



MILLBROOK
Electric
Vehicle
Chargers
A5



MILLERTON
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Drawing
B5

COMPASS
Munch's
Nature; And
More B1-2



Special Banner, Page A3



PHOTO SUBMITTED

An artist's rendering of the what a swimming pool and poolhouse in Eddie Collins Park in Millerton could look like.

Committee seeks public feedback, ideas for Eddie Collins Park pool

By **CHRISTINE BATES**
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — The Eddie Collins Memorial Park Revitalization Committee will publicly present the plans for a new swimming pool in the pavilion of Millerton's community park, 5991 N. Elm Ave., on Thursday, Aug. 17, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

In an interview, Stephen Waite, chairman and spokesperson for the committee, spoke about the his-

tory of the original pool, which was officially closed in 2016, and his hopes for a new swimming pool and pool house to be erected during phase two of the park's redevelopment, which is currently estimated to cost \$4.3 million including the pool and the bath house.

The park's first swimming pool was installed in 1966 in the rear southwestern corner of the park. Over time, the high water table lifted and cracked the pool. Ground-

water infiltration prevented the pool's water from heating up even on hot summer days. Repairs were attempted but fewer and fewer people came to swim, and Millerton's summer camp was moved to Rudd Pond in 2015.

A volunteer committee spearheaded by Waite and Jenn Najdek, now Millerton's mayor and its former camp summer director, was created to envision a revitalized

See **POOL**, PAGE A6

Salisbury Bank is now NBT Bank

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

LAKEVILLE, Conn. — The NBT Bank merger with Salisbury Bank is complete.

On Monday morning, Aug. 14, Rick Cantele, the erstwhile president of Salisbury Bank, was overseeing the transition with NBT President and CEO Tom Watt and Andreas Kapetanopoulos, NBT's regional

See **BANK PAGE A6**

North East discusses multiple town issues

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

MILLERTON — At its Thursday, Aug. 10, the North East Town Board passed a tax cap resolution and discussed affordable housing, the wastewater district and the new highway garage, among other subjects.

By unanimous vote, the board passed a resolution to exceed the New York state tax cap for fiscal year 2024 and set a public hearing to coincide with its next meeting on Thursday, Sept. 14, at 7:20 p.m. at the Town Hall, 19 N. Maple Ave. Town Supervisor Chris Kennan said that passing this resolution

every year is "prudent" and allows the town to exceed the cap if it needs to. "We haven't even started the budget work so we don't know where we're going to be," said Kennan.

The board unanimously passed a bond anticipation note (BAN) for the construction of the new highway garage due to imminent expiration of the current BAN. The town has received bids from three different banks for the renewal of the \$766,364 BAN and accepted a bid for 3.25% from the Bank of Millbrook.

Highway Superintendent

See **TOWN BOARD**, PAGE A6

A look at three affordable housing projects in Amenia

By **EMMA BENARDETE**
Special to The Millerton News

AMENIA — According to a February resolution by the Amenia Town Board, the town is "experiencing a severe affordable housing crisis which was impacted and accelerated by COVID-19."

Twenty-nine percent of homeowners and 45.9% of renters in Amenia are "cost-burdened" with regard to housing, meaning that they put more than 30% of their income toward housing costs. In order to combat this, three new affordable housing projects are currently being pursued in the town.

Hudson River Housing
Hudson River Housing (HRH),

an affordable housing initiative group based out of Poughkeepsie, has acquired a 15.86-acre parcel of land just north of Amenia's town center. HRH hopes to build seven duplexes, each consisting of one three-bedroom unit and one two-bedroom unit, as well as an apartment building consisting of 11 one-bedroom apartments on this parcel.

The organization will rent out each of the 11 apartments and sell each of the 14 duplex units to eligible families. As reported in The Millerton News, this was a shift from a prior plan that would have seen the organization sell each

See **HOUSING**, PAGE A6



PHOTO SUBMITTED

From left: Webutuck High School Principal Robert Knushke; Robert Farrier, Webutuck Central School District business administrator; Christopher Osterman, physical education teacher/coach; and WCSD Superintendent Raymond Castellani. Osterman teaches in the high school gym, and will be assisting the Millbrook/Webutuck football team.

Webutuck, Millbrook merge sports teams for fall 2023

By **JUDITH O'HARA BALFE**
judithb@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — As school populations dwindle, it is harder to offer full athletic programs at individual schools. This coming school year, the Webutuck and Millbrook central school districts will try merging two teams: Webutuck football players will go to Millbrook, and Webutuck girls soccer will welcome any Millbrook girl soccer players who wish to play with them.

"Later this month," said Daniel Pietrafesa, public information officer with Dutchess BOCES and Webutuck schools, "the athletes will be returning for preseason. Webutuck will have merged girls' soccer and football programs with Millbrook.

"It's been a number of years since Webutuck had a football program," Pietrafesa continued. This year's football team with

See **TEAMS MERGE**, PAGE A6



CONTACT

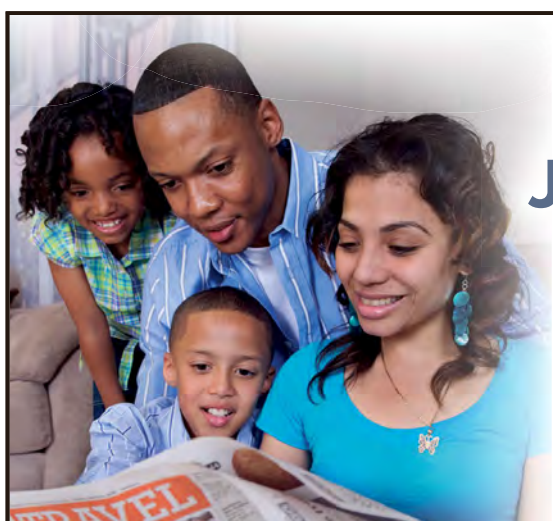
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OPINION

Hearing From Our
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Letters **B4**



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OUR TOWNS

Stewart's renovation approved, Carson Power moves forward, Stissing Center receives green light

By ELIAS SORICH
elias@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Pre-empting the Pine Plains Planning Board's decisions on a number of contentious local projects, Chairman Michael Stabile kicked off the Wednesday, Aug. 9, meeting with some perspectives on local governing bodies. Gearing his comments toward explaining the role and responsibilities of the planning board, Stabile quoted 18th-century political philosopher Edmund Burke

as theorizing that the role of a representative is not simply to be industrious, to enact laws in a workmanlike way, but to exercise judgement.

From there, the board gave approval to the Stissing Center's site plan amendment, which includes extensive renovations to the building, that will be formally voted on at the Wednesday, Sept. 13, meeting. The board had received non-binding comments from Dutchess County on the contributions the new plans will make to skyglow, but

the board determined that the impacts would be negligible.

The board also received binding comments from the county on the issue of the Stewart's renovation at 7710 Main St. denying approval of the site plan. In order to give site plan approval to Stewart's, the board will have to conduct a supermajority—majority plus one—vote to overrule the determination by the county.

The county's comments hinged around the availability of alternative site plans that did not contradict the town's

zoning codes, and that a plan should be adopted that does not require a setback variance. The board considered these suggestions and ultimately decided to overrule the determination, stating that the issue of a setback variance was moot in this case due to vegetative screening that will mitigate the impact on town character, and that losing access to gasoline services for two months (a result of the construction requirements for alternative site plans) represented a hardship to the community.

A formal resolution will be voted on at the September meeting. The board required Stewart's to develop a sign without the use of LED lights in order to remain consistent with town codes, which Stewart's agreed to do.

Finally, the board briefly discussed the state of the Carson Power solar farm application. At its July meeting, the board had directed planning consultant Frank Fish and town attorney Warren Replansky to further develop the State Environmental

Quality Review with a negative declaration of no significant impact, giving the first of three necessary approvals to Carson Power.

The board will formally adopt the negative declaration at a special meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 23, which will allow the town Zoning Board of Appeals to consider the special use permit. The board will then hold a public hearing on the site plan and special use permit at its Sept. 13 meeting, after which point a resolution approving the project could be drafted and voted on at a later date. All indications at the moment are that the board will give Carson Power approval for the project.

Dutchess County Fair to begin Aug. 22

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to The Millerton News

RHINEBECK — The Dutchess County Fair is headed back to its sprawling home at 6636 Springbrook Ave. from Tuesday, Aug. 22, through Sunday, Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Now in its 177th year, the fair has added a number of new activities and events to its perennial favorites.

According to Jenny Lang, executive assistant, some 250 vendors new and old will be participating in the recently devised Dutchess Fair Flair, as among the offering at booths and tables will be beglittered purple rubber duckies made especially for the Fair Flair. Anyone who spots one will be given a chip that can be turned in at the souvenir stand in exchange for a prize dependant on the number of chips that have been collected.

Administrative operations manager Vicki Imperati said new animals have also been invited to participate, with

a donkey and mule show on Friday.

She said the once-popular fishing hole has been brought back with a new fishing tank in the wildlife area. Two hydration stations have also been added.

Newly implemented Highland Games from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday will wrap up the week of grandstand shows. Others presentations, all beginning at 7:30 p.m., will feature Cooper Alan on Tuesday, Brantley Gilbert on Wednesday, the Steve Augeri Band on Thursday, Chris Cagle on Friday, and Refugee - A Tom Petty Tribute Band on Saturday.

Returning for the seventh year is Thursday's Think Differently Day as "inclusive and sensory friendly offerings

provide a fun and interactive experience for people of all abilities." Gates will open for early entry at 9 a.m. with the midway flashing lights, music and other sounds turned off between 9:30 a.m. and noon.

Details on the six-day event are available online at dutchessfair.com



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Presenting birds of prey

Joanne Wanteen of the Sharon Audubon Center in Connecticut shows off Bob, an American kestrel, at a Millbrook Library program on Saturday, Aug. 12. Held on the lawn of the library, almost 90 guests of all ages were treated to up-close-and-personal glimpses of several birds of prey. Of the three featured birds, Bob was the most personable; Wanteen said he's friendly and sociable around humans. Kestrels are the smallest of the falcon family, and only the males are brightly colored; the females are all black.

Correction

In an article on page A4 of the Aug. 10 issue of The Millerton News, Megan Brandow-Faller was incorrectly identified.

Correcting Errors

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

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Beekman playground upgrade discussed by Amenia Recreation Commission

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — Upgrades to the playground equipment at Beekman Park, as well as renovations to the concession stand to meet state health regulations, were discussed at the regular meeting of the Amenia Recreation Commission on Tuesday, Aug. 8.

While it had seemed that a missed grant application deadline of July 27 had stymied the project, recreation commission Chairman Paul Winters said that he had contacted Dutchess County grant administrators and learned that an application could still

be submitted even though the deadline had passed.

An essential next step in the process is to get an additional bid on the playground equipment portion of the project, a bid is being sought by recreation director Katie Sterk-Grassi and expected soon.

The commission voted to hire the services of Bovee Construction in Poughkeepsie to create design plans for renovation of the concession stand to meet health department standards. The plans would enable the commission to get bids on completing the work.

“If we can get the services

of the town’s grant writer, that would move the project ahead,” Winters said.

“If you have a grant writer, you also need an engineering study,” Sterk-Grassi commented.

Discussion centered on a need to clarify what professional help is available through the town offices with commission members indicating that there is funding available in the current year’s

budget to support the work of completing the grant application, if needed.

Winters agreed to clarify with the Amenia Town Board whether the services of the town’s grant writer and engineer are available to assist the recreation commission with the project.

The commission expects to be able to vote on the project at its next meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 7 p.m.

Amenia Planning Board hears Keane Stud Farm proposal

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — Developers of the Keane Stud Farm property received a determination that their plans could be drawn as a conventional subdivision following discussion at the Wednesday, Aug. 9, meeting of the Amenia Planning Board. The vote was unanimous.

At issue was whether the plans would instead need to be drawn as a conservation subdivision.

Planning board engineer John Andrews spoke in favor of a conventional subdivision plan for the property located on Depot Hill Road, noting that the land is being proposed to be divided into four parcels that could hold 31 lots. Of the 31, 26 would be new residential lots, one lot holds an existing farm building, and two lots are forested. The land also holds an existing eques-

trian-related site.

Andrews noted that the area is biologically diverse and that there would be no building or development on wooded slopes that are designated to be protected.

Paul Van Cott, planning board attorney, supported the conventional subdivision decision, expecting that acreage would be identified for protection, including forested areas and open spaces. Conserved areas are to be protected by deed restrictions, he emphasized.

The conservation analysis has been previously presented by Renna Engineering of Dover Plains and adopted by the planning board.

Next steps in the process outlined by Van Cott are for the applicant to provide an updated Full Environmental Assessment Form and to provide a project narrative, including details of access and plans for roads.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Library advocates summer reading (and dancing)

To celebrate the end of its summer reading program, the Millbrook Library hosted a free ice cream treat on Friday, Aug. 11, with the ice cream truck from the Anderson Center for Autism at the library at 5:30 p.m., followed by contra dancing at 6 p.m. at Village Hall. There, about 25 people, from toddlers on up, joined together for more than an hour of dancing and music presented by Eric Hollman, who led a variety of square, swing, waltz and other dances. “One of the best things about contra dancing is that no prior dance experience is needed,” said Millbrook Library director Courtney Tsalalis. “It’s a unique and engaging experience for everyone involved.”

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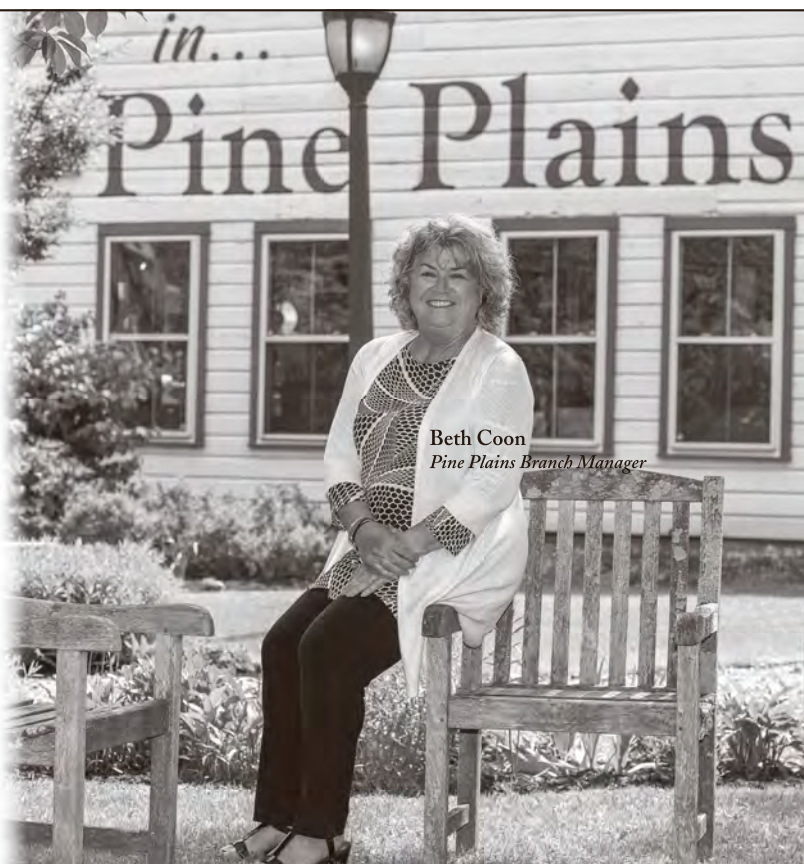
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OBITUARIES

Michael David White

CANAAN — Michael David White, 65, passed away peacefully on Friday, Aug. 4, 2023, at his home in Canaan. He was born on July 3, 1958, to Dolores (Bartz) White and Robert Raymond White of Bristol, Connecticut.



Mike was diagnosed with Stage IV colon cancer on March 16, 2016, and was later informed that less than 25% of people with this diagnosis survive five years. Mike, being the true warrior that he was, defied the odds and continued to live a full life for nearly seven and one half years.

Michael joined the Marine Corps at the age of 18 and became a Sergeant at the age of 19. Among his many accomplishments he earned gold medals for distinguished rifle and distinguished pistol shooting.

Michael was devoted to the Marine Corps and faithfully served his country for ten years. He was a property manager for Silver Lake Conference Center of Sharon for eleven years. It was there that many children of the camp attendees fell in love with Mike while he taught them many life skills as well as life lessons. He was also a constant prankster to his camp kids. You could always count on him to come roaring out of the bushes or a field dressed in a ghillie suit ready to 'strike' his unsuspecting target. He held contractor licenses for plumbing and heating, air conditioning and fire protection. He retired from being a fire protection inspector in 2020 and went on to enjoy a very full and happy life.

Mike was a private pilot, an experienced scuba diver and enjoyed the encounter of a lifetime while diving with sharks in the Bahamas. He was a skydiver, he loved to fish, especially bass fishing and deep-sea fishing. He was an avid boater. He delighted in introducing his friends to places and things they had never experienced before, whether it be the majesty that is Sturgis, South Dakota, flying in the silence and solitude

of the clouds, diving into the depths of the ocean or just sitting around a campfire beside a lake in Pittsburg, New Hampshire. His biggest love, however, was riding one of his many Harleys with his Jennie lovingly holding on to him from behind accompanied by far too many wonderful friends to list. There was never a question about a motorcycle that Michael could not answer. The most perfect rides, however, were the spur-of-the-moment trips taken by just Jen and Mike by themselves. One such trip occurred early one morning when they slipped away from the crowd and rode into the misty foggy morning through the rugged mountains and canyons that surround Sturgis listening to their favorite music playing.

Mike is survived by his wife of 32 years, Jennifer Blake White (Mike's gal 'Jenny'); his children, Kimberly White of Wellborn, Florida, Jenifer White of Port Orange, Florida, Christopher (Shannon) Szymanski of Torrington, and Courtney White (Torian Ralph) also of Torrington; his grandchildren include Kylie Bigger, Kyle Rodriguez, Raven Rodriguez, Sierra Szymanski and Blake Szymanski. He also leaves behind his sisters, Marilyn White Young (Leonard) of Port Charlotte, Florida, and Pittsburg, New Hampshire, Beverly White Fortier of Port Charlotte, Florida, and JoAnne White Little (William) of Port Charlotte, Florida, as well as many nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the VFW in Canaan, CT on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023, noon to 4 p.m. All are welcome to attend and share your happy memories. We'd love to hear them. Scott Funeral Home, 169 Main St., is assisting with arrangements. www.scottfuneralhomeinc.com

Expressions of sympathy in Michael's memory may be made to the VFW Post Couch/PIPA in Canaan.

Shirley Hall Barton

ANCRAM — Shirley Hall Barton of Ancram, New York, devoted wife, mother, grandmother and sister, passed away peacefully with family at her side on Aug. 10, 2023, after a lengthy illness. The daughter of Priscilla and Fred Hall, she was born in Canaan, Connecticut, on Sept. 19, 1946. Following graduation from Housatonic Valley Regional High School, she attended a nursing school affiliated with Pittsfield General Hospital in Massachusetts.

Shirley and Gerald Barton were married on March 5, 1966. While beginning to raise a family, she also was able to fit in driving a public school bus in Copake, which she did for a decade. Later she managed the Hotchkiss School book store, a job she held for about 25 years.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her son Jeffrey and his wife Lisa, and their son Brandon and his wife Liz, and son Ryan. She also leaves behind her son Michael and his companion, Melissa, and sons Michael Jr. and his wife Kayla, and Kyle. Also surviving are her brother Dan Hall and sister Pat Graf.

Her family wishes to acknowledge the outstanding care and support she received

SALISBURY — W. Melville Jones, III (Mel), 89, died on May 31, 2023, at Sentara Medical Center in Williamsburg, Virginia. Mr. Jones and wife, Miriam Jones, who passed away in November 2022, and family resided in Salisbury between 1970 and 1995.

He is survived by his three children and their spouses: Gregory M. Jones (Kathy) of Mill Valley, California, Carrie E. Muehr (Stephen) of Round Lake, Illinois and J. Bradford Jones (Stephanie) of San Francisco, California. He is also survived by five grandchildren: Parker Jones (spouse, Karla), Natalie Jones, Kian Jones, Lucas Jones and Ryan Jones.

Mr. Jones was born Aug. 25, 1933, to W. Melville Jones II and Helen Boyd Jones of Williamsburg, Virginia. He grew up in Williamsburg and attended Matthew Whaley High School, and Mount Herman School in Massachusetts where he graduated Cum Laude.

Mel was a 1955 graduate of Swarthmore College. He and Miriam met during Swarthmore's freshman orientation and were married in August of 1955. After Swarthmore, he served in the Army's Counter Intelligence Corps. Following military service, Mel obtained an MBA from Harvard's Graduate School of Business

Mary Elizabeth Rogers

SHARON — Mary Elizabeth Rogers, known as "Biz", passed away peacefully Aug. 7, 2023, at Noble



Horizons in Salisbury, CT. She was the loving wife of the late Edward Robert Rogers.

Biz was born in Iowa Falls, Iowa on June 3, 1925, the daughter of Winifred Brereton and Harold Barzilla Hall. Her family later moved to Ames, Iowa, and she was the drum majorette for Ames High School. In 1947 she graduated from Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, as a political science major. She moved to San Francisco and completed a retailer training program at Macy's, then made her way to New York to board the SS Ile de France for a voyage to Plymouth, England in August 1950. She and a group of women friends traveled through post-World War II Europe and then returned to New York City, where she decided to stay.

Upon her return, while working as a junior buyer at Bamberger's department store Biz met her husband Ted. They married in June 1952, in Ames, Iowa, and lived in Manhattan.

Later they moved to Alpine, New Jersey, where they had three children, then moved to Basel, Switzerland for a year. Upon returning from Switzerland the family settled in Montclair, New Jer-

Administration.

Upon graduation, he joined Benton and Bowles, an advertising agency in New York where he handled accounts for General Foods and Proctor & Gamble. He then spent several years at Colgate-Palmolive where he developed and marketed new products in the Household Products Division. In 1966, he joined Avon Products in New York where he served as Vice President, Marketing for the next 15 years with responsibilities for the product line, the promotion of the product line and market research. In the later years at Avon, he worked on acquisitions and then served as CEO of two Avon subsidiaries. During Mel's working years in New York City, he resided with his family in Bronxville, N.Y.

In the early 1980s, Mel left Avon to start a company with two other partners that produced television commercials for retail companies throughout the United States and Canada. The company was based in Salisbury. He led the TV commercial company until he retired in 1995 and moved back to Williamsburg and built a house in Ford's Colony.

Among his community activities in the Northwest Corner, he was active in land conservation efforts, expanding services at Noble Horizons, and supporting Twin Lakes and the Twin lakes Beach

where Biz later became a travel agent. She and her family moved to Weston, Connecticut many years later, and she became manager of Minute Man Travel, often traveling with Ted to the far reaches of the globe on 'familiarization' trips.

In 1995 Biz and Ted built a home and retired to Sharon. Ted passed away in 2008.

Biz had a passion for golf and was the Women's Champion in 1969 at the Great Chebeague Island Golf Club in Maine, where the family spent summers. She loved to garden and was a longtime member of The Millbrook Garden Club.

Biz is survived by a close knit family, including three adoring children, Geoffrey, Dorian and Jonathan, and their spouses May, Tom and Monica, five grandchildren: Eve, Caitlyn, Julia, Mallory and Celine; and her loving sister Josephine Poling of Wayzata, Minnesota; and nieces and nephews Olivia, Bret, Stephen, Chandler and Julie. Her brother "Bud" (Howard Brereton Hall) predeceased her.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9, at 10 a.m. at Trinity Church Lime Rock at 484 Lime Rock Road in Lakeville, CT. A reception will follow. Memorial contributions may be made in her name to the Chebeague Island Historical Society.

W. Melville Jones III

Club. He and Miriam also were members of the Congregational Church of Salisbury.

Following retirement, Mel was active in Ford's Colony's resident committees, Capital Club (formerly named the Middle Plantation Club), Historic Virginia Land Conservancy, where he served on the original board, Colonial

Charlotte MacRitchie Williams

FORT FAIRFIELD, Maine — Charlotte MacRitchie Williams, formerly of Kent, Connecticut, passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Aug. 11, 2023, in Fort Fairfield, Maine.

Charlotte was born on March 31, 1942, in Bridgeport, Connecticut. She was the daughter of Bruce and Gladys MacRitchie of Kent, Connecticut.

She is survived by her children Annette Euell of Fort

Williamsburg Volunteers, and the Williamsburg United Methodist Church.

He will be remembered for his warm smile, funny stories, legal pad lists, legendary Christmas parties and scavenger hunts, and boastful claim of undefeated champion of the annual Cooper Hill Road croquet tournament.

Fairfield, Maine, Daniel Williams of Charleston, Maine, Steven Williams of Garland, Maine, Susan Williams of Sebec, Maine, Amy Williams of Center Conway, New Hampshire, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Charlotte was predeceased by her husband Daniel Williams and her son Mark Williams.

There will be a celebration of her life to be determined at a later date.

For more obituaries, see page B3



Worship Services

Week of August 20, 2023

Call ahead or visit websites for updates on remote or in-person services.

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The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-435-9496
Lakevillemethodist@snet.net

The Sharon United Methodist Church
112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green
Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care
No Sunday School in Summer
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-364-5634
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Town of Washington gains four EV chargers

By **JUDITH O'HARA BALFE**
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — With the snip of a very large pair of blue scissors, Millbrook came into the electric charger age on Thursday, Aug. 10, when a ribbon was cut in front of the chargers recently installed at Washington Town Hall.

"In the center of Millbrook, the four public EV charge ports are a vital amenity which will attract visitors to the Village, serve employees who drive EV's here and

want to top off before heading home, and benefit residents who have or want an electric car but don't have a charger at home," said Village Board Trustee Vicky Contino.

After initial research and outreach, in early 2021, Contino was contacted by Livingston Energy Group through the New York Conference of Mayors.

In early fall 2022, Livingston had alerted the municipalities that new grant money was available. Grants were applied for to cover the \$59,200 cost of hardware, installation and

service fees for four ports.

After a Livingston site visit, a deal was negotiated for a five-year contract for the ports, which would be installed, maintained and networked at no cost to the town or village for the duration of the contract.

By spring 2023, permits were issued, the site was prepared and the installation was completed. This summer the inspection was done, Central Hudson made the connection, the spaces were paved, and, on Aug. 5, the charging station had its first official customer.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

From left: Kate Kruk, director of community engagement for Livingston Energy Group, holds one end of the ribbon at a ceremony on Thursday, Aug. 10, highlighting the new electric charging station at Washington Town Hall. Village Board Trustee Vicky Contino holds the shears, Melaine Rottkamp, president and CEO of Dutchess Tourism looks on, and Washington Town Supervisor Gary Ciferri holds the other end of the ribbon.

Hope Rising Farm opening event Aug. 26

By **LEILA HAWKEN**
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — A grand opening is scheduled at Hope Rising Farm for Saturday, Aug. 26, featuring tours of its new facilities at 419 Leedsville Road, formerly owned by horse breeder David Hopper, who has moved operations to Millbrook with a focus on horse brokering.

Since launching in Amenia

in 2017, Hope Rising Farm has provided equestrian therapeutic programs, beginning as a 9-acre farm with a barn and three horses on Morse Hill Road in Millerton. Hope Rising Farm has recently moved to a new, 43-acre location, housing 14 horses.

Hope Rising founder and director Jacqueline McCabe Wikane and staff attend the opening, inviting visitors to

look around the stable with 29 horse stalls and facilities that feature a 16,000-square-foot indoor riding ring.

Miniature horses Ginger and Kevin will be on hand to meet visitors, and children can also participate in a scavenger hunt throughout the huge barn.

A ribbon-cutting at 11:30 a.m. will kick off the event. Hours are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Webutuck students to receive free school meals

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

AMENIA — The Webutuck Central School District (WCSD) is participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), which is qualifying all students in the district for free breakfast and lunch.

"In the past, whatever percent of free lunch you had, you got paid at that rate for their reimbursement and the remaining was paid at a reduced rate," said WCSD busi-


ness administrator Robert Farrier. "The state funding in the state budget this year, what it allowed us to do is, if you qualify for the Community Eligibility Provision, they're making up the difference."

The approval for the CEP program will last for four years. The state budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 includes more than \$134 million in funding for free school meals. Senate bill S1678A, which, as of this writing, is in commit-

tee, would make all school meals free for all New York state students if enacted.

CEP allows schools and school districts to serve breakfast and lunch to all students at no cost, and households do not need to apply to the program. In order to qualify for CEP, 40% of a district's students must qualify for free meals. The federal government is considering a rule proposed by the USDA to reduce that number to 25%.


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POOL *Continued from Page A1*

park with a new pool. A public survey done in late 2016 indicated strong community support for an improved park, which would include the swimming pool and improvements to the basketball courts, playground and sports fields.

Phase one of the park's revitalization is entirely complete. This initial phase of the project was necessary before construction of the pool. The amount raised was \$2.2 million, half through grants and half through donations.

The improvements included extensive excavation, a new soccer field, repairs to the playground, new bas-

ketball courts, accessible walkways, the installation of dozens of shade trees, and parking. All money raised by the committee and its fundraising steering committee is directed to the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, which manages funds for regional nonprofits.

Thursday's meeting will present plans for the swimming pool and pool house and encourage public comments. Waite emphasized that it is the village board that makes the final decisions.

The revitalization committee is there to assist with the process and help with fundraising. Waite is person-

ally committed to "bringing something back to the community that was a centerpiece for nearly 50 years. I am one who advocates going after taxpayer dollars and bringing them back to help."

The committee has already secured a \$500,000 matching grant from New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation with other grants on the horizon. The committee is also at work building an endowment to assist with the operations of the pool and maintenance of the park. So far, it has raised \$300,000 of its \$1 million goal.

Waite is looking forward

to hearing what people have to say at the meeting and strongly encourages the public to attend.

In an email to town and village residents, North East Town Supervisor Chris Kennan, urged everyone to attend the session to express their views on what should be included.

"The Committee wants to hear from the community about what features and designs we would like to have considered for the pool," Kennan wrote. "Do we want a wading area, do we want lap swimming, do we want deck chairs, do we want a food concession, etc."

HOUSING *Continued from Page A1*

duplex to an eligible family, allowing the families to rent out the second unit.

According to a presentation by HRH to the town board, the duplexes will be affordable to four-person households earning less than 90% of the area median income, currently \$107,640. The rental apartments will be affordable to two-person households earning less than 60% of the area median income, currently \$57,420.

HRH has drafted design plans and is currently in the stage of receiving feedback from community members through September, after which it will seek public approval and financing and then begin construction. According to the timeline in the presentation to the town board, HRH hopes to begin construction in October 2024 and have the homes occupied in April 2026.

HRH anticipates that funding will come from "a mix of New York State and private lending sources, including housing program funds available through the NYS Office of Home and Community Renewal (NYSHCR)." According to Amenia's 2022 town tax roll, the market value of the property is \$225,000.

74 Lake Amenia Road

The town is looking to purchase and renovate 74 Lake Amenia Road, a single-family home on a 3.9-acre parcel. After renovation, the town plans to retain ownership of the home and rent it out as an affordable housing unit.

The town board passed a resolution Feb. 16 to direct \$200,273 in funding received by the town as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act toward the "purchase and rehabilitation of the property." The town has received other funding toward the project, including a \$150,000 Dutchess Community Development Block Grant, \$35,000 from the Amenia Housing

Trust Fund and \$15,000 from the Foundation for Community Health.

The town has also identified the parcel as a possible location for a wastewater treatment plant, though minutes from the Jan. 8 housing board meeting note that possible odor from the plant poses a concern. "We need to be careful about odor in the wastewater treatment plan so that we are not placing our only affordable housing in a location with a bad odor," the minutes read.

According to Amenia's 2022 town tax roll, the market value of the property is \$262,300.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County has expressed interest in purchasing a parcel of land currently owned by the town of Amenia. The 0.7-acre parcel is located on Depot Hill Road across from Railroad Avenue, southeast of the town center and adjacent to the New York state-owned parcel that makes up the Amenia portion of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail.

The minutes from the May 15 housing board meeting indicated that the board would compile a list of questions for the organization, including: "How long do families stay in these homes?" "When they depart do they tend to sell the homes, hand them down to future generations, or other outcomes?" and "Are there mechanisms to ensure that after the homeowner sells, the home remains affordable (without unduly encumbering the homeowner's ability to benefit economically from home ownership)?"

At the July 20 town board meeting, the board passed a resolution to permit Habitat for Humanity to perform soil testing on the parcel before purchasing it. According to Amenia's 2022 town tax roll, the market value of the property is \$55,000.

TOWN BOARD *Continued from Page A1*

Bob Stevens reported that his department will be applying a surface treatment to 5.6 miles of town roads later this month. The cement floor in the new highway garage is soon to be completed, at which point the interior work will begin. Completion of the garage is still expected before the end of the year.

Edie Greenwood, who leads the town's Zoning Review Committee, has asked the town for a moratorium on accepting new applications for development on the boulevard for a six-month period. Since the committee is nearing completion of the rezoning of the boulevard, it feels that submissions under the current zoning would be "incorrect," according to Kennan. Kennan reported that town attorney Warren Replansky, who is also the town attorney for Pine Plains and has had experience with moratoriums there, will gather more information and the board is expected to take action at its September meeting.

The committee should furnish the board with the revision of the town zoning code in October.

In a discussion of afford-

BANK

Continued from Page A1

president for Connecticut. Watt said the transition was going smoothly, and he had just fielded a call from a customer regarding online banking services.

The three executives stopped in at different branches over the weekend to check on things.

Watt said maintaining the same level of personal service Salisbury Bank customers are used to is a top priority.

The branch employees "are as valuable to us as they were to Rick and his team."

Watt said NBT is "focused on community. It's what gives us a competitive advantage over the big banks."

NBT now has 153 branches in New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine and Connecticut.

"We're often the only bank in town," said Watt.

NBT has earmarked \$500,000 for Northwest Corner and Hudson Valley nonprofit organizations.

Cantele, who is now an executive vice president for NBT and a member of the NBT board, said the donations to nonprofits will focus on affordable housing, food security, and family services.

The three executives were persuaded to take a short stroll to the new sign in front of the Lakeville branch.

The sign reads "NBT Bank of Lakeville."

Watt said each branch's sign is similar, with the name of that particular town.

able housing, Kennan mentioned the town work last year with a consultant on a housing toolkit and "we want to find a way to build on that." Though the town does not have the resources to build housing, Kennan said that he and Councilwoman Meg Winkler have had two meetings with administrators at North East Community Center (NECC) about ways to incentivize affordable housing.

"Now that we're revising our zoning, it's the perfect time to incorporate some verbage and some rules about this," said Winkler. "We're not responsible for building, but at least we can send a message to developers, businesses, that we want this to happen in our community."

Regarding the wastewater district, the town signed an intermunicipal agreement (IMA) with the Village of Millerton and the necessary documents have been sent to the state comptroller be subsequently reviewed and ap-

proved. Kennan said that Rep. Pat Ryan (D, NY-18) will be visiting Millerton at a future point for more information about the wastewater system.

The town has contracted with PVE Environmental Services to measure the levels of methane being emitted from the town's long-closed landfill in preparation for permitting a solar array on the site. PVE has made an initial assessment and will do more testing of emissions.

Kennan expects more information on this to be available at the board's next meeting on Thursday, Sept. 14, as well as more information on proposals made to the town by companies that install solar arrays.

The town closed on what will be its new Town Hall, the former Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses at 5603 Route 22, on July 17 and will work on plans for the renovation.

The town has asked Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW)

for an enhanced stop sign to be installed at the intersection of Beilke Road and Rudd Pond Road.

DPW will also hold an open house on Thursday, Aug. 17, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex, 28 Century Blvd., regarding its plans for a new sidewalk on North Maple Ave. from Main Street up to Highland Drive.

Assessor Katherine Johnson advised the board on what is involved for the town in instituting the state tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel enacted in December 2022. Johnson told the board that it has until March 1, 2024, to opt into the exemption.

Kennan mentioned that there is one vacancy each on the town's zoning board of appeals and its board of ethics. Town residents interested in serving on either board are asked to contact town clerk Tilly Strauss at townclerk@townofnortheastny.gov

TEAMS MERGE *Continued from Page A1*

Millbrook will be eight-man football, compared to 11-man football. Eight-man football has become quite popular in recent years for New York state's small schools and gives schools like Webutuck and Millbrook the opportunity to field a team."

Webutuck athletic director Joe Lasaponara reached out to Millbrook athletic director Al Hammell, and they were able to work a merger for the football program. For girls soccer, it will depend on how many, if any, Millbrook girls want to join the Webutuck team. It's about 20 minutes from Webutuck to Millbrook High

School, so no intensive traveling is involved.

Both directors and Millbrook football coach Lou Portaro agree that, with only eight players, more space is created and more running takes place. Portaro feels that the practice of merging teams is beneficial because it offers the opportunity to play that might otherwise not be offered due to lack of numbers. With an eight-man team, back-up players are needed in case of injury, illness, or various other reasons.


The first football practice will be Saturday, Aug. 19, at Millbrook, as Millbrook has the equipment and training paraphernalia, and Portaro is looking forward to getting started. Football practices and games will be held at Millbrook High School.

The first girls soccer practice will be at Webutuck on Monday, Aug. 21. As of this writing, it hasn't been determined yet how many Millbrook girls will attend. All soccer practices and games will take place at Webutuck.

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

ART: ROXANA ROBINSON

Munch's Scream Through Nature

Trembling Earth," the exhibition of Edvard Munch's work at the Sterling and Francine Clark Museum, in Williamstown, Mass., features over 75 works by the artist. The Norwegian artist (1863-1944) is best known for his iconic image "The Scream." A human figure, in a landscape, is shown uttering a cry of existential anguish. The image has entered the popular imagination, a haunting character expressing an emotion that everyone recognizes: torment derived from the fact of being alive.

Western European art is full of torment — agonized saints, hell-bound sinners, dying gladiators — but these are part of narratives in which the anguish comes from elsewhere. Munch eliminated that narrative and depicted an anguish that comes from within — an idea that became part of the twentieth century investigation of consciousness.

A print of "The Scream" is included in the exhibition. On it he inscribed a phrase: "I felt the great scream through nature." This connection, between human and nature, was central to Munch's cosmology. He believed that all living beings were connected, and in fact that everything in nature was connected: living organisms, light, heat, water and air. The exhibition focuses on this notion of interconnectivity and presents many of Munch's responses to the natural world.

The show focuses on landscapes, and is divided into sections: "In the Forest," "Cultivated Landscape," "Storm and

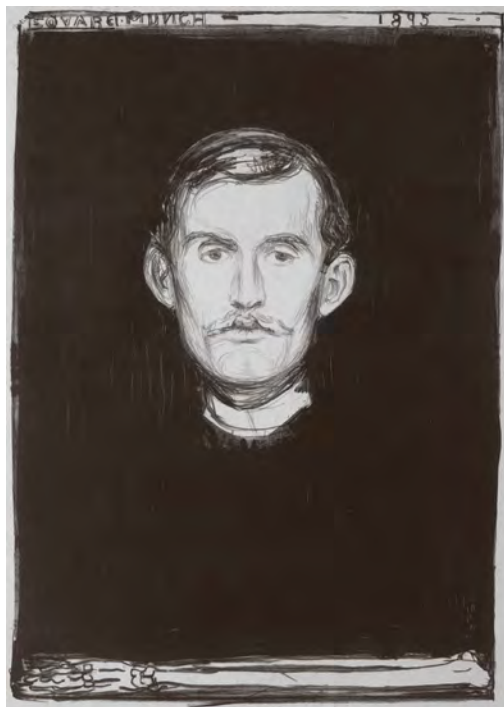


COURTESY OF MUNCH MUSEUM

'Apple Tree by the Studio' by Edvard Munch

Snow," "On the Shore," "Cycles of Nature," and "Chosen Places." Munch chronicled the rise of tourism and industrialization, the strength and beauty of traditional agriculture, the power of weather, his own favorite places.

But the show could also be divided into "public" and "private" sections. Munch did grand and ambitious works for public spaces, including a series of symbolic compositions commissioned for a university. These are grand in scale and lofty in conception. "The Sun," is a huge semi-abstract depicting the great star rising over seaside cliffs and emanating a grid of diagonal rays. The scale of the work, the centrality and dominating image of the sun, its majesty and potency, all contribute to Munch's powerful vision of the sun as the center of life. The handsome "Fertility," (1899-1900) shows a



COURTESY OF MUNCH MUSEUM

Self portrait by Edvard Munch

young couple beneath a tree in the midst of a field. The palette is rich and verdant, the figures solid and elegant, the faces generalized. This is a celebration of the harvest, placing humans in the center of a natural cycle. "Digging Men with Horse and Cart" (1920) features a powerful, willing animal who

bears the brunt of farm work. Stalwart horses, heroic laborers, fruiting trees and immense logs stand as powerful metaphors for the richness the landscape. Munch's colors are vivid and brilliant, reminiscent of the

Continued on next page



PHOTO BY NILE SCOTT STUDIOS/SHAKESPEARE & COMPANY

Naire Poole as Hermia in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at Shakespeare & Company.

THEATER: ALEXANDER WILBURN

What Fun These Mortals Be

Twenty years ago Allyn Burrows was swinging on vines through the forest and onto the stage of Shakespeare and Company's woodland theater in Lenox, Mass., wearing black leather pants as the sometimes malevolent but always enchanting overlord of the fae, Oberon. This summer Moore, artistic director of Shakespeare & Company, is directing his own production of William Shakespeare's magical romantic comedy "A Midsummer Night's Dream," outdoors at the company's New Spruce Theatre. Whether on stage or behind the

scenes, Burrows' talent has always been interpreting The Bard for a broad audience, heightening the emotions, and delivering Elizabethan language to the audience in a clear, accessible way. Unafraid to let his actors puncture their iambic pentameter with the occasional "What?" or "Oh my god!" or even lines translated into running Spanish agitation in moments of passionate dispute, these modern touches surprisingly don't disrupt, they invigorate. The casual inflections remind us of the timeless predicaments

Continued on next page

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...edvard munch

Continued from previous page

German Expressionists, with whom he worked for a period, as well as the bright palettes of the Fauves and Matisse. "Starry Night," (1922-24,) depicts a dark but brilliantly illuminated sky. The title, the vivid brushstrokes and the scintillating constellations all suggest van Gogh's earlier work, but the Dutch artist's sky arches over a parched summer field; Munch's night vibrates with exhilarating cold. Winter has this landscape in its fist. The whole scene — the snowy fields, the motionless trees, the tiny distant house and the turbulent cerulean sky all sing a thrilling paean to the frightening and ravishing beauty of Munch's natural world.

The personal works strike a different note. Modest in scale, intimate in tone, they depict a specific moment in an unexplained narrative. They offer mystery and ambiguity: like half-remembered dreams, they present something intuitively known, but just out of reach. The woodblock, "The Scream," and other intimate works provide a sense of immediacy, of personal experience, both compelling and unexplained.

"The Storm," depicts a woman in a nocturnal landscape. She is dressed

in white and her arms are raised in desperation. A group of women behind her reiterate her gesture. Behind them is a brightly-lit manor house, the tree before it bowing in a fierce wind. The skies are dark and troubling, the narrative unclear.

The eponymous storm is present in every aspect of the composition: the tree, the desperate woman, the Greek chorus, the darkened sky. The somber palette, the loose, rushing brushstrokes, the soft, blurred outlines, the sense of peril and urgency create a scene at once universal and individual. As a metaphor the painting suggests human vulnerability before nature, but on a personal level it shows the private torment of a single woman, alone and terrified on a wild shore. Full of mystery and ambiguity, in these personal works, Munch won't give us answers.

This beautiful and intelligent exhibition offers a new perspective on Munch's work, offering a sense of the artist investigating the life around him as he addressed that most essential and powerful relationship between the human and the natural world.

Roxana Robinson is the author of "Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life."

Simone Dinnerstein at Music Mountain

American pianist Simone Dinnerstein, who has played with the New York Philharmonic and the London Symphony Orchestra alike, will perform at Music Mountain in Falls Village, Conn., on Sunday, Aug. 20 at 3 p.m. in Gordon Hall as part of the summer programming for Chamber Music Sundays. Dinnerstein's performance will include J.S. Bach's "Keyboard Concerto in D Minor BWV 1052" alongside The Balourdet Quartet, as well as Mendelssohn's "String Quartet in E Minor, Op. 44, No. 2"; and Beethoven's "Grosse Fuge, Op. 133." She has been described by The New York Times as "an utterly distinctive voice in the forest of Bach interpretation." For tickets go to www.musicmountain.org



PHOTO BY LISA MARIE MAZZUCCO



Elizabeth Aspenlieder as Titania and Jacob Ming-Trent as Bottom in "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

...mortals

Continued from previous page

of love that Shakespeare penned for the boisterous theaters of London. It's worth noting that "Midsummer" has always gone through reinvention, never becoming a true hit until a Victorian adaptation in Covent Garden, long after the playwright's death.

Special mention must go out to the four Athenian lovers — Blake Hamilton Currie, Sara Linares, Carlos Olmedo, and Naire Poole— who take full advantage of the New Spruce Theater's outdoor amphitheater, with Greek set decoration by Jim Youngerman. They throw their bodies into big swings of physical comedy, tumbling into the brush, lamenting directly to the audience, and bringing an electric, youthful interpretation of men and women caught in disputes of monogamy, dalliances, and one-sided adoration.

Costumed loosely around the release of 5th Dimension's "Age of Aquarius," designer Stella Giulietta Schwartz's kitschy 1960s/70s/80s inspiration makes colorful, clever allusions to the gods of children's pop culture. Fairy Queen Titania's (Elizabeth Aspenlieder) blonde tumbling curls and plastic fairy



PHOTOS BY NILE SCOTT STUDIOS/SHAKESPEARE & COMPANY

Sheila Bandyopadhyay as Puck and Gina Fonseca as a fairy.

underlings evoke Sheila Bandyopadhyay's dark turn as Puck is heightened by a metallic lamé look straight out of "The Gorgeous Ladies of Wrestling."

The main attraction is undoubtedly Jacob Ming-Trent as Bottom. Ming-Trent previously starred in 2021 as Falstaff where he earned rave reviews for The Public Theater's Shakespeare in the Park

production of "Merry Wives" and starred in HBO's Emmy-winning series "Watchmen." Grooving, riffing, singing and seemingly ad-libbing, like Burrow's Oberon two decades ago, this will be the memory of "A Midsummer Night's

Dream" for children in the audience taking in the play for the time. Undeniably confident and charismatic, this is Bottom on top. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" runs at Shakespeare & Company through September 10.

Representation and How To Get It

The life of American poet and suffragette Julia Ward Howe comes to life in playwright Joyce Van Dyke's "Representation and How To Get It," directed by Judy Braha and starring Elaine Vaan Hogue. Following a premiere at The Hardwick Town House in Hardwick, Mass., in 2021, with support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the touring production, which was been visiting historic venues throughout New England, now comes The Mount in Lenox, Mass., on Friday, Aug. 25., through Sunday, Aug. 27, presented by Great Barrington Public Theater.

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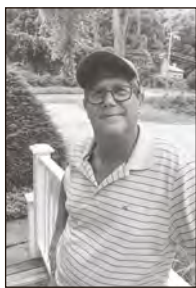
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OBITUARIES

Geoffrey M. Gott

LAKEVILLE — Geoffrey M. Gott, 62, of Lakeville passed away peacefully on Aug. 7, 2023, at his home.

Geoff was born on Aug. 28, 1960, in New Orleans, Louisiana, to the late Dr. Peter H. Gott of Lakeville and Nancy Beard Gott of Houston, Texas.



He attended Salisbury Central School before the family relocated and later returned to attend Salisbury Boys School. Geoff was a beloved therapist in the Northwest Corner. He received his B.A. in Psychology from the University of Houston and his Masters of Psychology from Phillips Graduate Institute in Encino, California, before moving back to Lakeville in 2008.

He is survived by his beloved daughter, Morgan McAdam Gott, his former wife of over 30 years, Connie, his mother, Nancy, brothers Christopher of Houston and

Benjamin of Fairfield, Connecticut, and his step sister, Kathryn "Beth" Waaitkus of Oakland, California.

Geoff was a devoted father to his daughter, Morgan. He was a lover of the arts, an avid reader of the classics and history, and an accomplished golfer and tennis player. He loved cars and animals. Quick to lend a compassionate and supportive ear, Geoff was a friend to many and touched the lives of clients and friends alike. He will be greatly missed by his local community and beyond.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, Aug. 21, 2023, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Black Rabbit Bar and Grill, 2 Ethan Allen St. in Lakeville. All are welcome. The family would like to thank Brian Kenny and Kenny Funeral Home for their compassionate care and support during this difficult time.

Shirley Ann Hurley

WASSAIC — Shirley Ann Hurley, 77, a nine-year resident of Wassaic, New York, formerly a longtime resident of Amenia, died peacefully on Monday, Aug. 14, 2023, at The Grand Rehabilitation and Nursing at Pawling in Pawling, New York, surrounded by her loving family. Shirley worked as a self-employed house keeper in Amenia prior to her retirement.

Born Nov. 2, 1945, in Clinton, New York, she was the daughter of the late Joseph H. Sterling, Sr. and Harriet H. (Newman) Sterling Tattersall and her husband Ernest Tattersall. She was a graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, Connecticut. On June 29, 1968, in Sharon, she married the love of her life, James Patrick "Jim" Hurley. Shirley and Jim spent many happily married years together prior to his passing on Jan. 24, 2017. Shirley loved a good tag sale and spending time with her loving family. She was a

longtime member of Faith Bible Chapel of Shekomeko in Millerton and will be dearly missed by all.

Shirley is survived by two children, Michael P. Hurley and his wife Shalay of Wassaic and Donald L. VonAhn and his companion Judy Brandt of Millerton and her brother, Joseph Sterling, Jr. She was predeceased by her brother, John H. Newman, her sister, Joan Houghtaling and her aunt Emma Hayden.

A graveside service and burial will take place on Friday, Aug. 18, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. at Amenia Island Cemetery, 3361 Route 343, Amenia, NY. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice or The Alzheimer's Association. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Ave., Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

SHERIFF'S REPORT

The following information was provided by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office as the Harlem Valley area activity report for Aug. 3-9.

Aug. 3 — Deputies responded to 19 Old Route 22 in the Town of Amenia for a criminal mischief complaint. The complainant reported that unknown person(s) egged their vehicle. Investigation ongoing.

Aug. 6 — Deputies responded to the area of 5886 S. Elm Ave. in the Village of Millerton for a possible intoxicated

male in the area. Area checked negative.


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 dcostips@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.

The MILLERTON NEWS
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Our dear friend Shamu Sadeh, a Director at the Isabella Freedman Center, has collaborated with Sustainable CT (<https://sustainablect.org/>) to start a Community Composting project in Falls Village. The idea is to divert 40% of the Town's waste that can be composted into fertilizer, thereby helping the environment, reducing the cost of waste management for the Town and heaven forbid, may even have a positive effect on the Town's mill rate. A simple, brilliant plan that other Towns may try to emulate. For more info, please go to: www.patronicity.com/project/save_our_food_scraps_community_composting_in_falls_village#/ or call Shamu at: 860.824.5991 x363



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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE SCHOOL TAX NOTICE WEBUTUCK CENTRAL SCHOOL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the undersigned Collector of School Taxes in and for the Northeast (Webutuck) Central School District, in Dutchess County the towns of Amenia, Dover, Northeast, Stanford and Washington and in Columbia County the town of Ancram has received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of school taxes for the school year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The collection period is September 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023. For the purpose of paying taxes, checks and money orders shall be made payable to School Tax Collector and mailed to P.O. Box 377, Wassaic, New York 12592; online payments visit <https://infotaxonline.com/FindProperty.aspx?40>

In person payments may be made at the Webutuck CSD, District Office on 9/8 5:00pm-7:00pm; 9/13 5:00pm-7:00pm; 9/20 5:00pm-7:00pm; 9/29 12:00pm-2:00pm and 5:00pm-7:00pm; 10/18 5:00pm-7:00pm; 10/27 12:00pm-2:00pm and 5:00pm-7:00pm

Contact the Tax Collector to make other arrangements.

Taxes may be paid on or before October 2, 2023 without penalty (payments must be postmarked on or before October 2, 2023 to be penalty free). On all such remaining unpaid taxes after October 2, 2023, a two percentum (2%) will be added through October 31, 2023 at which time the remaining unpaid taxes will be turned over to the Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance, Poughkeepsie, New York to be then receivable on the land tax bills for 2024

with a seven (7) percentum penalty.

For Dutchess County residents paying partial payments there will be assessed a 5% surcharge. The first installment is due and payable by September 15, 2023. The second installment should be paid to the Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance by March 15th as indicated on the installment payment schedule portion of the tax bill.

Dawn Marie Klingner
 School Tax Collector
 08-17-23
 08-24-23

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF AMENIA HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT Highway Material Bids FOR THE PERIOD 9/21/2023 to 9/19/2024

NOTICE is hereby given that sealed bids for the purchase of supplies used by the Amenia Highway Department during the year will be received until 2 p.m. on Monday, August 28, 2023 at the Town Clerk's Office, Town of Amenia, Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, NY 12501 and opened and read at the Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, on Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Bids are requested for the following road materials: Bank-run, sand, Item #4, crushed quarry stone and washed gravel, light, medium, and heavy stone fill, sub base NYS DOT Type #2, calcium chloride, bituminous mix hot and cold, road oils, concrete, catch basins and equipment rentals, Tree Work, Sweeping.

Detailed specifications may be obtained at the Highway office at 845-373-9922. All bids must include a notarized non-collusive statement and corporate bidders must file a corporate resolution with a corporate

seal. All envelopes must be clearly marked "Bid 9/21/2023 to 9/19/2024".

The Town Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Bids will be awarded at the next scheduled Town Board Meeting September 21, 2023.

Megan Chamberlin
 Superintendent of Highways
 Town of Amenia
 08-10-23
 08-17-23

Legal Notice

The Union Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting on Sept. 9, 2023, at St. Thomas Church, 40 Leedsville Rd., Amenia, NY from 1 to 2:30 PM. If attending, please bring a canned or boxed food item for the Church's Food Pantry. Call Gail with any questions at 845-454-6641.

08-17-23
 08-24-23
 08-31-23

TOWN OF PINE PLAINS PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

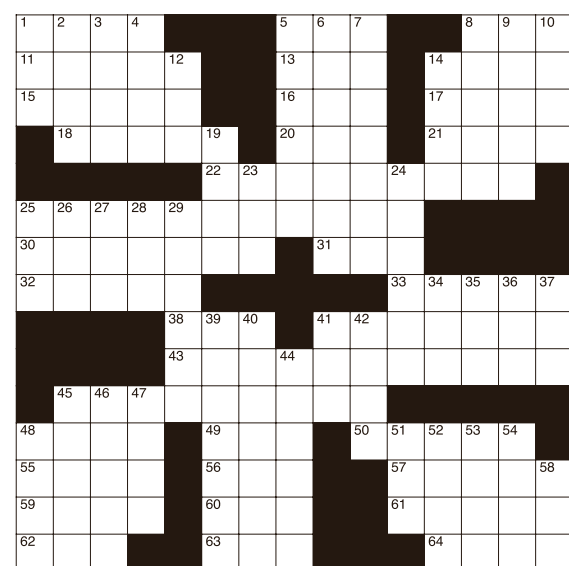
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Pine Plains Planning Board has called and scheduled a special meeting of the Planning Board of the Town of Pine Plains for August 23, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town of Pine Plains Town Hall, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York for purposes of dealing with matters relating to the application and SEQRA review of the Carson Power, Pulvers Corner Solar 1 and Solar 2 Tier 3 solar project and for purposes of conducting such other and further business as may come before the Planning Board at that time and date.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN OF PINE PLAINS PLANNING BOARD
 08-17-23

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- Civil rights organization
- Calendar month (abbr.)
- Monetary unit of Burma
- Twyla __, US dancer
- Everything included
- "Antman" actor Rudd
- Italian city
- Nowhere to be found
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
- Turkish officer
- Perform on stage
- Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- Canadian coastal provinces
- Furnishes anew
- Edible mollusk
- No seats available
- Garden figurine
- Two-legged support
- Rest here please (abbr.)
- In a silly way
- One from the Golden State
- Photographers
- Native religion in parts of China
- Dickens character
- Brodway actress Daisy
- Ancient Greek sophist
- Undivided
- Daniel __, French composer
- Nocturnal S. American rodent
- Rusty
- Jewish spiritual leader
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Popular global holiday (abbr.)
- Tall, slender plant



- Exclamation that denotes disgust
- Hairstyle
- Supreme ancient Egyptian god
- They __
- Connecting line on a map
- Mock
- One point north of due east
- Chinese philosophical principle
- Type of tree
- Persuade to do something
- A place for travelers to rest
- National Gallery of Art designer
- Panamaniaan province
- Field force unit (abbr.)
- Whalers' tool
- Simply
- Nigerian City
- Not one

- Obstruct
- Political plot
- Manila hemp plant
- Dough made from corn flour
- Fishes by letting the bob fly
- Swiss river
- Plant that makes gum
- A French abbot
- One point east of northeast
- Get free of

Aug. 10 Solution

H	E	A	R	P	O	S	E	S	B	A	S
E	L	B	A	I	R	A	N	I	A	R	T
R	E	I	N	C	A	R	A	T	S	A	U
R	A	B	I	D	T	O	M	R	A	B	B
				D	A	R	E	D	E	V	I
A	C	E	R	A	D	L	I	B	R	E	M
R	A	B	B	E	T	P	E	A	S	E	M
B	I	B	B	S	R	E	D	S	E	A	M
O	R	E	L	R	U	G	R	O	A	M	E
R	O	D	T	A	T	S	E	N	S	R	O
				S	E	P	A	R	A	T	E
R	A	B	I	A	B	A	T	S	A	B	E
C	L	U	B	P	A	L	E	A	B	A	R
M	A	R	I	A	G	L	E	T	I	B	I
P	E	R	U	P	A	Y	N	E	N	E	C

Sudoku


			7			9	2	4
			9	3				
				8	6			
	1	5			8			
						7		
	9		5	6				1
3		8						9
2	7							8
			4				3	

Aug. 10 Solution

7	6	9	8	4	5	1	3	2
3	5	2	6	7	1	9	4	8
4	1	8	2	3	9	6	5	7
8	3	1	7	6	4	2	9	5
2	7	4	5	9	8	3	6	1
5	9	6	1	2	3	8	7	4
6	8	7	3	5	2	4	1	9
1	4	3	9	8	7	5	2	6
9	2	5	4	1	6	7	8	3

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PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Interns, from left, Colleen Flynn, Emma Spindler and Emma Benardete in the office of The Millerton News on Century Boulevard earlier this summer.

EDITORIAL

Hearing from our summer interns

Last week we promised that we would let our summer reporting interns share their experiences with you. But before we do, here's a quote from Robert Estabrook, the celebrated owner of The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News during the 1970s and into the mid-1980s: "With all its failings and imperfections, journalism still offers an exciting way to help save the world."

Emma Benardete
Oberlin College
Recipient of the 2023 Robert Estabrook Award

The most rewarding part of the experience has definitely been participating in a crucial but endangered form of media.

Local journalism is on the decline and it means a lot to me to be a part of a great effort to keep it going in our community. There are so many wonderful and important things happening in this area that would be relegated to obscurity if not for the work of The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News.

I've been fortunate enough to cover local non-profit organizations that rely on local support such as Lucky Orphan Horse Rescue and The Wetland Trust.

I'm also working on reporting about affordable housing in Amenia, where I live, which I am hopeful will serve to provide clarity to Amenia residents about the ongoing projects and what work is still to be done.

Colleen Flynn
Marist College

I was beyond nervous to start as an intern here, I wasn't sure if I would fit in or learn the style of writing quickly enough, I had a bunch of insecurities starting despite everyone during my interview process being the sweetest people. I quickly found that my own style of writing was valued, while also learning many new methods of writing and formatting.

I also didn't expect to work so closely with an editor, even though it is a journalism internship, I think it just didn't cross my mind for some reason. I absolutely love being able to work alongside Emily [Edelman], she has given me endless pieces of advice that I will be able to carry with me throughout my internship and journalism career. She has also made sure I am comfortable with each event I am assigned to, for the first event I went to she called me the day before and laid everything out for me, what to expect, what to do, and how to introduce myself to people I interview.

My best story, or at least the one I enjoyed writing the most was for the Veter-

ans One Stop Facility. I have done a handful of projects for my classes about veterans and how their mental health suffers, so I was happy that I was picked to write about this facility. This topic is also very important to me because my dad was a veteran, so I loved seeing that there is a safe spot, in my own community, for veterans to go to and reach out for help whenever they need it.

I think I have always wanted a future in journalism, once I figured out my major, of course, I love the idea of being able to tell different people's stories for them. I think this is such a special gift to have and to give to the public. Not everyone can put their stories or charisma into words, and journalists are able to do that, and I cannot wait to keep learning how to do that for people.



Sadie Leite
Tufts University
Recipient of 2021, 2022 Robert Estabrook Award

This is my third year at The Lakeville Journal, and it's been a pleasure like always. So far, I've covered algae, education, and a particular community club that taught me the word "cavy" is interchangeable with guinea pig.

The best story I researched and wrote was the "pollinator meadow" story which explained a biodiversity project completed by two seniors from the Salisbury School who graduated in the Spring. The school's hillside facing 44 is now a wildflower meadow, scraped and replanted with many species, so the environment is not a monoculture turf. This also might've been the most rewarding because the interview I had with the two graduates was very informative. They both cared a lot about climate change and thought critically about how to express their efforts to me. I'm glad their story made the front page.

I didn't expect to have a seminar with fellow Lakeville Journal reporter who now works for The New York Times as a copy editor. I learned a lot of valuable skills about editing and the use of words, and I got a brief view into what it would be like to have that job, which was very useful, as I'm reaching the point where I will indeed need a job.

On that note, I am defi-

nately considering a career in journalism. I'm headed to Tufts in the fall for my last year in college. An entry level journalism job could easily be a place of comfort and learning for me after graduation. I love writing and making a career out of it has always been the goal.

Emma Spindler
Kent School

Litchfield County has a lot of small events, held in various towns, and for a variety of purposes. Talking to people, in the places they feel comfortable, with the things they're passionate about, has really reminded me that every story counts. Newspapers can feel distant as they report news from thousands of miles away, but local papers can ground you, as they tell the story of a local store opening, or a farmers market on a Friday.

I live close to Sharon Hospital and I know and feel how essential it is, both as a medical institution but also as a community pillar. Its internship program for high school students resonated with me, because as a fellow high schooler, I know how important it is to have exposure to jobs that are educational as well as practical to help decide how I want to contribute to both my local community, but also society in general.

While I am not sure what I will do in the future, I know from my experience at The Lakeville Journal that it will be people and advocacy based. I have really enjoyed listening to people share stories about the matters closest to them, and I have gained an appreciation for simple curiosity and problem solving because of it.

Raising the Dakin Obelisk

Spencer's Corners Burying Ground is one of the oldest burying grounds in Dutchess County with the oldest monument dated 1701. It was ceded to the town by New York State in 1987 as an "abandoned cemetery". Since then, the town has been responsible for mowing the site with light maintenance. With the passage of time, weather has taken its steady toll and many monuments have fallen.

As of March 2022, a group of volunteers interested in conserving and restoring the site has formed a not-for-profit entity, "Friends of Spencer's Corners Burying Ground". To date, progress has been made in mapping the site. Standing monuments have been carefully cleaned. Application has been made to list the burying ground as a designated historical site.



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

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

Questioning Amenia Planning Board waiver

I believe the Amenia Planning Board counsel and engineer are working for the interests of developers and not the people of Amenia.

On August 9 the Planning Board approved the Site Plan for 108 Westerly Ridge to build a house on the highest point of the hill. Included in the Site Plan was a waiver to the Amenia Zoning Regulation that doesn't allow buildings 40 feet from the crest line. Waivers from zoning laws should only be given if there is compelling public good. The reason for the waiver should be explained and a public hearing should be held. The Planning Board Counsel said that no public hearing was necessary because this Site Plan is a small matter. As a neighbor, this is no small matter to me. I do not want the wooded hills around me made into suburban housing tracts. Building a house that will be highly visible from two scenic corridors will ad-

versely affect all of Amenia. If scenery isn't important to you, then consider the economic benefits of Amenia's scenic corridors.

Answering my question, what was the reason for granting this waiver, the engineer responded that the lot was difficult and since there were trees in front of the crest, the house would be hidden by these trees. But 108 Westerly is a 27 acre lot. There are many other very suitable locations 40 feet below crest and out of view of the scenic corridors. When I looked at the visual plan, it was obvious that the reason the house was to be placed on the summit was to give it a 360 degree view and increase the sale price.

The Planning Board Counsel then seemed to say that house wouldn't be seen because of the color it would be painted and only certain materials, such as non-reflective vinyl, would be allowed to be

used. It's laughable!

The Planning Board engineer said that the Board's Consultant George Janes approved the buildings materials but he omitted the most relevant part of the consultant's report:

"The biggest potential visual impact of this project is tree clearing that would impact the appearance of the ridge line. Currently, trees cover the top of the ridge. Substantial clearing of the trees at or near the top of a ridge can create a notch in the ridgeline that may create a substantial impact."

Amenia must have a Planning Board, starting with counsel and engineer, that respects zoning laws, encourages public input, and doesn't give developers carte blanche. Otherwise the rural nature of our community will be destroyed.

George Bistransin
Amenia

About helping the natural world

The Millerton News articles covering The Home-grown National Park organization are excellent. They shed light on the importance of sustaining biodiversity in the natural world that surrounds us. There is so much we can do, taking small steps and giant ones on our own property to attract and nurture our diverse wildlife and these articles help lay the groundwork.

A significant and related need is to improve the health of our trees and forests. Everywhere one looks, there are trees literally being strangled

to death by invasive vines. In addition to wild grape and supercharged poison ivy spread by increased carbon dioxide, there are non native vines like the rampant Oriental Bittersweet which are choking native trees and shrubs. In many places, the trees along the edges of roads have already succumbed to these vines. Anywhere the sun shines, these vines will find their way, seemingly with nothing to stop them.

This is where we all have a roll to play. We can begin to notice what's going on with our own trees, inspect our

own hedgerows and our own forests. We might be able to save some of the suffocating trees and woodlands before it's too late. It's a big job, but even going out with a pair of loppers and pruning saw in hand, will over time make a big difference. After the first frosts when the foliage dies back and all winter long is the ideal time to get out and start cutting and pulling. It's great exercise and so rewarding when new leaves form in the Spring and you've saved a tree!

Joan S. Redmond
Pine Plains

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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Published Weekly by The Lakeville Journal Company
Owned by The Lakeville Journal Foundation; Noreen Doyle, Chair
P.O. Box 625, Millerton, NY 12546
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Volume 92, Number 30 Thursday, August 17, 2023

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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The Lakeville Journal Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Subscription Rates - One Year:
\$82.00 in Dutchess and Columbia Counties, \$98.00 Outside Counties
Known Office of Publication: Lakeville, CT 06039-1688. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Millerton, NY 12546. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Lakeville Journal Company, LLC, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, Connecticut 06039-1688.

Send news items and briefs to editor@millertonnews.com

OUR TOWNS

Millerton studio offers chance for artists to hone skills

By DEBORAH MAIER
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — “After 20 minutes of absolute stillness, even a pillow can feel like a cement block,” said life model Dani Grenfel at break time in the Tuesday evening session at an art studio in Millerton’s Music Cellar building.

Artists were stretching their legs and enjoying snacks. To a comment that her aura is one of absolute comfort with her body, Grenfel remarked, “I think it is kind of like an instinctual thing.” Asked if she meditated while modeling long poses, she explained that “you can’t get too relaxed, or you lose the pose.”

At Suzanne Lacke’s art studio just off Millerton’s Main Street, a small group of artists meets biweekly to share the space and the model fees, each working in her or

his way. There is no instruction, and mostly not much sharing of the outcomes of each person’s work. It is an atmosphere of a communal solitude, sometimes enhanced by Lacke’s eclectic playlist.

As a pursuit, the drawing or sculpting of the unclothed human body has a long and varied history, with individual cultures developing those skills and later, for various reasons, losing them. But what is in it for 21st-century artists or not?

Hunter College professor of biology Roger Persell, who has studied figure drawing for several years, has some thoughts on it. It’s the technical challenges, for one thing; getting proportions right, creating the impression of a three-dimensional body in space on a two-dimensional surface, understanding the

structure under the skin. But it’s also the aesthetics of an object, a person.

“The human body is especially interesting because it carries enormous emotional weight behind it,” said Persell. “Every nuanced expression is a flicker of emotion, sometimes a grand gesture of emotion, from the tiniest muscle contraction in the face to an elaborate arm infrastructure.”

He teaches along these lines, querying his students about the neuroscience of perception. What is the effect of a model with hands down at her side versus arms out in front of her? “Not to minimize the difficulty of it, though, which is considerable,” he added.

As to Grenfel’s specific style of modeling, Persell, and the group in general, are impressed by her inventiveness, which she catalogs on

her phone from job to job to avoid repetition. Crossed limbs, twists of spine—“I like all the poses; very challenging,” Persell noted.

“Everybody has different reasons for drawing the figure,” opined Lacke, who, as an art history undergrad, had to take some studio courses. But it was later that she really connected with the human form. “I was at the Art Students League in the ‘70s... and when I started figure drawing, it just opened my eyes and my heart and my mind, my consciousness.”

“I come for the exercise,” said Scott Culbreth, an artist whose main medium is painting. “For me, this is like going to the gym. Usually, when I start, I’m pretty rusty; then the more I do it, the better I get.” Eye-hand coordination, all agreed, is the crux of it, and comes with practice.



PHOTO BY DEBORAH MAIER

Clockwise from left: model Dani Grenfel, Suzanne Lacke, June Sidman and Roger Persell at Suzanne Lacke Studio in Millerton on a recent Tuesday evening. Lacke will host an open studio on Saturday, Sept. 2, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The group generally prefers poses of 10, 20 or 40 minutes, rather than the five- or even one-minute poses generally favored by cartoonists or animators; but choices of poses are decided upon by participants, and those can vary from one session to another.

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