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OUR TOWNS



U.S. rider Isabel Coxe navigates the fences in the Discovery Land Co. Grand Prix on Sunday, Oct. 4. The Grand Prix is a showjumping competition that sees riders clear 1.5 meter tall fences in a tight arena.

Showjumping competition returns to Amenia for third year

By MADELINE PARK
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — The Discovery Land Company Masters returned to Keane Stud for the third year, drawing top horses and riders from all over the world.

Located at the top of Depot Hill Road is Keane Stud — an equestrian facility on which the Discovery Land Company Masters was held over the course of five days. Riders competed in showjumping classes ranging from 1 to 1.5 meters.

The biggest of the weekend — the 1.5 meter Discovery Land Company Grand Prix — is rated at a 3-star difficulty level by the Federation Equestre Internationale, the governing body of equestrian sports. Competitions of this level draw equestrians and their horses from all over the world, and the Masters is no different, with riders from Panama, Egypt, Israel, and more.

Horses are flown in and stable on site, with a number of them opting to stay the week in between the Masters and the Highlands Cup — also hosted by DLC at Keane Stud on the following weekend, Oct. 7 to Oct. 11.

The show also boasts riders from across the country, many making the trek from equine hub Wellington, Florida, including Kent Farrington. Farrington took home the

\$116,500.00 pot after winning the Discovery Land Co. Grand Prix jump off, with a blazing time of 34.23 seconds, on his horse Rexton. Second and third places were claimed by the U.S.’s Sloane Coles and Jaqueline Ruyle.

Alongside the competition, the Masters boasts an array of shops, art, and places to sit and enjoy the show. The shopping section is arranged alongside the back end of the arena, complete with a concession tent and a picnic area, where guests can pay \$50 to enjoy the competition ring-side, and a free kids area with a bounce house, face painting and pumpkin painting.

The shops are wide ranging in wares — boutique clothing and accessories, home goods, tack and equestrian essentials. One vendor, Natasha Tarasov, has had a pop up of her tack shop The Horse Connection in attendance at every Masters since the first in 2024.

Based in Bedford, New York, Natasha has been running the shop for 30 years. “This year has been a great experience” Tarasov said. “they’ve really blown it out of the park.”

She echoed a number of other shop owners in their praise of the Masters, especially Millbrook’s own Jessie Smith, coordinator of the event and owner of local pop up The Fizzy Filly. Tarasov voiced her thankfulness to the event for bringing in local tack vendors in an era where small tack shops are rapidly disappearing.

“I’ve been super lucky,” Tarasov said. “I have a great customer base, and I’m not going anywhere.”

There was also an installation of art within an enclosed gallery, at the event for its second year, curated by Brendan Murphy and advised by upstate New York-based Aphra Williams.

“I am blown away by the organization,” Williams said. “Everyone has been so lovely, and it’s been a lucrative weekend.”

Silo Ridge’s charity, the Silo Ridge Community Foundation, will receive portions of the proceeds from the artwork and auctioning of a 15-foot-tall bear sculpture resting atop the hill between the barn and the arena.

Meandering through the shops and grounds, two

people stood out more than anyone else. The Hudson Valley’s own Pierre the Mime and Meatball the clown brought a comedic air to the event.

A Sunday exclusive, the pair played pranks on unsuspecting attendees, with Pierre tickling the unaware with a feather, and Meatball donning a loud Scottish Brogue.

“It’s my first time at a horse show, it’s been a lot of fun,” Meatball, who has been clowning since 2011, said. “Good kids and a quiet mime”.

Pierre proved difficult to interview solo, but a representative on site translated for the mime. The representative said Pierre had also never been to a horse show, but was delighted by how playful everyone was. A mime about town, Pierre has worked with the Ringling Bros., John Oliver, and the Kardashians, and has spent decades with the Big Apple Circus in the Clown Care Program. Before the Grand Prix class at the end of the day, Pierre could be seen entertaining riders during the course walk, popping between fences and galloping around like he was meant to be jumping the fences himself.

PHOTO BY KIRSTEN EDLUND-TUNKEL
Pierre the mime entertains onlookers between bouts of competition by galloping around the showjumping arena.

Clarification

An article in the Sept. 1 issue about a celebration of Sam Busselle’s life omitted the names of three founding members of what became the North East Community Center. Besides Sam Busselle and Wendy Curtis, others who were founding members were Bob Riemer, Mike Rindsberg and Bob Quinlan.

Don’t Miss This Week’s Special Inserts! Sales and more!

Check them out inside.

• Herrington’s



STEFANIE HUBERT
Dutchess County Legislature
District 25

Early Voting: Oct. 24- Nov. 1
Election Day: Nov. 3

Paid for by Stefanie Hubert for Dutchess County.



PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Sunny scrimmage

On a sunny fall day that felt more like summer, the Pine Plains Modified football team faced off against Round-out Valley last Wednesday, Sept. 30.



Pine Plains’ Maddox Effect (#19) sprints to the end zone untouched for a second-half score.

DUTCHESS COUNTY SHERIFF’S REPORT

Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office Harlem Valley area activity report Sept. 24 to Sept. 30

Sept. 27 — Deputies responded to 1475 Route 22 in the Town of Dover to investigate a shoplifting complaint. Investigation resulted in the arrest of Franklyn Burgos, age 51, for petit larceny. Burgos to appear in the Town of Dover Court at a later date.

Sept. 29 — Deputies arrested Kelly M. Durkin, age 51, who was the subject of a bench warrant issued for her arrest by the Town of Pawling Court. Durkin to appear in court at a later date.

Sept. 30 — Deputies arrested Jazmin Coleman, age 33, who was the subject of a bench warrant issued for her arrest by the Town of Dover Court. Subject released with an appearance ticket to appear in the Town of Dover Court.

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.

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OUR TOWNS



The Webutuck boys' varsity soccer team hosted Pine Plains on Wednesday, Sept. 30, for a game that ended with another 2-1 Webutuck win.

Wins at home



A Pine Plains player looks on as a teammate battles for possession from one of Webutuck's team captains.



Sunny skies brought a warm air to Webutuck's ball fields for Wednesday's home game.

Cemetery tours in Pine Plains offer a trip through time

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
grahamc@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Tours of Evergreen Cemetery will return to Pine Plains Oct. 23 and 24. Jointly organized by the Little Nine Partners Historical Society and the Pine Plains Library, the tours feature individuals portraying deceased inhabitants of the cemetery.

As guests wind their way through the gravestones, they'll be greeted by all sorts of characters from Pine Plains' past. They'll meet a woman who once ran the Barton Boarding House, one of the grand Victorian hotels that lined Millerton's Main Street. The Barton was destroyed in the great fire of 1891.

There's also a visit from the founder of the Harris Scythe Works, an early member of the Hammertown iron industry. In the late 1700s, Joseph Harris learned the trade of scythe-making from a man he enslaved. His nephew, John Harris, followed suit, and opened his own scythe works in 1783.

As ore and steel flowed through the region, the family business flourished. At its peak in 1850, Harris Scythe Works was producing 18,000 scythes a year, according to the Little Nine Partners Historical Society.

Revolutionary War soldiers, ministers and wayward youths will also appear in this

year's tours, telling their stories through conversation, soliloquy and song.

Evergreen Cemetery dates to the early 1800s and holds the graves of many of the area's esteemed and intriguing residents. Historical Society President Dyan Wapnick said Pine Plains residents often suggest local ancestors as subjects for the tours. She also spends time scouring FindAGrave.com for biographical information about those buried there.

"People are adding to it all the time," Wapnick said. "It's one of my main sources for biographical information and photos."

This will be the ninth consecutive year the historical society has organized the cemetery tours. Wapnick credits two of her Pine Plains neighbors, Robert Lyons and Lenora Champagne, with reviving the cemetery tours after the previous organizers disbanded. The task of finding subjects, writing scripts, and directing the tours is largely split between the three of them. Stissing Theatre Guild contributes costuming help. "It's very much a community event," Wapnick said. "Our goal is to bring the history of Pine Plains to the community in a fun way."

Groups will depart every half hour, starting at 6 p.m. Adult tickets are \$20, and just \$10 for seniors and students. Kids under 5 are free. They're available for purchase online. The tour begins at 19 Maple St., next door to The Pines.

And while the tour isn't designed to be scary, the event organizers note that "being in an old cemetery at night could be scary for some people. Also, Evergreen Cemetery has resident buzzards who fly home here to roost every evening, which could be either unsettling or cool depending on your point of view."

Amenia Town Board to name a planning consultant

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Town Board members are seeking a planning consultant to assist in drafting regulations for accessory dwelling units.

Acting on a request by the Housing Board, the Town Board voted to begin the process of collecting proposals from professional town planners with an interest in taking on the assignment.

The action was approved by unanimous vote of the town board at its regular meeting on Thursday, Oct. 1.

An accessory dwelling unit, commonly known as an ADU, is a separate residence in addition to an existing home. Neighboring towns such as the Town of North East have adopted local laws that allow homeowners to build ADUs

to promote housing development.

The planning consultant will assist Town Attorney Ian Lindars in creating a new local law that will define the requirements under which homeowners may create an ADU on their property. The consultant will also review existing zoning codes to provide clarification, and in particular, differentiate between an accessory apartment and an ADU. To further clarify the current zoning code, the consultant will be asked to coordinate current workforce housing provisions with the new ADU provisions as well as to assist Lindars with creating a local law to grant a tax exemption for properly established ADUs.

Proposals will be accepted until Thursday, Oct. 29.

2027 Town Budget process

With the 2027 local budget proposal process beginning soon, the Town Board has drafted a local law to allow for the possibility that the annual tax cap may need to be exceeded to increase tax revenues to meet expenses for the coming year.

The Town Board scheduled a required public hearing on the tax cap, scheduling it for Thursday, Nov. 5, at 7 p.m.

Property tax income may be less than is needed to meet expenses of providing for town services in view of expected increasing annual costs for necessities including insurance, supplies and fuel. The tax cap would limit the town to a 2% increase or an increase no more than the rate of inflation, noted Town Supervisor Rosanna Hamm.

"We can pass the local law,

but it doesn't mean we will exceed the tax cap," Hamm explained, as the budget process is in the early stages.

Fountain Square Renovations—site survey

As recommended by Lindars, an effort is proceeding to gather input from those "stakeholders" who would have an interest in the project to renovate Fountain Square.

"It doesn't hurt to reach out earlier rather than later," said councilwoman Vicki Doyle, suggesting contacting the Enhancement Committee, the Veterans of Foreign Wars officials, the Bank of Millbrook, and any other organizations who have an interest in the central public area and its uses.

Doyle said input from those entities could bring valuable ideas.

Town Service Opportunities

Reminding residents of

the rewards of stepping up and volunteering for community service, councilman Walter Dietrich urged residents to consider serving. Information on available board and committee vacancies can be found on the town website.

"A thriving town requires active participation from its citizens," Dietrich said.

A related concern voiced by Dietrich was attendance at regularly scheduled meetings of the various town boards and committees. Both attendance and training requirements are codified within town regulations, Dietrich said. He asked that all chairpersons of local boards and committees review the attendance records of their members and comply with regulations by reporting to the Town Board before Dec. 1 any excessive absence or failure to complete training.

Ritchie's Deli to celebrate 20 years in Amenia

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
grahamc@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — For 20 years, the unique sandwiches at Ritchie's Deli have kept Amenia fed. That's cause for celebration — and on Oct. 25, they'll do just that.

The deli will offer breakfast and lunch specials, a cannoli bar, and host vendors with a photo booth and mocktails in the plaza from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Opal Revival, the neighboring women's apparel store, will also offer sales for the occasion, and a cozy fire for warmth and ambience.

Ritchie's owner Lucy Abad has run the deli, located at 8 Old North Road off of Route 44, since taking over for her parents in 2018. The family started Ritchie's in 2006. "We

realized immediately that the area had a great community," Abad said. "Even if you don't know someone, people will just sit with each other and start talking to get to know one another. Some people call it 'Cheers' in here," referring to the iconic TV show set in a neighborhood Boston bar.

When Abad became the proprietor in 2018, she kept the menu intact. The deli is best known for its Cowboy sandwich — roast beef and mozzarella with bacon and barbecue sauce. It was even mentioned in a New York Times article on Amenia in 2025.

What she did instead was expand the deli's catering business. Over the past eight years, Ritchie's has

become a go-to for private parties, weddings, and any other area event that needs bellies filled. "I don't really do a lot of advertising," said Abad, "so a lot of it is really word of mouth."

After 20 years, Ritchie's impact in the community can be measured in more than dollars and cents. "It's amazing now to see these kids that I saw grow up," she continued. "They're getting married, starting careers, and now they're coming back in with their own babies. It's an honor, to be honest."

Ritchie's deli is located on 8 Old North Road in Amenia. The sandwich shop is open from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. Sunday's hours are 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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OBITUARIES

Gretchen Rath Doolittle

WEST CORNWALL — Gretchen Rath Doolittle, former longtime faculty member and Director of Studies at both the Indian Mountain School in Lakeville, Connecticut, and South Kent School in South Kent, Connecticut, died quietly at home on Sunday, Sept. 20, after spending the day surrounded by family and neighbors. She had kidney cancer.

Gretchen Rath, who as a young adult took her mother’s name (Dewitt) as a middle name, was born on Oct. 26, 1933, in Washington, DC to Gordon Brandon Rath, a veteran of the Great War, and Dewitt (Gertrude) Norris Rath.

As a child, Gretchen was a member of Saint Albans Episcopal Church, parish church of the Washington National Cathedral, where she sang in the Children’s Choir. During World War II, at the age of 11, she was called on to christen a Liberty ship, the SS George W. Norris, named after her late grandfather, who was a long-serving maverick US senator from Nebraska. She attended Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington, DC, and Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont. There she met her husband,

Jerome Hill Doolittle, the late novelist whose eclectic career brought him from journalism to diplomacy, speechwriting, and teaching, and brought the family from Washington to Morocco and Laos and then to the northwestern corner of Connecticut. She often told stories about traveling abroad, including a memorable ocean crossing to Morocco through an Atlantic hurricane on the defunct American Presidents Line with four young children, and without her husband who had travelled ahead. After returning to the United States, the family settled in the northwest corner of Connecticut where husband Jerome had spent much of his childhood. Because of his work, for several years, Jerome divided his time between Connecticut and Washington and later Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Gretchen cared for five sons while working full-time and often managing family illness that for many weeks at a time required her to drive 90 minutes to Hartford and back after her own workday—she estimated that she drove more than 100 miles a day!

Gretchen remained a constant presence in the community and was involved in professional and civic orga-

nizations here for almost 60 years. For nearly 20 years, Gretchen was chairman of the Department of Mathematics and Director of Studies at the Indian Mountain School, arriving shortly after the retirement of her father-in-law, William Doolittle, headmaster for many years. After leaving to earn her master’s degree in education at Harvard University in 1991, she joined the faculty at South Kent School, where for 15 years she taught calculus and algebra and also served as Director of Studies before retiring in 2007. She tutored students before and after retirement, and a number went on, not only to pass their classes, but to teach mathematics themselves.

For many years, Gretchen served at various times in every executive position in the Cornwall Civic Club, which provided an affordable beach in Cornwall in the years before that town opened its own public beach. She was likewise a longtime member of the Democratic Town Committee in Sharon, Connecticut, serving in a number of officer positions, and a member of the board of the Cream Hill Lake Association in Cornwall, serving a number of terms as both vice president and presi-

dent. She also served on the boards of the Cornwall Public Library and Prime Time House, a mental health charity in Torrington, Connecticut. She donated blood annually to the Red Cross for more than five decades, and was generous with her time and money, making regular small donations to the local food pantry and more than a dozen organizations mostly in the northwest corner of Connecticut. Although she was a fixture in Cornwall for many years, for decades she also kept up with friends from her childhood and youth, and well into her eighties attended annual destination reunions with the “Midd Mamas,” a group of women friends from her undergraduate days at Middlebury College.

Gretchen was an accomplished cook and hostess, frequently opening her house to friends and family for dinner or other meals, or in the case of some friends of her teenage sons, for an entire summer. Easter celebrations at the Doolittle house became a neighborhood institution for more than 25 years, with egg hunts for children invited from all over town, and sometimes neighboring towns. Some years she made

as many as five elaborate Christmas dinners to accommodate the schedules of her sons and their families, and she prepared and transported all the food for the wedding rehearsal dinners of her sons and one of her nieces. She once hosted an entire wedding reception for a young colleague whose parents were not able to travel, and made all the food, complete with a four-tier traditional wedding fruitcake, which required more than 14 pounds of sugar for the icing alone.

Gretchen was happiest when she was with her grandchildren, or talking about them, and in her last months as she began to suffer more from effects of her illness, she marveled over and over again about their accomplishments in school and early careers.

She is survived by her twelve grandchildren; Nicholas Hanzalik, Eliza Doolittle, Lauren Hanzalik, Bethany Doolittle, Samuel Doolittle, Tessa Doolittle, Anayis Doo-

little, Hannah Doolittle, Georgia Doolittle, Eve Doolittle, Wyatt Doolittle, and Brooks Doolittle. Also surviving are five sons; Timothy and wife Colleen Doolittle of Oakdale, Minnesota; Theodore Doolittle and wife Kathryn Engustian of West Hartford; Jonathan Doolittle and wife Blair McElroy of Greenbrae, California; Michael and wife Amity Doolittle of New Haven and Santa Fe; and Matthew Doolittle of New York and West Cornwall. After nearly 68 years of marriage, her husband died in 2023. Her brother George Norris Rath died in 2015.

Funeral services will be held at the North Cornwall Meeting House (United Church of Christ) on Cogswell Road in West Cornwall on Saturday, Oct. 17 at 1:30 PM.

A celebration of life for family and friends will also take place in 2027 at a time and place to be determined.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Oresta O. Szeparowycz

PINE PLAINS — Oresta O. Szeparowycz was born Nov. 17, 1938, in Lviv, Ukraine, and died on Aug. 26, 2026, in Dover Plains, New York, after a long, remarkable life. A talented artist, she passed away in her sleep, from cancer, just days before the opening of her inaugural sculpture exhibit in Millerton. She was 87.

The daughter of the late Daria and Omelian Szeparowycz, her birth name was Orysia but she changed it to Oresta in the early 1950s, soon after arriving in New York City from a displaced persons camp in Germany. Both names stem from the ancient Greek for “of the mountains.”

She graduated from Washington Irving High School in Manhattan and was awarded a full scholarship to the Pratt Institute. Although initially studying architecture, she fell in love with painting and ultimately earned a degree in fine arts. She was also invited to attend the prestigious Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, in Maine.

In 1963, during the height of the Cold War, the USIA

(United States Information Agency) hired her as a guide and interpreter for the first American graphic arts exhibition and tour of the Soviet Union. Highlights were the standing-room-only lectures given in Moscow by Norman Rockwell, which Oresta, fluent in Russian, translated. By the early 1970s, married to an aspiring actor and living in Brooklyn, she was teaching art at the Chapin School and employed part-time by the city’s department of cultural affairs. Involved in the community activism of the day, Oresta helped establish an early, pioneering arts center in Park Slope. However, neither marriage nor regular employment agreed with her, and she escaped to the Greek islands, settling in a rustic shepherd’s hut on Crete, where she spent two years creating stone sculptures inspired by its mountains and extraordinary light.

In 1986, her first solo painting exhibition was held at the

Ukrainian Institute of America on East 79th Street, and filled with vibrant works that reflected the lush, Rousseau-like beauty of her subsequent travels to the Dominican Republic, the Bahamas, and Southeast Asia.



Her successful freelance career encompassed window displays for Bergdorf Goodman and numerous paintings for private celebrity clients, including actor Yvette Mimieux and television reporter Gabe Pressman. She was represented by two major galleries in Beverly Hills at that point, leading to design commissions from the House of Saud and portraits for the Thai royal family. Returning to New York in the 1990s, she and a partner purchased property on the Ten Mile River where, working outdoors, Oresta contracted a rare combination of tick-borne illnesses that inspired a 60-page art-book collage aptly titled “Ticked Off.”

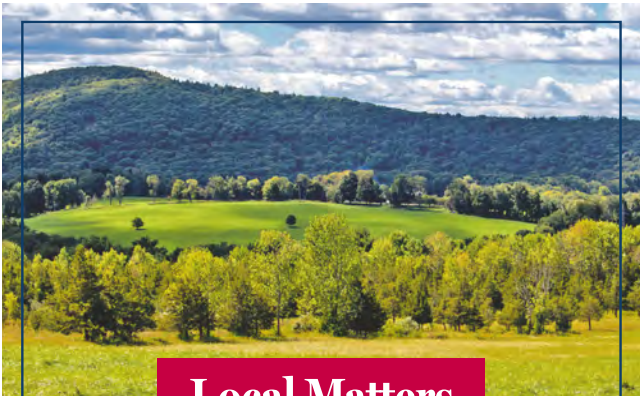
By then living in Dover

Plains, Oresta continued creating the kind of mystical stone sculptures, or petras, she’d first been inspired to make in Crete, only now with shale gathered from Dutchess County hilltops.

“I used my art as a healing force and source of empowerment,” she once wrote in an artist’s statement. “Art was and is my lifeboat. It takes me to unimaginable destinations where I can search for the light within myself and in my work.”

She is survived by her nephew, Mark Sheparovich of Redwood City, California, and by many beloved friends. Her memorial service will take place at 11 a.m. this Saturday, Oct. 10, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 40 Leedsville Road, Amenia Union, N.Y.

Instead of flowers, donations are welcome at both the Food of Life food pantry <https://www.stthomasamenia.com/ways-to-give> and Episcopal Relief and Development - Ukraine Crisis <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/press-releases/supporting-humanitarian-response-to-the-crisis-in-ukraine/>



Local Matters

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Realtor® at Large

In the CT Mirror this week there is a delightful article about the historic confusion that has existed regarding the town names of Canaan (Falls Village) and North Canaan. The towns separated in 1858 and ever since there has been confusion about who is who! So please visit this article to understand, perhaps, the history of this at: ctmirror.org/2026/10/04/where-exactly-is-canaan-conn-there-are-at-least-two-answers/



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Week of October 11, 2026

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info@congbethdavid.org

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860-435-9496
Lakevillemethodist@snet.net

Falls Village Congregational Church

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The Sharon United Methodist Church

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860-364-5634
sharonumc5634@att.net

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St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville
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Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary
Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church
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Thursday 8am
Immaculate Conception Church
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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
canaanctumc@gmail.com
We hope you will join us!

EDITORIAL

Hidden in plain sight

It happens in homes, relationships and families that may look peaceful from the outside. It happens to people we see every day, people we think we know well, and it happens to strangers and acquaintances. Sometimes there is a police report or a court filing. Often, there is not.

Domestic violence is often hidden in plain sight. That is part of what makes Domestic Violence Awareness Month difficult. The problem is not that people do not know domestic violence exists. It is that abuse can be hard to see, hard to name and hard to talk about.

Here in Dutchess County, Grace Smith House provides confidential services for people experiencing domestic violence, including a 24-hour hotline, counseling, court advocacy, emergency shelter and transitional housing. Its work extends across the county, including the communities of eastern Dutchess.

Abuse can include physical violence, but also threats, intimidation, stalking, isolation, financial control and other efforts to control another person. It can build over time. It can be difficult for friends and family to recognize, and difficult for the person experiencing it to know what to do next.

Awareness also needs to begin before a relationship reaches that point.

Grace Smith House works in schools and communities across Dutchess County on bullying, digital abuse and relationship violence prevention. Young people — and adults — need to understand what healthy relationships look like: respect for boundaries, independence, disagreement without intimidation and the ability to say no without fear.

And when a relationship has become abusive, we still hear some version of the question: Why didn't they just leave?

There is often no "just" about it. Leaving can mean finding housing, money, transportation, child care, legal help and a safe place to go. It can mean making all of those decisions while afraid of what may happen next.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month is useful only if awareness leads somewhere — toward recognizing unhealthy behavior earlier, understanding abuse when it occurs and knowing where help can be found.

LET'S HEAR IT...

THIS WEEK

From hearty soups and cozy casseroles to apple pies and pumpkin treats, fall is the perfect time to break out your favorite recipes. Whether it's a family recipe passed down through generations or a new seasonal favorite, we want to know what you're cooking this time of year.

What's your favorite fall recipe?

Send your responses to social@lakevillejournal.com by Monday, Oct. 12 at 10 a.m. or comment on Facebook or Instagram. We'll publish a selection in next week's paper.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Are rising home heating oil costs a concern for you this year?

"No issue because my oil vendor has cap pricing where I pay them a discounted monthly fee for x amount of reserved gallons. No surprises. Kunoco is amazing."
— Kristopher Koehler

"Seniors on Social Security are having problems already."
— Karen Sarles McGinness

"Yes. Major concern. Could barely get fuel earlier this year at \$600 for 150 gallons, now it feels impossible. Gonna hold off as long as possible!"
— Elizabeth Vincent

"A huge concern! Huge! I'm not sure how people are going to manage!! Guarantee there will be insane amounts of people applying for HEAP!"
— Sarah Cahill Funk

YOUR NEWS

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The Lakeville Journal
MILLERTON NEWS

COMPASS

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Coverage missed key points in Keane Stud hearing

Although my concerns are directly addressed to the Millerton News, in its "Our Towns" coverage of the Amenia Planning Board Public Hearing on September 23, the Journal editor may also be interested.

This hearing dealt with a developer's proposal (Keane Stud) to build mini-mansions spread out upon the classic, celebrated "View from Delavergne Hill", a matter of concern to anyone who drives or has driven the Old Sharon Turnpike, now Route 44, between Poughkeepsie and the Berkshires. There is that magic moment when one rounds the hairpin turn and when the whole Harlem Valley Agricultural Landscape opens up with the Taconics in the

distance.

Coverage of my comments in your coverage of the Hearing:

First, my presentation was misrepresented as though I was merely speaking for myself as an individual who owns the General Store in Wassaic. However, I clearly stated that I was speaking on behalf of the Civic Committee to Save the View From Delavergne Hill, a group that has been gathering signatures against development of any kind in this viewshed. The Co-Chairs are Dr. Julian Strauss and William C. Kroeger. I am functioning as the Secretary and in this hearing I presented 14 pages of petition signatures to the Planning Board for our Committee. This was

not mentioned and I was not identified accurately.

The second thing I did on behalf of the Committee was to brandish the large green training manual for Planning Boards in New York State that was put out jointly by Hudson Valley Greenway and Dutchess County Planning, which actually uses this "View from Delavergne Hill" as it's prime example of the kind of viewshed that should be given permanent protection, while housing land use should be put in other types of locations. All this action, content and documentation was omitted from your coverage.

Other major omission: The other error in coverage of that event was in regard to former Amenia Town

Supervisor Leo Blackman's eloquent statement. Leo, an accomplished land use planner, spoke against any future development of those agricultural fields and forests in this viewshed which are directly visible from the NY State designated Observation Point on Delavergne Hill, part of the State Scenic Roads Program. Blackman should have been identified in your coverage as the "former Town Supervisor" not merely as a "resident of Wassaic" and the viewshed as it is generally known in local history and culture, as well as in the Master Plan (1990) and the Comprehensive Plan (2008) and the State Scenic Road Program. (blue signs)

Sharon Daniel Kroeger
Amenia

Finding ways to break free from heating oil

I moved from Long Island to Amenia in 2023. I've done COD oil delivery for years. When I purchased my house the existing oil company contract transferred to me. I didn't renew at the end of that contract and resumed COD deliveries. Fortunately, last season I watched the oil prices very closely. I didn't pay over \$4/gallon last season. It just so happened that I needed oil when the prices dipped here and there. After watching the price of oil spike and change very rapidly

I had a pellet stove installed in March, 2026. Even while living in the previous home I had long considered purchasing a wood stove or pellet stove for pleasure and possibly for heating. My original intention was to use it as a back up heating method but it heats my entire 2,500 sq ft. colonial!

Then there's hot water. When the pellet stove was installed I had recently had my oil tank filled for 3.749/gallon. I had about 3/4 tank at the time. Prices skyrocketed after that. Since then the

oil has been used up to heat my home's domestic water. It's time for another oil delivery. Instead, I purchased and installed a hybrid hot water heater and shut my oil burner off. Drained the baseboards and everything. My garage is filled with several tons of pellets and my oil burner will remain off this winter. I couldn't be more pleased with the water heater. I'm expecting the electric bill to bump up but not to the tune of purchasing a season's worth of oil consumption. Remains to be seen but in the cold months I

use a tank of oil each month.

Another thing I did last year was make and install my own storm windows. Those have cut down and eliminated some drafts completely! Of course, I do thermal panel curtains, lift the blinds way up in sunny windows, and everything else I can to harness/save heat.

The deal with the oil prices is frightening. I'm grateful that I could make the changes I did. Many cannot and that's unfortunate.

Karen Bryson
Amenia

Amenia needs growth as well as open space

I would like to clarify my position on the Keane Stud Subdevelopment application as relates to my statement at the Public Hearing on Sept. 23.

I did say as part of my statement that I do not want to see the rural character of our town disappear. However, the impression that was left by adding "echoing the concerns of other speakers" in the Oct. 1 article, leaves the impression that I am against that planned subdivision. Nothing could be further from the truth. I also said that I felt that the plans submitted to the Planning Board help to maintain the rural character of Amenia. But the point I tried to stress most is that Amenia needs to expand its tax base if we want a town that our children, seniors and new families will be able to afford to live in. Many of the comments against Keane Stud spoke about the "ultrarich" buying property in our town. We have almost

no businesses, and Silo Ridge, which pays 52% of the property taxes in Amenia, faces attacks and resentment on a regular basis.

I think we all appreciate the beauty of our landscape, that is a large part of why we live here. But the Keane Stud plan retains much of the acreage as open land. Many of the people who spoke against the Keane Stud subdivision are in favor of a 26-house subdivision on a small portion of a 24-acre plot across from Freshtown. That concentration is certainly less in line with "rural character" than Keane Stud, but it seems the concern depends on whose backyard the houses are located in and how much money the buyers have. I don't care how much money someone else has if they are helping to keep my taxes at a level that I can afford.

Judy Moran
Amenia

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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

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OUR TOWNS

Horses take center stage at Equus Effect fundraiser

By RUTH EPSTEIN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — The audience at the 12th annual Equus Effect event Saturday, Oct. 3, at Highlands Hudson Valley Equestrian Center at Keane Stud watched in awe as horses and their riders circled the ring with precision and grace.

The demonstrations highlighted the partnership between horses and people while showcasing The Equus Effect, a Sharon-based non-profit whose mission is to help veterans, first responders and their families build healthy relationships through guided engagement with horses.

This year's event took a new twist. After weeks of soaking rain at The Equus Effect's farm in Sharon, organizers moved the gathering to the equestrian center's enclosed barn.

In addition to demonstrating how the organization's horses work with clients, this year's presentation explored the roles horses have played throughout history.

Founder Jane Strong described how their uses and physical characteristics have changed over time.

First came an example of an early warhorse. As Pasquale, a horse, pranced around the ring, Strong explained how



A horse and rider demonstrate their partnership at The Equus Effect's annual fundraiser Saturday, Oct. 3.

those movements served a practical purpose in battle. As the centuries passed, thoroughbreds were introduced, prized for their speed and athleticism.

"They could go fast, forward and up," she said as Olaf, a horse, charmed the audience. "They were more lean and muscular."

Lastly, Callahan, one of the horses, demonstrated the work of a Western ranch horse. "Their saddle and purpose were different," Strong said. "They would work on ranches and perform such duties as tracking cows."

Following the horse show, a video featured clients describing how The Equus Effect had helped them.

Veterans who returned from war struggling to express their emotions spoke about learning to communi-

cate their feelings. Emergency medical workers described finding ways to talk about the traumatic incidents they had encountered.

One war veteran said in the film that he found the horses responding to his energy and emotions.

"I felt a wave of relief come over me. I started to cry for the first time in many years."

The event ended with an appeal for donations to support the organization's work. One donor agreed to contribute \$64,000 to sponsor groups of veterans and first responders through the coming year.

Other donations supported a couples retreat at \$6,000; a group for Blue and Gold Star mothers at \$6,000; a horse care fund at \$1,000; blankets and barn supplies at \$500; and carrots, apples and molasses cookies at \$250.



PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Pine Plains tops Taconic Hills

The Pine Plains girls' modified field hockey team won 3-0 against Taconic Hills Wednesday, Sept. 30. The Pine Plains Bombers jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the first half, then scored two more in the fourth quarter to close things out.



Millbrook Toys for Tots taking donations

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — The Millbrook Police Department has announced the start of its annual Toys for Tots collection program, partnering as in

the past with the U.S. Marine Corps and the Dutchess County Toys for Tots campaign.

A collection box is set up at the Village Hall to receive new, unwrapped toys. Every donation, whether large or small, will contribute to a lo-

cal child's Christmas and help local families to celebrate the holiday season.

The Village Hall lobby is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. The campaign will end on Friday, Dec. 18.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice
Ducillo Fine Carpentry LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 5/3/2026. Office located in Dutchess Co. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: LegalZoom USCA, Inc., 45 Main Street, Suite 238, Brooklyn NY 11201. Purpose: any lawful activity.

09-10-26
09-17-26
09-24-26
10-01-26
10-08-26
10-15-26

Legal Notice
Notice is hereby given that a license, number NA-0240-25-215405 for beer, wine and cider has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, wine and cider at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 130 US-44, Millerton, Town of North East, Dutchess County, New York for on premises consumption. Regen Foods LLC d/b/a Pasture Kitchen.

10-01-26
10-08-26

Legal Notice
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DISCO PICNIC LLC Articles of Organization filed with the New York Secretary of State on 06/22/2026. Office located in Dutchess County. Principal business location: 59 Yellow City Road, Amenia, NY, 12501. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of process to: 59 Yellow City Road, Amenia, NY, 12501. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

09-24-26
10-01-26
10-08-26
10-15-26
10-22-26
10-29-26

Legal Notice
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LAUREN WOLFENDEN LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/06/2026. Office location: Dutchess County. Principal business location: 331 Market Lane, Clinton Corners, NY 12514. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to Lauren Wolfenden at the principal business location. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

10-01-26
10-08-26
10-15-26
10-22-26
10-29-26
11-05-26

Notice of Budget Hearing
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Amenia Fire District will hold the Annual Fire District Budget Hearing to be conducted with reference to the Annual Fire District Budget for fiscal year 2027 on Tuesday, October 20, 2026 commencing at 7:00 P.M. at the Amenia Fire District located at 36 Mechanic Street, Amenia,, New York. All meetings of the Board of Fire Commissioners are open to the public. This notice is being publicized and posted in accordance with the provisions of Section 104 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York by order of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Amenia Fire District. Dated: Amenia, New York, September 14, 2026. Dawn Marie Klingner District Secretary

10-08-26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of

North East, Dutchess County, New York, on Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 7:00 PM or soon thereafter as possible, in the Town Hall, 19 North Maple Avenue, Millerton, New York, on the application of Scot Dean, owner of tax parcel #7172-00-986006, for a front yard area variance to build a garage. The parcel is located at 6126 Route 22 Millerton, NY 12546, in the A5A Zoning District of the Town of North East. The above application is open for inspection at the Town Hall. Persons wishing to appear at such hearing may do so in person or by other representatives. Communications in writing relating thereto may be filed with the Board at such hearing. Dated: 9/28/2026 Edith Greenwood Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals

10-08-26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF AMENIA
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Amenia on the 5th day of November, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, New York, regarding the proposed Local Law known as Local Law No. ____ of 2026 entitled "a Local Law of the Town of Amenia to Override the Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2027 Established in General Municipal Law § 3-c." PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that this Local Law would authorize the Town Board to adopt a budget for fiscal year 2027 that requires a real property tax levy, and to levy real property taxes, in excess of the tax levy limit pursuant to General Municipal Law § 3-c, if necessary. PLEASE TAKE FUR-

OTHER NOTICE that any resident of the Town of Amenia shall be entitled to be heard upon said proposed Local Law at such Public Hearing. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the proposed Local Law No. ____ of the Year 2026 is available for review and inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk during regular office hours, at Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, New York, and on the Town's website at www.ameniany.gov. Dated: Amenia, New York. October 1, 2026. BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD DAWN MARIE KLINGNER TOWN CLERK

10-08-26

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Pine Plains invites bids for furnishing all labor and materials necessary for the reconstruction pedestrian sidewalks serving the Pine Plains Town Center Park, located at the intersection of NYS Routes 199 and 82, Pine Plains, New York. The installation will include all required materials, tools, labor, excavation, and expertise, under the requirements to reconstruct 165 linear feet of 3-foot wide (55 SY) pathway and 15 ft x 20 ft pergola area into stamped asphalt concrete sidewalk. All such sealed proposals must be received by the office of the Town of Pine Plains, Town Clerk, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York 12567 until 12:30PM on October 14th, 2026, at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be in sealed envelopes, clearly marked "Town Center Park Sidewalk". Copies of the request for proposal and the forms of proposals for the contract, are available for pick up

TOWN OF PINE PLAINS DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Town of Pine Plains Planning Board on the 14th day of October 2026 at 7:35PM at

and for public inspection at the office of the Town of Pine Plains, Secretary to the Supervisor, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York 12567, during business hours, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and become available September 30th, 2026. An electronic document is available upon request by emailing the Secretary of the Supervisor at supervisor.secretary@pineplains-ny.gov. The work shall be substantially completed within 60 calendar days of the date of the Notice to Proceed. All proposals shall be made and received upon the following conditions, which are more fully set forth in the bid documents:

1. Only such proposals as are made and filed upon the forms available in the Bid Documents will be accepted.
2. Proposals are to be enclosed in a sealed envelope.
3. Pursuant to the provisions of GML 105, no bids may be withdrawn unless no contract is awarded for more than 45 days after the opening thereof.
4. All bids shall contain the non-collusion certificate in a form meeting the requirements of GML 103-d.

The Town of Pine Plains reserves the right, in its discretion, to waive technical noncompliance or irregularities that are not material or substantial, and to reject all bids and to rebid the project.

10-08-26

TOWN OF PINE PLAINS DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Town of Pine Plains Planning Board on the 14th day of October 2026 at 7:35PM at

the Town Hall, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York, for the purpose of hearing all persons for or against an application submitted by Catherine and Michael Dillinger for a special use permit and site plan for a proposed accessory dwelling unit located at 49 Beach Road Town of Pine Plains, Dutchess County, Tax Map ID #134200-6871-00-05994-0000. Any resident of the Town of Pine Plains shall be entitled to be heard regarding said application. The application is available for review during regular business hours at the Pine Plains Town Hall. By order of: Town of Pine Plains Planning Board

10-08-26

TOWN OF PINE PLAINS DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Town of Pine Plains Planning Board on the 14th day of October 2026, at 7:45 PM at the Town Hall, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York, for the purpose of hearing all persons for or against a minor subdivision application submitted by Andrea MacArthur for property located at 317 Skunks Misery Road, Town of Pine Plains, Dutchess County, State of New York, Tax Map No. 134200-7071-00-950355-0000. Any resident of the Town of Pine Plains shall be entitled to be heard regarding said application. The application is available for review during regular business hours at the Pine Plains Town Hall. By order of: Town of Pine Plains Planning Board

10-08-26

2026 SALISBURY FALL FESTIVAL

October 9-11

www.salisburyfallfestival.org



Ongoing

Scarecrow Contest

Enjoy the scarecrows along Main Street of Salisbury and Lakeville. Then vote for your favorites — ballots are available at the White Hart Inn, Salisbury General Store, and Grassland Dessert Cafe.

Friends of Scoville Library Giant Book Sale

Friday, 9 to 10 a.m.: Early bird buying, \$10.
Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Free admission
Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: ½ price sale, free admission

St. John's Episcopal Church

Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Coffee and baked goods. Left Bank Bookstalls (outside)
Sunday, 12 to 2 p.m.: Left Bank Bookstalls (outside).

Fall Festival Bake Sale

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church

Wild Iron Forge

Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Watch a blacksmithing demonstration by William Trowbridge on the lawn near St. John's Church..

Lakeville Mexican Grill

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Free passed appetizers and 1 free drink!

Salisbury Congregational Church

Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Quilt Show, Treasure Trove Tag Sale, Quilt Raffle Ticket Sales, Prayer Shawl Display, Green Team Display/Plant Giveaway, East Mountain House, Greek Orthodox Church Bake Sale
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Hot Dog Tent

All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church – at Salisbury Congregational Church

Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Country Store featuring Greek pastries, pies, cookies, honey, maple syrup, cheese, and more.

Salisbury Association

Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday, 12 to 4 p.m.
Visit our booth and learn about the many projects and activities of the Land Trust, Historical Society, and Community Events. See exhibits about the local iron industry, pocket knives, and antique purses.

Johnnycake Books

Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
All books \$100 or less are ½ price.

Morgan's

at the Interlaken Inn
Friday and Saturday, 5 to 9 p.m.
Enjoy 20% discount, alcohol excluded. Just say “Fall Festival” to receive the discount.

Friday, October 9th

Fall Festival Outdoor Film Night

5:45 p.m.
The “Sheep Detectives”, rated PG, Real sheep from Le Petit Ranch will watch the movie with us outside on the library lawn!

Saturday, October 10th

Salisbury Congregational Church

In addition to ongoing weekend events
12 to 3 p.m.: Antique Car Rides, Simple Children's Face Painting, Kid's Hay Search Game
11 a.m. and 2 p.m.: Magician Show

TimeOut Foundation

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
On the Scoville Library Lawn. Come meet us, Tater, one of our sanctuary horses, and learn about our program offerings. (If there is inclement weather, Tater will not be able to attend)

Hay Rides and Wreath Sale

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
\$5 Adults, \$2 Kids.
All children must be accompanied by an adult. Wreaths can be purchased at the hay ride table or from any 8th grader with a clipboard. All proceeds go toward the SCS 8th grade class trip to Washington, DC.

Crafts and Games

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Library lawn
SOAR, EXTRAS, Indian Mountain School, HYSB, SCS 8th Grade Class

Salisbury Handmade Group

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., White Hart lawn
A juried group of local artisans.

Facepainting

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Library lawn
Stop by the Happy Facepainter's booth for her wonderful works of art.

Antique Car Rides

10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Go for a spin in an antique car, beginning and ending at the Congregational Church.

Lakeville Hose Company Ladies Auxiliary

11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Main St.
Fall Comfort Food Tent

Salisbury Band Quickstep Hotshots

12 to 1:30 p.m., Bandstand on Library lawn

Magic Shows with Housatonic Child Care Center

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Main St.
Information about our enrollment and games for kids!

Live Jazz Music

12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., in front of the Salisbury General Store
Local jazz musician Eric Loffswold performs.

Blue Studio Dance Performance

1:00 p.m., White Hart lawn
Enjoy a dance performance showcasing the amazing work of students in the Blue Studio's programs.

Musical Performance by the Joint Chiefs

1:30 to 3:30 p.m., White Hart Lawn

World Percussion Jam

1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Courtyard behind the Salisbury General Store

Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Stop by for squad information, inspect an ambulance, and enjoy children's games!

Casa Marcelo

11 a.m. to 5 p.m., 7 Academy St.
Stop by the Design Studio to see our new pillow line on the front porch.

Crepe Royale

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Delicious sweet and savory crepes made fresh!

Rebecca Bloomfield Photography

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Courtyard between Labonne's & Main St.
FREE Children's Portrait Sessions. Digital Gallery - buy only what you love!

SCS Chorus

3 p.m.
Join the Salisbury Central School Chorus as we perform for our second year at the Fall Festival. Donations appreciated

Halloween Costume Swap

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Do you need a Halloween Costume? Do you have costumes you want to get rid of? Stop by the SCS PTO table.

Sunday, October 11th

Salisbury Congregational Church

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Treasure Trove Tag Sale

Noble Horizons Gallery - MAN ONE

12 to 2 p.m., Noble Horizons TLC Gallery - MAN ONE - New works by Jean exploring the human body. Final weekend! Meet the artist.

6th Annual Pet Parade

11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Lakeville Community Field (behind Patco)
Don't have a dog? Bring your turtle, goat, pig, cat, or any other pet, with or without a costume. For more information about registration, visit www.salisburyfallfestival.org

Breakfast at the Black Rabbit

10 a.m. to 11 am
Grab and go sandwiches available. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Dog Park.

SWSA Annual Brew-Ski Fest

1 to 4 p.m., Satre Hill, 80 Indian Cave Road

Lakeville Hose Company

5 to 8 p.m., 4 Brook St., Lakeville
Delicious Prime Rib Dinner. To eat in or take out; for large orders call 860-435-9981 on Saturday.

Booths

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SYMPOSIUM *Continued from Page A1*

schools, historians, artists, historical societies, museums and others who could spark creative ideas toward the presentations to be featured at next year's event.

Collaboration that brings independent school students and educators together with strong public school programs in a common experience is one of the consistent strengths of the program now in its sixth year, explained Troutbeck owner Charlie Champalimaud.

Continuing his commitment to the goals of the annual symposium since its inception, Hasan Kwame Jeffries attended the planning event. Jeffries is an Associate Professor of History in the College of Arts and Sciences at The Ohio State University in Columbus.

Jeffries teaches courses including Civil Rights and the Black Power Movement, all directly connected historically with Troutbeck where important progress was made toward the formation of the NAACP, an effort that took decades to bring about.

During an interview before the start of the planning event, Jeffries spoke of the program's expansion, measured by standard metrics of success like numbers of participating school and students and their projects. Over the years, harder to quantify but observable, has been the students' educational growth as they created their presentations.

Stressing that progress



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

About to open the planning event for the sixth annual Troutbeck Symposium on Sunday, Oct. 4, Troutbeck owner Charlie Champalimaud spoke with guest speaker Hasan Kwame Jeffries of The Ohio State University, who has been a vital participant in the program since it began in 2021.

has been brought by a host of people, Jeffries said that the ultimate goal of the symposiums has always been toward creating a replicable model that can be distributed and adopted by school districts throughout the U.S. A packaged symposium model is easier to find funding for.

Michael Morand, Director of Community Engagement at Yale's Beinecke Library, has been active with the symposium since its beginning. He spoke of the existing commitment and relationship between Yale and northwestern Connecticut. He said that students often visit New Ha-

ven to do archival research for their projects, looking at original documents.

Owen Schnepf, a Junior at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, said that his team of six students is planning to create a short film for the 2027 symposium, exploring the topic of women in the whaling industry. To gather information for the film project, the students will visit Mystic Seaport for research and interviews with historians.

"We are asking students to become historians," Troutbeck owner Charlie Champalimaud said in opening the event. "No one knows what the

next step in education will be," said Rhonan Mokriski, history teacher at Salisbury School, looking ahead to an age of A.I. Mokriski played a large part in the founding of the Symposium project.

"You know the stories; they are out there," Mokriski told the students.

"Why is this important," asked Prof. Jeffries. "It is not just to study history, it is to become historians."

"What is democracy," Jeffries asked the students. "It is knowledge and access to knowledge. Democracy means asking the difficult questions, learning about the past; how we came to be here at this particular time. History is important to self-governing. History is where the knowledge is."

"How far can we go as a country," Jeffries asked. "Look at the aspects of the past that make us uncomfortable in our present."

"We are preparing kids to lead in the future," Jeffries said of the symposium.

"We're taking the classroom out of the schools," Jeffries said, speaking of the value of students visiting a cemetery, or researching in archives or interviewing someone in South Carolina as students have done, using Zoom. "That's when rich learning takes place."

The 2027 Troutbeck Symposium will be held Wednesday, April 28 through Friday, April 30. For information, go to www.troutbeck.com.

MARKET *Continued from Page A1*



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Exterior conditions at the site of a planned supermarket in Millerton remain unchanged since this summer.

renovation or his estimated timeline.

Other changes at Sharon Farm Market include the departure of Jam Food Shop, a prepared foods vendor that occupied a counter and kitchen in the supermarket until Oct. 3.

Choe has brought in chef Michael Marineau to operate the kitchen following Jam Food Shop's departure. According to his biography, Marineau has 36 years of culinary experience, trained at the Culinary Institute of America and specializes in Italian cuisine. Choe said a soft opening is expected this week, with a grand opening planned for November.

Choe alluded to the extent of the renovations planned for Sharon Farm Market without diving into specifics. He called attention to the age of the store and its interior. "It's a 17-year-old store,"

Choe said. "We're going to fix it."

The business owner is also still working toward the sale of a store he opened in New Haven, Connecticut, in 2025. Choe said he is in talks with interested buyers but has not yet reached a deal.

Addressing questions about funding, Choe said he is still negotiating with the potential investor that is interested in partnering to overhaul the Millerton market.

The other storefronts in the plaza — the former homes of Riley's Furniture and a liquor store — will also need occupants, but Choe said he's in talks with prospects for those spaces.

Choe reiterated his commitment to plans for the Millerton store.

"We're going to finish it up here," Choe said. "Then stepping in with new life."

HEATING *Continued from Page A1*

Benefit, which offers up to \$500 to improve energy efficiency in the home. That could mean chimney cleaning, minor repairs, installation of carbon monoxide detectors, or programmable thermostats.

Eligibility depends on household income and size or participation in qualifying public-benefit programs. Dutchess County residents can check their eligibility at myBenefits.ny.gov or by calling the Dutchess County Department of Social Services at 845-486-3250.

Across the border in Cornwall, Connecticut, Rebecca Hurlburt, the town's social services director and municipal agent for the elderly, said her biggest concern this heating season is how little fuel residents' assistance will buy.

Cornwall's Food and Fuel Fund helps low-income and vulnerable town residents pay for heating, utilities and other emergency needs.

The fund is supported by state grants Hurlburt applies for and monetary donations, she said. The local allowance remains \$1,400 per household for the season, according to Hurlburt. At \$6 a gallon, that buys about 233 gallons of heating oil per year.

"The allotment amount is going to disappear at \$6 a gallon," Hurlburt said. "I don't know how people are going to do it between the rising cost of gas, heating oil and food. It definitely creates anxiety and insecurity."

In previous years, Hurlburt said, she might have been able to tell a client twice a year, "I'll fill your tank." Now, she may have to arrange smaller deliveries of about 100 gallons at a time.

"For me, the challenge is I can't fill a tank anymore," she said. "A 300-gallon tank, I can't fill that."

Hurlburt worries about what will happen as the winter progresses and assistance runs out.

"I really think people don't get what's going to happen this winter," she said. "A month from now it could be

worse. What happens when I run out?"

Cornwall has not seen a significant increase in residents seeking local assistance over the past three years, she said. She expects the heaviest demand between October and December, with the full impact of higher costs potentially becoming apparent in January. **Customers change how they buy**

Local fuel dealers are already seeing changes in how customers purchase and budget for heat.

At Klebe Fuel Co. in Winsted, Connecticut, Operations Manager Gerry Greco said participation in the company's budget program is up about 10% from last year.

The company's Flex-Pay plan divides estimated annual heating costs into 11 equal monthly payments, helping customers avoid large bills when oil is delivered.

"We are having a lot more people go on budget programs," Greco said.

For customers with limited or fixed incomes, he said, spreading out the expense can make payments more manageable. "They don't have to come up with \$1,000 to \$2,000" at one time.

Greco said the company has also received more calls since Oct. 1 as colder weather approaches. Some customers have asked about smaller deliveries, although the company's minimum is 100 gallons.

At Warren Valley Oil & Propane, which serves Litchfield County, co-owner and operator Ryan Curtiss said the company became busier earlier than usual this year.

Customers interested in price protection should contact their fuel supplier for current offers, including the price per gallon, contract duration, minimum purchase and any fees.

"We are definitely seeing a mix," Curtiss said. Some customers are taking minimum 100-gallon deliveries rather than filling their tanks while hoping prices will fall.

The market has been unusually volatile, Curtiss said,

with prices sometimes moving 30 or 40 cents during a day before settling at a different level.

"It's been very tricky for customers to try to identify the bottom as it has been for us to price it," he said.

At Jasinski Fuel Service in Harwinton, owner Johnnie Jasinski said customers are similarly watching their wallets, particularly those living on fixed incomes.

"Right now, with the price of heating oil trending toward the higher side, they're scared," Jasinski said.

"I tell people, if you don't need it, don't buy it," Jasinski said, explaining that he watches the market and will call customers when he sees prices moving lower.

Turning to wood for supplemental heat

Higher heating-oil costs are prompting some homeowners to turn to firewood for supplemental heat. A cord of firewood goes for between \$150 and \$300 in Dutchess County, depending on the source and willingness to pay for kiln-dried firewood. If used with an occasional fireplace, a standard home will use between one and two cords over a full winter.

At Slate Ridge Farm in Sharon, owners Chris Andrews and Chelsea Weintraub said their firewood business is experiencing its busiest season in the three years they have been selling wood.

Normally, Andrews said, the peak buying season runs from October through December. This year, customers began placing orders in June, July and August.

"This year it started earlier," Andrews said, noting that one returning customer bought three times the usual amount of firewood, something the business had not seen in previous years.

Slate Ridge sells kiln-dried firewood for \$690 a cord and seasoned firewood for \$520 a cord. The wood is harvested from the 125-acre farm. Andrews said the kiln-dried price had been about \$580 a cord before rising diesel and

other operating costs pushed it higher.

Delivery is included in the per-cord price for customers in Sharon and nearby Amenia, N.Y. Deliveries elsewhere within the farm's Northwest Corner service area cost an additional \$30 per hour, Andrews said. Although he receives inquiries from across Connecticut, he limits deliveries to the local area.

The owners also supplement oil heat with firewood in their 1800s farmhouse.

"We use firewood to help supplement our own heating oil," Weintraub said.

Andrews said several customers are converting to outdoor wood-burning furnaces, which heat water that is then circulated through a home. He estimated the systems can cost \$15,000 or more.

Jasinski said he has also seen increased interest in firewood for supplemental heat, particularly following the July 4 storm that brought down trees in Harwinton and across the region.

"I know the price of oil is ridiculous," Jasinski said, "but you have to be careful when the temperature drops below freezing."

FENTANYL ARREST *Continued from Page A1*



PHOTO PROVIDED

Schuyler Houis

to the statement.

"No part of Dutchess County is immune from the devastating impact of illegal drugs," District Attorney Anthony Parisi said in the statement. "This investigation demonstrates that geography will not provide protection to those who bring dangerous drugs into Dutchess County for sale."



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PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Nancy Elle Smith

Nancy Elle Smith pays attention to the wild

By Natalia Zukerman

Coyotes move quietly through tall grass. Bobcats wait at the edges of yards for rabbits and squirrels. Deer emerge from a punishing New England winter to dance across a meadow. Spiders construct elaborate webs using different kinds of silk. Bears leave trails through the woods and cubs climb familiar trees.

For years, Nancy Elle Smith has been watching.

Her new book, “Downwind: The Wild Pulse of the Berkshires,” is part natural history, part memoir and part love letter to the animals living alongside us — often without our noticing. Combining essays with images gathered large-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

ART

A walk through the art of Sharon

By Natalia Zukerman

Sharon has long been a place where artists come to live and work. On Saturday, Oct. 10, the town is inviting everyone else in for a look.

The inaugural Sharon Art Walk will turn the Sharon Green and surrounding streets into a self-guided tour of galleries, businesses, cultural institutions and private artists’ studios from 3 to 6 p.m., showcasing a creative community that organizers say has been hiding in plain sight.

“Sharon’s identity is becoming art, if you ask me,” said musician and artist John Brett, who also serves on the Sharon Board of Selectmen.

The idea for the Artwalk is a collaboration between a small group of organizers, including Brett, Vicky Morse of The Gallery of Dreams and TJ Murtagh, a member of the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon board.

“There are a lot of artists who live here,” Morse said. “And usually, we don’t have access to their studios.”

That access is at the heart of the af-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

INSIDE

REAL ESTATE
Millerton home prices hold steady

CALENDAR
A list of upcoming events



ART

Holding light: two new installations at Wassaic Project

By Natalia Zukerman

New monumental installations by Liz Nielsen and akeylah wellington at the Wassaic Project were celebrated Saturday, Oct. 3, with an artist talk moderated by independent curator Katie Hood Morgan, followed by a reception on the lawn of the Gridley Chapel. Though dramatically different in material and method, the installations share an interest in how we perceive what we cannot fully see or understand — and what happens when something unimaginably vast is made physical.

Opening the talk, Wassaic Project co-executive director Eve Biddle noted that both projects received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, with Nielsen’s project receiving additional support from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Foundation. At a time of uncertainty for arts organizations and federal arts funding, Biddle called the support especially meaningful.

“In this sort of chaotic moment in our world,” she said, “Wassaic Project is the recipient of two National Endowment for the Arts awards for two really extraordinary, really radical artists working at the edge of their mediums and pushing us forward into the next generation of artists.”

wellington’s two 9-by-10-foot tapestries shimmered outside in the bright autumn day. Her “nineties resolving power” and “aughts resolving power” draw on Hubble Space Telescope images recorded between 1990 and 2009: supernovae, gas rings, binary star systems, globular

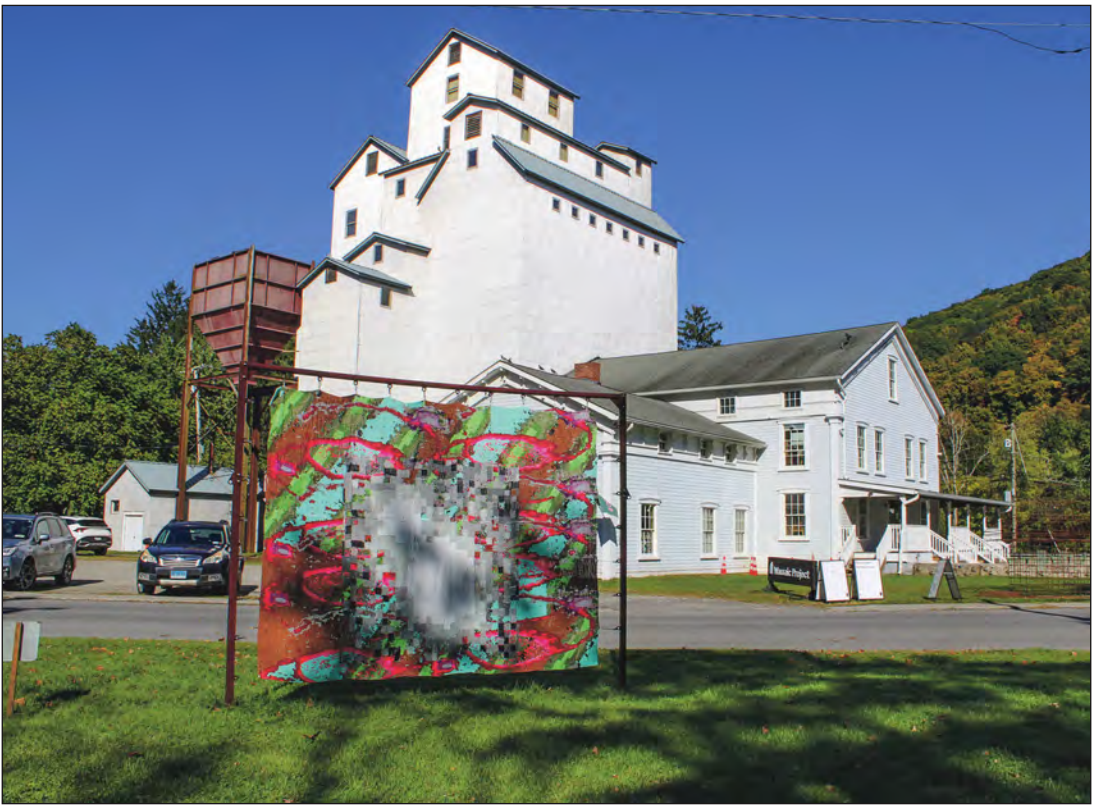


PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

akeylah wellington’s tapestries are made from hundreds of thousands of pony beads.

star clusters and other distant phenomena. These cosmic phenomena are translated into pixels and then into hundreds of thousands of plastic pony beads, an ornament familiar from braided hairstyles, turning images of deep space into something tactile, domestic and culturally specific.

wellington said she became fascinated by the language used to describe Hubble, particularly its “resolving power” — its ability to render distant objects with what was touted as unprecedented clarity.

“Hubble is a time machine,” she said, describing how the telescope captures light that has

traveled for millions of years. But when she began looking closely at the images offered as evidence of technological progress, she noticed something amusing: “A lot of those images were pixelated.”

That contradiction became fertile ground for the questions surrounding her work.

Inside the Gridley Chapel, Nielsen’s “Crystalline Resonance” approaches the cosmos from another direction. Twelve transparent photograms installed in the chapel windows turn Nielsen’s camera-less photographic process into a kind of stained glass. Circles, triangles, squares and other elemental

forms assemble themselves into what Nielsen calls “dimensional beings,” while sunlight continually redraws the work across the chapel walls and floor.

Nielsen described light as both material and mystery — “something that’s tangible and intangible,” behaving as both wave and particle.

“I’m coming from an immaterial world, bringing it into a material world, and then dematerializing it again,” she said.

That transformation is especially potent in the former chapel. Nielsen noted that stained glass historically was not sim-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

BOOKS

Rewriting “Miss Bates”

By Laurie Fendrich

Jane Austen’s novel “Emma” was published in 1815 and revolves around the eponymous protagonist Emma Woodhouse, a wealthy member of the landed gentry in Regency England who lives with her widowed father in the large fictional village of Highbury. Catherine Cliff’s stunning debut novel “Miss Bates: Emma Revisited,” although a spin-off novel, is anything but. Yes, it lifts the names and some of the plot from Austen but flies off to become a stand-alone tragicomedy revolving around her own eponymous protagonist, Miss Henrietta Bates. In “Emma,” Miss Bates is merely a secondary character. In both novels, she is a member of the gentry, making her the social equal of Emma. Austen’s Miss Bates is not only poor, but also a chatterbox who’s nevertheless kind and sweet. In Cliff’s book, however, her poverty is so extreme that she sometimes

drinks hot water as a substitute for dinner, and lurking behind her chattering, she’s anything but sweet.

At the start of Austen’s novel, Emma is almost 21. By the standards of Regency England, she teeters on the precipice of spinsterhood. Facing this moment, most middle-class women of the time either married — which meant losing of control of whatever property they had to their husbands, as happens in Cliff’s novel with Henrietta’s mother — or became governesses, a precarious, wage-earning position. Emma’s wealth, by contrast, ensures her economic future. In both novels, she declares that she is happy with her status and will never marry.

Austen’s Emma is both independent-minded and beautiful, but she’s also self-centered and manipulative. She takes special delight in using her charms and wiliness to try to direct the lives of various people around her, which leads to unforeseen

— and dire — consequences. At a picnic, Emma mocks Miss Bates for her habit of blathering on about more or less nothing. Afterward, Mr. Knightley, the lifelong friend of the Woodhouse family, severely chastises her for such lack of compassion and pity toward a woman with less privilege. Soon, Emma begins working to correct her flaws, and the novel culminates in an Austen ending where a reformed Emma marries the worthy Mr. Knight-

ley

Nothing of this arc of a slowly maturing Emma appears in Cliff’s “Miss Bates.” Instead, the author morphs the flawed but redeemable Emma into a bad-seed child who grows up to become a supercilious and cruel woman. As for Miss Bates, most often referred to by Cliff as “Henrie,” her childhood nickname, Austen’s kindness

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

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... Nancy Elle Smith

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

ly from motion-activated trail cameras, the book documents what Smith calls the “quirkiness, the exuberance, and the fierce beauty” of the wild creatures of the Berkshires.

On Thursday, Oct. 15, Smith will bring those stories to the Norfolk Library for “Wild Animals in the Neighborhood — The Gift of Second Chances,” a slide presentation and talk about the return of wildlife to a landscape where many species were once nearly or completely wiped out.

The Berkshires Smith writes about are beautiful, but she is wary of romanticizing their past. The forests that seem timeless today are, in ecological terms, relatively young. For generations, trees were felled for charcoal and timber and wildlife was trapped, hunted and displaced. Beaver, wolf, mountain lion, moose, bear, deer, otter and other species vanished or became scarce. Most of the forest disappeared with them.

And yet, the wild came back. “We have these animals with us now,” Smith said. “We need to keep them here.”

Smith came to conservation by a circuitous route. She studied art, lived for years in New York City and eventually worked for Sweet Water Trust, helping protect large areas of habitat throughout New England and Quebec. But she says her real education began much earlier.

“My background in conservation is just that I am a total animal lover,” she said.

Growing up in the suburbs of Washington, D.C., Smith was fascinated by whatever crawled, wriggled or flew through the altered landscape around her. She watched grubs and beetles, searched for crayfish beneath creek rocks and examined fleas and insects under a small mi-

“If you think it’s over, you’re most likely not going work your heart out to try to make a difference.

NANCY ELLE SMITH

croscope.

“Even in a ruined place, the diversity of life was astounding,” she said.

Then, when she was 11 or 12, Smith took a bus by herself to the National Zoo.

There she encountered an orangutan alone in a small enclosure of concrete and iron bars. What she saw in his face — anger, misery, confinement — stayed with her. In the preface to “Downwind,” Smith describes the encounter as the moment her “passion for wildness and freedom” was born through witnessing its loss.

Decades later, wild animals would become not only the subject of Smith’s conservation work but a way of understanding the place she had chosen as home.

After leaving New York City, she came to the Berkshires on a day trip and walked into a windy valley beneath an enormous sky. Animal tracks crossed the landscape. A mountain rose in the distance.

“I remember laughing,” she writes. “I think I leapt around a bit.”

She stayed. Her children were born at Sharon Hospital, and Smith put down what she calls her “taproots” in the Berkshires. For roughly 15 years, she has also worked to conserve rare wetlands and habitat on and around her Sheffield property.

Eventually, wanting to know more about the animals passing through that landscape, she began putting out trail cameras.

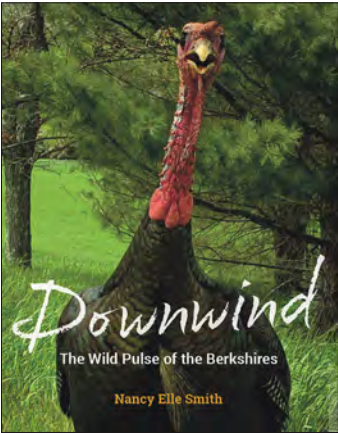


PHOTO PROVIDED

Cover of “Downwind: The Wild Pulse of the Berkshires” by Nancy Elle Smith

One became several. At the height of the project, Smith had about 40 cameras scattered through the region — beside fields and stone walls, near cliffs and trails, mounted high in trees or barely a foot above the ground.

What came back on the memory cards was a parallel Berkshire County: coyotes, bobcats, deer, owls and tiny animals nearly invisible against the snow. One camera captured what at first appeared to be a hundred photographs of nothing. Looking more closely, Smith found a pinpoint of reflected light — the eye of a tiny white ermine moving through a snowy stone wall in search of food.

The cameras were not always sophisticated. Some cost \$15. Many eventually succumbed to years of heat, snow and rain. The photographs can be grainy or pixelated.

But Smith is emphatic about what matters.

“That’s not what this is about,” she said. “It’s about the animals.”

The result is not quite a photography book and not quite an essay collection.

“It’s a both book,” Smith said.

The images led her toward stories and questions. What was a coyote doing outside her fence? How did animals use a field differently as the grass grew taller? How did spiders build, hunt and respond to disturbance? What allows an animal to adapt to a landscape increasingly shaped by humans?

And what, in turn, might humans learn from paying closer attention?

“They’re awesome and resilient,” Smith said. “What they have to do to survive is just amazing.”

Smith spent two years observing spiders around her home, watching webs illuminated from behind by sunlight and studying how they spun, hunted and reacted to her presence.

“They’re beautiful, and they’re very alien and do unusual things if you really watch them,” she said.

The attention altered something in her. Instead of seeing a spider and instinctively recoiling, she now finds herself wondering, “What’s that one gonna do?”

Smith is troubled by species loss and by the question she poses in the book: “Where is the outer edge to nature’s redemptive powers, at what point does resilience crash?” But she resists despair.

“I just don’t want to think that it’s over,” she said. “For one thing, that’s very defeatist. If you think it’s over, you’re most likely not going work your heart out to try to make a difference.”

So where does that work begin?

“You start to care,” she said. Humans, Smith believes, need to “enlarge their circle of compassion” beyond themselves, their families and their communities to encompass the other species with whom they share the landscape.

“The more you study them,” she said, “the deeper it goes — and the more respect that you have for these life forms.”

In “Downwind,” Smith argues that the return of wild animals to the Berkshires has given humans something earlier generations nearly squandered: another chance to live among them.

“And they have as much right to exist as we do,” she said.

Smith will present “Wild Animals in the Neighborhood — The Gift of Second Chances” Thursday, Oct. 15, at 5:30 p.m. at the Norfolk Library. The free program is co-sponsored by the Norfolk Library, Norfolk Nature Alliance and Aton Forest. Smith will sign copies of “Downwind: The Wild Pulse of the Berkshires” following the talk.

PERFORMANCES

A long run for short-form improv

By D.H. Callahan

All the knee-slapping games and songs and missteps and punchlines from the hit improv comedy show “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” are coming to the Warner Theatre in Torrington ... kind of. See, some of the faces and themes might be the same as fans remember, but on Oct. 10, when the touring version of the show, “Whose Live Anyway,” takes the stage, everything will be made up on the spot.

For short-form improv, “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” sure has a long history. The hit television program premiered in the United Kingdom in the 1980s. Hosted by alternative comedian Clive Anderson, the show ran on England’s Channel 4 for 10 “series” or seasons.

In 1998, the show was adapted for American audiences by ABC. Drew Carey, riding high from the runaway success of his sitcom, “The Drew Carey Show,” on the same network, was tapped to host. The concept itself is quite simple: a group of quick-witted comedians are tasked with silly little games from which they improvise comedic responses. In practice, however, it is anything but simple.

The performers are not given the tasks ahead of time. Though they’ve played the games countless times, the specifics are always a surprise. Frequently, they’ll take suggestions from the audience, ensuring spontaneity and the humor that comes from writing comedy on the fly in front of a live audience.

For the performance at the Warner, Ryan Stiles, Greg Proops, Jeff B. Davis and Joel Murray will serve as the improvisers. Stiles and Proops have been mainstays of the American version of the show since it first aired in 1998. Davis joined the program in 2001, and Murray has been a touring member since 2014. They’ll be joined by musical director and pianist Laura Hall and actor Gary Anthony Williams, known for his roles in “Malcolm in the Middle,” as the voice of Uncle Ruckus in “The Boondocks” and as Detective Williams in Macon Blair’s crime thriller, “I Don’t Feel At Home In This World Anymore.”

For tickets and more information, visit warnertheatre.org

... Holding Light

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1



PHOTO BY JEFF BARNETT-WINSBY

Liz Nielsen’s “Crystalline Resonance” at Gridley Chapel.

ply about the glass itself, but about “the presence of the divine coming through” as sunlight became colored light.

“I’m not particularly religious myself,” she said, but spaces like the chapel have long been places for “meditation, community gatherings” and other forms of interior experience.

Her figures offer no prescribed theology. Some resemble guardians or guides; one looks like a mermaid, another a queen, another a baseball-capped figure. Nielsen wants the encounter to come before the explanation.

“Something resonates with you before you understand it,” she said.

Both artists take something difficult to grasp — ancient light, distant stars, invisible forces, deep time — and give it a body. Nielsen does it with transparent

photographic film and sunlight; wellington does it with plastic beads and thread.

And both complicate the idea that technology necessarily brings us closer to certainty.

There is humor in that for wellington, whose work frequently uses the word in its less familiar sense: not simply comedy, but the act of enduring or tolerating something. There is something “kind of funny,” she said, about spending hundreds of hours reproducing an image of something she will never actually see — just as there is something funny about spending billions of dollars to produce an image of the cosmos that still arrives as pixels.

“Funny like ‘the milk is off’ funny,” she explained.

Asked about seeing her work outside, wellington reflected that her plastic

tapestries create an intentional collision between the technological and natural worlds. Leaves, sky, buildings and passing trains remain visible around and through them.

Nielsen, meanwhile, has been searching for ways to move photography off the wall and into lived space. At Wassaic, the landscape itself completes her images as viewers look through them.

“What if the photograph is something that you’re moving through,” she asked, “not just looking at?”

For Nielsen, light itself may be the perfect vehicle for an experience that asks the viewer to slow down. She has spent years studying its behavior, how to manipulate it and, as she put it, “how to almost emote it.”

“Light is like love,” she said. “We know both, but we can’t hold either.”



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WLHV FM 88.1

Serving in New York - Northern and Eastern Dutchess County, Columbia County, Eastern Ulster and Windham County, and Southern Greene County

WBSL FM 91.7

Serving North Canaan, CT, Sheffield and South County, MA

... Sharon Art Walk

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

ternoon. Visitors can wander at their own pace among participating locations on and around the Green, including the Sharon Historical Society, J.P. Gifford's, Sharon Town Hall, Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, the Congregational Church and DUGAZON, along with private artists' studios. Participating businesses will also host artists and their work. Maps will be available at locations along the route.

At Hotchkiss Library, local architect David Moore will be on hand to discuss the building's architecture.

The event builds on an arts community that has become increasingly visible in Sharon. The town and surrounding area are home to a remarkable concentration of working artists, among them Jasper Johns, Warren Prindle, KK Kozik, Gail Rothschild, Colleen McGuire, Molly Gochman, Robert Kipniss and Pieter Lefferts to name just a few.

"So, we're thinking of this as a big event to drum up interest," Brett said. "Art seems to bring people out. There's the craft fair every year, and the Voice of Art on the Green, and there's always a good turnout. I just think it's a good thing



PHOTO PROVIDED

Gail Rothschild's "Codex IV" (2023), acrylic on canvas, 42 by 66 inches, is part of the permanent collection of the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon. The work will be on view during the Sharon Art Walk on Oct. 10, when Rothschild will be present.

for Sharon."

The afternoon eventually moves off the Green and up to Gay Street, where The Gallery of will host an after-party beginning at 5 p.m.

Eighteen local artists will have work on view there: Jake Bell, Harper Blanchet, John Brett, Jane Capellaro, Scott Culbreth, Karen Culbreth, Sydnee Cafiero, KJ Grealish, Bob Green, Susan Hurlburt, Jesse Laliberte, Pieter Lefferts, Dyana Lin, Danielle Mailer, Bruce Morse, Isabel Rooney, Heather Thomason and Nancy Zarider.

The gathering is open to all and will include refreshments, a potluck dinner, a bonfire and live music by

George Potts of the Joint Chiefs and Carol and Nick, The Small Band with the Big Sound.

Brett's suggested itinerary is considerably less formal.

"Stroll, have a cup of coffee and move on to the next place and then end up at the Gallery of Dreams," he said. "It's gonna be fun."



PHOTO BY JOHN BRETT

First selectman Casey Flanagan showing off the art in Sharon Town Hall.

... "Miss Bates"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1



PHOTO PROVIDED

Author Catherine Cliff.

and sweetness is replaced by a "relentless engine of [feigned] appreciation" directed at all but those whom she actually loves — her sister Jeannette, her niece Jane Fairfax, and the babies and children she often cares for. Bitter, angry, and sometimes violence-tinged soliloquies continually fill Henrie's head, but Cliff manages to make them genuinely funny. Henrie's outward monologues, in which she havers endlessly to the annoyance of everyone around her, turn out to come from her troubled psychological makeup. The narrator says the "cloud of words she created gave her room to think — a mask for her mind," adding, "Anxiety made the words come gushing out like an intestinal illness. She didn't know when it would happen until it did, and had little ability to stop it."

Although Henrie grew up in a well-off vicar's family that habitually brought "bounty baskets" to poorer members of the village, a downward spiral begins immediately upon her father's death, when it's discovered that through his profligacy, no money remains for her or her elderly mother. From then on, it's a constant fight to stave off hunger and keep a roof over their heads. Humiliatingly, it's now their turn to receive bounty baskets. When Henrie is an adult, she receives a gift of spectacles from her sister, whom she'd deeply loved and cared for from childhood until she married and moved

away. The glasses enable her to see a "devastating" image in the mirror: a face pockmarked from smallpox, a moustache above her mouth and hair resembling that of a shaggy bear. Worst of all, she sees the truth of what she's overheard others often say — that she has a nose "like a Gloucestershire Old Spot." A pig's nose.

By making her poverty extreme and her looks not merely plain but ugly, Cliff stacks almost all the cards against Henrie. Save one: her will to survive and ensure those she loves not only survive but thrive. When her beautiful young niece Jane Fairfax is stricken with consumption, Henrie nurses her for weeks, and when she dies, the narrator says "the social contract breaks" for Henrie. In Austen's book, Jane Fairfax neither gets sick nor dies. The larger truth Cliff offers is that there are actually two social contracts — one for the Henries of this world, for whom the philosopher Thomas Hobbes' description of life as "solitary, brutish, poor, nasty, and short" prevails, and the other for the Emmas, who get to live by John Locke's natural right to life, liberty, and property.

Cliff, who grew up in New York City and now lives in Sheffield, will discuss "Miss Bates: Emma Revisited" at the Scoville Memorial Library on Sunday, Nov. 22 at 4:30 p.m., followed by a reception and book signing. To register, visit scovillelibrary.org.

69th Annual Salisbury Fall Festival

Friday, October 9* Saturday, October 10 * Sunday, October 11

Come and enjoy the fun events and activities throughout the weekend!

- Scarecrow Contest
Taco Shack Truck
Quilt Show
Local Artisans
SWSA Brew-Ski fest
Church Concert
Book Sales
Hay Rides
Blue Studio Dancers
Kids Portrait Sessions
Pancake Breakfast
Morgan's Dinner Discount
Children's Games
Plant Giveaway
Arts and Crafts
Facepainting
Live Sheep
Mac 'n' Cheese
Salisbury Band
Jewelry
Middle School Chorus
Cider and donuts
Glitter tattoos
Ceramics
Blacksmith demo
Candles
Artwork
- Outdoor Movie Night
Pet Parade
Bake Sales
Magic Shows
Prime Rib Dinner
Historical Exhibits
Pumpkin Decorating
Crepe Royale Truck
Antique Car Rides
Halloween Costume Swap
Attic Treasures
Dodas Ice Cream Truck
Hot Dogs
Mexican Grill Happy Hour
Greek Pastries
Sparkly Hair Tinsel
Timeout Horse
Popcorn
Chili and Cornbread
Hand-woven Items
Joint Chiefs
Wreath Sale
Pottery
Woodwork
Jazz Guitarist
Jams and Preserves
Quilt Raffle

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Book Sales 9-4	Pancakes 7:30-10:30	Breakfast Sandwiches
Quilt Show 10-4	Quilt Show 10-4	Black Rabbit 10-11
Bake Sales 10-4	Artisans 10-4	Pet Parade 11-1
Tag Sale 10-4	Sparkly Strands 10-4	Noble Horizons
Concert 12-1	Blacksmith 10-4	Gallery 12-2
Film Night 5:45	Kids Portraits 10-4	SWSA Brew-Ski Fest 1-4
Mexican Grill	Magic Shows 11 & 2	Mexican Grill
Happy Hour 5:30-7:30	Facepainting 12-3	Happy Hour 5:30-7:30
Morgans Dinner	Kids Hay Search 12-3	
Discount 5-9	Joint Chiefs 1:30-3:30	
	SCS Chorus 3	
	Mexican Grill	
	Happy Hour 5:30-7:30	

Visit the many booths offering crafts, food, information, and more.
For a complete schedule: www.salisburyfallfestival.org
Follow on Instagram and Facebook for events and updates.

COMMUNITY

O+ Festival celebrates health and art

By D.H. Callahan

From Oct. 9-11, the O+ Festival will blend health, wellness and all kinds of art throughout the city of Kingston.

The American health care system is not built for artists. Since the bulk of insurance policies in the United States are tied directly to employment, many artists are forced to take day jobs that can stifle and even suffocate their artistic pursuits. Though the Affordable Care Act sought to bring access to millions of Americans, many artists and other self-employed workers continue to face challenges finding affordable coverage.

The O+ Festival wants to help.

O+ (pronounced O Positive) was founded in 2010 when Kingston-based dentist Thomas F. Cingel reached out to Brooklyn-based psychedelic indie-rock band Monogold and asked if they'd be interested in a trade. The band would play a show in Kingston, and Cingel would

provide free dental care to its members.

The idea sparked something in Kingston's medical community, and soon a group emerged to further the mission of exchanging art for medical support. They called themselves O+ after the blood type and went about organizing a three-day festival to bring artists, musicians and the medical community together. Sixteen years later, the idea is as strong as ever, and the festival continues to grow.

This year, the festival will feature an impressive array of musicians, artists, DJs and medical and wellness professionals. Musical highlights include Brooklyn-based rockers SKORTS, clown-punk band first president of Japan, indie-country singer Joelton Mayfield, upstate rapper Shiloh The Messenger, queer indie art-rock band Outer Shapes and Hudson Valley-based bands The Schwegs, Couch Surfer and Matt Pond PA.

Of note is the Steve Keene Art Shop. Keene is known for his prolific output



PHOTO BY PETER KOLK

The 2025 O+ Parade.

of intentionally affordable paintings, as well as iconic album covers and stage designs for bands including Pavement and Silver Jews.

Artistic offerings include exhibitions of works by climate change landscape painter Casey Inch,

local object maker Lexa Walsh, installation artist Adriane Colburn and many more. Rocker, venue owner and writer Melissa Auf der Maur will discuss her new memoir about life on the road with Hole and the Smashing Pumpkins.

Laughs will be provided by a lineup of comedic acts, including musical duo Greifcat and the "clown-daddy" act of My Boy.

Artistic events such as a parade of crazy creatives, a honky-tonk dance class and a block party will be comple-

mented by wellness events and activities including a 39-mile bike ride, meditation sessions and a whole lot of yoga classes.

For the full lineup and more information about the O+ festival, visit opositivefestival.org.

BUSINESS

Foxtrot Farm & Flowers blossoms into a wedding venue

By D.H. Callahan

Foxtrot Farm and Flowers is a lot more than a farm with flowers. Over the past few years, it's been an art gallery, a movie theatre, a holiday market venue, a pop-up restaurant, and perhaps most importantly for farmer and owner Kate Farrar, a wedding venue. Farrar hosted her own wedding at the farm in 2024 and is now opening it up for public bookings.

After 10 years of agricultural work in the Hudson Valley, Farrar opened her farm in 2021 in Stanfordville with the express purpose of growing beautiful flowers in a way that worked with the land and the people who live around it. Today, she harvests some of the most vibrant, regeneratively grown flowers in the county.

For years, Foxtrot had been making stunning arrangements for weddings from Brooklyn to the Berkshires, but it was Farrar's own wedding that changed how she saw the farm's potential.

In 2023, Farrar got engaged to local filmmaker, Brian Gersten, now her husband. While the couple was still in the early stages of planning, they took a quick trip to Mexico City and came back with a whole suitcase of inspiration. Together, they toiled away to transform a historic barn and some unused outdoor space into a magical place to eat, drink and be merry — or married, as it were.

After the success of their wedding in 2024, the concept had been proven. The farm, the flowers and the visible efforts from the bride and groom had their guests raving that this was something truly special and unique. The event stood out from many of the more standard wedding experiences they'd all attended in the past, delightful though they may have been.

2025 was a big year for the farm. With help from a



PHOTO BY KATE FARRAR

A wedding dinner at the farm.

New York State arts grant, Gersten screened a series of flower-related films in the barn. Farrar and her team hosted a holiday craft and farm market called Farm & Friends.

This year has seen even more events. In June, Foxtrot housed the "Bugs!" art show as part of Upstate Art Weekend. It hosted a series of outdoor farm dinners with food and drinks provided by Westerly Canteen, Fair Play Hospitality and 10 Mile Table. Foxtrot was also the home base for Dahlia Daze, a multi-farm dahlia tuber festival. The 2026 Farm & Friends pre-holiday market is already in the works for November.

But now, Farrar is giving couples the opportunity to have their own big days at her farm. She and Gersten built a tiny house on the property, expanded the outdoor gathering areas and designed a honeymoon suite studio just next to the farm. On Oct. 16, 17 and 18, Foxtrot is hosting an open house for curious couples, wedding planners and industry professionals to experience the magic of the farm for themselves.

Though Farrar has been planning this shift for some time, pressures from the



PHOTO BY AUTUMN JORDAN

Farrar and Gersten on their wedding day.

increased costs of farming in America have fueled her resolve.

"2026," she said, "felt very different from 2025."

As videos circulate nationally of farmers on the brink of losing family farms after generations of work, small farms are not immune to those pressures.

Adding to them is the unpredictable nature of climate change. As local residents will no doubt remember, the winter of 2025-26 was a brutal one in the region, with thick snow and deep freezes. Farrar has more than enough experi-

ence to adapt to changing and extreme growing conditions, but also adopting new business ventures will work to keep the flowers blooming.

Luckily for her, this new path is one she's passionate and excited about. Using the farm as a venue not only lets Farrar share her special space with large groups of celebrants, but also allows her to keep growing the fabulous flowers the farm is known for.

To learn more about Foxtrot as a farm and a venue, visit foxtrotfarmflowers.com.

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WHAT TO DO

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Cast photo from the premiere of “A Goodnight Kiss” in 2025.

THEATER

“A Goodnight Kiss” receives Connecticut League of Museums honor

By Natalia Zukerman

“A Goodnight Kiss,” the Civil War-era love story that began with a cache of letters found in a Goshen attic, has received an Award of Merit from the Connecticut League of Museums.

Written by Litchfield County playwright Cinzi Lavin and commissioned and directed by Goshen resident Kathy Kelly, the play tells the true story of Sarah Jane “Jennie” Wadhams and Sgt. Maj. Frederick Lucas, whose courtship unfolded through letters exchanged during the Civil War. The production premiered at Goshen Players Playhouse in June 2025.

The Connecticut League of Museums’ Award of Merit recognizes individuals and organizations for work that advances public understanding of Connecticut history and culture.

Lavin, Kelly and members of the cast will be honored at an awards ceremony and reception later this month at the New Britain Museum of American Art.

“I’m honored that the Connecticut League of Museums has chosen to recognize our dedication to transforming historical archives into a living story,” Lavin said. “Having ‘A Goodnight Kiss’ vetted by the state’s leading heritage professionals in a peer review is truly gratifying.”

The award is the latest chapter in a growing life for the production. In April, “A Goodnight Kiss” became the first drama staged beneath the dome of the Connecticut State Capitol, where it was presented as part of the state’s America250 commemoration. It later returned to Litchfield County for performances at Five Points Arts Center in Torrington. The script has also been accepted into the permanent collection of the Library of Congress.

The production stars David Macharelli and Olivia Wadsworth as Fred and Jennie, with Robert Kwalick, John Fabiani, Joel Osborne, Harmony Tanguay and Susie Hackel.

PHOTO BY CINZI LAVIN

Lessons from another year in the garden

As most of us do this time of year, I am taking stock of what worked in the garden and nearby woods and what did not.

Indeed, there was more of the latter than the former, but what did work gave me great satisfaction.

By far the best thing was in the spring, when the many years of work in the wetland yielded stunning beauty. I have written about this area before: how the removal of wall-to-wall barberry, multiflora rose, privet and buckthorn allowed the skunk cabbage to come back to life.

Two years ago, I tackled the remaining half-acre of dense phragmites and sprinkled the area with native wetland grass seed. Last year, one could see progress, but this spring was a transformation: native grasses, including many species that I had not seeded, and flowering plants, including marsh violets and the elegantly tall and arching jumpseed, *Persicaria virginiana*.

There is still much to do in this area, including a battle with coltsfoot, which I pull out this time of year so I can get the small flower buds just developing at the back of the stem. If I am lucky, the full root comes out, too. It also allows me to better see and pick out the stilt grass growing nearby.

Coltsfoot spreads quickly, and if I had had a plant ID app 10 years ago, I would never have had the issue. It is an attractive plant with



Clearweed in the front (lighter color) and taller jewelweed behind it.

PHOTO BY DEE SALOMON



an early flower. But go it must.

Trees and branches succumbing to wind, and the attendant damage they caused, might be high on many lists of what went wrong this year in the garden. We had terrible damage to trees and plant beds from two enormous white pines that snapped off behind the house. Many fared far worse.

We cannot stop the trees from falling. Sometimes we also need to preemptively remove trees that overhang our homes. That said, we do need to recognize that a healthy tree canopy provides wind protection to homes and to the ornamental plantings that surround them. The long-term viability of these important wooded areas between properties, along roads and at the borders of yards is not a given.

If the wooded area is infested with barberry, multiflora rose, honeysuckle and burning bush, mature trees will be weakened and new trees will be highly challenged to take their place when mature ones succumb. Many native tree seeds won’t germinate in soil that some invasive plants chemically alter through their dropped leaves and roots. Invasives also block out the light needed for small trees to grow. What you get instead is a wall of invasive shrubs with fewer trees each year.

The most important thing you can do this fall

and winter is remove invasive plants from these areas. The gratification resulting from the work is almost immediate; I have witnessed tree seedlings germinating within one year after removing the invasives, ultimately resulting in a prolific understory of young trees.

On a far smaller scale, an aesthetic failure came from my inability to keep two native plants from taking over the banks of the stream that line the road to our house. *Pilea pulmila*, clearweed, and *Impatiens capensis*, jewelweed, are both self-seeding annuals with thick, watery stems and shaggy countenances.

This year, they have colonized shady areas that used to look tidy in a natural, woodland-y way. I was loath to do anything about the small clumps of these in past years; as natives, they both provide some ecosystem services to needed insects. As the clumps grew into swaths, I put off dealing with them. When I came back from a holiday this summer, they had gone to seed and it was too late to do anything about them.

An attempt to rationalize my mistake followed. Might there be some benefit of these plants, like other annuals that fix nitrogen in the soil? No; the shallow roots are not upcycling nutrients deep in the soil, nor are they helping with erosion. And while there are some insects that enjoy these plants, the insects are generalists and can go elsewhere for what they need.

These two runaway plants test my ambition to prioritize the creation and protection of native habitats over an aesthetically pleasing outcome. Next year, the weed whacker will be employed.

LIFESTYLE

Country Living leaps off the page in Rhinebeck

By D.H. Callahan

On the first weekend of October, Country Living leapt off the page and screen and landed at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck for the revitalized Country Living Fair.

Since the 1970s, Country Living has been the gold standard of rural interior and exterior design. The monthly publication, owned by Hearst, has been featuring rustic homes, inns, landscapes and styles for nearly 50 years, with no sign of slowing down.

Though many such publications took drastic hits in the early 2000s with the onset of digital media, Country Living seems to be thriving, with nearly 10 million followers across its social media platforms.. Each month, it brings new inspiration to devoted readers who are quick to like, share and comment on its content from around the rural world.

The Country Living Fair started in 2008 and, in addition to Rhinebeck, has set up camp in Chicago, Nashville, Columbus and Atlanta. The COVID-19 pandemic put the fair on pause after 2019, but now it’s back with a bang.

The fair is a curated blend of flea market, design expo, and, of course, country fair, but the main draw is the vendors. Carefully considered booths packed with rare finds and delight-

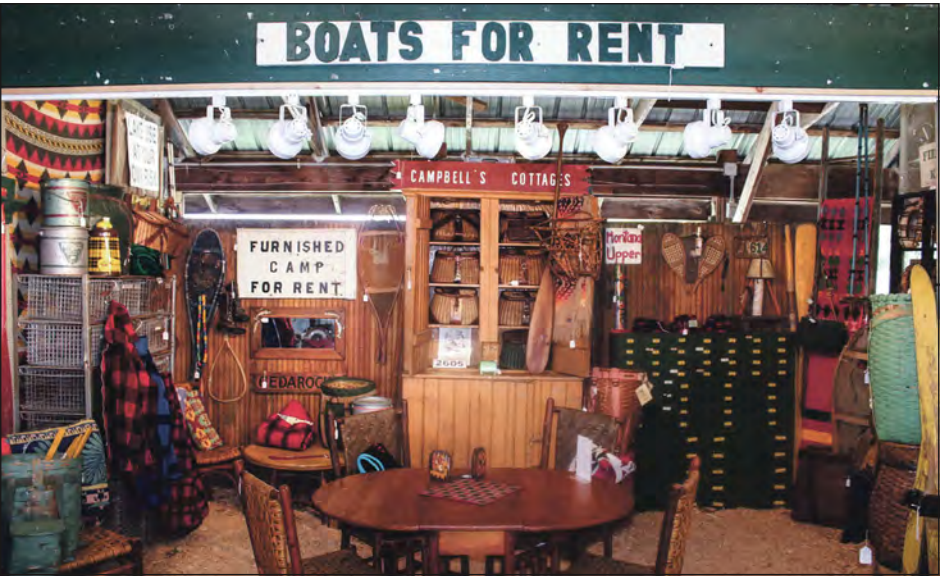


PHOTO BY D.H. CALLAHAN

A barn stall transformed into a cozy cabin at the Country Living Fair.

ful designs lined several of the covered barns at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds. The fact that the barns were built to show off prize-winning livestock fit the feeling of the event wonderfully.

Though there was a wide range of wares, everything seemed to fit with the overall vibe of the fair. Some vendors took the time and effort to create unique shopping environments, like one antique seller from Maine who turned his booth into a rustic cabin interior. Another opted not to occupy a barn booth at all, instead setting up shop outside her vintage VW bus.

As part of a unique partnership, Country Living teamed up with Etsy, the online marketplace for handmade and vintage

goods, to hand-pick sellers from around the country. This led to more makers and crafters than you might find at a regular antique flea market or country fair. Handmade clothes, jewelry, baskets and art complemented multiple booths offering reclaimed quilt coats, totes and even fanny packs.

Beyond the vendors, the fair’s main stages saw influencers, brand developers, business owners and even a TV celebrity or two talking about their crafts with Country Living Editor-in-Chief Rachel Hardage Barrett. Barrett led consistently engaging conversations in front of enthusiastic crowds of fair attendees.

A musical stage popped out of a vintage camp trailer and featured an impressive

lineup of local and national folk acts. Leaving half her band behind, Hudson Valley-based harpist and singer Mikaela Davis wowed crowds on Saturday afternoon. Davis, whose new album “Graceland Way,” was released earlier this year, has an impressive resume of collaborations, including performances with the Grateful Dead’s Phil Lesh and Bob Weir; instrumental indie-groove band Circles Around the Sun; jazz bassist Christian McBride, and Connecticut’s rising-star jam band Goose. Her mastery of the harp paired with her smooth vocals worked as a perfect compliment to a warm autumn day in Rhinebeck.

To learn more about Country Living or plan for a road trip to the next fair, visit countryliving.com.

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PHOTO PROVIDED

“No One Cares About Crazy People,” a documentary directed by Gail Freedman and inspired by Ron Powers’ book of the same name, screens at The Moviehouse in Millerton on Sunday, Oct. 11, at 1 p.m. The film examines the realities of living with severe mental illness in America, combining personal stories with a look at the systemic challenges facing individuals and families seeking care. A Q&A with Freedman and Jo Ann Brown, executive director of NAMI Mid-Hudson, will follow the screening.

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Tri-Corner Calendar

OCTOBER 7-11

Highlands Cup
Highlands, 217 Depot Hill Road, Amenia, N.Y.
Oct. 7 to 11
Top-level show jumping comes to Amenia for five days of international equestrian competition, featuring CSI5* events and Major League Show Jumping. The week culminates in the \$340,000 Highlands Cup CSI5* Grand Prix on Sunday, Oct. 11. Shopping, food, art and other activities will be offered throughout the grounds. highlandseq.com

OCTOBER 8

Murray Hill in Conversation with Bridget Everett
Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y.
Murray Hill celebrates his new memoir, “Showbiz!,” in conversation with special guest Bridget Everett, sharing sharp humor, campy showmanship and behind-the-scenes tales from the self-proclaimed hardest-working middle-aged man in show business. Presented with Oblong Books. 7:30 p.m. Tickets at thestissingcenter.org

A Number
Ancram Center for the Arts, 1330 County Route 7, Ancram, N.Y.
Oct. 1 to 4 and 8 to 11

Ancram Center for the Arts presents Caryl Churchill’s psychological thriller about a father and his three sons, two of whom are clones of the first. Thursdays-Saturdays, 7 p.m.; Sundays, 3 p.m. Special performance Saturday, Oct. 10, at 2 p.m. More info and tickets at ancramcenter.org.

“9 to 5”
American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn.
American Mural Project and Real Art Ways present the 1980 workplace comedy starring Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin and Dolly Parton in her film debut. The screening takes place against the backdrop of AMP’s five-story mural celebrating the American worker. 7 p.m. Reservations recommended at AmericanMuralProject.org/amp-films.

Annual Community Vigil for Domestic Violence Awareness
Community Field, 10 Sharon Road, Lakeville, Conn.
Bring your family, friends and compassion for Project SAGE’s annual community vigil - an evening of remembrance, reflection and community. Red Sand Project at 6:15 p.m., followed by the vigil and remembrance walk at 6:30 p.m. Reception to follow.

Preparing an Advance Directive with Brenda Fife & East Mountain House
Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org
10:30 a.m. to noon, learn why and how to prepare an advance directive for yourself or someone you know, including how to use Five Wishes, a popular advance directive tool. Q&A and discussion follow. Registration required at scovillelibrary.org.

OCTOBER 9

Salisbury Fall Festival
Salisbury, Conn.
October 9 to 11
The Salisbury Fall Festival returns Oct. 9 to 11 with a weekend of special events, including a quilt show at Salisbury Congregational Church, crafts and games on the Scoville Memorial Library lawn, hayrides, antique car rides, live music, a pet parade and more. The 12th annual quilt show runs both days, while Sunday’s highlights include magic shows, a Salisbury Band concert, a world percussion jam and the SWSA Annual Brew-Ski Fest. Complete schedule and more information salisburyfallfestival.org.

“Grand Horizons”
Ghent Playhouse, 6 Town Hall Place, Ghent, N.Y.
Oct. 2 to 4 and 9 to 11

Bess Wohl’s comedy follows a married couple who decide to end their 50-year marriage, sending their adult sons and the entire family dynamic into upheaval. Directed by Cathy Lee-Visscher. Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets at ghentplayhouse.org

Autumn Arts and Fine Crafts Show
Merwinsville Hotel, 1 Brown’s Forge Road, Gaylordsville, Conn.
Oct. 9 to 18

The 39th annual show features work by more than 80 local artists and artisans, including paintings, photography, glass, jewelry, pottery, woodwork and fiber arts. A gala preview party Oct. 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. features live music by Mama Train and catered hors d’oeuvres. More info merwinsvillehotel.org

Fabulous Friends of the Library Book Sale
Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org
October 9 to 11

Friday, Oct. 9, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 11, noon to 4 p.m. Shop the Friends of the Scoville Library book sale for books, games and puzzles for all ages. Proceeds support library programs. More information at scovillelibrary.org.

Fall Festival Film Night: “Sheep Detectives” & Real Sheep
Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org
5:45 to 8 p.m., kick off Fall Festival with an outdoor showing of the comedy-mystery “The Sheep Detectives” (PG) on the library grounds. Meet and pet real sheep from Le Petit Ranch. All ages welcome. Registration requested at scovillelibrary.org.

OCTOBER 10

Skye Consort & Emma Björling
Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y.
Skye Consort & Emma Björling weave Scandinavian, Irish, British and French Canadian traditions with voices, fiddle, nyckelharpa and four-part harmonies, moving from swirling dance tunes to lyrical songs. 7:30 p.m. Tickets at thestissingcenter.org

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

“Cameron (1922-1995)” Autumn Reception
Kent Fine Art, 2854 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y.
Kent Fine Art hosts an autumn reception for its exhibition of work by Cameron (Marjorie Cameron Parsons Kimmel). The exhibition remains on view through Nov. 14, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Reception 2 to 5 p.m.

“Second Cutting” Artist Talk and Reception
Friday Arts at Bantam Arts Factory, 931 Bantam Road, Suite 2-3, Bantam, Conn.
Artists Rachael Catharine Anderson, Ryan Steadman and Annika Tucksmith discuss their work in “Second Cutting,” an exhibition exploring memory, return and the rural landscape. A reception with the artists follows. 4 to 5 p.m. RSVP at friday-arts.com.

Intro to Silkscreen Printmaking
Common Place Craft Workshop, 50 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.
Learn the fundamentals of screenprinting, including stencil-making, color mixing and printing, and create original prints on paper or fabric to take home. All materials provided; no experience necessary. Ages 10 and up. 1 to 3:30 p.m. Register at commonplacecraft.square.site

History, Poetry & the Arts at Steepletop
Millay Arts (formerly Millay Colony for the Arts), 454 East Hill Road, Austerlitz, N.Y.
Millay Arts hosts a fall open house at Steepletop, the historic estate of poet Edna St. Vincent Millay. Enjoy cider, wine, doughnuts and music, with tours of Millay Arts at 1 and 3 p.m. featuring informal studio visits with current artists-in-residence. Noon to 5 p.m. Free; reservations requested millayarts.org/openhouse

Lena Dunham on “Famesick”
Cornwall Congregational Church, 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall, Conn.
Lena Dunham, creator, writer, actor and director of the television series “Girls,” discusses her bestselling book, “Famesick,” and her career with author Robert Becker. 5:30 p.m. Free; registration required at cornwalllibrary.org.

Eric Forstmann’s 26th Annual Show with Eckert Fine Art
10 Titus Road, Washington Depot, Conn.
Artist reception 2 to 5 p.m.

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. Classes are 6-8 p.m. and on a sliding scale. Registration requested; walk-ins welcome. More info at thecenteronmain.org/events.

Siqing Lu Returns to the Hotchkiss Philharmonic
Katherine M. Elfers Hall, Esther Eastman Music Center, The Hotchkiss School, 11 Interlaken Road, Lakeville, Conn.
Violinist Siqing Lu joins the Hotchkiss Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Artis-

tic Director Fabio Witkowski, for an all-Sibelius program featuring the “Karelia Suite,” “Andante Festivo” and Violin Concerto in D Minor. 7:30 p.m. Free and open to the public; no reservations required. Seating is first-come, first-served.

Shiri Zorn Trio
Spencertown Academy Arts Center, 790 State Route 203, Spencertown, N.Y.
The Spencertown Academy Roots & Shoots Concerts Series presents jazz vocalist Shiri Zorn with guitarist Paul Meyers and percussionist Brian Melick. “The Breath Between” explores American Songbook classics alongside Middle Eastern influences and Brazilian rhythms. 7:30 p.m. For tickets and information: spencertownacademy.org.

Theater LARP: “In the Hall of the Bandit King”
The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.
Join LARP writer and game runner Olivia Montoya for an afternoon of fantasy murder mystery and live-action roleplaying. Participants play bandits who awaken with amnesia and must figure out who they are — and who killed the bandit king. No costumes or character preparation are required, although costumes are welcome. The game runs from 1 to 4 p.m. and is free, with registration required. Space is limited to 12 players. The event is geared toward adults; teens may attend with a parent or guardian. thecenteronmain.org

OCTOBER 11
All-Ages Craftspace: Air-Dry Clay Play
Common Place Craft Workshop, 50 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.
Get creative with nontoxic air-dry clay, sculpting tools and instructions for hand-building techniques at this all-ages Sunday Craftspace workshop. Coffee and tea provided. 10:30 a.m. to noon. three-class series available. Register at commonplacecraft.square.site
Pumpkin Party
Steelbow Farm, 750 Wiltzie Bridge Rd., Ancram, N.Y.
Second annual Pumpkin party. Coffee and bagels from Board Man Bagels, fall flowers and more.
Patchin’s Mill Day
27 Hoffman Road, Pine Plains, N.Y.
Friends of Stissing Landmarks hosts tours and refreshments 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

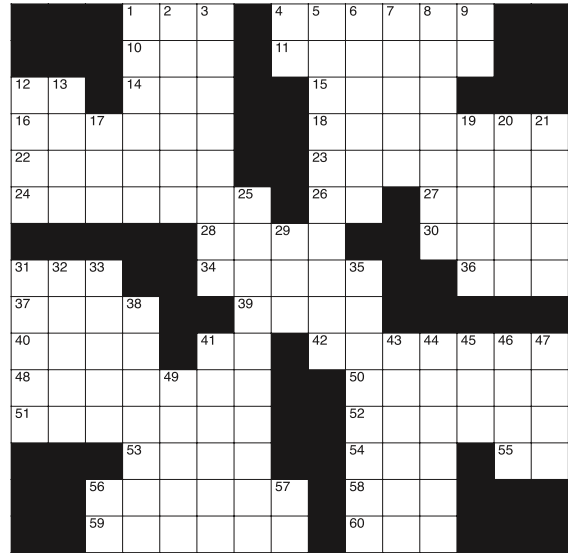
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Small Eurasian deer
- 4. Province in Northern Ireland
- 10. A major division of geological time
- 11. Broadway actor Lane
- 12. Canadian province (abbr.)
- 14. Human gene
- 15. Two
- 16. A notable one was “blue”
- 18. Utter repeatedly
- 22. Ring-shaped objects
- 23. Sullies
- 24. Occurs
- 26. Commercial
- 27. Near
- 28. Tools you may need
- 30. A pledge
- 31. They start the alphabet
- 34. Silk garments
- 36. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 37. Longtime mayor of Rio
- 39. Hot meal
- 40. A type of gin
- 41. Atomic #84
- 42. \$10 bill
- 48. About ground
- 50. Medicine man
- 51. Seedless raisin
- 52. National capital of Albania
- 53. Appendage
- 54. OJ trial judge
- 55. European government entity (abbr.)
- 56. Bike parts
- 58. Friend to “Barbie”
- 59. Stretched to see or hear
- 60. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

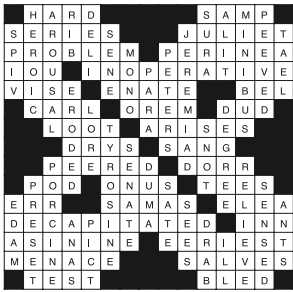
- 1. Make up for
- 2. Baltimore ballplayer
- 3. Wages
- 4. International organization of countries
- 5. Engravers of gems
- 6. Declared as fact
- 7. One who steals
- 8. Jewelry



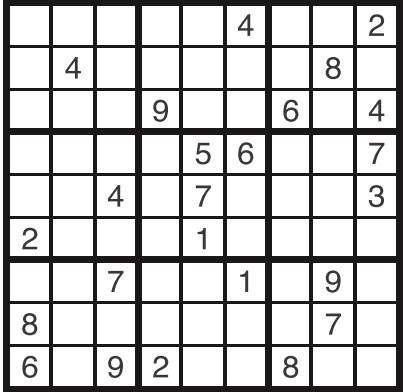
- 9. Hospital worker
- 12. Nonsense (slang)
- 13. Town in Galilee
- 17. Value
- 19. Alternative identity
- 20. Sheep in their second year
- 21. Town in Surrey, England
- 25. Appropriate to a time of year
- 29. Creative work
- 31. Recesses
- 32. Largely forested municipality in Germany
- 33. Rider of Rohan
- 35. Ancient symbol co-opted by Nazis
- 38. Pioneer
- 41. Scribe
- 43. Painted a bright color
- 44. Member of British nobility

- 45. “Pulp Fiction” actress Thurman
- 46. Helps people walk
- 47. Crest of a hill
- 49. People of southeastern Alaska
- 56. One’s own device
- 57. The Mount Rushmore State

October 1 Solution

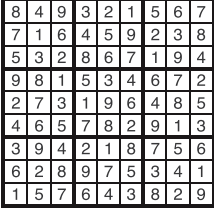


Sudoku



Level: Intermediate

October 1 Solution



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OUR TOWNS

North East home prices hold steady

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

MILLERTON — The median sale price of a residential property in the Town of North East was \$440,000 for the 12 months ending Aug. 31, 2026.

This level marks a 2% increase from the \$430,000 median recorded for the 12 months ending Aug. 31, 2025, and a 6% increase from \$415,000 for the comparable period in 2024.

The average sale price fell to \$619,000 for the 12 months ending Aug. 31, compared to \$707,000 a year earlier, reflecting fewer sales of high-priced properties.

Yearly residential transfers

on a 12-month trailing basis in North East have a wide three-year range of 20 to 45 a year.

A total of 37 residences were sold in the 12 months ending Aug. 31, 2026, compared with 23 sales for the same period in 2025, and 44 sales for the same 12 months in 2024.

In the past year, only 13 residential transfers were recorded in the Village of Millerton which accounted for about a third of the Town's total transactions. The median price of a home in the Village alone was \$410,000, slightly lower than the town overall.

Inventory of all residential properties included 14 homes listed at the end of September with just two in the Village

of Millerton and only two listed below the median price of \$440,000. The five \$1 million plus homes have all been on the market for over three months.

Seven parcels of land are now listed for sale on the MLS including three large estate lots on Skunks Misery for \$3,000,000 to \$1,450,000. Six listed village residential rentals are all below \$3,000 and smaller than 1,400 square feet.

North East Transfers August 2026

15 South Maple Ave. — 3 bedroom/2 bath renovated home in the Village of Millerton on .49 acres built in 1885 transferred to Lee Laslo



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

The home at 15 South Maple Ave. quickly found a buyer at \$575,000 well over the original listing price of \$535,000.

for \$575,000

5 Country View Road — 3 bedroom/3 bath home on 1.2 acres transferred to Eric Sandler for \$429,000

26 Mountain Farm Road

— 5 bedroom/6 bath home on 21.9 acres transferred to August 26 LLC for \$2,725,000.

* Town of North East real estate transfers recorded between August 1, 2026, and Au-

gust 31, 2026, not previously reported as sales, provided by Dutchess County Office of Real Property. Transfers without consideration are not included. Median and average prices based on all residential sales including single-family, multi-family, estates and mobile homes. Current market listings from First Key MLS. Note that recorded transfers frequently lag sales by a number of days and include properties sold privately. On-line sources like realtor.com often reference properties by post office rather than by town. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

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Classifieds Real Estate

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ESTATE AND FAMILY TAG SALE 27 Indian Mountain Rd, Lakeville. Saturday, October 10, 8 am-4pm. Rain Date, October 11. Lots of arts and crafts supplies plus artwork old and new, jewelry, games, household items, and furniture. Many items are one of a kind. Everything priced to sell. Cash, Venmo, and credit/debit cards accepted. Easy parking.

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Local Reporter

The Lakeville Journal is seeking a news reporter to cover Northwest Connecticut towns and school district.

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Writing skills and basic knowledge of how Connecticut town government functions are a must.

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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.

Managing Editor

The Lakeville Journal, a nonprofit community weekly newspaper, seeks a dynamic, community-focused managing editor.

The managing editor will be primarily responsible for editing and writing articles to serve communities of Northwest Connecticut.

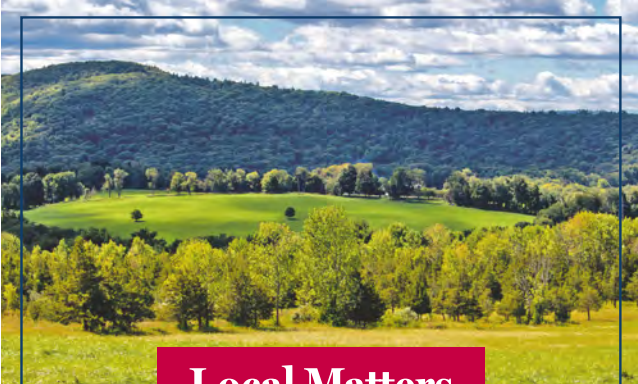
Working with the executive editor, duties include planning news coverage, ensuring there is a balance of quality stories and photos, and that deadlines are met. The managing editor is expected to work collaboratively with The Millerton News managing editor, Arts editor, and others to ensure readers across the region are well-informed.

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Send resume and inquiries to Executive Editor, Christian Murray
christianm@lakevillejournal.com.

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