served on the board of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation from 1991 to 2000 and was chair of the Fund for the Northwest Corner.

She has stepped back from her work with nonprofits to devote more time to painting, though she still helps where

she can.

"I enjoy the early starts of anything. That's why I like art, where I can start with a blank palette."

"There is something about picking colors," she said, describing it as "really a kind of creation — just the pleasure of mixing up a color, finding the next purple," along with the immediacy of "the feeling of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3



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... May Castleberry

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

and art. Castleberry grew up in the world of books, and especially art books, and she credits her artist mother, an avid art book collector, with igniting her passions. Castleberry's high school art teacher in Dallas understood how to teach students to channel their imaginations into books and art.

Castleberry and her husband, Michael FitzGerald, a professor of art history at Trinity College and research director of an art foundation based in Europe, first moved to Lakeville in 2013 when their son attended Hotchkiss.

In college in Texas and graduate school at Columbia and NYU, Castleberry learned every aspect of fine art book production, from paper and design to the quality of printed reproductions and original works.

"I studied printmaking, design, art history and the history of the book," said Castleberry. "In college, I learned even more when I started work as an art librarian. I haunted antiquarian and art book shops every weekend in New York City and wherever I traveled and was shaped by what I saw. I also took courses in papermaking and printmaking in my spare time."

Castleberry entered the museum world in 1980 when she joined the Whitney Museum as a librarian.

"At the time, it was an underfunded one-person library, so not an obvious prize, but it turned out to be a great place to grow."

When asked to help raise funds for acquisitions, she pro-



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

May Castleberry

Castleberry's idea of happiness is "looking at a great painting."

posed creating a publishing program and, over the next 17 years, conceived, edited and produced over 20 books as the editor of the Whitney's Artists and Writers Series. Castleberry also curated exhibitions of books, prints and photographs, culminating in a large-scale show about photography and photobooks titled "Perpetual Mirage: Photographic Narratives of the Desert West" in 1996.

After 20 years at the Whitney, Castleberry moved to the Museum of Modern Art to develop an artist's book program that would explore the art of the book and help support the museum's archives and library. This

program, the Library Council, continued until Castleberry retired from MoMA late last year. During that time, she also organized an exhibition at New York City's AXA Gallery on photography of archeological sites in the Americas: "The New World's Old World."

Asked about favorite stories from her museum roles, Castleberry recounts "looking for several very different artists to commission to make prints for 'The Magic Magic Book' by sleight-of-hand artist, collector and historian of magic Ricky Jay, and approaching artist Tomás Saraceno about making a pop-up book about spiders."

Shortly after moving to Lakeville permanently, Castleberry heard about a part-time job coordinating events at the Scoville Library. She expected her program at MoMA to be shut down by the pandemic

and thought the opportunity would be a great way to get to know the library, its staff and the community.

"I invited the poet Sally Van Doren to start a monthly poetry workshop, and artist and teacher Lily Rand to teach bookbinding and other classes. I was thrilled to bring in the founder of the Brooklyn's Dieu Donné Papermill — one of the great papermakers in the world — as well as paper marblers and others for a series of outdoor art classes."

MoMA's Library Council revived only a few months later, and Castleberry no longer had the time her Scoville work required.

"Happily, I was replaced by the amazing Karen Vrotsos," said Castleberry of the library's current head of adult programs. "I am still in close contact with Karen Goodell, the library director, the library staff and some of the trustees."

Castleberry's idea of happiness is "looking at a great painting."

In the region, her favorite art museums are the Clark in Williamstown, Massachusetts — which she recently supported by donating nearly all the books she worked on at the Whitney and MoMA to its art library — as well as Connecticut's Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington and the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford.

Now newly retired from her museum position, Castleberry has returned to her passion for drawing and painting. She's also in the initial planning stage of a museum book project. Stay tuned for her next chapter.



PHOTO BY OUTDOOR CHRONICLES PHOTOGRAPHY

Molly Merrihew has been appointed executive director of Shakespeare & Company.

Shakespeare & Company names new executive director

Shakespeare & Company based in Lenox, Massachusetts, has appointed Molly Merrihew as its new executive director following a national search, as the company approaches its 50th anniversary.

Merrihew, most recently managing director of WAM Theatre, returns to Shakespeare & Company after previously spending eight years there in marketing and public relations. She will partner with artistic director Allyn Burrows to oversee the organization's programs and operations.

During six years in leadership at WAM, Merrihew helped guide expanded programming and community engagement initiatives. She steps into the new role as Shakespeare & Company reports financial stability, including paying off its mortgage and posting two consecutive strong box office seasons.

Merrihew holds degrees from Boston University and SUNY Potsdam, as well as a graduate certificate from Cornell University.

The public will have opportunities to meet Merrihew in the coming weeks, including the company's annual Community Day on May 23. More information is available at shakespeare.org



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Hotchkiss hosts first annual International Piano Competition

Young pianists ages 10 to 18 from the United States, Thailand, South Korea, China, Canada and Azerbaijan gathered on the The Hotchkiss School campus for the inaugural International Piano Competition.

Competitors performed May 15-17 before an international jury — Gloria Chien, Olga Kern, Leonel Morales, Álvaro Teixeira

Lopes, Fabio Witkowski and Gisele Witkowski — and audiences in the school's Katherine M. Elfers Hall at the Esther Eastman Music Center.

At the awards ceremony Sunday, May 17, finalists received certificates and the top three winners in each category performed solo. The competition awarded \$25,000 in

cash prizes and concert opportunities. First-place winners were:

- Category A (ages 10-12): Sylvie Chiu
- Category B (ages 13-16): Brendan Li
- Category C (ages 17-18): Jamil Sadizadeh

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COMMUNITY

Meet the horses behind The Equus Effect at Sharon open house

By Sally Haver

The Equus Effect, a Sharon-based equine-assisted learning and equestrian facility that helps participants build emotional resilience through work with horses, will welcome the public to an open house from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, May 24, at its stables at 37 Drum Road.

Families are invited to bring a picnic lunch and blanket for the afternoon gathering, where The Equus Effect will provide demonstrations, cookies and the chance to meet four of its resident horses — Dutch, Lance, Babe and Blaze — while showcasing the unique ways people can connect and learn through interaction with these animals.

The organization was founded to support veterans and first responders experiencing PTSD, helping them process trauma and better manage the emotional effects associated with working in high-stress environments. Horses, because they are powerful yet gentle and offer honest, nonjudgmental feedback, are uniquely suited to foster trust and connection, providing what organizers describe as “calm in the storm” for people navigating adrenaline-fueled



Jane Strong, co-founder and lead facilitator at The Equus Effect, checking in with one of the hard working horses

PHOTO BY DAVE WAGMAN

responses to external and internal stressors.

The Equus Effect’s offerings have since expanded beyond its flagship emotional fitness program. The organization also offers a four-day workshop based on the Enneagram, a personality

framework that identifies core motivators, fears and behaviors that shape how people view the world. The workshop is designed to help participants develop tools for greater self-awareness and personal growth.

A third program helps

participants build both ground and mounted equestrian skills. The Equus Effect works with groups of children ages 8 and older to develop focus and leadership skills, adults interested in personal and professional growth, and business teams seeking to improve communication and performance. A fourth program, the Facilitator Training Program, takes place over six months and is designed to teach experienced horse people how to work with others.

More information is available at theequuseffect.org.

... ‘Catching Light’

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

brush on canvas.”

Block commends Hunt Library’s Art Wall team: Garth Kobal and Sergei and Zoe Fedorjaczenko.

“I think so highly of them,” she said. “I can’t say no to Garth, who is such a sincere, talented and generous person.”

Block is guided by the

thought, “You are what you focus on,” and says this, along with the natural world and music, helps her bring herself to “light and beauty” through painting.

For more information about Block and the exhibit, visit huntlibrary.org and janetandreblock.com



Artist Janet Andre Block in her studio in Salisbury.



PHOTOS BY L. TORMAINO

Janet Block discusses painting.

...Sarah Blodgett

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

Photography came first. Her father was a professional photographer in New York, and Blodgett followed him into the field, eventually building a career photographing wildlife, sports and portraits while simultaneously collecting antiques and pieces that fed her layered aesthetic.

For years, she joked about turning her passion into something larger. She trademarked the name “Hoarding With Style,” a process that took nearly two years. Once it finally came through, she laughed. “Well, I guess I should use it.”

As photography rapidly changed in the age of cellphones and artificial intelligence, Blodgett began rethinking what creativity could look like moving forward.

“We also realized we had too much stuff,” she said. “So we started selling pieces on Facebook Marketplace.”

Only Blodgett could not help elevating even that process. Inside her Greek Revival home in West Cornwall, she created styled moments around the things she was selling. People responded not just to the objects, but to the feeling behind them.

Her philosophy is approachable, with affordability in mind. She believes homes should evolve slowly over time, layered with meaningful objects, history and personality rather than stripped down into sterile perfection.

“That’s what gives a home a soul,” she said.

Creativity runs throughout the family. Her husband, a German comedian and juggler, performs internationally, while their 22-year-old child, Badger, is heading to the Maryland Institute College of Art this fall. One of the couple’s four



PHOTO BY SARAH BLODGETT

Sarah Blodgett has turned her passion for collecting into “something larger.”

children in their blended family, Badger has even sold some of their own pieces through Sarah’s shop.

“My mom has been such a rock star at supporting me,” Badger said.

Working with clients, Blodgett describes herself as less decorator and more “creativity facilitator,” helping people uncover their own instincts through ob-

jects that already reflect who they are.

That is exactly what Sarah Blodgett does: She invites visitors not only to explore her journey, but perhaps to begin uncovering their own.

Hoarding With Style is located at 406 Goshen Turnpike, West Cornwall and is open Friday-Sunday 12 to 4 p.m. or by appointment.

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Holly Aragi is a local artist and dairy farmer from Sheffield, MA. Her goal as a painter is to encourage the appreciation of ordinary things and to represent the beauty and blessings of everyday life. Explore the quiet in a loud world and view her peaceful perspective.

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PHOTO PROVIDED

The upstairs community space at Random Harvest Market in Craryville is hosting a series of Soup Night fundraisers to support the market following the recent fatal crash and road detour at the nearby Route 23 intersection. Featuring food, music and community gathering, the next event is May 24. More information at randomharvestmarket.com

... Infinity Hall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

the community has felt the loss," Heller said. "This announcement is tremendously exciting, not only because of the new restaurant and programming, but because David's plans include contributing to the culture and life of the town."

"I am completely delighted with the new direction," said Norfolk activist and Economic Development Commission member Libby Borden. "I certainly hope Norfolk supports Infinity Hall in every way."



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Nearly 200 people gathered at Infinity Hall to discuss possibilities for its future use.

Tri-Corner Calendar

MAY 21

Make & Mend Meetup

The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. This free monthly meetup invites menders, makers and the mending-curious to gather over tea for an evening of stitching, repair and creative exchange. 6 to 8 p.m. Bring your own project and materials; a limited selection of donated patching fabrics will be available. Additional meetups are scheduled for June 25 and July 30.

Memorial Day Classic

Lime Rock Park, 60 White Hollow Road, Salisbury, Conn. May 21-24

Memorial Day Weekend brings wheel-to-wheel racing action to Lime Rock Park with Trans Am and SVRA competition. Fans can watch modern Mustangs, Camaros, Challengers and Corvettes alongside vintage race cars, from classic Jaguars and Porsches to historic Indy and Formula 1 machines. Veterans and active military receive free general admission with proof of service; children 12 and under are free. Doors open at 7 a.m.

Boondocks Film Society: "Josie and the Pussycats" 25th Anniversary Screening

Four Brothers Drive-In, 4957 Route 22, Amenia, N.Y. 7 to 10 p.m. (film at dusk). Outdoor screening celebrating the cult classic's anniversary, with soundtrack-inspired music by Sadie Dupuis (Sad13, Speedy Ortiz), themed food and cocktails, and a commemorative poster. Tickets at boondocksfilm-society.org.

MAY 22

Hotchkiss Orchestra & Right Brain Logic Spring Concert

Katherine M. Elfers Hall, Esther Eastman Music Center, The Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, Conn. The Hotchkiss School invites the community to a free evening of music at 7 p.m. The orchestra, led by Fabio Witkowski, will perform works by Chopin, Grieg and de Falla, while Right Brain Logic, directed by Michael Musillami, will present original compositions and arrangements showcasing the collaborative energy of student jazz performance.

MAY 23

Dorodango: A Meditative Craft Workshop with Erica Recto

Common Place Craft Workshop, 50 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. Erica Recto leads an adult meditative craft workshop from 10 to 11:30 a.m. exploring the Japanese art of dorodango, or "mud dumpling," in which participants shape and polish mud spheres while focusing on mindfulness and intention. Supplies provided; participants may bring fragrant herbs or soil from a meaningful place to incorporate. \$35. Registration required at commonplacecraft.square.site

Divas Divine at Hunter Bee: Paintings by Jenny Belin

Hunter Bee, 21 Main St.,

Millerton, N.Y.

Opening reception at 4:30 p.m. The exhibition features a wide range of glamorous subjects including portraits of tuxedo cats, golden retrievers, Warhol icon Candy Darling, and John Waters legend Divine. These works are displayed throughout the curated space at Hunter Bee.

Knife Sharpening Party

The Alander's Star Lounge, 7519 NY-22, Copake, N.Y. The Alander & North Star are teaming up with Green Point Knives for an afternoon (1 to 9 p.m.) of sharpening, bites and sips. Bring your knives for sharpening. There will also be a selection of quality knives for sale.

Meet Your Farmer: Mark Stonehill from Full Circus Farm

Tri Corner FEED Market, 56 S. Center St., Millerton, N.Y. Bring your gardening questions, curiosity and even seeds to the Tri Corner FEED from 1 to 2 p.m. for a lively conversation on growing food in your backyard — year round! Connect with fellow gardeners while learning from local farmer Mark Stonehill.

Native Plant Sale

The Pink House Restaurant, 34 Lower River Road, West Cornwall, Conn. The Cornwall Garden Club is hosting its annual native plant sale 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the terrace. With guidance from Michelle Paladino from Linder nursery, Heidi Cunnick from the Cornwall Conservation Commission and Dee Salomon, aka "The Ungardener."

Shank Fest

Stissing House, 7801 S Main St., Pine Plains, N.Y. Stissing House hosts Shank Fest at 6 p.m., an evening celebration of spring lamb featuring dishes highlighting local lamb from Dashing Star Farm. The event includes folk music, chilled red wines, and a communal atmosphere centered on seasonal Hudson Valley flavors and gathering with friends old and new. This is a pre-paid reservation event and is non-refundable. Reservations at stissinghouse.com

American Kestrels: Small Falcons with Big Conservation Opportunities

Sharon Audubon Center, 325 Cornwall Bridge Road, Sharon, Conn. This conservation-focused program explores the regional kestrel nest box initiative and the natural history of American kestrels. Led by Sharon Audubon Center staff, participants begin at the center before traveling to the Twin Oaks property on the Sharon Land Trust to observe nest boxes in the field. The program covers kestrel ecology, conservation status, and habitat restoration efforts. Pre-registration is required. audubon.org/sharon

The Great Pollinator Ramble

Innisfree Garden, 362 Tyrrel Road, Millbrook, N.Y. Innisfree Garden presents The Great Pollinator Ramble from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. as part of Spring Community Day. This interactive event features larger-than-life pollinator puppets hidden

throughout the garden's 185-acre landscape. Volunteer puppeteers ages 13 and up are invited to participate. Details and registration are available at innisfreegarden.org

Items appear as space permits. Submit calendar items to editor@lakevillejournal.com.

throughout the garden's 185-acre landscape. Volunteer puppeteers ages 13 and up are invited to participate. Details and registration are available at innisfreegarden.org

Northeast Dutchess Spring Community Day

Innisfree Garden, 362 Tyrrel Road, Millbrook, N.Y. Innisfree Garden hosts Northeast Dutchess Spring Community Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., offering free admission for residents of participating Northeast Dutchess communities, including Amenia, Dover Plains, Millbrook, Millerton and Pine Plains. Proof of residency is required for free admission or discounted program tickets. Advance registration is encouraged at innisfreegarden.org

Second Annual Fix-It Pop-Up!

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org and Salisbury Congregational Church lawn Bring broken household items for free repairs, from jewelry and clothing to lamps and bicycles, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Library Street in Salisbury. Appointments are required and can be made through the library calendar at scovillelibrary.org.

Catching Light, 75

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org May 23 to June 19

Janet Andre Block presents "Catching Light, 75," an exhibition of recent oil paintings exploring light, mood and the beauty of everyday subjects. Opening reception May 23, 5 to 7 p.m.; artist talk June 4 at 5:30 p.m. Free. huntlibrary.org/art-wall

More Mozart Opera Highlights at St. Andrew's

St. Andrew's Parish 1 Main St. (corner of Rtes. 7 & 341). Kent, Conn. 3 p.m.

Music in the Nave's annual "Mozart in May" concert returns with a quartet of vocalists performing arias, duets and ensembles from *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *Così fan tutte* and *The Magic Flute*. Featuring soprano Juliet Schlefer, mezzo-soprano Abbegael Greene, tenor Maximilian Jansen and baritone Benjamin Powell, with pianist Margarita Nuller and cellist Adam Grabois. Tickets: at bit.ly/mozart26 and the door.

Sara Farrell Okamura: On The Precipice

LABspace, 2642 NY Route 23, Hillsdale, N.Y. May 23 to June 28

Inquiries: julielabspace@gmail.com Solo exhibition of paintings by North Adams, Mass., artist Sara Farrell Okamura. Opening reception Saturday, May 23, 1-5 p.m. In conversation with Elisabeth Condon Saturday, June 6, 2 p.m.

The Voice of Art Fine Art Festival: Sharon on the Green

Sharon Town Green, 63 Main St., Sharon, Conn. May 23-24, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sixth annual outdoor juried

fine art and fine functional art festival featuring artists from Connecticut and six other states; presented by The Voice of Art, a nonprofit visual arts organization. Free and open to the public.

MAY 24

Diane Taraz: "Surprising But True"

Bidwell House Museum, 100 Art School Road, Monterey, Mass. Bidwell House Museum opens its 36th season with a 2 p.m. concert and reception featuring singer-songwriter Diane Taraz performing "Surprising But True," a musical program of unexpected stories from American history told through traditional and original songs.

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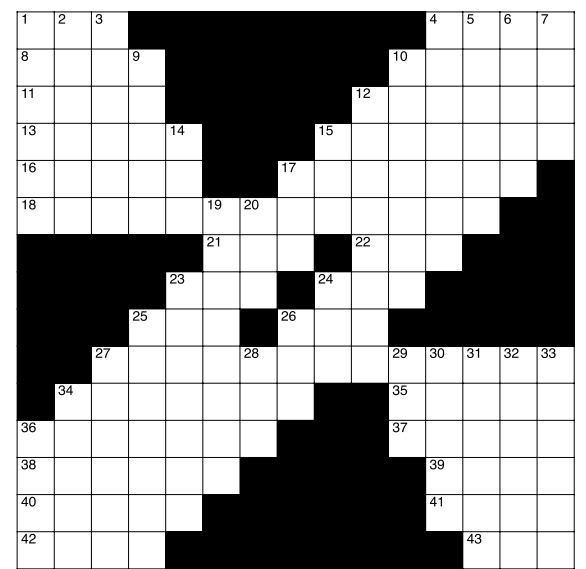


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CLUES ACROSS

- Government lawyers
- The back of a person's neck
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- In a less flashy way
- Living room piece
- Shepherd dog
- A citizen of Iran
- Moved slowly
- Small finch
- Previously
- What a kid does on Halloween
- Monetary unit
- Using dry humor
- Ocean
- Greek goddess of the dawn
- Not close
- NHL legend Bobby
- A ballplayer would love to do this
- Charity
- City in Finland
- Loomed over
- Vaccine developer
- Avoids capture
- We all need it
- Openwork fabrics
- Get away
- Something you might hit
- Soviet Socialist Republic



- Women's patriotic group
- When you anticipate getting somewhere
- Functions
- Breed of sheep
- Mocking pieces
- A major division of geological time
- Andiron
- Many not ands
- Cuban city
- He voiced "Olaf"
- Criticize
- "Thundercats" character
- Markings
- Gets up
- MLB lefty reliever A.J.
- An assembly of witches
- High energy lasers (abbr.)

May 14 Solution

M	A	C	A	O	A	M	P	S	O	R	D	O		
A	N	O	L	E	D	E	S	T	I	N	I	E		
W	O	R	L	D	S	E	R	I	E	S	W	I	N	S
S	A	D	A	P	E	E	R	A	S	E				
			S	P	T	S	P	A	R					
			S	O	D	S	P	L	E	D	G	E		
O	M	A	N		B	A	E	L	A	D	H			
H	O	N	E		H	O	A	N	S		A	D	A	R
M	A	T	V	A	I	N		E	M	U	S			
R	A	S	I	N	S		E	M	U	S				
			P	A	G	E	C	T	I	A				
B	L	I	N	I		A	A	R		M	A	R		
G	O	U	N	D	E	R	T	H	E	K	N	I	F	E
S	E	C	E	S	S	I	O	N		W	I	T	A	N
A	R	E	S		T	O	R			E	B	E	R	T

Sudoku

7			8			5		
	2		7		9			
					5			
	8			9		7		3
5	3			1				
					6			
9	5			6	4	3		7
	6						8	
			1	7			6	

May 14 Solution

9	1	4	8	3	5	2	6	7
6	5	7	2	4	9	1	8	3
2	3	8	7	1	6	5	4	9
1	8	6	5	2	3	7	9	4
3	2	9	1	7	4	6	5	8
7	4	5	6	9	8	3	1	2
8	9	1	3	6	7	4	2	5
5	7	2	4	8	1	9	3	6
4	6	3	9	5	2	8	7	1

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BOOKS

The many voices of “A Jericho’s Cobble”

By Patrick L. Sullivan

Tom Shachtman read from his new book, “A Jericho’s Cobble Miscellany,” at the Scoville Memorial Library on Sunday, May 17.

Shachtman and Harriet Shelane read excerpts from the points of view of an 18th-century settler in the wilds of New England, a contemporary high school senior who cannot wait to get herself out of town, a Native American sachem and an upright piano.

The book tells the story of a fictional New England village that Shachtman said he imagines as being about 20 miles east of Great Barrington.

It is a tale told through several genres: fiction, newspaper stories, oral histories, poetry, plays and emails.

Shachtman said he was inspired by Edgar Lee Masters’ “Spoon River Anthology,” in which small-town Americans’ stories are told in free-verse form by the deceased.

“I thought it was a wonderful idea, but I didn’t want everybody to be dead.”

Shachtman said there are more than 100 distinct voices in the book and that he began with 50 to 100 pages of notes on all sorts of topics.

“It’s not one story. It’s many stories. That’s why it took five years.”

Shachtman was asked how closely Salisbury resembles Jericho’s Cobble.

“Of course there are similarities. I’ve lived here for 30 years.”

He said certain stories in the book, such as an arson attack at the Town Hall and the transformation of the local weekly newspaper from a for-profit to a nonprofit,



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Author Tom Schachtman

have obvious local precedents.

“But these are not unique to us,” he added.

About that upright piano: Shachtman paused before reading that particular excerpt and looked at the audience.

“Not all the speakers are living or dead. Some are inanimate objects.”

He then read “An Upright’s Lament.”

“I haven’t been seriously caressed in a long time,” the passage begins.

The piano, a 1903 Hamilton, goes on to say it has been relegated to “the seldom-used back dining room of the Grey Griffon Inn with its fading wallpaper.”

“In my heyday, when many people still knew how

to play a piano, I was the focus of attention in the pub, where late of an evening, after enough alcohol had been downed, there would always be someone opening me up and striking my keys, to general enjoyment.”

But times have changed, and the piano is not optimis-

tic.

“I fear the coming winter’s continuously roaring fires in the inn’s many fireplaces: Their dry heat will wick away the last bit of moisture from my woods, leaving me fit only for the garbage heap and the lumber pile.”

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