



MILLBROOK
 Graduation
 2026 A2



MILLERTON
 Structural
 upgrade A6

COMPASS
 Blackshires;
 Kent Art; and
 more B1-4



Stissing High School A6-7
 Webutuck High School A8-9



PHOTO BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Joanna Zammiello of Sweet Lilly's squeezes fresh lemons for her lemonade at Pine Plains Community Day on Saturday, June 13. The company is named for her cat.

Pine Plains Community Day draws large crowds

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
 grahamc@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — The town of Pine Plains celebrated its first Community Day since 2023 this past Saturday. The event was a day-long party, bringing together residents and visitors alike with games, community markets and free food.

The Pine Plains fire depart-

ment kicked the day off with a free breakfast at 9 a.m. Then vendors from across the county opened for business at the community market, and booths representing local businesses and non-profits opened along Church Street. Vendors came from around the surrounding area — Poughkeepsie, Elizaville, Germantown, Hyde Park and Red Hook were among the towns represented on the lawn.

Pine Plains' Beth McLiverty was on the event's organizing committee. From her perch at the information table, she stressed the importance of moments like Community Day for the town's overall well-being. "We're going to make sure this happens every year," McLiverty said. "Everybody missed it."

See COMMUNITY DAY, A12

Primary race for Assembly District 106 heats up in final weeks

Veteran Rep. Didi Barrett faces challenge from newcomer Sam Hodge

By NATHAN MILLER
 nathanm@millertonnews.com

Six-term Assemblymember Didi Barrett is facing a primary challenge from Democrat Sam Hodge, who argues the district needs stronger action on affordability and utility costs as voters head toward the June 23 election.

Barrett, a 75-year-old Columbia County resident who has represented the 106th Assembly District since 2012, is seeking a seventh term on a record she says includes delivering state funding to local communities and advanc-

ing legislation aimed at increasing oversight of utility companies and protecting ratepayers.

Hodge, a 39-year-old attorney and former chairman of the Columbia County Democratic Committee, launched his campaign in December, contending that Albany has failed to adequately address rising costs facing residents. The Claverack resident describes himself as a progressive and has centered his campaign on affordability issues, particularly utility rates, housing costs and access to

See PRIMARY RACE, A12

Incumbent assemblymember rejects call for debate

By NATHAN MILLER
 nathanm@millertonnews.com

Assemblymember Didi Barrett has rejected calls for a debate with primary challenger Sam Hodge, saying the first-time candidate has spent the campaign

misrepresenting her record and failing to offer substantive policy proposals.

Hodge first posed his debate challenge to Barrett in early May following a public forum hosted

See DEBATE, A12

North East's new Town Hall held up by courtroom drama

By NATHAN MILLER
 nathanm@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — North East Town Council members have come under fire over plans to relocate town court service to Amenia's Town Hall.

Town Justices Dennis Johnson and Casey McCabe sharply criticized the plans during public comment at a regular meeting of the Town Board on Thursday, June 11. Town Board members have been discussing a proposal that would allow for court proceedings to take place at Amenia Town Hall to save floor space in the new Town Hall.

The debate comes as North East prepares to relocate Town Hall

from its current Maple Avenue location to a former Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall on Route 22. The town purchased the approximately 4,500-square-foot building in 2023, with plans to renovate it into a new, fully accessible municipal complex. Town officials have said space constraints within the building have prompted discussions about whether a dedicated courtroom can be accommodated alongside other municipal offices.

The plans involve a proposed contract with the Town of Amenia that would allow use of its courtroom for North East Town Court proceedings. Court Clerk

See TOWN HALL, A3

Amenia Board delays subdivision project over water supply, town character concerns

By LEILA HAWKEN
 leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Planning Board members have again delayed action on a proposed workforce housing subdivision, citing unresolved concerns over firefighting water capacity and the project's potential impact on the town's character.

Citing those two unresolved areas of concern, the Planning Board voted against approving a resolu-

tion that would have concluded the conservation analysis aspect of the application for the 28-unit proposed Cascade Creek subdivision, which would go up on 18 acres along Route 22 near the Freshtown Plaza. The conservation analysis step has been underway since 2024.

Passage of the resolution would have satisfied New York's State Environmental Quality Review Act requirements by certifying that the project would not have a

significant adverse impact on the environment.

Reaching its vote of 4-2 against passage of the negative declaration resolution at its regular meeting on Wednesday, June 10, the Planning Board went on to ask the developer, Hudson River Housing, for more assurances about plans for an adequate supply of firefighting water storage and its concerns

See WATER SUPPLY, A12



CONTACT
 The Millerton News
 editor@millertonnews.com
 860-435-9873, ext. 608

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OUR TOWNS



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

Under the athletic field's lights, the 60 members of the Millbrook High School Class of 2026 received their diplomas during a commencement ceremony on Friday, June 12.

Millbrook High School class of 2026 celebrates graduation

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — A lengthy rain delay did little to dampen the spirits of the Millbrook High School Class of 2026 and the family and friends who gathered Friday for the school's commencement ceremony.

The weather eventually cooperated, with a rainbow appearing over the field just before the procession began for the 60 seniors preparing to receive their diplomas.

Speeches offered advice and reflected on gratitude for teachers, administrators, staff and family, all contributing to the moment of transition from high school years to promising futures.

Principal Eric Seipp opened with welcoming remarks and thanks to all constituents within the school who had guided the Senior Class through their final year. He spoke of achievement and

perseverance.

"Tonight is about transition," Seipp told graduates. "The simplest message can be the most powerful," he added. "You leave here with far more than a diploma. You will remember the people."

"The world needs more people who choose kindness. How you treat others matters," Seipp said.

Seipp noted that the Commencement would mark his final year as Principal of Millbrook High School, ending his eight-year tenure.

"It has been one of the greatest honors of my career to have served as your principal," Seipp told the school community.

Millbrook Superintendent Caroline Hernandez-Pidala advised graduates to show empathy for others.

"Read more; ask more questions," she said.

Guidance Counselor Thomas Chanowsky said that he is often asked how he can

stay so positive.

"I am just happy to be here," was Chanowsky's response. "I hope I made a difference."

Salutatorian Lydia Kasczak had totaled the number of days she had spent at high school at 1,374.

"Work hard and never stop learning," she told classmates, while thanking the school's constituent teachers, administrators and staff, and her parents.

Valedictorian Dylan Vasquez spoke with assurance, urging graduates to "make sure you feel." He went on to thank the school's constituents and ended by reading a reflective poem written by his mother before he was born.

The ceremony ended with presentation of the Class of 2026 to the Board of Education, followed by recessional music performed by the high school band under the direction of Daniel Dunninger.



Confidently stepping into their futures, the 60 members of the Millbrook High School Class of 2026 received their diplomas during commencement exercises on Friday, June 12.

Summer art opening shows off talent at The Fountains

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — There is no shortage of talent at The Fountains in Millbrook evidenced by the opening of the Summer Art Show on Thursday, June 11.

Works of several residents are on display in the Gallery for the coming weeks.

Resident Shirley Fernekas is one of the featured artists with several paintings on display, selected to show the breadth of her works over a lifetime. Included are depictions of wildlife, seascapes and New England scenes,

reflective of her travels. She recalled beginning in acrylics before switching to her preference for oils and watercolors.

"I've always been painting...all my life," Fernekas explained, having attended Wooster and Silvermine art academies for her studies. Her work has brought several awards, including recognition by the Connecticut-based Kent Art Association.

"It's almost like I can't not do it," said resident artist Gail Curcio whose father Theodore Wheldon was an accomplished artist, as was her grandfather.

"I'm thrilled with the art classes and Ellen's encouragement," Curcio said, speaking of Fountains art instructor Ellen O'Shea who mounted the exhibit.

"The talent is fantastic. Everyone is very interested in learning," O'Shea said of the show, noting that all are welcome to join in art classes or work on their own. Several works were included that were by six resident artists who are improving with good results. They are Lucy Johnson, Margaret Cornell, Reiko Ramsey, Graham and Sheila Attlessey and Mary Kay Blasi.



The Fountains houses a significant presence of talent, including in the visual arts. The Summer Art Show that opened on Thursday, June 11, features the works of several residents, accomplished in interpreting the world around them. The opening was well-attended by residents and friends.



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

Artistic talent is on display at the Fountains' Summer Art Show, which opened Thursday, June 11. The exhibition features works by several residents and drew a strong turnout of artists and guests, who were welcomed on opening day by art instructor Ellen O'Shea.

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Parking rules a hurdle for proposed Millerton apartments

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Plans for new apartments on South Center Street are facing uncertainty over parking regulations in the Village of Millerton.

The buildings have a total of four apartments located at 26-32 South Center St, though only three have been occupied in recent years. Owner Alex Magalhaes described plans to renovate the interior of the building and utilize the empty unit.

Planning Board members raised a concern over available parking. They noted that village code requires 1.5 off-street spaces per residential unit. The property currently has no off-street parking and owner Magalhaes said there's no room to install additional parking.

Magalhaes explained that apartment residents would use the municipal parking lot across South Center Street.

"When we first purchased, it had in the lease that we can use the parking," Magalhaes said.

Dutchess County owns

that lot, prompting questions from Planning Board members about whether that's permissible and under whose authority.

Board Chair Andrew Rebillard, along with board member Kevin Webb, doubted the Planning Board had the authority to permit parking in that lot.

"I would propose that we get guidance from counsel," Webb said. "To see what our ability is here."

Webb asked if the property could fit additional off-street spaces. Magalhaes said the property has space for a small

driveway in the northwest corner, but there was not any additional space for cars.

Despite the uncertainty, board members voted to set a public hearing on the plans for their next meeting on Wednesday, July 8. That meeting is expected to happen barring news from the county that the lot can't be used for residential parking.

"It doesn't sound like it's something that's going to stop this project," Rebillard said. "Rather just make it take longer."



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Tiffany Zezula, deputy director of the Pace Land Use Law Center of White Plains, presents early results of a survey of Amenia residents on their desires for local parks and recreation during a forum at Webutuck High School on Saturday, June 13. Residents were invited to hear a preliminary report on the ongoing study sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Commission to assist with charting the future of recreation and parks in Amenia.

Shaping the future of Amenia's recreation planning

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Residents would like to see more amenities, programming and access at Amenia's parks and recreational sites, according to preliminary results from a town recreation survey presented Saturday, June 13.

A status report was presented at the Webutuck High School auditorium on Saturday, June 13, by Engaging Amenia planning consultants from Pace Land Use Law Center of White Plains.

Reviewing highlights from the survey, Tiffany Zezula, deputy director of the Pace program, said 116 residents — about 3% of Amenia's population — have completed the questionnaire to date. Full-time residents accounted for 88% of respondents, while 32% were age 65 or older.

Among respondents, 77% reported traveling to one of the town's 12 recreational sites by car.

The most frequently visited destination was the Harlem Valley Rail Trail, prompting discussion about the need for additional parking. Residents also said that they would like to see the addition of benches

along the rail trail.

Respondents also said they would also favor community gardens, more picnic areas, and provision for waterway access and even swimming throughout the area.

There are low-cost programs that might be easily implemented, such as bird-watching groups, historic walking tours, or walking/hiking clubs, Zezula said.

"This is going to facilitate the conversation," said town councilmember Nicole Ahearn about the survey's outcomes.

Zezula said the survey is intended to complement work already underway by the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee as it evaluates the future of parks and recreation in Amenia.

Residents can still participate in the survey through June 30. Judy Moran, chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission, has arranged a display at the Amenia Library where residents can review planning materials and submit comments.

A final report is expected in July, Zezula said.

Preliminary results of the study can be viewed at www.engagingamenia.com.

TOWN HALL *Continued from Page A1*

and justice offices would be located in the new Town Hall, located in a former Jehovah's Witnesses hall on Route 22.

Johnson said he first heard of the plans from Town Supervisor Chris Kennan's public comments at an Amenia Town Board meeting on June 4. North East Town Board members have been discussing the plans in public meetings since April.

Johnson expressed frustration over what he described as a lack of communication between the Town Board and the court.

"I don't understand how it is that we got to this point," Johnson said. "That neither of the justices had been consulted about this."

Johnson described the multi-year process that went into designing the planned courtroom. He said the town's court employees and justices had spent months working with the New York Office of Court Administration and designers to ensure the room would meet Americans with Disabilities Act and New York State standards.

Johnson defended courtroom plans, saying the space would be shared as the current courtroom in North East's Town Hall on Maple Avenue currently is.

McCabe's protests centered around courtroom organization and access to court records. She said it would be difficult for the court to adapt to unexpected circumstances if court records and documents were stored in North East while proceedings took place in Amenia.

She described the ongoing discussions among Town Board members as an unnecessary further expense, echoing pleas from Johnson that the justices be included in further plans for the town court.

Johnson and McCabe both described providing a town court in North East as a responsibility, saying that

moving court proceedings out of town would be disenfranchising and unfair to residents and taxpayers.

Johnson and McCabe both declined to provide further comment.

"I gave my public comment," Johnson said in response to further questions after the meeting.

Kennan clarified the town's position following the meeting. He said the public comment at Amenia's Town Board was an attempt to kickstart discussion with the town, not an official proposal.

He said Town Board members were exploring options for saving space at the new Town Hall. Kennan said court officials have insisted on a separation between the court and the Town Board.

"Justice Johnson has reminded me several times that the court is a separate unit of government and that the town has no role with the court," Kennan said. "As I understand it, our only role is to find them space for their court clerk and for their courtroom."

At the Amenia meeting, Kennan described requirements for the courtroom and associated infrastructure as "mind-boggling." He said there are no laws requiring courts to be located within town limits and cited guidance from Dutchess County and New York that municipalities should be looking for opportunities to consolidate services.

Kennan said he has since reached out to the justices and expects to meet with them this week. He acknowledged that planning for the new Town Hall has taken considerable time, but expressed optimism that things can start getting underway soon.

"I am really looking forward to fitting out the former Jehovah's Witnesses building as a really good, accessible Town Hall," Kennan said. "It has taken too long — no question — but it will be a great location."

Flea market seeks local vendors

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — The North East/Millerton Climate Smart Task Force is seeking participants for a community-wide flea market set to coincide with Millerton's 175th celebration.

The community-wide flea market will run throughout Millerton, with Eddie Collins Memorial Park serving as a central hub. Spaces at the park are available or sellers can run a sale at their own homes.

The market effort is set to run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. during the week-long celebration's first day on Saturday, July 11.

Task force member Kathy Chow described the flea market as an opportunity to rehome old possessions without sending them to a landfill, reducing waste and building a sense of community. She said the group is in need of interested sellers.

"The Climate Smart purpose for doing this is to help people repurpose stuff that they already have," Chow said. "To cut down on waste and all the stuff that we throw away, and even the unnecessary storage that we have."

For a \$10 registration fee, sellers that sign up by June 30 either get a space at Eddie Collins Memorial Park to set up a display or a marker on the map of flea market vendors across town.

A third option is to give items away for free. Residents that aren't interested in running a tag sale at home or a flea market space at the park are encouraged to place free items at the end of their driveways for passersby to take.

More information on the town-wide flea market is available online at villagemillerton.gov/175th.

"It's a terrific, feel-good activity," Chow said. "Everybody loves getting rid of their stuff and finding new homes for it."

Self-storage and farm market plans move forward

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
grahamc@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — The Planning Board unanimously approved the environmental review for a proposed storage facility expansion and farm stand at 2818 Church St. during its meeting Wednesday, June 10.

The property, located across from the high school, would expand the neighboring Stissing Storage business. Steve Hobson of HTWO Properties presented updated site plans that include additional storage units at the rear of the lot and a free-standing farm stand near the road.

Since first presenting the project in January, Hobson has made several revisions to

the proposal. A row of Green Giant Arborvitae have been planted on the property's north side to screen the additional storage units. A fence will be replaced along the south side, and a right-of-way for pedestrian traffic to the school has been added from the dead end at Nine Partners Lane.

More parking spaces were also added to Hobson's plans. The next phase will include the demolition of an existing structure on the property, which will be replaced by storage units. Hobson says pending final approval from the county and a site visit from the New York Department of Transportation, he hopes to have the demolition done and new concrete laid before year's end.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Kaits Kleaning LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 05-22-2026. Office Location: Dutchess county. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 24 Attlebury Hill Road, Standfordville NY 12581.

06-04-26
06-11-26
06-18-26
06-25-26
07-02-26
07-09-26

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE TOWN

OF AMENIA, COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, FOR THE YEAR 2026, HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY THE UNDERSIGNED ASSESSOR, AND A CERTIFIED COPY IS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK OF AMENIA, 4988 ROUTE 22, AMENIA, NY, ON THE FIRST DAY OF JULY, 2026, WHERE THE SAME WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION. A COPY OF SUCH WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT AMENIA.NY.GOV DATED THIS 1ST DAY OF JULY, 2026.

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Christian Sands Trio
Christian Sands, Piano
Isaac Levian, Bass
Ryan Sands, Drums
Works by Dave BRUBECK

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OBITUARIES

Nicholas Gandolfo Jr.

EAST CANAAN — Nicholas Gandolfo Jr., 94, of East Canaan, Connecticut, passed away peacefully on June 4, 2026, following a courageous battle with kidney cancer and chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL).



Born and raised in East Canaan, Nick was the son of Nicholas Gandolfo Sr. and Marie Zucco Gandolfo, both Italian immigrants. He embraced his Italian heritage with great pride throughout his life.

From an early age, Nick developed a deep love for the outdoors, particularly hunting and fishing. These passions remained a source of joy and connection throughout his lifetime.

Nick proudly served his country as a United States Marine during the Korean War. During his distinguished and heroic service, he received numerous medals and citations, most notably for his actions during the Battle of the Hook, where he helped save members of his platoon despite sustaining injuries himself. His courage, selflessness, and unwavering commitment to others defined not only his military service but also the way he lived his life.

A devoted advocate for veterans, Nick was actively involved with the Marine Corps League, where he helped establish a scholarship fund. He was also a dedicated member of the Canaan Couch-Pipa VFW, through which he provided durable medical equipment—and often Girl Scout cookies—to veterans living in VA homes and hospitals, including Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. His generosity extended far beyond the veteran community. Nick was known for supporting numerous charitable causes and serv-

ing those in need, including helping provide Thanksgiving dinners to local families.

Nick also dedicated 25 years of service as a volunteer firefighter for the Town of Canaan, further demonstrating his lifelong commitment to helping others.

He will be remembered for his quick wit, spirited personality, and unmistakable charm. A shameless flirt, Nick delighted in competing with his friends to see who could collect the most hugs at any social gathering. Thanks to his warmth and charisma, he almost always won.

He leaves behind his loving daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, his brother, many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and countless friends.

The family extends its heartfelt gratitude to the staff of East Mountain House, Geer, Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association, and the Winsted Veterans Affairs office, for their compassionate care and support.

Private wake and burial services will be held for the family. Friends and loved ones are warmly invited to attend a Celebration of Life on June 20, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Canaan Couch-Pipa VFW.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to East Mountain House, P.O. Box 1405, Lakeville, CT 06039.

Nick spent his final days at East Mountain House, surrounded not only by his family but also by an extraordinary team of caregivers who provided exceptional comfort, dignity, and support. His family will be forever grateful for the kindness and compassion shown to him during his final journey.

TACONIC — Richard McGriff died unexpectedly on May 16, 2026. This is a collection of loving reminiscences.

With a smile like that and a laugh like that and a soul like that, how could you not love him? *Macey Levin and Gloria Miller*

Richard McGriff knew about loyalty and honor; he practiced them both. He was a good friend and he will be missed. *Dick Boyle*

Whenever I saw Richard I asked how are you doing and he always replied, "Can't complain because nobody wants to hear it." I would always reply "I'll listen, not that I'm going to do anything about it," and we would laugh every time. *Janet Hodgson*

Rich had a wonderful tenor voice. We talked about starting an "oldies but goodies doo-wop" group as we both knew the words to a lot of

those songs, but it never happened. *John Hebdavny*

Somebody shouting, "Hey Rev!" as they drove by. Turning around, it was a delight to see Richard waving exuberantly from his car! *John Carter*

Whenever I got to talk with Richard - I simply found optimism again, not only possible, but likely. The world was a better place with Richard in it. I sorely miss him. *Paul DePaolo*

I really enjoyed the time I spent with Richard. He was a warm and kind person and had a beautiful singing voice. *Mike Mangini*

He'd drive through town, see me at my coffee, blow the horn, call my name. It could just make my afternoon. *Peter Fitting*

There's Hope and Crosby. There's Rich and Macey. Rich and Macey put on a better

show. *Bill Anstett*

Richard had an indomitable spirit and a positive outlook that made me feel better simply by being in his presence. *Mark Shearer*

We knew Richard only to say hello as he drove by, when we saw him at the P.O. Always with a smile, always with an "upbeat" comment to make.... just a really nice man who helped to make Taconic Road a place where we are happy to live. *Joel and Terry Cohen*

We will always remember Richard's kindness and the familiar sight of him driving past our house each day to pick up the newspapers. He will be missed on Taconic Road. *Bobby Graham & Matt Marden*

Richard was such a lovely man. He always had a smile and a laugh for you. Although, if I was working outside, he would always hit the horn as he drove by and scare the crap out of me! *Karen Bibro*

We will miss you, Richard, and the genuine kindness and warmth you brought into our lives. *Jeff Holt & Jillian Cleary*

Always a smile on his face. *Michael Kahler*

Richard's exuberant personality always brightened our day. His cheerfulness and charm blessed all around him. *Ismael Ginouves*

Great sense of humor, always kind and generous. He got us tee shirts that said "Be kind to your cashier!" *Dawn Prince (LaBonne's Market)*

Richard was a fashion icon with the kindest heart and most beautiful soul and I feel privileged to have had him in my life. *Ashley Radcliffe*

He was a man who carried a constant smile, known for his warmth, humor, and truly positive spirit. I'll always cherish our dinners at The Woodlands—his joy for life was contagious. *Kelley Smith-Hull*

What I loved most about Richard was he had a genuine interest in people. I will miss our encounters around town but take comfort that he is with his Dorothy. I'm truly overjoyed that he came into my life. *Roger Crain*

He was the kindest, fairest, caring and curious of humans. When I last saw him he left in laughter and smiles. There is a space I will hold for him." *Aimée D Davis*

Richard McGriff

Francis Lynehan

DOVER PLAINS — Francis "Butch" Lynehan, 75, a twenty-year resident of Dover Plains, New York, formerly of Sharon, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at Vassar Bros. Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, New York.



Born Aug. 29, 1950, in Sharon, he was the son of the late William W. and Nellie (Kluun) Lynehan.

Butch grew up in Sharon and attended Sharon Center School and Housatonic Valley Regional High School. At the age of seventeen, he enlisted in the United States Army and is a Vietnam War Veteran.

After his military service of three years, he was employed at the Kimberly-Clark Corporation and later worked many years for the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation.

Butch was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was a member of the Chestnut Ridge Rod & Gun Club in Dover Plains, Millerton Gun Club and the Sharon Fish & Game. He was a longtime member of the V.F.W. Post 5444 in Dover Plains and the Sharon American Legion Post 126. He was a former member of the Sharon Fire

Department.

Butch is survived by his devoted wife, Nancy (Stark), his former wife, Rosemarie (Marchi) Larosa and their two sons, Michael and Stephen. He was the proud grandfather of three grandsons, Mason, Noah and Tucker. He is also

loving sisters, Pat of Sharon, and Yvonne of Chapel Hill, Tennessee, and several cousins and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother William "Billy" Lynehan and his niece Lisa Hoglen.

There will be no calling hours. A private burial will take place on Saturday, June 27, 2026, at Hillside Cemetery in Sharon, with Standard Military Honors, followed by a Celebration of Life at the Sharon Fire Department, 36 West Main Street, Sharon. All are invited to attend. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sharon American Legion Post 126, 15 New Street, Sharon, CT 06069 or Sharon Little League/NWCTSBL, P.O. Box 569, N. Canaan, CT 06018. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree in Butch's honor, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Anita L. Gochey

CANAAN — Anita L. (King) Gochey, 85, of 77 South Canaan Rd. died June 5, 2026, at Geer Village. She was the wife of the late Lester Gochey. Anita was born July 16, 1940, in Winsted, daughter of the late Ivan and Irene (Dulude) King.



Anita was well known throughout the Northwest Corner. She worked for many local businesses and organizations. Anita worked at the Rexall Drug Store, C.A. Lindell and Sons, Bob's Clothing, Brooks Pharmacy, and the Housatonic Valley Regional High School in the cafeteria. She used her skills in calligraphy to complete the record books for the North Canaan Congregational Church. Anita's daughter remembers her

as being very creative with cardboard, and a loving mom.

Anita is survived by her son Raymond Gochey and his fiancée' Chris Filkins of Hinsdale, Massachusetts; and her daughter Michele O'Brien of Sharon. She is also survived by her sister Denise Warner of Torrington and

her brother Arthur King of Danbury. Her three grandchildren, Kyle Gochey of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, Cody O'Brien of Georgia, and Sabrina O'Brien of Falls Village. Anita was predeceased by her brother, Martin King.

A Celebration of Anita's life will be held on Saturday June 20, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. Canaan, CT 06018.

OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY NIKKI BEERS BURTON

A Pine Plains softball player slides into safety.

Pine Plains softball and track teams cap off championship seasons at states

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN grahamc@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — The Pine Plains softball and track teams rounded out two incredible seasons this year.

The softball team finished the year as Class C Regional Champions, defeating Tuckahoe 4-1 earlier in June to capture the title.

That secured the Bombers a place in the state semifinals in Binghamton. They faced off against Galway, and played a thrilling defensive battle before losing 1-0 in 10 innings. It's been a remarkable run for the team — their record on the year was 19-3, and they finished as one of the best teams in the state.

There were individual honors, too: Anna Essery and Abbey Mayes were named Section IX All Stars, and Talia Durant took home Player of

the Year honors. Coach Lester Funk was named Coach of the Year.

Meanwhile, the varsity track team capped off a memorable season of their own this weekend. The girls team qualified for states in the 4x400 (Michelle Blackburn, Izzy Montoya, Violet Bliss, Madison Williams) and finished 12th with a time of 4:13.57. Sophomore Madison Williams also qualified in the 200 meter dash, running 26.21 and finishing 10th. Senior Violet Bliss qualified in two individual events: the 1500 meter run and 3000 meter run, where she finished 18th and 13th, respectively, with times of 4:38.68 and 10:00.01.

For the boys, senior Daniel McPherson qualified in both the 1600 and 3200 meter run. He finished 25th in the 1600 with a time of 4:17.60, and 21st with a 9:30.09.

Send obituaries to obituaries@lakevillejournal.com

Worship Services Week of June 21, 2026	
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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 trinity@limerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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 860-824-7252 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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!</p>
<p>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</p>	
<p>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</p>	
<p>Millerton United Methodist Church 6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:00 P.M. 518-789-3138</p>	

THE MILLERTON NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE A5

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2026

LET'S HEAR IT...

THIS WEEK

Fireworks have long been part of Fourth of July celebrations, lighting up the night sky in towns across the country. But in recent years, drone light shows have become an increasingly popular alternative, as communities weigh safety concerns, fire risks, noise complaints, environmental effects and changing state and local regulations.

What do you think about this changing tradition? Should communities hold on to fireworks, embrace drone shows or find room for both?

Send your responses to publisher@lakevillejournal.com by Monday, June 22 at 10 a.m. or comment on Facebook or Instagram. We'll publish a selection in next week's paper.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

How much does experience matter? What about independence, new ideas or a willingness to challenge the system? What makes someone an effective representative for your community?

"I'm seeing some issues with how Hodge has managed some things but I'm more concerned about an elected official chairs an energy committee and accepts donations from energy companies and representatives."

— Darrick Spears



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

The long view

Court tests meaning of equal justice

"We want a Supreme Court which will do justice under the constitution – not over it. In our courts we want a government of laws, not of men."

Franklin D. Roosevelt

John Roberts was nominated to replace Sandra Day O'Connor as a justice on the Supreme Court in July 2005 – three days later Rehnquist died and Roberts was nominated for Chief Justice as his replacement. The most vocal Democratic resister to Roberts' confirmation was the new Senator Barack Obama who contested that though Roberts would be unquestionably qualified for 95% of Supreme Court cases, he would be lacking for 5% of cases requiring depth and width of empathy – Roberts was for the strong over the weak. Roberts was confirmed 72 – 22. Four years later, January 20, 2009, Roberts bungled the Presidential oath of office at Obama's inauguration, the oath was redone on January 21. Both men had been president of the Harvard Law Review – Roberts in 1978 and Obama in 1990.

In 2005 the Supreme Court enjoyed approval ratings over 60% – comfortable, respectable. In 2026, their approval rating is 42%, disapproval 57% – nearly a full reversal. The Court has lost the trust of a majority of the nation, 69% are in favor of term limits for Justices versus lifetime appointments. The stability of the law is in question. Many cases have been overturned, some cases have been decided with extraordinary outcomes for money in elections, for immunity from prosecution for the executive.

In 2010, the Supreme Court announced a decision, so contentious that it had to be re-argued, that overturned

OPEN SPACE

Kathy Herald-Marlowe

bans on corporate independent expenditures to favor unlimited corporate expenditures in elections. In 2016, total expenditures on Presidential and Congressional elections was up from \$7 billion in 2008 to \$18.3 billion boosted by super PACs and dark money whose donors were non-disclosed. Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission has transformed campaigns and impacted election outcomes. The Roberts Court ruled 5-4 with Roberts writing the opinion.

Voting rights have been struck down by three Supreme Court cases: Shelby County v. Holder (2013), Students for Fair Admissions v Harvard (2023) and Louisiana v. Callais (2026). The first decision eliminated requirements that certain states with histories of discrimination obtain federal preclearance before changing their voting laws. The Harvard case bans Affirmative Action for admissions. The final Louisiana decision limits the Voting Rights Act.

Roberts in his opinion in 2013 wrote: "The conditions that originally justified these measures no longer characterize voting in the covered jurisdictions." The Roberts Court ruled 5-4 then 6-3.

Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization overturned Roe v Wade reaffirmed by the Supreme Court on four occasions. The Roberts Court

ruled 6-3 with a scathing majority opinion written, leaked by Samuel Alito. Abortion is favored by 80% of Americans. The nation continues to reel as the Supreme Court ruled that all former presidents possess absolute immunity for their core constitutional powers and immune from all official acts. The decision is broadly opposed as it undermines the principle that no one is above the law. The Roberts Court ruled 6-3 with the majority opinion written by Roberts.

"Members of the Supreme Court have lifetime tenure because they're not suppose to do politics."

Ben Sasse

case have resulted in "shadow docket" findings which have no vote by the Justices, no explanation, no opinion. Additionally, the Supreme Court has overturned a surprising number of lower courts decisions in favor of the current administration.

The conclusion of the 2025-2026 Supreme Court season is upon us. Expected is another major decision regarding birth right citizenship now guaranteed in Section 1 of the 14th Amendment. Un-expected may be the unfurling of a gigantic Trump poster on the Supreme Court's 92-foot "greek-temple" on First Avenue in DC. The Trump poster currently on the DOJ is 88 feet long – so a duplicate fits here even though such a Trump image would cover the west facade's declaration of "Equal justice under law." Not all would be bothered or even notice.

Kathy Herald-Marlowe lives in Sharon.



Remember when you could only check your inbox once a day?

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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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A case for Sam Hodge in the Democratic primary

I've voted for Didi Barrett in every election for the last 14 years, but I'll be voting for Sam Hodge in the June Democratic primary.

As someone who knows Sam, I believe he is better suited to serve our community in the Assembly. Good elected

officials need judgment, integrity, authenticity, the ability to listen, and a willingness to take on difficult challenges. Sam checks every box.

When Sam became Chair of the Columbia County Democratic Committee in 2021, Democrats held little countywide power. Under his leadership, Democrats elected two sheriffs, a district attorney, judges, coroners, and helped send Pat Ryan and, later, Josh Riley to Congress. Fundraising records were broken, and races were won, but what impressed me most was something less measurable: Sam gave people hope. He energized volunteers, built a stronger organization, and helped people believe they could make a difference. The results speak for themselves and offer a preview of the type of Assembly member Sam will be.

Outside politics, Sam has dedicated his career to public service. As a Special Victims Prosecutor, he handled do-

mestic violence, child abuse, and sex crimes cases, stood with survivors, and held offenders accountable. It was difficult work that demanded compassion, resilience, and a deep commitment to justice. Those qualities matter in public office.

I've also been fortunate to know Sam as a friend. He's hardworking, quick to smile, kind, reliable, thoughtful, and genuinely motivated by helping others. What you see is what you get.

As for this Assembly race, I believe it's time for a change.

I respect Didi Barrett's years of service, but I don't believe she should be re-elected. It is a matter of public record that, while serving as Assembly Energy Chair, she accepted tens of thousands of dollars from utility and energy company PACs. It's a conflict of interest. Democrats rightly criticize the influence of money in politics. We shouldn't ignore it when politicians on our side of the

aisle cash the checks.

It's time to elect a new generation of leaders. Albany and our politics need fresh perspectives, new energy, and a renewed focus on delivering results.

When Sam engages with voters, I'm struck by his curiosity, thoughtfulness, and genuine commitment to solving problems. He approaches challenges with a determination to improve people's lives. At a time when the cost-of-living crisis is worsening, we need leaders who are independent of corporate influence, effective, and unafraid to fight for what's right.

The challenges facing New York today demand new ideas and strong leadership. I know Sam; I can say with confidence that he is ready to serve and deliver. He will be an outstanding Assembly member. Vote for Sam Hodge on June 23.

Lloyd Marks
Claverack

Party leaders should stay neutral

On June 3rd I, and apparently every Democrat in District 106, received a "personal letter from the desk of Michael Dupree, Chair of the Dutchess County Democrats." It was a blatant use of his position of power to canonize Didi Barrett and put down Sam Hodge. As a leader in the party, that crosses a line that should not have been crossed. Actions like this are why the Democratic Party [not the individual Democratic candidates] has the lowest approval rating of any party and any candidate.

Primaries are an opportunity for voters to have choices in who they feel will best represent them and push hardest to serve their needs. Party officials need to respect that not everyone looks for the same thing in their elected officials and not pressure them in their

choices. Many are ready for change in Albany and that may be uncomfortable to some. The letter I received insinuates that Sam doesn't understand how Albany works. Actually, I would say

he knows how Albany has worked for far too long and he's running to work for the change that so many of us desperately want to see.

Louise Meryman
Pine Plains (Shekomeko)

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OUR TOWNS

Millerton Moviehouse to shore up structure with \$99K grant

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

MILLERTON — The Moviehouse is getting a new round of renovations after being awarded a grant earlier this month from the New York State Council on the Arts.

The Millerton Moviehouse received \$99,000 as part of a grant provided by the New York State Council on the Arts that will pay to renovate and stabilize the 120-year-old building.

The money will be going straight to the basement: poured concrete will replace the existing dirt floor, and steel support beams will be installed to bolster timber beams that are original to the building. “This work is long overdue,” said David Maltby, Vice Chair of The

Moviehouse Board. “The support from NYSCA has made it possible for us to continue to preserve and improve The Moviehouse.”

This latest award follows a \$150,000 grant given last year via State Senator Michelle Hinchey’s office. That money was allocated towards HVAC repairs.

The building and its iconic clock tower were built in 1903, originally as a grange hall and community center. Renovations are a going concern: when Carol and Robert Sadlon bought the building in 1977, they added heat, air conditioning, and a second screening room. In 2012, they replaced the 35mm projection systems with a digital system. When the current Moviehouse co-chairs David Maltby and Chelsea Altman took over in 2021, they initiated a mas-

sive overhaul that included redesigning both floors and adding an elevator. They also replaced the signage, and upgraded the seating this past April.

Now it’s time to show the basement some love. “It’s pretty common in this area for basements to have wooden support beams that are literal tree trunks,” said Jeremy Boviard, the Moviehouse’s general manager. “Sometimes even with the bark still on it.”

But as the building ages, Boviard said the Moviehouse’s stewards are dedicated to modernizing the facilities. Renovating the basement will improve the building’s stability and make it easier to regulate the temperature. While the project’s timeline is still tentative, Boviard says they aim to begin construction in late summer or early fall.



PHOTO BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Wooden beams fashioned from tree trunks support the Moviehouse structure above. Grant funding will pay to support those beams with steel and pave the dirt floor.

When they do, there’s no telling what they’ll find. “When we’ve done basement renovations in the past, we’ve found hundred-year-old press clippings,” said Bovi-

ard. “There was an old beer bottle that was found in the wall — I have no idea how it got there.”

The Moviehouse converted to a nonprofit arts or-

ganization in 2022, and has since expanded its cultural offerings to include work from local filmmakers, educational events, and community gatherings.

Stissing Mountain High School Congratulations to the class of 2026



Eric Alford, Jr



Victor Arrufatt, Jr



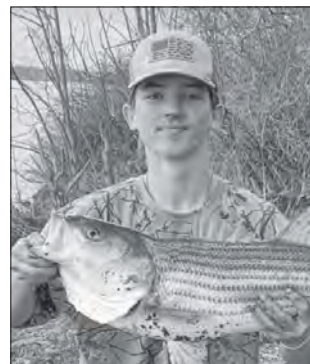
Eliza Baden



Shane Benson



Michelle Blackburn



Xavier Blanchard



Violet Bliss



Gavin Burns



Sawyer Cafiero



William Campbell



Aidan Chase



Matthew Chirinos



Grace Coulombe



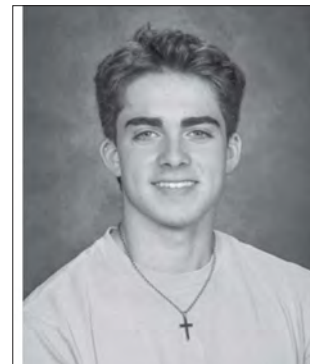
Karah Crotty



Julian Curran



Evan Curtis



Aidan Davis



Hailey Deck



Ainsley Dedrick



Elvin Delgado



Dominick DeLonge



Rachelle Douglass



Caleb Dundon



Paige Foley



Alyssa Fredericks



Andrew Fusco



Bryan Garcia Garcia



Jason Garcia Reyes



Katie Gardner



Sean Gieseler



Lee Griffin



Emmaline Haire



Campbell Halladay

Congratulations 2026 Graduates!
 From *The Millerton News*

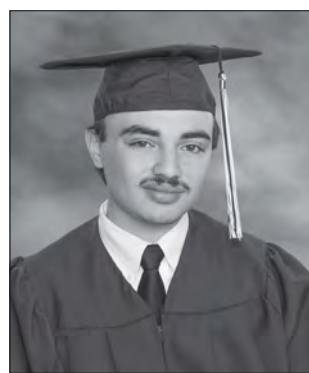
Stissing Mountain High School



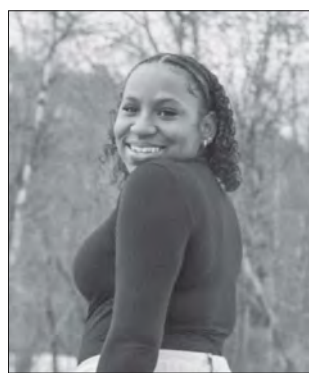
Congratulations
to the class of 2026



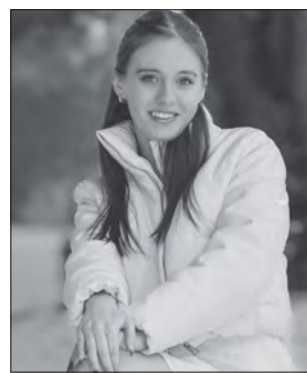
Margaret Hay



Gabriel Hedges



Tariyah James



Kyla Klawson



Caitlin Klay



Haley Lamping



Ashley Lopez



Fatima Lopez



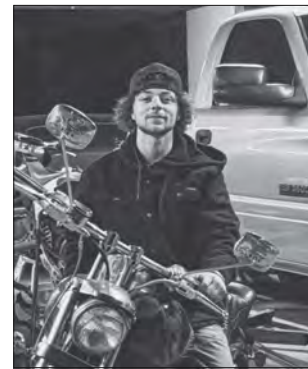
Warren Lounsbury



Christopher Macri



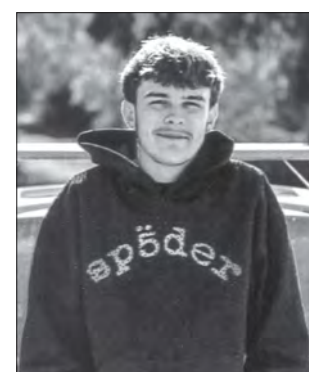
John Macri



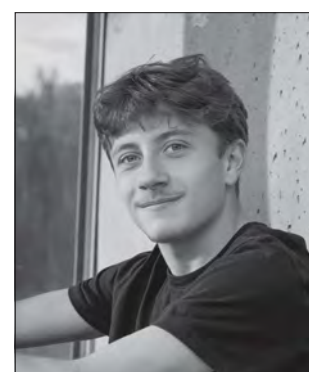
Frances Mannino



Abigail Mayes



Collin Mayhew



Daniel McPherson



Austin Mielich



Riley Millar



Siena Millar



Hope Miller



Darren Morey



Charlotte Murphy



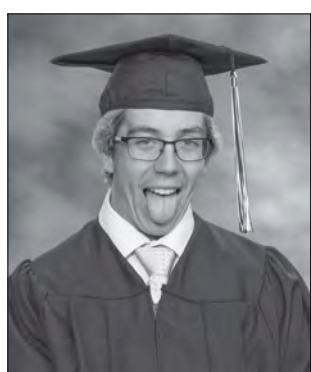
Kenan Oflu



Olivia Osofsky



Eliana Perez



Paolino Piazza



Nathan Prezzano



Ashlynn Proper



Landon Quijada



Rosa Ramos Meija



Kamron Regis



Yarami Sartilto Guterrez



Angel Shea



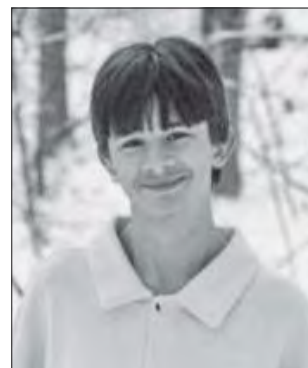
Emma Shea



Hayden Shea



Madilyn Shiels



Elijah Shook



Brooke Sikula



Blake Slominski



Matthew Spada



Ava Spinola



Chloe Stevens



Savannah Strawn



Amelia Tatum



Connor Thompsett



Mercy Tindall



Nicolas Tornberg



Emma Wolfmann






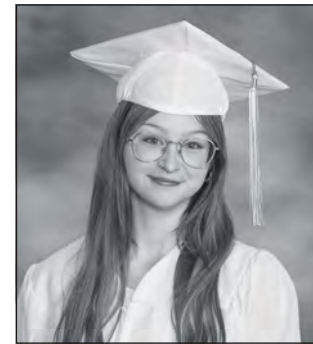



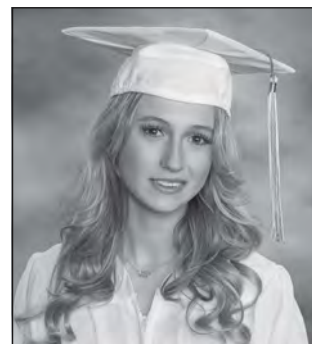




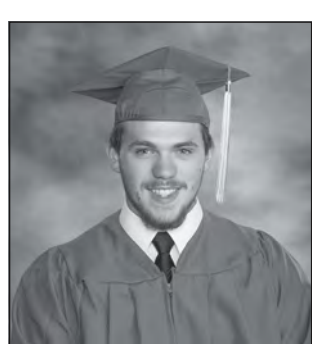
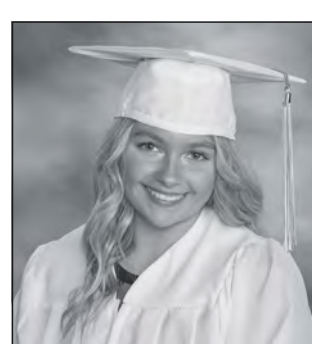
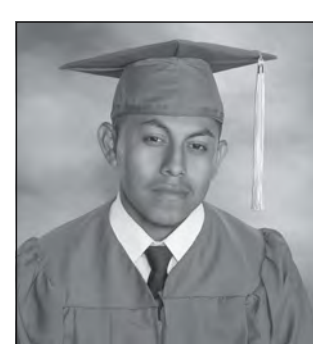
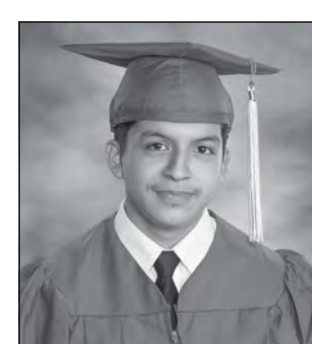

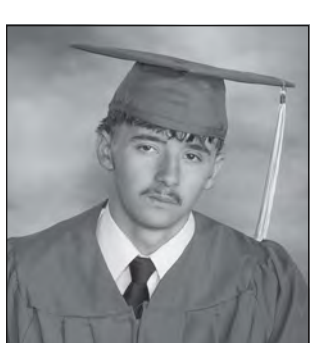


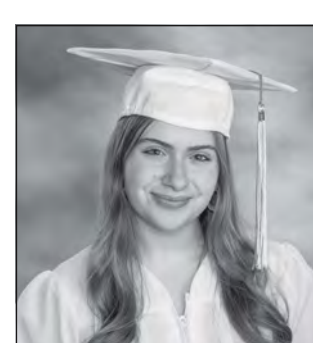
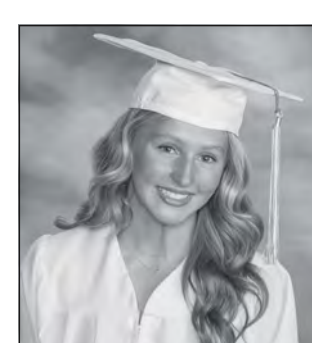
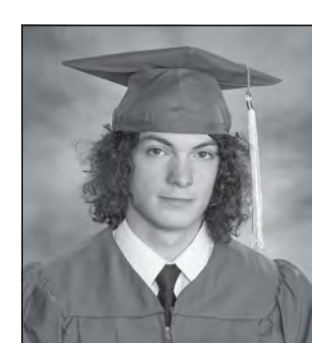
Audrey Zengen



Good Luck in Your Future Endeavors



Webutuck High School Congratulations to the class of 2026


 Zaina AbouEid <i>Salutatorian</i>	 Esvin Ardon Soto	 Gabriela Arteaga	 Violet Aufdenberg	 Darryl Avery	 Emma Bailey
 Deagan Bracey	 Evan Brammer	 Sage Breyette	 Alexander Caldiero	 Angel Camargo Vazquez	 Tyler Carroll-Tripp
 Nelson Choc Coc	 Nicholas Coburn	 Danielle Crum	 Anibal Cuc Coc	 Alex Dota Erreyes	 Trinity Hawver
 Zachary Hood	 Michael Johnson, Jr	 Francisco Juarez	 Giana Kall <i>Valedictorian</i>	 Abigail Keefer	 Evan Kielbasa

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Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

Good Luck in Your Future Endeavors

Congratulations to the Class of 2026

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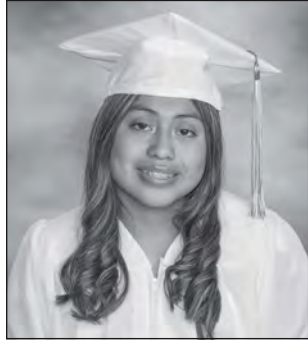
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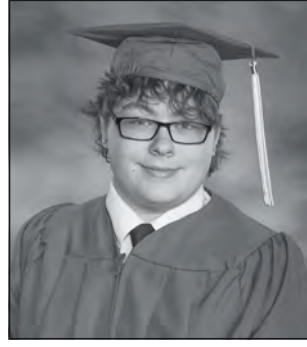
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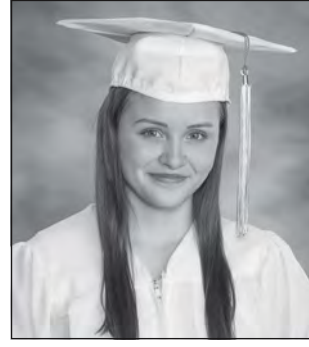
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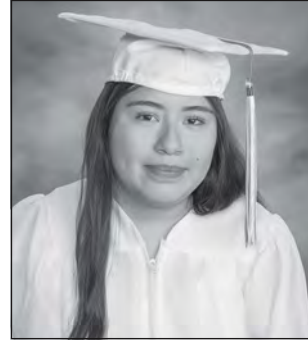
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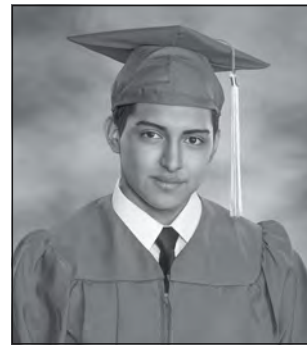
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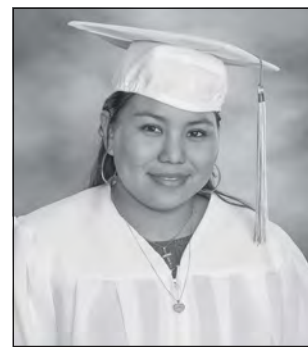
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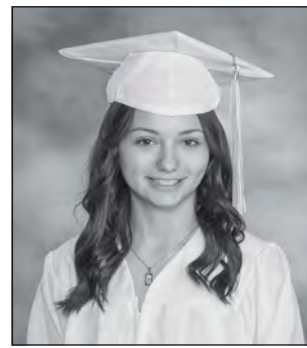
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12TH | SUNDAY

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13TH | MONDAY

Special 175th Dinner at the Millerton Inn

14TH | TUESDAY

HVRTA Outdoor Classroom Grand Opening Ceremony

15TH | WEDNESDAY

Lawn Party at the Millerton Inn

16TH | THURSDAY

Summer Stroll hosted by the Millerton Business Alliance, Comedy Show in Eddie Collins Memorial Park

17TH | FRIDAY

Millerton's 175th Fair with Drone Light Show

18TH | SATURDAY

Millerton's 175th Fair

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- Giveaways and activations from community groups and sponsors

OUR TOWNS



PHOTO PROVIDED

Michael Moore with his son, Lucian. Friends and family say much of his life revolved around raising his son.

After painter's death, friends reflect on a life rebuilt

By CHRISTIAN MURRAY
christianm@lakevillejournal.com

LAKEVILLE — Friends and coworkers say Michael Moore spent years rebuilding his life.

Now, they are grappling not only with the loss of a friend and employer, but with the loss of a father whose life had come to revolve around his 7-year-old son, Lucian.

The 40-year-old painting contractor was killed June 1 in Ashley Falls. Authorities allege that fellow painting contractor Cole Bushnell was responsible. Bushnell, 41, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of first-degree murder and is being held without bail.

Friends say Moore had overcome addiction, regained custody of his son and built a business that employed people who, like him, were trying to get back on their feet. He was also talking about marriage after more than six months in a committed relationship.

For many who knew both Moore and Bushnell, the allegations remain difficult to reconcile. The two men had known each other since their days at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, worked together for years and remained close friends.

"They were best friends," Moises Reyes, a painter who was employed by Moore, said.

Friends say Moore and Bushnell spoke daily, shared workers on larger jobs, consulted one another on estimates and occasionally helped each other financially when business slowed.

One friend and fellow painter, who has known both men since childhood but didn't want his name disclosed, said Bushnell served as a mentor to Moore as the younger contractor built his own business.

"Cole was like a mentor to him," the friend said. "Whatever job one got, they would run it by the other."

Friends said it was not uncommon for the two men to loan each other money when cash flow tightened, a reality of running small contracting businesses.

"I saw it both ways," the friend said. "Mike would help Cole. Cole would help Mike." That history has left many searching for answers.

"I don't understand how it happened," the friend said.

Rebuilding his life

Those closest to Moore acknowledge that he struggled with addiction during his younger years and had several

encounters with the criminal justice system. But friends say those challenges became the foundation of a turnaround.

After becoming sober, Moore focused on rebuilding his life, establishing his own business and gaining sole custody of Lucian nearly four years ago.

"He got clean. He got his son back," said Joey St. John, who worked for Moore but had been friends with him for nearly a decade.

Friends describe that achievement as one of Moore's proudest accomplishments. They say much of what he did in recent years revolved around creating stability for his son. Lucian's mother, they said, had her own personal struggles.

A father first

By all accounts, Lucian was the center of Moore's life.

Friends describe him as a single father whose daily routine revolved around his son. He dropped him off at daycare in Winsted most days and picked him up at the end of the day.

Friends say Moore worked hard to regain custody of Lucian and was devoted to raising him.

"Lucian loved his daddy more than anything," said Jacklyn Evon, whose husband grew up with Moore and was a friend.

Her husband, Bryan, attended Kellogg Elementary School in Falls Village with Moore in the 1990s, when there were only about 10 children in the grade, with just three being boys.

"They were like brothers," she said, noting that Moore gave a lively speech at their wedding.

Following Moore's death, friends and family members have rallied around Moore's son.

Evon launched a GoFundMe campaign noting that Moore was Lucian's sole caregiver, provider and primary source of support. The fundraiser seeks to help cover counseling, educational expenses, daily needs and long-term financial support for the boy.

"No amount can replace Michael or erase the pain of this loss," the fundraiser states. "However, together we can help ease some of the burdens that now lie ahead for Lucian."

The GoFundMe had generated about \$18,000 in a week, with about 150 contributors.

Evon said that Lucian has a strong foundation but there is uncertainty ahead.

Moore's death has also left his workers grieving and uncertain about the future.

Many of the people Moore employed were themselves rebuilding their lives after addiction, incarceration or other setbacks.

Reyes said Moore gave him an opportunity after he completed rehabilitation in 2025 and began trying to turn his life around.

"He uplifted me," Reyes said. "He pointed me in a better direction. I am completely heartbroken by this."

Reyes said Moore believed in him and helped him develop skills that allowed him to earn a better living. Reyes was working at Burger King in Torrington before Moore hired him.

"If my motivation went down, he would help me," Reyes said.

Today, Reyes is still trying to process the loss.

"It's hard to wake up in the morning and concentrate," he said, who now has to find a new job. "Every 30 minutes I feel grief."

Meanwhile, St. John was also recovering from addiction and needed a job. "He's like, 'I'll give you some days, come work for me.' I said: 'All right.'"

St. John said he became friends with Moore through their shared love of music and Moore's passion for playing guitar.

Fernando, who didn't provide his last name but worked for Bushnell, said he is struggling to process the alleged homicide and is now in therapy. He was the employee who was allegedly shown Moore's body by Bushnell on June 1.

St. John, who had planned to spend the summer working for Moore, has been making deliveries through DoorDash while searching for another job.

Others remain uncertain about what comes next.

Coworkers say Moore looked after his crew, bought lunch, solved problems and treated employees with respect.

Remembering the man they knew

Many of Moore's friends say his death came at a time when he appeared to have found a path forward.

They said the timing of his death was tragic, since he had got back on track and had rebuilt his life around his family and work.

"He poured all of his energy into his son," Evon said. "And whatever he had left, he put into his business."

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PRIMARY RACE *Continued from Page A1*

childcare. The district covers much of southern Columbia County and northern Dutchess County, including the towns of North East and Pine Plains.

Barrett said she is seeking reelection to continue the work she's been doing over the past 14 years. She called attention to millions in state funding and grants that she helped deliver to organizations, municipalities and groups across her district, including funding for the NorthEast-Millerton Library, the North East Community Center, infrastructure and recreation upgrades across Millerton and the Harlem Valley Rail Trail.

She currently serves as chair of the assembly's energy committee, a post that she has held since 2023.

Hodge presented his platform as a contrast to Barrett's, saying that while securing grant funding for municipalities and nonprofit organizations is important, it does not solve the affordability crisis.

He aims to tackle affordability through greater regulation of utility companies and providing access to early childcare such as the Gov. Kathy Hochul-backed plan to eventually implement universal Pre-K statewide.

Both candidates agree affordability is a defining issue, but Hodge contends Barrett hasn't acted to address it adequately. He said Barrett has been ineffective as chair of the energy committee.

"I looked into her record and I was thoroughly disappointed by it," Hodge said. "That's why I decided to jump in this race."

Hodge called attention to rising utility rates in the region, saying the energy committee should be working to pass legislation limiting rate increases.

"Her responsibility is to make sure we can afford those bills," Hodge said.

Barrett defended her record, calling attention to legislation that she said improves transparency and accountability at the Public Service Commission, a New York State regulatory board that oversees utility rate hikes.

Barrett championed the "Rate Transparency Act," which passed in the assembly on May 14 and delivered to the New York State Senate. The bill had not been voted out of the Energy and Telecommunications Senate committee by the end of the 2026 legislative session.

The "Rate Transparency Act" would require utility companies to delineate some

charges on customers' bills under separate categories including delivery and supply of electricity and gas.

Barrett called attention to three other bills that she introduced in this legislative session that have passed the assembly and moved on to the senate.

Those bills include the "ASAP act," which would set a new target for statewide solar energy production; a bill that would direct the Public Service Commission to enforce performance standards against utility companies; and a bill that requires the Public Service Commission to consider affordability in rate increase determinations.

"We passed a number of bills that are really refocusing the work that the Public Service Commission does," Barrett said. "We've really looked at ways to protect consumers and ratepayers."

Hodge said those efforts are too little and too late for the region. He pointed to the recent approval of a rate hike for utility company National Grid, which just entered the second-year of an approved three-year rate increase schedule.

Hodge argues that Barrett's campaign contributions from energy industry political action committees raise questions about her approach to utility regulation.

Barrett has received a little over \$160,000 in total contributions since the start of 2025, according to data from the New York State Board of Elections. Roughly \$23,750, or about 14.6%, of the total contributions have come from energy industry political action committees.

"My votes have never been for sale, and during my time in office, I have sponsored, voted for and passed many bills to protect ratepayers and lower energy costs," Barrett said.

She cited legislation she introduced as part of this year's New York State budget that she said would require utility companies to return excess revenue to customers.

"Up until now, utility companies were allowed to keep profits earned above their approved 'return on equity' - but with my advocacy, that money will go back to ratepayers to give some relief from rising electricity costs. The utility companies have been fighting this bill since I first introduced it."

Hodge rejected that defense.

The winner of the June 23 Democratic primary is expected to be heavily favored in the general election.

DEBATE *Continued from Page A1*

by the Claverack Democratic Committee. The forum gave voters a chance to hear from both candidates for 30 minutes as they vie for the 106th district seat.

Hodge cited intense public interest in the forum as his inspiration for issuing the challenge, saying important questions went unanswered. He proposed hour-long debates - one in Columbia County and one in Dutchess County.

That challenge went unanswered, Hodge's campaign said in a statement.

"Voters deserve the chance to hear our competing visions for the future of the Hudson Valley," Hodge said. "People deserve a real conversation about solutions."

Barrett questioned Hodge's credibility when asked whether she would debate him.

"Sam Hodge has spent this entire campaign lying about me and my record while I have been busy doing the job

I was elected to do," Barrett said. "We just finished the legislative session; I have been in Albany almost every day of the week - often until 10 p.m. or later, and on the weekends my priority has been getting to events in my district. Given his track record with telling the truth and his failure to put forward any real policies, I will not be debating him."

Barrett's campaign disputed several of Hodge's characterizations of her record, including claims that she opposes higher taxes on wealthy New Yorkers, citing her support for a tax on ultra-luxury New York City apartments.

Hodge decried Barrett's statements as unfounded personal attacks. He rejected the assertion that he's unfamiliar with Barrett's record.

"I looked into her record and I was fundamentally disappointed," Hodge said. "That's why I decided to jump in this race."

COMMUNITY DAY *Continued from Page A1*

A children's animation workshop enlivened the Stissing Center on Church Street from 10 to 11 a.m., and a variety of vintage phonographs played wax cylinders on the Graham-Brush House lawn located behind Story Book Cafe on Church Street throughout the morning. Nearby, Bee Bee the Clown twisted balloon animals for a crowd of gleeful onlookers.

Free lunch bites were provided by local restaurants like Champêtre and Guacamole Grill, and the bounce house arrived in the early afternoon to an eager crowd of pint-sized participants. Community Day also doubled as part of the region-wide REV 250 celebrations ahead of America's 250th birthday. Historic landmarks such as the Graham-Brush House and The Pines opened their doors for the revival, and local actor Thayer Durrell appeared as Revolutionary War soldier Major Ebenezer Husted in full regalia, complete with a powdered wig and musket. Stissing Center director and Air Force veteran Marie Stewart read the Declaration of Independence.

As the sun began to set, children's activities gave way to more adult programming: live music, corn hole, and a beer garden rounded out the afternoon, and the free raffle drawing ended with gift certificates and fruit trees to



PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

An animation workshop for kids was part of the free programming on offer at the Stissing Center.



The Stissing Center displays artwork made by local children during Community Day.



Bee Bee the Clown was a chemical engineer before changing careers. In 2025, she was named Clown of the Year.

some lucky winners.

"We really wanted to support the community," said organizer McLiverty. "We were very determined to make it so that no matter what your situation is, you can come out and enjoy free food, you don't have to pay for games." When the crowds finally dispersed, Pine Plains Community Day had made a glorious return.

WATER SUPPLY *Continued from Page A1*

about impact on the town's character as a whole.

Casting negative votes were chairman Robert Boyles, John Stefanopoulos, Ken Topolsky and Jamie Vitiello. Voting affirmatively were Nina Peek and Fox Bullock. James Walsh was absent.

If the negative declaration had passed, the action would have cleared the way for the Cascade Creek developer to submit site plans for the 24.13 acres where 59% of the land would be conserved. The development would contain 28 house lots.

"There is a balancing point between what's reasonable and what will do the job," said board engineer John Andrews, favoring the idea of moving ahead with the declaration, while stressing that the decision is up to the board.

Substantial discussion centered on the amount of water storage capability necessary for adequate fire protection.

Representing the developer, Engineer Richard Rennia said that the firefighting water supply would be available for the local fire department's use to fight fires in the wider area, not just within the Cascade Creek development. Firefighters could use the supply to refill tanker trucks, Rennia said.

"So it's going to be 60,000 gallons for community use," Rennia told the board.

During a March meeting, the developer had first proposed 40,000 gallons and the fire district had recommended 180,000 gallons.

Discussion broadened to the number of planned lots, focusing on water supply within each lot's well and any potential effect on neighbors' wells.

"The number of lots pre-sumes successful wells," said Peter Sander, Senior Planner for Rennia Engineering.

"We don't know until we drill test wells," Rennia added. "The number of units is determined by well testing."

Responsive to the variety of residents' concerns heard during public hearings, planning board member Jamie Vitiello recalled the range of conflicting opinions voiced.

Board attorney Cassandra Britton noted that more public hearings will be held to hear comments on non-

SEQRA issues during the site plan review phase.

"Once you start the subdivision site plan process," Andrews told the board, "you have the ability to re-look at all this stuff. There are many issues that could bring a stumble. This is part of the process."

Regarding concerns over impacts to the town's character, Board member Ken Topolsky commented that the language within the code regarding community character is subjective.

Residents have voiced

concerns over density, saying the proposed site is an agricultural field and that the surrounding neighborhood cannot support 28 additional homes.

As a next step, Andrews said that the applicant is expected to continue discussion with fire department officials to resolve the water storage issue. The developer will examine plans for any modifications to make the impact analysis acceptable.

"I would like for them to come back, so that we do not need to delay," Topolsky said.

A GIANT METAL MANTIS IS NOW PART OF A SUMMER CONTEST!

Izzy Fitch of Battle Hill Forge has strapped a giant mantis, built by artist Jim Hackett, to the roof of his car.

When you spot it, take a photo, post it on social media and tag [@battlehillforge](https://twitter.com/battlehillforge), [@lakevillejournal](https://twitter.com/lakevillejournal) and [@themillertonnews](https://twitter.com/themillertonnews).

On July 20, names will be drawn at random and gift certificates to Battle Hill Forge will be awarded.

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PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Izzy Fitch at Battle Hill Forge in Wassaic.

Forged by curiosity

Art, craftsmanship and big fun with Izzy Fitch

By Natalia Zukerman

A steel praying mantis stands among garden accents at Battle Hill Forge in Wassaic, its folded forelegs ready for prayer and mischief in equal measure.

“She’s very nice,” said blacksmith, sculptor and Battle Hill Forge owner Izzy Fitch, patting the giant insect affectionately. Then he added, “Just don’t go out to dinner with her.”

The giant metal mantis, built by artist Jim Hackett, is now part of a summer contest Fitch devised. He’ll strap it to the roof rack of his car and drive it around. When people spot it, they can take a photo, post it on social media and tag @battlehillforge, @lakevillejournal and

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

FOOD

Stonewood Farm launches chefs in residence program

By Natalia Zukerman

Stonewood Farm in Millbrook is expanding its educational and community food programs this summer with the launch of a new Chefs in Residence program, an eight-week immersion that brings culinary professionals to the nonprofit farm to live, cook, teach and work alongside farmers.

The program is led by Kristen Essig, Stonewood’s director of culinary outreach and development, an award-winning chef whose background includes work with Emeril Lagasse and multiple James Beard Award nominations.

“This is an opportunity for chefs to step outside the traditional restaurant environment and engage with farming, food access and community outreach,” Essig said.

The idea grew out of Stonewood’s broader mission and from a model more commonly associated with art-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

COMMUNITY

Juneteenth graduation celebrates Berkshire’s next generation of leaders

By Natalia Zukerman

When designer Abigail Horace joined the Blackshires Leadership Accelerator, she was looking for support as the founder of the Black Berkshires Social Club, which creates culturally grounded social spaces for Black and BIPOC residents in the region. What she found was something deeper: a community of peers invested in one another’s success.

“Finding Blackshires has been transformative,” Horace said. “Being a BIPOC founder in this region can feel isolating, and this community has changed that. They see my work, champion my business and have opened doors I couldn’t have opened alone.”

Horace is one of 13 fellows graduating from the Blackshires Leadership Accelerator on Juneteenth, June 19, at Ventfort Hall in Lenox. The free public ceremony marks the completion of a months-long civic and entrepreneurial leadership program created by the Blackshires Community Empowerment Foundation and R3SET Enterprises.

Founded in response to conversations among Berkshire County’s Black leaders about economic opportunity, representation and community development, Blackshires has grown into a BIPOC-led network focused on leadership development, economic empowerment and cultural equity. The organization’s flagship Leadership Accelerator combines civic engagement, entrepreneurship, storytelling, networking and project development to help



PHOTO PROVIDED

Cohort 2026 members Abigail Horace, Adam Liccardi, Adrian Lynch, Cameo Brown, Chauncey Dozier, Claudette Grant, Erline Saintilet, Harmony Edwards, Kamayue Gomes, Mackenzie Colvin, Otis West, Shadre Domingo, TJ West and Tyeesha Keele-Kedroe and Blackshires’ leadership team John Lewis, Patrick Danahey, Dubois Thomas and Julie Haagenson gather at the Blackshires City Hall Fishbowl alongside Mayor Peter Marchetti and city officials Michael Obasohan, Brandon Gill, Katherine VanBramer, Heather Brazeau, Justine Dodds and Jesse Tobin McCauley.

participants turn ideas into action. Since its launch, the program has graduated more than 40 fellows and distributed more than \$100,000 in grants and stipends.

The 2026 cohort includes entrepreneurs, educators, artists and community advocates whose projects address needs across the Berkshires.

Among them are Adrian Lynch of Stubborn Ixex Studios, Claudette Grant’s Reckless Optimism Women’s Circle, Erline Saintilet’s Caribbean-inspired food venture Carib In-Fusion, the Westside Crosswalk Remix Project led by Otis and Tajare West in Pittsfield,

and Tyeesha Keele Kedroe’s Seen & Celebrated initiative, which promotes meaningful representation of Black and Brown children in early childhood classrooms.

For Horace, one of the program’s most important lessons has been recognizing the impact of her own work.

“Creating a network of BIPOC leaders and entrepreneurs has revealed something I didn’t fully see before: the real reach of my work and what it means in this community,” she said. “My peers look up to me, believe in me and show up for every milestone. That recognition has shifted how I understand

my own impact and leadership.”

The Accelerator culminates with each fellow creating an Impact Charter, a blueprint for how their project will contribute to the community. Participants also take part in leadership retreats, workshops, civic forums and site visits throughout Berkshire County. The program was recognized by 1Berkshire with its 2023 Breaking the Mold Trendsetter Award.

John Lewis, president of the Blackshires Accelerator and CEO of R3SET Enterprises, said the program is designed to remove barriers and strength-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

ART

Unexpected subjects, familiar beauty in new Kent exhibits

By D.H.Callahan

Kent Barns was alive with art on Saturday, June 13, as three new shows opened at Peggy Mercury and Kenise Barnes Fine Art, featuring a variety of fascinating paintings and drawings from four local artists.

Peggy Mercury, which in just two years has earned a reputation for curating remarkable collections of fine beauty products and accessories, continues to find exciting art to complement its offerings. The new show, “Portraits,” features four pairs of paintings by Millerton-based artist Alexis England. The “portraits” she paints, however, feature some pretty unexpected sitters.

England chooses some undercelebrated species, including the tarantula, vampire bat and even the lobster, and gives them the treatment she feels they deserve on large canvases with bold, vibrant colors.

The pairings work as delightful foils, as England inverts her color palettes within each duo.

The pinks of the elegant flamingo serve as the background for the imposing stoicism of its partner, the mandrill. In turn, the mandrill’s deep grays set a dark canvas from which the flamingo can pop, its feathers

flourishing in the juxtaposition. The results tie the unexpected couplings together while allowing each species to maintain its own visual identity.

Just steps away, the gallery at Kenise Barnes Fine Art

opened two distinct shows in one packed room. On one side hangs “Behind My Eyes” by artists Gregory Hennen and David Konigsberg, both of whom

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INSIDE

REAL ESTATE

Washington median home prices edge higher after May sales

CALENDAR

A list of upcoming events



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... Izzy Fitch

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

@themillertonnews. At the end of the contest, names will be drawn at random and gift certificates to Battle Hill Forge will be awarded.

"It's just for fun," said Fitch, whose work often blurs the boundaries between art, utility and play. "Who couldn't use more fun these days?"

Fitch moves through his sprawling workshop spaces like an enthusiastic museum guide leading visitors through a collection he forgot he owned. Every few steps, something catches his attention. A hand-forged daffodil. A dragonfly. A prototype trellis. A powder horn his great-grandfather taught him to make. A concrete toad inherited from his grandmother.

"Oh, this is cool," he says, veering off course.

A few minutes later: "Oh, I forgot to show you this." Then:

"You want to see something really cool?"

The tour never quite follows a straight line.

Neither does Fitch.

Long before Battle Hill Forge became known for custom gates, garden structures and sculpture found everywhere from private estates to major cultural institutions, Fitch was a child building armor for toy animals.

"I had a Black Panther that was this big and I armored it," he says, holding his hands a few inches apart. "I made all my little people and creatures, and I armored them all up and I made all the weapons for them."

Fitch's father was a logger. Tools were plentiful. Toys were not.

"He wouldn't buy us toys really, so we would have to make our own."

The family business, if there was one, was making things.

His great-grandfather was



PHOTO BY MADI LONG

Izzy Fitch

"I'm not really inventing anything new. I just tweak it a little bit."

IZZY FITCH

a master craftsman who made Windsor chairs in collaboration with his uncle, Bert Fitch. His father supplied the raw materials, Bert made the chairs, his great-grandfather carved the spindles. His relatives were renowned woodworkers. People would travel from far and wide to have his great grandfather make handles for them.

"I really learned a lot from spending time with my grandparents and my great-uncles," he says.

Today, that inheritance is visible everywhere inside the forge.

Giant steel pumpkins wait beside elegant peony supports. Honeycomb sculptures support an endearing bee also made by Hackett. Giant orbs loom playfully. Metal mushrooms, used in classes Fitch teaches to children, line the windowsills.

Many are prototypes. Some are commissions. Some exist simply because Fitch thought they might be fun to make.

"I just think of something

cool," he says. And then he makes it.

"Most of the metalworkers that I work with don't want to talk to people," he says. "They're like, 'Just tell us what you want. Give me the plans and I'll make it.'"

Fitch is different. Part craftsman and part translator, he enjoys helping clients discover what they want before it exists.

Unless, of course, he's distracted by a frog story.

The previous Battle Hill Forge location, in Millerton, included a small pond where Fitch often ate lunch.

"There was a dead mouse out there one time," he recalls. "This frog was so clever. He would sit near the dead mouse and when flies came down, he would get a fly."

He watched the frog for an entire lunch break.

The story arrived somewhere between explanations of Japanese patinas and custom railings.

It also explains a lot. Fitch notices everything: plants, insects, old tools, odd solutions, clever engineering tricks. His work is filled with observations gathered from gardens, forests, old European designs and conversations with other makers.

A peony support isn't just a peony support. It's an opportuni-

ty to improve something. A trellis isn't just a trellis. Maybe it can come apart for shipping. Maybe it can help a plant grow differently. Maybe it can do something no one has considered before.

"I'm not really inventing anything new," he says. "I just tweak it a little bit."

After its beginning in Falls Village, moving to Millerton and eventually settling in Wassaic, Battle Hill Forge has become one of the region's success stories. The shop is booked months in advance. Projects range from garden ornaments to monumental railings weighing hundreds of pounds. Designers seek him out. Gardeners collect his work.

Yet Fitch remains most animated when discussing collaboration.

The intern helping in the shop first met him as a student in one of his metalworking classes. Local glass artists add to his sculptures. Garden designers have helped refine his plant supports. For Burning Man this summer, he's joining a team of fellow artists to build an installation featuring an oculus and a pair of metal sphinxes.

"We'll have a little party," he says.

The phrase could describe half the projects in the shop, especially the praying mantis. Technically, that sculpture belongs to Hackett.

"He makes all this cool stuff," Fitch says. "I sell them for him because he's one of those artists who doesn't want to deal with the public."

Fitch laughs. "Which is totally smart."

Outside, a dog wanders through the yard. A timber framer works next door. Metal rusts into beautiful shades of brown. New ideas wait in various stages of completion and there's just a little magic around every corner.

To contact Battle Hill Forge, visit battlehillforge.com.



PHOTO BY MICHELLE ALFANDARI

Eric Mendelson, owner of Salisbury Garden Center, stands with a selection of keystone native plants now available through a partnership with Homegrown National Park.

Local garden centers spotlight keystone plants

The Ungardener from May 13 was about a specific group of native plants called keystone plants. These are the ecosystem workhorses of our environment; they are essential to the survival of many animals that rely on them for food. Nutrition in this case includes, but goes beyond, nuts and pollen. It is the leaves of keystone native plants that make them superheroes. These leaves are essential to the survival of butterfly and moth caterpillars that, in their larval state, will eat only the leaves of very specific native plants.

And in this case, eating leaves is a good thing because caterpillars are relied upon by birds to feed their hatchlings. A single baby bird will be fed approximately 3,000 caterpillars from hatching to fledging; for most species, caterpillars are the sole source of food until they leave the nest. As native plants decrease, which they rapidly are, so do the numbers of caterpillars that rely on them. And as caterpillars decrease, so do the numbers of birds that rely on them.

Planting keystone species goes a long way toward restoring food webs: a serviceberry, or shadblow tree, supports 119 caterpillar species, pussy willow supports more than 400 and oak supports more than 500. While these particular plants are not hard to find in nurseries, other keystone plants, such as highbush blueberry and smooth blue aster, can be difficult to find at retail. Nurseries and garden centers tend to favor showier plants with greater shelf presence.

I dwell on the topic of keystone plants because Homegrown National Park, the organization co-founded by scientist and author Doug Tallamy, whose research on caterpillars led to our understanding of native plants' role in food webs, and Sharon resident Michelle Alfandari, is partnering with three garden centers in the Northwest Corner to specifical-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4

ARCHITECTURE

A rare look inside Connecticut's Colonial-era homes

By Natalia Zukerman

For anyone who has ever stopped to admire an old house and wonder what it looks like inside, HisTOURy's Colonial Home Tour on June 20 offers a rare opportunity.

The four-hour guided tour will take participants inside four private colonial-era homes in Salisbury and Falls Village while highlighting another 20 historic properties along the route. Presented as part of HisTOURy's series marking America's 250th anniversary, the tour explores the architecture and history of northwestern Connecticut's colonial settlement period.

Allison Casazza, HisTOURy's tour research and production manager, said selecting homes involves a combination of research and experience.

"We have really well-trained eyes to say, 'I think this would be a good house,'" she said. "And then we approach the homeowners and take it from there."

Interior stops include

the Samuel Robbins House, considered one of Falls Village's finest examples of Federal-style architecture, and an 18th-century home once occupied by the sister of Noah Webster. The homes featured on the tour represent several architectural traditions from the colonial era, including vernacular farmhouses, Cape Cod houses and Federal-style dwellings.

"There's a lot of symmetry in colonial architecture," Casazza said. "The homes are much simpler in terms of how much ornamentation you can expect on them."

Many of the architectural forms brought by settlers from England and Holland evolved in response to local conditions, she explained.

"They were bringing the styles that they knew," Casazza said, "and then adapting them to local needs based on available materials and the harsher climate of the Northeast."

Founded by preservationist Georgette Blau,



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Hollister House, aka Whitbeck Estate, is believed to have been built circa 1780.

HisTOURy focuses on cultural heritage tourism and historic preservation. The tours combine architectural history, local history and discussions about preservation with the opportunity to visit buildings that are rarely open to the public.

"What we do would fall into the category of cultural heritage tourism," Casazza said.

"We're talking about these historic things with the purpose of promoting how much people understand them, how much people appreciate them, and hopefully planting the seeds to keep them thinking about preserving these places."

The homeowners themselves are often part of the experience. Casazza said many par-

ticipate simply because they enjoy sharing the homes they have restored and maintained.

"They're all wonderful people that are just excited about living in a historic home," she said. "They love it so much that they want to show it to a bunch of strangers."

When homeowners are present, visitors hear firsthand about restoration projects, maintenance challenges and daily life in centuries-old houses.

"It means a lot to hear from them," Casazza said.

The Colonial Home Tour runs from 2 to 6 p.m. on June 20. Information and tickets are available at history.org

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COMMUNITY

Books & Blooms returns with gardens, poetry and a summer evening party

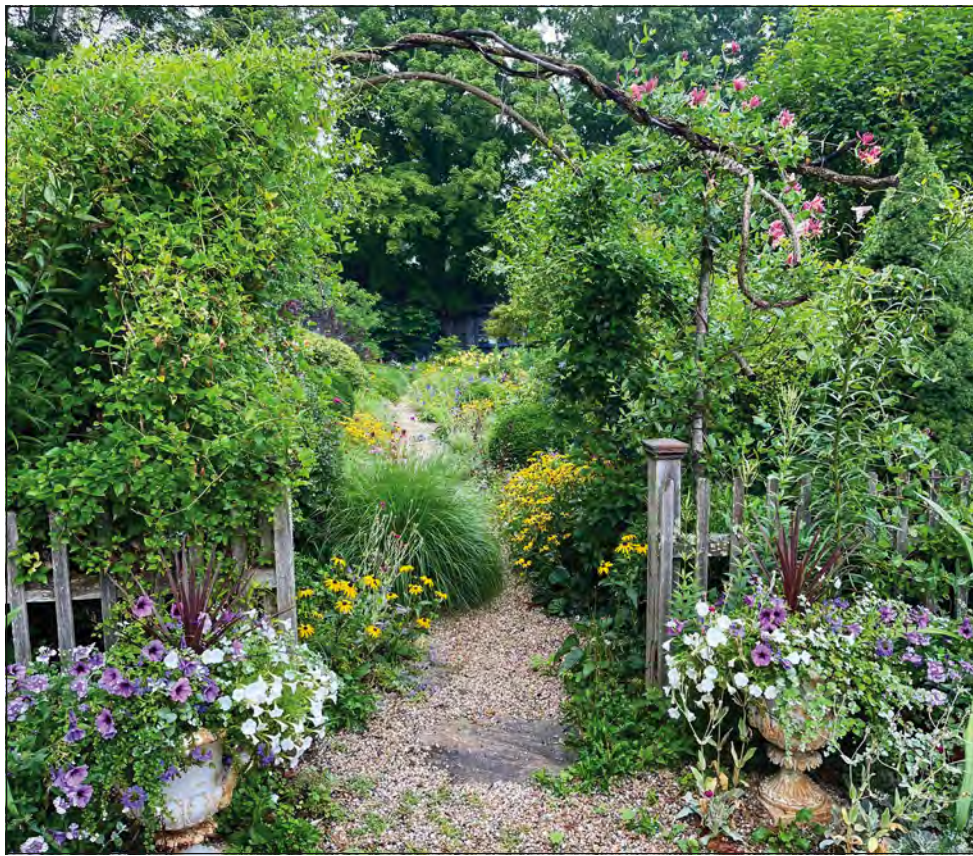
By Natalia Zukerman

One of Cornwall's most anticipated summer traditions returns June 20 and 21 when the Cornwall Library presents the 11th annual Books & Blooms, a two-day celebration of gardens, literature and community.

Part garden tour, part literary event and part neighborhood gathering, Books & Blooms begins Friday evening with a talk by acclaimed editor, poet and author Jonathan Galassi at Cornwall Town Hall. Galassi, former president and publisher of Farrar, Straus and Giroux and one of the most influential figures in American publishing, will speak on "Writing about Place and Living with a Garden."

"Friday evening is fun because you start out listening to a learned and sometimes humorous take on your passion — or your partner's passion — gardening," said event organizer Kirk Van Tassel. "Then you proceed to the cocktail party on a beautiful evening, talking to friends old and new, including the speaker."

Galassi is the author of four poetry collections, including his latest, "The Vineyard," and has translated the works of Italian literary giants Giacomo Leopardi, Primo Levi and Nobel Prize winner Eugenio Montale. His poems have appeared in publications including The New Yorker, The Nation and The Three-penny Review.



A Cornwall garden featured on the Books & Blooms self-guided tour.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Following the presentation, guests can walk next door to the Cornwall Library for a cocktail reception featuring live music by the Crownback Funk Trio, whose performances blend funk, blues and jazz.

The festivities continue Saturday with self-guided tours of four private Cornwall gardens, three of them appearing on the tour for the first time.

The featured landscapes range from exuberant village plantings and a traditional country garden that blends seamlessly into its surroundings to a landscape designed for a

postmodernist icon and a contemporary ravine garden marked by dramatic sculptural elements.

"Every year the committee strives to find gardens that haven't been on the tour before," Van Tassel said. "This year three of the four are new, so you get that sense of discovery."

Part of the appeal, he said, is simply spending a summer day exploring Cornwall itself.

"Cornwall is a beautiful place in which to walk and drive around," Van Tassel said. "You've got farmland, rolling hills and quiet country roads."

The gardens also offer visitors a chance to learn from passionate gardeners and see a wide variety of approaches to landscape design.

"The four gardens on the tour are tended by people who love gardening and know a lot about it," Van Tassel said. "The gardens are beautifully kept and the grounds are often wonderful."

Books & Blooms serves as a benefit for the Cornwall Library, which has hosted the event for more than a decade. For tickets and information, visit the cornwalllibrary.org or call (860)672-6874

... Blackshires

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

en connections among emerging leaders.

"By removing barriers to success and encouraging a cooperative framework, the next generation of community leaders will be more connected and skilled in the ongoing development and revitalization of our community and its families," Lewis said.

Horace said the experience has reinforced a simple but powerful lesson.

"Being a leader and entrepreneur can be isolating, but this group has shown me that I am not alone."

The graduation ceremony will take place at Ventfort Hall, whose

history includes its mid-20th-century role as Festival House, a guesthouse and cultural center that welcomed Black and Jewish visitors at a time when many area resorts maintained discriminatory restrictions. On June-teenth, the mansion will provide a fitting backdrop for a celebration focused on leadership, community and the future of the Berkshires.

The Blackshires Leadership Accelerator Cohort 4 Graduation will be held Thursday, June 19, at Ventfort Hall Mansion and Gilded Age Museum in Lenox. Admission is free and open to the public.

... Kent exhibitions

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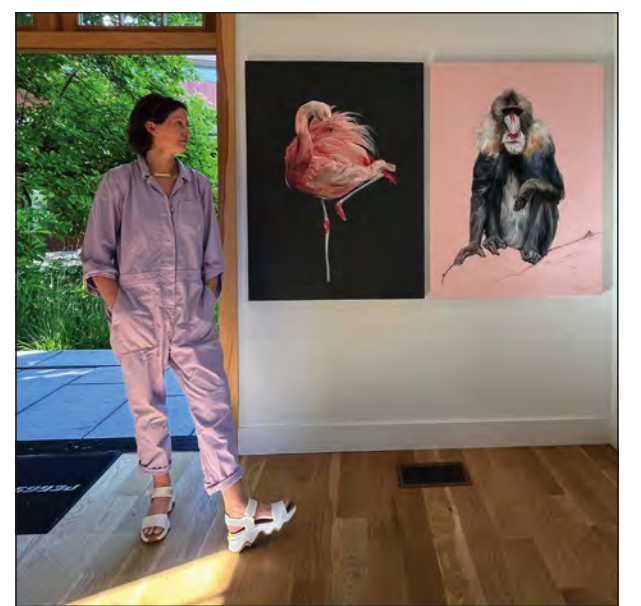


PHOTO BY D.H. CALLAHAN

Millerton-based artist Alexis England with her flamingo and mandrill portraits at Peggy Mercury in Kent.

have been represented by Kenise Barnes Fine Art for more than 20 years.

Konigsberg takes everyday items and abstracts them to a point of detached familiarity, giving light as much importance as the objects themselves. Hanging nearby is a series of landscapes painted in oils that seem as texturally considered as they are compositionally. "Each piece," Hennen said, "is about a landscape, not of a landscape, as it does not necessarily depict an exact site or location. Finished paintings are often composites of several images that have evolved from a realistic portrayal to a more simplistic interpretation."

The other side of the room features drawings by Margot Glass. Like England, Glass celebrates the undercelebrated. Her work frequently depicts weeds and other "undesirable" species of flora in elevated media such as

silverpoint and 14-karat goldpoint.

With this collection, titled "On This Fresh Morning," the artist takes a more naturalistic approach, using black walnut ink that she makes herself from walnuts she collects on hikes and walks in western and central Massachusetts. The ink is a remarkably rich hue of brown, which Glass layers to create floral scenes filled with intricate natural details. While she includes more traditional beauties, such as blooming anemones and daisies, she also features underappreciated misfits including dandelions and garlic mustard.

Kent's artistic footprint continues to expand, with at least five dedicated art galleries and boutiques contributing exceptional shows for art lovers throughout the Northwest Corner.

For a directory and gallery hours, visit kentbarnsct.com

...Stonewood Farm

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

ists and writers than chefs.

"There are artist residencies everywhere," Essig said. "But there are very few opportunities for chefs to have that same kind of dedicated time and space to think about their work outside the pressures of a restaurant."

Founded by Ken Holzberg and Tom Kopfensteiner, Stonewood Farm began as a wooded 15-acre property that the pair spent years building before launching agricultural operations in 2013. The farm became a nonprofit in 2021 and now combines organic farming, educational programming and food justice initiatives.

Among those efforts is the First Harvest Food Pantry, which distributed fresh produce and prepared foods to approximately 2,800 food-insecure neighbors during the 2025 growing season through partnerships with local organizations including Meals on Wheels.

The inaugural residency cohort includes two chefs with extensive national and international experience.

Jocelyn Ueng, a Taiwanese-Chinese American chef, forager and former nonprofit professional, arrives this week for the first session, which runs through Aug. 7. Ueng has cooked at renowned restaurants including Noma, The French Laundry and Satoyama Jujo, and is currently developing a Hudson Valley restaurant slated to open in 2027.

The second residency session, Aug. 17 through Oct. 9, will feature Chatham na-

tive Daniel Conkling, a Culinary Institute of America graduate whose career has included Restaurant Daniel in New York City, Battersby in Brooklyn and Seattle's L'Oursin. Conkling plans to lead workshops focused on food preservation, including pickling, canning and jam making.

In addition to cooking, the resident chefs will mentor Stonewood's culinary assistant, Gabriella Hernandez, participate in youth education programs, contribute to prepared-food outreach efforts and work directly with the farm's organic growing operation.

Essig said that connection to the land is central to the residency's purpose.

"The farm creates a different pace," she said. "Chefs spend so much time in kitchens that they don't always get to see the larger picture. Here they can spend time in the garden, work alongside farmers, participate in community programs and really think about what food can do."

The residency is one of several new and ongoing programs at Stonewood this season.

On July 11, the farm will host a flower-arranging workshop with Kate Farrar of Foxtrot Farm & Flowers. Additional workshops planned for later in the year include edible flower cake decorating and botanical pantry-making.

Stonewood's guest chef Sunday Harvest Dinner series continues June 28 with chef Jovana Urriola, followed by dinners fea-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Jocelyn Ueng is the first Chef in Residence at Stonewood Farm.

turing Andrea Reusing on July 26, Jill Mathias and Juan Cassalet on Aug. 23, and Christine Lau on Sept. 20. The dinners showcase produce grown on the farm alongside ingredients from regional producers.

Visitors can also attend Stonewood's seasonal on farm pop-up farm markets every other Friday, which offer freshly harvested vegetables, flowers, eggs, baked goods and prepared foods.

For Essig, the residency program reflects Stonewood's larger mission.

"Chefs have an important role to play in local food systems," she said. "We want to create opportunities for them to connect more deeply with agriculture, education and community service while continuing to develop their craft."

For information about upcoming events and programs, visit stonewoodny.org and follow @stonewoodny on Instagram.

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PHOTO BY ELLIE MCKISSICK

The Sharon Playhouse opens its 2026 MainStage season June 19, with "Swingtime Canteen," a rousing celebration of the songs, spirit and resilience of WWII. Created by Linda Thorsen Bond, William Repicci and Charles Busch, the production features popular hit songs from the 1940's and is directed by Playhouse Artistic Director Carl Andress, with choreography by Krystyna Resavy and music direction by Eric Thomas Johnson. Runs through July 5. Tickets at sharonplayhouse.org

Swingtime Canteen cast in rehearsal. Left to right, Lucy Rhoades ("Katie"), Claire Marie Spencer ("Topeka"), Michelle Lemon ("Lilly"), Margaret Dudasik ("Marian"), and Sarah Beth Palmer ("Jo")

Tri-Corner Calendar

JUNE 18

Understanding AI and How to Use It with Stevo Ledbetter & Kat Zdan
Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org
5:30 to 7 p.m. Join Kat Zdan and Stevo Ledbetter to learn how AI systems are built and how to understand and engage with artificial intelligence. The program will also cover practical tips for safe, responsible and effective use, with time for audience questions. Registration requested at scovillelibrary.org.

Fragments

Saint James Place, 352 Main St., Great Barrington, Mass.
June 18 through July 5

Written and performed by Jim Petosa and directed by Judy Braha, Fragments explores one couple's transformative journey through the AIDS pandemic. Set between 1985 and 1990, the play serves as a personal memoir and reflection on a pivotal moment in LGBTQ history. All performances are followed by conversations with Petosa, with select dates featuring guest speakers. For tickets and schedule information, visit greatbarringtonpublictheater.org

JUNE 19

Books & Blooms
Cornwall Town Hall & Cornwall Library, Cornwall, Conn.
June 19 to 21

The two-day garden-related event and benefit for the Cornwall Library is in its 11th year. The weekend begins Friday at 5 p.m. at Cornwall Town Hall with "Writing about Place and Living with a Garden," a presentation by Jonathan Galassi, renowned editor, author and poet. The evening continues with a cocktail reception at the adjacent Cornwall Library, featuring live music by the Crownback Funk Trio, whose blend of funk, blues and jazz creates spontaneous, dynamic soundscapes. On Saturday, June 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the event continues with self-guided tours of four Cornwall gardens, both traditional and contemporary, three of them new to the tour. Purchase tickets at cornwalllibrary.org/books-blooms-2026/

JUNE 20

Below the Surface
Lisa Vollmer Photography, 325 Stockbridge Road, Great Barrington, Mass.
Lisa Vollmer Photography presents Below the Surface, an exhibition of photography by Lisa Vollmer and Sabine von Falken inspired by the landscapes, architecture, and sacred waters of Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula. The show explores themes of history, memory, identity, and the connections between visible and hidden worlds through images of Maya monuments, cenotes, and cultural symbols. An opening reception will be held June 20 from 3 to 6 p.m. The exhibition remains on view through Sept. 7. lisavollmer.com

Volunteer Day at Ayni Herb Farm
Ayni Herb Farm, 1989 County Route 11, Hillsdale, N.Y.
Join for a day of communing with plants, tending to the

land, and connecting with community. The intention for these days is to practice ayni, or reciprocity, with the land. These days are meant to be nourishing and filled with gratifying labor. See a detailed breakdown of the schedule and sign up at ayniherbfarm.com/gatherings

Legacy of a Wealthy Slave

Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.
The David M. Hunt Library welcomes Connecticut storyteller Denise Manning Keyes Page to Center on Main on June 20 at 2 p.m. for a presentation of two parts of her trilogy, "Legacy of a Wealthy Slave." Page recounts her mother's orphaned childhood and her own discovery of her family history, tracing the remarkable life of her great-great-grandfather, Alfred C. Manning, a formerly enslaved man who purchased his freedom, moved to New Haven, patented an invention, acquired property, and sent two sons to Yale University, where they graduated in 1880 and 1881. Page will share more of Manning's journey from enslavement to autonomy during the performance. huntlibrary.org

"Four Rational People" Screening & Q&A

The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.
Director Tristan Cook and founding member of the Emerson String Quartet Eugene Drucker will participate in a discussion and Q&A following a screening of "Four Rational People," a documentary chronicling the Emerson String Quartet's final season after 50 years of performances and nine Grammy Awards. The film explores friendship, aging and the group's enduring musical legacy. 7 p.m. For tickets and information, visit bit.ly/TMH-four-rational-people.

A Day of Dance with Pilobolus at Innisfree

Innisfree Garden, 362 Tyrrel Road, Millbrook, N.Y.
10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Pilobolus and Innisfree Garden will present a daylong series of outdoor movement workshops for families, children, adults and older adults. Workshops include "Creative Movement for Families" at 10:30 a.m., "Family Alphabet Workshop" at 12:30 p.m., and "Connecting with Balance" for older adults at 2:30 p.m. Participants may register for one, two or all three sessions. Space is limited and advance registration is recommended at innisfreegarden.org/events.

Chore Service Garden Party
Skiff Mountain Farm, 3 West Woods Road, Kent, Conn.
Celebrating 34 years of service. 5 to 7 p.m. choreservice.org

JUNE 21

Annual Summer Solstice Feast at Foxtrot Farm & Flowers
Foxtrot Farm, 6862 Route 82, Stanfordville, N.Y.
Celebrate summer's bounty with a feast in the flower fields at Foxtrot catered by West-erly Canteen. Start the night with drinks in the garden, then transition to the fields for a long-table feast, where Kate Farrar will create a table of early summer blossoms. 6 p.m. Reservations required at bit.ly/3RCFWYc

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

JUNE 23

Dine Out for a Cause
DaCapo of Litchfield, 625 Torrington Road, Litchfield, Conn.
Dine out at DaCapo of Litchfield from 5 to 9 p.m. and a percentage of the proceeds will support Housatonic Valley Association that works to protect the lands and waters of the Housatonic River Valley.

JUNE 24

Art Camp for Seniors
Mad Rose Gallery, 3 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mad Rose Gallery's Art Camp for Seniors is a social program designed to uplift and inspire older adults through movement, creativity and connection. Classes are held Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning June 24. The five-week session (10 classes) includes all art supplies, instruction and lunch. A one-day-per-week option is also available. For information or to register, email info@mad-rosegallery.com.

JUNE 25

Dine Out for a Cause
The White Hart, 15 Under Mountain Road, Salisbury, Conn.
Dine out at The White Hart and a percentage of the proceeds will support Housatonic Valley Association that works to protect the lands and waters of the Housatonic River Valley.

BUGS!

Foxtrot Farm, 6862 Route 82, Stanfordville, N.Y.
June 25 to 29
Foxtrot Farm & Flowers presents "BUGS!", a group exhibition curated in partnership with artist and curator Charlotte Woolf exploring insects, ecology and interdependence. Featuring more than 40 artists from across the U.S. and Canada, the exhibition highlights the vital role bugs play in sustaining ecosystems, with a focus on queer ecology and environmental connection. Programming includes farm activities with Dutchess County Combworks, tattoo pop-ups, workshops, readings and an opening celebration with food from Chaseholm Farm, Thistlepass Farm and Fair Play Hospitality. The opening celebration takes place Friday, June 26, from 6 to 10 p.m.

JUNE 26

Connecticut Tunes and Tales of the Revolution
David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org
Musician and storyteller Kent Besocke presents "Connecticut Tunes and Tales of the Revolution" at 6 p.m. on the library lawn. Featuring songs and stories accompanied by guitar, banjo and mandolin, the program explores Connecticut's role in the American Revolution. Bring chairs, blankets, food and beverages. Free.

Happy Hour Piano Series: Broadway Singalong with T.J. Thompson
American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn.
From 5 to 7 p.m., AMP's monthly happy hour series features an audience-participation Broadway singalong with pianist T.J. Thompson, blending live music and liba-

tions in a casual, interactive setting. Tickets are \$8 in advance. americanmuralproject.org

JUNE 27

"Constance Old: Notes from My Kitchen, 2007-2026"
Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. cornwalllibrary.org
June 27 through Aug. 22
The Cornwall Library presents an installation of collages by Constance Old, created from self-adhesive stickers and upcycled materials, exploring themes of consumer excess, material reuse and contemporary life. An artist's reception will be held June 27, 5-7 p.m. (in-person only). Registration is requested at 860-672-6874 or CornwallLibrary.org. The exhibit remains on view through Aug. 22.

... Ungardener

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

ly promote Tallamy-designated keystone plants. There it is — a solution, and a local one at that!

Ward's Garden Center in Great Barrington, Salisbury Garden Center and Paley's in Amenia are now carrying ample inventory of beautiful keystone trees, shrubs and flowering plants in addition to the native plants they regularly stock.

"Every year we have seen an increase in customers asking for and buying native plants, so this partnership with Homegrown National Park is a great extension of the demand we are already seeing," said Eva Ward of Ward's Garden Center.

When you arrive at one of these garden centers — and I hope you will go this week — look for the "Homegrown National Park Native Plant Center" banner. Individual plant signs help inform customers about each keystone plant: what it looks like in bloom, its best growing conditions and why it is critical to butterflies, birds and other wildlife, including humans.

At Paley's, owner Sarah Coon finds the signage a big step forward.

"Our customers and staff can now easily identify the native plants that will thrive in their gardens," she said.

QR codes can be scanned for more information about each plant and to get on the HNP Biodiversity Map, which documents the number of people and acres being transformed through native plantings. The map currently records nearly 50,000 people committing more than 170,000 acres to native planting.

For Homegrown National Park, this program is a pilot it would like to expand nationally.

"A core objective of HNP is to make it easier for people to get started and making it easy to shop for productive native trees, shrubs and perennials does just that," said Alfandari. "The leaders of these garden centers are visionary catalysts for positive change. They are passionate about making a difference and spreading the facts about native plants to their customers."

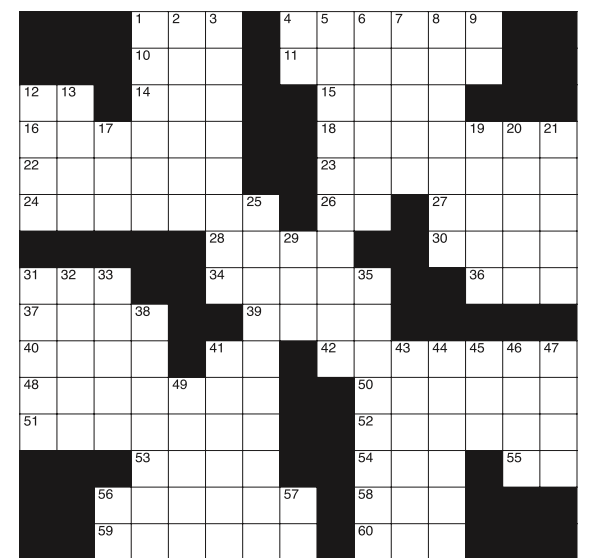
For more information, visit homegrownnational-park.org

Dee Salomon ungardens in Litchfield County.

Brain Teasers

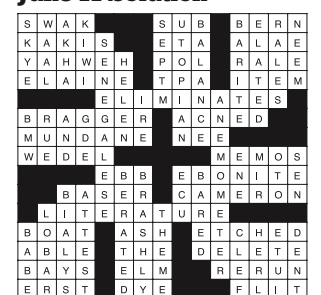
CLUES ACROSS

- Similar
- Have an ambitious plan or a lofty goal
- No (Scottish)
- ___ Aires, city
- Morning
- Senior's son (abbr.)
- A notable achievement
- European nation
- Endings
- Puts into place
- Former
- Grenadier
- Sea patrol
- Algerian port
- Norwegian river
- Precipitation
- Sunscreen rating
- New York is one
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Soft mineral with greasy feel
- Retired Brazilian footballer
- An Indian nursemaid
- Atomic #24
- Immobilized
- Insignia of royalty
- Seeds from which chocolate is made
- Begin again
- Round root
- Beginning to end (alt. sp.)
- What newlyweds just said
- Empire State
- Give back
- College hoops tournament
- Unstable situations
- Young women's association

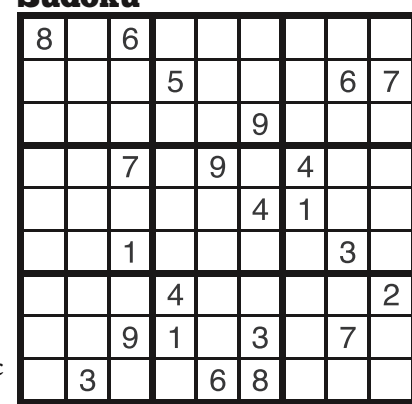


- Consume food
- California supermarket
- Electronic communication
- Cassia tree
- Written works
- Cool!
- Noteworthy 90s lawyer Kenneth
- One who was compensated
- National symbols
- Raising
- A type of talk
- Cloud
- Middle Eastern peoples
- Pouches
- 007's creator
- A cut of meat
- Sports entertainment award
- Christine ___, actress
- Relief organization (abbr.)
- Canadian province (abbr.)

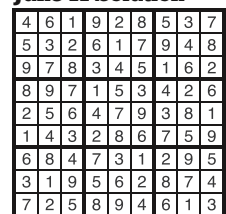
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OUR TOWNS

Washington median home prices edge higher over past year

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

WASHINGTON — Home prices in the Town of Washington continued to trend upward through May 31, 2026, with the median sale price reaching \$735,000 over the past 12 months despite a housing market marked by low sales volume and limited inventory.

The \$735,000 figure is 11% higher than the \$661,370 median recorded for the 12 months ending May 31, 2025, and 49% higher than \$492,500 for the comparable period ending May 31, 2024.

Since the beginning of 2022, annual sales of single-family homes in Washington have remained at low levels. A total of 32 single-family homes were sold in the 12 months ending May 31, 2026, compared with 37 sales in the period ending May 31, 2025, and 27 sales for the 12 months ending May 31, 2024. The busiest year occurred during the 12 months ending in October 2021, when 64 homes were sold during the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the beginning of June, the number of all listed residential properties remained level at 34. All residential properties on the market, including condos and multifamily homes, remained weighted toward the high end, with almost half over \$1 million. Four properties were listed above \$5 million, 12 between \$1 million and \$5 million, another 17 between \$500,000 and \$1 million, with only two homes under \$500,000. Eight homes are now listed below the current median price of \$735,000.

Of the eleven rentals available, eight are on an annual basis with half under \$3,000 per month. There are only three large parcels of land



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Sold after just 27 days on the market, 269 Milewood Road offered buyers 2,464 square feet of living space, an insulated and heated three-car garage, and more than five acres.

listed from \$995,000 with 23.5 acres to \$5 million for 332 acres.

May sales

269 Milewood Road — 3 bedroom/2.5 bath home built in 2009 on 5.1 acres sold for \$725,000.

3985 Route 82 — 4 bedroom/2 bath home built in 1938 on 2.5 acres sold for \$580,000.

279 Milewood Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home built in 2005 on 8.8 acres sold for \$550,000.

**Town of Washington recorded real estate sales from May 1 to May 31, 2026 from First Key MLS and market data from InfoSparks. Private transfers will be added when they become available. Details on each property from Dutchess Parcel Access. Current listings from One Key MLS. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.*

Email news and photos to editor@millertonnews.com

Realtor® at Large

A new law that took effect in Connecticut on May 20th requires all kayaks, canoes, and stand-up paddleboards to have the owner's contact information on them. Under Connecticut Public Act 26-60, all unregistered vessels in Connecticut are now required to be identified, including all paddlecraft. The information required is name of owner, address and two phone numbers. The reason is to help emergency responders to quickly determine if there is a real emergency or simply a lost boat!



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DUTCHESS COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Harlem Valley area activity report June 4 to June 11

June 5 — Deputies responded to Four Brothers Restaurant Drive in located in Amenia for the ongoing occurrences of cooking oil larcenies occurring throughout the county. Investigation on-going.

June 10 — Deputies report the arrest of Derian E. Ochoa Rabanales, age 30, for Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the third degree subsequent to a traffic stop on Route 22 in the Town of North East. Subject to ap-

pear in the North East Court at a later date.

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 dcsotips@gmail.com. All information will be kept confidential.

Early Deadline

Offices will be closed Friday, July 3RD

Ad deadline for the July 9th issue is Noon on Thursday, July 2nd for ALL Display Advertising

Legals Deadline is 4 p.m. on Thursday, July 2nd

Classified Line Deadline is Noon on Monday, July 6th

Letters to the Editor deadline is 10 a.m. Monday, July 6th

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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.

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