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**DISCOVER
SALISBURY
INSIDE**

Towns to hold candidate events ahead of elections

By **EMILY EDELMAN**
emilye@millertonnews.com

DUTCHESS COUNTY — A number of events to introduce the public to their local political candidates will be occurring in the next couple of weeks.

The North East/Millerton Democratic Committee will hold a Fall Meet and Treat event on Sunday, Oct. 8, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the pavilion in Eddie Collins Park,

5989 N. Elm Ave. Candidates for county-wide positions who will be attendance include Tommy Zurhellen, candidate for Dutchess County executive; Kenya Gadsden, candidate for Dutchess County clerk; Anthony Parisi, candidate for Dutchess County district attorney; James Rogers, candidate for Dutchess County Family Court judge; and Chris Drago, candidate for Dutchess County Legislature, District 19.

Candidates from the Town of North East who will be participating in the event include town board members Lana Morrison and Meg Winkler and North East Town Clerk Elizabeth "Tilly" Strauss.

Music as well as tacos and beverages will be provided free of charge for members of the public who attend.

On Wednesday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m.,

See **CANDIDATES, PAGE A8**

Library presents its case to voters for increased funding

By **LENORA CHAMPAGNE**
Special to The Millerton News

PINE PLAINS — On Nov. 7, Pine Plains voters will have their first opportunity to directly have a voice in the amount of money town taxpayers contribute to the library budget.

The ballot initiative follows a successful petition drive by the library's board of trustees. Members of the board and library director

Alexis Tackett explained their reason for the initiative to the public in an information session on Saturday, Sept. 16 at the library's Community Room.

Currently, the Pine Plains Town Board determines how much the library gets from the town. The balance of the library's budget comes from grants, fundraising efforts and its emergency reserves. If the measure succeeds, Pine Plains will join 26 of Dutchess County's 28 li-

braries in having voters determine their local government's financial contribution to their library.

The question on the ballot asks for a yes or no to allocating \$166,900 annually for the library, beginning next year. Any change in the future allocation would have to be put before the voters.

Taxpayers currently pay \$20.19 per year per \$100,000 of assessed

See **LIBRARY, PAGE A8**



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Erika DaSilva straightens the shelves in her store, The Ten Mile Table, in Wassaic.

Specialty groceries, local flavor offered at The Ten Mile Table

By **NATALIA ZUKERMAN**
Special to The Millerton News

"Basically, this is what my dream pantry would look like."

Erika DaSilva

WASSAIC — A tiny wooden newsstand has been nestled next to The Lantern Inn since August 2020.

Its shelves feature cookbooks, print publications of local artists, zines for kids, and specialty magazines about and for creatives in the hospitality, food and wine industries. The newsstand's founder, Erika DaSilva, recently opened The Ten Mile Table—as the newsstand is also called—in a brick-and-mortar location at 3 Main St.

Modern, bright and airy, the new space is a collaboration between Ten Mile Table and Ariel Yotive's Vitsky Bakery, with whom DaSilva shares the space. The market features specialty grocery items from small producers and local farms and still shelves the independent food publications found across the street at the newsstand. When asked if the newsstand will still be open, DaSilva, with her second child on her hip, explained, "It's a little hard to be in two places at once," so while the storefront

is open, the newsstand most likely won't be.

DaSilva is the beverage director at The Lantern Inn, where her husband, Minh Le, is the general manager. The couple moved up near Storm King Art Center in New Windsor from the city a few years ago because, she said, laughing, "We got a lab mix and a Subaru wagon, and I think it was just kind of all over."

After their first child was born, however, they found there wasn't the community they were looking for in that area. DaSilva had been on the Wassaic Project's newsletter for a few years and saw that The Lantern was looking for a manager. She applied, letting it be known that "we're a package... we'd be thrilled to help,

See **TEN MILE TABLE, PAGE A8**



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Matty Frank, former Mt. Vernon, N.Y., homicide detective, performed a demonstration at The Equus Effect with horse companion Babe on Saturday, Sept. 30.

Horses helping heroes

By **PATRICK L. SULLIVAN**
patrick@lakevillejournal.com

SHARON, Conn. — Some 200 people visited a remote corner of Sharon on Saturday, Sept. 30, to hear from the veterans and first responders who have reclaimed their lives thanks to the efforts of The Equus Effect.

Founder Jane Strong addressed the crowd, saying that the veterans and first responders are thought of by Equus Effect staff as "guardians." "These are the folks who serve us every day — because we can't."

See **HORSES, PAGE A8**



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OPINION
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OUR TOWNS

Planning board will seek advice on Keane Stud application

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — Working through the details of the Keane Stud Farm subdivision narrative and the requirements of the Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF), the Amenia Planning Board voted at its regular meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 27, to seek advice from a third-party expert in order to determine the elements that would make a FEAF report complete.

Representing the developer at the meeting were Peter Sander, urban planner for Rennia Engineering, Silo Ridge and the Keane Stud subdivision; and the applicants' attorney, Joe Eriole, of DelBello Donnellan Weingarten Wise and Wiederkehr in White Plains.

Planning Board attorney Paul Van Cott explained that the general subdivision map

shows proposed roads and how access would be provided to the 26 new lots that would need to be evaluated for environmental impact.

Van Cott added that it would be important to create a deed restriction document, and a homeowners' association structure that would include maintenance. Also of importance, Van Cott said, would be provision of a plan for complying with workforce housing requirements.

"It needs to be part of the application," Van Cott emphasized.

Planning Board engineer John Andrews agreed, saying that the applicant must provide more information detailing impact to the land, along with a phased construction plan in regard to the 26 lots.

Stormwater management plans in relation to each of the 26 lots would also be needed, including erosion and sediment control, Andrews said.

"This will be a residential/agricultural concept," Andrews said. "We are looking for them to create a conceptual development plan."

"How would 26 lots fit into the town of Amenia," was a rhetorical question asked by Andrews, regarding the visual impact on existing aesthetic resources such as the scenic view, raising the issue of lighting that might be visible from across the valley.

Van Cott pointed out that the Planning Board must confirm that the work so far has been sufficient on the part of the applicant.

Eriole agreed that the impact on the night sky is an important consideration for the town.

Following discussion, the Planning Board reached consensus that a third-party expert should be consulted to determine the completeness of the application, that all important aspects are addressed.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Alison Granucci, left, explains one of her photos to Gabrielle Esposito, adult program coordinator at the Millbrook Library.

'Deeply Rooted' at Millbrook Library

MILLBROOK — Writer, woodland gardener and naturalist Alison Granucci's work is featured in the Millbrook Garden Club's (MGC) "Deeply Rooted" exhibit, which is free and open to the public through Saturday, Oct. 14, at the Millbrook Library.

For more than a century,

MGC has been invested in the gardens and growing habits of local flora and vegetation. "Deeply Rooted" highlights the benefit of trees, and introduces the trees that are native to the area. MGC has created the conservation-themed exhibit to share information about the environmental ben-

efits of trees and to introduce the community to six useful native trees. There is a focus on pollination, as the library, with the help of MGC, is planning on starting its own pollinator garden.

—Judith O'Hara Balfe

Carson Power asks for special permit, put on hold as per Pine Plains Planning Board

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — The Pine Plains Planning Board held a special meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 27, at Town Hall to review and deal with matters having to do with the application and special site permit and site plan review of the Carson Power solar project at 454 Bean River Road.

Much of the material discussed was based on a report from BFJ Planning stating that the Pulvers Corners Solar-Special Use Criterion and Potential Conditions Plans were submitted on Nov. 11, 2021, and have been revised numerous times. The latest was submitted on June 5, 2023, and the Planning Board adopted a negative declaration on the special use permit, site plan and area variance for fence height on Aug. 3, 2023.

The applicants feel that, based on a review of the application materials, the project complies with the 11 special use permit criteria in the Zoning Code, Article XI, Section 275-55.

Carson Power feels it is fully in compliance with the zoning law and the solar law, except for a requirement for a 7-foot fence required by the national Electric Code. However, the area in question is in a low-density, rural setting and is almost entirely screened from public view, respecting the wish to keep the area looking rural.

Adequate screening and separation from adjoining properties has been addressed. A revised plan includes a double row of 12-foot plantings rather than one row of 6-foot plantings, which eliminates all visual aspects from private residences on Skunk Hollow Road.

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.

posing a scenic easement, held by Scenic Hudson, to preserve the entire area, including the development site, from future development, maintaining viewsheds from public roads, protecting soils of agricultural significance and safeguarding wild habitat. A contract with Scenic Hudson will allow the solar system, at the end of its life cycle, to be cleared and the property returned to its natural state.

Further, Frank Fish, representing BFJ Planning, said the special use is suitable for the scale and intensity in relation to environmentally sensitive features.

Fish addressed noise levels: once constructed, there will be almost no noise from the project. BFJ planning also maintains that a glare study showed an extensive analysis on the solar array area is highly unlikely to cause glare, and the use will not generate excess dust or odors, release pollutants or cause other nuisances. No herbicides or pesticides will be used in the operation or maintenance of the project.

Parking will be on-site unless arrangements are approved by the Planning Board. Fish attests that all vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic, including levels of service and roadway geometry, will be safe and adequate to serve the special use.

Finally, they Fish promise that every aspect of the site will be compatible with

the character of the neighborhood. Utilities shall be adequate to serve the proposed use, and the use will not impact the character of the Town, neighborhoods or values surround the property. Fish mentioned the planting of many species of pollinators on the property.

The following information was provided by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office as the Harlem Valley area activity report for Sept. 21-27.

Sept. 21 — Deputies responded to 6024 Route 22 (NAPA Auto Parts) in the Town of North East for a car versus a 500-gallon propane gas tank. The tank began to leak propane as a result of this accident. Deputies evacuated the surrounding businesses, residents and requested additional units to the scene. As a result, State Route 22 was shut down for approximately two hours. The propane tank was plugged, and the remaining propane gas was being transferred to another tank.

Sept. 22 — Deputies responded to Route 343 and Leedsville Road in Amenia for a car versus bicyclist personal injury auto accident. Investigation revealed the operator of the involved vehicle was tired

and fell asleep. The vehicle subsequently collided into two bicyclists and exited the roadway into the woods. Two injured persons were transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Sept. 25 — Deputies responded to 3306 Route 343, Apt. 1, in Amenia for a husband versus wife verbal domestic dispute. Matter resolved without further police intervention.

Sept. 26 — Deputies along with the Village of Millerton

police and members of the Millerton Fire Department responded to the area of Main Street and North Center Street in the Village of Millerton for a missing 56-year-old-male who got separated from his father while biking on the rail trail in the Town of North East.

Investigation resulted in the lost bicyclist being located in the Town of Amenia. Further investigation revealed that the subject, who is not familiar with the area, became separated from his father and became disoriented after sundown. Subject was uninjured.

of safety.

After much discussion, Carson Power has a list of amendments that it will make or answer to, and a public hearing is set for Wednesday, Oct. 11, at which time there will also be a public hearing for the Heaven's Light Day Care Center.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

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

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

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The Salisbury Association has opened a month long exhibit on Affordable Housing in Salisbury which is very informative. This issue is vital to the health of our community and this display features both what has been accomplished and also what the future plans are to build additional affordable housing/rental units in town. For example, very clear summaries for both the Pope property and the Dressor Woods project are highlighted which is very helpful in understanding them. So please stop in to the Salisbury Association building at 24 Main St and here is their website for further info: salisburyassociation.org/event/affordable-housing-exhibit. And thanks to Hannah Poulter and James Clark for all their work in creating this beautiful exhibit!!!



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OUR TOWNS

The Millerton News' ice cream social was all about readers

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Wednesday, Sept. 27, was a special event for the editors of The Millerton News, as they met with residents of Millerton to discuss the future of the paper and hear from its readers.

The Annex at The North East-Millerton Library was close to capacity.

The ice cream social included handing out current editions of The News, serving ice cream, and having members of the public meet and talk with staffers. Publisher Susan Hassler, Editor-in-Chief John Coston and Managing Editor Emily Edelman talked about the paper, where it has been, and where they are hoping it will

go in the future. Questions were invited and the discussion proved to be both lively and enlightening as moderated by Claire Goodman.

Coston provided some history of the paper: Millerton has had a newspaper since 1876, and there was a paper from then until 1927. There was no newspaper from 1927 until a New York Sun Reporter got one off the ground in 1932. In 1947, John Hager took over the paper, followed by Bob Estabrook in 1972, Robert Hatch in 1986, and William Little and A. Whitney Ellsworth in 1995.

The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News remained independent newspapers, rejecting offers of takeovers from larger news corporations, but in 2021, after holding up against the



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Attendees at the Millerton News' ice cream social on Wednesday, Sept. 27, at the NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex included local ice cream and local news.

advent of the internet and thus loss of advertising, the papers became nonprofit entities, surviving as among

the oldest of New England newspapers. Although titles and ownerships have changed, Millerton still has its own newspaper after almost 150 years.

Hassler and Coston looked at where the paper is today, and how it differs from The Lakeville Journal. They are two very different papers, mostly serving different communities, although some of the major issues are relevant to both Lakeville and Millerton.

The Millerton News is about Millerton. It also reports on the communities of Amenia, Millbrook, Pine Plains, Stanford, sometimes venturing just a bit north or

south if the story is meaningful to the immediate area. Sharon Hospital, although in Connecticut, serves much of this area of New York as well, so the news about the hospital is important to all.

Hassler pointed out that the paper is recovering, that it is growing. Over the summer, The News hosted interns from local colleges. The office in Millerton, at 16 Century Blvd., has been reopened and refurbished. The digital version of The Millerton News is online, and by the end of the year, a new and improved digital paper will be available while the print version continues to be published.

An attendee asked about relevance to the community: How do you define the community? It is rural, it is still largely agricultural, it is close-knit while growing and expanding, with people from other places moving in. People want to hear about affordable housing, wastewater management and when Millerton will get a supermarket.

The ice cream sandwiches, homemade with ice cream from Chaseholm Farm, were completely devoured, as were the newspapers that were given out. But the most important part of the event was meeting with readers, asking them what they wanted from the paper, and, hearing how the paper can support the community.

Hispanic Heritage Festival set for Oct. 7

By ROBIN RORABACK
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — On Saturday, Oct. 7, the North East Community Center (NECC) will host its annual Hispanic Heritage Festival from 3 to 6 p.m. at Eddie Collins Memorial Park

The festival falls during National Hispanic Heritage Month, which celebrates the contributions of U.S. Latino and Hispanic communities. NECC Executive Director Christine Sergent said: "The Hispanic Heritage Festival is an important reminder of how the diversity within our towns and villages makes us stronger as a community. That deserves to be celebrated and we are proud to help make that possible each year."

"This will be the first year the festival will be held at the historic park in the village of Millerton," according to Griffin Cooper, NECC's marketing and outreach coordinator. NECC has been hosting the event since 2018.

There will be food from Millerton's Avocado Café and

NECC's own chef will make tres leches cake pops. Fresh popcorn will also be available.

Guitarist Gregg Melnick will play for a troupe of flamenco dancers, who will entertain at the event. Tres Gatos, a jazz trio from New York City, will also perform.

Pick-up games of soccer will be available for anyone can join.

In addition, there will be various informational booths. Catholic Charities of Dutchess County's Kinship Circle, which is a support group for Latina women, will

participate with a booth, as will the Worker Justice Center of New York, an organization that seeks justice for people denied human rights, with an emphasis on agriculture and other low-wage workers.

Another booth will be from the Hudson Valley Justice Center, which provides legal counsel regardless of immigration status in civil matters for low-income people when basic needs are at stake. Sun River Health in Amenia will also be represented.

The event is free and open



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Guitarist Gregg Melnick plays for a flamenco dancer at a recent Hispanic Heritage Festival hosted by North East Community Center.

Get it fixed or mended: Repair Café in Amenia on Oct. 14

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — If it is broken, don't throw it away: It can probably be repaired.

Encouraged by the success of the first of the town's Repair Cafes, the Amenia Climate Smart Task Force will host a second Repair Café on Saturday, Oct. 14, at the Town Hall gymnasium. Hours will be 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Talented volunteers will be present to repair small furniture, bicycles, electronics, appliances, clocks and lamps. A seamstress will be ready to repair or hem clothing, stitch blankets and repair horse blankets.

Residents can get an old

book rebound. Knives can be sharpened and rust removed from objects. For musicians, a stringed musical instrument tuner will also be present.

The concept of repair cafes is growing in popularity throughout the Hudson Valley so successfully that proponents have called it a "Repair Revolution," according to organizers.

Councilwoman Vicky Doyle announced the event at a recent Amenia Town Board meeting, urging residents to bring their general household items in need of repair. Repairs done at the event are free of charge, although a freewill contribution would be appreciated, depending on circumstances.

Following the meeting,

Doyle provided more detail, explaining that the repair volunteers are all local people. So far, she indicated, someone has stepped up to do welding. Another works with wooden furniture repair. No need to live any longer with a squeaky chair or table. Minor electrical issues can be addressed. Someone is doing horse blanket repair.

"It's a very popular activity for towns throughout the Hudson Valley," Doyle said, citing the real value of keeping serviceable items out of the municipal waste stream where they go on to burden area landfills.

For more information about the repair cafe movement, go to www.repaircafehv.org

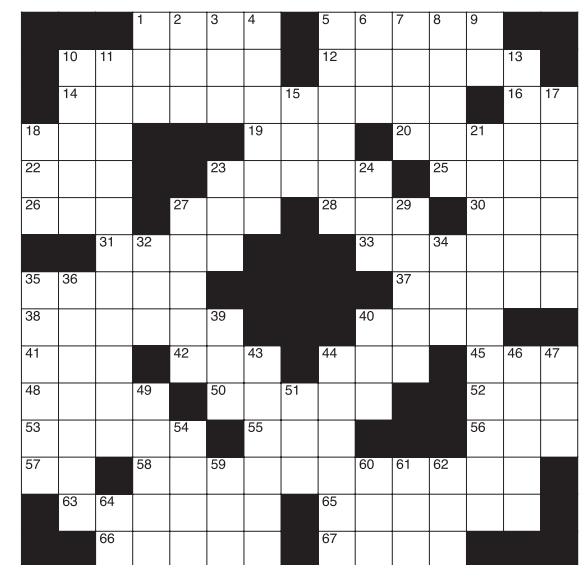
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- Flat tableland with steep edges
- Byproduct of fire
- Talked
- Unique skill
- Unembarrassed
- Where teenagers go
- Boxing's GOAT
- Used to anoint
- Reproductive structure found in rust fungi
- Auburn great Newton
- Some are for Christmas
- Dried, split pulses
- Self
- Where to get your mail
- High schoolers' test
- Flightless bird
- Expectorated
- Practice of misrepresenting the truth
- Type of patch
- French river
- Told on
- Hillside
- Peyton's little brother
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Progressive country musician
- Witness
- Brews
- Yellowish-brown
- Arctic explorers (abbr.)
- Mexican agave
- Type of "cast"
- Popular breakfast food
- Atomic #52
- Position north or south of the equator
- Gadget
- Another recording
- Irregular bulges in cell membranes
- Dark brown

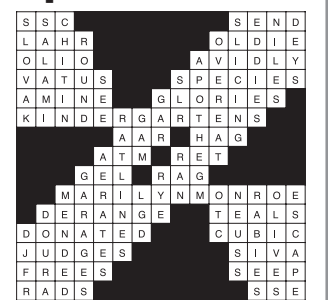
CLUES DOWN

- Licensed for Wall Street
- Partner to flow
- A very large body of water
- Accumulate on the surface of

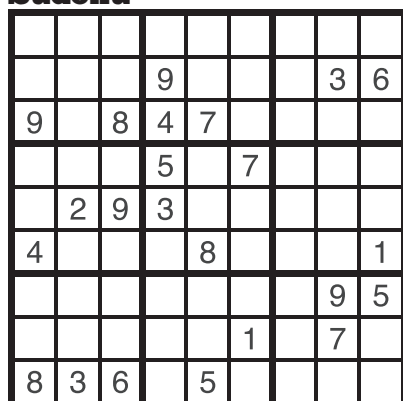


- Central cores of stems
- Angry
- Spanish stew: __ podrida
- Fastened with a pin
- On your way: __ route
- Soviet labor camp system
- Enmities
- B complex vitamin
- Go quickly
- Toast
- A team's best pitcher
- Philly culinary specialty
- Small child
- Unhappy
- Trims away
- Full of tears
- Touch softly
- Former OSS
- A person's chest
- Came from behind
- Fall back
- Nellie __, journalist
- A part of a river where the current is very fast
- Weather
- Sports broadcaster Ian
- Electroencephalograph
- Phenyl salicylate
- Web of Things
- Ship goods as cargo
- The bill in a restaurant
- Young female
- OJ trial judge
- One's grandmother
- West Siberian river

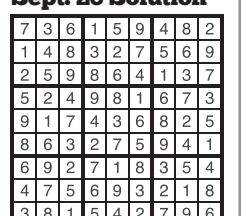
Sept. 28 Solution



Sudoku



Sept. 28 Solution



Level: Intermediate

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How to help, utilize the region's food pantries

By **CAROL KNEELAND**
Special to The Millerton News

As seasons change, the individual needs of families continue to evolve, as do the details of the organizations which aim to help those in need.

Food insecurity, however, continues to be one of the most critical areas that needs to be addressed. Fortunately, there are a number of pantries in the area, which are ready and willing to provide aid.

The following list provides basic details about the pantries. While the list is accurate as of press time, be sure to call ahead to check before making a trip to one of the pantries.

The other thing that does not change is the need for help in keeping the pantries up and running with contributions of food, money and volunteer labor. Most pantry directors say even a small contribution can

make a big difference. Volunteers say even a few hours a week or month can bring a good deal of personal satisfaction.

Millerton/North East

Location: North East Community Center (NECC), 51 South Center St. Phone: 518-789-4259, ext. 124. Email: foodaccess@neccmillerton.org. Hours: Every Thursday, noon to 6 p.m.

Location: NorthEast-Millerton Library - two programs. The Little Library Pantry at Veterans Park, at the intersection of Main Street and Dutchess Avenue. Hours 24/7. Take what you need, leave what you can. Also, the Little Free Grocery at the Library, 75 Main St. Phone: 518-789-3340 or submit an order at www.nemillertonlibrary.org for pick-up at the library. Walk-in shopping the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Annex,

28 Century Blvd. Residency requirements: No. Volunteers needed: No. Donations needed: Yes, online or to P.O. Box 786, Millerton, NY 12546.

Amenia

Location: Immaculate Conception-St. Anthony's Parish Catholic Church, 11 Lavelle Road. Phone: 845-373-8193. Hours: Third Saturday of the month. Hours: 10 to 10:30 a.m. Residency requirements: No. Volunteers needed: No. Donations needed: Yes.

Amenia Union

Location: St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 40 Leedsville Road. Phone: 845-232-1461. Hours: Fridays, 2 to 5 p.m. Residency requirements: None. Volunteers needed: Yes. Go to stthomasamenia.com to sign up. Donations: Yes.

Ancramdale

Location: Neighbors Helping Neighbors Association at the Presbyterian Church Hall,

at the intersection of routes 8 and 82. Phone: Jack Lindsey, 518-329-7306 or Hila Richardson, 917-414-8270. Hours: Monday, 5 to 5:30 p.m. Call for an appointment. Residency requirements: Ancram Township. Volunteers needed: No. Donations: Yes.

Copake/Hillsdale

Location: Roe Jan Food Pantry, 2684 State Route 23, Hillsdale. Phone: Betty White, 518-441-2789. Hours: Fridays 10 to noon. Emergencies any time. Residency requirements: Taconic Hills School District, ID suggested. Volunteers needed: Yes. Donations: Yes, at IGA Market, 2628 Route 23, Hillsdale, or to P.O. Box 475, Hillsdale, NY 12529.

Pine Plains

Location: United Methodist Church, 3023 Church St. - PO Box 511, Pine Plains 12567. Phone: 518-398-7692. Hours: Second Saturday of the month, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Residency requirements: Pine Plains Central School District, with proof of residency. Volunteers needed: No. Donations: Monetary, food and toiletries.

Location: Willow Roots Food Pantry, 7730 South Main St. Hours: first and third Saturday of each month, from 10 to 11 a.m. Thrift Store same hours. The Giving Box at the Pine Plains Library has drinks, snacks and food items. Phone: 518-751-0164. Residency requirements: Pine Plains Central School District. Volunteers needed: Yes. Donations: Yes: Send to office at 23 North Main St., or go to www.willowroots.org

Millbrook

Location: Lyall Memorial Federated Church, 30 Maple Ave. Phone: Emergency Pantry, 845-242-6508 for an ap-

pointment. Meals on Wheels, 845-677-3485, leave a message.

Dover

Location: Center of Compassion Food Pantry, 52 Mill St. Phone: 845-877-9076.

Lakeville, Connecticut

Location: Corner Food Pantry, 80 Sharon Road. Phone: 860-435-9886. Hours: Distribution is on Friday from 3 to 4:30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 to 10 a.m. Residency requirements: No. Volunteers needed: Yes - from both New York and Connecticut. Go to www.thecornerfoodpantry.org/get-involved to donate or volunteer or call the pantry and leave a name and phone number. Regular drop off for donations is on Friday, 9 to 10 a.m., but there is a container in the garage.

Haystack Book Festival draws writers into Norfolk conversation

By **MIKE COBB**
Special to The Millerton News

NORFOLK — The fall 2023 Haystack Book Festival featured a rich offering of highly lauded and often locally based authors in conversation about their work at the Norfolk Library.

Friday, Sept. 29 opened with "Writing Lives" led by Norfolk based author Courtney Maum in conversation with Priscilla Gilman and Ada Calhoun about their work, which was followed by "The Brendan Gill Lecture" by author Susanna Moore. An open reception was held afterward at the Manor House on Maple Avenue.

Saturday saw a morning talk about the appropriation of religion and how megachurches are stealing America led by authors Elizabeth Bucar and Bo Smetana titled "On the Use and Abuse of Religion for Life." Following that, journalists George Packer and Elizabeth Becker discussed the career and legacy of the late NPR correspondent and Norfolk resident Anne Garrels, her journalism, covering the war front in Ukraine, Russia and beyond. (See story in *Compass* on Page B1.)

Saturday's third talk titled "Liberalism and Resentment: Political Ideas and Emotions" featured historian-philosophers Samuel Moyn and Robert Schneider who discussed past and present connections to contemporary political culture.

Host Michael Selleck explained, "Sunday's our day for nature, history, and global interest. The day began with a morning birding walk through Great Mountain Forest with director of the Sha-



PHOTO BY MIKE COBB

Neil King Jr., left, and Rinker Buck, talked about their obsessions with taking the road less traveled on Sunday, Oct. 1 at the Norfolk Library.

ron Audubon Center Eileen Fielding."

On Sunday morning, authors Neil King Jr. and Rinker Buck led a discussion titled "Traveling Through History in Contemporary America." A former political reporter and editor at The Wall Street Journal, King's first book "American Ramble: A Walk of Memory and Renewal" rhapsodically relates his walk from Washington D.C. to New York City, while New York Times best selling author Buck's current work "Life on the Mississippi: An Epic American

Adventure" chronicles his travels by a homemade flatboat named Patience down the Mississippi River.

Both authors shared the obsession of taking the road less traveled, oftentimes embracing corporal hardship. Buck broke his ribs twice during his journeys. "I found some of the physical challenges euphoric. And it was good for storytelling," Buck said.

Both authors eschewed modern transportation methods, such as traveling by car, which slowed down their sense of time and helped them

meditate on America's natural beauty while also contemplating the more troubling aspects of U.S. history.

"I achieved a more profound understanding of American history, the displacement of Native Americans and the suffering that the slaves endured, which is not taught in school," Buck said.

King spoke of his journey in almost spiritual terms. "After the pandemic and the social and political turmoil of 2020, traveling helped cleanse the dreariness of what's going on today."

King added, "Everybody's used to speaking about themselves. In our case, I drew things out of Rinker and his book and vice-versa. It sort of obscures the typical interview dynamic and helps create conversation."

The festival concluded with Carl Safina's talk "How the Changing Landscape Touches Us All — Humans and Nonhumans Alike" in which he discussed an unexpected but lasting friendship with an orphaned screech owl that he and his wife rescued. The talk also spoke to how humans are changing the living world and mankind's relationship to nature.

OBITUARY

Cecelia Theresa Walters

SALISBURY — Cecelia Theresa Walters, 85, passed away Sept. 25, 2023, at Noble Horizons, after an illness.

Cecelia was born Apr. 15, 1938, to parents Joseph and Marguerite Ryan in Miami, Florida, the youngest of three children.

While attending North Miami High School, she worked part time at a local health clinic where she was mentored by a female doctor who helped inspire her to pursue a career in medicine. Cecelia graduated from Philadelphia General Hospital School of Nursing in 1960 as an RN, launching an over fifty-year career in nursing. She spent most of her career in the OR at St. Elizabeth Hospital in New Jersey and later returned to Florida and enjoyed many years working at a private medical practice.

She was married for 26 years to her late husband Peter Walters. Peter and Cecelia were friends and teammates, often playing crossword puzzles, watching football, taking their boat out on the Indian River, or cooking for friends

at their dream home in Vero Beach, Florida. Cecelia was

an avid cook and baker, known for her terrific bounty of cookies during the holidays and a much beloved carrot cake.

Cecelia had a legendary raised eyebrow that meant you had caught her attention. Known as 'Ceil' to her friends and 'Baby' to her family, she will be dearly missed.

She is survived by her daughter, Michele; stepchildren, Peter and Darcy; seven grandchildren, Chelsea, Corey, Desiree, Bella, Rachel, Jeremy and Jessica; 4 nieces and nephews, June, Chris, Karen and Bobbie; her faithful cat companion, Simba and other friends and relatives. She was predeceased by her son, Harry Jr., brother, Joey, sister, Marjo, and nephew Charlie.

Services are private. Memorial contributions may be made to The Little Guild, 285 Sharon-Goshen Road, West Cornwall, CT. 06796. The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.



For more obituaries, see page A4

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OUR TOWNS

NorthEast-Millerton Library to hold craft fair

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — Shoppers will have an opportunity to find some special treasures at the 12th annual craft fair on the lawn of the NorthEast-Millerton Library 75 Main St., on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

All items have been hand-crafted and donated by local artisans with proceeds going to support the library's general fund. Director Rhianon Leo-Jameson said: "We are fortunate to be supported through tax revenue, but we do have a deficit at the end of each year. The craft fair is one way we are able to fill the gap and provide services."

While sending appreciation to all contributors, Leo-Jameson gave a special nod to perennial contributor Carol Loper, who has donated hundreds of knit and crochet items over the years.

This year, her contributions have again led the way, with yarn crafters offering everything from hand-worked

warm head gear, mittens and sweaters to blankets, toys and gifts for pets.

Decorations for the upcoming holiday season add variety, with many having been created by members of the senior citizen friendship group, which meets Monday through Thursday at the Annex.

Finely crafted wooden toys and kitchen items from the skilled hands of retired shop teacher John Rocanova will give a small sneak preview of the wide variety of items he will be selling at the Irondale Schoolhouse in November. Items sold there will help him and his wife, Jean, continue to also support the needs of school children and other residents through Grow Against Poverty's Kenya program, which they began aiding years ago.

Homemade jelly will be on sale, and residents are invited to drop off homemade baked goods any time Friday or Saturday morning.

The day will also include the annual all free home-

made Cookie Cook-Off competition. Entries should be dropped off Friday or Saturday starting at 11 a.m. Shoppers will taste and vote for their favorites between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The winner will receive a \$100 gift certificate from the local merchant of their choice.

A highlight of the sale will be the raffle of items generously donated by Amenia Yoga, Demitasse, Designer Finds, The Farm Store at Willowbrook, Gilded Moon Framing, North Elm Home, Kiki Nail Salon, Oblong Books, Mane Street Salon, Millerton Service Center, Relief Chiropractic Wellness Center, Paley's Farm Market, T-Shirt Farm, Studio 343, and Tree Fort Toys.

The sale, scheduled for the Memorial Garden in front of the library, will move to the Annex at 28 Century Blvd. in case of rain.

For more information including rules for the Cookie Cook-Off go to nemillerton-library.org or call 518-789-3340.



PHOTO BY JEAN ROCANOVA

Retired shop teacher John Rocanova at work in his shop, where he creates a wide variety of wood items of all sizes including bowls and toys, which will be available at the Saturday, Oct. 7 craft fair at the NorthEast-Millerton Library. The majority of his projects will be sold at the Irondale Schoolhouse in November to raise funds to support education programs in Kenya.

Recent property sales in the Town of Stanford

The Millerton News will periodically publish a listing of residential real estate sales in eastern Dutchess County and adjacent towns.

Sales of modest single-family homes characterized the real estate market in the Town of Stanford in the summer months of July and August. The only home sale above \$500,000 was a house on 19 acres with an accessory apartment on Hunns Lake. The highest sale was 102 acres of vacant land on Homan Road, purchased by the Winnakee Land Trust for \$1.1 million and which will be added on to their existing 105.4 acres on Homan Road.

July 2023

150 Homan Road, a

5-bedroom/4-bathroom horse farm with 12.8 acres with a house in poor condition sold for \$139,573

91 Woods Drive, a 3-bed/1.5-bath home on 4.3 acres sold for \$215,000

573 Hunns Lake Road, a 3-bed/2.5-bath home on 19 acres sold for \$527,800

Homan Road, 101.7 acre parcel of vacant land was sold to the Winnakee Land Trust for \$1.1 million

August 2023

18 Charwill Drive, 3-bed/1-bath home on 2.7 acres, sold for \$94,950

6042 Route 82, 4-bed/1-bath home home, sold for \$300,000

5634 Route 82, 3-bed/1-bath home, sold for \$300,000

274 Stissing Road, 3-bed/1-bath house, sold for \$350,000

50 Woods Drive, 4-bed/3-bath home, sold for \$399,000

24 Ernest Road, 3-bed/1.5-bath home with 36-square-foot garage on 6.87 acres, sold for \$399,000

313 Jameson Hill Road, a 4-bed/1-bath house in "poor" condition on 80.1 acres, sold for \$400,000

Town of Stanford recorded land, commercial and residential sales in July and August provided by Dutchess County Office of Real Property.

Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

Carving a bear with chainsaw

By RILEY KLEIN
rileyk@lakevillejournal.com

SHARON, Conn. — Using only her trusty chainsaws, master carver Aya Blaine transformed an old log into a nearly 7-foot tall bear statue.

Travelers along Route 343 on Sunday, Oct. 1, may have seen Blaine turning stump to statue at the corner of Sharon Valley Road.

The bear was made for Alyson Bennett to stand at the entrance of The Greenhouse, due to open at the same location in Sharon later in October.

"It's gonna be holding the welcome sign," said Blaine.

Bennett, co-founder of The Greenhouse ABNR Inc., has been friends with Blaine for years. A lifelong logger herself, Bennett met Blaine at Woodsmen's Field Days in Boonville, New York.

Blaine is originally from Japan but now resides in Boonville. She began using a chainsaw to carve wood as a young girl in rural Japan.

She has competed internationally in the U.S., Japan, Germany and Canada. She was featured on the Discovery Channel and has appeared in multiple Stihl advertisements.

Blaine said, from concept to completion, the bear in Sharon took about 72 hours to create. She referenced bear photography to draft sketches ahead of carving and said she



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Aya Blaine let the wood chips fly as she turned an old log into a detailed bear on Oct. 1.

planned to hit the statue with a blowtorch to finalize the project.

"It's for texture, and the finished color maybe makes

the bear a little dark, too," said Blaine.

After completing the bear, she carved a howling wolf statue.

Community Day Oct. 8 at Indian Rock Schoolhouse

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — The historic Indian Rock Schoolhouse, 25 Mygatt Road, will welcome visitors to its annual Community Day scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 8, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., promising a variety of free activities to amuse families and delight children.

The 1858 one-room schoolhouse will be open for touring, sure to be a learning experience for youngsters. Activities on the grounds

will include arts and crafts, pumpkin painting, an old-fashioned pie-making contest for talented bakers, a raffle for the fun of it, and music. The 4-H Club will be there and the

Webutuck Little League will be offering lunch.

Vendors are also invited to reserve space. For more information, contact Annette Culligan at 845-373-9505.

Support local journalism in your community.

Please donate to The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News at LakevilleJournalFoundation.org/donate or by mail PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039

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Dear Supporters,

Good news from your local newspapers, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News!

A small group of key supporters, have pledged a total of **\$100,000 as a MATCHING CHALLENGE**. We have until October 31st to meet the challenge.

These funds are crucial to the continued growth of The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News. At The Lakeville Journal, new investments in local reporting have been made by bringing on new reporters to expand coverage of local towns and the results are evident. The Millerton News has a new office in town and a new editor who is rebuilding the reporting staff there too.

Behind the scenes, the papers are in the process of a complete digital migration of operations to newly revamped websites for both papers and a stream of integrated digital news products.

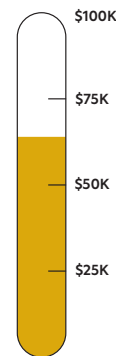
Any amount - large or small - goes towards the \$100,000 Matching Challenge to enable us to continue to expand AND upgrade local reporting in print and for digital.

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Susan Hassler *Noreen Doyle*
Susan Hassler, Publisher Noreen Doyle, Board Chair

Please make a donation at www.tricornernews.com/2023matching or by mailing a check to The Lakeville Journal Foundation, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039.



We've raised \$63,197 of our \$100,000 goal.

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2023 SALISBURY FALL FESTIVAL

www.salisburyfallfestival.org
October 6-8

Ongoing

21st Annual Scarecrow Exhibit

9 am – 6 pm Enjoy the scarecrows along Main Street of Salisbury and Lakeville.

Friends of Scoville Library

9 am – 10 am (Oct. 6) Giant Book Sale – Early bird buying \$10 per person. 10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) Free admission to Giant Book Sale in the Wardell Room and Friends' stacks. (Oct. 7) "Book Bag Sale" from 3 to 4 pm; \$10 a bag.

All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church

at Salisbury Congregational Church
10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) Country Store featuring baked goods, preserves, Greek pastries and foods, breads, pies, herbs, and more.

Kelley & Kellner

10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) Learn how to reduce appetite without stimulants, decrease cravings, and manage blood sugar.

Lakeville Community Conservancy

10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) Learn how the LCC enhances green spaces and parks, contributing to a sense of civic pride and enjoyment of outdoor spaces in Lakeville.

Local Honey from Peter Sadlon

10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) 100% pure local honey and bee pollen.

Project SAGE

10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) Learn about our domestic violence prevention programs. October marks Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Salisbury Association

24 Main St.
10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) noon to 4 pm (Oct. 8) Visit the new "Salisbury Affordable Housing" exhibit. Learn about the history and organizations involved, as well as the challenges, needs, and solutions for the community.

Salisbury Congregational Church

10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) Quilt Show (Church). Treasure Trove Tag Sale (Parish Hall). Noon – 3 pm (Oct. 8) Treasure

Trove Tag Sale – Half-price sale on everything! (Parish Hall).

St. John's Episcopal Church

10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) Baked goods and coffee. Left Bank Bookstalls (outside). 11 am to 2 pm (Oct. 8) Just Left Bank Bookstalls (outside).

Hot Dog Tent

outside Congregational Church
11 am – 2 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) Offers hot dogs, chili dogs, soda, cider, water and more.

Interlaken Inn

Route 112, Lakeville, CT
5 pm – 9 pm (Oct. 6 and 7) Complimentary appetizer with the purchase of an entree at Morgan's at the Interlaken.

Salisbury Artisans Group

tents in front of the White Hart Inn
10 am – 4 pm (Oct. 7 and 8) Local artisans displaying their traditional and contemporary creations—jewelry, pottery, fiber arts, wreaths, woven goods, fine art, organic skin care, woodwork, ceramics, gourmet food, and much more.

Friday, October 6th

Salisbury General Store "Sip and Shop"

5 pm – 7 pm Stop in for cocktails, appetizers, and in-store sales.

Saturday, October 7th

Salisbury General Store

9 am – 5 pm In-store sales and samples from Finding: Home Farm and Horton Scone Company. Learn about Greenwood Community Outreach services in Litchfield County.

SOAR

on Library lawn
10 am – 3 pm Pop-Up Crafts featuring a variety of autumn crafts and hands-on activities for kids of all ages. Plus lots of pumpkins to decorate, glitter tattoos, and a raffle with the students from the Salisbury Central School Enrichment Program.

Annie's Fair Trade

on Main Street
10 am – 4 pm Hand-poured and hand-painted candles

from South Africa. Certified Fair Trade and a portion of the proceeds goes to Save the Rhino. Great gifts and hostess presents!

Children's Street Fair

along Library Street
10 am – 4 pm Salisbury Central School 8th Grade offers games and popcorn. They are also taking orders for holiday wreaths. All proceeds go toward the class trip to Washington, D.C.

EXTRAS

10 am – 4 pm Students from the EXTRAS recreational program at Salisbury Central School will be selling baked goods, making slime, and offering a 50/50 raffle to benefit their program.

Honeychurch Home

10 am – 4 pm Visit our booth on Main Street for items and information about the upcoming Merry & Bright weekend. Stop by the store on Academy Street for in-store sales and the Lobster Truck.

Hotchkiss School, The Jane Lloyd Fund, and Sharon Hospital

10 am – 4 pm Enjoy activities for Breast Cancer Awareness Month: a pink M&M jar raffle, painting Kindness Rocks, and sign ups for mammogram appointments, along with free breast cancer awareness information.

Housatonic Child Care Center

tent on Main Street
10 am – 4 pm Information about our organization and games for the kids! Plus selling tickets to wine and beer event on Oct 28.

Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) Robotics Team

10 am - 4 pm Bake sale and demonstration of student-built robots that compete in a Robotics Competition.

Housatonic Youth Service Bureau

on Main Street
10 am – 4 pm Learn about HYSB and have fun playing some yard games!

Lakeville Journal

10 am – 4 pm Stop by for newspapers, t-shirts, and subscription forms.

National Iron Bank

tent by Library
10 am – 4 pm Stop by for refreshments and information about the special presentation by Martha Graham dancers in the Buttons Garden beside the Library at 3 pm.

NBT Bank

10 am – 4 pm Stop by our booth for donuts, apple cider and other goodies!

Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission

10 am – 4 pm SAHS will have information on the affordable housing organizations in Salisbury, as well as details on their community events. Stop by for answers to all of your housing questions.

Salisbury Community Dog Park

on Main Street
10 am – 4 pm Stop by and learn about our Community Dog Park.

Salisbury Family Services

10 am – 4 pm Learn how Family Services helps people in our community.

Salisbury Forum

10 am – 4 pm Stop by and learn about the exciting programs that will be offered later this fall!

Salisbury Rotary

on Main Street
10 am – 4 pm Stop by and learn about the organization and its many service projects.

Tom Morrison

10 am – 4 pm Purchase an autographed copy of his second novel, "Please Pass the Tort\$". Morrison, a retired trial and appellate lawyer, is also the author of "Tort\$ R Us: A Legal Farce."

William Pitt Sotheby's

10 am – 4 pm Stop by our tent on the west side of Main Street and enjoy a family activity!

Magic of Chris Lengyel

Buttons Garden outside the Library
11 am and 2 pm Come and enjoy Chris' many tricks, learn a few pointers, and have the

opportunity to make your own magic during a workshop portion.

Lakeville Hose Company Ladies Auxiliary

on Main Street
11 am – 3 pm Food Tent offering comfort food – chili and cornbread, mac and cheese, baked potatoes with toppings, soda, and water.

Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service

8 Undermountain Road, across from the White Hart Inn
11 am – 4 pm Open House! Everyone is invited to stop by and see the vehicles and equipment and speak with members to learn about joining the squad.

Salisbury Band Quickstep

Hotshots
Bandstand on Library lawn
12 pm – 1:30 pm Enjoy live music in an old-fashioned bandstand.

Hayrides

12 pm – 4 pm Enjoy an old-fashioned hayride! Tractor and hay wagon depart on Library Street. Sponsored by the Congregational Church.

Joint Chiefs

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Enjoy a live musical performance by the Joint Chiefs on the White Hart lawn.

Martha Graham Dances

Buttons Garden outside the Library
3 pm National Iron Bank presents two iconic Martha Graham dances, Lamentation

and Satyric Festival Song, performed by Graham 2. Afterwards, Graham dancers will teach children of all ages how to express themselves through movement in their own tube of fabric. "Graham" crackers and apple cider will be served.

Lakeville Hose Company

5 pm – 8 pm Delicious Prime Rib Dinner with mashed potatoes, vegetable, dinner roll, and dessert. To eat in or take out.

Sunday, October 8th

Kelley & Kellner

10 am – 4 pm Learn how to reduce appetite without stimulants, decrease cravings, and manage blood sugar.

3rd Annual Pet Parade

Lakeville Community Field (behind Patco)
12 pm – 1 pm Enjoy the Pet Parade featuring a variety of dogs and other pets with and without costumes. After a short parade through town, return to Community field for the award of prizes in various categories.

Salisbury Winter Sports Association

at the Ski Jumps
1 pm – 4 pm 14th Annual Brew-Ski Fest sponsored by SWSA. Over 30 breweries will offer over 200 beers, ciders, and hard seltzers. Live music by Steve Dunn Band. Tickets are \$30 in advance; \$35 at the gate. For tickets or information, go to Jumpfest.org.

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Saturday, October 7
10:00 am - 4:00 pm Friends of the Library Giant Book Sale
11:00 am - NOON Chris Lengyel Magic & Face Painting Repeat performance at 2:00 pm Sponsored by the Friends of Scoville Library
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Martha Graham Dance Performance and Mini Workshop in The Buttons Garden Sponsored by National Iron Bank
Crafts for kids all day on the library lawn!
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CANDIDATES *Continued from Page A1*

The Millerton News and the Hudson Valley League of Women Voters (LWV) will co-sponsor a Meet the Candidates night at Webutuck High School, 194 Haight Road in Amenia. Participants in the event will include Republican incumbent Victoria Perotti and Democrat Leo Blackman, candidates for Amenia town supervisor; and Democrat incumbent Vicky Doyle, Democrat Rosanna Hamm and Republican Paul Winters, all running for the two open seats on the Amenia Town Board.

The event will be moderated by Jolanda Jansen of LWV, who will be accompanied by an LWV time-keeper to ensure the candidates don't exceed the time allotted for questions asked of them by audience members.

On Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 6:30 p.m. The Millerton News and the New Pine Plains Herald will cosponsor a candi-

dates' forum in the Community Room at the Pine Plains Free Library, 7775 S. Main St. in Pine Plains. Moderated by Ryan Orton of Stanford, the event will include Republican Gregg Pulver and Democrat Chris Drago, running for Dutchess County Legislature, District 19; Republicans Paul Murphy and Jim Smith, and Democrats Jeanine Sisco and Kevin Walsh, candidates for Pine Plains Town Board; Democrat Carl Baden and Republican Lisa Ambrose, candidates for highway superintendent; and Republican Rich Brenner and Democrat Stella Isaza, running for town justice.

There are also two candidates who are running unopposed for positions—Town Supervisor Brian Walsh and Town Clerk Madelin Dafeo—who will speak briefly.

TEN MILE TABLE *Continued from Page A1*

but you've gotta take us all."

The reply she got from co-director Jeff Barnett-Winsby reflected the kind of collaborative-minded, community-oriented outlook DaSilva and Le had been looking for. The whole package of a family relocated to Wassaic and have fast become staples of the community.

Both of their children learned to walk at The Lantern Inn, and DaSilva described a sort of magical fascination with the little hamlet. As a train rumbld by, she motioned in its direction and said, "It's tucked away but this [the train] reminds you that you're out of the city, but not far."

She continued, "When you drive off [Route] 22, you come down the hill, and even though

I know where I'm going, obviously, I find it confusing." She laughed, "The mountain creates its own weather patterns down here. It can be raining in Wassaic and nowhere else or vice versa."

And as far as community-building goes, DaSilva explained, "The Wassaic Project brings an endless flow of creative voices that is constantly shifting," adding to the crop of artists she represents at the stand and in the store, some of whom have become friends.

For now, Ten Mile Table—and Vitsky Bakery—is open Friday, Saturday and Sunday and has a unique array of products. "Basically, this is what my dream pantry would look like," said DaSilva of her stocking choices.

"Ingredients that you can't find very often" are an attraction, as is "trying to support local makers" such as Augie's Granola from Pine Plains, Laurel and Ash Maple Syrup from Holmes, Falconwood Farm Wildflower Honey from Wingdale, and more. She also stocks many spices, condiments and other products from Vietnam, influenced by her mother-in-law, who is "an amazing chef."

DaSilva is very open to feedback and said, "Basically, whatever people want to see on the shelves, that's what we'll have." Likewise, she is open to hearing criticism from locals and

other visitors to her space. She said that some have entered and balked at the prices, at which point she often takes those products away. "I want to keep the lines of communication open. It's a beautiful space," she said, looking around the light-filled room, "but it's a very particular aesthetic."

She continues to speak of those who might not be immediately accepting of a modern, albeit warm and welcoming new shop in town and acknowledged, "I would like to think that if you're talking to me, you might feel a little better."

Hardcore hikers conquer Mohawk Mountain

By LANS CHRISTENSEN
Special to The Millerton News

CORNWALL, Conn. — The opening event in the new IronHike Endurance series pushed participants to the limit at Mohawk Mountain Ski Area from Sept. 30 to Oct. 3.

This recently created series was conceived of and produced by John Kolker and four co-founders: All are distinguished U.S. Military veterans. Kolker referred to himself as, "the hands-on CEO."

The core concept of the series was designed to reach "mountain athletes," trail runners and hikers, and to provide a selection of endurance challenges. The test here was not about speed, but rather about elevation gains.

The only competition the hikers faced was themselves and the goals they hoped to achieve.

IronHike's website explained, "This is a classification of events that combine physical, mental and spiritual gumption" An opportunity to assess, achieve and appreciate ones own goals.

The format for the four-day event sounded straightforward: Hikers would ascend and descend Mohawk trail, which totaled 595-feet in elevation from the base.

The challenges were named after noteworthy mountains and the distance for each event was determined by the altitude of its namesake.

The first, and "easiest" was "Clingmans Dome," which is the highest peak on the Appalachian Trail. Hikers were given a twelve-hour limit to hike Mohawk up and down

until 7,140-feet of elevation was achieved.

"Denali," named for the highest U.S. peak at 20,825-feet, provided 48 hours to complete, and would total 43 miles of hiking.

Third was "Everest" with a 72-hour window, 61 miles, and 29,155-feet of elevation.

Finally, the fourth challenge was "Olympus Mons," the highest peak on Mars at 72,000-feet of elevation. 84 hours was given to complete this 152-mile "hike."

Thirty hikers registered for the event, and could enter individually, with a teammate or as a four person relay team. "Clingman's Dome" attracted the majority of hikers and "Everest" had its hikers as well.

Above and beyond imagination, there was one hiker challenging the "Olympus Mons" feat. Scott Festa of North Carolina seemed eager and very at ease in anticipation of this feat.

He calmly and happily said "I'm looking forward to pushing myself." He added that he would "probably know within the first few hours of starting if I was going to make it."

A modest Army vet, Festa mentioned only that he had been an Appalachian Trail "through hiker" in his life as an extraordinary endurance athlete.

In addition to pushing participants to the extreme, IronHike supports worthwhile causes: St Jude's Children Hospital, 2NDGO (a veterans organization) and New England Forestry among others.

As IronHike's website says, it's "Your Journey toward becoming the best version of yourself."

HORSES *Continued from Page A1*

PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Matty Frank with Babe

When someone calls 911, or when American forces are deployed overseas, "We want someone who knows what to do."

But the work takes its toll, with veterans and first responders suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and alarming suicide rates.

Compounding the problem is the stigma attached to asking for help.

This is where The Equus Effect comes in, offering programming free of charge for veterans and first responders.

Matty Frank, a former homicide detective from Mt. Vernon, New York, led a grey draft horse named Babe around the pavilion.

After one turn, Frank and Babe started dancing while continuing around the circle.

Afterwards, Frank said he was shot in the line of duty in 2006 and had to leave the police force.

He recovered physically, but he struggled with PTSD.

Traditional therapy helped to a point, "but that was nothing compared to working with the horses."

Frank pointed out that horses are prey animals, not predators like humans: "They survive by reading people."

Working with the horses helped him reestablish the personal relationships the PTSD had damaged.

"Just ask my wife," said Frank.

After the horse demonstrations, the guests assembled inside the pavilion for a successful fundraising appeal.

The veterans and first responders come six at a time and stay for two nights. The cost is \$1,200 per person, and it is free for the clients.

So the initial appeal was for pledges of \$7,200, or one group of six. Several people indicated they were willing to pony up.

property value to fund the library. The amount requested on the ballot would mean an increase to \$31.54 annually per \$100,000.

The measure's supporters say that while their request represents a significant increase from the town's current contribution of \$99,500, the higher amount is more in keeping with contributions to other local libraries of comparable size and usage. More funding would also allow the library to expand its hours, materials and program offerings.

Library usage has increased 144% since 2013, while funding from the town has only increased 28%, which is less than the rate of inflation, according to Tackett, who is a member of the board of The New Pine Plains Herald. The library has been unable to meet repeated community requests, Tackett said, such as an increase in days and hours. With a bigger budget, the library could re-open on Monday, Tackett added. It has been closed that day for lack of funds since last December.

The library writes grants and does fundraising, which it will continue to do as part of its budget process, said Tackett. This year, it has also been forced to use \$30,000 from its emergency reserve fund to meet operating expenses. At that rate, the fund will be depleted in two years. Tackett said there will be no budget for emergencies, such as getting a new printer when the current one breaks—a commercial printer is about \$7,000—or for modifying the building in ways that better serve patrons.

Besides operational costs, which include insurance and paying for one full-time staff member and three part-timers, the library's other major expenses are programs and materials. In addition to books, DVDs and games on the shelves, the library offers special programs, particularly for seniors and young people. These include yoga and tai chi classes, monthly book clubs and a weekly visit from the town's summer day-campers, who walk to the library to choose books, be read to and participate in programs.

Do you have a family member or friend in the military who would be interested in the news from home?

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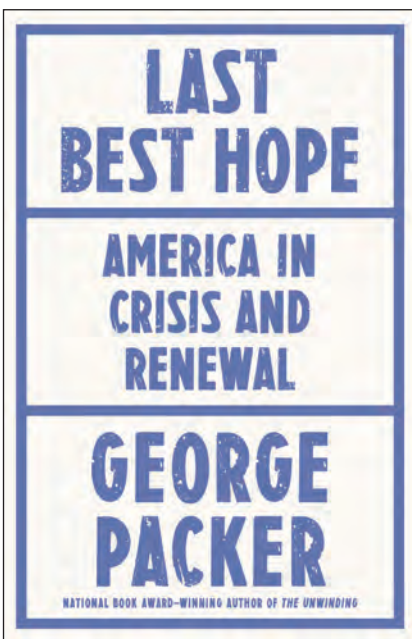
Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

BOOKS: MAUD DOYLE

Inside The 4th Estate at Haystack Book Fest

Journalism is increasingly difficult, dangerous, unsupported, and ignored; it changes nothing in the present and may leave no impression on the future. But we do it anyway, said Elizabeth Becker and George Packer, because what is the alternative?

Becker (a leading conflict journalist for The New York Times and The Washington Post, and Senior Foreign Editor at NPR) and Packer (staff writer at The Atlantic and winner of the 2013 National Book Award for "The Unwinding: An Inner History of the New America") spoke at the Haystack Book Festival discussion "Inspired by the Legacy of Anne Garrels: A Conversation



about Covering Conflict," at the Norfolk Library on Saturday, Sept. 30.

The talk was billed as a reflection on what they've learned about telling intimate human stories from within war zones (abroad) and

polarized cultural conflict (at home), but it turned, perhaps inevitably, into a discussion of the "sense of the growing irrelevance" of journalism itself.

"We've all wondered—why in the world are we doing this?" said Becker. "Because it doesn't seem to make a difference."

It is not a new frustration, especially in conflict reporting. Becker described interviewing a young female war correspondent whose work had taken her to a hospital following an attack: "She felt horrible, recording while a little baby died," said Becker, helpless

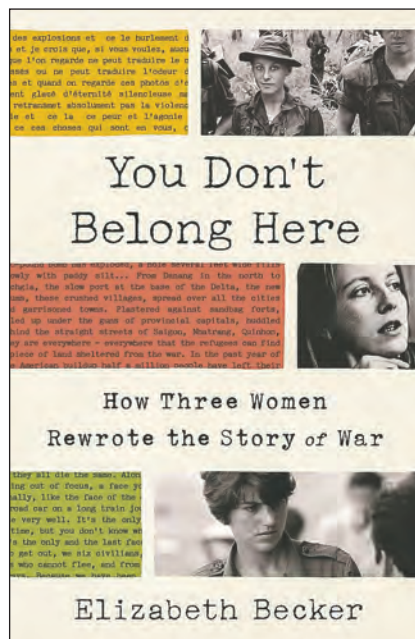
to change the reality unfolding in front of her. "But that's what we have to go through."

"You go into it thinking 'I, by showing the world the horror of war, or the reality of war,'" said Packer, "[by showing] what it means for a school child or for a teacher or a combatant, a soldier, I will humanize it, and therefore, I will end it, or help end it, or at least show why this war's happening and perhaps even convince someone of some political idea."

"In my experience, it doesn't happen that way," he said. "You are not making life better for anyone. I think you have to admit that."

Over recent decades, journalism has also grown increasingly

dangerous as journalists become targets—not just abroad, said Packer, but in the U.S. as well. Several years ago, 64% of journalists killed while reporting died in combat zones, said Becker; now, 64% of journalists killed while reporting are killed in non-combat zones. Another growing percentage are kidnapped or imprisoned as both combatants and nations



seek to use journalists as bargaining chips.

Meanwhile, the internet and social media seem to have rendered journalism—particularly complex, in-depth

Continued on next page

PHOTOS: MACMILLAN, PUBLICAFFAIRS

THEATER: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Playing with Truth

Saving the best for last, Sharon Playhouse in Sharon, Conn., is closing its first season under the new leadership of Artistic Director Carl Andress and Managing Director Rod Christensen with its most confident production. Electrically paced by Marcia Milgrom Dodge, the Tony-Award nominated director of Broadway's "Ragtime" revival, "The Lifespan of a Fact" by Jeremy Kareken, David Murrell and Gordon Farrell sizzles with tension. If you're going

to be scrolling through a streaming service on Friday night, scouting for a series to grab your attention and keep you glued, head to Sharon's Olsen Theater.

To lay the foreground, allow me a bit of personal color, in-line with spirit of the play's focus on writers injecting themselves in the story. There's an unintentionally hilarious line that opens the fairly forgettable 2010 romantic comedy "Letters To Juliet" that has nevertheless lodged in my brain

since I first heard it. On a work call while strolling through sunny Central Park, a young Amanda Seyfried introduces herself by beaming, "I'm a fact checker [at The New Yorker], actually. It is a bit like being a detective." Has anyone ever expressed such a wide-eyed sentiment? Except that "The Lifespan of a Fact," a drama indeed about a magazine fact checker, really is a detective story, one that opens with a report on a dead body. A murder hasn't taken place, but a suicide. A young Nevada man, 16-year-old Levi Presley, has jumped to his death from the observation balcony of a Las Vegas tourist hotel, and a (reportedly) remark-



PRODUCTION PHOTO COURTESY OF SHARON PLAYHOUSE

Renaldo Piniella and Jennifer Van Dyck in "The Lifespan of a Fact."

able 15-page essay on this tragedy has landed on the desk of a prestige magazine, ready for print — it just needs a quick fact check. Easy right?

The assignment is handed to Jim Fingal (Renaldo Piniella), an intern and recent Harvard graduate, by editor Emily Penrose (Jennifer Van Dyck), with both actors and characters playing out artificial performances that belie the depth of their conviction. Jim is a smarmy charmer, willing to brown nose his way to a paid position, while Emily preemptively basks in the publishing glory she views on the horizon. Played across two sets with only three actors, it's Jonathan Walker's excellently grounded turn as the gruff but deeply humane writer, John D'Agata, that turns the play into a more

slippery and complicated creature. Bringing out the prickly fury that simmers beneath the initial facades of Piniella and Van Dyck's character work, Walker anchors the production as a man accused of burying a life in an effort to immortalize a death.

Like any good detective story, I have purposefully concealed a piece of important information, just in case you haven't put the pieces together. The play is an adaptation of a 2012 book co-authored by John D'Agata and Jim Fingal, who really did dispute over the questionable truths and

Continued on next page

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RESTAURANTS: R.A. HERMANS

Stissing House named one of top 50 restaurants in U.S.

The New York Times has chosen Stissing House in Pine Plains, N.Y., as one of the 50 restaurants in the United States that it is "most excited about right now."

The third annual list, published on Sept. 18, includes five restaurants in New York state. Stissing House is the only one not located in New York City.

The Times' entry on Stissing House, written by food reporter Priya Krishna, heaped praise

on chef/proprietor Clare de Boer, who opened the restaurant in March 2022. "In Ms. de Boer's hands, a simple cup of beef broth garnished with a rosemary sprig can feel like it has healing powers," Krishna wrote. She concluded, "Practically everything here is cooked over a wood fire, often seasoned with not much more than some herbs, salt and de Boer's deft, seemingly magical, touch."

Krishna profiled de Boer in the Times a few days before Stissing House opened, noting that de Boer, 32 years old at the time, had already been a partner in two standout restaurants in New York City: King and Jupiter. Earlier this year, Stissing House was one of 30 semifinalists for the James Beard Foundation's award for Best New Restaurant in the U.S.

"My name may be on the article, but [Stissing House] is the work of so

many people, my manager, the chef, the sous chefs, the whole team," de Boer said a day after the Times' accolades. The recognition "makes this an exciting day for all of us," she added. The restaurant employs more than 30 people.

The building that houses Stissing House was built in 1782 and de Boer is well aware of the history of its previous restaurants. While the Times' acknowledgment was "wonderful" and "humbling," she said the restaurant is still "a work

in progress." She wants it to become a part of people's lives, "a place for celebratory dinners and weddings."

"We want to be something that stands the test of time," de Boer said.

Article courtesy of the New Pine Plains Herald.

...playing

Continued from previous page

literary licenses taken in an essay initially submitted to Harper's Magazine and later to The Believer about Levi Presley, a real teenage boy who scaled two fences on the 109th floor of the Stratosphere Tower and leaped to his death on a Saturday night in July 2002. Published in 2012, "The Lifespan of A Fact," the original essay by creative

non-fiction essayist D'Agata, a writer the late David Foster Wallace described as possessing the candor of David Shields and the aesthetic weight of Annie Dillard, is printed alongside his combative conversations with Believer intern, Fingal.

"Hi, John. I'm the intern who's been assigned to fact-check your

article," their correspondence began, as it does in the play. "I was hoping you could clarify how you determined that there are thirty-four strip clubs in the city while the source you're using says thirty-one." But that's the thing about a detective story, isn't it? Pull one thread, and you never know what could unravel.

...4th estate

Continued from previous page

stories—increasingly unread, particularly as potential readers get more and more information primarily from social media and aggregators. The simple, uncomplicated truth of phone reportage is easier for people to digest and recall in a world of 24/7 unedited information. (Packer noted that from checking the analytics of articles after they've been published on The Atlantic website, he has learned that an average page time of 47 seconds must be considered a major success.)

The end result is that journalists struggle to find outlets that will publish and pay them for their stories. (Becker: "I'm very impressed by the younger generation of journalists [...] They're so creative, publishing in places I've never heard of" [meaning that their articles usually earn only a handful of readers and a modest courtesy fee.] Packer: "The corporate model has come to the end of its usefulness. It is impossible to make hard reporting pay.")

The growing pressures on journalists—financial, physical, mental, and emotional—said Becker, "ultimately hurts the level of our coverage."

There was a long discussion about whether or not 50% of the country really believes that journalists make their livings by actively and deliberately fabricating stories for political ends. (Packer: "The days of Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward bringing down a corrupt administration are over," said Packer. "There was enough consensus [...] That doesn't happen anymore.")

There was a really, really long discussion about President Donald Trump, which (finally) concluded over the ques-



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

The late Anne Garrels spoke at The Salisbury Forum in 2016 on her experience in Russia.

tion of whether or not journalists talk about him too much.

"The war reporters I most admire are not nearly as interested in the explosions as the people caught up in them," said Packer, pointing to the work of Anne Garrels, NPR's late conflict journalist and resident of Norfolk, whose work focused on the civilians, not the generals.

"I think [narrative journalism] can be helpful—to get below the surface" and tell stories that get at the human experience beyond the statements of practiced "mouthpieces," said Packer.

"We are witnesses, and that is a step-

down—or at least away—from changing the world. We get disillusioned, especially younger journalists," said Packer, and have to let go of the idea "that by exposing injustice to exposing suffering, we will really change, maybe change policy, at least change people's lives. I think you have to settle into a less grandiose picture of what you're doing, which is witnessing" human experience, not changing it.

Can narrative journalism be part of the solution to all the problems that are challenging it today?

"I hope so," said Packer, "because it's what I do."

MUSIC AND COWS AT SKY HIGH FARM

According to various studies, certain types of music have a calming effect on livestock, reducing stress and positively affecting relaxation. The proprietors of Sky High Farm in Ancramdale, N.Y., will reinforce this theory on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 3 to 5 p.m. with "Cowposition: A Serenade for the Cows," an event that will include multi-instrumentalists Laraaji and Nadi Burton playing improvised, site-specific, zither-based music to the farm's herd of cows. Four dancers will accompany the musicians' nurturing soundscape, devising their movements on the spot to soothe and increase milk production in the herd's pregnant females.

The event is family-friendly and will take place outdoors, but space is extremely limited and reservations are required in advance.



PHOTO BY ELIAS SORICH

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Jane Eckert Returns to CT

In 2020, Jane Eckert, owner of Eckert Fine Art Gallery + Consulting, announced her departure from the cluster of contemporary art galleries located in the Kent Barns in Kent, Conn.

Eckert and her big-name clients, like the prolific Neo-Expressionist bunny painter Hunt Slonem, had been a staple of Kent. Still, nevertheless, she was venturing into new territory on the MASS MoCA campus in Williamstown, Mass. Now, she's marking her return to Connecticut with Eckert Fine Art, located on Titus Road in Washington, Conn. With an opening reception scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 7, Eckert has always sought major names for collection, from the urban landscapes of Robert Cottingham to the graphic pop art of the late Robert Rauschenberg to the stainless steel sculptural work of Salisbury, Conn., resident Don Gummer, husband of actress Meryl Streep. Featured in the public collection of MASS MoCA as well as the sculpture loan program of The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Conn., Gummer's modern interpretation of constructivism, a movement born out of the early 20th century when art reflected the emerging images of industrialism, has seen his steel and bronze shapes curve like a dancer in motion, the city made dynamic.



PHOTO SHUTTERSTOCK

Meryl Streep and Don Gummer



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County receives nationwide award for its tech resources

By COLLEEN FLYNN
Special to The Millerton News

POUGHKEEPSIE — The Dutchess County government has received a 2023 Government Experience Award from the Center for Digital Government (CDG).

The Government Experience Awards, which have been taking place for seven years, recognize the government offices that are trying to improve residential life with technology.

Dutchess County government has ranked fifth among county governments nationwide for its overall technology experience this year. Dutchess was also one of only five nationwide counties that received an award for their technology outreach.

County Executive William F.X. O'Neil said, "This year's awards from the Center for Digital Government highlight the dedication of the team at OCIS and our commitment to ensuring Dutchess County's technology resources are efficient and user-centric, both for employees and residents. Congratulations to the OCIS team on this most recent accolade."

Some of Dutchess' resources that were recognized by CDG were its Path to Promise (P2P) website, the implementation of the national 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and Dutchess County's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Planimetrics.

The P2P website has provided information on more than 700 community re-

sources, such as tutoring and mentorship, to ensure that families and caregivers get the tools they need to have their children succeed as they grow into adulthood.

The GIS has more than 300,000 data points that are able to show where parking lots, roads, structure outlines and address points are. These data points are then used by police and emergency response planning when needed.

Dustin Haisler, chief strategy and innovation officer for CDG, said, "The leading government experiences have retained a human-centric approach to service delivery, incorporating digital equity, accessibility and inclusion into all of their experiences."

County social services staff reinforces empathy through poverty simulation training

By ROBIN RORABACK
Special to The Millerton News

POUGHKEEPSIE — On Wednesday, Sept. 27, staff members from the Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services (DCFS), took part in a role-reversal training exercise at the MJ Nesheiwat Convention Center.

During the training, they took on the roles of their clients and experienced what it is like to live at the poverty level.

"Understanding the experiences of our clients and the challenges they have as they navigate our systems is essential for providing effective support and assistance," DCFS Commissioner Sabrina Jaar Marzouka explained.

During the exercise, DCFS' staff had to deal with not having enough money to pay bills, buy food, pay rent, get child care and get transportation to

work. They had to figure out what to do if someone became sick, where to go for care and how to pay for medical care. Volunteers took on the roles of landlords, bank employees, health care workers, social service workers and utility company staff.

Participant and social worker Tracy Tissiera said of the experience: "It's frustrating. It feels like you can't win at all. This training is like a reflection of what clients go through every time they wake up."

Felice Sarmiento, another participant, said: "Quite often, unless you've walked a day in the shoes of community members, you don't understand what their lives are like, what barriers they face. One single day in their life is a challenge." She added: "We lose sight of that. It is important to go through a simulation of this sort to be able to have a better perspective."

According to DCFS, in

2022, it serviced one in 10 Dutchess County residents, for a total of "30,000 unduplicated individuals across all programs, including temporary assistance, child and adult protective services, youth services, foster care, Medicaid, and child support, among others."

Marzouka felt this was an important training session. "Residents who seek assistance from us do so during challenging times in their lives, when they need the most compassion from the staff serving them," she said. She added that the "training reinforced the difficulties our clients often face, allowing our workers to see things from the client's perspective and incorporate this experience when helping residents."

DCFS does many trainings throughout the year with one large-scale training, such as the empathy training, once a year.



PHOTO BY RHIANNON LEO-JAMESON

3D printing fun at the library

From left: Riley Whalen, Makya Cawley, Jayvion Lanier and Parker Whalen line up to race their 3D-printed balloon-powered cars that they designed at the NorthEast-Millerton Library on Thursday, Sept. 28. Other sessions featuring the newly acquired 3D system, which was purchased with a grant from Dutchess County, have included a general orientation and the creation of bubble wands. Participants in future events must be ages 9-14 with limited spaces available. Registration is required. For more information go to the nemillertonlibrary.org or call 518-789-3340.

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LEGAL NOTICES

<p>PINE PLAINS FIRE DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 7:15 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 17th day of October 2023.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Dated: September 19, 2023</p> <p>Board of Fire Commissioners</p>	<p>Pine Plains Fire District P.O. Box 860 Pine Plains, NY 12567 10-05-23</p> <p>Legal Notice</p> <p>Notice of Formation of MTM Fine Art + Interiors LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/13/2023.</p> <p>Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Marie T. Montera PO Box 3192 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.</p> <p>08-31-23 09-07-23 09-14-23 09-21-23 09-28-23 10-05-23</p> <p>LEGAL NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Chrysanthemom, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 8/31/23. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 6 Academy St., Pine Plains, NY 12567 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.</p> <p>09-14-23 09-21-23 09-28-23 10-05-23 10-12-23 10-19-23</p> <p>LEGAL NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Art. Of Org. Solidago Home, LLC, filed with SSNY on 7/13/2023. Office Location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 41 Woodlea Road, Salt Point, NY 12578. Purpose: Home</p>	<p>and Garden Organization.</p> <p>09-28-23 10-05-23 10-12-23 10-19-23 10-26-23 11-02-23</p> <p>TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of North East has caused to be compiled a Benefit Assessment Roll for the North East Water District No. 1 which describes the benefit assessments for 2023-2024.</p> <p>The Town Board will hold a Public Hearing for the receipt of comments on the Benefit Assessment Roll on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 7:20 p.m. at the North East Town Hall, 19 North Maple Ave., Millerton, New York 12546.</p> <p>The Benefit Assessment Roll will be available for public inspection after September 14, 2023 at the Town Clerk's Office during business hours Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>An information sheet containing the procedures for contesting an assessment, complaint forms, and the map of the Water District are available at the Town Clerk's Office.</p> <p>BY ORDER OF THE NORTH EAST TOWN BOARD</p> <p>Dated: September 14, 2023.</p> <p>Elizabeth "Tilly" Strauss, Town of North East Town Clerk 10-05-23</p>
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Annual Rio Jazz concert coming up at The Smithfield Church

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — The Smithfield Church will present the annual Rio Jazz concert, an afternoon concert of Brazilian jazz, as part of the Bang Family Concert Series. The concert will be held on Saturday, Oct. 7, beginning at 4 p.m. A reception with refreshments will follow.

The hour-long concert will feature the music of

Brazil, presented by a quartet of area musicians, including Matt Finley on flugelhorn, Larry Ham on piano, Lou Pappas on bass and Jeff Siegel on drums. Finley serves as the director of Rio Jazz, contributing talents as composer, arranger and instrumentalist in winds and brass. The Smithfield Church Chamber Orchestra is also under Finley's direction.

All four performing musicians have contributed music to create the eclectic Rio Jazz program.

The Smithfield Church is located at 656 Smithfield Valley Road in Amenia. The concert is free, but a \$20 donation is suggested. For more information, see www.thsmithfieldchurch.org/concerts

Do you have a family member or friend in the military who would be interested in the news from home?

Remember

The Lakeville Journal Company offers free online subscriptions to our website, tricornernews.com, for active duty military personnel from the Tri-state region. For more information or to set up a subscription, contact Sandra Lang at circulation@lakevillejournal.com or 860-435-9873, ext. 301.

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EDITORIAL

Meeting our readers

Last week the editors and publisher of The Millerton News held a public meeting with readers who came to ask questions and hear about plans for the future. The meeting was held in the Annex at the NorthEast-Millerton Library on Wednesday, Sept. 27, and drew an audience of about 40 people. It was a friendly gathering. We served delicious ice cream from Chaseholm Farm in Pine Plains. Editors fielded questions from readers that revealed a strong interest in preserving our local newspaper, and there also were requests for us to explore some topics and issues with more rigor.

Discussion also touched on the future of The Millerton News — a fair question these days given the survival rate of community newspapers that continue to face pressures from declining revenues and loss of readers who turn to social media platforms for their news.

The message was clear. The Millerton News is dedicated to serving eastern Dutchess County and its towns now and into the future. The Millerton News has been a fixture in this community for 91 years, having been founded in 1932 by a former reporter for the New York Sun. Before that, the only paper in Millerton was the Telegram, founded in 1876. In all the years since that initial beginning, there was only a five-year span — between 1927 and 1932 — when there was no newspaper in Millerton.

In more recent decades, after The News was purchased by the owner of The Lakeville Journal in 1972, ownership has changed hands a couple of times, but remained a locally owned, independent newspaper. In 2021, the business became a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. A new board came into being, and efforts were started to rebuild the newsrooms of both The Journal and The News after the recent pandemic knocked us back.

Some readers at the Wednesday get-together commented about the importance of a community newspaper, remembering what it used to be like in simpler times when people sat on their front porches in the evenings, visiting with neighbors and sharing life's stories. A recent poll of 5,000 Americans over the age of 18 revealed some clear evidence of the need for that community glue. Four out of five people said they read a local newspaper to stay informed and to feel connected to their community. A similar percentage said they read a newspaper to help them decide where they stand on an issue. Others said it was a way to find places to go and things to do.

Ask anyone you know who reads their local newspaper cover to cover, and you might well hear that they find it enjoyable and entertaining to be a better citizen. That, too, was one of the findings of the study. Imagine a world these days (considering our bitter national political climate) in which people aspire to be better citizens.

One question that came up Wednesday night asked how The Millerton News differed from The Lakeville Journal. The way we see it, The News is its own newspaper. We recognize that some stories matter to readers of both papers, such as reports about Sharon Hospital, which actually has more patient visits from Dutchess County than Litchfield County. Obituaries provide another example of news that reaches both sides of the border.

Aside from some regional overlap, each paper stands on its own. We intend to keep it that way. Building back the newsroom at each paper will ensure that our readers will find interesting, relevant and vital news coverage of their own communities. That's our plan for the future, and we've already made a start.

We will hold more community forums to meet and learn from our readers.

Ashes to ashes or dust to dust

My father always joked that when he died he wanted to be stuffed and placed in the living room with a cup of tea and a book. Not a terribly practical plan for the disposition of his remains. What he chose, instead, was far less environmentally friendly. He went for the least green alternative: embalming, lead-lined coffin, and cement-lined grave. He will be there pretty much forever.

I would prefer to hang around as briefly as possible and maybe even do something positive after I go. Happily, "green burials" are more widely available these days. Many funeral directors are taking note and offering more appealing choices.

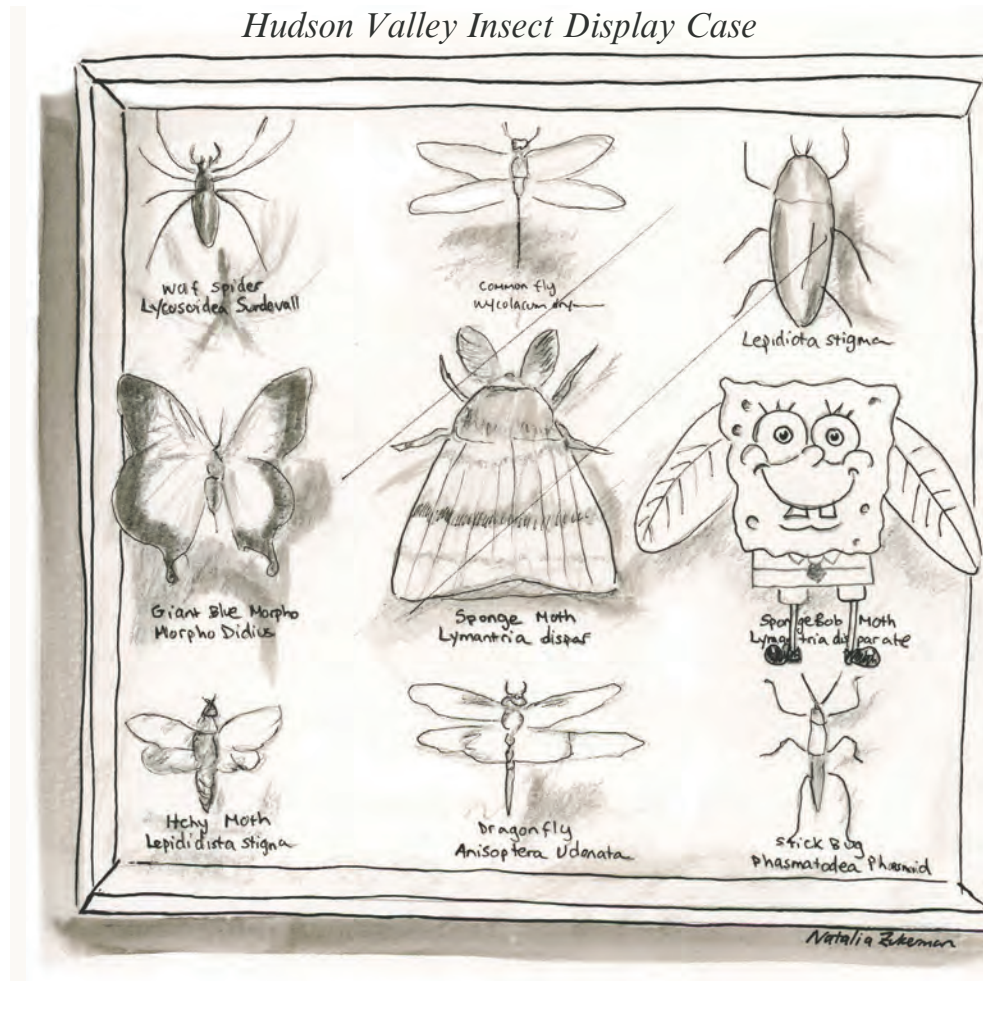
For a lot of people green burial simply means skipping the embalming, the lead-lined coffin, and the cement so they can "biodegrade" as nature in-

BUT THEN AGAIN...

Lisa Wright

tended. But it may be difficult to find a resting place that will accept you au naturel. Keep looking. There are at least four green burial grounds in Connecticut.

Let me be clear. If you want a traditional burial, you should have one. There are religions and cultures that mandate in-ground burial. If this is what you want, make it known! If you do not tell anyone what you want, you forfeit that choice. But for the rest of us, there are new alternatives to burial or cremation (which releases over 500 pounds of CO2 into the atmosphere along with toxic mercury from dental fillings.) I am excited about several



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

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

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In support of Chris Drago for 19th District

It is time for a change in the Dutchess County Legislature. Chris Drago would be one way to achieve that change. Chris is new to politics but knows Dutchess County well since he grew up here, went to school here, and now lives in Stanford, with his family in Clinton and Pine Plains. He became a successful business executive in digital marketing, obtaining skills that highly qualify him to be a Legislator: he oversaw enormous bud-

gets, negotiated major deals with Fortune 500 companies, and led employee teams. His experience working with coalitions will serve him well in the Legislature.

Chris has said that he is "deeply concerned about how our tax dollars have been mismanaged by the County under entrenched Republican leadership." That concern is well-founded considering how the Republican supermajority in our current legislature — over

strong opposition by Democratic legislators — committed \$25 million to improvements to the minor league baseball stadium in Wappinger Falls. They bypassed public comment and standard procedure to rush through this hugely unpopular project, but on the same day, voted down a \$500,000 bill to provide high school students free tuition for classes at Dutchess County Community College. Chris has identified his top

priority items for our district: improvements in emergency services, broadband access and cellular service, housing affordability, mental health and senior services, and public education.

With these priorities and his business experience in getting large, complicated projects completed, Chris is the best candidate for District 19's legislative representative.

Amy Rothstein

Pine Plains

Best federal designation for Sharon Hospital

As Sharon Hospital's President, I write today to demonstrate our leadership team's continued commitment to our role as stewards of the hospital's future, and to correct misinformation that has appeared in recently published letters.

Two years ago, our leadership team announced a plan to best position Sharon Hospital for a strong future for our patients and our region. We were not the first to tackle the issue of the hospital's long-term viability — these conversations have spanned more than a decade and numerous owners, as the hospital has continuously faced challenges that have been exacerbated by our evolving region and changes to the healthcare system nationwide. And these challenges are only compounding. In 2022, Sharon Hospital reported a \$22.9 million loss, as docu-

mented in the Office of Health Strategy's Annual Report on the Financial Status of Connecticut's Short Term Acute Care Hospitals for Fiscal Year 2022.

Among the options we've considered — both in the planning process that culminated in the 2021 announcement of our transformation plan and several times in the years since — was a change in our rural federal designation. While a Critical Access Hospital designation has been presented as a solution to solve Sharon Hospital's financial challenges, the truth is that our current federal designation of Sole Community Hospital provides more financial support than we would receive under Critical Access Hospital designation.

In addition, if Sharon Hospital were to apply for Critical Access Hospital designation,

we would need to limit one of the services in highest demand within our community, inpatient psychiatry, while receiving less financial support from the federal government than we do today.

We thank our community members for realizing the dire financial situation that

Sharon Hospital is in, and for bringing this thoughtful suggestion to the table. This and many other options have been considered repeatedly over the years as we've worked to ensure Sharon Hospital's sustainable future.

Christina McCulloch
President, Sharon Hospital

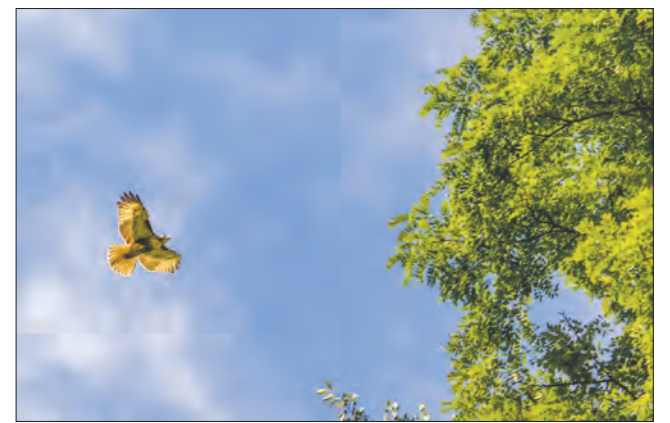


PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

Spreading wings

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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Mission Statement

The Lakeville Journal Company, 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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Publisher and CEO
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Managing Partner
Robert H. Estabrook
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DRIVERS: Brian Murphy; Geoffrey Olans; Adam Williams.

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Lisa Wright divides her time between her home in Lakeville and Oblong Books in Millerton where she has worked for nearly 40 years. Email her at wrightales@gmail.com

OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Rock music at the VFW

From left: Skeet Mulvaney, Steve Waverly, Paul Gilroy, local U.S. Navy veteran Jonathan Ialongo and Ricky Gilroy of the Johnny Walkers played music throughout the night at the VFW Post 9008 concert on Sunday, Oct. 1, at Washington Town Park.

English-language tutoring offered

COPAKE — Free English-language tutoring is available at the Roeliff Jansen Library at 9091 NY-22, by appointment Thursdays between 6 and 7:30 p.m. In-

tended primarily for adults, instruction will be one-on-one or in small groups with Yvonne Acevedo, and will be geared toward everyday conversational needs. Free

childcare will be provided for children ages 3 and up. Please email director@roejanlibrary.org or call 518-325-4101 to schedule an appointment.



PHOTO BY PAMELA FREEMAN

Blessing Millbrook's animals

Standing on the front lawn of Grace Episcopal Church in Millbrook beneath the newly renovated Resurrection Window that was unveiled in July, the Rev. Dr. Matt Calkins, fourth from right, and the Rev. Alison Quin, fourth from left, attend to blessing the many dogs who were among the worshipers on Sunday, Oct. 1. The Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi is Oct. 4, but many churches celebrate it on the Sunday closest to the actual date. Grace celebrates it every year, and family pets are invited to attend and be blessed by Calkins while their doting owners look on.

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LAKEVILLE, CT

MOVING SALE ONE DAY ONLY: Saturday, October 7, 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 9 Old CNE Rd, Lakeville, CT. Downsizing from our carefully curated home. Leather couch, Palacke side table, dining chairs. Art, garden & cookbooks. Wine glasses and table linens. Pillows, decorative pieces & large ceramic pots. Lawn equipment including a small tractor, wood chipper, many miscellaneous tools. Park on Indian Mt. Rd. only. NO No No Early Birds.

SALISBURY, CT

ESTATE SALE: Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 7, 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Great collection of furniture, beautiful Swedish dining table and 8 chairs, lamps, sofa, antique chairs, lawn ornaments including items from Trade Secrets, unused convection oven, silk drapes and household items. 54 Main Street, Salisbury.

SHARON, CT

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MILLBROOK MOVING SALE! A lifetime of Antiques, Collectibles, Furniture and Home Goods. Oct. 6 & 7, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. 3388 Franklin Ave. Follow the signs.

FALLS VILLAGE, CT

BARN/ESTATE SALE: Too much to mention. 8 Kellogg Road, Route 7, Falls Village, CT. October 6, 7 & 8, Friday, Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cash and carry. No early birds. See Marketplace for pics.

HELP WANTED

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THE TOWN OF SALISBURY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: is seeking applicants for a Town Mechanic. A detailed job description is available at www.salisburyct.us/employment/. Please email Fran, canaanchildcare@att.net or call 860 824-0597.

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public works. Experience with municipal and winter operations desirable. A minimum of three years of experience as a supervisor. Schedule & Compensation: The Town of North Canaan provides its employees with a robust benefit package which include: medical, dental, sick-time, holiday pay, personal time, vacation time, life insurance, pension plan and more. This is a full-time, 40-hour work week position with overtime as needed and for emergency response. Applicants should be no more than a 30-minute drive to the DPW garage. Competitive wage based on experience. Applications can be found on our website NorthCanaan.org or by emailing the First Selectman at selectman@northcanaan.org. Submit applications via email or mail to Town of North Canaan, Selectman's Office Unit 1, 100 Pease St. Canaan, CT 06018, no later than 12:00 PM on October 19, 2023. The Town of North Canaan is an equal opportunity employer.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE: Equal Housing Opportunity. All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1966 revised March 12, 1989 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap or familial status or national origin or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. All residential property advertised in the State of Connecticut General Statutes 46a-64c which prohibit the making, printing or publishing or causing to be made, printed or published any notice, statement or advertisement with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, physical or mental disability or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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