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See SAM BUSSELLE, A8

See APARTMENTS, A8



A former office building on Route 44 will soon be the first apartment complex in North East's business district.

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REGIONAL



Rhonan Mokriski, left, and Lionel Maltby discussed the student's film at The Moviehouse Thursday, Aug. 27.

Student films bring hidden history to the big screen

By PATRICK L. SULLIVAN
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MILLERTON— Five student films on little-known aspects of history were shown at The Moviehouse in Millerton Thursday, Aug. 27.

Rhonan Mokriski, a history teacher at Salisbury School, introduced the films, which were from the 2026 Troutbeck Symposium, held at the Troutbeck hotel complex in Amenia.

“Hamilton in Salisbury” by Rocco Famularo, a student at Salisbury School, used primary sources and some detective work to establish that Alexander Hamilton did in fact have a connection to Salisbury.

Drawing on a survey by Samuel Moore, Famularo noted that what is now Route 44 was known for years as Hamilton Street.

And working backwards from an item in The Lakeville Journal in 1941, Famularo was able to find evidence of a 1793 real estate transaction in Salisbury involving Hamilton.

Ty Moynahan, another Salisbury School student, looked at the Northeast Lime Company of North Canaan, which produced magnesium.

Magnesium was needed as part of the Manhattan Project, which produced the first atomic bombs, subsequently used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan during World War II. Moynahan interviewed Christian Allyn of North Canaan, who said that the Northeast Lime Company was known for the purity of the product and the plant’s ability to produce the volume necessary.

There was a personal connection for the filmmaker. He interviewed his grandfather Steve Moynahan, who told the story of his father, John F. Moynahan, who worked on the project.

“My name was actually on the bomb” that was detonated over Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945.

“It was supposed to be the bomb that ended the war,” said Steve Moynahan. “My father wrote ‘No white crosses for Stevie’ on it.”

Produced by a team at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, “MLK in Connecticut” looks at the summer a 15-year-old Martin Luther King Jr. spent at a tobacco farm in Connecticut.

The story relates how King, traveling by train in

the summer of 1944, had to ride in a segregated car until Washington, D.C., where the travelers switched to a train with integrated seating.

He was headed to the Cullman Brothers tobacco farm in Simsbury. The farm produced broadleaf tobacco for cigar wrappers.

One interviewee, Lerone Martin of the Martin Luther King Jr. Research and Education Institute, said King’s future career was foreshadowed at the farm, when he was asked to lead Bible study.

The Black students working at the farm were invited to worship by a church in Simsbury, and King was asked to join the choir.

The MLK film was produced by Jordan Almeida, Sophia Camphouse, Ivy Zheng, and Sophia Fitzpatrick.

Another film was “Hotchkiss and Hampton,” made by students in Hotchkiss teacher Amanda Robiolo’s history classes, who examined the connection between The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville and what was then known as the Hampton Agricultural and Industrial Institute in Hampton, Virginia. (It is now Hampton University.)

In 1903 Hotchkiss students were making direct financial donations to Hampton and the relationship deepened over the years. The students practiced “microhistory,” making use of census records, city directories, and military records.

The final film, “Juanita Jackson: The Power of Youth” by Lionel Maltby of Salisbury School, focused on the remarkable career of Juanita Jackson Mitchell, who was the first African-American woman to practice law in Maryland and was active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) starting in the mid-1930s.

After the films, Mokriski opened the discussion by noting that the 2026 Troutbeck Symposium was the sixth year of the event, which brings high school students together to work on neglected areas of history and to tell those stories.

“We’ve found so many good ones,” he said. “You just got a taste of it.”

Mokriski said that in addition to acting as historians, the students are also filmmakers, responsible for all the technical aspects of a successful film.

Lakeville Open Horse Show raises funds for next generation of riders

By MADI LONG AND ALY MORRISSEY

MILLBROOK — The annual Lakeville Open Horse Show brought riders and equine enthusiasts to Riga Meadow at Coole Park Farm in Millbrook on Sunday, Aug. 30, for the 69th annual fundraiser hosted by the Lakeville Pony Club.

Horses and ponies with names like Pop Tart, Trigger and The Great Gatsby competed under a late-August sun, with ribbons and prizes distributed to riders of varying experience levels.

The show featured a mix of competitions in which horses and riders performed on level ground and over jumps, including hunter events judged on a horse’s movement, equitation events focused on the rider’s position and balance, and jumper events judged on the pair’s speed and accuracy.

Spectators also came out in support of the Lakeville Pony Club, which aims to inspire a love of riding while expanding access to a sport that can be expensive.

The Pony Club is a local branch of The United States Pony Clubs, a national organization centered on equine education for young riders. The Lakeville branch is one of the organization’s oldest continuously operating clubs. It currently has 11 members, ranging in age from 10 to 20.

“It teaches everything — veterinary work, farrier work, a little bit about everything — so you become a well-rounded horse person,” said organizer and director Linda Bushnell, who began riding at



Jazmine Bona and The Great Gatsby compete in the Power and Speed Jumpers on Sunday, Aug. 30.

age three and is a Pony Club graduate herself.

With roots in Lakeville, the club was previously based on Route 41 before moving to the Millbrook area in 2018 after the original property was sold.

Members participate in mounted activities while also learning horse management, including the day-to-day responsibilities involved in caring for horses and ponies.

Proceeds from Sunday’s horse show help support club activities, including rallies and clinics, but Bushnell said much of the fundraising goes toward maintaining Quincy, the beloved club horse available to young riders who do not have a horse of their own.

Having a horse specifically for club members is not something offered by every Pony Club, and the costs associated with Quincy — including boarding, veterinary care and farrier services — make him one of the Lakeville club’s largest expenses.

District Commissioner

Sara Sartorini, the club’s volunteer leader and chief administrator of the Pony Club, estimated Sunday’s show would raise between \$2,000 and \$3,000, with proceeds also supporting club merchandise and activities throughout the year. The funds are raised through rider entry fees and sponsorships.

Years ago, Bushnell said, when the club operated out of Lakeville, many of the children interested in riding did not have a horse of their own.

“Some people thought it would be really good for the kids to be able to have their own horse,” she said. The club began offering designated riding days with Jerry, its club horse at the time, a tradition that continues today with Quincy. The arrangement gives members access to a horse without the expense of owning one.

“It’s like your own horse for a day,” Bushnell said.

Millerton resident Jaclyn Perusse purchased a gift certificate for riding lessons

for her daughter, Lillian, for Christmas and said she became hooked. “She’s been riding since the day after Christmas,” said Perusse, who is also a lifelong rider.

“Everyone at the club is very welcoming,” she said, adding that the short distance from Millerton is also a draw. Perusse said she and her husband were proud to see their daughter compete on Sunday.

Sartorini’s daughter, Eliza, joined the club in 2022 after her 4-H club closed. Sartorini was then recruited to serve as district commissioner.

“It’s like another part-time job,” she joked. “But it’s worth it because I know she’ll have her barn friends for life.”

Membership for 2027 costs \$185 and includes access to Quincy, the club horse, monthly meetings and a weekly summer program, among other activities. Members can arrange designated days to ride him and may also compete with him in horse shows, giving children without horses of their own an opportunity to participate.

Former Pony Club member Mia Dodge returned to the show with Trigger, a young horse competing for the first time. The pair won each of their events, earning a championship ribbon.

Dodge, now 19, was 8 years old when she first competed in the Lakeville Open.

“I love getting to come back here,” she said. “Pony Club taught me a lot that I now get to use when working with a young horse like Trigger. It’s a great environment to show him the ropes and support young riders.”

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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

The long-anticipated “Amenia’s Spycatcher” received enthusiastic applause following the opening night performance on Friday, Aug. 21. Written and directed by local resident George Bistransin, and sponsored by the Amenia Historical Society, the three-act play captured a thread of the town’s Revolutionary War history, while bringing the 21st-century community together.

Original play packs Amenia Town Hall theater

By JOSEPH BRENNAN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Colonial history came to life last weekend as local resident George Bistransin presented a play he wrote, Amenia’s Spycatcher, about some of Amenia’s early residents.

The obstacles he had to overcome to put on the production were daunting despite the fact that he was backed by a \$15,000 grant.

The play took place in late August, which meant many townspeople would be on vacation or preoccupied with summer outdoor activities, rather than choosing to be inside a theater without air conditioning.

Also, the play’s subjects, George and Mary Paine, were hardly heroes of yore students in the old Amenia schoolhouse would have learned about in history class. Only a few facts were known about an encounter these Revolutionary War era patriots had with a spy, which may have merely been a legend. Yet that didn’t stop George from filling the parking lot and sparking standing ovations.

The theater was nearly filled for all three performances last weekend from Aug. 21 to Aug. 23. The crowd reacted eagerly even though the subject matter was dusty history. History buffs came from all walks of life, engaged by the expository prologues delivered by a single actor speaking directly to the audience before the curtain in the footlights. These set the moment of time for the coming action and explained the events of the War for Independence going on far from the sleepy dairy burg of Amenia.

Before the first curtain went up, Bistransin, as director, candidly admitted that “judging from last night’s dress rehearsal, we are ready.” At the last minute Bistransin had finally found a stage manager, his brother, who came to visit and had to learn fast. Cast member Wade Crow had volunteered to step up and fill a role left vacant when one of the actors had to leave the play unexpectedly. Luckily his daughter, local thespian and Webutuck student Fiona Crow, already had a big part so it became a family affair. “He’s our savior,” actress Sadie Whitlow said.

Bistransin is not someone who shows his worry. He does not seem to fear failure. “More people have showed up than I expected,” he said. “But you never know how people are going to receive your work.” Bistransin met compli-

ments of his work with gentle deflection, pointing to a love for theater that drives him despite the potential of failure. “I’m retired, I love theater, I wanted to mount a production but I don’t know if it is any good,” he said. “I’ve put on plays where there were more people on stage than in the audience.”

The production wasn’t without its hiccups. Opening night jitters caused a mix-up where a scene was skipped. The actors accidentally started the next scene and it was impossible to go back. But the play was well received, Bistransin said.

“The audience never noticed,” he said. “It’s live theater, things happen.”

The actors made it work, handling it like pros. This was particularly true of the star playing Mary Paine, Sadie Witlow. She is a working actress and gave life to her lead role alongside Gary Petagine, another steady hand, who portrayed Ephraim Paine, and has played other historical figures in his career. What the rest of the cast lacked in experience, they made up for with an amusing bit or an attitude that played well in an amateur production. “I’m having fun,” Fiona Crow said. “I love theater.”

Kent native Margaret O’Brian praised Bistransin’s directing. “George was a wonderful director, very kind, personable,” she said. “I knew him from the Town’s Executive Committee. I enjoyed the experience.”

Bistransin and the others openly acknowledged the crucial role set and light designer David Palmieri played. He brought the play’s only setting, a convincing Colonial farm house, and his lighting created a natural feel.

The brighter lights of Broadway are only ninety miles south down Route 22, but this short slice of a full play demonstrated how a night of culture can come to a tiny town on a hot summer night. Bistransin’s daring and dedication to carry through his vision of history was on full display. These long dead souls, now only stones in the Amenia Burying Ground, were up this weekend, running around on stage, fighting over love and double-crossing spies lost in the mists of history’s scraps that survive.

“I had the time of my life,” Bistransin said. “And was thrilled to work on ‘Amenia’s Spycatcher’ with talented and hard-working actors and crew. I hope that we will start a theater group based in the Town Hall Theater.”

Copake solar project faces additional hearing just one month before final approval deadline

By JOHN COSTON
Special to the Millerton News

COPAKE — New York State officials this month ordered a hearing to develop a “factual record” regarding a 42-megawatt solar farm proposed near the intersection of Routes 7 and 23 in Craryville, New York.

The hearing is set for Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 10 a.m. at Copake Town Hall. State officials intend to develop a factual record regarding key project issues.

The project, which has faced sustained opposition from the Town of Copake, local residents and state legislators, was first envisioned by Chicago-based Hecate

Energy LLC nearly a decade ago. Plans call for solar panels stretched across 215 acres of land in rural Craryville.

Hecate has filed two applications over the years, the first ending in a denial. In January, the state held four in-person public hearings on the second application at Copake Town Hall.

After the hearings, in July, two administrative law judges ruled that the project cannot move forward until its developer obtains a permit from the town to build in a flood zone. The latest decision calling for a “further adjudicatory proceeding” aims to determine compliance with wetland regulations and flood zones, whether major proj-

ect modifications are needed and whether a permit denial is warranted.

Maureen F. Leary and Dawn MacKillop-Soller, administrative law judges at the New York State Department of Public Service’s Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission, also called for public comment by Aug. 28.

The Town of Copake has again called for the state to dismiss Hecate’s application, a move that has been supported by three citizen groups: Sensible Solar for Rural New York, the Birch Hill Road Neighbors Association and Craryville Farms LLC, a New York company.

“We’ve got a shot at making

some progress,” said Copake Town Supervisor Richard Wolf. “It is mildly encouraging” that the state has called for an adjudicatory hearing, a proceeding that focuses on fact-finding and legal determinations.

The Town of Copake also argues in a motion filed it filed this month that because the state faces a hard deadline of Oct. 8 to approve or reject the application, the process set in motion can’t be completed in time. Also, because expert rebuttal won’t be allowed at the Sept. 8 hearing, the town’s claims that its rights are being deprived.

“This is all becoming a due process issue,” Supervisor Wolf said.

Millbrook highway department to buy new pickup truck

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Village trustees approved the purchase of a new gasoline-powered option at a special meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 26, after officials determined an 18-year-old diesel-powered pickup truck was nearing the end of its useful life.

At a July special meeting, Highway Supervisor Ethan Kelly outlined the need to replace the village’s 2008 Ford F550 truck where repair costs would have exceeded the truck’s actual value. The 2008 truck has been used for fall leaf pick-up and it has served

as a reserve plow truck in winter.

Early estimates predicted a cost of around \$122,000 for a diesel-powered truck, but Kelly reported that switching to a gasoline-powered model with a stainless steel dump body would reduce the estimate to \$109,000 for the truck and its “upfits.” Kelly added that the cost for oil changes on a gasoline-powered truck will be half the cost of that for diesel.

The diesel option has been favored in past truck purchases, Kelly noted, for its longevity and increased hauling power.

Delivery would be expected within 12 to 14 weeks of the order, Kelly said.

The vote on the purchase was unanimous. Mayor Peter Doro indicated that as a next step the Town Clerk will invite and collect bank financing bids.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Dino stories

Dinosaurs were the topic of interest during Dinosaur Month at the Amenia Library. A team from Poughkeepsie’s Discovery Museum offered a program on dinosaurs for the very young on Wednesday, Aug. 25. Reading a storybook was the museum’s Field Trip Coordinator Kolene Craven, left, accompanied by Lillyanne Cowdery-Faimon, Director of STEAM Engagement. Discovery Museum will return to the library in mid-September with a program on robotics.

Correcting Errors

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

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PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

An after-dark rescue on the Undermountain Trail on Monday, Aug. 24, prompted officials to remind hikers to carry adequate supplies and allow enough time to return before dark.

Mountain rescue prompts warning about hiking preparedness

By ALEC LINDEN
alecl@lakevillejournal.com

SALISBURY, Conn. — A nighttime rescue last week involving approximately 20 emergency responders has prompted local officials to warn hikers against summiting Bear Mountain without adequate supplies or enough time to return before dark.

Crews were dispatched to the Undermountain Trail trailhead shortly before 9 p.m. Monday, Aug. 24, after two hikers called 911 to report that one of them, a 62-year-old woman, was experiencing numbness on one side of her body.

Location data from the call placed the hikers approximately two miles up the trail, which connects with the Appalachian Trail near Bear Mountain.

According to Litchfield County Dispatch, responders reached the woman shortly after 10 p.m. She was brought to the trailhead and placed under the care of emergency medical personnel by 10:45 p.m. She declined medical treatment.

Lakeville Hose Company No. 1, Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service and North Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corps responded to the call.

Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service Chief Jacquie Rice said the woman's location below the trail's steepest sections made the rescue relatively straightforward. Rice and a Lakeville firefighter were able to reach her with an all-terrain vehicle, although she was near the limit of where the vehicle could travel safely.

About eight responders had started up the trail carrying a Stokes litter, a type of wilderness stretcher. They were told to turn back after crews determined that the woman could ride down on the ATV.

Rice followed the vehicle on foot during the descent. Rough terrain and debris complicated the trip, and responders used a chainsaw at one point to clear the trail.

Rice said dehydration may have contributed to the wom-

an's condition. She improved after receiving water and food, Rice said.

"This was a person who was just visiting—had never hiked the trail, and really didn't bring adequate supplies," Rice said.

Rice said the pair had likely climbed the mountain to watch the sunset and were caught unprepared for the descent in darkness. Rice noted that hikers caught on Bear Mountain after dark are a frequent source of emergency calls.

Nevertheless, Rice commended the hikers for possessing headlamps, noting that many people rescued from the mountain do not have them. But safe preparation also means carrying adequate water and food, knowing the trail's difficulty and allowing enough daylight to complete the hike, she said.

She urged inexperienced hikers to avoid the popular but strenuous route, particularly late in the day. Bear Mountain is difficult in sections, and conditions are hazardous after dark.

Rice also noted that wilderness rescues require significant personnel and can take hours, even when the extraction is relatively straightforward.

"It's beautiful up there," she said, "but you have to be well prepared."

Two vehicles stolen in Salisbury amid break-in spree

By ALEC LINDEN
alecl@lakevillejournal.com

Several vehicles were broken into and two were stolen during a series of related incidents in North Canaan and Salisbury overnight Thursday, Aug. 27, into Friday, Aug. 28, according to state police.

Trooper Spencer Bronson, North Canaan's resident state trooper, announced in a Facebook post Friday that several vehicles in the Barlow Street area had been entered and rummaged through. There were similar reports from residents in Salisbury.

Meanwhile, two vehicles were stolen in Salisbury, although one was recovered in Torrington on Friday, according to the Torrington Police Dept.

State police are seeking three suspects believed to be connected to the incidents.

Troop B released surveil-

Ann Southworth Lango

AMENIA — Ann Southworth Lango, 80, of Marathon, New York, passed away, following a brief battle with cancer, on Aug. 20, 2026. Born Dec. 1, 1945, in Canton, New York, to the late Robert and Virginia Southworth, she was the loving wife of John Lango for 61 years.

Ann lived a life rooted in faith, joy, and family. Formerly of Amenia, New York, she attended Sharon Congregational Church and enjoyed daily treadmill walks, travel adventures and filling her home with laughter. Later, serving as a greeter at Lapeer Christian Church, her warm welcomes and sense of humor brought light to all who knew her. Her family rejoices knowing she is peacefully in the presence of God.

She was predeceased by her brother Charles (Magda) Southworth. She is survived

by her husband, John; brother, Bill Southworth (Penny Welch); sister-in-law, Ann (Richard) Carberry; children, Ken (Sue) Lango and Cindy (Phil) Kay; grandchildren, Nick Lango, Chris (Bri) Lango, Kendra (Noah) Chalfour, and Javen Kay; great-grandchildren, Sean and Abigail Lango; and extended nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at Lapeer Christian Church at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 25, with an available YouTube live stream (<http://youtube.com/@lapeerchristianchurch>). Private interment in Seneca Falls, New York. Memorial contributions may be made in Ann's name to Lapeer Christian Church.

Funeral arrangements by Nichols Funeral Home. <https://www.nicholsfuneral.com/>

Helen K. Roux

COPAKE FALLS — Helen K. Roux, 84, of Copake Falls, New York, passed away peacefully on Aug. 28, 2026 at Sharon Center for Health and Rehabilitation in Sharon, Connecticut.

Born in Sharon on Aug. 30, 1941, she was the daughter of the late Arthur and Helen Kilmer. Helen grew up in Millerton, New York, where she formed deep roots in the community. On Oct. 29, 1961, she married the love of her life, Kenneth Roux, who survives at home. Together, they shared nearly sixty-five-years of marriage, devotion and family. Helen was a remarkably kind and sweet person who consistently put the needs of others ahead of her own. Throughout her life, she held several local jobs, concluding her career in the kitchen at Hotchkiss School. She deeply loved the students and staff at Hotchkiss, and her warmth left a lasting impression on the school community. Helen found great joy in the simple pleasures of life, especially playing games. She cherished card games with her family and in her later years thoroughly enjoyed spending time on her laptop.

Above all, Helen's family was her world. In addition to her beloved husband, Kenneth, she is survived by her two devoted sons and their families, Brian

and Roseann Roux of Sharon, Connecticut, and Timothy and Christy Roux of Lancaster, South Carolina. Helen also leaves behind four grandchildren, who were truly the light of her life, Lauren Roux of Charlotte, North Carolina, Brittany Roux of Lancaster, South Carolina, Courtney Roux of Wallkill, New York and Justin Roux of Sharon, Connecticut; a brother, James Kilmer and his wife Rhonda of Ancram, New York, as well as several nieces and nephews. Helen was predeceased by three sisters, Mary Duell, Judith Murphy and Constance Decker.

A funeral service will take place on Friday, Sept. 4, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. Burial will follow at Irondale Cemetery in Millerton. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 301 Manchester Road, Suite 105, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree in Helen's memory please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546.

OBITUARIES

Lee Strattman

EAST CANAAN — Lee "Chip" Strattman, Jr., 72, of 243 East Canaan Road died peacefully at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was the husband of Barbara (Paviol) Strattman. Chip and Barbara would have celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary next month. Lee was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts on Oct. 20, 1953, son of the late Lee and Joan (Liner) Strattman, Sr.

Lee was a self-employed handyman. He helped many families in the northwest corner with household problems. He loved being outdoors, boating, fishing, and camping with his family were things he enjoyed. He also loved spending time playing his guitar and listening to music. His family described Chip as a man who "loved being busy." He channeled that energy into maintaining his home and

his yard.

In addition to his wife, Chip is survived by his two daughters; Rebecca Strattman and her husband Colby Shove of Cornwall, Connecticut, Jessica Strattman and her two sons, Finn and Hayden Larsen, all of East Canaan, Connecticut. Chip was predeceased by his ex son-in-law and father of his grandsons, Jeremiah Larsen. Chip is also survived by his two brothers; Chris and his wife Diane Strattman of Florida; Larry and his wife Julie Strattman of Ashley Falls, Massachusetts; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements will be held at the convenience of the family. Memorial donations may be sent to Dementia Society of America PO Box 600 Doylestown, PA 18901. The Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. Canaan, CT 06018 is in charge of arrangements.

Send obituaries
to obituaries@lakevillejournal.com



Worship Services

Week of September 6, 2026

Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org	The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442
Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627	St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) Rev. Dr. Johan Johnson, Priest-in-Charge In-Person and on You-Tube www.stjohnssalisbury.org
North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232 FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org	Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons Sunday, September 13 at 10:30 a.m. My Spiritual Journey For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoui@gmail.com All are Welcome
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	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
The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 10 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net	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
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	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
The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 9 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net	St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality
The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building	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
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	Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11:00AM - Worship Service "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!

Correcting Errors

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

LET’S HEAR IT...

THIS WEEK

The Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office and county officials are planning a town hall forum where residents can voice their concerns and ask questions about Flock Safety surveillance cameras in the community.

Do you have concerns about the cameras and how they’re being used in Dutchess County?

Send your responses to social@lakevillejournal.com by Friday, Sept. 4 at 10 a.m. or comment on Facebook or Instagram.

We’ll publish a selection in next week’s paper.

Labor Day: A celebration

Recently a young friend exclaimed to me “Why do we have Labor Day anyway?” I found myself rebutting his genuine query with “Don’t you remember the dastardly working conditions of the 1800’s onward with the rising Industrial Revolution?” Of course he didn’t – most don’t.

The Department of Labor, so far still in existence, defines Labor Day’s purpose: “to honor the American labor movement and the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements within the United States.” Internationally, labor day has been celebrated since 1886, as International Labor Day or May Day to honor workers and support worker rights.

In the US, the First Labor Day was celebrated with a parade and festivities in 1882, in New York City. State up state followed with Labor Days, until 1894, when a particularly violent Pulman’s Strike shut down all rail traffic West of Chicago from May through July. The strike included 250,000 workers and boycotters in the Pulman factory as well as those staffing trains -30 were killed, 57 wounded. The Strike ended with an injunction upheld by the Supreme Court favoring the owners - the strikers were defeated -crushed by federal troops. To quell massive negative response, Grover Cleveland, then President, immediately asked congress to pass bill S.730 making Labor Day a public holiday. – a celebration of workers (it wasn’t fully public until the 1930’s, initially covering only federal workers.)

Union protests continued for decades demanding an 8-hour working day, a 5-day work week and illegality of child labor – many labor/management conflicts in the late 1800’s and early 1900’ were violent. The initial demands of workers and their unions was for shorter work days, upgrading harsh to dangerous work conditions (ventilation, railings, safety gear), steady wages, ceasing child labor. Work days were 10-16 hours a day, 6 days a week, no extra pay for overtime, no job security, wages could be cut immediately. In 1914, the Ford Motor Company cut shifts to 8 hours and doubled pay to increase productivity, then in 1938 Franklin Roosevelt signed the Fair Labor Standards Act setting a national limit on hours, a minimal wage, and requiring extra pay for overtime. Labor had an 8-hour day, child labor was illegal, a hundred-year tussle.

OPEN SPACE

Kathy Herald-Marlowe

In addition to Labor Day’s purpose, it is regarded as a major time marker in the US calendar. On September 1 (first Monday) it is half way between Fourth of July and Thanksgiving. Memorial Day was once the end of the school year and Labor Day its beginning. Back-to-School excitement and expense continues as new backpacks, water bottles, clothes, pens and pencils, etc, etc. are the major focus of families. Schools continue to start after Labor Day, or just before. Labor Day is considered the end of summer – a highly popular travel time.

In the fashion world, Labor Day was distinctive as once it wasn’t proper to wear white after Labor Day just as wearing white before Memorial Day was forbidden. These taboos may continue for shoes, purses but winter white is popular, a newer trend.

The fading of knowledge of Labor Day represents the alteration in the nation’s economic and social environment. In 1979, 20 million workers in non-agricultural jobs were in unions. 22% of workers were union members primarily in a manufacturing heavy world of work. Today in a service economy but 8% of workers are unionized, the construction of service jobs makes organizing harder with much to assist management for union busting. Starbucks and Amazon are two major headliners under siege – more traditional auto, oil, health care are ongoingly unionized.

Gallup polling indicates that Americans approval of unions is currently steady between 68 and 71% for the past five years . Approval rarely below 60%.

So have a cookout, go to a parade, attend a free Washington Symphony Orchestra performance. Celebrate Labor Day, enjoy its festivities, its back-to-school shopping, its long history. In a nation bowing to Billionaires, here is to the middle class, the working class, labor.

“American labor has raised the nation’s standard of living and contributed to the greatest production the world has ever known and the labor movement has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy.” —Department of Labor

Kathy Herald-Marlowe lives in Sharon.



Clown, Jail construction, County Fair, West Nile

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

Sept. 5, 1935
“Uncle Bob” Sherwood Gives Stereopticon Talk
MT. WASHINGTON - “Bob” Sherwood, “Uncle Bob” of the radio and the last living clown of P. T. Barnum’s Circus, gave a stereopticon lecture and show on the lawn at Penny Royal Arms here Saturday evening. Approximately 200 turned out to see the famous fun-maker in person.

Historical Society Will Conduct Tour To Unveil Markers Placed By Department Of Education
The Dutchess County Historical Society will make it [sic] annual tour to points of historical interest in the county next Wednesday. A feature of the tour will be the unveiling of markers placed on building [sic] having historical backgrounds by the State Department of Education.

Those making the tour are to assemble at the brick meeting house on the Dover Plains road near Millbrook at 10:45. Here the story of the Nine Partners Patent, Nine Partners meeting house and Nine Partners School will be told by Helen W. Reynolds. W. Willis Reese, president of the society, will preside.

Caroline E. Haviland will unveil a marker on the roadside at 11:30 a. m., erected by the State Education Department in honor of the meeting house which was built in 1780. Mrs. Austin Flint of Millbrook, daughter of the late John D. Wing, is to unveil a marker erected in honor of Nine Partners School which was opened in 1796. Sections of the chestnut pipes which conveyed water to the school and the original school bell are to be exhibited.

North East Proposes Jail As WPA Job Plans Prepared For \$3,000 Structure, Supervisor Minor Discloses
Supervisor Frank L. Minor revealed Tuesday that plans for a \$3,000 jail for the Town of North East have been prepared by Charles J. Cooke, architect, and have been forwarded to the district WPA headquarters for approval as a town project. Supervisor Minor indicated that, preferring the jail project, the township will not take part in the proposed \$500,000 WPA “mud pie” road program for Dutchess County, under which

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

towns receive \$1,500 per mile for improving dirt roads.

Mr. Minor disclosed that it costs the township forty dollars for each prisoner taken to the county jail for temporary commitment. North East has been without a lock-up for several years. The town used the village of Millerton lock-up until that was closed after it was condemned by the State Commission of Correction.

The new jail, a one-story-fire-proof structure, is to be added to the present town building in Millerton.

Florida City Expects Many New Yorkers Several Millerton Residents Among St. Petersburg Visitors Last Winter
ST. PETERSBURG - America’s famous winter resort inaugurated another season Labor Day as hundreds of northern families arrived here over the preceding week-end for the opening of free public and private schools. New York will again lead all other states in the number of sojourners represented and that commonwealth is expected to set a new all time mark this winter with the registration of 10,000 or more tourists. It fell short of the five-figure mark last winter by 35, listing a total of 9,965 Empire Staters, the highest ever recorded by any sovereignty. Many Millerton residents who were here last season are returning for another stay in the warm and even climate of this famous resort. Among the visitors from Millerton who were registered at the City Information Bureau last season included Miss Marjorie H. Baldwin, Robert Coldwell and Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Cook.

September 2, 1976
Area Farmers Score Big At Fair Competition
Area residents flocked to the Dutchess County Fair in Rhinebeck last week and returned with numerous awards. Local farmers did particularly well in the livestock judging.

A heifer co-owned by George Beneke and George Flanagan of the Willowbrook Farm in Millerton was named the grand champion in Holstein competition. The Willowbrook Farm also placed 1st among class No. 4 and No. 5 Holsteins.

In the 2-year old Holstein

competition, a Perotti and Sons of Millerton heifer took the grand prize. The Pleasant View Farm of Millerton took a 1st in the Breeder’s Young Herd competition.

Brrr!
The Millerton area had 2 days of unseasonably cold weather early this week. On Monday morning the mercury went down to 47 degrees and on Tuesday it was recorded at 38, which may be the lowest ever for the date.

The records aren’t complete in Millerton but the coldest Aug. 31 in Albany was in 1965, when it got down to 39 degrees. Record or not, it was quite chilly early this week, leading to some suspicion that summer may be prematurely over.

September 6, 2001
West Nile Virus Birds Found Here
MILLERTON — State officials have notified the Dutchess County Health department that two dead birds found in the town of North East were infected with the West Nile virus.

The birds are the third and

OPINION

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

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OUR TOWNS



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

The State We’re In’

The latest in an ongoing series of exhibits in the Millbrook Arts Project space at the Millbrook Library had an opening reception on Friday, Aug. 28. Titled “The State We’re In,” the new exhibit features the works of five area artists, including acclaimed contemporary artist Brian Cirmo of Albany, seen with his selected works. His oil on wood panel paintings explore and interpret the human condition with wit, pathos and striking sensitivity. The exhibit will run until Saturday, Oct. 17.



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Hudson Valley views

Lakeville artist Nora Rivkin, right, discusses her art with longtime friend Bente Busby during a reception and sale of Rivkin’s artwork at the Irontdale Schoolhouse in Millerton on Saturday, Aug. 29. Rivking was surrounded by friends and supporters numbering over a dozen during the sale and reception that featured charcuterie and an opportunity to buy any of a number of landscapes she painted en plein aire, meaning on location.

Cary Institute expands wildfire research with \$2.7M grant

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
grahamc@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Local nonprofit research center the Cary Institute announced this month a \$2.7 million grant that will expand its wildfire research program into the grasslands of the American West.

Tucked into the woods above Millbrook, the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies has spent more than four decades building a reputation as a powerhouse of environmental research. The funding will grow the Western Fire & Forest Resilience Collaborative, a research initiative headquartered at Cary Institute and led by ecologist Dr. Winslow Hansen. Since its launch, the research group has worked to translate fire science into practical tools for land managers across the western United States. Until now, the mission has largely centered almost entirely on forests.

But the two-year grant, which builds on a 2024 investment from Lyda Hill Philanthropies, will allow the Millbrook-based team to expand its models to include grassland and shrubland. “There are lots of other ecosystems out there,” said Dr. Hansen, “and often they burn

in ways that are more impactful to people than forest fires...the fires that have the greatest potential for destruction are often grassland. It’s in closer proximity to where people live.”

For Hansen, the subject hits close to home. When he was 13 and growing up in Bozeman, Montana, a forest fire forced his family to evacuate. But a year or two later, hiking through the burn area, he also saw the revitalizing aspects of the fire — tree seedling and mushrooms were growing in the empty spaces.

According to the Cary Institute, recent WFFRC research found that the fastest-moving wildfires in the country are disproportionately grassland and shrubland fires: of the 20 fastest fires recorded nationally between 2001 and 2020, 90 percent burned in grasslands or shrublands, and a fifth of those occurred in Texas alone. “There’s a lot more private land ownership in Texas,” Hansen said, “and it needs a different kind of science to help support the management of those lands.”

Unlike forest fires, which are largely driven by drought and a century of fire suppression, blazes in grassland and shrubland ecosystems are shaped more by human ignition sources, sprawling de-

velopment, and the spread of invasive grasses, according to the institute.

The new funding will support three priorities: building relationships with Texas land managers like state agencies and private ranchers, extending Cary’s forest fire-vegetation modeling to grass- and shrub-dominated ecosystems, and using satellite data to track fire behavior in real time. “We’re embedding full-time staff in key regions,” said Hansen. “We just hired a Texas liaison, and we have one in Colorado, the Pacific Northwest. Their job is to find the most action-oriented land managers that want to work with us, and figure out what their biggest needs are...Being nimble and providing accessible science is really essential.”

One of the program’s most helpful features, according to Hansen, is providing those land managers with the scientific support to make decisions about their land. From all the way in Millbrook, Hansen and his team can summarize and analyze data sets to give a wider view of the problems facing land managers nationally. “We’re really the glue that helps bring the pieces together,” Hansen said. “We have 12 different research labs across the country, and

then I make sure the cats are herded and the pieces fall into place. If something’s working in the Colorado grasslands, we can pass that along to the grasslands in Texas.”

These “local proof points,” as Hansen calls them, helps WFFRC scale to other agencies and geographies. Hansen says working at the Cary Institute has provided a unique ability in his ability to make a wide impact. “Here, we have the privilege of thinking deeply,” he said. “Everybody is focused on research, whereas professors at a university have big teaching loads. We’re really encouraged to think deeply about ecology, and also not be constrained by ecology.”

Looking forward, Hansen says the group is expanding its scope east. In late 2025, the newly-formed Eastern Fire Network secured a \$1.74 million, three-year grant to prepare the Northeast for the growing threat of wildfires. “The whole goal is, can we apply the lessons we’re learning in the West now to the East? How can we be proactive, and not reactive?”

In the meantime, Hansen says there’s plenty people can do around their own homes to mitigate fire risk. Clearing brush and gutters, and stacking wood away from the home are good places to start.

Dutchess Land Conservancy’s annual ‘Country Ramble’ is coming to Millerton this year

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
grahamc@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — The Dutchess Land Conservancy will host its second annual Country Ramble on Sept. 12.

Led by hosts Leslie Farhangi and Brooke Schooley, the 3-hour tour will lead attendees through the natural beauty of Coleman Station Historic District in Millerton. Both hosts have chosen to conserve their property with the DLC, and are offering the ramble as an opportunity to learn more about conserva-

tion, and how it helps preserve the health and beauty of the area.

“The fields, forests, and farms of northeastern Dutchess County are unsurpassed in their beauty,” the DLC said in a statement. “What makes much of this land so special is that it is preserved forever.”

Interested attendees can register for the ramble online. The event is free, and dogs are

welcome. Sunscreen, insect repellent ,and proper footwear are recommended. The tour begins at 9:30 a.m. at 91 Indian Lake Rd in Millerton. A light lunch will be served

following the ramble. The Dutchess Land Conservancy was founded in 1985. There are more than 47,800 acres in total protected by the DLC in Dutchess County.

YOUR NEWS

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OUR TOWNS

Friends of Stissing Landmarks looks back on 40 years of preservation

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
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PINE PLAINS — In 1986, New York announced plans to tear down Pine Plains’ 50 year old fire tower. There was only one problem: Pine Plains, and its young town supervisor, wanted to keep it.

Town Supervisor Scott Chase set out to preserve the tower, leading him to form the Friends of Stissing Landmarks and set out on a journey that continues to preserve and rehabilitate historic sites across the town 40 years later.

Chase’s cause was rooted in his personal history — climbing the Stissing Mountain Fire Tower was a rite of passage in Pine Plains, and provided an unforgettable view of the surrounding. But after years of disuse, the tower had fallen into disrepair. Fire watchers had been replaced by aerial surveillance. Their stations, relics from the Civilian Conservation Corps, were being abandoned. In 1978, a particularly raucous party on the mountain left the ranger’s cabin a pile of ash, leaving behind the stone stairs and some pieces of foundation.

So Chase, along with friends and neighbors from across Pine Plains, decided to do something about it. But it would be a while before the Friends of Stissing Landmarks could actually start to preserve these relics of the town’s past.

One of the early enthusiasts was Bill Hedges, who is still an active FOSL member. “I grew up on a farm that’s on the other side of Stissing Tower,” Hedges said. “I had climbed the tower since I was 10 years old. When the forest ranger was up there, we would hitch a ride up in his Jeep.”

First, they needed to voice their objections. When New York’s Commissioner of Environmental Conservation Henry Williams came to town, stumping for Governor Mario Cuomo, Scott Chase — 32 at the time — saw an opportunity to save the tower. After Williams’ stump speech, Chase cornered the commissioner. “Besides being supervisor, I was a land use planner at the time, and Williams was too,” Chase said. “I told him we have some real concerns, and we wanted to keep our

fire tower.” Williams’ response was shockingly supportive. The state didn’t want to take down the fire towers either — they had simply become outdated. The fire towers had become a liability. “He said, ‘If you would like the tower, I’m happy to figure something out where you can have it,’” Chase recalls.

Williams did have one word of advice: don’t make it the town’s responsibility. Give it to a non-profit.

But starting a non-profit proved more complicated than it sounded. When Chase and his co-founders Bill Hedges and Jay Wilmarth looked for a survey of the land, they couldn’t find one.

“No one knew whose property the tower stood on,” said Chase. “In the ‘30s nobody wanted to spend the time and effort to actually survey.”

When they were constructing the fire towers, the Department of Environmental Conservation used what’s called an administrative easement to use the property. Administrative easements allow public entities to access the land without changing ownership. When they first built the tower, the DEC filed easements with four different property owners.

Fortuitously, Scott Chase’s brother Lyndon was a licensed land surveyor. Over the course of his new survey, Lyndon determined the property was owned by The Nature Conservancy. The Nature Conservancy is a global environmental agency, and one of the largest landowners in the world. It owns over 125 million acres worldwide, and when Chase reached out, he discovered they didn’t want to deal with the fire tower’s liability any more than the state of New York.

“They were not excited to learn about this property,” Chase said. “Not only were they happy to give the acreage, they found us an attorney who helped set it all up legally.” With The Nature Conservancy’s help, FOSL became an official entity.

It took 8 years after Henry Williams’ blessing before the Friends of Stissing Landmarks finally had their fire tower. In the meantime, Chase, Hedges, and the rest of the team had

set about re-painting the structure, and added back a staircase that had been removed by the state. “We decided it was better to beg for forgiveness,” Hedges said with a laugh.

They also got to work on the trails. FOSL rehabilitated the existing trail and added a new, less steep path that takes a longer route to the top.

From there, the group stayed abreast of other properties that became available. FOSL acquired about 30 acres on the southwestern cove of Stissing Lake and built a trail. It’s called the Jay Trail in honor of founding member Jay Wilmarth, who passed away several years ago. Jay was instrumental in those early days, communicating with the Department of Conservation and keeping everything above board. More recently, the group hired Brian Sikora, a sustainability trail specialist who had worked with the Dutchess Land Conservancy and The Nature Conservancy. He helped cut the second ascent to the fire tower, and expanded the network of trails and boardwalks around Thompson Pond.

“Some of the things that FOSL has done is a public-private partnership between the town and the private entity,” said Chase. “We’re trying to help each other out with a long-term trails plan.”

Most recently, FOSL acquired kayak access to a private Twin Island Lake — better known as Mud Pond.

There are plans to keep expanding the town’s trails, using the rail beds from trains that used to run south to Poughkeepsie, east to Millerton, and west to Rhinebeck and Red Hook. It’s part of plan Chase devised while he was chair of the town’s bike and trails committee. But while the group has traditionally been focused on trails and nature conservation, an opportunity in 2021 encouraged FOSL to expand its scope.

It started with another entity entirely. Chase is also on the board of the Little Nine Partners Historical Society, so named for the land grant bequeathed to 9 wealthy landowners in 1743. That grant covered modern-day North East, Pine Plains, and Milan. The historical society already managed Pine Plains’ Graham



PHOTO PROVIDED

Wesley Chase and Bill Hedges perform maintenance on the Stissing Mountain Fire Tower in Pine Plains.

Brush House. But when the owners of another historic structure, Patchin’s Mill, approached the historical society about taking over their property, the group declined.

“At the time, that board was a little dysfunctional with interpersonal conflicts,” said Chase. “We already had our hands full trying to maintain and restore the Graham Brush House. There was just no way we could take on another.”

Chase brought the idea to FOSL next — and at first, they were reluctant too. “We all looked at each other around the table for a couple of months, swallowed hard and said, ‘Let’s do it,’” said Chase.

“We weren’t really excited about taking on the mill project,” added Bill Hedges. “But we were just sitting there watching it deteriorate. And at times, it’s been overwhelming. But we’ve made tremendous progress, and we’ve gotten to a point where we can save it.”

This spring, the group set to work. The mill’s foundation and siding — badly damaged by time and multiple car crashes — were replaced, and FOSL has plans to restore the interior before moving to the Patchin house across the street that came with the mill. Fundraising efforts are ongoing.

“It takes so much time and effort to maintain buildings,”

said Chase. “We were not intending to get heavily involved in buildings, but somebody had to do it. We knew when we were getting into this that it was going to take a lot of our efforts away from the trails. I still want to press for FOSL and the community to go back to the long range trail plan.”

Still, FOSL is busier than ever. And its mission remains.

“You can sit there and criticize things when they don’t come together, but if we had done nothing, they would have taken the tower down,” said Bill Hedges. “And the mill would’ve disappeared. It takes organizations like ours to step forward and do it. It’s really difficult to do without a tremendous amount of support from the community, and so far we’ve got that.”

The only stormcloud on the horizon is the core members’ advancing age. “Bill’s 80 years old, and I’m 72,” Scott Chase said, laughing. “And two years ago we went and put a new roof on the Patchin house!”

“I think our goal in the next year or two is to recruit as many new members as we can,” said Hedges. “One thing we did last year is tie in with Pine Plains Central School District, and we got students to volunteer for community service. We got so much done with the students involved.”

Pine Plains library aims to expand after-school ‘Kids Club’

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
grahamc@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — The Pine Plains Free Library’s Kids Club will reopen with new renovations this Sept. 14.

When it does, the library’s basement will take center stage. The downstairs space has been a boon to the after-school program, which serves children from Pre-K to 5th grade.

The Kids Club operates from 3:30 to 5 p.m., is free to attend, and has plans to expand. Currently, the program runs Monday through Thursday. Snacks and enrichment toys greet the kids upon entry, with a craft option for the artistically inclined. On Wednesdays, artist-in-residence Jeremiah Jones helps kids make their own take-home artwork.

“Last year is when Kids Club really took off,” said Dee

Ann Campbell, Director of the Pine Plains Free Library. “We hired Cheyenne Wagner to run the program, and she’s done an incredible job.”

The success of the program speaks for itself. When the main floor of the library became crowded, Kids Club organizers requested the use of the basement. The Town Board was happy to comply, but the space needed some attention. Youth Programmer Cheyenne Wagner led a group of organizers in reimagining the basement as an area for kids. It had previously served as the wrestling club’s practice space.

The additions include a quiet reading area, a seating area for parents, and newly-painted, brightly-colored walls. Director Campbell says they’re able to keep the program free thanks to increased funding from the town, and the occasional grant.

The Kids Club is not, however, a child care program. As an after-school program, Kids Club is able to supplement child care for kids in Pre-K and older. The \$20 million recently allocated for Dutchess County’s child care program is strictly for children 0-3 years old.

Still, Campbell says the response from the community has been inspiring — and made the basement expansion an easy decision. “The kids have something that they can really call their own,” she said. Looking forward, Campbell says they hope to expand the program to five days a week, and extend pick-up times to 5:30. “I think the extra half hour would make a big difference,” she said.

But for now, the library is gearing up for another Kids Club session, complete with all the crafts, games, music, and snacks that come with it.



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FORUM *Continued from Page A1*

has described it as one of the first efforts to unify multiple agencies under one crime-analysis platform.

Flock’s cameras and software are used by law-enforcement agencies across the country. It is just one company in an industry of automatic license plate readers, but Flock’s rapid growth has drawn criticism from privacy advocates. Concerns over data sharing with outside agencies—including

federal immigration authorities—have prompted municipalities from Los Angeles to Windsor, Connecticut, to terminate their Flock contracts.

Earlier this year in the town of Pine Plains, a police sergeant signed an \$80,000 contract with Flock without the Town Board’s knowledge or approval. The discovery came after residents spotted survey stakes marking planned camera locations

around town. The sergeant has since retired, and the town ultimately canceled the agreement with Flock.

But some property owners have entered into independent agreements with the Sheriff’s department to host the cameras, leading to the presence of at least one Flock camera in every county municipality.

In August, Dutchess County Chief Deputy Steve Reverri appeared before the

Amenia Town Board to discuss the utility of these cameras, and assuage concerns that the data was being mis-used.

September’s forum will be the county’s most direct attempt yet to address that unease head-on. Alexander frames the event as part of an ongoing effort at transparency, and Valdés-Smith said she expects a “candid and robust conversation.”

SAM BUSSELLE *Continued from Page A1*

in 2001 to run NECC. “We had no staff. No programs. Busselle wanted programs for teenagers, the elderly, for transportation. My basic approach was to say ‘yes’ to everything,” she said.

“He always had another idea,” Hansell said, adding that his legacy — the NECC itself — will last beyond him.

Rebecca Busselle, Sam’s wife, said the sadness of his death is overcome by the knowledge of all the friends Sam had. “The love he spread around is coming back,” she said.

Busselle’s eldest son, Wynne Morriss, who described with some humor how his father taught him how to hitchhike, said “most importantly he told me to think about other people first.”

The gathering at Busselle’s home in North East also drew local and county politicians and civic leaders who recognized Busselle’s indomitable spirit and drive to address community problems, notably the need for affordable housing. In past years, Busselle served as a volunteer on the North East Town Board and on the Planning Board.

Former Pine Plains Town Supervisor Darrah Cloud recalled how he stopped into her office almost daily to urge her to take action on housing. “I realize now that you

have to be a pain in the butt to get anything done,” she said, getting affirmative chuckles from the gathering, which was all too familiar with Busselle’s general refusal to take “no” for an answer.

Cloud pointed out that Busselle helped start the Tri-Town Coalition for affordable

housing. Chris Kennan, North East Supervisor, remarked that when he first took office Busselle demanded a meeting “to tell me what we needed to do.”

But family stories about how Busselle spent time with his children and grandchildren along with how he persisted in community improvement — including a three-year stint in the Peace Corps with Rebecca and the children in West Africa — created a broad-stroke portrait of family man with a developed public mission.

“He was game for whatever was going on,” said Don Cosentino, a UCLA professor emeritus who recalled Busselle from early Peace Corps days. “Always ready to jump in.”

Cosentino summed it up: “Architect, carpenter, devoted husband, fond father, community organizer, tireless reformer, country gentleman and city slicker. A man indeed of many ways.”

APARTMENTS *Continued from Page A1*

one-bedroom apartments, two two-bedroom apartments and a single studio.

The Planning Board granted site plan approval at its Wednesday, Aug. 26, meeting after three months of discussion on the application.

Now that the Planning Board has granted site plan approval, the developers can finalize building permits from the town’s Building Department and get started on the renovation work. Simons said plans only call for interior floorplan changes and

adjustments to the parking lot to install an electric vehicle charger on the property and create more communal green space for residents.

“The basic, original footprint of the building we’re not really changing much,” Simons said. She added that some light landscaping is planned. Simons expects contractors to begin work over the fall and winter, with hopes the renovations will be complete by May 2027.

The apartments will be the first residential development in the Town of North

East’s Boulevard District — a commercial zone that stretches along Route 44 from the eastern edge of the Millerton village border to the Connecticut state line. Residential development became possible in the commercial district after the town approved changes to its zoning code this year.

Simons said she was excited to provide new housing options in the community. “We’re excited about contributing to the community,” she said. “And providing something that everybody

has said is really needed.”

She also expressed gratitude to town officials that helped through the approval process. Simons first appeared before the board in June. She said Planning Board members’ and town officials’ help exemplified their desire to bring more housing to Millerton.

“We really do want to give a sincere thank you to the Planning Board,” Simons said. “We appreciate the support. All of them were really great throughout the whole process.”

Protective order issued in former IMS athletic director’s sexual assault case

By CHRISTIAN MURRAY christianm@lakevillejournal.com

TORRINGTON — A judge issued a protective order Thursday, Aug. 27, in the criminal case against Maxwell Abendroth, the former Indian Mountain School athletic director and gym teacher charged with three felonies involving alleged sexual contact with a 15-year-old student.

The court identified the person protected by the order only by initials and did not disclose the individual’s relationship to Abendroth or the pending case.

The charges against Abendroth were not otherwise addressed during the brief proceeding in Torrington Superior Court.

The order prohibits Abendroth, 32, from contacting the protected person by telephone, electronically, in writing, or through a third party.

The judge told Abendroth that the order can be modified only by a Superior Court judge and remains binding even if the protected person attempts to contact him.

“No contact really means no contact,” the judge said, explaining that a violation would constitute a new felony offense.

The order also requires Abendroth to surrender or transfer any firearms and ammunition in his possession if he has not already done so.

Abendroth declined to comment when approached by a Lakeville Journal reporter outside the courthouse.

Abendroth is charged with fourth-degree sexual assault and two counts of risk of injury to a minor stemming from alleged conduct at the Lakeville school in January.

He was arrested Aug. 18 after surrendering at Connecticut State Police Troop B in North Canaan. He was released on \$50,000 bond.

A 14-page arrest warrant affidavit provides further details about the allegations and Indian Mountain School’s response.

According to the affidavit, an IMS administrator making rounds Jan. 25 entered Abendroth’s office and saw him and the victim standing close together in a way the administrator considered

“unsettling” and “odd.” The administrator reported that Abendroth pushed the student by the shoulder, causing her to fall over a coffee table.

The school’s director of student health and wellness interviewed the student and Abendroth the following day.

The student initially denied that anything inappropriate had occurred. She said she had been discussing exercises for back problems with Abendroth and that he had never made her uncomfortable. The school official reported that the student did not appear distressed.

Abendroth told the school that the student had come to discuss a rehabilitation protocol and that he nudged her, inadvertently causing her to fall, according to the affidavit.

Administrators continued investigating and reviewed communications between Abendroth and the student.

They found text messages dating to Nov. 20, 2025, that appeared romantic, although the initial review found nothing indicating a physical relationship, the affidavit states.

The school reported the matter to the state Department of Children and Families on Jan. 27. State police began investigating later that day. IMS placed Abendroth on administrative leave that day and fired him shortly afterward.

The school provided investigators with 40 files containing communications between Abendroth and the student. A DCF caseworker combined the files into a document totaling approximately 383 pages.

State police said Abendroth sent the student 133 emails from his school account between Nov. 20 and Jan. 22. Investigators also obtained letters and handwritten notes given to the student.

In one letter quoted in the warrant, Abendroth allegedly wrote that he felt himself being drawn toward the student and sought opportunities to see her around campus. He acknowledged that emailing her, leaving notes, and learning her schedule could get him “into a lot of trouble.”

“We do need to be careful because there are some observant people around,” he

allegedly wrote.

Another email proposed using coded messages to select dates when the two could communicate.

Abendroth, according to the affidavit, would also leave handwritten notes in her cubby. “Hey, you look beautiful this morning,” one note read. Another said: “I wish it would be just you and me in my office.”

After initially denying inappropriate conduct, the student later told a DCF caseworker that she and Abendroth had kissed twice, according to the affidavit.

During a Feb. 3 forensic interview, she described several alleged encounters.

She said that during one encounter in a dark study-hall room, Abendroth grabbed her and kissed her, placed his hands on her buttocks over her clothing, and pulled her close.

During another, she alleged that he put his hands under her shirt, unclipped her bra, and touched her skin beneath the bra.

The student also provided a different account of the Jan. 25 encounter.

She alleged that she was on

top of Abendroth in his office while he lifted her shirt and kissed her stomach. When the administrator entered, she said, Abendroth pushed her away, causing her to fall over the coffee table. She was not injured.

The student described an earlier incident in which Abendroth allegedly picked her up, pulled her close, and kissed her. Investigators found an email that appeared to refer to that encounter.

“I’m sorry that I scared you earlier when I picked you up,” the email stated. “I kinda just lost control and wanted to be close to you.”

Head of School Lisa Sun told families in an e-mail that IMS acted immediately after learning of the conduct, supported the student, notified authorities, and conducted an internal investigation.

Sun said that investigation found no evidence of misconduct involving other students but encouraged anyone with information to contact the school or police.

Abendroth worked at IMS from August 2016 until January 2026. He became director of the athletic department in 2019.

AFFORDABILITY FAIR *Continued from Page A1*

nia residents to request free home-delivered meals, case management, and health insurance counseling.

Closing that gap has become more urgent as household budgets tighten.

Alexander also notes that the high prices aren’t just driven by local factors. The conflict in Iran, insur-

ance spikes, and tariffs have driven up the cost of many household items. Wages and Social Security have not kept pace — and Alexander says relief from high prices is still a ways off.

“The purpose of this event is to help people start saving money now,” he said, “and be prepared for what lies ahead.”



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PHOTO BY JESSICA YURKO

Millerton author Janice Erlbaum will celebrate the 20th anniversary of her memoir “Girlbomb” at Black Rabbit Dispensary on Sept. 5.

“Girlbomb” at 20

By Natalia Zukerman

In “Girlbomb: A Halfway Homeless Memoir,” published in 2006, author Janice Erlbaum wrote about the years after she left her family’s Brooklyn apartment at 15, moving through shelters, group homes, squats, clubs and the streets of 1980s New York while somehow continuing to attend high school. The book has sold more than 75,000 copies, stayed in print for two decades and continues to find new readers.

Now Erlbaum, 57, lives in Millerton and on Saturday, Sept. 5, at 7:30 p.m., she will celebrate the 20th anniversary of “Girlbomb” with a reading at Black Rabbit Dispensary. The event is open to the public and will be livestreamed on Instagram.

There is another reason for the celebration. Erlbaum has collaborated with her longtime friend Douglas Broughton

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

MOVIES

Paul Newman racing doc to screen in North Canaan on Sunday

By D.H. Callahan

On Sunday, Sept. 6, Lime Rock Park will host a screening of the documentary “Winning: The Racing Life of Paul Newman” at the Colonial Theatre in North Canaan at 7 p.m.

Newman was one of the most celebrated actors of the 20th century, known for films including “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof,” “Hud” and “Cool Hand Luke.” His 1969 film “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid” also began a decades-long friendship with co-star Robert Redford.

That same year, Newman starred alongside Robert Wagner as a race car driver in “Winning.” Director James Goldstone wanted the actors to drive real race cars, so they were trained for the role. Wagner didn’t much care for the experience. Newman, however, fell in love.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

INSIDE

REAL ESTATE

North East median home price climbs to \$525K in July

CALENDAR

A list of upcoming events

FASHION

At Peggy Mercury, prep meets punk in ‘Imaginary Concerts’

By D.H. Callahan

Last month, James Boehmer and Greg Fricke of Peggy Mercury launched their first fashion line, “Imaginary Concerts,” wearable art sold exclusively at their store in the Kent Barns section of Kent, Connecticut.

The two fashion industry veterans opened Peggy Mercury more than two years ago, and a quick visit will tell you that people are finding what they’re looking for at the beauty and lifestyle store. But what they’re looking for is never standard.

Fricke and Boehmer are not there to stock their shelves with the same products customers find at standard makeup retailers. They’re there to help customers find what works for them. That usually means asking customers about themselves and learning about their beauty habits, skin, style and the way they like to present themselves. Fricke and Boehmer believe it’s their job to help customers bring out the qualities that suit them and determine what works best for their look.

So much of the Peggy Mercury world is about emboldening people to become more creative, and possibly bolder, versions of themselves. Some of this comes through the store’s creative collaborations with artists, designers and stylists.

It’s part of an ethos that encourages them and their friends to use the shop as a kind of laboratory, trying out new creative experiments without knowing how they might turn out. Whether in fashion, paint-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Greg Fricke and James Boehmer, co-owners of Peggy Mercury in Kent, recently launched their first fashion line, “Imaginary Concerts.”

ing, fiber arts or photography, the projects almost always turn out marvelously.

A line of sterling silver charms they sell started as a small project by their friend Nolan Percival. In the beginning, the pieces were for close friends and loved ones. But Boehmer and Fricke encouraged Percival to get a little more serious about the project and create a whole line for the store. Today, it’s one

of their top-selling collections.

“Imaginary Concerts” has the duo taking their own advice.

The project started as a way for Boehmer to connect with his mother, who had been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. Taking old concert shirts from his own collection, Boehmer and his mother began cutting out the graphics with the idea that they would make a quilt together. Unfortunately,

ly, she died before they could complete the project in 2025. The pieces, which were ready for production, were put on the back burner as Boehmer and Fricke dealt with their loss and the whirlwind of projects that never seemed to cease at Peggy Mercury.

But the harsh winter of 2026 presented an opportunity to take some time and focus on themselves. Part of that meant revisiting and redefining the concert T-shirt project. This time, instead of looking to the warmth and comfort of a quilt, they turned to another passion — fashion.

Taking a page from their own book, they wanted to create something that felt comfortable to them. They took two disparate loves — one rooted in simple preppy style, with clean lines and classic silhouettes, and the other in the nitty gritty worlds of punk rock and pop — and blended them together to create something entirely new. Pulling from the staples of vintage Brooks Brothers and Charvet collections, they applied the graphic elements of punk jackets of the ‘70s and ‘80s, but with a much more sophisticated air.

But the remixing isn’t just the pairing of prep and punk. The pieces are not canon. They take liberties with the realities of concert tours, combining one band’s dates with another band’s logos, mixing them all up until the reality is lost and imagination is the only truth.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

BOOKS

Spencertown’s 21st Festival Of Books

By D.H. Callahan

On Saturday, Sept. 5, the Spencertown Academy Arts Center in Spencertown, New York, will host its 21st annual Book Festival.

With over 20,000 gently used books, CDs, DVDs and vinyl donated by the community, it took volunteers 45 days — and an estimated 750 hours — to set the whole thing up. Most of that time was spent sorting through the vast troves of donations and organizing them by category.

The event is a fundraiser for the Spencertown Academy Society, which was founded in 1972 after the Academy Building was shut down as a working school. Since 1847, when the Rev. Timothy Woodbridge, a blind pastor from a local church, opened a teaching college, the building had been used for education. Today, it serves Chatham residents as a gallery and performing arts space.

The Festival started in 2005 as a way to raise money for the Society, and help support the upkeep of the building. Over the years, the Society has add-

ed appearances by featured authors. This year’s lineup is particularly robust, with a focus on nonfiction, along with several fiction writers and even one cookbook author.

In the nonfiction category, the festival will feature James

Baldwin biographer Nicholas Boggs, whose book “Baldwin: A Love Story” is a New York Times bestseller and winner of the National Book Critics Circle John Leonard Prize as well as the PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for biography.

Historian and author James M. Bradley, known for editing “The Encyclopedia of New York City,” and the Papers of Martin Van Buren project, will discuss his new book, “Martin

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3



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... ‘Girlbomb’

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

of Black Rabbit Farms on a cannabis strain named Girlbomb.

“I was an early adopter of cannabis,” Erlbaum said. “I’m smoking weed throughout the entire book, so it made sense to collaborate with my longtime friend and come up with a special Girlbomb strain.”

Erlbaum said Broughton was the first person she knew when she began contemplating a life outside New York City.

“I wanted to move near somebody who knew what the hell they were doing already,” she said with a laugh. A “true New Yorker,” Erlbaum still doesn’t even drive a car. “I was like, ‘I’m not just gonna move to a farm.’”

Now well settled in Millerton, having moved to the village in 2021, the city girl has discovered something she never expected.

“I have discovered such joy in nature,” she said. “I look at a flower and I’m like, ‘I know what flower that is.’”

She laughed.

“And it’s also great for a writer. You get a lot of peace and a lot of quiet.”

The girl who walked away “Girlbomb” begins with a girl making a decision.

Looking back four decades later, Erlbaum describes the moment she left home not as a grand plan but as something

purely instinctive.

“It was really the first time that my true survival instinct kicked in,” she said. “There was all of a sudden a clarity of like, ‘Oh, I’m leaving.’”

She was 15.

All along, Erlbaum kept journals and calendars. She saved notes passed between friends. Those scraps of the past became part of the architecture of the book — and now, 20 years later, part of its afterlife.

Erlbaum has been publishing excerpts from those old journals on her website as “the girl bomb diaries,” calling them an “unofficial sequel” to the memoir. Her site is also marking the anniversary with photographs and stories.

She was, she said, a writer almost before she knew what that meant.

Not knowing it would become integral to her survival, her parents gave her a typewriter when she was 9.

“I read and I wrote. That’s what I did,” she said. “So that part wasn’t ever really in question for me.”

But writing “Girlbomb” was not easy. Erlbaum began and abandoned versions of the story in her 20s before finally completing the memoir in her

30s. She had been writing autobiographically, performing slam poetry and comedy, going to therapy and trying to make sense of the life she had survived.

The actual writing, she said, was painful.

“It was rendering,” she said. “Kind of like method acting, you have to do method writing. You have to put yourself in the mind space that you were in.”

Sometimes she had to close the laptop and walk away.

“And then I would nap,” she said. “I took a lot of naps.”

Twenty years later

Erlbaum now sees parts of “Girlbomb” differently. She is candid about the privilege and blind spots of the woman who wrote the book in her 30s.

“I’ve grown over the past 20 years,” she says. “I see now a kind of insensitivity.”

But she also refuses to rewrite the consciousness of the girl she was.

“It’s difficult with memoir because the character only knows what the character knows,” she said. “And if you butt in and you’re like, ‘Little did I know,’ then that’s just intrusive.”

That honesty is part of what has allowed the book to endure.

“With memoir... the character only knows what the character knows.”

JANICE ERLBAUM

DANCE

Community to take center stage at Dive Barn

By D.H. Callahan

On Sunday, Sept. 6, PS21 in Chatham, New York, will host a celebration of community through dance at its second annual Dive Barn performance at the organization’s Dance Barn.

Dive Barn is the brainchild of dancer, teacher and choreographer Sayer Mansfield, who has dedicated her life to contemporary and experimental dance. She studied in the Department of Dance at NYU Tisch School of the Arts and at the Salzburg Experimental Academy of Dance. She’s performed with companies including Pilobolus, Compagnie Marie Chouinard and Mark Morris Dance Group. Her work has been featured in films including “Little Women,” “Maestro” and “Sproutland.” She has served on the faculties of Jacob’s Pillow, Phillips Academy Andover, as well as Harvard and Yale Universities.

Recently, though, Mansfield’s been focusing on her community in Columbia County, New York. As has been a theme since the COVID-19 pandemic, a groundswell of creative people have pulled up their city roots to plant itself in the fertile soil of the countryside.

For the past year, Mansfield has been teaching these recent transplants and lifelong residents alike to dance at her Tuesday Night Dance group, or TND, as it’s known at PS21.

The group became so popular that she had to add a second night, so now TND can mean either Tuesday or Thursday Night Dance. Each group has a rotating enrollment of 30 to 60 locals, fueled by fervent word of mouth, but the classes can



PHOTO BY STEVEN TAYLER

A scene from last year’s Dance Barn.

get even bigger. They meet at the Dance Barn at PS21, Mansfield’s new home away from home. There, she teaches actors, painters, musicians, desk workers and farmers how to get comfortable moving their bodies.

Dive Barn will feature two unique performances, both choreographed by Mansfield, with music by local musicians Raena Jade and Elori Saxl. One dance will be a more intimate performance by Mansfield and her collaborator, actor and dancer Ashley Hill. The other

will feature a large group of her class regulars, most of whom have never performed dance onstage. This is a chance for many non-dancers to show what they’ve learned through the TND group classes and celebrate the diverse mix of bodies that Mansfield’s been molding over the past several months.

Dive Barn is part of a bigger multiday event at PS21 called Commonground. PS21 describes it as a “free festival of large-scale live performance and spectacle” taking place Friday, Sept. 4, through Monday,

Sept. 7. Alongside Dive Barn will be world premiere performances of “FIELD” by director, writer and electronics artist Andrew Schneider, which was commissioned by PS21, as well as “SUPERDRUM X.”

SUPERDRUM has been an ongoing project by Dutch musical arts collective Touki Delphone. For this iteration, the collective collaborated with theater company Veenfabriek to build 100 self-playing drum machines that use found twigs from forests and sidewalks as drumsticks. The drums are connected to a system that can control them all together or individually. Each night, a human drummer will collaborate with the piece.

As if all of this weren’t enough, PS21 will open its expansive campus to the community before the performances, offering apple picking, lawn games, West African food from Chez Diarra and free ice cream. “FIELD” will be presented Friday, Saturday and Sunday. “SUPERDRUM X” will take place every day of the Commonground Festival.

To learn more about Dive Barn, PS21 and to get tickets to Commonground, visit ps21chatham.org.

... Paul Newman

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1



PHOTO PROVIDED

“Winning: The Racing Life of Paul Newman,” will be screened Sunday, Sept. 6, at the Colonial Theatre in North Canaan.

While he didn’t start out as a particularly good or fast driver, he couldn’t stop. Soon, he was jumping at every opportunity to get behind the wheel. Since he lived in Connecticut, there was one place with the challenges he needed to practice: Lime Rock Park.

Newman started racing in his mid-40s, an age when most drivers have already retired. But his patient, studied approach saw him improve with every turn. Soon, he was winning races against drivers half his age, who didn’t have all the Hollywood hubbub to distract them.

Exploring the highs and lows of Newman’s lesser-known career as a race car driver and team owner, “Winning: The Racing Life of Paul Newman” features original interviews with Redford, Jay Leno and racing legend Mario Andretti.

Another of Newman’s passions was philanthropy. Known for his Newman’s Own line of snacks, sauces and salad dressings, the company gives 100% of its profits to charity, supporting nutrition education and school food programs, Indigenous food justice and the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, Connecticut.

The camp, named after Butch Cassidy’s Hole in the Wall Gang, was founded by Newman in 1988 as a place where children with serious illnesses could simply be kids.

The documentary screening is part of the 44th Lime Rock Historic Festival, and half of the proceeds from ticket sales will go to benefit the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp.

Tickets are available at canaancolonial.com.

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BOOKS

Laurie Lane-Zucker’s pioneering path to the regenerative economy

By Richard Feiner and Annette Stover

Longtime Northwest Corner resident Laurie Lane-Zucker sees hope everywhere for positive economic and social change. For the past 15 years, he has been building Impact Entrepreneur, a global online media and community platform from his base in Sheffield, Massachusetts. Today, Impact Entrepreneur reaches more than 70,000 change-makers across the globe. The platform publishes Impact Entrepreneur Magazine, produces a live webinar series and convenes field-building conferences focused on the impact economy.

His new book, “The Impact Entrepreneur Breakthrough: A Field Manual for the Regenerative Economy,” was just published by Berrett-Koehler on Sept. 1 and is distributed by Penguin Random House. The book serves as a manual for shifting to a system in which business, capital and culture create lasting value for people, communities and the planet. It maps the full



PHOTO PROVIDED

Laurie Lane-Zucker is founder and CEO of Impact Entrepreneur, PBC, a company dedicated to fostering the Impact Economy.

architecture for the transformation to a regenerative economy and is the culmination of Lane-Zucker’s 35-year commitment to sustainable and responsible development

and his love for the Berkshire-Taconic region.

“I love being here. Some years ago, I realized that I spent most of my life along Route 7. I grew up in Fairfield



County, not far from Route 7. I went to Salisbury School. I went to Middlebury College, also right on Route 7. It’s this region’s geography — the whole Taconic range — that just has a hold on me, and I love it.”

Early in his career, Lane-Zucker worked in Manhattan with Orion Magazine. When the magazine outgrew its office space, he advocated for its relocation to Great Barrington, Massachusetts. He then served as the founding director of The Orion Society, the non-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4

... Festival of Books

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

Van Buren: America’s First Politician.”

Featured author Joshua Jelly-Schapiro was a member of Yale University’s first Ethnicity, Race and Migration program and earned his Ph.D. in geography from the University of California, Berkeley. His award-winning doctoral thesis explored the global impact of Caribbean culture. His new book, “Daylight Come: Harry Belafonte and the World He Made” was released in August.

“Lincoln’s Lady Spymaster” by Gerri Willis was a New York Times bestseller when it was released last summer. Willis, known for her financial reporting on CNN and Fox Business, tells the story of a Southern Belle inspired to help the Union during the Civil War.

Willis isn’t the only author who wrote about women spies in wartime. Michelle Young, an award-winning journalist, author and adjunct professor of architecture at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, is best known as the founder of online magazine “Untapped New York.” She’ll be in Spencertown to discuss her 2025 book, “The Art Spy: The Extraordinary Untold Tale of WWII Resistance Hero Rose Valland.”

Pivoting to fiction, “Hazel Says No” is the first novel by author and Vassar graduate Jessica Berger Gross. The novel shifts perspective and voice from one family member to another. Her first book, “Estranged: Leaving Family and Finding Home,” was an intimate memoir about leaving her close-knit family in search of a healthier, more independent life.

Fulbright Scholar Casey Scieszka will discuss her novel, “The Fountain,” which was named one of the most anticipated books of the year by publications including The Boston Globe, Literary Hub, Book Riot,

Goodreads and Town & Country before its release in March. Scieszka runs the Spruceton Inn: A Catskill Bed & Bar, known in part for its artist residency, which hosts painters and award-winning authors.

But one local hotelier isn’t enough for Spencertown. Cook, food stylist, photographer and bed-and-breakfast owner Melina Hammer will discuss her cookbook, “A Year at the Catbird Cottage: Recipes for a Nourished Life,” which draws on her work with local, natural ingredients prepared for guests at her Hudson Valley home.

Rounding out the appearances will be children’s book favorite Pete the Cat. The Pete the Cat series was created by Eric Litwin and James Dean (not that one) nearly 20 years ago and has spawned an animated series with holiday specials. Notable voices in the series include Elvis Costello, Diana Krall, Dave Matthews and Jason Mraz. For this appearance, though, expect one big, groovy cat.

To learn more about the Book Festival and become a member, with early access to the sale, visit spencertownacademy.org.



PHOTO BY MIRISSA NEFF

Joshua Jelly-Schapiro, author of “Daylight Come: Harry Belafonte and the World He Made” is one of the featured authors at the Spencertown Academy Festival of Books on Saturday, Sept. 5.

... Peggy Mercury

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

Adding to the mix is an element of perpetual creativity. Art can be messy, both figuratively and literally, and many of Fricke and Boehmer’s artist friends carry evidence of their work on them at all times. As a nod to these tireless creatives, the duo added haphazard splashes of bright color, giving the line an even more distinctive feel.

For them, “Imaginary Concerts” passes the “Peggy Test.” The mythical Peggy Mercury is a fictional figurehead for the company,

a character who thrives on creativity and change. The name, much like the clothing line, is a mixture of interests: Mercury is a planet, a deity and an elusive, transformative element, while Peggy is the wonderfully stylish and boundary-pushing Peggy Guggenheim.

Everything Fricke and Boehmer put in their store has to pass this test: Would Peggy Mercury approve? For their first collection, the answer is a resounding yes.

Peggy Mercury is at 9 Maple St., Unit 2, Kent.



Classic styles, bold colors, and creative concerts make up the “Imaginary Concerts” line at Peggy Mercury.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Shirts from Peggy Mercury’s first fashion line, “Imaginary Concerts,” hang on display.

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“London Sky,” a vintage settee reimaged by Pryor and Peacock with a dramatic view of the London skyline.

LIFESTYLE

A family business gives old furniture a second act

By D.H. Callahan

If you’ve ever seen one of those updated episodes of Antiques Roadshow, you know a lot of old furniture doesn’t hold its value the way it used to.

Gone are the days when the Keno brothers could tell you that your great-grandmother’s old chairs could pay off your mortgage. Instead, a younger market of buyers is looking for more simply designed furniture, often in the form of factory-made pieces using more affordable materials. Think Crate & Barrel or even IKEA, versus the ornate craftsmanship of yesteryear.

The women at Pryor and Peacock — two sisters and their mother — thought that was a shame. They decided to save these carefully crafted pieces and breathe new life into them using old designs and new technology. The results are one-of-a-kind pieces of furniture, each with its own feel, design and story.

It started with a crazy idea. Interior designer Luca Shapiro, one of the sisters, was trying to revitalize an old telephone chair — the kind with a little table built onto the side for a phone and notepad. She wanted to upholster the chair with pages from a phone book. The idea was so specific, she knew she’d never be able to find the fabric she was looking for, so she began researching ways to make it herself.

What she and her business partners — a.k.a. her mom and sister — discovered was digital textile printing. The method first came about in the late 1980s, and the process has become more precise through advances in dyes, inks and the inkjet printers now used by manufacturers. Pryor and Peacock use the process both as the only practical way to achieve their specific designs and as a means of reducing waste associated with traditional furniture making.

One aspect of that waste has been a hot-button issue of late: water. According to the World Bank Group, textile dyeing and treatment account for an estimated 20% of industrial water pollution. With the onslaught of data centers, conserving water seems to be more important than ever. While P&P is a relatively small



“Squirrels in the Shire,” a one-of-a-kind furniture piece created by Pryor and Peacock.

operation, which couldn’t possibly consume the levels of water being used by big data, the company believes that every drop matters.

Fast-furniture is another detrimental trend the women wanted to address. Cheaper, lighter and more convenient pieces are now favored over carefully made and designed furniture.

P&P finds unique statement pieces from the past and gives them new life through period-appropriate design and cutting-edge textile technology. It also sees this as a way to protect wildlife. While the company is committed to abstaining from leather and fur in its production, reducing the need for new wood means less deforestation, and the preservation of animal habitats.

Sustainable practices aside, the work is really about pairing artworks in unexpected ways. The designs are mostly sourced from old art books, featuring

illustrations from centuries past. Sometimes P&P finds a piece of furniture, and looks for ways to enhance its beauty through design. Other times, the design comes first, and they scour antique shops, auctions and flea markets to find its perfect canvas.

The results are always completely unique, and frequently come with fun, inspiring stories of the art, the “frame” and sometimes both. It’s thanks to these unique pairings that you won’t find anyone with the same piece as you. Of course, that means if you see something you love, you better get it before somebody else does.

P&P presented its first pop-up shop in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, last month, and is looking for other in-person opportunities to show its work.

To learn more about the business and browse its current inventory, visit pryorandpeacock.com.

... Lane-Zucker

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

profit that now publishes the magazine. While there, he co-developed and coined the term “place-based education,” an approach that prioritizes local community and landscape as primary resources for learning.

He has never left the area, despite several professional opportunities.

“I couldn’t do it. I couldn’t leave this place. I had too many roots here. My kids all went to Great Barrington public schools at different points. My older son Liam went to the Salisbury School and still lives in the area and my daughter Anna went to the Waldorf School. I just love this place so much.”

Determined to forge his career here, Lane-Zucker set out on his own entrepreneurial path. He started the Triad Institute, an international think tank focused on sustainability. One of his projects was a digital media initiative called Hotfrog, which became a founding Certified B Corporation, with verified standards for social and environmental accountability.

These professional experiences and his passion for the region all come together in his work. In 2011, he coined the term “impact entrepreneur,” giving a name to the hopes and actions of a growing community of social innovators

“One of the things that I am happiest about is that my grandchild, if I am lucky enough to have one, or anyone, will know what I did with my work.”

LAURIE LANE-ZUCKER

and practitioners — a new archetype of changemaker, who understands the need to reinvent the way we engage with the world through business and finance.

“Impact Entrepreneur is more than a brand or description,” Lane-Zucker said. “It is an identity that people increasingly embrace. It is who they are. The term is now widely used in the media and in conversation at every conference I go to. It is one of the great successes of this project.”

Lane-Zucker’s book celebrates the movement toward a regenerative economy and makes the case for security that rests on investments in ecological stability, public health, equity and community cohesion. He shines a light on business models and practices that marry profit with purpose and are inspired by the region’s special sense of place — this “landscape of deep memory where the earth itself seems to speak in whispers.”

He also includes 36

beautiful original watercolor images in which colors flow and form one continuous gesture. They offer a visual interpretation of the book’s call for a unified economic system in which human intention guides complex systems rather than dominating them.

Lane-Zucker also sees the book, in part, as his own memoir.

“One of the things that I am happiest about is that my grandchild, if I am lucky enough to have one, or anyone, will know what I did with my work.”

Lane-Zucker is doing something new and needed — giving voice and leadership to transformative change and providing a roadmap for others to join in and take action.

As he said, “There are a lot of models and tools that exist now. This is not a pipe dream or niche thing. This is the next step; the next stage of the economy; a rightful human evolution that’s happening.”

For more information and to order a copy of the book, visit impactentrepreneur.com



The

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice Notice of Formation of GREEN VILLAGE CONTRACTORS LLC Articles of Organization filed with the NYS Department of State (SSNY) on 05/15/2026. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: Tomas Tun Ico 08-06-26 766 Old Route 22 08-13-26 Amenia, NY 12501 08-20-26 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 08-27-26 09-03-26 09-10-26	New York ("SSNY") on July 27, 2026. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process served against the LLC to: 4 Marshall Rd, Unit 143, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 08-13-26 08-20-26 08-27-26 09-03-26 09-10-26 09-17-26	NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of North East will conduct a public hearing on September 10 at 7:15pm at the Town of North East Town Hall in Millerton, New York on the adoption of proposed Local Law No. 3 of the Year 2026, which is entitled: "Override the Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2027 Pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c". If this Local Law is enacted, the Town Board of the Town of North East, County of Dutchess, will be authorized to adopt a budget for fiscal year 2027 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the limit specified in General Municipal Law §3-c. Any person desiring to be heard on said Local Law will be provided with an opportunity to do so at said public hearing. By Order of the Town Board dated August 13, 2026. ELIZABETH STRAUSS Town Clerk for the Town of North East 09-03-26
Legal Notice NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY True Kettle Corn, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/30/2026. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14 Wright Boulevard, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 08-20-26 08-27-26 09-03-26 09-10-26 09-17-26 09-24-26	Legal Notice Notice of formation of West Ridge Farm LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 8/04/2025. Office location: Suffolk County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, PO Box 5061 East Hampton, NY 11937. Purpose: real property management. 08-20-26 08-27-26 09-03-26 09-10-26 09-17-26 09-24-26	Legal Notice The Union Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting on Sept. 18, 2026, at St. Thomas Church, 40 Leedsville Rd., Amenia, NY from 10:30am to noon. Call Gail with any questions at 845-454-6641. 09-03-26 09-10-26 09-17-26

The deadline for legal notices is Friday at 4 p.m. for publication the following Thursday.

Notices can be emailed to legals@lakevillejournal.com or mailed to The Lakeville Journal, ATTN: Legal Notices, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039

Go to www.tricornernews.com/legalnotices to view current and past legal notices.

arts

Local Matters

News and Arts reporting in Northwest Connecticut and Eastern Dutchess County in New York

The Lakeville Journal

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The Millerton News

millertonnews.com



PHOTOS BY JOHN COSTON

Left, Book lovers lined up around the block along Route 44 in Norfolk on Saturday morning, Aug. 29, waiting for the Norfolk Library book sale to open. At exactly 10:30 a.m., they streamed through the gate as Bridget Taylor, foreground, hurried to clear the entrance after announcing the start of the sale.

Below, the tent quickly filled with browsers and buyers at the Norfolk Library book sale Saturday, Aug. 29, where 20,000 books in 30 categories were available.



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Tri-Corner Calendar

SEPTEMBER 4

Foxtrot Fridays with Fair Play
Foxtrot Farm & Flowers, 6862 N.Y. 82, Stanfordville, N.Y. Celebrate the honey harvest with DC Combworks at Foxtrot Farm's monthly community gathering, featuring food by Fair Play, beverages by Ten Mile Table and live music by Tim Hauf. The flower shop will be open late, with seasonal pick-your-own flowers and raspberries available. 5 to 9 p.m., rain or shine. Parking reservation required. For reservations and information: foxtrotfarmflowers.com/events.

Labor Day Weekend Benefit Art Sale
Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. cornwalllibrary.org Sept. 4 to 7

The Cornwall Library's eighth annual Labor Day Weekend Benefit Art Sale features artwork ranging from antique to contemporary, realistic to abstract, and jazzy and colorful to classic black and white. Works include prints, watercolors, posters, photographs, paintings and occasional small three-dimensional pieces, with prices starting at \$25. New works will replace those sold throughout the weekend. A cocktail reception opens the sale Friday from 6 to 8 p.m.; sale hours are Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Labor Day, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proceeds support the library's collection and year-round programming.

SEPTEMBER 5

Book Sale
David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org
From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the David M. Hunt Library will host its monthly book sale. New books upstairs, used books downstairs. A great selection of books of all kinds, audiobooks, music cds, dvds, gifts and more. All used children's books downstairs are free.

"Dreamt in Stone"
27 Old Post Rd. #2, Millerton, N.Y. Sept. 5 and 6

The evocative stone sculptures of the late Ukrainian artist Oresta Szeperowycz will be exhibited at the Millerton studio of abstract painter David Crum. Created from local shale sourced throughout Dutchess County, the sculptures reflect Szeperowycz's deep connection to nature and the earth. The exhibition is free and open to the public, noon-4 p.m. More info at 518-248-6154 or kbc29@kbc29.com.

Nature Journaling
David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org
Join local writer Mark Gonsky for two nature journaling workshops focused on responding to nature through art, writing and other creative practices. The workshops will explore examples of nature journaling, personal approaches and aspirations, outdoor exercises and group discussion. Participants may attend one or both sessions and will receive a notebook for journaling. 10:30 a.m. Registration requested at huntlibrary.org

Fine Art Festival
Main Street, Millerton, N.Y. Sept. 5 and 6

Browse fine and functional art by artists from the region and beyond at The Voice of Art's sixth annual outdoor juried Fine Art Festival, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. The festival will feature painting, sculpture, mixed media, photography, printmaking, ceramics, jewelry, fiber arts, woodwork and more. Free and open to the public. A list of artists at thevoiceofart.org

SEPTEMBER 6

Housatonic Heritage Hike to Campbell Falls
Campbell Falls, on the Massachusetts-Connecticut border
Join Erik Reardon, Housatonic Valley Association's Berkshire Watershed director, for a two-hour hike to Campbell Falls, a 50-foot waterfall on the Whiting River. The hike will explore the area's forest and land-use history and HVA's efforts to protect river and stream health in the Berkshires. Noon. Part of the 24th Annual Housatonic Heritage Walks. More info at hvatoday.org

"Basketweaving with Angela Eastman"
Troutbeck, 515 Leedsville Road, Amenia, N.Y. Learn the art of basketweaving during this hands-on workshop with artist Angela Eastman. Participants will create a functional handwoven basket while exploring traditional weaving techniques and working with natural materials. The workshop runs from 1 to 5 p.m. and is suitable for beginners and experienced makers alike. Registration and details at cottagecourses.com.

SEPTEMBER 8

Cardio Dance at The Center on Main
The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. Sept. 1, Sept. 8, Sept. 15, Sept. 22, Sept. 29

Move to the beat with a high-energy cardio dance class every Tuesday in September from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The class is open to all levels, and participants can attend one class or all five. Bring comfortable shoes and a water bottle. No registration is required. Presented in partnership with the Falls Village Recreation Commission.

Life Drawing Workshop with Peter Cusack
Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org
Join artist Peter Cusack for a weekly life drawing workshop from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Working with a live, clothed model, participants will focus on understanding and drawing the human form. No prior drawing experience necessary. Registration requested at scovillelibrary.org.

"Memory in Story": A Discussion Series
Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 10 and Dec. 15

Join literary scholar and book discussion leader Mark Scarborough for a four-part discussion series exploring the role

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

memory plays in novels from the Netherlands, England, the United States and Bulgaria. Discussions take place at 2:30 p.m. in the Hayes Community Room. Titles include Cees Nooteboom's "The Following Story" on Sept. 8, Samantha Harvey's "The Wilderness" on Oct. 6, Katie Kitamura's "Audition" on Nov. 10 and Georgi Gospodinov's "Death and the Gardener" on Dec. 15. Attend one or all sessions. A limited number of copies of each book will be available at the library. Registration is requested at https://bit.ly/MemoryInStory. For more information, visit hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org or call 860-364-5041.

SEPTEMBER 10

Genre Fiction Book Club
Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org
Join this informal book group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. for good snacks, good company and a discussion of "The Spellshop" by Sarah Beth Durst. Registration requested at scovillelibrary.org. Copies are available for loan at the library.

SEPTEMBER 11

"The Guys"
American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn. Herstory Theatre presents Anne Nelson's one-act play "The Guys," a drama about loss, connection and the power of language in the aftermath of Sept. 11. The play follows a New York City fire captain tasked with writing eulogies for eight firefighters killed in the attacks and the journalist who helps him find the words. Doors open at 5 p.m., with the performance at 5:30 p.m. Tickets at americanmuralproject.org

"Fall Colors: Seasonal Influences"
Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli, N.Y. Sept. 11 through Oct. 11

A group exhibition featuring work by more than 20 Hudson Valley artists explores the colors, textures and moods of autumn through abstract painting, photography and relief sculpture. Opening reception Saturday, Sept. 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. Free. More information at tivoliartists-gallery.com.

SEPTEMBER 12

Contra Dance Lessons
The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. Sept. 12, Oct. 10 and Nov. 14

Learn the basics of contra dancing in this three-part beginner series with instructor Tom Scott and fiddler and caller Rachel Gall. Participants will learn dance structure, etiquette and common figures while enjoying live music and meeting other dancers. Classes are 6-8 p.m. and cost \$15-\$20 on a sliding scale. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. More info at thecenteronmain.org/events.

Current Fiction Book Group with Claudia Cayne
Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org
Claudia Cayne leads this informal book discussion from 4 to 5 p.m. This month's selection is "Wilderness" by Angela Flournoy. All are welcome;

registration is not required. Copies are available for loan at the library.

Family Day: AMPasaurus Rex!
American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn. American Mural Project hosts a dinosaur-themed Family Day featuring interactive story time, a scavenger hunt, a dinosaur excavation activity and a hands-on exploration of dinosaur adaptations led by paleontologist Patrick Murphy of Jurassic Classroom. Activities begin at 11 a.m. Admission is free for families, and advance registration is recommended at americanmuralproject.org

Teen Art Studio

American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn. American Mural Project's drop-in Teen Art Studio welcomes ages 13 to 18 for creative exploration, new materials and community. A teaching artist will guide participants as they develop their own ideas in a relaxed, supportive environment. The program runs from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Advance registration is recommended at americanmuralproject.org

SEPTEMBER 13

Closing Reception for 2026 Summer Exhibition at Wassaic Project
Wassaic Project, 37 Furnace Bank Road, Wassaic, N.Y. "Because, now is the time of monsters" closing reception from 2 to 5 p.m. with artists talks, open studios, Ace Lehner's Barbershop performance and more.

"Every Landscape Tells a Story: Introducing Frederic Church's Olana"
Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org
Author, photographer and lecturer Annik LaFarge presents an illustrated talk and book signing introducing Olana, the Hudson Valley landscape created by 19th-century painter Frederic Church. LaFarge's book, "Composing Olana," explores the history of the landscape, from Ice Age geology and the Native peoples who lived there to the artists and conservationists who shaped and preserved it. The program takes place at 3:30 p.m. and is free and open to all, but registration is required. Books will be available for sale. Register at hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/16527163.

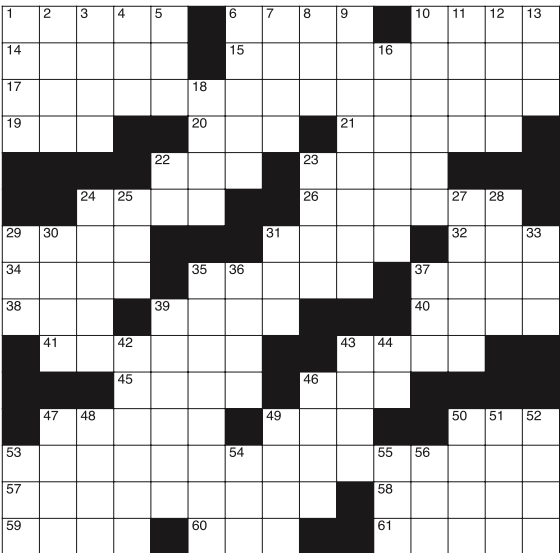
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Manila hemp plant
- 6. Turkish river
- 10. Something to read
- 14. In a way, initiated
- 15. Popular Apple TV series
- 17. King Charles is part of it
- 19. Earlier
- 20. Foot (Latin)
- 21. Zodiac sign
- 22. A browning of the skin
- 23. Remain as is
- 24. Turfs
- 26. It's used to slaughter animals
- 29. Volcanic crater
- 31. The mother of Jesus
- 32. One's life story
- 34. One-time Liverpool coach Slot
- 35. Counterparts
- 37. Jacob __, American journalist
- 38. Digital audiotape
- 39. River in South Africa
- 40. Kimono sashes
- 41. Rooting somewhere
- 43. American spy Aldrich
- 45. A way to call for
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
- 49. Swiss river
- 50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal from a union
- 58. Performs spoken improv
- 59. Greek war god
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Helps to evade capture

CLUES DOWN

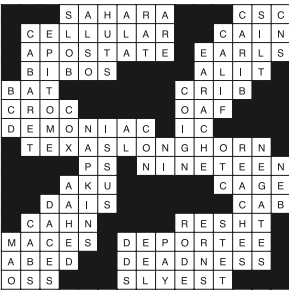
- 1. Swedish rock group
- 2. "Friday Night Lights" director Peter
- 3. Currency exchange fee
- 4. Feline
- 5. Folk singer DiFranco
- 6. Ghostly pale from distress
- 7. Rapid eye movements
- 8. Monetary unit of Macao
- 9. Lawmakers
- 10. Colorless mineral
- 11. At some prior time
- 12. American protest singer
- 13. Opener
- 16. Seldom
- 18. Relaxing places
- 22. Touchdown



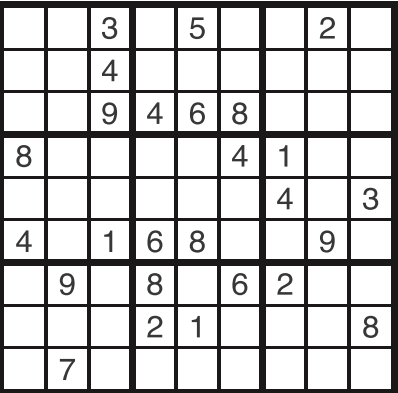
- 23. From end to end
- 24. Kids love him
- 25. Metal-bearing solid
- 27. Skin care product manufacturer
- 28. Thirteen
- 29. Angry
- 30. Member of a Semitic people
- 31. One-thousandth of an inch
- 33. Former CIA
- 35. Most lemony
- 36. Engage in
- 37. Mass of fish eggs
- 39. Food supplies
- 42. Backbones
- 43. American real estate investment firm
- 44. Megabyte
- 46. "Three Coins in the Fountain" songwriter
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Full-grown pike fish

- 49. Emergency prep expert Edwards
- 50. Flute
- 51. Dismissive sound
- 52. Slang term for marijuana
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. Cosmopolitan city
- 55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand
- 56. Pointed end of a pen

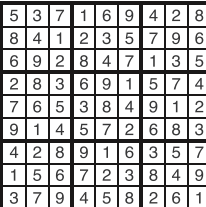
August 27 Solution



Sudoku



August 27 Solution



Level: Intermediate



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OUR TOWNS

North East median home price climbs to \$525K in July

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

MILLERTON — The median home price in the Town of North East reached \$525,000 for the 12-month period ending July 31 — up 3% from the previous year and a 26.5% jump from \$415,000 in July 2024.

Sales activity, however, remains slow. A total of 24 single-family homes changed hands over the past 12 months, down slightly from 26 sales in the prior period. Both years mark a notable drop from the 40 sales recorded during the peak 12-month stretch between August 2023 and July 2024.

The market showed a clear divergence between village and rural properties. Fourteen of the past year's 24 residential transactions took place within the Village of Millerton, accounting for over half of the town's total volume. Village homes logged a median price of \$410,000, while homes outside the village — typically newer construction on larger acreage — fetched a median price of \$690,000.

Inventory going into late summer remained healthy, with 15 active residential listings at the end of August. Eleven of those homes were listed above the \$525,000 median, five topped \$1 million, and roughly half had undergone price reductions.

Land listings remained steady, with nine active parcels on the MLS, including three large estate lots on Skunks Misery Road ranging from \$1.45



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

When the log home at 250 Indian Lake Road, at the corner of Taylor Road, sold in April, its iconic life-sized carved wooden bear left the entrance. The home's \$690,000 price tag matched the trailing 12-month median price for residential properties in the Town of North East outside the Village of Millerton.

million to \$3 million, alongside two on McGhee Hill Road offered at \$475,000 each. The town's four active residential rentals were all listed below \$3,000 per month.

March

167 Smithfield Road — 3 bedroom/1.5 bath home on 2.1 acres transferred to Joseph Libonati for \$542,000.

Boston Corners Road (Parcel # 050410) — 71.9 acres of land transferred to Palumbo Concrete Product for \$50,000.

April

250 Indian Lake Road — 2 bedroom/1 bath log home on 1.41 acres transferred to Garrett Thelander for \$690,000.

Sharon Station Road (Parcel #652925) — 15.43 acres of vacant land transferred to John Elting.

June

129 Morse Hill — 3 bedroom/3.5 bath home on 32.8

acres transferred to John Hoffman for \$1,137,500.

July

34 Maple Ave. — 2 bedroom/1 bath home on 1.15 acres in the Village of Millerton transferred to Harvey Marek for \$610,000.

5 Central Ave. — 3 bedroom/1.5 bath home on 0.17 acres in the Village of Millerton transferred to Natalia Zukerman for \$449,000.

975 Route 83 — 4 bedroom/2 bath cape on 1 acre transferred to Robert Nathan Trustee for \$360,000.

21 Briarwood Lane — 3 bedroom/2.5 bath home on 3.17 acres transferred to Nora Taha for \$800,000.

5627 Route 22 — 5 bedroom/2 bath farm house on 3.53 acres transferred to Evan McCormack for \$440,000.

84 Beilke Road — 4 bedroom/2 bath home on .78

acres transferred to Michael Clemente for \$530,000.

Skunks Misery Road (Parcel # 088727) — 19.4 acres of vacant land transferred to MVT Holdings LLC for \$160,000.

Route 22 (Parcel#125564) — 1.09 acres transferred to Prime 22 LLC for \$330,000.

**Town of North East real estate transfers recorded between March 1, 2026, and July 31, 2026, not previously reported as sales provided by Dutchess County Office of Real Property. Transfers without consideration are not included. Current market listings from First Key MLS. Note that recorded transfers frequently lag sales by a number of days and include properties sold privately. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.*

DUTCHESS COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Harlem Valley area activity report Aug. 24 to Aug. 26

Aug. 24 — Deputies responded to the area of 251 Sand Hill Road in Dover for a male who exposed himself in public. Investigation resulted in the arrest of Trevor Davis, age 30, who was then charged with public lewdness as well as endangering the welfare of a child. Davis is to appear in the Town of Dover Court at a later date.

Aug. 25 — Deputies conducted an investigation at the Town of North East Court relative to a fugitive from justice who was scheduled to appear at that location. Investigation resulted in the arrest of one

Claire Goodman, age 59, who was wanted as a fugitive from justice in Connecticut. Goodman was taken into custody, and is waiting for extradition to the State of Connecticut.

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.



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

Burning beeswax

Stephen Martyniak, 5, fashions a candle out of beeswax with the assistance of his mother, Katie, during a candlemaking workshop at the Amenia Free Library on Saturday, Aug. 29. All supplies needed to make a trio of beeswax candles were provided to participants in the workshop session led by Youth Programming Assistant Michelle Boynton. Another candle making workshop will be offered on Sat., Oct. 10.



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER

More than 75 motorcyclists gather in front of the Millerton Firehouse on Century Boulevard for a quick group picture before they set out on their cruise across Dutchess County.

Riding for a cause

Crew Slater, front, sits on Millerton resident Rob Decker's motorcycle as riders fill the parking lot in front of the Millerton Firehouse on Century Boulevard for a charity motorcycle cruise to help Slater find a kidney donor on Saturday, Aug. 29. Slater was born with congenital kidney disease and will require a kidney transplant.



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Once again, I am surprised at the outdoor opportunities here in the the Northwest corner, this time with a visit to Mount Tom State Park down in Washington Depot. We went early last Sunday morning. There is a wonderful car top boat launch next to the swimming beach. The pond, while relatively small, was delightful. We saw eagles and cormorants, plus lots of early morning distant swimmers. I spoke to one of the swimmers, and she mentioned that she has been swimming in the lake for the past 40 years. A few of the lake owners should win a prize for their rafts that were turned into gardens filled with flowers and tomatoes. The hike up to the tower was worth it for the view and the state workers very hospitable, so for more information, please visit: ctparks.com/parks/mount-tom-state-park.

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The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News seek a Finance Associate to assist with payroll, HR, processing accounts payable, data entry and customer service. Knowledge of accounting, QuickBooks and excel preferred. Must be able to work independently. Full-time with benefits.

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