



PINE PLAINS
Artists In
Residence **A7**



MILLBROOK
Flamenco
Festival **B3**



Special, Inside

Homegrown National Park

Making a difference by planting native species

Part Two of a series

By ELIAS SORICH
elias@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Claire Goodman of Millerton is at the beginning of her interest in planting native flora.

Having attended a screening of “What’s the Rush?,” a film from Homegrown National Park (HNP), a nonprofit based in Sharon, Connecticut, Goodman began to get energized around the concept of making a contribution to ecosys-

tem health.

“I’ve always been very fascinated with larger projects like reseeding meadow — but I was frequently left thinking ‘it’s all too big.’ And then I encountered the idea that even if you only have a little pocket handkerchief of land, you can do something.”

For Goodman, who is on the Climate Smart Task Force in Millerton, having her interests galvanized has already led to a shift in how she sees her lawn and humble porchfront garden.

She’s thinking more actively

about which plants to add to the mix; is accepting of a more shaggy, wild, and natural look to her garden; and spends more time thinking about how to connect with and cultivate the nature around her.

“What makes you feel compassion for a bunch of wildlife? What inspires that? Just last night Dolly Parton’s song ‘Wildflowers’ came on. That sort of lyricism, or poetry, can make people feel connected to nature — that they’re not separate from it, but a part of it. I’m from

See NATIVES, PAGE A6



PHOTO PROVIDED BY NECC

From left: On Sunday, Aug. 6, the North East Community Center’s Chef and Farmer Brunch honored Rob Kuhbach and Sherrell Andrews, shown here with son-in-law Ben Weill and daughters Allison Kuhbach and Courtney Kuhbach Weill.

NECC Chef & Farmer Brunch raises funds

By EMMA BENARDETE
Special to The Millerton News

PINE PLAINS — On Sunday, Aug. 6, the North East Community Center (NECC), based in Millerton, held its 12th annual Chef and Farmer Brunch, the second since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The event raises money for NECC, which provides numerous resources to members of the Town of North East and the surrounding area, including transit to and from medical appointments, child care, fresh groceries, and volunteer opportunities for local teens.

This year, the brunch, which featured a meal prepared by various local dining establishments

as well as silent and live auctions, was held at Mashomack Fish and Game Preserve. The event was situated between the clubhouse and the pond, allowing space for two tents — one for cocktails and

See NECC BRUNCH, PAGE A8



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

The Lakeville Journal’s 125th Anniversary Day Street Fair on Aug. 14, 2022, attracted hundreds to Academy Street.

Join us for Jam on Academy Fair on Sunday, Aug. 13

LAKEVILLE, Conn. — For the second year in a row, The Lakeville Journal will host a community fair — Jam on Academy — on Sunday, Aug. 13, with food, music and a lineup of nearly 30 organizations that will be on hand and ready to show what they do for the Northwest Corner.

The event will run from noon to 6 p.m. on Academy Street. Organizations that will partici-

See FAIR, PAGE A8

Serino draws from ‘life experiences’ in county executive campaign

By JUDITH O’HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

HYDE PARK — “Life experiences make us what we are,” said Sue Serino. “We’re fighters fighting for those in need.” Having served as the senator representing New York state’s 41st Senate district from 2015 to 2022, Serino is no stranger to the pros and cons of living in Dutchess County. A single mother raising a child alone, a business owner, and a politician, she sees many facets of each problem

facing the county.

A Republican, she started her political career on the Hyde Park Town Board, then moved up to county legislator in 2011 before running for and winning a seat in the senate in 2014. Even after losing her senate seat to Michelle Hinchey after redistricting took place in 2020, she has kept her hand in community events, and was happy to accept the Republican nomination for county executive.

See SERINO, PAGE A8

Veterans, affordable housing among aspiring county executive’s plans for change

By JUDITH O’HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — When Tommy Zurhellen walked from Portland, Oregon, to Poughkeepsie in 2019, he was hoping to educate the public about the problem of homelessness among our nation’s veterans and the problems they dealt with regarding mental health and suicide rates, while raising money for Hudson River Hous-

ing’s VetZero project.

Now, a few years later, he has been endorsed by the Dutchess County Democratic Committee, running against former state Sen. Sue Serino for county executive. His message has expanded greatly, but many of his original concerns remain.

“After 32 years of the same leadership, Dutchess County deserves

See ZURHELLEN, PAGE A8

Park committee to hold meeting on phase 2 of redevelopment

MILLERTON — The Eddie Collins Memorial Park Revitalization Committee will hold a presentation on the second phase of the park’s planned redevelopment on Thursday, Aug. 17, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the park’s pavilion, 5991 N. Elm Ave.

The conversation will center around the park’s proposed swimming pool and pool house. Residents of Millerton are asked to attend and offer their feedback. The plan will be available at Village Hall, 5933 N. Elm Ave., for viewing by those who are unable to attend the meeting. Written feedback, including name, address and email, will be accepted until Friday, Sept. 1, to clerk@villageofmillerton-ny.gov

For more information, visit millertonpark.org or contact millertonpark@gmail.com



CONTACT

The Millerton News
editor@millertonnews.com
860-435-9873, ext. 608

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OPINION

Summer Interns;
Columns **B4**

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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY RHIANNON LEO-JAMESON

Carol Falcetti, left, of Amenia and Lenny Sutton of Millerton, members of the NorthEast-Millerton Library's Cookbook Group, examine the offerings that provide an opportunity to test recipes without having to purchase a large amount of the necessary spices.

Spice up your life

MILLERTON — A quick trip to the NorthEast-Millerton Library can add spice to your life thanks to the recently installed Spice Library, part of the Library of Things that recently has been added to the offerings at 75 Main St.

A new spice is featured each month along with either a recipe or general suggestions for use, and small jars are provided for easy take-home. This month focuses on "Ras el hanout, an aromatic spice blend commonly used in Moroccan cuisine," ac-

ording to library director Rhiannon Leo-Jameson. She noted the spice is particularly effective as a rub with "lamb, fish, pork, or chicken; with roasted vegetables or stew; or with yogurt or sour cream to make a dip."

The library has numerous cookbooks in its collection with more ideas featured in its online food magazines. To see the full listing of spices as well as other available items, go to nemillertonlibrary.org

— Carol Kneeland

School supplies to be collected for local districts

ANCRAM — The Ancramdale Neighbors Helping Neighbors Association (ANHNA) will collect school supplies to benefit the Taconic Hills, Pine Plains and Webutuck school districts Saturday, Aug. 12, through Saturday, Aug. 26.

School supplies being collected include pencils and pencil cases, pens, Crayola crayons, colored pencils,

erasers, magic markers, glue sticks, child's blunt-end scissors, folders with pockets, three-ring binders, three-hole loose-leaf paper, notebooks, durable backpacks, and tissues. Supplies can be dropped off at the Ancram Town Hall, 1416 County Road 7, during business hours; and in specially marked boxes inside the Ancram Post Office, 1295 County Route 7, and the

Amenia Wastewater Committee hears comments from residents

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — The Amenia Wastewater Committee continues to work toward defining the boundaries of what will be a wastewater district.

At its regular meeting on Thursday, Aug. 4, discussion continued with two residents in attendance.

Committee members are engaged in speaking with residents to gather feedback on the condition of their home septic systems and to measure the level of their interest in participating.

Because she had installed a new septic system on her

property six years ago, resident Nancy Nowak largely spoke in opposition to the planning for a town wastewater system as it is presently proposed in the preliminary planning stage. She questioned the validity of the argument that a wastewater system would protect wetlands, although she said that she could favor installation of a system to serve the downtown commercial area.

She added, however, that she would not want to pay to subsidize that system. And she asked that a town-wide referendum decide the issue, rather than a system district vote, when the time came.

Continuing the discussion, Wastewater Committee chairman Charlie Miller noted that a majority of the households and businesses within the proposed district are in favor of the planning.

"All we are trying to do is to form a district in order to apply for grant funding," Miller said. If successful, he explained, the grant funding would need to support 75% of the project's construction costs. The balance would be raised through bonding.

Miller noted that any grant application requires that the town provide a defined wastewater district along with the application in order to be

considered.

"Businesses would pay more in fees, based on their usage," committee member Paul Winters said, responding to concerns about costs.

Commenting in favor of a wastewater project, resident Erica Howard said, "The only way the area will grow is to do it."

Winters summarized the feedback being heard from other residents. "People who have recently installed a new septic system are not in favor, and people with old or aging systems largely favor moving ahead. And people are generally concerned about costs or that taxes might increase."

Hudson River Housing describes preliminary planning at Amenia Town Board meeting

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — Following a report in late July to the Amenia Housing Board, representatives of Hudson River Housing (HRH) appeared at the Thursday, Aug. 3, work-

shop meeting of the Amenia Town Board to update officials on preliminary planning for a 15-acre affordable housing development to be built on land across from the Town Hall.

Representing Hudson River Housing was Mary Linge, vice president of real estate development. Javier Gomez, HRH's director of community development and impact, also attended.

Design plans are still being developed, Linge explained, inviting comment and suggestions from residents and officials.

Initial drawings show seven duplex housing units available for purchase by qualified low-income homebuyers and an additional seven apartments available for rental, the

apartments to be contained within a single apartment building.

In a change from the plans described in July to the housing board, Linge said that the duplex halves are now anticipated to be sold individually to homebuyers, supplanting the original plan to offer each duplex as a unit where the homebuyer could live in one half and rent the other half, using the income to pay the mortgage.

The rental units would be managed by HRH. A homeowners' association could be formed to administer the home purchase program for the duplexes, or if preferred, HRH could provide those services also, Linge said.

Under the revised plan, therefore, the seven two-

family duplexes would offer home purchase opportunity to 14 families, rather than to just seven. Grants would help to subsidize the project to maintain the affordable aspect.

"We want to maximize the affordability," Linge said.

Plans for the property would include a system of walking trails. A shared septic system would be located on-site.

HRH continues to seek community input, Linge said. As designs are finalized, the project will be presented to the Amenia Planning Board for approval.

"We want it to be part of the community of Amenia," Linge added. "This is early on in the process," she said, envisioning occupancy in 2026.

Sharon Hospital



When you focus on what truly matters, great things happen

Sharon Hospital is honored to be recognized by the American Heart Association (AHA) and the American Stroke Association (ASA) for excellence in heart disease and stroke care. Additionally, Sharon Hospital was also awarded a five-star rating, the highest overall, by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for quality patient care for the 4th consecutive year.

We proudly thank the talented doctors, nurses and employees of Sharon Hospital for these tremendous achievements in keeping high quality healthcare right here in our community.



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Schaghticoke First Nations presents commemorative plaque

By ELIAS SORICH
elias@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — On Saturday, Aug. 5, at the Pine Plains Free Library, Sachem (Chief) Robert Hawk Storm Yawanawa Bergin of the Schaghticoke First Nations (SFN) presented the town of Pine Plains with a commemorative plaque honoring the history of the Schaghticoke-Mahican peoples in the region of Pine Plains.

Town Supervisor Brian Walsh accepted the plaque and issued a proclamation affirming the historic ties of the SFN people to Pine Plains and its surrounds. Reading aloud to a crowd of over 50 attendees, Walsh said, “The town of Pine Plains pauses to recall the important contributions of the Schaghticoke-Mahican residents to the historic development of this town, and that their descendants still proudly remain in our and other nearby communities in the Hudson Valley region, determined to pass on their history and culture to future generations.”

Following the proclamation, SFN genealogist Valerie LaRobardier gave a detailed presentation on the history

of Shekomeko, an historic village of the Mahican peoples located within the township of Pine Plains. Shekomeko has been remembered as the site of a Moravian Mission, but the Mahican people had lived at that site long before the mission was established.

LaRobardier and Hawk Storm laid out the complex history of the relationship between these two groups, stating “The Moravian model was dramatically different [than its contemporaries], with missionaries freely socializing with the Mahicans, respecting their customs, and assisting with land disputes.” LaRobardier and Hawk Storm also dove into the definition and history of the Mahican peoples.

Rather than describing a monolithic group, the name Mahican describes a more fluid grouping of “autonomous bands and communities” of Algonquian-speaking tribes, and encompasses Schaghticoke, Wampanoos, Pequod, and Mahicans, to name a few. Living descendants of those peoples in the region include “the Schaghticoke First Nations, the Stockbridge Munsee Mohicans, and others.”

Hawk Storm shared that

the name Schaghticoke means “the Mingling of Waters,” which signifies a merging of Algonquian-speaking tribes.

The presentation, which involved ample proof in the form of primary source documentation, was partly a dive into the history of the Moravians and Mahicans in the area, but more so a detailed genealogical accounting that affirmed the “Schaghticoke descendants who trace their lineage to these historic figures still reside in New York State.” Hawk Storm spoke passionately on this fact during the Q&A that followed, saying, “We’re trying to remind people that we’re here.”

Rather than focusing only on what the Schaghticoke-Mahicans have done in the past, however, Hawk Storm also shared plans for the future. SFN acquired 73 acres of land in Copake in 2019 as a part of their Schaghticoke Land Reclamation Project.

Hawk Storm spoke to the plans SFN has to steward that land far into the future, and build it into a cultural and learning center. “I’m big on the history, but I’m also big on the land,” said Hawk Storm. “What we’re doing is going back to understanding how

we lived in right relationship with the earth. We’re living in a climate crisis right now, and we need to learn from how our ancestors lived on the planet. Not just here, but everywhere.”

Though SFN is not a federally recognized American Indian Tribe, the Bureau of Indian Affairs recognized, affirmed, and published the familial lineages of SFN members in 2002 and 2004. More can be learned about the Schaghticoke First Nations at www.schaghticoke.info



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Scavenger hunt celebration

Oblong Books hosted a “Where’s Waldo?”-themed scavenger hunt in Millerton and Rhinebeck during the month of July. Scavenger hunt participant Vincent Namer, 7, of Lakeville, Conn., was also present at a culminating celebratory event held at Oblong’s Millerton location on Monday, July 31.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Artists preview fall art tour

From left, artists Susan Hennelly, Carol-Lee Kantor, Doreen O'Connor, Lori Adams, Karen Madden, Jeanne Plekon and Donna Castelluccio of ArtEast Dutchess were at the Millbrook Farmers and Makers Market on Saturday, Aug. 5, with two workshops and a wide assortment of artworks, a teaser to the ArtEast Open Studio Tour 2023, which will take place on Saturday, Oct. 14, and Sunday, Oct. 15. All participating artists in the Open Studio Tour can be found on ArtEast’s website, arteastdutchess.com where their works are also listed.

Roe Jan Library to hold community picnic

COPAKE — The Roeliff Jansen Community Library, 9091 Route 22, will hold a family-friendly community picnic on Sunday, Aug. 13, from noon to 3 p.m.

Attendees are invited to enjoy hotdogs, a veggie-meat option, chips and cookies while meeting the library’s staff; en-

joying the library’s new nature walk; taking part in various games and crafts; and watching the 1 p.m. magic show. Each child attending will receive a

free book courtesy of the Friends of the Roe Jan Library.

The event is free and open to all. For more information, call the library at 518-325-4101.

Send news items and briefs to editor@millertonnews.com

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OUR TOWNS

Brandow to run for Town of Washington Board

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Adam Brandow is running on the Democratic ticket for a seat on the Washington Town Board.

Brandow's parents live in the area, and his family has been here since the 1700s. Brandow and wife Megan Brandow-Fallon have lived in Millbrook full-time since 2020.

Their three sons are enrolled in schools in the village, the younger two at Millbrook Early Childhood Education Center (MECEC) and Otto at Elm Drive Elementary. Brandow is employed at Wethersfield Estate and Garden, and is pursuing a doctorate at Bard College where he also did his undergraduate work.

Both Brandow and Brandow-Fallon take active roles in leadership; he serves on the board of MECEC and she is on the Millbrook Library board. They are active members of St. Joseph's-Immaculate Conception Church in Millbrook and, having lost a daughter, they are mentors in a child loss support group. They are working toward becoming foster parents.

Before taking on his position at Wethersfield, Brandow worked in the fields of auction trade, museums and academia. His current position is at the Wethersfield Foundation, which, he pointed out, promotes responsible stewardship for the environment and is also a valuable environmental resource for the surrounding community.

"We are fortunate to live in such a pastoral place, and I am passionate about preserving open space and the rural quality of our Town," Brandow stated. He is not averse to new businesses coming in and while he sees the need for some growth, he is against overdevelopment. He also knows that new businesses may include expanded hospitality, and while he's in favor of possibly a small hotel, he does not favor rezoning.

"While I recognize the need to set policies that will attract economic investment and create revenue streams to benefit local businesses," he said, "I support measured and understated developments at appropriate scale and with minimal environmental impact. I commend the work of the CPRC [Comprehensive Plan Review Committee], and strongly support the adoption of their report to our Comprehensive Plan."

In his campaign, Brandow espouses the need for transparency, and a younger and more dynamic leadership based on inclusivity and working together as a community to get things done.

While stressing the need for the younger generation to become actively involved in politics, he also respects the history of what has gone before, which he shows through the flag flying in his front yard that once flew over the front of the Town of Washington Town Hall, and the photography exhibit he had at the Millbrook library a few years ago showcasing Bennett College and the ruins it had become.

Massachusetts shuts down Great Barrington railroad project after worker dies near Sheffield

By HEATHER BELLOW
The Berkshire Eagle

GREAT BARRINGTON Mass. — The state has shut down its railroad project pending a "safety review" of the contractor it hired for the work after an employee was run over by equipment on the tracks Friday, Aug. 4, and later died of his injuries.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT), which owns the Berkshire Line used by Housatonic Railroad Co., has halted work to the track by contractor Middlesex Corp., DOT spokesperson Jacquelyn Goddard wrote in response to questions.

Multiple police and agencies are investigating the apparent accident, including the Federal Railroad Administration, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and Massachusetts State Police attached to the Berkshire District Attorney's Office.

The accident happened just after 10 a.m. on the tracks

in what police said was a remote area near the Sheffield town line that was hard to access. It required aid from firefighters and police in two towns to reach the worker and have him airlifted to the hospital.

Authorities have not released the identity of the victim.

Middlesex did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Nor did Housatonic Railroad Co., which runs freight on the line.

NTSB investigators were at the scene Saturday, Aug. 5, said agency spokesperson Jen Gabris, adding that a preliminary report about the cause of the accident is expected in about 30 days. Investigation reports by the Federal Railroad Administration are usually completed within six months, William Wong, an agency spokesperson wrote in an email.

The News occasionally publishes articles from The Berkshire Eagle.

OBITUARIES

Patrick G. Stanton

SALISBURY — Patrick G. Stanton, 80, of 34 Cobble Road passed away July 30, 2023, at his home in the company of his loving family. Patrick was born June 26, 1943 in Sharon, Connecticut, son of the late George and Helen (Mackay) Stanton. He was the husband of Carol (Moersch) Stanton.

Patrick worked in tree service and held the position of Tree Warden for the town of Sheffield, Massachusetts, for many years. Countless people will attest to the fact that he was the best tree man around.

He worked at The Salisbury Boys School for 30 years in the housekeeping department. His last employment as crossing guard for Salisbury Central School brought him pure joy and his goal was always to return. Patrick was a communicant of St. Mary's Church, serving the church as an Altar Boy in his youth. He was a member of The Sheffield Fire Company then later joined The Lakeville Hose Company in 1991, where he served as fire police for 32 years. He loved people and was always available to lend

a helping hand. His sharp wit and memory made him a town historian of sorts. He was frequently sought out by family and friends to answer questions related to his home town of Lakeville.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Krista Stanton of The Villages, Florida; Patrick Stanton, wife Jen of Housatonic, Massachusetts; Sheri Dunham of Newbury Park, California; Josephine Heacox, husband Chris of Lakeville; Jennifer Stone, husband Ken of Harrington, Maine; Camila Tabor of Lakeville; his sister Janet Palmer of South Carolina and his brother James Stanton of Lakeville; eight grandchildren and a great grandson, and many nieces and nephews. Patrick was predeceased by his son, Gilbert Tabor and his sisters Kathryn Finkle,

Ginny Hickey and Georgia Duntz.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023, at noon at The Lakeville Hose Company, 4 Brook St., Lakeville, CT 06039. Calling hours will be held at the fire house from 11 a.m. until noon. Burial will be at a later date.

The family wishes to extend heartfelt gratitude to Marsha Brown, RN, and Christine Lamb of Visiting Nurse of Litchfield County for their care and support.

Memorial donations may be made to The Lakeville Hose Company, 4 Brook St., Lakeville, CT 06039 or to The Salisbury Ambulance, 8 Undermountain Road, Salisbury, CT 06068. Arrangements are under the care of The Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main Street, North Canaan, CT 06018.

Thomas Joseph Higgins

FALLS VILLAGE — Thomas Joseph Higgins Jr. of The Villages, Florida, passed on Friday, June 23, 2023. He was born the oldest of five children to Thomas and Evelyn Higgins in Sharon, on Dec. 26, 1941.



He attended Boston University to study aeronautical engineering and had successful careers as an engineer at Pratt & Whitney, a high school math teacher in Falls Village, and Bedford, Massachusetts, and a computer programmer for the state of Massachusetts. His continued curiosity about science, technology and math led to a lifetime of learning. As an avid reader, chef, boomeranger, golfer and lover of music and laughter, Tom approached life with an insatiable appetite for knowledge.

Family meant everything to Tom, and he cherished the moments spent with loved ones. As a dedicated husband, parent, sibling, and friend, he exuded warmth, love, and kindness in every interaction. His genuine compassion touched the lives of those fortunate enough to have known

him, and he leaves behind a legacy of unconditional love and unwavering support.

He is survived by his loving wife, Annette Higgins, his children Jessica (Hank) Jones, Tim (Laura) Higgins, Patrick Welch, Kathy (Joe) Barbagallo, Dan (Lynn)

Welch, Kevin (Karen) Welch. His grandchildren Greg and Sophia Jones, Patrick, Caitlin, Zachary, Daniel, Annika and Matthew Welch, Cortni Soucy and Kate DuBois. Five great grandchildren. His brother Gary (Carol) Higgins, Jon (Rindy) Higgins, Jackie (Rod) Merwin, Sam Higgins, many nieces, nephews and friends. He is predeceased by his brother Michael Higgins.

Burial and Celebration of Life will be held in Massachusetts on Aug. 19, 2023, at Union Cemetery in Amesbury, Massachusetts, at 11:30 a.m. followed by a Celebration of Life at Maria's Restaurant 81 Essex St., Haverhill MA 01832 at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

William D. Leo

KENT — William D. Leo, 75, longtime Kent resident, died July 22, 2023, after a prolonged illness.



Bill was born in Norwalk, Connecticut, and spent his childhood in Scarsdale, New York, before moving to Brookfield, Connecticut, as a teenager. He graduated from Immaculate High School in Danbury.

He went on to enlist in the United States Marine Corps and served a tour in Vietnam. He was awarded several commendations including a Purple Heart.

Bill eventually moved to Kent where he found his true hometown. He and his second wife Gail Oslin (December 1997) opened and ran The Villager Restaurant from 1984 until 2000. He became known for his delicious soups, especially the pumpkin soup he served to runners of the Kent Pumpkin Run every year. During this time he served on the Kent Chamber of Commerce, including as president. He and Gail were affectionately referred to as the Unofficial Mayors of Kent.

Bill loved sports, particularly the New York Yankees and the New York Rangers. He was also an avid reader with a penchant for American history.

After retiring from the restaurant, Bill married Patti Ebert (December 2021), owner of Toys Galore & More in Kent.

Bill is survived by his daughter Kasey Leo Straiton of Kent, son and daughter-

in-law Jesse Maria Leo of New Milford, and grandsons

Aidan and Jake Leo; his siblings Deborah (Bruce) Bennett of West Cornwall, Karen (James) Sertaro of New Milford, Kathleen (Jay Poitras) Mankin of Millerton, New York, and Timothy (Cathy) Leo of Mc-

Minnville, Oregon; several nieces and nephews; and his first wife Patricia Morris Lee of Kent.

Besides Gail and Patti, Bill is predeceased by his parents Dorothy and William D. Leo Sr., brother Michael Leo, and son-in-law Steven G. Straiton.

Please consider supporting The Kent Community Fund (www.kentctcommunityfund.org) or the Kent Center School Scholarship Fund (www.kcscf.org) to honor Bill and his beloved community.

A private family burial will be held at a later date.

Lillis Funeral Home of 58 Bridge St., New Milford, has care of William and his family.

In Loving Memory of Our Brother David G. Shaffer 6/19/1961-8/10/1978

Dear David, Remembering you and thinking of that horrible day 45 years ago. Never a day goes by that we don't think of you. And miss you.

Love you with all our hearts, Bubbles, Tammi, Kathy & Timmy

Worship Services

Week of August 13, 2023

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

<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>	<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10:00 a.m. www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on YouTube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232 FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org Misa en español a las 4 de la tarde el último domingo de mes The Revs. Heidi Truax & Felix Rivera trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT The next meeting will be Sunday, September 10 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>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 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am North Cornwall Meeting House 115 Town Street, Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 85, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!</p>	<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>
<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mmgates125@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone.</p>	<p>Chabad of Northwest CT On The Green 69 West St. Litchfield, CT 06759 Childrens Camp Shabbat Services Hebrew School CTeen YIP Judaism With A Smile! chabadNW.org 860.567.3377 office@chabadNW.org</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	

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Eve Schaub discusses country's plastics use

By DEBORAH MAIER
Special to The Millerton News

SHARON, Conn. — “I thought we were different” was one audience member’s wistful comment at Sharon Town Hall on Thursday evening, Aug. 3, where approximately 18 attendees of varying ages, all but three female, heard author Eve Schaub present some updates and a personable angle to her recent book, “Year of No Garbage.” Schaub had assured the questioner that single-stream recycling everywhere is a success nowhere.

The event, a precursor to Friday’s book-signing event at the Hotchkiss Library by dozens of authors, began with an introduction by library director Gretchen Hachmeister. Hachmeister is a cousin to Schaub, but the two didn’t

know each other until some online genealogical research was done recently.

The self-labeled “stunt memoirist” embarked on the first of a trio of books using her family as experimental subjects. “Year of No Sugar” was followed by “Year of No Clutter” and this latest and, she vowed, last such project.

For each one, she researched deeply and became an expert. In this case, teasing out the complexities of the 60% of garbage that is actually plastic, mostly of the single-use kind, “The learning curve was so steep I was getting nosebleed.”

Research led her to the sobering conclusion, among many others, that producers of packaging “don’t know what it is made of, and don’t care.”

The increasingly popular

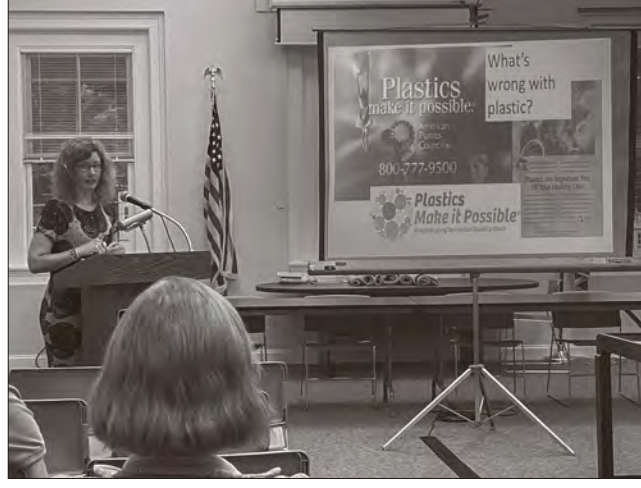


PHOTO BY DEBORAH MAIER

Eve Schaub, author of “Year of No Garbage,” highlights and rebuts some plastics industry marketing in a talk at Sharon Town Hall on Thursday, Aug. 3.

“use your own container” concept, for example, is generally successful only with small, local stores. This discussion involved the paradox of having to spend more mon-

ey, time and carbon footprint to shop at small stores. For items too small or otherwise not allowed in municipal recycling, freecycle.org and the Front Porch Forum are good

possibilities for giving away clean and dry craftable plastic caps, corks and so on.

‘If you don’t know what it is, it’s plastic’

In the realm of extreme recycling, or going beyond the limits of what one’s municipality accepts in its recycling stream, one problem is the large number of different types of plastics that make up various kinds of packaging, like chips bags that are sandwiches of three different kinds. Programs like plastic film recycling boxes in supermarkets, mail-in and pay-to-play programs like those of the Carton Council and Terracycle are not effective once examined critically.

Eighty-five percent of people say they are recycling plastic, Schaub pointed out, while the actual rate of plastics recycling is now down to a dismal 5%, and that is almost exclusively for items numbered 1 and 2 inside the “chasing arrows” symbol.

Environmental racism and injustice

To another audience member’s question of where it all goes, Schaub listed Vietnam as a current recipient of our main export. Most people are aware that it was formerly China, until that nation enacted the National Sword ban on foreign shipments that were often too contaminated to be recycled. The worst aspect of this, she noted, is that countries where our waste ends up do not have the in-

frastructure to deal with it, and it becomes part of their landscape on which children work, play or tread to school, the burning fumes of which everyone must breathe.

“Watch ‘The Story of Plastic,’” Schaub urged, if you want to know the extent of environmental racism around the world and in the U.S., where St. James Parish in Louisiana, already known as Cancer Alley, is slated to see a huge new buildout by Formosa Plastics. And as to what we are all exposed to, she described a photo on which a pile of microplastics, placed on a Lincoln penny for scale, looks like a Marie Antoinette hairdo.

Also cited were the Danish water bottle study, in which a regular plastic bottle filled with tap water was found to contain 400 different plastics compounds after 24 hours, and that Western men’s sperm counts have dropped 50% in the last 50 years.

What can be done?

First, go tell someone, Schaub urged: “Awareness is the starting point for all meaningful change.” Importantly, realize that the glut of plastics is driven by supply, not by demand, as industry figures would have it. Forty percent of yearly production goes to single-use plastics. Also, you can demand that EPR, or Extended Producer Responsibility laws, (sometimes known as Polluter Pays laws) are enacted in your state.

Flea market to begin in Pine Plains on Aug. 12

By ELIAS SORICH
elias@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — On Saturday, Aug. 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Willow Roots will host a flea market at 8 and 12 North Main St.

Spearheaded by Lisa and Nelson Zayas, co-founders of Willow Roots, the flea market will feature a variety of goods for Pine Plains residents to peruse. Of the 25 vendors currently signed up, there’s a tie-dye booth, a hot dog and pretzel truck, quilted totebags, baked goods from the Rhinebeck store Cookies by Mabel, and local farms selling eggs and other produce.

In addition to farm and craft goods, a number of the vendors will be locals selling home items and collectibles yardsale-style, which the Zayas hope will give the event a true flea market feel. After presenting the idea to the Pine Plains Town Board about two months ago, the Zayas were given the go-ahead at the July 20 meeting to host the market two times a month.

Intending to make it a regular event, Willow Roots will host the flea market on the second and fourth Saturday of each month, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“Part of what Willow Roots is about is always looking at

the Pine Plains community and asking what we can do to help the community as a whole,” said Nelson. “[And a flea market] is a great way to help local artisans and local businesses. It’ll get more foot traffic right in the center of town, and hopefully that will carry over to their stores.”

Nelson also indicated that the market will dovetail nicely with the mission of Willow Roots, which runs a pantry that provides free food and clothing to residents in need. The organization is charging a nominal booth fee of \$10 for a 10-foot-by-10-foot space, a low barrier to entry when compared with most other craft fairs and flea markets with vendor fees of \$25-\$100.

“We don’t want it to be a money-losing thing for [vendors],” Nelson explained. “We want to support them, for them to have a place where they can make some money. A flea market is a place that builds community, builds friendships. You start sitting next to the same vendor, so you start to know them and maybe you go to get a bite to eat, so they watch your table, you watch their table, the kids start to play together. It’s another layer of community that

we don’t have [in Pine Plains].”

Willow Roots is still accepting vendors, and has an estimated capacity of 40-50 spots per flea market day. Day-of sign up is possible, but the fee increases to \$15. All proceeds from the vendor fee will go toward Willow Roots’ nonprofit programming.

Interested parties should contact Lisa Marie Agnelli at willowrootsvendors@gmail.com. The second flea market in August will take place on Saturday, Aug. 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SHERIFF’S REPORT

The following information was provided by the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office as the Harlem Valley area activity report for July 27-Aug. 2.

July 27 — Deputies responded to 5925 N. Elm Ave. in Millerton for a domestic/custody dispute. Matter resolved without further police intervention.

July 28 — Deputies responded to the Stewart’s Shop in Pine Plains for a complaint of a petit larceny that occurred there. Investigation ongoing.


July 30 — Deputies responded to the Willows Motel, 3393 Route 343, in the Town of Amenia for a reported domestic/custody dispute. Matter resolved without further police intervention.

Aug. 2 — Deputies arrested Patrick Deneen, 72, for driving while intoxicated subsequent to a traffic stop in the area of 5384 Route 22 in the Town of North East. Deneen to appear in the Town of North East Court at a later date.

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 Wall Street Journal recently had an interesting article entitled “Buyers are getting Home loans from an unlikely source: the Seller of their House”. In this current market of higher interest rates, this provides a creative option for a buyer to avoid fees and other costs associated with bank financing. For the owner, this works best when the property is owned outright and the usual terms are 80% financed with a 20% down payment. While there are risks to both sellers and buyers in owners financing, it is something to be aware of, especially if interest rates continue to increase.

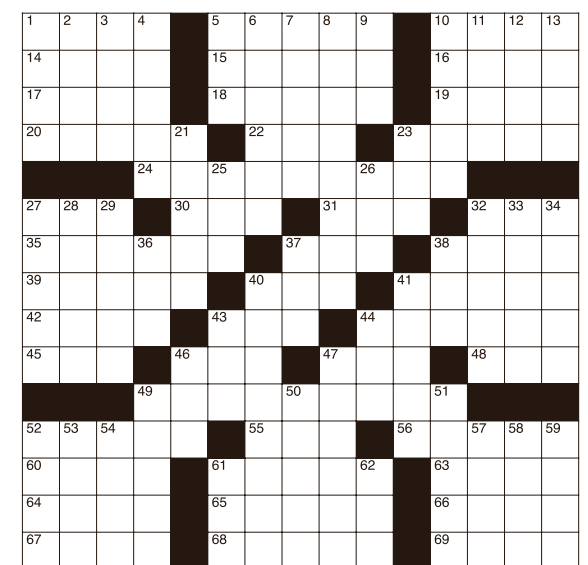
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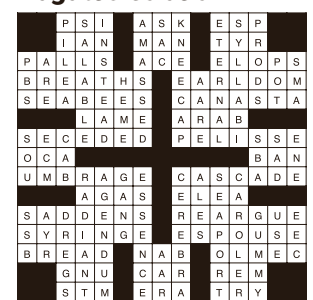
CLUES ACROSS

1. A way to pick up
5. Presents
10. Type of guitar
14. Actor Idris
15. A citizen of Iran
16. Creative
17. Harness
18. Weight unit
19. You better call him
20. Utterly devoted
22. Male cat
23. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
24. Risk-taker
27. A team’s best pitcher
30. Cool!
31. Women’s __ movement
32. Georgia rockers
35. Step-shaped recess
37. The princess could detect its presence
38. Type of truck
39. Butterhead lettuces
40. Angry people see it
41. Lines where two fabrics are sewn together
42. Soviet city
43. Carpet
44. Traveled all over
45. Thin, straight bar
46. Body art (slang)
47. Congressman (abbr.)
48. No seats available
49. Breaks apart
52. Arabic name
55. Ballplayer’s tool
56. Type of sword
60. Baseball team
61. Upper bract of grass floret
63. Italian Seaport
64. Ancient Syrian city
65. Shoelace tube
66. The Miami mascot is one
67. South American nation
68. Popular video game “Max __”
69. Body part

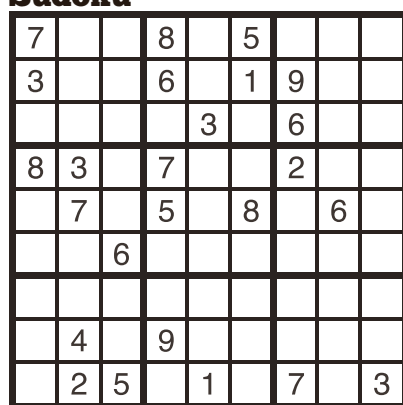


10. Belonging to a bottom layer
11. Member of a Semitic people
12. Part of a ticket
13. Defunct Guinean money
21. Challenges
23. Popular BBQ food
25. Subway dweller
26. By way of
27. Shady garden alcove
28. Egyptian city
29. Partner to “flowed”
32. Widens
33. Old Eurasian wheat
34. Act incorrectly
36. European pipeline
37. Al Bundy’s wife
38. Ocean
40. Root eaten as a vegetable
41. Sound units
43. Style of music
44. A way to drench
46. Hot beverage
47. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
49. Rumanian city
50. Urge to action
51. Vaccine developer
52. Canadian law enforcers
53. Wings
54. “Perry Mason” actor Raymond
57. Small fry
58. __ Clapton, musician
59. Take a chance
61. Bland food
62. Consumed

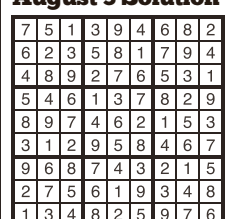
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NATIVES *Continued from Page A1*

Making a difference by planting native species

England, and all our gardens are lovely but totally manicured. America still has vast tracts of land that are wild, uninhabited. There's a real possibility for an initiative like HNP to succeed."

To HNP's Michelle Alfandari, people like Goodman are the exact audience she hopes HNP will find and bring into the fold.

"Our main mission is to reach people unaware of what biodiversity is, what the crisis is, and what the solution is. And to do it with an urgency, to encourage fast action and spread it as quickly as possible, because we don't have time."

Time, however, is something that Dee Salomon of Cornwall, Connecticut, has put to effective use.

Sloping down from Route 7 to the Housatonic River, Salomon's house sits on 15 acres of riverbank, forest, and meadowland. Salomon, who writes the "Ungardener" column in *The Lakeville Journal*, has undergone a personal and daily quest to rid the land of the invasive plants that once plagued it. Her constant maintenance has been overwhelmingly successful — our walk through the woods was spotted with trillium, devil's walkingstick, and a whole diversity of native flora. Unlike most land in the region, there was hardly an invasive in sight.

To Salomon, working in the woodland connects her to nature in a profound way. Part meditative practice, part irresistible calling, it has cultivated in her a sense of responsibility to the environment.

"I love the physicality of doing this work, scrambling up trees and through underbrush. It's where I do my writing. I was on holiday a couple weeks ago and couldn't write and realized, 'I've gotta be in the woods. I can't write if I'm not in the woods!'"

The level of care Salomon brings to her property is exemplary in both senses of the word — many people are unable to commit to such a lifestyle. Some, however, will be — and the more people who



PHOTOS BY ELIAS SORICH

Michelle Alfandari and Eli Arnow pointing out rehabilitated meadow in Elizaville, N.Y.

are reached through initiatives like HNP, the more stewards like Salomon will emerge.

While HNP's message seems to be spreading effectively — it routinely logs 30,000-40,000 page visits in monthly website traffic — it has been able to find help in partner organizations like the Sharon Land Trust (SLT), which manages 11 public preserves.

Maria Grace, executive director of SLT, showed off the Twin Oaks preserve, a swath of land SLT purchased in 1998 to protect from development. SLT's mission is mainly that of preservation, and has not traditionally included planting in its land management. Once Alfandari reached out and the two organizations connected, however, Grace agreed that planting a small native planting garden out by the front gate would be a great place to start.

"Our mission is to protect native, natural landscapes, and to improve it for wildlife, improve it for people. That dovetails very nicely into HNP. We're committed to protecting biodiversity, improving biodiversity, using only native plants when we do plant."

And on the subject of HNP's grassroots ambitions, Grace's 20 year career in conservation has led her to notice changes in public awareness

around ecosystem health and native planting that have given her hope. That trend, in her view, means that organizations like HNP are well positioned to help effect change.

"There's a shift, people are becoming more mindful. It's not just preaching to the choir anymore...awareness leads to action, and as a national movement, HNP helps with that."

The importance of biodiversity

For HNP, success hinges around convincing many people, and fast, that issues like biodiversity matter. This, at its heart, can sometimes be a difficult task — the loss of biodiversity occurs on such a profound scale that it can elude tangible comprehension.

The terminology for it, even, can obscure harsh realities. In "What's the Rush?" Tallamy quotes economic anthropologist Jason Hickel as writing, "Biodiversity loss" is such a strange euphemism for mass destruction of nonhuman beings."

Take insects, Tallamy's re-

search specialization. An abundance of research suggests that the world is losing its insects, a phenomenon known as insect biomass decline. Every year, up to 2% of the world's insects die and are not replaced. This has cascading and catastrophic implications for the stability of food webs — and for humans, the loss of pollinators means the potentially devastating reduction in the productivity of vital food crops like soybeans, apples, and almonds to name a few.

But beyond even the very real implications to the functionality of civilization, future generations lose something subtle and yet vital about the world when its diversity and abundance goes away.

If you grew up in a rural place, your memories are likely filled with the buzzing of wings, the itch of skin feasted on by unseen swarms, the streaking movement of insect bodies swarming under street lamps, the dense spatter of bug goo on the windshield during summer night drives.

Arnow of Elizaville, New York, with masters degrees in ecosystem restoration and environmental science respectively, steward some 600 acres of family-owned land, much of it former farmland. Planting native plants near their home has always been a part of expressing their connection with nature. Bunge, as we walked through tallgrass in the fields outside her home, put it succinctly.

"It's this idea of: you protect what you love, and you love what you know."

Alfandari agreed, "You don't protect them if you think insects are really creepy. For me, it used to be the case that if I saw a bug in my house I screamed at my husband to kill it. Then, I yelled at him to save it — and now, I save them myself...our mission is to regenerate biodiversity, ASAP. But our tagline is, 'start a new habitat.' Having a direct experience with nature will form greater connections, will get the world into a different habit of looking at nature, of what we perceive as a beautiful landscape."

As the years add together, and the lack of those things compound, it is as if a bodily sense were slowly dimming.

HNP, in encouraging homeowners to think critically about their gardening habits and land management, strives to connect people with the realities of that kind of loss.

Avalon Bunge and Eli



Dee Salomon walking along her property on the banks of the Housatonic River in Cornwall, Conn.

OUR TOWNS



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Children's theater in Pine Plains

From left: Daniel Saed, Mike Wood and Jalon Copeland backstage at the Stissing Center in Pine Plains on Saturday, Aug. 5. The three performed in "Anansi: The Trickster Spider" staged by the Grumbling Gryphons traveling children's theater group and adapted into an interactive show by Leslie Elias, the group's co-founder and artistic director of 43 years. The performance included a pre-show workshop during which children learned songs, dances and chants, allowing them to become part of the show.

Ice cream social at Irondale Schoolhouse

MILLERTON — The Irondale Schoolhouse, 16 Main St. at the opening of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail, will host an ice cream social on Saturday, Aug. 12, from 1 to 2 p.m. Sponsored

by Stewart's Shops, vanilla ice cream will be served in cups with various toppings. The event is free and open to all. For more information, contact info@irondaleschoolhouse.org

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Experimentation, camaraderie at ChaNorth

By DEBORAH MAIER
Special to The Millerton News

PINE PLAINS — During a month-long stay at the artists' residency venue called ChaNorth, a division of the broader ChaShaMa organization, eight artists created worlds within the unique studios they were assigned to in a large farmhouse or one of several outbuildings.

ChaNorth Artists eat communally—"I always try to include a couple of cooking artists in the monthly mix", said residence director Brigitta Varadi—weed McEnroe's vegetable garden once a week in exchange for organic vegetables, and enjoy nature and solitude and time unobstructed by work and family commitments.

Valery Jung Estabrook's video installation art, "My Hands are Medicine," is rooted in video, but more as a light source now, with abstraction coming into it as images extending into space. In her tiny ChaNorth studio, images of her mother and herself appear on layers of mesh like theater scrim, with voices overlaid, to enact ritual healing gestures for the artist's father, who passed away recently.

Working in video for almost 20 years, Estabrook seeks for digital film, which is essentially information, a way to "bring that into the world as material," as in this immersive installation in which one is invited to walk between and behind the scrim and experience the effects of reflective material hung on the walls.

Melinda Kiefer and Christopher Santiago are a married couple—she runs an art high school and he is a professor of anthropology and sociology—who not only collaborate but



PHOTO BY DEBORAH MAIER

Derra McWilliams works on a facial plane for her latest crocheted portrait in her ChaNorth studio. On the wall facing her, a crocheted "sketch" of its eyes and nose.

actually complete many works together. Their collaboration predates their relationship and continues to develop in new directions. "It's interesting when we are allowed to collide on a canvas...the juxtaposition of the different styles..." Santiago

mused. The couple also work in poetry, sculpture and drawing performance.

Interdisciplinary artist Christy O'Connor called ChaNorth "an amazing experience." She has been creating elements for use in installa-

tions and performances, such as one in which she had herself covered in jewels by audience members, a nod to a fictitious scandal involving Marie Antoinette, who is also featured in paintings thickly embellished using cake-piping tools.

Canadian-born Leslie Fandrich, who is now a U.S. resident, translates her own collages into large, low-relief textile assemblages. "I'm often thinking of two things being true at the same time... a paradox, which could be how colors blend together, hard and soft, and so on," she explained. Her dual nationality, gender identity, and the push-pull of parenting—having responsibility yet granting freedom—are reflected in the works.

Having driven from Ohio with her printers, Claude glasses and other appurtenances, photographer Mary Ann Carothers has made discoveries specific to our region while exploring art venues with the ChaNorth group—trading the Ohio River for the Hudson, for example. A notable piece is her installation of hanging roots as resting places for spongy moths cast into porcelain: "I had to dip them several times before firing them in the kiln."

With a chuckle, she admitted to "arguing ourselves as invasive species." Carothers is a design, urban art and photography professor at the University of Louisville.

Derra McWilliams—a teaching artist at a Chicago children's hospital, albeit in different mediums—creates crocheted portraits inspired by "a brief obsession with crochet in the fourth grade" and resulting in pliable, nearly abstract and very tactile faces.

New England artist Cate Solari's "collaborative play" interactive project setup, in the farmhouse's sunroom studio, invites gallery-goers to suspend adult inhibitions around "dirt" and to use elegantly crafted ceramic spheres to leave their mark(s).

Three more groups of artists will be showing their work at open studios at ChaNorth from 1 to 4 p.m. on the Saturdays of Sept. 2 and Nov. 11, and on Sunday, Oct. 1. For info, see www.chanorth.com

How to keep your pets cool in the heat

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to The Millerton News

AMENIA — The dog days of summer, named for Sirius, the Dog Star, traditionally end on Aug. 11, when the worst of the summer heat is supposedly finished. But in this, the hottest summer on record, temperatures continue to be high, which means animal owners need to remember to provide special care for their best friends.

According to Kirsten Peek, manager of media relations for the Humane Society of the United States, major priorities center on keeping animals cool and hydrated

while maintaining a lookout for signs of heat stroke.

Most dogs enjoy outings with their owners, but Peek suggests that those should be limited depending on temperatures and notes that early mornings and evenings provide the best opportunities.

Rather than exposing sensitive paws to hot surfaces, use grassy areas, or animal booties if that's not possible.

Doghouses might look like havens, but in actuality, temperatures inside can rise to dangerous levels. Instead, rely on naturally shaded areas, tarps or awnings, which allow for better circulation.

Car rides can be a treat

for most animals, but because temperatures inside can rise rapidly to deadly levels, animals should never be left alone in vehicles, even if windows are cracked. Leaving the air conditioner on is not a solution, as it might shut off or the animal could be exposed to other dangers if the car is running.

Above all, be certain that the animal has easy access to water at all times, and monitor for humidity changes, as a rise in that can amplify breathing problems. Those can be extreme, especially in animals with short snouts.

"Keeping a weather eye out" and forming emergency

plans is also part of being a responsible pet owner. Needs might include back-up water supplies, managing possible evacuations, or devising ways to keep the animal cool during power outages.

Despite the best efforts, some animals may suffer from potentially deadly heat stroke, which requires immediate attention.

According to Peek: "Some signs of heat stroke in animals include heavy panting, glazed eyes, a rapid heartbeat, difficulty breathing, excessive thirst and vomiting. Keep in mind, taking a dog's temperature will quickly tell you if there is a serious

problem. Dogs' temperatures should not reach over 104 degrees."

If heat stroke is suspected, she said: "Call your veterinarian immediately. In the meantime, move your pet into the shade or air-conditioned area. Apply ice packs or cold towels to their head, neck and chest or run cool (not cold) water over them. Let them drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes."

As always, having a locator chip embedded in the pet can provide one more level of protection — winter or summer — which will help owner and pet to always be together.



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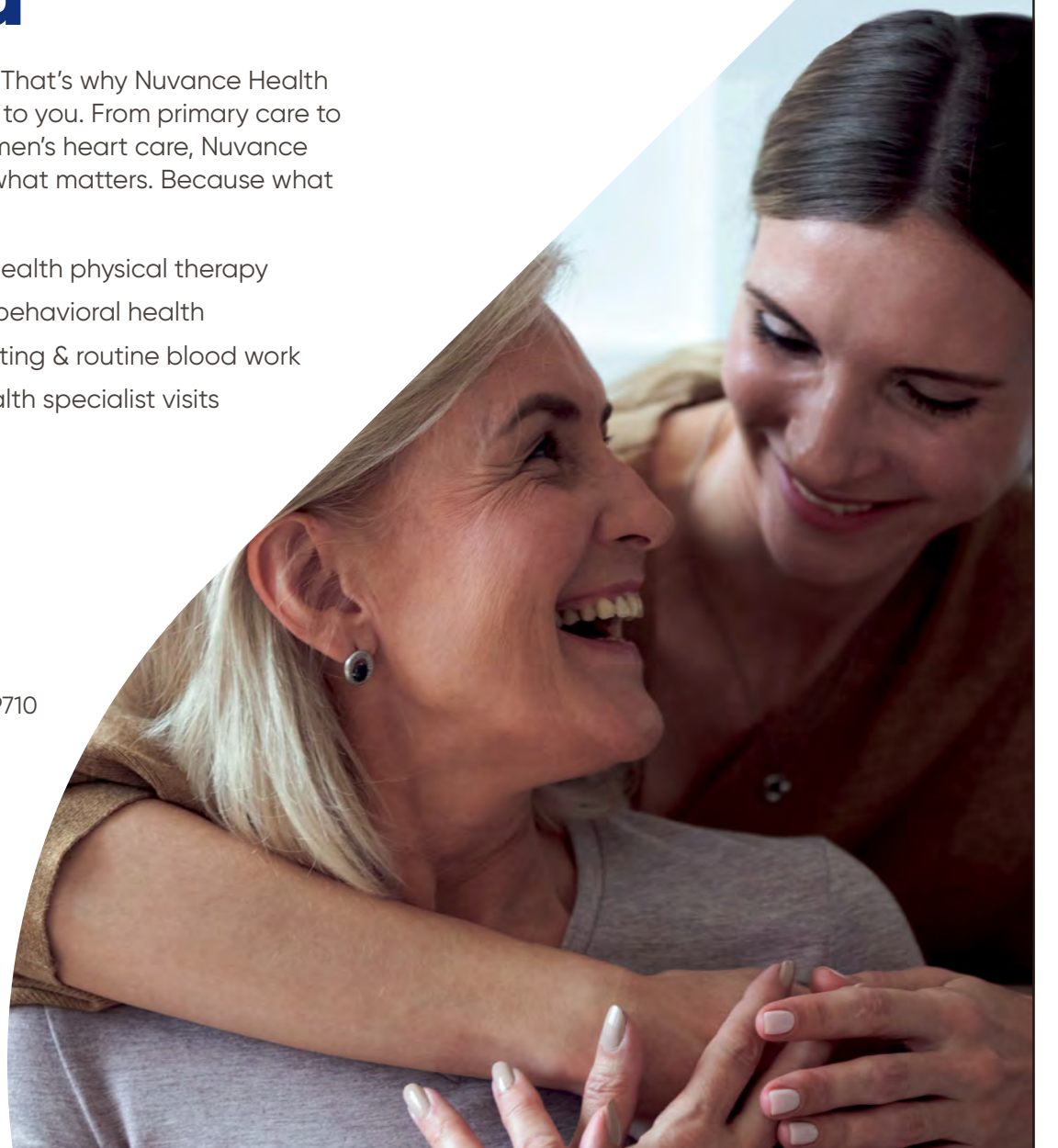
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NECC BRUNCH *Continued from Page A1*

the silent auction, and another for the sit down meal and live auction.

The honorees at this year's brunch were Sherrell Andrews and Rob Kuhbach, longtime volunteers with NECC. "Both have been steadfast supporters of, and volunteers for, NECC with over 15 years of combined experience on the Board of Directors," the said NECC Executive Director Christine Sergent. "Without their commitment and dedication to NECC and our surrounding community we would not be the organization we are today."

Hors d'oeuvres included fruit skewers, mini quiches, candied bacon, cherry and chocolate bread, and mini frittatas. The main course included chicken paillard, a corn and arugula salad with peaches and cherry tomatoes, and a zucchini blossom and farmer's cheese flatbread. Dessert was a chocolate and vanilla cake decorated with the NECC logo and various words and images representing the ethos and purpose of the organization, including pictures of produce, farm animals and school supplies.

The meal was provided by a wide array of local

Emma Isakoff of Troutbeck in Amenia baked the cake for North East Community Center's (NECC) Chef and Farmer Brunch, which was held Sunday, Aug. 6, at Mashomack Preserve in Pine Plains.



PHOTO BY EMMA BENARDETE

farms including: 52 Main, McEnroe Farm, Champetre, Black Sheep Hill, the Baker's Wife, Rock Steady Farm, Mashomack Preserve and Troutbeck. Cocktail hour also featured a number of beverages from local vendors including Harney and Sons' Tea, Irving Farm Coffee Roasters, and Tenmile Distillery.

In addition to ticket sales, the event raised funds through its silent and live auctions, featuring items donated by local individuals and businesses. Among the numerous silent auction offerings were an annual membership to the Trevor Zoo at the Millbrook School; a private screening at The Moviehouse in Millerton; a gift certificate to Cara Cara, a New York City-based clothing shop; and a bundle of tickets and a food gift certificate to Four Brothers Drive-In.

The live auction featured

three items: a dinner for eight at Tamarack Preserve's Turkey Hollow, a weeklong stay in a two-bedroom villa in Lisbon, Portugal; and a mimosa basket. CK Swett of Lot 1 Auctioneers, who served as the auctioneer last year, returned this year to reprise his

role.

Of the amount of funds raised at the event, Sergent said at press time, "We are still confirming pledges but our confirmed amount thus far is \$450,000." Last year's event raised approximately \$350,000.

ZURHELLEN *Continued from Page A1*

a change," said Zurhellen. "We need a common-sense approach to the issues facing our county residents. We must make sure that all our residents have a voice in the decisions that affect our homes. I know I have the leadership experience and collaborative spirit to get things done."

Zurhellen wants to work toward making Dutchess County an affordable place where people can grow up, get jobs, and find housing without having to leave the county. He believes it is possible, through educating the young in trades that pay well and making affordable housing a reality.

"Everyone has basic needs that the county is not currently providing," Zurhellen said. One of those needs is affordable housing. A professor at Marist College, Zurhellen sees firsthand what many of the needs are, noting that often people who would like to work at the college can't do so because they can't find affordable housing. Obtaining such housing would help the workforce and provide a means for young people to remain in Dutchess County after they finish their education.

Zurhellen also touched on the need for municipalities to look into their zoning codes, and to possibly amend those codes that are not in keeping with building or allowing affordable housing to exist.

Zurhellen plans to work



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Tommy Zurhellen is running for Dutchess County executive with a platform that is strong on affordable housing, better county-wide health care, and education that will enable Dutchess County youths to stay in the county after they have finished their education. A Navy veteran, he is also a major proponent of services for America's veterans.

with BOCES and Dutchess Community College to provide area youth the opportunity to be educated in occupations that will provide them with security and also benefit their communities. Keeping young people in Dutchess County by enabling them to have skills that will help them find well-paying jobs and housing that they can afford is a high priority for him and his campaign.

A Navy veteran, and Commander of VFW Post 170, Zurhellen is very much

involved with veterans' affairs. He is the author of a book about his educational hike across the country and is also the founder of VetZero, which has given medical rides to over 3,000 veterans. He hopes to make it a county-wide program if elected and would like to see better outreach to all Dutchess County veterans.

While attending programs in Millbrook, Pine Plains, Tivoli, Beacon, Dover, Poughkeepsie and other sites, Zurhellen is often asked about

health care in the county. He said it's a problem for young and old alike; rural health care is not always accessible nor affordable. Some rural hospitals don't have emergency services available, and this is a need that should be addressed.

The problem of food insecurity is also on his agenda, and he noted that some children get their only meal of the day at school. When school is closed, as well as before and after school, they still need to eat. Supplement meals need to be provided.

Senior citizens are also on Zurhellen's radar, as affordable housing and food insecurity also touches them, since they may be on fixed incomes that don't keep up with inflation. He noted that the county Office for the Aging makes phone calls, and provides information for seniors, but, he said, "we can do more."

Having lived in Dutchess County for almost 20 years, Zurhellen wants all of its citizens, including those residents in more rural areas, to have a say in how they are governed and how their needs are met. He believes there is a need for a change in leadership, but a leadership that leads with kindness, not fear. With his reputation for service and being proactive, he feels that he can be that leader, and will work hard to get his message out between now and November.

SERINO *Continued from Page A1*



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Former New York State Sen. Sue Serino has raised over \$250,000 in her bid for election to the post of Dutchess County Executive. Women's advocate, strong on law enforcement, Serino is taking her platform to many events around the county.

Serino has long been a proponent for women, hosting a yearly women's networking event, among other projects. In 2022 her event presented Millbrook's Lori Decker, founder of the Hudson Valley's Angels of Light, as Woman of the Year. It is among the many charities that Serino supports.

She can be seen at many events, recently at the senior picnic in Pine Plains hosted by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, where she works part-time as an hourly communications specialist; a Habitat for Humanity project in Millerton; at Fishkill Food Pantry; and at a Trees for Troops event.

When asked what people most want to talk about at these events, she noted that many want to stay in their community but are not sure that they will be able to do so as they age or as housing becomes more expensive. This is especially relevant to seniors and those just starting out. People are nervous about the future due to the rise in costs of food, fuel, housing and other basic necessities, and Serino feels the county has to cut spending and make wiser decisions in where money should be spent.

Another topic, and one that she was strong on during her time in the senate, is public safety as concerns the bail reform law, especially in cases involving domestic abuse violations. Serino has also worked with strengthen-

ing training for law enforcement officers

Endorsed by the New York State Police, Serino said, "I am so grateful to have the continued support of law enforcement for our campaign for Dutchess County Executive, from the State Troopers to our local police investigators. Our communities across Dutchess deserve to have public safety prioritized, and as County Executive I will hold the line against the failed bail reform policies coming out of Albany."

Regarding education, believing that our experiences make us who we are, she would like to work with getting young people trained and hired locally. Serino would like to work with BOCES and other organizations to support learning in trades and host programs uniting parents, children and vendors in trades to show the career possibilities when staying in the county.

Serino has shown strong support for veterans in the past, and was present at the dedication of the new Dutchess County Division of Veterans Services in Pleasant Valley, the "one stop" site for veterans to receive many different services

By July 31, Serino had received donations of over \$250,000, a record amount for this position in the county. She hopes the voter support will echo the financial support come November.

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FAIR *Continued from Page A1*

pate include first responders, libraries, churches, social service organizations, friends of The Lakeville Journal and more.

Music will come from Wanda Houston, Trina Hamlin and Terra Coda. Food will be available at food trucks and the Lakeville Hose Ladies Auxiliary.

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The Journal wants to spread the word about ways people can become involved as volunteers — at the fire department, the ambulance corps, the library, the food pantries, our churches and synagogues and environmental groups, just to list a few.

The organizations joining the Jam on Sunday have many missions: Preserving local culture, supporting land conservation, strengthening education and youth development, fostering economic growth, providing social services and health care services, creating affordable housing, encouraging civic engagement.

The event is sponsored by Elyse Harney Real Estate and Northeast Ford.

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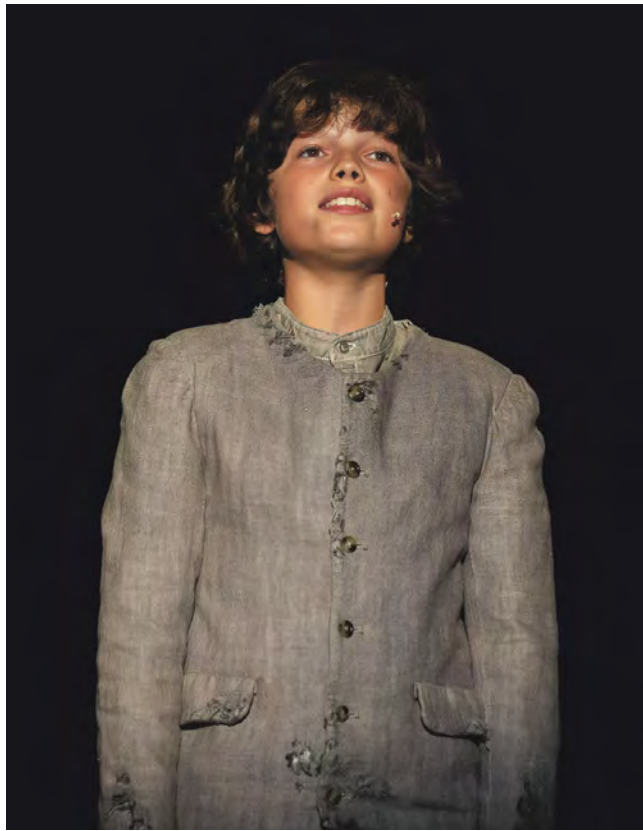
THEATER: ALEXANDER WILBURN

British Classic on the Summer Stage

The children seated in the front two rows at the opening weekend "Oliver!" at The Sharon Playhouse in Sharon, Conn., may well be in for a surprise if they ever feel inspired to crack open the Charles Dickens novel of sinister class commentary.

Sprightly, merry, and comical, The Playhouse's production, directed by Michael Kevin Baldwin, stays true to the 1960 adaptation of the West End show with book, music, and lyrics by Lionel Bart, later directed as a 1968 Oscar-winning film by Carol Reed — and perhaps softens some edges even further.

Bart's kind-hearted musical made the characters in Dickens' tale of thieves and child criminals in London's decrepit rookeries more palatable as a family-friendly frolic. It was "Oliver Twist" for the modern masses. What he did best was craft a superbly enduring soundtrack for this 19th-century fairy tale, with songs that remain instantly recognizable and hummable — "Food Glorious Food," "Consider Yourself," "You've Got To Pick A Pocket or Two," "I'd Do Anything" — is it any wonder that in Bart's New York Times obituary, Andrew Lloyd Webber called him "the



Ivan Howe as Oliver Twist

PHOTOS BY ALY MORRISSEY

father of the modern British musical"? The audience at The Playhouse could nearly be asked to sing along.

Baldwin's production, with musical direction by Jacob Carll, choreography by Michelle Lemon, and set design by TJ Greenway, leans heavily into the touchstone musical numbers and softens the drama, giving the show a colorful, zippy feeling at two and half hours (including intermission). Broad comedy and some cockney accent work give the adult players some quirky Masterpiece Theatre-type meat

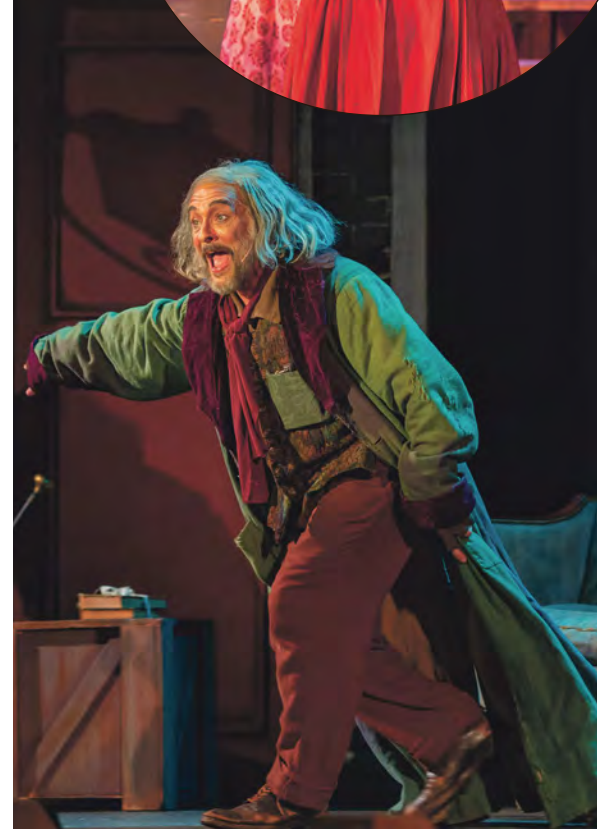
to chew on, and there are plenty of well-cast standouts, especially Dan Radzikowski and Johanne Kesten as the delectably gruesome undertakers, Jenna Leigh Miller as their tarty daughter, and Xavier Turner as their mouthy assistant. They make a whole play out of their side characters. John Bergeron pairs up with The Playhouse board member Savannah Stevenson, who takes to the Sharon stage for the first time to delightful effect as they ham up a weird romance as workhouse beadle Mr. Bumble and

the Widow Corney, the first antagonistic adults orphan Oliver bumps up against.

Leading the show as Oliver is Indian Mountain School student Ivan Howe, a more cherubic-faced boy there probably cannot be found, and apparently Netflix agreed since the 11-year-old recently completed filming the upcoming television series "Eric" in New York City and Budapest playing Benedict Cumberbatch's son. Howe is joined by a large ensemble of children playing the mostly female band of pickpockets, including Phoebe Amankwah as The Artful Dodger.

The wallet-snatching urchins are under the thumb of criminal leader Fagin, adorned in ghoulish garb but mostly played with benevolence by James Beaman. The same cannot be said for Justin Michael Duval, who brings a legitimate sense of masculine threat to the show with a potent turn as villain Bill Sikes.

The emotional core of The Playhouse's "Oliver!" is YouTube star Gina



James Beaman as Fagin

Naomi Baez, a magnificent singer who imbues warmth and magnetism into Nancy, the tragically abused lover of Bill and Fagin's criminal accomplice who eventually helps rescue Oliver. Baez

has a big, clear, pop-star voice, taking over the show and giving a contemporary edge and heart to Bart's classic songs.

"Oliver!" runs through Aug. 20.

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OUR TOWNS

Graduates receive health care scholarships

By MAUD DOYLE
maudd@lakevillejournal.com

SALISBURY, Conn. — A handful of students, proud parents, and the board members of Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association (SVNA) gathered in the lobby of SVNA's office in Salisbury on Tuesday, Aug. 1, to celebrate the SVNA's nascent scholarship program and its 10 college-aged recipients.

Now in its third year, the \$10,000-per-year scholarship is awarded annually to five local high school seniors who plan to pursue careers in health care. After winning the scholarship for their freshman year, the students are eligible to continue receiving the grant for each succeeding year of their degree.

Scholarship applications, which are managed by Northwest CT Community Foundation, must demonstrate financial need, academic competency, and most importantly, a dedicated interest in the medical field.

The program came into being after SVNA merged with Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County. The board determined that the SVNA's endowment, which had grown out of SVNA's local fundraising efforts, remain part of SVNA rather than getting absorbed into the larger organization. This way, said Louis Fox, a director on SVNA's board, the board could ensure that the endowment went back to the community from which SVNA had raised the money over the years.

While the scholarship is not strictly limited to Region 1, it is tightly tied to the Salis-



PHOTO BY MAUD DOYLE

Awardees of the 2023 SVNA scholarship posed with giant \$10,000 checks on Tuesday, Aug. 1. From left: Madeline Krasowski, Warren; Zoe Gillette, Lakeville; Emma Colley, Sharon; Micah Matsudaira, Cornwall; Luke Mollica, West Cornwall

bury area. This is also true of another piece of the scholarship program, which grants funds to mid-career workers who want to pursue a new career or further education in health care.

"The scholarship is a huge help," said Christine Colley, mother of awardee Emma Colley, a newly minted graduate of Berkshire School bound for the University of Richmond in the fall, where she plans to major in biology. As tuition balloons in schools across the U.S., such scholarships make a tangible difference for local parents.

"[Tuition] was significantly more than we'd expected it would be—plus we're also putting our son through high school," said Colley. "We wouldn't be able to afford [the University of Richmond] without this scholarship."

'A desperate shortage'

SVNA also hopes that the scholarship might alleviate the critical dearth of health

care workers across the U.S., particularly in more rural communities. The Northwest Corner, said Mary Robertson, president of the board of SVNA, "is in a desperate shortage of nurses and health care workers."

"The home health care world is changing," said Fox. "It's more critical because the federal government is pushing people to not to stay in hospitals, to get out as quickly as they can—and most people want to go home."

"Then they need not just nursing but rehabilitation and care-taking services as well," explained Robertson, pointing to the large and growing demand for non-medical care—caretakers who can help someone get into the shower, run an errand or cook a meal.

"[Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County is] trying to meet the needs of an aging local population," she said, "but this is a remote location, it's very difficult work, and most people who do this work can't afford to live here."

Future health care workers

At the reception, Fox raised a toast to the five students in attendance. "We are so grateful to be able to support young people who want to go into health care and nursing, because we need you," he said. "And though we have no say in what you decide to do with your educa-

tion, it is our secret hope—or not-so-secret, really—that you'll come back."

"I love it here. This was an amazing place to grow up," said Zoe Gillette, a scholarship recipient and Housatonic Valley Regional High School graduate set to begin her freshman year at Marist College in Poughkeepsie majoring in biomedical sciences. She hopes one day to become a physician's assistant. But she expressed doubt as to whether or not she would return to the Northwest Corner to pursue her career. "My main concern is definitely being able to afford to live here long-term. It's become so expensive."

Robertson concurred. More systemic change will be needed, particularly in the area of affordable housing, she said, before the Northwest Corner will see the influx of young health care workers and non-medical caretakers it needs.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Children's author visits farmers market

On Saturday, Aug. 5, Josh Funk was signing books at the Merritt Bookstore table at the Millbrook Farmers and Makers Market. Funk's books for children include "The Case of the Stinky Stench," the Lady Pancake and Sir French Toast series, the "It's Not a Fairy Tale" series, and "My Pet Feet." Funk, who lives in the Boston area, starting writing children's books because he didn't like the way many of the classic stories ended, so he wrote stories the way he wanted them to finish. Since 2015, he has spent time in over 700 schools, classrooms and libraries, talking to children and answering their questions. He studied computer science and is a software engineer when he is not writing for youngsters or paying them visits.

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Salisbury to add EV chargers

By MAUD DOYLE
maudd@lakevillejournal.com

SALISBURY, Conn. — Eversource Energy approved the Town of Salisbury's application to install two electric vehicle (EV) chargers in the parking lot of Town Grove in Lakeville last week, making Salisbury the latest town—joining Millerton, Falls Village, Sharon, Canaan, and others—to bring EV chargers to municipal land.

Watching EV chargers spring up in towns throughout the Northwest Corner prompted a Salisbury resident and EV owner to suggest that Salisbury get in on the action. The Salisbury Economic Development Committee took up the proposal with gusto.

"It kind of came down to looking at our neighbors, and seeing what they're doing," said Robert Schaufelberger, the committee's vice president, who has taken on the role of managing the pre-install phase of the town's bid for chargers. "There are quite a number of EV users in the town already. We're trying to stay competitive. We want to offer visitors and residents whatever sort of resources we're able to provide."

Green money, dirty power

For towns in the Northwest Corner, the EV installations' biggest draw are the economic incentives administered under Eversource's Connecticut Electric Vehicle Charging Program, which makes installing Level 2 chargers a relatively cheap and easy proposition for homes, businesses and municipalities.

The electricity delivery company's contribution to charger installation can come out to \$20,000. For Salisbury, that means that the build-out of the charging stations is expected to cost \$10,873; five years of network fees and warranty costs add another \$5,390.

"So the money is on the table," said Schaufelberger. "It's ours to take if we can put together a proper proposal [for Eversource]."

The money that Eversource is providing for these installations will be reimbursed to it by Connecticut's Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) under its statewide Electric Vehicle Charging Program, established July 14, 2021.

The goal of the state program is a "self-sustaining zero emission vehicle market," one

of a number of "zero-emission" and "decarbonization" goals that the state is planning to meet by funding electric alternatives to oil and gas in homes, businesses, and transportation.

While it isn't possible at this point to say precisely what the energy sources are for the electricity that Eversource delivers to Connecticut, the data is available for Eversource's power delivery in New Hampshire, which passed a disclosure law in 2010. In 2022, 87.12% of the energy Eversource delivered came from nonrenewable sources like oil, coal and natural gas, and an additional 8.6%, considered "renewable," from burning wood and other biomass, which is also not a zero-emissions method.

Compared to the average of all New England power sources used in New Hampshire last year (25% renewable, 75% nonrenewable), the difference in emissions is striking: The power delivered by Eversource produced 968.82 pounds per megawatt hour of CO₂, whereas the average of all New England power sources used in New Hampshire produced 624.65 pounds/MWh.

Working in conjunction with the state's "decarbonization" initiatives by offering its customers electric options, Eversource is growing its market, with little direct investment from the company.

Level 2 chargers

Among EV owners, there is some frustration with the eagerness to install Level 2 EV chargers in public parking spaces; a Level 2 charger is far less practical than a Level 3 charger for someone passing through.

Level 2 EV chargers offer a 240-volt connection—the same amount of power as a clothes dryer. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Level 2 chargers can charge a plug-in hybrid EV in one to two hours, and a battery-powered EV to 80% from empty in four to 10 hours, the high end of that spectrum being occupied by the more affordable EVs that are already in use around country. In other words, to get a full charge from a Level 2 charger, most EVs have to charge overnight.

The efficacy of short-term charging varies from car to car—the 2023 Audi E-tron Quattro can get up to 22 miles from one hour of charging; a 2023 Ford F150 Lightning can get up to 39 miles, whereas a 2019 Toyota Prius Prime can

get up to 13 miles from a solid hour of charging.

On a full charge, almost all EVs can travel at least 100 miles; new models tend to have an all-electric range of 200-300 miles.

However, the Level 3 charger, which requires a 480-volt electrical source, is a much bigger undertaking for the town: Salisbury, for example, would have to replace entire power lines in order to make Level 3 chargers on town property viable. The Level 3 charger is also bigger, more complex and time-consuming to install, and exponentially more expensive. But it can charge a new EV from empty in about 30 minutes, or about 300 miles in an hour.

"We're looking for a way to try this out with minimal cost, effort or risk to the town," said Schaufelberger. "We didn't want to be trenching under concrete or pavement."

Charging at Town Grove

The committee and its consultant, Artis Energy Solutions, took that into account when they chose Town Grove as an optimal site for the town's first EV chargers. Particularly during the summer, said Schaufelberger, "people might like spending a couple hours there." Of course, in summer, visitors would need to buy a "stickerless" day pass to park at the chargers.

The other factors that played into the committee's decision were the site's walking distance from shops and restaurants, the fact that the chargers won't take up parking spaces that are too in-demand, and proximity to an accessible electrical connection with sufficient amperage.

"We're just dipping our toes into this world, right?" said Schaufelberger. "We're only committing to a single charger. We want to learn from how it does at the Grove as well as from our neighbors in surrounding towns."



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Barbara Martinez, left, and Alberto Alabedra of Alba Musik performing at the Hudson Valley Flamenco Festival on Saturday, Aug. 5, in Millbrook.

Flamenco comes to Millbrook

MILLBROOK — With the flashing colors of swirling skirts, the clacking of maracas, heels clicking to a passionate stream of guitar, and voices melded in song, the 2023 Hudson Valley Flamenco Festival, presented by the Millbrook Arts Group (MAG) began at the Millbrook Bandshell on Saturday, Aug. 5.

There was also a raffle, food, and a kiosk offering some Spanish shawls, hats and T-shirts in keeping with the Flamenco theme. The backdrop for the stage was created for the show by local artists Sharon Bates, who is an MAG board member, and Paul Miyamoto.

The first part of the program was Alba Musik, featur-

ing performer Barbara Martinez and guitarist Alberto Alabedra, along with Peter Bogdands and Ricardo Sanchez. Martinez, a native of Venezuela, explained the songs as she sang them, including one about a tryst between the sun and the moon, and another a love song to a dog.

The second half featured six dancers and guitarist Sanchez. The women—Ania Bartelhus, Anna Librada, Elisabet Torras, Rebecca Tomas, and Dierdre Towers—all had a solo or duo dance performance. In the finale, all women were on stage, and the audience was asked to follow their movements and become flamenco dancers themselves.

— Judith O'Hara Balfe

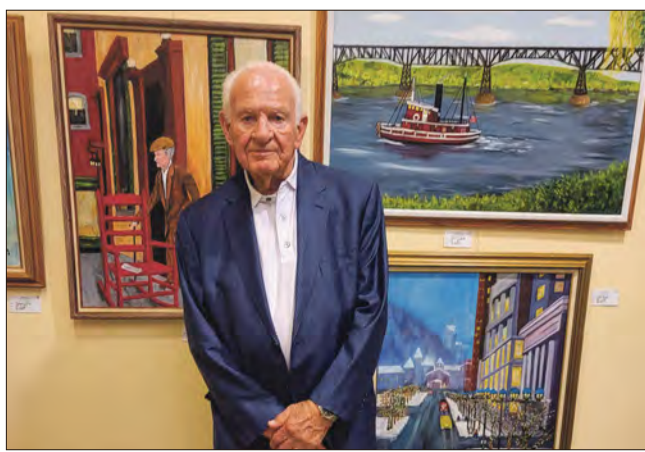


PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Prolific painter Ed Shurig shows work at the Fountains

MILLBROOK — The artwork of Ed Shurig is on display at the Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, through August, and includes landscapes, portraits, animals, boats and abstracts, while also featuring a large display of Shurig's 9/11 collection, a combination of metal sculpture and paintings in tribute to those who died, those who lived and those who helped in the aftermath.

Self-taught, Shurig prefers acrylics to other mediums, but has no favorite subject to paint. He moved to the Fountains about two years

ago, and enjoys works with Ellen O'Shea, who teaches art there, although she says there is nothing she can teach him.

The exhibit is a view of life as seen from Shurig's perspective, and the amount of work on display is a testament to Shurig's love of art: He hung the exhibit himself with a minimum of help. He sold one painting barely 10 minutes into the opening.

Light refreshments were served to the more than 80 people who attended the opening reception.

— Judith O'Hara Balfe

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

Please take notice that the Town of Pine Plains Town Board will be accepting sealed bids for the purchase of the following materials for the year 2024:

1) Bituminous asphalt (various sizes) including cold mix asphalt using the most current posted price index.

2) Crushed stone (all sizes).

3) Ice control sand- all crushed stone shall meet Section 703 of the NYSDOT 'Standard

Specifications' and Natural and Processed Sands and Gravels, Crushed Stone, Aggregate, Run of Bank Gravel specifications of County of Dutchess. All stone and asphalt materials shall come from NYSDOT approved plant. Bid prices on all of the above materials per ton, with the exception of asphalt should be for both F.O.B. and delivered.

4) Liquid calcium chloride for summer and winter.

5) Blended diesel fuel.

6) #2 Heating oil for garage, winter mix December through February for heating oil only.

7) Mid-Grade and Regular no lead gasoline.

8) Liquid Propane for garage and library.

All bids should use the Albany OPIS for the Friday immediately preceding the bid opening date.

Bids will be accepted until 12:00 noon Friday August 11, 2023 at the Town

Clerks Office,

PO Box 955, 3284 Route 199 Pine Plains, NY 12567 at which time they will be opened and read aloud.

In order for your bid to be considered complete, the following must be submitted as required by

Section 103D of the Municipal Law:

Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate

Certificate of Insurance Naming Town of Pine Plains as Certificate Holder

All bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes with the following information on the outside:

1. Materials Bids 2024
2. August 11, 2023, 12:00 PM

The Town Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. The F.O.B. plant price will be analyzed with full consideration given to the distance of the plant to the project location.

Any questions should be directed to the Highway Department at (518) 398-6662.

By order of the Town Board of the Town of Pine Plains
Madelin Dafoe
Town Clerk
08-03-23
08-10-23

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF AMENIA
HIGHWAY
DEPARTMENT
Highway Material Bids
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



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EDITORIAL

Summer interns

This summer has marked another successful season for journalism interns at The Millerton News and The Lakeville Journal. Both newspapers have been blessed with outstanding contributions by a group that ranged from a rising high school senior to a recent high school graduate to college undergraduates with journalism careers in their sights.

Our five paid summer interns have turned out many stories this summer that have entertained and enlightened readers with the best kind of community journalism.

Ella Hewins, a 2023 graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional High School, wrote about scholarship money that was left on the table because of a lack of applicants. Hewins, who will be entering the University of Vermont this fall, pointed out that students have cited many reasons for not applying for some scholarships, including the Fulton Fund Scholarship, which is offered to students living in Salisbury. Some claimed that it is too time consuming on top of school work and outside of school activities. Others were convinced that they didn't compare well to other applicants.

Principal Ian Strever told Hewins that he knew of students in Salisbury who could have used the money.

Sadie Leite, a Tufts University undergraduate who is interning at The Lakeville Journal for her third year this summer, wrote about students at the Salisbury School who replaced a monoculture hillside at the school with a "pollinator meadow." In the end there will be 45 species of plants in the meadow that will be mowed once a year, starting next spring. Leite also reported another science-based story about Lake Wononscopomuc, which, this year, became so dominated by algae growth that the lake association called in an expert to assess. More recently Leite chronicled the progress on a Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Connecticut program to provide affordable housing in North Canaan.

Emma Benardete, a member of the Class of 2025 at Oberlin College, also has returned as an intern this summer after an intern stint last year at The Millerton News. Benardete's editor-in-chief of The Oberlin Review, and her contributions this summer include a Q&A with 11-year old Ivan Howe of Millbrook as he prepared for his role as "Oliver!" in The Sharon Playhouse production. She also has covered The Wetland Trust, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to acquiring and restoring wetland areas, and to preserve some turtle populations through its Hudson Valley Turtle Initiative. And she reported on the impact of July's rainfall and flooding on farms in Dutchess County.

Colleen Flynn, a rising senior at Marist College majoring in communications and journalism, began her internship in June and has written many stories ranging from Dutchess County's formation of a domestic violence unit to a talk by author Lorrie Moore about her new novel, "I am Homeless If This is Not My Home." Recently she wrote about a new parent/teen driving program in Dutchess and Putnam counties.

Our fifth summer intern, Emma Spindler, is a rising senior at Kent School. Her journalism debut this summer included teaming up with Riley Klein and Patrick L. Sullivan to cover the annual Falls Village Car and Motorcycle Show. In between other stories, Spindler also filed an in-depth look at a program at Sharon Hospital that allows high school students like herself to explore health care careers.

We wish our interns the best as they launch into their fall semesters, but before they leave, we'll share with you what they have to say about their experience working in community journalism.

Barbie phenomenon

What to make of this, I am asked. A phenomenon, I reply. Kate MacKinnon an hilarious Weird Barbie, offering Barbie/Robbie a high heel or a Birkenstock — my daughter having worn highs to her recent wedding, now exclaiming I love Birkenstocks!, before Robbie/Barbie goes off to the Real World, leaving the Perfect Barbie/Robbie World far behind. Sort of.

Good stuff, I note. Clearly, Greta Gerwig is a much more astute student of cinema history than I, so I only timidly note her deep affection and respect for the Busby Berkeley movies of the Thirties. Some ten or so routines with twenty girls in twirls, round and round. Lovely to see the shout out.

But what to make of this? Despite numerous attempts by Company Mattel to make the product BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color, for those who have not been

SOVEREIGN STATE

Lonnie Carter

keeping up), Robbie/Barbie is still who she has always been, and apparently will always be. Blond and Gorgeous.

What is this old white coot to think? We still want little girls to aspire to be BLONDE AND GORGEOUS?

What other conclusion can I come to? Disabuse me if you can.

Lonnie Carter
Playwright
Falls Village

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.



PHOTO BY DEBORAH MAIER

Along the Harlem Valley Rail Trail

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

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@millerton-news.com. Please include a phone number for confirmation.

Sin & the Cure: Repentance

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Peter Riva

One of the lessons in the movie Oppenheimer is that the man — indeed the team of scientists — come to realize that the weapon they had created for good purpose is, in fact the destroyer of their collective (and our nation's) morality. They had created an ultimate sin.

Everything that followed was a sincere attempt to limit that sin: nuclear proliferation treaties, SALT I and SALT II treaties, attempts to stop other nations' acquisition of nuclear weapons, and, never least, stockpiling of atom bombs to present mutual annihilation as an end game to be avoided at all costs. Mutual destruction game-playing is tantamount to saying, "My sin can be greater than yours, best we do not sin at all." But sin it remains.

You may ask, and historians have done so: Why do humans, who learn just how terrible such weapons are, carry on with plans that they

know will be absolutely destructive? Knowing what is right and doing the opposite is sinful, deliberate sin. The Bible, Old Testament and New, have this exact definition of sin: the evil I know better than to do, I keep on doing.

To overcome sin, and sinful acts, there is only one recourse: change. And change can only come about with honesty, admitting that we do know better than to repeat a sin, that we want, deep down inside, not to be sinful. That process of conquering our sinful habits is called repentance. Repentance is changing one's mind in order to see differently, see beyond the sins one perpetrates.

Repentance is a process: stopping the evil that one knows better than to do, the

evil sin that one keeps on doing, but has to stop. As a nation, a whole nation, we have to turn back away from such sin, we need to repent. And help those who want to repent, not turn them away.

Oppenheimer learned this lesson, he repented, turned back to moral ground, fought to stop the evil he had unleashed. So too we as a nation have to turn away from the evil we know better than to do, yet keep on doing. In the last eight years, good people have undertaken to support and further falsehoods that they know better than to condone — but keep on doing so with blind passion. Believing falsehoods, condoning criminality, professing to be non-racist, non-discriminatory, whilst denying the laws of the nation and attacking the enforcers of those laws, supporting racism and openly discriminating against fellow Americans — these are all perfect definitions of sin — precisely because all our

people do know better, are privately or in secret better, but keep on openly sinning regardless.

Almost half of our country needs to repent, cast off their sins, and in that repentance reattach themselves to the principle, self-evident, found in the moral backbone of our nation in that document headed with: "We the People..." This is a nation where all people are created equal, whether Hispanic, Asian, Anglo, European, African American, of Native Tribes, whatever religion or sexual persuasion, and that all and each of these people have fundamental rights, such as liberty, free speech, freedom of religion, due process of law, and freedom of assembly.

It is time for all Americans to repent and, thereby, heal the nation.

Peter Riva, a former resident of Amenia Union, now lives in New Mexico.

Is Climate Migration Already Happening?

Dear EarthTalk: What exactly is "climate migration" and is it already happening?

—B.T., via email

As discussions of the climate crisis begin to shift from future tense to present, "climate migration" has become a growing concern. But what is it? The question is stickier than one might think. By its simplest definition, the phrase refers to the voluntary or involuntary movement of people from one place to another due to adverse ecological conditions, usually caused by global warming. Conditions can include natural disasters, gradual desertification, rising sea levels or crop-destroying insect migration, to name a few.

And therein lies the stickiness. For one, how can we be certain that adverse environmental conditions have been caused by climate change? To be certain, we would have to refer to the relatively new science of extreme event attribution, which is often inconclusive. Then, to call someone a "climate migrant," the climatic conditions would have to be the principal motivation for their upheaval. Most often, it is a mixture of things that cause a person to pull up roots and move, and environmental factors are hard to separate from the rest: Climate change can also increase poverty, crime and political instability.

Another legally important issue is the term "migrant." If the new turbulence of the environment is what forces people to move, wouldn't it be best to call them climate

EARTHTALK

Annie Gray

"refugees"? That way the upheaved population would have greater protection, like access to legal services and planned relocation, although at the moment, the Refugee Act of 1951 does not cover climate displacement. The importance of definition and terminology is pivotal when it comes to the law, as well as recognition from host countries. Calling them refugees instead of migrants will, as the Council on Foreign Relations has said, "also be a signal from wealthier countries, which are most responsible for planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions, that there is a global responsibility to help those harmed by climate change."

And the situation could hardly be more urgent. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees has determined that natural disasters alone force an annual average of 21.5 million people from their homes across the globe. In one study conducted by The New York Times, ProPublica and the Pulitzer Center, an extreme scenario could see "more than 30 million migrants [...] head toward the U.S. border over the course of the next 30 years." Climate displacement has begun, and will only increase with the coming years.

The statistics are dire, and the consequences potentially catastrophic, but host countries have the opportunity to twist the best out of a bad situation. Climate displacement

could fix economic problems associated with aging populations, and fill holes in the job market. Gaia Vince of The Guardian predicts that "cities from Munich to Buffalo will begin competing with each other to attract migrants." So, yes, climate migration is happening now, and will increase with the warming and ecological disasters coming our way. Legal protection and

clearer definitions are needed, but it's not all gloom. Climate migrants don't only spell disaster, they also spell opportunity for those countries wise enough to see it.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at emagazine.com. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

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Volume 92, Number 29 **Thursday, August 10, 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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OUR TOWNS

Recent property sales in Amenia

The Millerton News will periodically publish a listing of residential real estate sales in eastern Dutchess County and adjacent towns. Despite historic low inventory and higher interest rates, many properties listed in spring are now beginning to close. At the moment, there are only eight active listings in Amenia, including two mobile homes and three properties over \$1 million.

419 Leedsville Road, with 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms and a pool plus equine buildings on 43 acres, sold on May 10 for \$1.35 million.

14 Troutbeck Crescent, a 6,000-square-foot 3-bedroom, 4-bath home on 4 acres, sold on June 2 for \$912,500, below its original listing price of \$1.1 million.

134 Old Route 22, with 4 bedrooms and 1 bath, sold on June 30 for \$237,500.

83 Powder House Road, with 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths, sold over the asking price of \$449,000 for \$455,000 on July 18.

330 South Amenia Road, with 5 bedrooms and 2 baths, sold for \$430,000 on July 26.

766 Old Route 22 is a two-building, four-unit rental property with 8 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms, sold for \$600,000 on July 31.

Sales transactions in our region selected from recent transactions recorded by the MidHudson MLS in Amenia, New York. Does not include sale of mobile homes without acreage.

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



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

766 Old Route 22 in Amenia offered buyers two buildings, each with two occupied rental units plus an adjoining vacant lot. The property closed quickly at \$600,000 after being listed for \$645,000 in May.

To Place an Ad Call 860-435-9873 or visit www.tricornernews.com/classifieds

Classifieds

TAG SALES

SHARON, CT
MOVING SALE AUGUST 19 & 20: 9:30 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. (no early birds please). Varied range of items: furniture, tools, unusual treasures, saddle, lawn tractor and much more. Come and see for yourself! 50 Hooperfields Drive, Sharon, CT 06069.

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1973 CITROEN 2CV FOR SALE: for the benefit of The Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society. Classic French car in good running condition. All proceeds go to the Historical Society. Contact President Judy Jacobs, 860-824-5861 for more information and pricing.

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THE TOWN OF CORNWALL: has a part time job opening for Director of Social Services. For more details and to apply, contact Jane Hall in the First Selectmen's office: assistant@cornwallct.gov 860-672-4959.

HELP WANTED

THE SCOVILLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY: is seeking an innovative, motivated, and community-minded person with exceptional organizational skills to join our team as the next Program Coordinator for Adults. The position is part-time, 20 hours per week, including some evenings and weekends, and requires remote and onsite work. Please email Karin Goodell, Library Director, at kgoodell@biblio.org for a complete description of the position and to submit a letter of interest and resume by September 1, 2023.

THE TOWN OF SALISBURY: is seeking applicants for a full-time Financial Assistant to work directly under the Comptroller to assist in performing daily accounting functions. This is a 30-hour week, benefit inclusive position. Payroll and HR experience preferred. The Town of Salisbury is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Full details and job description available at www.salisburyct.us/employment. Please email cover letter and resume to: townhall@salisburyct.us Applications must be received by August 31, 2023.

ISABELLA FREEDMAN JEWISH RETREAT CENTER: is a year-round 120-person retreat facility that is located in Falls Village, CT. New employees are eligible for a signing bonus of \$1,000. At the time of hire, the new employee will receive \$250. After 45 days, provided they have no active disciplinary issues, the new employee will receive the remaining \$750. Want to work at a beautiful, peaceful location, with great people? This is the place to be! We are currently seeking positions for a Prep Cook, Dishwashers, Hospitality Specialist (to work in housekeeping), and lifeguard(s). For more details please visit our website at <https://adamah.org/about-adamah/careers/> or email a copy of your resume to jobs@adamah.org.

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Saturday & Sunday, August 12 & 13 | 9:00am to 3:00

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Go to our website, www.collin-and-co.com for pictures

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Salisbury School

Part-time Driver

The Salisbury School Health Center is seeking a part-time driver responsible for driving students to/from off-campus medical appointments (School vehicle provided). The appointments are scheduled weekday afternoons during the academic calendar. Approximate schedule is 10-15 hours per week. \$20.00 per hour. Drivers must possess a valid State of Connecticut license with a PSL endorsement (the School can assist with the PSL process if needed). Drivers are required to submit to pre-employment and periodic random drug testing.

For an application, please visit www.salisburyschool.org or email hr@salisburyschool.org.

EOE

Salisbury School

Full and Part-time Security Officer Positions

Salisbury School, an independent all boys school located in Salisbury, CT, is looking for individuals to join its Campus Safety Department. Security Officers perform a full scope of security duties related to maintaining a safe and secure school campus, including patrolling, providing oversight, and other support of campus activities and facilities. Available shifts: Fri., Sat., Sun. 3 p.m. - 11 p.m.; Mon., Tues., Sat., Sun. 11 p.m. - 7 a.m. Candidate must be able to respond promptly to various alarm and equipment issues, be self-motivated and perform duties with minimal supervision. Safety/Security experience a plus.

For an employment application please visit: www.salisburyschool.org/our-story/careers-at-salisbury or email mdonecker@salisburyschool.org.

EOE

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The Millerton News is seeking a part-time news reporter to cover Harlem Valley towns and school districts.

Are you interested in your local news scene? Here is a chance to report on community news, business news, the environment, government, police and all the issues that affect the lives of Millerton News readers.

Writing skills and basic knowledge of how New York government functions are a must.

Email Resume and Writing Samples to Editor John Coston, editor@millertonnews.com.

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Real Estate

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REAL ESTATE

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

REAL ESTATE

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HOTCHKISS LOCKSMITH

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BENEFIT-ELIGIBLE - FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE

The Hotchkiss School, an independent, residential secondary school, seeks an engaged individual interested in supporting our mission and school values. Be a part of a vibrant and diverse school community, as a member of a comprehensive team of professionals.

Unlock endless opportunities as a Locksmith at The Hotchkiss School! The Locksmith performs repair, alteration, installation and keying of locks on buildings, equipment, lockers and vehicles; resolving immediate operational, security and/or safety concerns. The Locksmith maintains the campus keying system in coordination with One Card electronic access systems. In addition to Locksmith responsibilities, general Campus Safety and Security Department duties are required, as assigned.

To excel in this role, we are seeking individuals that possess a strong mechanical aptitude, attention to detail, and a customer service-oriented mindset. Your ability to work independently, be self-directed, maintaining a growth mindset will make you a valued member of our team.

While experience as a locksmith is preferred, those with experience and skills transferable to the position will be considered.

Our campus is easily reached from Torrington, CT, Great Barrington, MA, and Northern Dutchess County, NY. For more details on the positions, visit the Careers page of our website, under Staff Opportunities.

Apply now!
www.hotchkiss.org/careers
 Need help with your application? Please contact HROffice@hotchkiss.org

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