



The art of getting
into art school;
and more **B1-6**



Kim Yarnell, right, leads a group of toddlers and parents in basic ballet lessons at the North East Community Center office on South Center Street in Millerton on Sunday, Oct. 11.

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

That's the consensus from a room full of bouncing toddlers at

See NECC, A10

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

The cameras, which capture the license plates of passing cars, were decommissioned after a public forum in Pleasant Valley last month. Following that meeting, Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi and Sheriff Kirk Imperati announced on Sept. 25 that all 60-plus cameras owned or operated by the county would be immediately

See FLOCK CAMERAS, A10



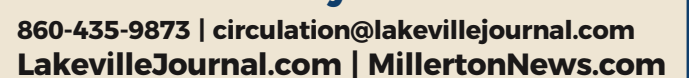
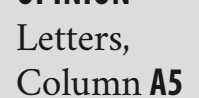
From left, Board Chair Dan Dwyer, Publisher and CEO James Clark, Estabrook Community Leadership Award recipient Dick Hermans, his daughter Suzanna Hermans and Jubilee co-chair Joan Osofsky at the annual gala Oct. 11.

By **PATRICK STACHNIAK**
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The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News, published by the nonprofit organization LJMN Media, held their annual Jubilee gala at the Sharon Playhouse Sunday, Oct. 11, to celebrate five years of nonprofit ownership and honor Dick Hermans with the Estabrook

In an address to supporters,

See JUBILEE, A8



OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Fall wagon rides

Residents celebrated their Fall Festival at The Fountains by joining in an annual tractor-drawn wagon ride on Wednesday, Oct. 7. They were on the first of three scheduled rides throughout the day, where residents toured the former Hope Farms and campus of the Greer School that once stood on land that is now The Fountains. Narrating the tour was Marcia Berry, Housekeeping Director at The Fountains, whose mother-in-law, Jan Berry, attended Greer School.

Amenia Fire Co. pancake breakfast set for Oct. 18

The Amenia Fire Company will hold its monthly Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 18, from 7:30 to 11 am. The breakfast will once again be held at the Amenia Firehouse on Mechanic Street. The meal is all you can eat with a menu of pancakes, French toast, eggs and om-

lettes, home fries, bacon, sausages and beverages. Diners can eat in or take out. The firehouse is located at 36 Mechanic St., Amenia. Adult tickets are \$12, Seniors & under 12 are \$11. For information send an email to: administrator@ameniafire31.org

Millbrook Diner celebrates 35 years

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
grahamc@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — The Millbrook Diner's owners, Debbie and Thanasi Theodoropoulos, celebrated 35 years of ownership this week, continuing a tradition of serving the community that began when the diner opened in 1929. Known then as the Millbrook Deluxe Diner, it was purchased as a prefabricated structure and moved from Westchester County.

The current structure, with its chrome silver exterior, carved figurehead, and neon lettering, has sat at 3266 Franklin Ave. since 1952.

Currently, the diner is open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day. Over the years, the iconic diner has hosted a number of luminaries such as James Cagney, Mary Tyler Moore, and as recently as 2026, Justin and Hailey Bieber.

The couple took over from Donald Peters, who had been the proprietor for 10 years. The couple were in their early 30s at the time, and had never lived in Millbrook before. "We took over without knowing how wonderful this place would be for us," said Thanasi Theodoropoulos.

With its cheery interior, generous outdoor seating options, and reasonable prices, the Millbrook Diner has become a bedrock of Millbrook's eateries.

Theodoropoulos is originally from Greece, where he graduated from the Culinary

Institute of Athens. He came to the United States and started working at Hyde Park's Town & Country Diner — now known as the Eveready Diner — in 1986. That's where he met and fell in love with his wife, Debbie.

The first few years owning the diner were difficult. It was Theodoropoulos' first time working as an owner rather than an employee. "But the good thing," he said, "was that the people of Millbrook embraced us. Throughout the

years, they've loved us and we love them."

The couple brought their own flair to the menu, while keeping the classics intact. Customers can find Greek classics like souvlaki, gyros, and moussaka alongside pancakes and burgers at the Millbrook Diner. They also sell olive oil from Kardamas, Theodoropoulos' hometown in western Greece. His father has been making the oil for more than 40 years on a family farm near Olympia.

But while diner food has a reputation for having a staple menu, the Theodoropoulos' have had to adapt with the changing times. "We've tried to add more healthy items," Thanasi said. "People want more healthy things now, but maybe 60% of the menu are items from the past — like the reuben. You cannot change that. But now we have a turkey reuben in addition to corned beef and pastrami." More than three decades in business is quite an accomplishment, but "we're not ready for retirement," said Thanasi. "We're still young, and we will be here for the people of Millbrook the same way they've been there for us."



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Gift basket raffle underway at Amenia library

By LEILA HAWKEN
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AMENIA — Another in a series of seasonal gift basket raffles, the Amenia Free Library has a tempting array of baskets that can be won by purchasing raffle tickets

at the library desk. On sale since Sept. 30, tickets are available singly for \$5, or five tickets can be had for \$20. The drawing will be held at 3:30 p.m. during the Harvest Festival scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 17.

Email news and photos to editor@millertonnews.com

Correcting Errors

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

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Millerton building set for foreclosure auction

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — A Main Street apartment building that has been vacant since a carbon monoxide scare in January is being auctioned off following the property’s foreclosure.

The residential apartment building at 7-9 Main St. will be sold at an auction on Monday, Oct. 26, at 2:30 p.m. in the rear lobby of the Dutchess County Courthouse in Poughkeepsie.

The auction comes more than six months after a March ruling that found owner Chris Rapaj was behind on mortgage payments for the property and owed \$625,621.25 to lenders. It marks a closing chapter in a fraught period in the building’s history that climaxed with its evacuation in January caused by a faulty furnace.

Rapaj purchased the building in 2023 with plans to renovate the property. The renovations never came, however, due to concerns from village zoning officials over



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

The apartment building at 7-9 Main St. has been vacant since a fire in January.

the building’s compliance with density restrictions and a lack of available parking on-site. Millerton’s Zoning Board of Appeals made its final ruling on the matter in summer 2025, denying variances that would have exempted the property from parking requirements and increased the legally permitted number of units on the property to nine up from six.

The apartment building dates to 1900, according to Dutchess County Parcel Access. The building is currently configured into 12 units with a total floor area of 9,696 square feet. Zoning Board of Appeals members determined that configuration had never been formally approved, and that level density would be too high for the village to condone. Village zoning code

requires 5,000 square feet of lot area per residential unit. With 12 units, the lot at 7-9 Main St. only affords 636 square feet of area per unit.

Rapaj later amended his requests, providing six-unit and nine-unit versions of the building’s layout. ZBA members ultimately rejected both of the proposals in June 2025 over the property’s lack of space for off-street parking.

In January, dangerous carbon monoxide levels forced an evacuation of the building. A basement furnace had caught fire, spewing gases and smoke and prompting authorities to rule the building uninhabitable until the furnace was restored. A sign on the door warning against entry has been present since the January fire.

Rapaj has been facing the foreclosure suit since 2023, when his lender first filed documents at Dutchess County Court. Court proceedings continued until March, when the judge presiding over the case ruled to hold an auction for the building.



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Jam Food Shop will soon open a location in Sharon at the former home of BBQ smokehouse When Pigs Fly South.

‘Plot twist’: Jam Food Shop to open Sharon location

By PATRICK STACHNIAK
patrick@lakevillejournal.com

SHARON, Conn. — After closing its counter at Sharon Farm Market on Oct. 3, Jam Food Shop announced it will open a new location in Sharon as well as a shop in Salisbury.

Owner Colin Kennedy described the announcement as a “plot twist.” He had previously said the popular local deli would leave Sharon and move to Salisbury, but now plans to operate a shop in each town.

“We understand the importance of convenience, so why not give that to Sharon if we can?” Kennedy said.

The Sharon Jam Food Shop will be located at 29 W Main St. in the former building of When Pigs Fly, a BBQ restaurant that closed down mid-July. Though it will be smaller than its Salisbury counterpart, the store will still offer Sharon residents the same food, just with more limited seating.

Kennedy is actively renovating the former Neo Bar and Restaurant at 19 Main St. in Salisbury to become Jam’s primary location, including a whole new seating area.

At the Salisbury Fall Festival, Kennedy hosted a raffle for attendees to guess the opening date of the new storefront, which he previously estimated to be sometime in October. As of now, Kennedy has no official start date for either location, but said both will be open ASAP.

“Our family always dreamed of expanding and opening a second location. While we are beyond excited to open our doors in Salisbury, it was difficult to see and hear the disappointment from the locals that have supported us for so long,” Kennedy said.

This is a new, exciting chapter for us that will allow us to be creative beyond the confines of the Sharon Farm Market and we can’t wait to serve you all!”

Gathering at the mill

PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Friends of Stissing Landmarks, a Pine Plains historical preservation society, hosts a gathering of community members at the historic Patchins Mill property on Sunday, Oct. 11, following a summer-long renovation of the mill building.



Pine Plains residents and history buffs tour the recently-renovated Patchins Mill building.



Highlights of the historic mill property are a stream that once supplied hydro power to the millhouse, used to turn the heavy machinery that processed timber at the mill.

STEFANIE HUBERT

Dutchess County Legislature

District 25

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

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YOUR NEWS

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OBITUARIES

Gary V. Ackerman

ANCRAMDAL — Gary V. Ackerman, Jr., 60, of 233 East Ancram Road, died Monday morning Oct. 5, 2026, at Sharon Hospital. He was the husband of Camille M. Mastropolo. Gary was born Aug. 16, 1966, in Poughkeepsie, New York, son of the late Gary V. and Betty Jane (Wilbur) Ackerman Sr.

Gary had last worked in the maintenance department of the Indian Mountain School

in Lakeville. Prior to that he had worked in the same capacity at the Maplebrook School in Amenia, New York for 30 years. Gary enjoyed cars and target shooting, in his spare time, and was a member of the Ancram Land-Owners Association.

In addition to his wife, Gary is survived by his sister, Vanessa Brazzale and her husband Bob Chase of Salisbury, Connecticut, and his

sister-in-law Joanna Mastropolo and her partner Walter Rick, both of Sharon, Connecticut. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

At this time there are no funeral services scheduled. Please send any memorial donations to a charity dealing with animals. Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. Canaan, CT 06018.

Frederick Reel Jr.

CANAAN — Frederick Reel Jr., 89, passed away on Oct. 5, 2026.

Fred was born on April 22, 1937, in Canaan, Connecticut, to Augusta Bagnaschi and Frederick Reel. Following Augusta's passing, Fred and his siblings were raised by their aunt, Dorothy Wilson.

Fred worked as a mechanic for the Dufour Bus Company for many years. His love of working with his hands continued well into retirement, as he enjoyed tinkering with and fixing things. Fred was

a fun-loving man who made friends wherever he went. Above all, his greatest joy was spending time with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Fred was predeceased by his longtime partner, Betty Clark, and his sisters, Shirley McCarthy and Joan Ryan.

He is survived by his children; Karen Reel, Mark Reel and his wife, Lisa, and David Reel and his partner, Keisha. He also leaves behind his grandchildren, Allycia Soule and her partner, Trevor;

Maureen A. Moore

AMENIA — Maureen A. Moore, 79, a longtime resident of Amenia, NY, passed away on Sunday, October 11, 2026 at Yale New Haven Hospital in New Haven, CT. Maureen worked as a registered nurse at Taconic Developmental Disabilities Office in Wassaic, NY for 40 years retiring in 2008.

Born on August 12, 1947 in Poughkeepsie, NY, she was the daughter of the late Lawrence Quinlan and Jean (Martin) Quinlan. She was a graduate of Our Lady of Lourdes High School Class of 1965 in Poughkeepsie, NY and Villanova University School of Nursing in Villanova, PA. On October 5, 1975 in Hyde Park, NY, she married Norman Moore who survives at home.

Maureen was a member of



the Amenia Historical Society, the Amenia Republican Committee and the Indian Rock Schoolhouse Association in Amenia. For many years, she was also the court clerk for her husband, former Town of Amenia Justice Hon. Norman Moore. A longtime active parishioner of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia, she served as a Eucharistic Minister and assisted at the parish's thrift shop.

Maureen was better known as Mom, and in more recent years, Grandma. One of her great joys was sharing her delicious baked goods with others. She will be deeply missed by all of her family and friends.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two sons:

Lawrence M. Moore, and his wife, Jessica, of Millerton, NY and Thomas Moore, and his wife, Laura of Newington, CT; a brother, Michael Quinlan of Bowie, MD and three grandchildren, Iris, Isabelle and Penelope Moore.

Calling hours will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. on Friday, October 16, 2026 at Hufcut Funeral Home, 3159 Route 22, Dover Plains, NY. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 17, 2026 at Immaculate Conception Church, 4 Lavelle Rd., Amenia, NY. Burial will follow at Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Amenia, NY.

Memorial contributions may be made to Immaculate Conception Church, 4 Lavelle Rd., Amenia, NY 12501. To send the family an online condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.

OUR TOWNS

Small trout, big lasagna and bad movies

By PATRICK L. SULLIVAN
patricksl@lakevillejournal.com

I recently convened the fall meeting of CACA, which stands for Cinema, Angling and Culinary Appreciation.

This takes place in Phoenicia, New York. We fish all day, make a bountiful dinner, and watch the world's worst movies.

CACA was founded about 25 years ago, back when we had to worry about the elderly RCR eating the tape of "Death Race 2000."

Attending this year were Steve DeSimone, who I met in the sixth grade, and my itinerant attorney Tom Galuccio.

Steve is gainfully employed and could only manage a few days. Tom wanders the nation with a small camper, so he was underfoot the entire week.

When the cool weather begins, he knows it's time to head south. So this was his last hurrah in the Northeast

this year.

The culinary appreciation began when Tom made a 15 pound lasagna. We weighed it to be sure. It lasted all week.

On the cinema front, the big discovery was John Boorman's 1974 ode to weirdness, "Zardoz."

Whatever you do, do not Google the words "Zardoz" and "Sean Connery" and then select "images."

If you do you will see something that cannot be unseen. And because this is a family newspaper, that's all I have to say on the subject.

The angling was so-so. The Esopus was suffering from turbidity, so we concentrated on tributaries, which ran clear.

What we were hoping for was brown trout ready to put on the nosebag.

What we found were small wild rainbows.

I caught my fish on Leadwing Coachmen wet flies and small, heavy Bread and Butter and Surveyor nymphs.

Here in Connecticut, the

stocking trucks have been rolling and a trip to the Blackberry, Housatonic or Farmington will probably be rewarding.

And fly-fishers can come to the Autumn at the Town

OUR TOWNS

Early voting begins Oct. 24

By CHRISTIAN MURRAY
christianm@lakevillejournal.com

Voters across Dutchess County and throughout the state can begin casting ballots Saturday, Oct. 24, when New York opens a week of in-person early voting ahead of the Nov. 3 election.

Early voting runs daily through Sunday, Nov. 1, including both weekends. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Monday, Oct. 26, and Wednesday, Oct. 28, when locations will be open from noon to 8 p.m.

Regional contests include the 41st State Senate District race between Democrat incumbent Michelle Hinchey and Republican Patrick Sheehan. In the 105th State Assembly district, which includes Amenia, Republican incumbent Anil Beephan is facing a challenge from Democrat Brooklyn Talarico. In the 106th District to the northwest, which includes North East, Pine Plains, Washington and Stanford, Democratic incumbent Didi Barrett is facing off against Republican Gregory Campus for the seat.

In the 18th Congressional District, Democratic incumbent Pat Ryan faces Republican challenger Jackie Mary Auringer.

Voters will also choose a governor and lieutenant governor, with incumbent Democrats Kathy Hochul and Adrienne Adams facing Republicans Bruce Blakeman and Todd Hood, and fill two other statewide offices: comptroller and attorney general.

Residents must vote at one of seven early voting location, which may differ from their usual Election Day polling place. The Dutchess County Board of Elections lists the following locations for the

county:

- The Pavilion at Brookmeade, 34 Brookmeade Park, Rhinebeck
- Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill
- Boardman Road Library, 141 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie
- Cornell Cooperative Extension, 2715 Route 44, Millbrook
- Mid-Hudson Library Auditorium, 105 Market Street, Poughkeepsie
- Board of Elections Training Center, 4280 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park

— Wappinger Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappingers Falls

The registration deadline is Saturday, Oct. 24. The Dutchess County Board of Elections must receive new applications for voter registration on or before that day. Change of address requests must be received on or before Monday, Oct. 19.

Election Day polls will be open Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters can check their registration and find additional information at elections.dutchessny.gov

Email news and photos to editor@millertonnews.com

Send obituaries to obituaries@lakevillejournal.com

 Worship Services Week of October 18, 2026	
Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon <i>9 South Main, Sharon CT</i> Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. <i>Growing together in God's love</i> Rev. John Allison Priest-In-Charge All are welcome 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org	The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. <i>30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT</i> Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442
Trinity Episcopal Church <i>484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville</i> <i>Offering companionship along the Way</i> Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627	St. John's Episcopal Church <i>12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT</i> SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) Rev. Dr. Johan Johnson, Priest-in-Charge <i>In-Person and on You-Tube</i> www.stjohnssalisbury.org
North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC <i>Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people</i> <i>172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT</i> Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7252 FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan <i>Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm</i> www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org	ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH <i>Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk</i> <i>St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan</i> <i>St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville</i> MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm <i>St. Joseph Chapel or Church</i> Thursday 8am <i>Immaculate Conception Church</i> Friday 8am <i>Church of St. Mary</i> ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078
The Lakeville United Methodist Church <i>319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039</i> 10 a.m. Worship Service <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net	UCC in CORNWALL <i>Cornwall Village Meeting House</i> Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister <i>Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</i>
Falls Village Congregational Church <i>16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village</i> 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour <i>A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!!</i> 860-824-0194	The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall in person and on zoom Warm fellowship following service All Are Welcome! www.allsaintscornwall.org Rev. Mary Gates
The Sharon United Methodist Church <i>112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green</i> <i>Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits</i> 9 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5654 sharonumc5654@att.net	St. Thomas Episcopal Church <i>40 Leedsville Road</i> <i>Amenia Union, NY</i> SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com <i>A Community of Radical Hospitality</i>
The Smithfield Presbyterian Church <i>656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY</i> Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org <i>21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</i>	Promised Land Baptist Church <i>29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT</i> <i>Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!</i> Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org
All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church <i>313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT</i> Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us	Canaan United Methodist Church <i>2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT</i> 11:00AM - Worship Service <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-824-5534 canaanctumc@gmail.com <i>We hope you will join us!</i>
Sharon Congregational <i>25 Main Street, Sharon, CT</i> Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org	
Millerton United Methodist Church <i>6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812</i> <i>Millerton, NY 12546</i> Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:00 P.M. 518-789-3138	



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LET’S HEAR IT...

THIS WEEK

Cold Spring Early Learning Center in Stanford is set to close, with nearly 150 pre-K through first-grade students moving to Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center in Pine Plains for the 2027–2028 school year.

What are your thoughts on the closure of Cold Spring Early Learning Center? How do you think it will affect students, families and the community?

Send your responses to social@lakevillejournal.com by Monday, Oct. 19 at 10 a.m. or comment on Facebook or Instagram. We’ll publish a selection in next week’s paper.

Committees, Leo Club, housing, Arnoff

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

October 17, 1935
Committees Announced By Auxiliary
Committee appointments for the year were announced at the regular meeting of the Millerton American Legion Auxiliary last Wednesday night. They were: Membership, Mrs. Bessie Mathews; rehabilitation, Mrs. Marie Loan; welfare, Mrs. Agnes Diegnan; Americanism, Mrs. Florence Wood; national defense, Mrs. Josephine Best; Fidac (note from library: Fidac is Fédération Interalliée Des Anciens Combattants, English: The Interallied Federation of War Veterans Organisations) , Mrs. W. E. Parks; legislation, Mrs. Jessie Sprague.

October 21, 1976
Lions Form Club For North East Teenagers
The Millerton Lions Club is forming a “Leo Club” for boys and girls ages 12 to 20 who live in the Town of North East.
At the first meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 13, the following were elected Leo officers: Keith Bradley, president; Bruce Valentine, vice-president; Laura Shoifet, secretary; and Bob Cuddeback, treasurer. The 13 teenagers attending designated the first and third Mondays of the month as meeting nights. The time will be 7 p.m.

Millerton Lions Kevin Smith and Edwin McGhee will serve as the club’s advisors.

October 18, 2001
NE/Village Officials Mull Housing Project
MILLERTON — The North East Housing Committee and the Rural Preservation Company of Dutchess County have been approached by one of the leading not-for-profit builders in the northeastern portion of the United States about a possible project in Millerton.
Village of Millerton officials along with their counterparts from the town of North East are excited but cautious about the potential housing project, which would require a significant amount of federal and state aid to be constructed.

Community Builders, a not-for-profit developer which is constructing a similar project in Kent, is considering a project for the Millerton area.
The project was made public at a meeting of the North East Housing committee Monday.
The meeting was designed

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Millerton News

to continue work on a housing survey which will soon be circulated to the community.
Town and village officials said they are excited because Community Builders has been able to gain federal and state approval for many other projects, attracting the financing necessary to make the projects become a reality.
“They have an outstanding track record, particularly when it comes to applying for grants,” said Pat Sassaman, the executive director of Rural Preservation Co. of Dutchess County (RPCDC), who is also a member of the housing committee.
Community Developers is considering a 24-unit housing project for Millerton, which if constructed, would be the largest public housing project in the history of the town.
The construction firm would ideally like a three acre tract of land to build such a project. However, a representative told the committee they could construct on as little as two acres of land
Town of NorthEast Supervisor Dave Sherman called the potential of such a project “very exciting.” But he said, “It will require a great deal more thought and much more work before we move forward.”

Arnoff Looks To Millerton
MILLERTON - The village of Millerton Board heard a proposal from a moving company for a possible new site in the village last night. Arnoff Moving and Storage based in Poughkeepsie shared its plans in a meeting with the Village Board.
Arnoff is considering a three-acre site on Route 22 near the red light in the village. The location is the site of the former Village Auto and prior to that it served as the site for Stateline Chevrolet, before that car dealer went bankrupt several times in the mid-1990s.
Peter Levy, a representative of Arnoff, briefed the board on his company’s plan for the site in Millerton. Arnoff operates a storage and moving facility in Lakeville, 4 miles east of the village.
In other business last night, the Village Board was to consider a temporary curfew of 9 p.m. for Halloween night.
“This was the last meeting before Halloween so we needed to have the curfew in place,” Mayor Mariley Najdek said.
The meeting took place after our press time.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Roush will bring collaborative leadership

I write in support of Trevor Roush for Pine Plains Supervisor. Trevor, a busy farmer and businessman, wants to make our Town government work more effectively and democratically. His campaign literature points out that our Town Board should work as a team, and that he wants “to bring collaborative leadership to Town Hall, improve communication, and make sure every voice in our community is heard.”
Trevor’s push to improve communication and increase collaboration among Town Board members reflects the shocking lack of communication and collaboration that resulted in Brian Walsh, our current Supervisor, agreeing to a provisional arrangement

(and planned expanded contract) with Flock Safety to install cameras in various places in our town. Brian Walsh’s high-handed and dishonest conduct in the Flock affair is now well-known by Pine Plains residents; it resulted in numerous calls for Walsh’s resignation – calls he did not heed. Forcing Walsh out of office would have been a time-consuming process, dragging Town government down even further than his behavior had brought it. Walsh nevertheless seems to think that he deserves to be re-elected.
As Trevor’s campaign material suggests, the Flock affair was the result of Walsh’s refusal to work collaboratively or even to communicate with

the rest of the Board. Walsh’s lack of commitment to doing his job conscientiously is also reflected in his failure to attend any, or almost any, County-wide meetings of Supervisors. To make this failure worse, Walsh neglects to inform the other Board members of these meetings, so that no other Board member can attend in his place; our Town goes unrepresented. On many occasions, Walsh even fails to respond to other Board members’ emails seeking information.
I think it is clear that we need a new Town Supervisor -- someone who will take seriously his responsibilities to work cooperatively with other Board members and to communicate with Pine

Plains residents. Trevor has stated his intention to, if elected, not only increase communication and transparency, but also to “[h]old regular office hours and monthly workshop meetings . . . [and to] bring people together for community projects . . . “ Trevor also plans, if elected, to create a town map highlighting local businesses, and to use vacant town property for a temporary community park.
In short, Trevor Roush has enthusiasm for doing the job and doing it with integrity and commitment to improving life for Pine Plains residents. Let’s do ourselves a favor and elect him Pine Plains Town Supervisor.
Amy Rothstein
Pine Plains

Affordable housing crisis needs a fighter

We face many issues in upstate New York, but one of the most significant is the lack of affordable housing. The housing crunch creates a whole range of problems for residents as well as for the health of the local economy.
Young people are leaving the area for other parts of the U.S because they can’t afford to rent or buy a house here. That is leading to a major brain drain of talented and often highly educated residents.
An entire generation is

missing out on building home ownership equity – a key source of savings for all income groups.
Local companies and other employers are having trouble luring prospective employees to work here, which makes it tougher for them to stay in business much less expand.
That’s why I was heartened to learn that our congressman, Rep. Josh Riley, is a strong advocate of rural and affordable housing. He helped pass the 21st Century ROAD

to Housing Act in July, a bipartisan law that promotes home construction by lowering costs, cutting red tape in housing programs, protecting housing in rural communities and restricting large institutional investors from buying up affordable single-family homes. The law also requires major federal agencies to coordinate environmental reviews regarding housing construction, increases housing density in government Opportunity Zones, and expands

a rental- assistance program.
And more, Congressman Riley sponsored the Veterans Housing Promise Act, which remains pending.
While this isn’t going to end the housing crisis, it shows that Riley is fighting what to ease the crisis.
That is why I plan to vote to re-elect him on November 3.
Ellen G. Levy
Co-Chair
Hillsdale
Housing Committee



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

A country view

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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LJM Media, Inc., Publishers of

The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News

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

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OUR TOWNS

Judge calls for denial of Shepherd’s Run permit

By JOHN COSTON
Special to the Millerton News

COPAKE — Two administrative law judges weighing the merits of Hecate Energy LLC’s plans for a more than 700-acre solar project in this rural hamlet have recommended that the state deny the Chicago-based company’s application.

Following an adjudicatory hearing held last month that was attended by more than 100 residents, the judges wrote: “Based on the evidence ... adduced during the adjudicatory hearing process, we recommend denial of the siting permit based upon Hecate’s failure to demonstrate compliance with applicable wetlands laws and regulations.”

The judges noted that Hecate failed to meet “substantive provisions of New York’s wetlands laws and regulations.” They also recommended a permit denial citing evidence that Hecate also failed to “demonstrate compliance with Chapter 135,” a local town law that implements a federally approved program on wetlands regulations.

Maureen F. Leary and Dawn MacKillop-Soller, administrative law judges at the New York State Department of Public Service’s ORES office, also noted that in their Oct. 5 hearing report and recommended decision that since Hecate submitted its application for a 42-megawatt solar farm near the intersection of Routes 23 and 7 in Craryville there have been 1,173 public

comments received about the project.

Noting that 164 acres of the 723-acre property is classified as regulated wetlands and includes a large wetland complex adjacent to Taghkanic Creek and its tributaries, the judges wrote: “Finally, we find that ... additional wetlands are on the project site that have not been properly characterized and classified ... and justify further investigation.”

In a criticism of Hecate, the judges wrote, “Hecate’s actions during the adjudicatory phase were not in good faith, particularly with respect to its failure to timely and adequately respond to the Town’s discovery requests and provide unimpeded access to the site.

“Hecate imposed unreasonable conditions to the Town’s access, including limiting access only to areas where wetlands had already been delineated. Moreover, access to the site was not provided until the day before the hearing (Sunday, Sept. 13) and was limited to only certain areas of the site.”

The ultimate decision to grant or deny a final permit will be made by state ORES’ interim executive director Jason Zehr, who was appointed in April.

Because of a time clock on the project, ORES has until Oct. 19 to grant a site permit or deny Hecate. If the application moves ahead, Hecate will then have to come to the town to get a permit before construction can begin.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Playing koi

Fish selected during the koi harvest at Broccoli Hall Farm on Saturday, Oct. 10, are transferred to a holding tank by Liam Dugan, who assisted John Clark of Northeastern Aquatics of Rhinebeck, New York. The annual event at the home of Maxine Paetro sorts the fish to further her goal over the past twenty years to genetically encourage the “Elusive Kishusui” koi. In Japanese, “shusui” translates to “Autumn Sunset” and “ki” means “yellow,” a desirable coloration trait being pursued by Paetro.

Haunted Barn and Monster’s Ball return to Wassaic Project

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
grahamc@millertonnews.com

WASSAIC — Every October, when the summer sun has set and the leaves start to fall, the Wassaic Project gets spooky. Its annual haunted house is a highlight of local Halloween celebrations, and this year, it gets a new home: the Luther Barn. It’s a week-end-long event, with a panoply of talented artists putting their skills to spine-chilling use on Friday, Oct. 23.

This year’s haunts include a mood swing by Judy K. Suh, a monster candy feast by Walker Mettling, a fairy tale forest by Rachael McArthur, a walking-themed shadow puppet show by Theodora Skiptares, a puppet installation and performance by Jane Catherine Shaw and students from the Wassaic Project Junior Varsity Art Club, a robot escape video installation by Chris Golub and Anna Yiayi Savvidou, a giant moth installation made of Rorschach tests by Erin Perrazzelli, a dancing clown installation and performance around a fire by Brian Whiteley, a

haunted petting zoo made of recycled materials by Isabella Schubert-Jones, a giant inflatable puppet created by Nicole Banowetz and Devin Reilly, an alien robot workshop by Jeffrey Repko, and a “coin-operated” haunted music box interactive installation and performance by WHOOP DEE DOO and students from the Wassaic Project Varsity Art Club.

And while some of the installations might be frightening for some, the Haunted Barn is a family affair. Rather than designed to be scary, the work on view is simply inspired by the season. “We’re letting the artists take the lead and make these amazing, never-before-seen pieces,” said Kassandra Gonzalez of the Wassaic Project. “We really try to make all of the installations focused on children and their experience — but not so dumbed-down that adults can’t enjoy it.”

The event also celebrates public artworks by Liz Nielsen and Akeylah Wellington. Liz Nielsen’s installation in the Gridley Chapel takes the form of stained glass

windows, while Wellington’s massive beaded tapestries are inspired by supernova, gas rings, and globular star clusters.

Since its inception, the Monster’s Ball has been an opportunity for the artistically-inclined to channel their creativity into Halloween costumes. Partygoers should take into account mobility, however — the DJ sets and dance floor are the stuff of legend.

Saturday Haunted Barn tickets are \$10 for individuals and \$20 for families. Friday and Sunday tickets are \$8 for individuals, \$15 for families. The barn operates on a timed-entry system, and Saturday afternoon is usually the busiest slot.

On Saturday, October 24 at 7 p.m., the action moves down the street to The Lantern, Wassaic’s most sinister bar and restaurant. In The Lantern’s garden, the Monster’s Ball will summon creative spirits for a raucous dance party and costume contest. Tickets are required in advance, and every attendee must wear a costume, lest

they wish to be banished at the threshold. The Monster’s Ball has sold out ahead of the event every year, so prospective ghouls and goblins are encouraged to reserve a place before it’s too late.



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		Sharon Auto Body
		Studio Lakeville
		The Moviehouse
		Town Center
		Wines & Spirits
		Tractor Supply
		Village Wine Cellar
		Warren General Store
		The Wish House

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.

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.

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

Legal Notice
The Board of Trustees of the Evergreen Cemetery Inc. have scheduled a lot owners and general business meeting on October 24, 2026 at 10:00am. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Post #426 located at 9 North Main Street, Pine Plains, NY 12567.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Town of Pine Plains Zoning Board of Appeals on the 27th day of October 2026 at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York. for the purpose

of hearing all persons for or against the area variance application submitted by Stephen Beck for the premises located at 35 Willow Vale Road, Pine Plains, NY, Dutchess County, Tax Map ID# 134200-6871-00-826731-0000. All interested parties will be given the opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed action requesting a proposed garage to have a side yard setback of 24 feet, in lieu of the minimum of 50 feet, and a front yard setback of 20 feet, in lieu of minimum in of 75 feet, in the rural district. The application is available for review at the Pine Plains Town Hall during regular business hours.

By order of:
Scott Chase,
Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals
10-15-26

PINE PLAINS FIRE DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Proposed Budget of the Pine Plains Fire District of the Town of Pine Plains, State of New York, will be presented to the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Pine Plains Fire District. A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Pine Plains Fire House, 7 Lake Road, Pine Plains, New York 12567, in the Town of Pine Plains, State of New York on the 20th day of October 2026. Pursuant to Town Law §105, the Board of Fire Commissioners must hold a public hearing on the budget, make the proposed budget available to the public prior to the public hearing, allow the public to comment on the budget at the public hearing. This public hearing must be held to allow maximum public participation in the hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any person to be heard in favor of or against the proposed budget as it is submitted, or for or against any item or items contained in the proposed budget, and hearing all persons interested in the subject concerning same. That a copy of the proposed budget is available at the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Pine Plains at 3284 State Route 199 where it may be inspected by any interested person during office hours. Dated: September 15, 2026
Board of Fire Commissioners
Pine Plains Fire District
P.O. Box 860
Pine Plains, NY 12567
Heather Lamont
Secretary
10-15-26

ing must be held to allow maximum public participation in the hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any person to be heard in favor of or against the proposed budget as it is submitted, or for or against any item or items contained in the proposed budget, and hearing all persons interested in the subject concerning same. That a copy of the proposed budget is available at the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Pine Plains at 3284 State Route 199 where it may be inspected by any interested person during office hours. Dated: September 15, 2026
Board of Fire Commissioners
Pine Plains Fire District
P.O. Box 860
Pine Plains, NY 12567
Heather Lamont
Secretary
10-15-26

Pine Plains dedicates field hockey pitch to longtime coach Richard Meilinger

By GRAHAM CORRIGAN
grahamc@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — The Pine Plains field hockey pitch was renamed Meilinger Field this past week in honor of Richard Meilinger, who coached the team for 26 years before retiring in 2012.

Meilinger built the program into a powerhouse, compiling a career record of 324 wins, 102 losses and 49 ties.

Under his leadership, Pine Plains won 15 league championships, nine sectional titles and three New York State regional championships. The team also recorded 50 consecutive wins between 2003 and 2008.

Meilinger was honored on Sunday, Oct. 11 with an alumni game and dedication ceremony attended by over 100 family, friends, and former play-



PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Field hockey players from past and present gather to celebrate Richard Meilinger's success as a coach at Stissing Mountain High School on Sunday, Oct. 11.

ers. Meilinger, in his signature white bucket hat, received a plaque and tributes from Pine Plains alumni and field hockey coaches Sarah Beam, Nanette Simone, Carrie Williams, and Miranda Bower.

They emphasized Meil-

inger's kindness, compassion, humor, and support throughout the years.

His daughter, Missy Meilinger, spoke about how her childhood coincided with the passage of Title IX, which prohibited discrimination based

on sex in education programs and athletics.

"It wasn't all that long ago that most girls never got a chance to play at all," she said. "I'd like to think that today's women athletes were standing on the shoulders of my gener-



Richard Meilinger, left, addresses the crowd after receiving recognition for his 26 years leading the Pine Plains varsity field hockey team.

ation, and that we were lifted up by people like my dad."

Finally, it was Coach Meilinger's turn to speak. Choking back tears, he shared memories from his decades coaching, and shared what he saw were the keys to being a successful coach and mentor.

"I always believed a team plays better when they're having fun," Meilinger said. "I don't remember the scores,

but I remember the people. The girls who played, the parents who showed up in the rain and the cold. So this field may have my name on it, but it really belongs to all of them — every coach, every assistant, player, and their parents who dedicated their time and effort."

This is the first field dedication in Pine Plains athletics history.

LEGAL NOTICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PLANNING CONSULTANT SERVICES

Local Law Accessory Dwelling Units Town of Amenia Dutchess County New York

The Town of Amenia invites the submission of proposals for professional planning consulting services from qualified planning firms or individuals with experience in providing professional planning services . The Planning Consultant will provide support to the Town Board and the Town Attorney for a specific project. The chosen consultant shall provide the following scope of services:

- I. SCOPE OF SERVICES**
- Assist the Town Attorney in the creation of a local law allowing for the establishment of accessory dwelling units (ADU) in the Town of Amenia, including a clear statement of intent and a full range of requirements related thereto including connecting the ADU requirements with existing use and dimensional requirements.
 - Identify opportunities within the Zoning Code to provide more accessibility and availability for the construction and/or creation of ADUs.
 - Review and identify amendments to the Zoning Code to remove any ambiguities and/or inconsistencies when it comes to accessory apartments, clearly differentiating and establishing a divide between an accessory apartment and an ADU.
 - Coordinating the current Town Code provisions covering workforce housing with the new ADU provisions to avoid conflicts .
 - Providing further assistance to the Town Attorney finalizing a Local Law granting a tax exemption to properly established and permitted ADU including assistance as necessary to properly integrate the new law into the framework of the existing Town Code.
- II. AWARD CRITERIA**
- This Request for Proposals is issued pursuant to the Town of Amenia Procurement Policy adopted in

accordance with General Municipal Law §104-b. The Town has determined that planning consulting services constitute professional services for which competitive bidding is not required. Selection shall be based on qualifications, experience, and other factors deemed in the best interest of the Town. Proposals will be evaluated based on factors including but not limited to experience with similar municipal planning services; qualifications of assigned personnel; familiarity with New York State land use law and SEQR; demonstrated ability to work effectively with boards and staff; and the cost and reasonableness of hourly rates.

The Town of Amenia retains the right to reject any and all submittals with or without cause. The Town also reserves the right to consider and rely upon factors other than pricing in its selection process.

III. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The consultant shall avoid conflicts of interest and shall disclose any private representation within the Town. The consultant shall not represent private applicants before the Town boards unless expressly authorized by the Town.

IV. TERMS OF CONTRACT

The selected consultant will be required to sign a consultant services agreement which will be for the term necessary to complete the identified task. The expected term is to be one(1) year. The selected consultant will be required to maintain professional liability, general liability, and Statutory workers' compensation, Employers Liability and NYS Disability Benefits insurance for all employees amounts acceptable to the Town of Amenia. Proof of coverage acceptable to the Town will be required. This contract will be paid for by a grant. Any contract awarded pursuant to this RFP shall be subject to the availability of those grant funds.

V. PROPOSAL SPECIFICS

Each interested entity shall

submit eight (8) copies of their proposal together with one (1) flash drive carrying the entire proposal in electronic format. All submissions shall be received in the Office of the Town Clerk by 2:00 PM on October 29, 2026. Proposals submitted after the prescribed time will not be accepted. Proposals must be in sealed envelopes addressed to Dawn Marie Klingner, Town Clerk, Town of Amenia, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, NY 12501, clearly labeled "Request for Proposal — Planning Consultant Services — Local Law Accessory Dwelling Units."

No reimbursement will be made by the Town of Amenia for any costs incurred for the preparation of this proposal and any subsequent interview. The New York State Freedom of Information Law as set forth in Public Officers Law, Article 6, Sections 84-90, mandates public access to government records. However, proposals submitted in response to this Request for Proposals may contain technical, financial background or other data, public disclosure of which could cause substantial injury to the proposer's competitive position or constitute a trade secret. Proposers who have a good faith belief that the information submitted in their proposals is protected from disclosure under the New York Freedom of Information Law shall clearly identify the pages of proposals containing such information by typing in bold face on the top of each page "THE PROPOSER BELIEVES THAT THIS INFORMATION IS PROTECTED FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER THE STATE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW." The Town assumes no liability for disclosure of information so identified, provided that the Town has made a good-faith legal determination that the information is not protected from disclosure under applicable law or where disclosure is required to comply with an order or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction.

The contents of the pro-

posal, except portions "Protected from Disclosure," which is accepted by the Town may become part of any agreements resulting from this Request for Proposals. All inquiries concerning the proposal arising during the process of proposal preparation are to be made in writing addressed to the Town of Amenia Town Clerk, or by email to d m k l i n g n e r @ameniany.gov, and to be considered must be received at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the date fixed for the submission of proposals. The response to all such inquiries will be made by mail or email not later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date fixed for the submission of proposals. No interpretation or inquiry response will be made to any potential proposer orally. Each proposal shall contain, at a minimum, the following:

A. Table of Contents

B. Summary

A one-page narrative explaining the firm's interest in this scope of work, particular abilities, and qualifications related to this assignment. Description of the firm and description of services of a similar type and scope

C. Proposer Description

A full and complete description of the entity submitting the proposal, including a description of the legal status of the entity and demonstration of appropriate licensure in the State of New York. This should further include the name, address, and position of all persons within the firm who are authorized to execute contracts on its behalf.

D. Project Team Breakdown

An organizational chart listing by name each person in each firm, by each discipline, complete with qualifications. Resume of the planner who will be assigned to this scope of work, as well as any assisting planners, if applicable

The assigned planners' experiences with similar scopes of work

E. Relevant Project Experience

Two (2) examples of recent and relevant Mu-

nicipal Local Law/ Zoning projects completed by the entity submitting the proposal. Individual experience will be considered. Projects shall be described by type, location, budget, and schedule. A list of contacts with names and telephone numbers should be submitted.

F. General Project Experience

Five (5) examples of recent or ongoing projects engagements in a municipal or governmental setting with specific focus on planning, zoning, and local law development. Projects shall be described by type, location, budget, and schedule. A list of contacts with names and telephone numbers should be submitted.

G. Fee Proposal Compensation

The final fee will be negotiated and will be based upon a clear understanding of the final project and schedule, extent of services required. Each fee proposal shall include hourly rates for all persons who will work on the project, shall provide for a not to exceed fee which covers all services outlined in the RFP, and shall further include an outline schedule indicating how this fee should be paid and tied to project milestones. Please note that all reimbursable expenses (travel, phone, copies, etc.) must be included in the hourly rates.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A. Non-Collusion — By submission of a proposal, each proposer and each person signing on behalf of that proposer warrants and represents that any ensuing agreement has not been solicited or secured, directly, or indirectly, in a manner contrary to the laws of the State of New York and the Town, and that said laws have not been violated and shall not be violated as they relate to the procurement or the performance of the agreement by any conduct, including the paying or the giving of any fee, commission, gift, gratuity or consideration of any kind, directly or indirectly, to any Town employee, officer or official.

B. In connection with this proposal, the proposer

shall not discriminate against any person by reason of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, handicap, social disadvantage or disabled or Vietnam era veteran status.

VII. SELECTION PROCESS

It is the intent of the Town of Amenia to select the Planning Consultant based upon the qualifications of the proposer and its ability to satisfy the project requirements, schedule and approach of the Town of Amenia as described in the proposal. The Town of Amenia reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to reject any and all proposals and waive any irregularities. The Town of Amenia further reserves the right to select any proposal as the basis for negotiating a contract, to exercise its discretion and apply its judgment with respect to any aspect of the RFP, the evaluation of proposals and the negotiation and award of any contract and to weigh its evaluation criteria in any way it deems appropriate. Each proposer will be evaluated on recent and relevant experience working for municipalities and local government on local law, planning and zoning projects with emphasis and accessory dwelling (ADU) and or housing matters.

The Town intends to narrow the list of proposers to three. Each of the three proposers will be further evaluated and may be subject to a personal interview and presentation to the Amenia Town Board.

Specific criteria to be used in evaluating the various proposers includes, but is not limited to:

A. Experience of the proposer with New York State municipalities and local government Boards with specific attention to zoning and housing matter, including but not limited to the overall resources and staff qualifications of the proposer

B. Ability of the proposer to complete the work in a timely fashion and within an established budget.

C. The ability of the proposer to work with the Town Board, Town Attor-

JUBILEE Continued from Page A1

Publisher and CEO James Clark said the papers’ survival had been uncertain five years ago, before the transition to nonprofit ownership. Clark thanked attendees, board members and others in the community whose grassroots support enabled that transition.

“You demonstrated that The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News are essential community assets worth supporting. That support has allowed us to do much more than sustain two newspapers,” Clark said. “We’ve strengthened our newsroom, expanded our reporting, and invested in the people and resources needed to cover our communities more thoroughly.”

Brian Ross, the board vice chair, also addressed the gathering.

The Estabrook award, named for the publications’ former owners, Mary Lou and Robert Estabrook, recognizes outstanding work in the community. Clark praised Hermans’ “longstanding commitment to this region,” saying he “made a lasting difference” as the owner of Oblong Books and as a community activist.

Dan Dwyer, board chair-



PHOTO BY PATRICK STACHNIAK

Attendees gather at the Sharon Playhouse Sunday, Oct. 11, for the annual Jubilee gala, celebrating five years of nonprofit ownership of The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News.

man, connected that commitment to the support of those in attendance, crediting them with helping keep the newspapers going despite widespread closures across the industry.

“Newspapers across the country, thousands of them, have closed in the last 30 years. Similarly, bookstores around the country have too,” Dwyer said.

He pointed to Hermans and the Estabrooks as examples of the community commitment that helps such institutions endure.

“It’s because the Estabrooks established the pivotal role of the newspaper in this community. And Dick Hermans, through his business and his public service, has identified community service as the role that a citizen needs to play.”

For Dwyer, Hermans’ work embodied the practice of good citizenship.

“A bookshop is not just a place where you sell books. It’s where people come... it’s a place where ideas are exchanged,” Dwyer said. “If you want to talk about good old-

fashioned civics... this is the guy who’s practiced it for his whole life.”

Hermans’ daughter, Suzanna Hermans, and Dwyer presented him with the award. In his remarks, he reflected on his business, his work establishing the Harlem Valley Rail Trail and his upbringing in the area.

“The store has succeeded beyond my wildest dreams and the Rail Trail is more beautiful than anybody could expect from an old railroad line,” said Hermans, who was “instrumental” in its establishment.

Hermans also reflected on his own experience in journalism, starting as a college radio host for the now NPR-affiliated WJHU in Baltimore. Hermans also co-founded the New Pine Plains Herald, a non-profit community newspaper.

“Accurate information and good news about things our neighbors are doing is a key to maintaining a cohesive community,” he said. “By being here, you’re part of The Lakeville Journal/Millerton News community. It is so important that we keep our communities sane.”

Amenia Harvest Festival returns for second year

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

Amenia’s annual Harvest Festival will celebrate its second year of family fun with expanded activities. The event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 17, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

East Main Street (Route 343, east of the traffic light) between Fountain Square and Mechanic Street will be alive with food, music, and a variety of vendors. Watch for a magician roaming through the crowd to delight children, along with a Bounce House and face painting.

Adults will enjoy a variety of vendors, food trucks, local organizations, music, bingo — new this

year — and a repair café. Residents are invited to bring items needing repair to an area near the library. Experts will be on hand to mend clothing, repair small lamps, bicycles or small home appliances. The town’s fire departments, always a popular feature, will have their grills operating. Businesses located along the street will be offering a variety of their own ways to participate.

Organizers indicate that the event is intended to bring the community together simply to have fun and enjoy a common experience in the company of one another. The event is planned and run by a committee of volunteers.



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NECC Continued from Page A1

that shift is welcoming ideas and efforts from community members, friends and volunteers that get people together. The ‘Toddler Movement class came from this line of thought, and from the community that remained following the closure of NECC’s early childcare program in December 2025. Yarnell was one of the parents with children enrolled in daycare at the facility. She said her and other parents were eager to find creative ways to allow gathering as a community.

“We don’t have our sort of third shared space to bring our kids to blow off some steam,” Yarnell said, mentioning the recent closure of local indoor playground business Kids Time in February.

The hope, Yarnell said, is to continue building similar programs leveraging Miller-ton’s community of parents.

Wolfe echoed that senti-ment, saying NECC staffers have been making efforts to solicit ideas from community members and friends. The ef-forts have resulted in a few new events this year — most billed as “pilot” programs — that have drawn people into



Kim Yarnell supplies all the young dancers with gold star trophies to mark their completion of the six-week pilot program at NECC on Sunday, Oct. 11.

the NECC office and the weekly farmer’s market on Saturdays.

“We want to have more conversations with the community and then to create community,” Wolfe said. “The way you do that is by inviting people into the conversation.”

One example Wolfe sur-faced was a badminton tour-nament on Saturday, Oct. 10.

Four teams of two players each competed in a tourna-ment during the farmer’s market on Saturday morning.

The tournament was the brainchild of a Webutuck student that took an intern-ship with NECC’s food pan-try over the summer. Lead-ing into the fall and the new school year, the intern requ-ested badminton in the fall,

prompting Wolfe to make it happen.

Their ears are open, Wolfe said, to community members that want to suggest ideas for community gathering.

“We’re a community cen-ter,” Wolfe said. “At the end of the day, in order to really have that word be a part of who we are, we need people to reach out.”

COLD SPRING Continued from Page A1

Advisory Committee, deliv-ered in September. The EIS recommended building con-solidation, citing declining enrollment, uncertain state funding, and cost increases in a number of departments. Districtwide, K-12 enrollment has fallen from a peak of near-ly 1,500 students in 2002 to just under 800 today.

The Board of Education formed the committee in Feb-ruary after parents pressed for more details about the plan and a thorough under-standing of each building’s ca-pabilities. Committee mem-bers met regularly for seven months, toured the district’s buildings, and weighed three options: close Cold Spring, close Seymour Smith, or keep both open. After seven months of deliberations, the committee drafted and sub-mitted the EIS with approval from 17 of the 20 members.

Three dissenting members of the Building Utilization Advisory Committee claimed that the school board’s fram-ing of the school’s closure was overly optimistic from a financial standpoint. They also claimed the repairs nec-essary to Seymour Smith to

accommodate the new stu-dents — between \$290,000 and \$330,000 in infrastruc-ture upgrades — would cut into the potential savings.

Despite these concerns, however, the Board of Edu-cation’s vote to close the early education center was unani-mous. The board first con-sidered closing Cold Spring in 2024, amid warnings that the district could lose as much as \$4 million in state aid. That money was preserved, which shelved a vote, but rising health insurance costs and other fixed expenses kept the pressure on. Parents, educators and town officials voiced fervent opposition at a public hearing in January, and insisted on the creation of what became the BUAC. Their concerns included lon-ger bus times for young stu-dents, the loss of Stanford’s only public school building, and a lack of modern facilities at Seymour Smith Interme-diate Learning Center.

In May, Pine Plains voters rejected a budget that includ-ed a 5.34% tax increase above the state cap. A subsequent budget that was under the state cap passed.

FLOCK CAMERAS Continued from Page A1

County Legislator Chris Drago confirmed that the resolution “will apply to all County contracted cameras, no matter where they may be placed.”

In Northern Dutchess, the Flock cameras on private property were installed as part of contracts made with the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Department.

In Millerton, the Flock camera is along Route 22 on Silamar Farm, which is owned by Julie Schroeder. As of Monday, Oct. 12, Schroeder said no one has been in con-tact with her about the cam-

era’s removal. But Schroeder said she was open to having the cameras covered. “They can do that. Hopefully, they’ll figure it out,” she said. “I don’t really care.”

Previously, when private property owners have ex-pressed a desire to have their Flock camera removed — as was the case of Flock cameras in Pine Plains and Milan — law enforcement has agreed to do so, but the physical re-moval can take 30 days.

This new resolution to cover the cameras was intro-duced by Drago as a backstop rather than an immediate or-

der. It would take effect only if the cameras are still mounted after the removal deadline. In that case, county officials would have seven calendar days, counted from the dea-dline of Oct. 25 or the resolu-tion’s adoption, to cover each device with opaque material that causes no damage.

District 25 Legislator Eric Alexander, who organized the public forum, said that “at the Flock forum, citizens expressed great urgency about eliminating surveillance cam-eras in Dutchess County. Now they are demanding certainty about when they will be phys-

ically removed.”

Drago said the resolution aims to “give residents visible assurance that the cameras are no longer operating... Cover-ing the Flock cameras is a small act, but an important step to-ward restoring public trust by demonstrating respect for res-idents’ privacy and freedom.”

District 16 Legislator Yvette Valdés Smith, who chairs the legislature, added, “I stand firm on the idea that mass surveillance has no place in our community...I’m proud to support not only removing these cameras, but also cover-ing them so it is abundantly

clear they are no longer col-lecting any of our data. This is a great example of the public making their needs clear to their representatives, and our job as elected officials is to lis-ten and respond.”

The full county legislature is scheduled to take up the resolution Tuesday, Oct. 13, at 6:30 p.m. in Poughkeepsie. If it passes and the removal pro-ceeds on schedule, the cov-ers may never be needed. But the measure aims to offer a measure of accountability on the county’s promise that the cameras will stop capturing license plates by the agreed-

upon date.

Frustration with the cam-eras is growing across the region, rising to vigilantism.

On Sunday, Oct. 11, a 26-year-old Rhinebeck man was charged with setting a brush fire and damaging a Flock camera. John K. Cole-man is accused of setting the camera on fire, which led to the brush fire. He was charged with criminal mischief and ar-son. Before Dutchess Coun-ty turned off their cameras, Connecticut towns like South Windsor, Windsor, Milford and Newtown already ended agreements with Flock.

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... Victor and Justine Valla

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

sity of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He graduated in 1967. The following year, he received a grant from the Tiffany Foundation to study printmaking in Paris at Atelier 17, an experimental graphic arts workshop founded in 1927.

“What a great experience that was!” he recalled.

Returning home after the Paris uprisings of 1968, he discovered that the magazine covers he’d hoped to paint had largely given way to photography. His agent suggested trying record covers, which he pursued along with illustration and graphic design.

He also began teaching at Kean University in New Jersey.

“Kean had a wonderful graphic design and illustration department. I loved teaching Graphic Design, even though I never thought I would.”

He later taught at Syracuse University and Pennsylvania College of Art and Design.

In the late 1980s, he decided to stop teaching and concentrate on his own art. He moved to Falls Village, to a house on the corner of Minor and Prospect Streets.

“I used to call the studio ‘Minor Prospects Atelier,’” he said.

He continued working in illustration and graphic design, creating book covers for stories by H.P. Lovecraft and other authors, along with magazine covers, logos, advertising and murals.

His local commissions include the green and gold Noble Horizons signage and wall murals for the Stockbridge Inn, the Spa at Norwich Inn, Orchards Hotel in Williamstown and the David M. Hunt Library’s children’s section.

Justine grew up in the Bronx and studied at the Fashion Institute of Technology. After graduating, she took on whatever work she could find, including designing toys and novelty items for



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Textile designer Justine Valla sits in her father’s chair, which she painted, alongside her husband, illustrator and muralist Victor Valla, in their Atelier Valla studio.

“I lost the ability to paint after the accident. I struggled to paint again.

JUSTINE VALLA

Russ Berrie. But her true calling was textile design.

She moved to Los Angeles to pursue that calling, where she learned silkscreen printing from 1960s design icon Corita Kent.

“I was in her program at Immaculate Heart College. All fabric design at that time was silk screen. My first job in textile design was in L.A., creating wallpaper for Bob Mitchell Design.”

Justine returned to New York City, where the advent of computers required her to learn new design techniques. She enrolled at Parsons School of Design, studying Photoshop, Illustrator, Lectra U4ia and Kaledo.

Around this time, she met Victor online and moved to Falls Village.

A recruiter found her a job

in Arkansas at Dillard’s, a department store chain operating in 30 states and known for its exclusive designer collections.

“They had the best equipment I’d ever seen,” she said.

She became a senior computer-aided design designer there, designing fabric and preparing purchased designs for production.

The Vallas left Falls Village for Little Rock.

“It was a big move,” she said. “It was a different culture, but Little Rock was very progressive.”

The originally planned to stay in Arkansas for five years but ended up remaining for nearly 10.

Then Justine was hit by a car. She suffered injuries to her leg and head and required four years of rehabilitation.

“I lost the ability to paint after the accident. I struggled to paint again.”

The Vallas returned to Connecticut, this time settling in

Salisbury, where they’ve lived since 2013.

After leaving Dillard’s, Justine had planned to sell her work through Printsources in New York City, an international showcase for surface and textile design. But after the accident, she no longer had the mobility or energy to travel back and forth to the city.

Instead, she began selling her work locally at craft shows, including clothing, hand-printed tea towels and floorcloths.

She is currently working on selling her collection of textile designs.

In December, Justine will have a show of her tea-themed watercolors at the NorthEast-Millerton Library.

Victor recently exhibited “The American West: A Pictorial History” at the NorthEast-Millerton Library. The series, created in the early 1990s, was part of a commission from the Postal Commemorative Society for which he completed 100 paintings in two years.

He hopes to place the series in a museum and has created books from its images, complete with text. Over the years, he has designed many other books that are ready for publication, including “Looking In, Looking Out,” a cosmic view of the universe.

Reflecting on his career, Victor said, “It’s about doing what you love”.

Justine agreed.

To see, purchase or commission work, contact Justine at justinevalla@gmail.com or Victor at victorvalla@comcast.net, or call 860-596-4282.

... portfolios

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

ists for generations: How are you going to make a living?

“I think that’s always been a question for artists, right?” Fenichel-Hewitt said.

To help answer it, The Art Effect has offered students — and perhaps more importantly, their anxious parents — a handout called “Careers in the Arts,” listing an extensive range of creative professions.

“It’s double-sided, four columns on each side, teeny font,” said Fenichel-Hewitt, describing the sheer number of possibilities.

“Going to art school doesn’t just mean that you’re going to try to be a famous painter,” she added. “There are so many types of careers.”

And those careers aren’t necessarily confined to galleries, museums or studios.

“Anything, any object that you’ve purchased or looked at, it had to get designed first. It involved an artist.”

Fenichel-Hewitt also pointed out that a strong arts portfolio can benefit students who have no intention of majoring in art.

She recalled one student who went on to study astrophysics at Harvard University with substantial scholarship support connected to her art portfolio. Others have pursued business degrees, using their creative work as a supplemental component of their applications.

“It really sets them apart because it shows such a well-rounded approach to being a healthy, young, confident person,” she said.

Ultimately, she sees the event as something more than an audition for admission.

“It’s an opportunity to not just receive feedback, but to really explore the kind of setting and atmosphere and culture that you thrive in.”

Hudson Valley Regional Portfolio Day takes place Friday, Oct. 16, at the MJN Convention Center in Poughkeepsie. The event is free. For more information, visit thearteffect.org.

ART

A new home for the unexpected at Kent Fine Art

By Natalia Zukerman

Where can one find the work of an artist associated with occult rituals, surrealist visions and the underground California art scene? In a beautifully renovated former carriage house in Pine Plains, of course.

Unexpected discoveries are, after all, part of what Doug Walla has spent his career making possible. The longtime New York City art dealer and founder of Kent Fine Art, has brought the work of Marjorie Cameron Parsons Kimmel, known simply as Cameron, to his new gallery space. The exhibition, on view through Nov. 14, introduces visitors to an artist whose life and work moved between mysticism, poetry, film and the avant-garde.

Born in 1922, Cameron was a gifted draftsman whose intricate drawings explored spirituality, sexuality, mythology and the mysteries of the subconscious. Her work occupied a world somewhere between surrealism and the occult, informed by her interest in theosophy and the possibility of unseen forces shaping human experience.

Cameron also appeared in experimental films, including Kenneth Anger’s “Inauguration of the Pleasure Dome” and Curtis Harrington’s “The Wormwood Star” and “Night Tide,” the latter starring Dennis

Hopper.

Her reputation was as unconventional as her art. In 1957, her drawing “Peyote Vision” appeared in an exhibition at Los Angeles’ legendary Ferus Gallery. The work was considered so provocative that police shut down the exhibition and arrested artist Wallace Berman, who had included it in his show.

Both Cameron and Berman subsequently vowed never to exhibit in commercial galleries again.

Although she continued making art throughout her life, much of it remained largely unseen for decades.

Her work resurfaced in major exhibitions, including a 2015 retrospective at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles. Curator Philippe Vergne described it as existing on “the edge of surrealism and psychedelia.”

For Walla, bringing Cameron’s work to Pine Plains reflects a larger desire to return to the experience of looking at art rather than treating it primarily as a commodity.

“I wanted to get back to looking at art and to get away from the finance, get

CONTINUED ON PAGE B5

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... Clay Way

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

of Cornwall Bridge Pottery. Piker has been making pots in his giant wood-fired kiln since 1971. The kiln looks more like an ancient blast furnace than something designed to transform clay into ceramics, but over the years, he's mastered its intricacies and produces an impressive amount of fine work.

Piker will host Sanah Peterson, who works at Cornwall Bridge Pottery and draws inspiration from both her time with Piker and her time traveling the globe as a child. They'll be joined by Stephanie Haines, whose vibrant, eye-catching work features underglaze illustrations of birds, fruit and the bounty of nature.

Further along in Warren, Jessica Dubin's pieces will be on display at the studio of Christine Owen. Both artists seem to appreciate the chaos and unpredictable nature of clay but find ways to refine it all using their own unique methods.

Heading east to Washington, Conn., Will Talbot's creates intricate work while allowing for the unpredictable nature of clay to play a role. His studio will house Tom Knox and his wide variety of textures and forms, as well as New York City-based Alex Lebedev, who lets music and the nature of improvisation guide his work.

There will be two studios participating in South Kent.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Jane Herold's beautifully simple dinnerware.

Alison Palmner, whose page on the Clay Way website states she "strives to achieve a lighthearted meld of human forms, animals and the vessel." Her studio will host Ben Eberle, who trained under the guidance of legendary potter Toshiko Takaezu; James Guggina, whose intricate work can appear

both deliberate and whimsical; and Paula Shalan, who blends rough, unrefined surfaces with polished precision in individual pieces.

Nearby is Joy Brown, whose work have become a staple of the area, with her figurative sculptures dotting the Northwest Corner. Brown's studio will also feature Bonnie Levine, who taps into the beauty of chaos and destruction in her work, and Brendan Moore, whose more utilitarian forms are perfect for everyday use.

Finally, the tour crosses the border into Wingdale, New York, where the studios of Drew Montgomery, Ann Heywood and Amy Brenner

will host Jackie Sedlock, Lynn Behrendt, and Kathleen Heidemann.

Brenner creates some of the most colorful and vibrant pieces on the tour, while Behrendt's work is among the most studied and precise. Heywood creates carefully considered, intuitive forms, while Heidemann moves from simple minimalism to intricate textures. Montgomery and Sedlock both find new ways of playing with traditional forms, producing delightfully distinctive pieces.

To learn more about the artists and download a map of participating studios, visit clayway.net



Joy Brown's delightful ceramic sculptures.



A ceramic vase by Kathleen Heidemann.

... 'Acquired Taste'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1



PHOTO BY BLEACHER AND EVERARD PHOTOGRAPHY

Filmmaker David Ruchman

Alongside the two food films will be Ruchman, who wrote, directed and produced "Acquired Taste," and actor Richard Mover. Mover stars as chef Jamison Gellar, who takes a liking to young Nick and decides to help him see the forest for the trees.

Ruchman, who acts as quizmaster at the Moviehouse's monthly trivia night, grew up in Washington, Conn., close enough to the Mayflower Inn to have experienced some incredible meals right in his own hometown. The next wrung down on the culinary ladder, however, wasn't exactly what many consider gourmet. In addition to those rare meals at the Mayflower, Ruchman had the opportunity to travel and get a sense of what was out there in the wide world of dining delights. It gave him a stark understanding of what it could be like to execute a creative vision in an otherwise utilitarian environment.

The screening is part of a Repertory Spotlight at the Moviehouse, ahead of

Hudson Valley Restaurant Week, which runs from Nov. 4-16. But there's more food programming coming after the "Acquired Taste" and "Jiro" event.

On Oct. 24, the Moviehouse will screen "Julie & Julia," starring Meryl Streep and Amy Adams, about the life and food of Julia Child. After the film, audience members will be treated to a discussion with former Food & Wine editor-in-chief Dana Cowin, celebrated Brooklyn-based cookbook author Jessie Sheehan and Chefs Table founding member Kristen Essig. While at Food & Wine, Cowin would assign work to Julie Powell, who wrote the story the movie is based on.

Two days later, on Oct. 26, a showing of "Babette's Feast" will precede a Q&A with film and television executive and local teacher and mentor Paul Wagner, who worked at the film's studio, Orion Pictures while it was being produced.

For tickets, visit themoviehouse.net

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Lena Dunham in conversation with Robert Becker in Cornwall.

BOOKS

Lena Dunham is feeling “Famesick” in Cornwall

By D.H. Callahan

Lena Dunham is an unstoppable creative force. She's been releasing critically acclaimed projects since graduating from Oberlin College in Ohio in 2008. Her new memoir, “Famesick,” about her career, success and the unexpected side effects that accompanied her rise to household-name status, is yet another critical darling.

On Saturday, Oct. 10, Dunham sat down with writer Robert Becker to discuss the book in front of a packed house at the Cornwall Congregational Church in Cornwall Village. The event was sponsored by the Cornwall Library, which, due to unprecedented demand, chose the church as the venue in order to fit more members of the curious community.

Dunham, whose parents are local in the Cornwall area, is settling into town, splitting time between the Northwest Corner and London with her husband, musician Luis Felber, and their first child, a baby girl. Due to her new role as mother, Dunham has not spent much time promoting “Famesick” in person. Despite her lack of public appearances, the book has topped the New York Times bestseller list at No. 1.

Becker boasts a storied résumé himself, with stints at The Paris Review and Andy Warhol's Interview Magazine. There was an intimate, natural feel to their rapport, grabbing and retaining the attention of everyone in attendance, from millennials to baby boomers, along with a few recognizable celebrities who blended right in with the local population. Both

writers landed off-the-cuff jokes with expert timing, often drawing uproarious laughter and applause. The hourlong event felt casually effortless, funny, honest and sincere

Among other topics, they talked about Dunham's career and family, writer's block, fame, health, sobriety, communism and the art of filmmaking. Dunham also offered a thoughtful reflection on her generational-defining HBO series, “Girls,” which she admitted she has not revisited since the show's finale nine years ago. She showed appreciation for the unique circumstances surrounding her artistic rise, regaling the audience stories of producer Judd Apatow going to bat for her ideas and explaining to her that things don't usually work out so well for young artists.

By her own account, Dunham watches a lot of TV and realizes that a show with a premise as loose as “Girls” would have a hard time getting made today. It's “four friends, they're having some issues, they're not even really friends, they don't really like each other, they're mean to each other, and to other people. That's the story.”

She went on to suggest, “There's no way that ‘Girls’ would be greenlit today because now, virtually every show has to be like: she's a girl ... but she's a ghost ... also she's a lawyer.”

After the talk, the delighted audience strolled across the Cornwall Village green to the library, where a book signing and reception kept everyone in good spirits long after dark.

“Famesick” is available now wherever books are sold.

BUSINESS

A new home for Stateline Auctions

By D.H. Callahan

If you've driven through North Canaan in the last month, you may have noticed that the big storefront windows at the intersection of Main and Railroad Streets, usually packed with antiques and art, are empty. Stateline Auctions has moved.

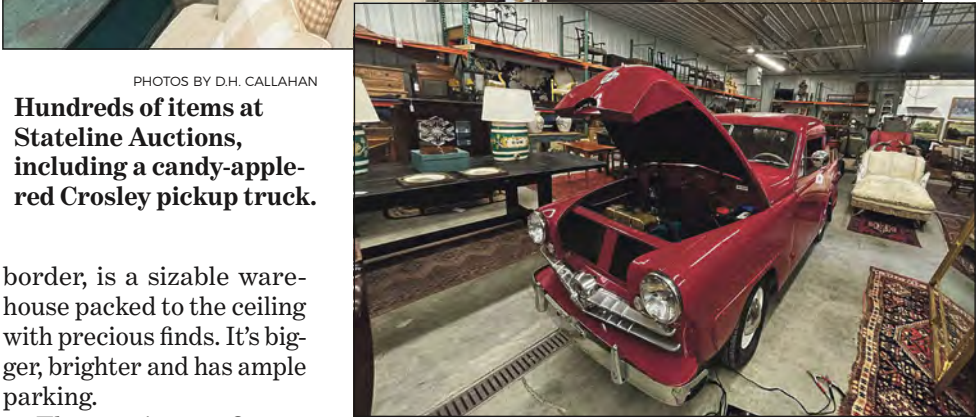
Stateline was started by Tommy Matteo and Bruce Kolbacher in 2011. Matteo had already been in the auction world for 15 years and had worked with Kalbacher, an antiques store owner, before they set up shop in North Canaan.

Matteo works as the ever-enthusiastic auctioneer, and he puts on a real show. In just a few hours, he presents and sells hundreds of items, from antique furniture and rugs to art and decorative items, even taxidermy, jewelry and other odds and ends you probably wouldn't expect. Community is part of the show, with Matteo joking around with regulars. Attendees congratulate each other on their purchases, and even educate each other about the items as Matteo keeps the momentum going. If items aren't moving, Matteo will remind the room that he's got alimony to pay, and it's up to everybody in the room to help him raise the funds.

For the past 15 years, this has all happened in that highly visible building at the main intersection in North Canaan. Now, Matteo, Kolbacher and their Stateline Auctions crew have moved off the beaten path. For some frugal bidders, this might seem like a good thing. After all, the fewer people who know about the auction, the fewer people they have to bid against when their lots come up.

Unfortunately for those who consistently show up, the competition these days is less in the room and more online. Stateline has been running simultaneous auctions through the real-time auction website and app LiveAuctioneers.com, where the entire event is streamed live. Throughout the eight-hour event, the online viewership rarely, if ever, dips below 600 individual users. This technological development creates more potential buyers for Stateline and also allows busy bidders to keep an eye on their lots while out and about.

The new space, still in North Canaan, just barely south of the Massachusetts



Hundreds of items at Stateline Auctions, including a candy-apple-red Crosley pickup truck.

border, is a sizable warehouse packed to the ceiling with precious finds. It's bigger, brighter and has ample parking.

The auction on Oct. 11 featured all kinds of lots, including three cars. A candy-apple-red Crosley pickup truck grabbed every eye in the room and even more attention online. Amid all the enthusiasm, it was heartwarming to witness the entire audience erupt in applause as young bidder Molly Seitz burst into tears after winning the truck. The beautiful vintage vehicle had belonged to her grandfather, who had given her driving lessons in it before he died.

Between resellers, collectors and the casually curious, the performance that is a Sunday at Stateline Auctions is a delightful way to breathe new life into old items. There's rarely a set date for the next auction, but it generally takes about six weeks before they're ready with their next round of goods. This time, Matteo predicts a sale after Thanksgiving, but if you want to be safe, follow their auction on liveauctioneers.com.



The Smithfield Church
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THE PETE ANDERSON TRIO
Plays Gershwin

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026
AT 3:00 PM

Come celebrate this musical genius with acclaimed virtuoso saxophonist Pete Anderson as he presents the life and music of George Gershwin with entertaining narrative and live performance. Joining him is famed guitarist Matt Munisteri and trumpeter Joe Boga.

Suggested donation - \$20 at the door.

All are welcome!

Reception to follow.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE B2



PHOTO PROVIDED

PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

While no additional jointly produced events have been

MAHA'IWE REFRESHING ARTS CENTER	
 VITAMIN STRING QUARTET & GIRL NAMED TOM FRI OCT 16 AT 7:30PM	 MET OPERA LIVE IN HD MACBETH SUN OCT 18 AT 1PM
 KATE KORTUM SAT OCT 24 AT 5:30PM & 8:30PM	 LA PENA MÁXIMA 2 (2024) SAT OCT 31 AT 7PM
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PHOTO PROVIDED

Rock Steady Farm (41 Kaye Road, Millerton) hosts its second annual FEAST, a celebration of abundance, queer joy and community on Saturday, Oct. 17. The afternoon includes farm tours, Filipino-inspired food from Harana Market’s Chef Chris Mauricio, music by DJ BKP, performances and reflections from community members. Proceeds support the farm’s mission to train queer, trans and BIPOC farmers and provide fresh, culturally relevant food to underserved communities. 2 to 5:30 p.m. Sliding-scale tickets, with reduced-cost options available. For more information, visit rocksteadyfarm.com.

arts
Local Matters

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

The Lakeville Journal
lakevillejournal.com

The Millerton News
millertonnews.com

Tri-Corner Calendar

OCTOBER 15

Jenni Freidman: “Finding My Way”
Gallery at Founders Hall, CT State Northwestern, 4 Park Place, Winsted, Conn.
An exhibition of works on paper by artist Jenni Freidman explores nature, pattern and color through prints, drawings and experimental techniques including folding, cutting, stitching and collage. An artist reception will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. The exhibition runs Oct. 12 through Nov. 5.

Ghostly Encounters: My Paranormal Journey

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org
Paranormal expert Joe Franke, founder of the Warren Society for Paranormal Research and Education, shares stories from four decades investigating the unexplained, from his early days studying with Ed and Lorraine Warren to firsthand encounters with ghosts, demons, poltergeists and exorcisms. 5 p.m. Free. huntlibrary.org

OCTOBER 16

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. 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. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 10 to 12 and 16 to 18. \$3 suggested donation; children younger than 10 and members free. merwinsvillehotel.org

An Evening with Grace Smith House
Stissing Center for Arts and Culture, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y.
A benefit for Grace Smith House featuring music by Melissa Ferrick, food by Stissing House and the Clothesline Project, supporting survivors of domestic violence. In The Grace Note. 6:30 p.m. Tickets at thestissingcenter.org

When Giants Die: The Ecological Afterlife of Elephants
Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, 2801 Sharon Turnpike, Millbrook, N.Y.
Cary ecologist Jane Lucas and Princeton postdoctoral scholar Courtney Reed explore what happens when elephants die and how their carcasses create nutrient-rich ecological legacies that shape plants, soils and biodiversity in South Africa’s Kruger National Park. A short film and Q&A are included. 7 to 8 p.m. In-person and livestream options available.

Watercolor Journaling: Autumn’s Oddities
Hollister House Garden, 300 Nettleton Hollow Road, Washington, Conn.
Botanical watercolorist Betsy Rogers-Knox leads a workshop beginning with sketches of late-season garden details, followed by guided, step-by-step watercolor instruction and individual support in the barn. 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration at hollisterhousegarden.org.

OCTOBER 16-18

39th Annual Autumn Arts and Fine Crafts Show
Merwinsville Hotel, 1 Brown’s Forge Road, Gaylordsville, Conn.
Oct. 16 to 18

More than 60 local artists showcase their work at the historic Merwinsville Hotel. All sales support the ongoing restoration of the 183-year-old building, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit merwinsvillehotel.org or call 860-350-4443.

Cottage Courses: “Quilt Camp Weekend”
Wassaic, N.Y.
Oct. 16 to 18

Spend a weekend immersed in quilting during this hands-on retreat led by artist Natalie Baxter. Designed for quilters of all experience levels, the workshop includes demonstrations, guided instruction, open studio time, all materials, meals and use of a sewing machine. Registration and details at cottagecourses.com.

OCTOBER 17

James Taylor: Reimagined
Buttonball Barn, 17 Main St., Egremont, Mass.
Brad Cole brings a fresh, bluesy twist to Taylor’s iconic melodies. Much like James Taylor’s own reimaginings on his American Standard album, Brad Cole and his band keep the heart and emotion of the originals intact, offering new perspectives while staying true to the storytelling at their core. 8 p.m. Tickets at buttonball-barn.com

Revolutionary Roundtable
David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org
Local historian Richard Berzine leads a discussion on the First and Second Continental Congresses, exploring the organization of the Revolutionary War, the Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation. Part of a monthly series examining America’s founding from 1740 to 1791. Readings are available at the library in advance. Participants may attend individual sessions. 10:30 a.m.

Qigong for Autumn
Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org
Certified Qigong instructor Cris Caivano leads a seasonal workshop exploring gentle movements to release stress, improve flexibility, strengthen breathing and build balance. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Free; registration required at hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com

Warren OctoberFest
Warren Woods Town Park, 255 Brick School Road, Warren, Conn.
The third annual Warren OctoberFest celebrates fall with tastings of local beer, wine, spirits and cider, food trucks, live rock music from Jet City, artisan vendors and family activities. The Cider Run/Walk 5K kicks off at 10:30 a.m. Proceeds benefit the Warren Volunteer Fire Company and Warren Social Services. 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets and information: bit.ly/3TLiEaw

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

Massaranduba
Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y.
Gil Oliveira and Felipe Hostins bring Brazilian forró to Pine Plains, joined by special guest Davi Vieira for an evening of infectious rhythms and dance. 7:30 p.m. Tickets at thestissing-center.org

Current Fiction Book Group with Claudia Cayne
Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org
Claudia Cayne leads an informal discussion of “A Guardian and a Thief” by Megha Majumdar. Copies are available to borrow from the library. 4 to 5 p.m. No registration required. scovillelibrary.org

No Kings: Vote Early
The White Hart Inn, 15 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.
A nonpartisan voter participation event will feature “Vote Early” signs, sign-waving and a voter registration table on the lawn at the White Hart Inn. Participants are encouraged to wear blue and bring signs. The main gathering runs from 11 a.m. to noon, with voter registration available until 4 p.m.

Norfolk Tour de Forest
Norfolk Curling Club, 70 Golf Drive, Norfolk, Conn.
Great Mountain Forest and Norfolk Rails to Trails host their annual fall gravel ride, with a 13-mile Tour de Forest and a more challenging 30-mile Icebox Gravel route through Great Mountain Forest and surrounding roads. Day-of registration opens at 8 a.m.; rides begin at 9:30 and 10 a.m. Register at bikereg.com/76628

ArtEast Open Studio Tour
Eastern Dutchess County and neighboring Putnam County, N.Y.
Oct. 17 to 18 and 24 to 25
ArtEast’s annual fall tour invites visitors into the working studios of artists in Holmes, LaGrangeville, Hopewell Junction, Pawling, Patterson, Poughquag and Wingdale. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. More info at arteast-dutchess.com

Rocky Horror Picture Show
Triplex Cinema, 70 Railroad St., Great Barrington, Mass.
Interactive screening, presented by The Triplex and No Comply Foods. 8 p.m. Tickets at thetriplex.org

Trunk or Treat at Taconic State Park
253 State Route 344, Copake Falls, N.Y.
Celebrate the spooky side of the season with this family friendly trunk-or-treat. 4 to 6 p.m. Sign up to be part of the event (518) 329-3993

Family Night: Ready-Made Paintings
Common Place Craft Workshop, 50 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.
Families create an heirloom painting on stretched canvas using wheel-of-fortune prompts and playfully vague instructions. All ages; snacks and drinks provided. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Register at commonplacecraft.square.site

Books & Music
Books & Cake, 8 Anthony St., Hillsdale, N.Y.
Music writers and critics Ben Ratliff, Joshua Jelly-Schapiro and Alex

Abramovich come together for a conversation about music, followed by a bookstore concert with guitarist and composer Ken Wessel and composer Douglas Cuomo, best known for writing the theme music for “Sex and the City.” 5 p.m. Free; reservations at booksandcake.com/events.

RiverVisions
The Inn at Mount Pleasant, Torrington, Conn.
Housatonic Valley Association celebrates its 85th anniversary with the premiere of a short film about the Housatonic River watershed, a River Fauna Fashion Show, live music by The Green Jazz Band with TimeRider, food and a fundraising paddle raise. 3 p.m.

Scarecrows in the

Meadow
Robertson Plaza, Norfolk, Conn.
Noon to 3 p.m., the Norfolk Hub in City Meadow invites local nonprofits, NGOs, community groups, families and individuals to build a scarecrow to become part of the Scarecrow Meadow in City Meadow. All are welcome. Registration required at bit.ly/4h8uP2e

The Little Guild’s 13th Annual Run & Wag 5K
Cornwall Town Green, Cornwall, Conn.
The premier human/dog race in the region, the Run & Wag 5K offers runners, walkers and their canine companions a great day in the Cornwall Valley with food, treats, live local music and family fun for all! Register at littleguild.org

OCTOBER 18

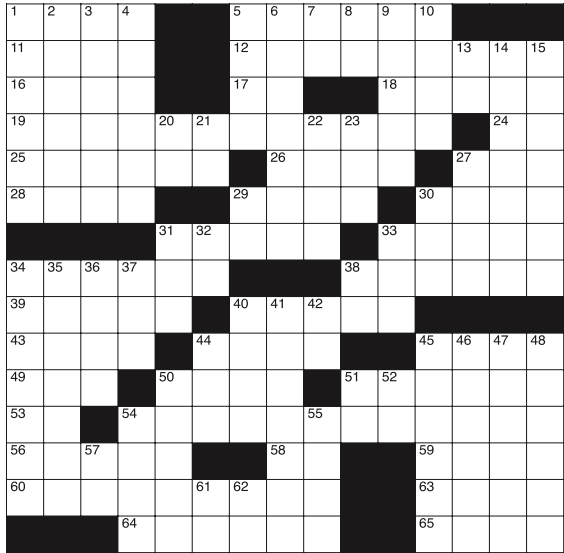
Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department Open House
West Cornwall Fire House, 289 Sharon Goshen Turnpike, Cornwall, Conn.
Lunch and refreshments, kids activities, fire station tours, raffle and more. 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. All welcome.

Coffee and Conversation with Will Hutnick and Melissa Marks
Kenise Barnes Fine Art, 7 Fulling Lane, Kent, Conn.
Join artists Will Hutnick and Melissa Marks for coffee and conversation about their work in “My Heart Like a Kick Drum,” an exhibition exploring movement, emotion and rhythm through layered abstractions and expressive drawings and paintings. The exhibition runs through Nov. 1. 11 a.m. More information at kbfa.com.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

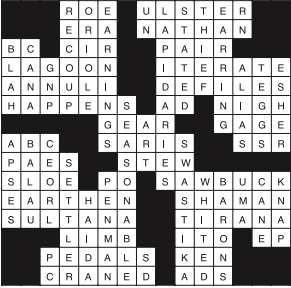
- Nocturnal rodent
- Requesting
- Give temporarily
- Frivolousness
- Military arm
- “Westworld” actor Harris
- Persian Gulf port city
- Air hostesses
- Partner to “Pa”
- Percussion instrument
- Raincoats
- Lower the light
- Asian mountain range
- Every one of two or more
- Lack of difficulty
- A public announcement of a proposed marriage
- Reduces in size
- Make an impact
- Serviceman
- A French river
- Prehistoric people
- Messenger ribonucleic acid
- “Layla” singer Clapton
- Ancient Greek sophist
- Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- “Top Gun: Maverick” actor Powell
- A way to disentangle
- Atomic #93
- Manifesting approval
- Indigo bush
- Larry and Curly’s pal
- Off-Broadway theater award
- Fencers
- Masses of fish eggs
- Passerine birds
- Arrange systematically



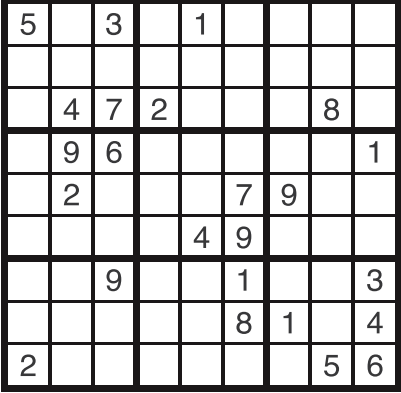
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- German trigraph
- Form of Persian
- __ route
- Upper body part
- Bridge building degree
- Indicates position
- Political action committee
- Edible nuts
- Front part of a quadruped
- Locate
- Geological time
- Of I
- Northern Utah city
- They work in the trenches
- Hammer is one
- Tall deciduous tree
- Performers
- Slang for mistake
- More open
- Most slick

- Provokes
- Home of the NCAA’s Flyers
- Sodium
- Large fish of the mackerel family
- Not one
- __ and behold
- Atomic #21
- “The Great Lakes State”

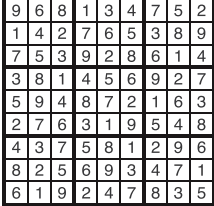
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Sudoku



October 8 Solution



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OUR TOWNS

Amenia home prices level off as sales slow

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — The median sale price of a single-family home in Amenia leveled off at \$381,000 for the 12 months ending Aug. 31, 2026, above the medians for the same periods in 2025 and 2024.

The median, which excludes sales in Silo Ridge, was up 18% from \$322,500 a year earlier and 12% from \$339,500 in 2024. It remained below the peak 12-month median of \$430,000 reached in 2022.

Over the past five years, the median has fluctuated between approximately \$325,000 and \$430,000.

Sales slowed, with 23 single-family homes changing hands outside Silo Ridge during the 12 months ending Aug. 31, compared with 36 in the previous 12-month period and 30 in the corresponding period in 2024.

August transactions included a multimillion-dollar home at Silo Ridge and one home sale elsewhere in town.

Land transfers ranged from more than \$3 million for less than half an acre at Silo Ridge to a government purchase of 125 acres on Bog Hollow Road for \$1.15 million.

By mid-October, 17 traditional single-family homes were listed for sale, including five priced below the August median of \$381,000.

Four were listed for more



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

The 1,862-square-foot home at 86 Tinker Town Road that was built in 1920 was sold recently for \$125,000.

than \$1 million, including a \$16.5 million home on Tower Hill Road with 138 acres, and a home in Silo Ridge.

Land listings ranged from \$79,000 for 1.5 acres to \$8.9 million for 422 acres. Rental properties were also available, with several having been listed for more than three months.

August transfers

86 Tinker Town Road — 4 bedroom/1 bath home transferred to Victoria Rosado Cedeno for \$125,000.

514 Wood Turtle Lane — 4 bedroom in Silo Ridge on .31 acres sold to Celia Sutherland Trust for \$7.5 million.

Club Meadow Drive (#655917) — 0.49 acre lot in Silo Ridge sold to JNA Woolworth Properties for \$3,012,000.

Club Meadow Drive (#662927) — 0.47 acre lot sold to Pavitra LLC for \$3,012,000.

Bog Hollow Road — 125 acres of land sold to the United States of America for \$1.15

Old Route 22 — 6.73 acres of land sold to JP Farm in Amenia LLC for \$135,000.

* Town of Amenia property transfers are supplied by Dutchess County Office of Real Property. Details on each property from Dutchess Parcel Access. Current market data from One Key MLS and Infosparks. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in New York.

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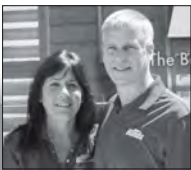
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