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PHOTOS BY DEBORAH MAIER

Music teacher Eric Wiener leads the Webutuck Music Warriors in 'My Country 'Tis of Thee'—which historically used to be sung by the school choir—at the Memorial Day ceremony at Iroindale Cemetery on Monday, May 29. For more Memorial Day stories and photos, see page A3.

Millerton remembers fallen soldiers

By DEBORAH MAIER
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — “A beautiful celebration in this beautiful town” is how Millerton Police Department Chief Joseph Olenik described his first experience of the series of sites and ceremonies on a weather-perfect Monday, May 29, as people gathered to commemo-

rate area residents who fought and sometimes died in faraway wars.

From the Millerton firehouse, the convoy of fire engines and some farm vehicles wove south and west, from the old blue church down Main Street/Route 44, eliciting cheers and applause from the hundred of attendees crowding the sidewalks. Children dashed into the street to gather handfuls of

candies thrown from trucks.

Traffic on Route 22 was briefly halted as the procession made its way to the Iroindale Cemetery, where Dr. Julian Strauss gave a benediction and veteran Sean Klay raised the flag with the help of young boy. Three shots were fired into the air and taps was

See REMEMBERING, PAGE A3



PHOTO BY ELIAS SORICH

From left: Library director Alexis Tackett, intern Hannah Johnson, and library assistant Annie Mallozzi at the Pine Plains Free Library.

Pine Plains library to seek crucial budget increase

By ELIAS SORICH
elias@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Come November, voters in Pine Plains are likely to see a question on the ballot asking them to increase the budget of the Pine Plains Free Library. The library plans to ask for \$166,900 through a mechanism called a Chapter 414 initiative, after a chapter of education law passed in 1995 that allows libraries to pursue voter-directed funding.

This will create a special library tax and assure that the library will get a certain amount of funding each year that is not subject to increase or decrease by the town. And if the library needs to increase its budget again, it will have to run another Chapter 414 initiative to do so.

Currently the library receives a budget of \$99,500 from the town of Pine Plains which, after grants and fundraising, puts its total budget at \$148,000. That amount, according to both Alexis Tackett, director of the library, and Claire Gunning, president of the library's board of trustees, is inadequate to meet operating costs and community demand.

Already, the library is having to make use of funds set aside for emergencies, planned Americans

“What people will see is the increase in hours that they’ve been asking for, they’ll see an increase in materials...and they’ll see more programs and services offered”

Alexis Tackett, director of Pine Plains Free Library

With Disabilities Act-accessibility improvements, and community space upgrades to meet its operating costs. For this year alone, Tackett shared the library had to use \$30,000 of that money to keep afloat.

Unless the library is able to secure an increase in funding, Tackett and Gunning indicated that it will have to undergo drastic changes to its hours, offerings, staff and programming in as little as three years. What that would look like, according to Tackett, is a reduction to 20 hours per week, becoming a single-staff library, and a slashing of programming.

These changes would result in the library's failure to meet the

See LIBRARY, PAGE A8

Tower Hill subdivision hearing airs three-lot plan for 165 acres

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — A plan to divide a large Tower Hill parcel into three lots was the subject of a public hearing at a regular meeting of the Amenia Planning Board on Wednesday, May 24.

The application asks approval to divide a 165-acre parcel into three separate parcels, not for immediate subdivision, but for estate planning purposes.

With no immediate plans for additional subdivision of 165 acres on Tower Hill zoned as Rural Agricultural (RA) that requires a minimum of 10 acres, the first mapped parcel would measure 44.7 acres, the second would hold 86.6 acres,

and the third would be 33.9 acres. Each would be considered to be a conventional lot.

A neighboring resident asked for clarification on development restrictions, noting that the property already holds three primary dwellings, and also asking whether the property owners would need to return to the planning board for approval. Increased housing density was also a concern to residents.

Troutbeck

The Troutbeck re-use application continues under consideration. The planning board listed items that have not yet been received, including determination from the zoning board of appeals (ZBA). Board engineer John Andrews reported that the matter

has been discussed by the ZBA and that the minutes will be provided within the 45 days allowed.

Conservation advisory council (CAC) Chairman Michael Peek reported that the CAC had arranged for a site visit to Troutbeck.

“We hope that the CAC is helpful to all parties,” Peek said.

The planning board is also awaiting comments from the local Amenia Historical Society and the State Historical Preservation Office.

SL Keane Stud Farm

A preliminary presentation of plans to subdivide 705 acres of the Keane Stud Farm on Depot Hill Road and Old Route 22 were re-

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OPINION
A Different Memorial Day; Column; Letters B4



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OUR TOWNS

Habitat for Humanity looks for answers to housing shortage

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judythb@millertonnews.com

NORTH EAST — Just about a year ago, The Millerton News and The Lakeville Journal published their annual Towns and Villages edition with the theme being affordable housing or the lack thereof. Housing in this area is expensive for many of the people who work here, both in buying and renting homes.

Upkeep on homes bought in the past can also be expensive, and another set of problems is presented as people age: Retirement income is often much lower than the working income. If a couple both work and one of them dies, their income may be cut in half.

Pricing for everything is going up, including building materials and utilities. Labor costs are rising, and as people age, they may not be able to make their own repairs. Also, as pointed out by Dutchess County Legislature Chair Gregg Pulver (R-Pine Plains), many older residents just aren't used to asking for help.

Habitat for Humanity, along with other agencies, works to help with all of these struggles. Many people don't realize that Habitat for Humanity has grown and changed over the years. It fights to be able to move with the times, to help with situations that have become more problematic, and it is adept at finding solutions for a myriad of situations.

On Saturday, May 20, Pulver and Sue Serino, former state senator for the 41st District, made a stop at a site in Millerton where a crew from



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

From left, crewmember Steve Kitson; Gregg Pulver, chair of the Dutchess County Legislature; construction director John Heard; Matthew Weishaupt, chief assistant district attorney for Dutchess County; and Sue Serino, former state senator, at a mobile home in Millerton where a wheelchair-accessible ramp was installed. The home is slated to be replaced in the near future with a new home by Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat was installing a ramp to make an older mobile home wheelchair-accessible.

Pulver and Serino brought pizza, salad and drinks to the work crew, and the ensuing

conversation turned to the fact that this was a temporary improvement, as this home is slated to be replaced in the not-too-distant future with a new mobile home by Habitat.

The paperwork has been submitted, and the requirements have been met. Pulver, Serino and construction director John Heard were all excited about the prospect.

According to Maureen Lashlee, CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County, said that there are stipulations to its Mobile Home Replacement Program: The mobile home must be on property owned by the owner of the home, and it must be the primary residence of the owner. It must also have been built on or before 1970.

Altogether, the plan is to replace five mobile homes, and then to reassess the situation. There are about 300 mobile homes sitting on their own land in this area, and those built before 1970 were not covered by regulations and may not be safe. Lashlee has hopes that more will follow, and that possibly in the future this could apply to privately owned mobile homes that are in installed mobile home parks.

Habitat for Humanity has long been known for repairing homes as well as building homes for those in need. According to Lashlee, the need is greater than ever. Two parcels of land in this area have been acquired through the municipalities; Habitat is hoping permits will be issued, and that it will be able

to build modular homes on them. The traditional home is a single-family dwelling; depending on the square footage, it can be three or four bedrooms, one or two stories high.

Lashlee said that single family homes can't solve the current crisis and that the answer lies in multi-family dwellings and other less conventional means such as accessory dwellings. When people have to leave their homes or can't find suitable homes to occupy, there is family and community loss. "We need to find new ways of looking at the situation," she said. "We need to listen to people, to what they need."

There are many ways that people can help Habitat for Humanity, which relies heavily on volunteers. It has stores that sell furniture and home goods, and it accepts donations for the stores; money can be donated; and volunteers are always needed for the actual building and repair work. Heard said: "Anyone can volunteer. You don't have to have experience in building. You can even volunteer to cook lunch for the building crew."

Contract awarded for Tower Hill Road paving project

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — By unanimous vote during a special meeting on Thursday, May 25, the Amenia Town Board approved the awarding of a contract to pave a section of Tower Hill Road, one of three resolutions adopted. Town Supervisor Victoria Perotti and councilmembers Brad Rebillard and Vicki Doyle

were present for the vote.

A second resolution, also related to the paving project, determined that the project would pose no environmental threat.

Four bids had been received. The town engineer recommended that the bid submitted by A. Colarusso & Son be accepted for the asphaltting project that will pave 9,775 feet (1.85 miles) of Tower Hill Road for a total of \$361,900. A con-

tingency of 10% (\$36,190) is additional, bringing the total being appropriated to \$398,090.

The paving project will be funded in part by a \$277,000 donation to the town from Tower Hill Road Works LLC.

The paving is to begin at the intersection of Tower Hill Road with Route 22 and extend to the Washington town line.

The third resolution concerned receipt of a grant in

November 2022 from the State Environmental Facilities Corporation (\$17,600) in support of the Tighe and Bond wastewater feasibility study that recommended a system to serve the town, and measured the need and residents' interest. The grant requires matching funds of \$3,520 (20%) from the town.

That study was completed as a foundational step toward the wastewater committee's

current efforts toward creating a wastewater district. Creation of a mapped district is an essential step toward pursuing grant funding.

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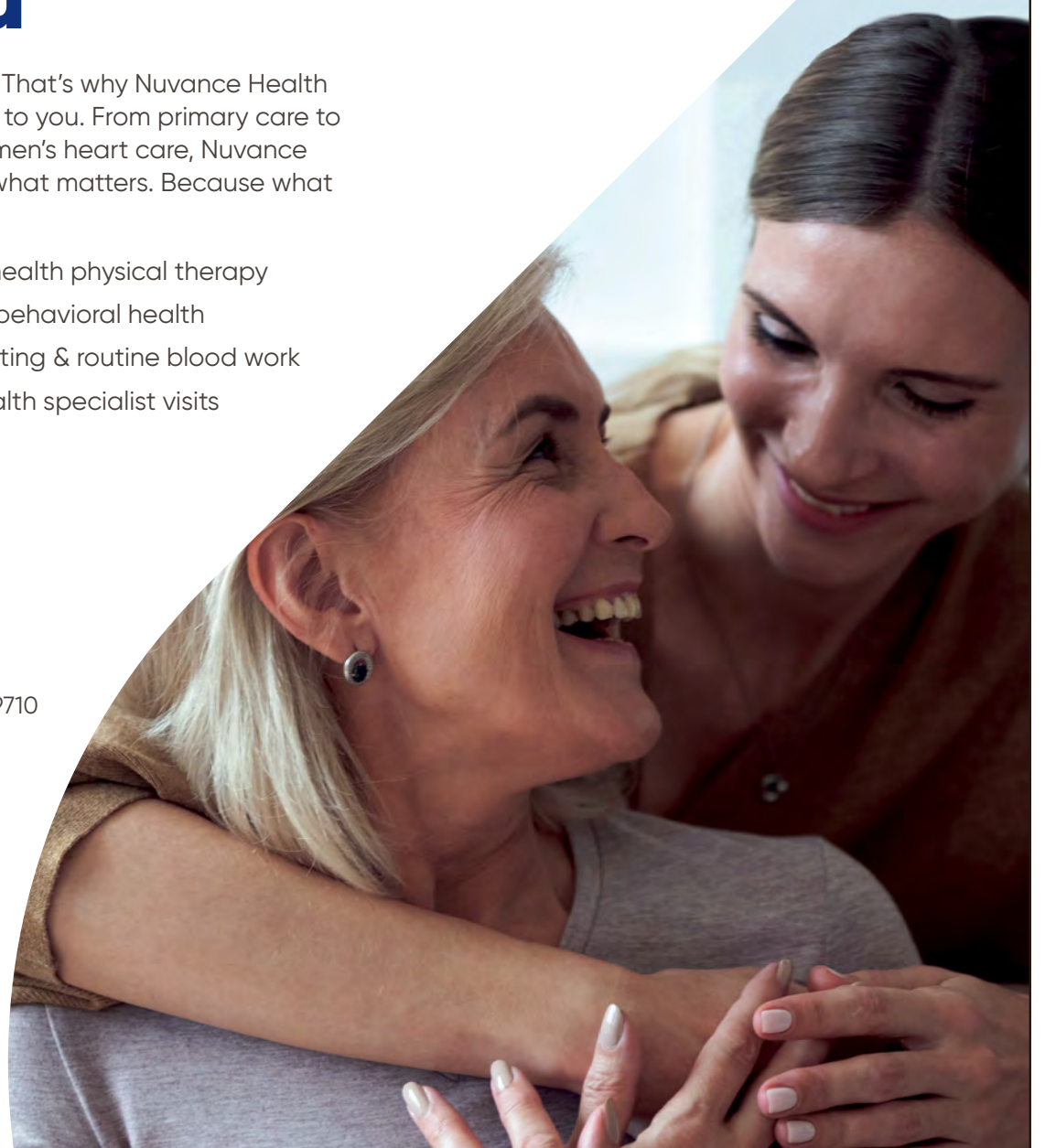
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MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBERING *Continued from Page A1*

Millerton remembers fallen soldiers

played first by student trumpeter Sebastian Melchor-Agustin then by Webutuck Central School District music teacher Eric Wiener.

Back at Veterans' Park, Klay and Strauss performed the same duties, noting that this year, the village's commemoration of veterans was the 135th "as far as we know," dating back to 1888's event—then called Decoration Day—led by the Grand Army of the Republic, formed after the Civil War. Strauss reminded listeners that for every warrior lost, there were mothers and children left behind, some-

times in dire straits.

Mayor Jenn Najdek's official proclamation of the festivities was somewhat truncated by the 11 a.m. bells, and the community listened respectfully as Klay paid tribute to Robert Liner, whose links to Millerton were many, though he is buried in Sharon with his parents.

The Webutuck Music Warriors played "God Bless America" with a satisfying ending aided by the tuba. Bellingring for individuals lost in wars from World War II to the recent war on terror, and a touching roll call in which

those present responded, and names of the recently deceased were read twice with dates of their passing noted, rounded out the official ceremony.

As taps was played a final time, one of the band students collapsed, possibly due to 'locked knee syndrome' causing reduced blood circulation, according to EMT and coach Aaron Howard, though heat and a heavy instrument could have exacerbated that. Those present attended to her and released the perimeter fencing to allow access to a stretcher. The student was expected to recover fully.



PHOTOS BY ELIAS SORICH

Delivering a seven-gun salute at the flag raising at Evergreen Cemetery.

Pine Plains Memorial Day parade draws big crowds

By ELIAS SORICH
elias@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Packed onto the sidewalk, hugging the shade and surpassing 200 in number, Pine Plains residents came out in force for Memorial Day. The main event was the parade, which began at the Pine Plains Fire House, stopped at the town clock, proceeded to the Evergreen Cemetery, and concluded at the Pine Plains American Legion Post No. 426.

Leading the parade were veterans, service people, and historical reenactors from all eras of American history, fol-

lowed by the Stissing Mountain Junior High School band, and the Pine Plains FFA.

Leading a group of his military history students, outfitted in Revolutionary War garb, was Neil Murray, history teacher at Stissing Mountain, who delivered a speech outlining the long service record of the townspeople of Pine Plains. Emphasizing the important of "bringing history to life," Murray described those historical figures as being "vivid with color, and with real lives, emotions, and experiences" beyond their service records.

Marie Stewart, director of operations at the Stissing

Center and member of the town's zoning board of appeals, directed the parade, led the flower-laying, and delivered remarks honoring those who "sacrificed their all" in service of the country, noting that Memorial Day is an opportunity to "celebrate their lives" and "pass down the stories of the fallen."

From the town clock, the parade proceeded to the Evergreen Cemetery, where the flag was raised and a seven-gun salute delivered, and then on to the American Legion Post, where dedication was given by Post chaplain George Keeler.



VFW Post 9008's Jeep in Millbrook's Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 29.

Parade, speaker mark Millbrook's Memorial Day

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Millbrook celebrated Memorial Day on Monday, May 29, with a parade sponsored by VFW Post 9008. The Millbrook High School band played at the Tribute Garden, where, following the parade, a wreath-laying ceremony took place, and a speech was given by Col. Edward M. Soto, 176th Maintenance Group Commander at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER), Alaska.

Soto is a career Alaska Air National Guard (AKANG) officer. He has deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and traveled to Japan, Ecuador, Uruguay, Israel, Puerto Rico and multiple continental U.S. locations supporting military-, humanitarian- and exercise-related construction.

Soto began by explaining that Memorial Day was originally started right after the Civil War, in 1868, and was called Decoration Day. It was, and is, a day of remembrance for those who have died in military service to the U.S., and New York was the first state to officially recognize it as a holiday in 1873.

Soto concluded by saying that today, many nations have freedom bought and paid for by those Americans who gave all since the birth of our nation. He added: "I am grateful for Memorial Day itself. It serves as a reminder of where we've been and where we need to continue to go as a free nation. Make no mistake: Memorial Day also serves as a clear reminder to those outside our borders that our freedom will not be impinged."



PHOTOS BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

From left, Walt Jacobs, Col. Edward M. Soto and Dave McMorris. Jacobs and McMorris are veterans, members of VFW Post 9008. Jacobs was Soto's physics teacher 40 years ago.



Families, dogs and veterans gathered along Franklin Avenue in Millbrook on Monday, May 29, to watch the annual Memorial Day parade sponsored by VFW Post 9008.



Pine Plains veterans, firemen and service people honoring the flag.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Amenia Town Supervisor Victoria Perotti addressed a Memorial Day gathering at Fountain Square on Monday, May 29, flanked by color and honor guards from VFW Post 5444 and the Amenia Fire Co.

Amenia honors its war dead

By JOHN COSTON
johnc@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Amenia remembered and honored its war dead on Monday, May 29, under a sparkling morning sky.

More than 60 residents assembled at the Fountain Square for short speeches, prayers and a laying of the wreath as taps was played.

Nick Woodard, commander of VFW Post 5444 in Amenia as well as a veteran of Germany and Vietnam, opened the ceremony. "Our presence here is in solid commemoration to all these men and women," he said, noting the war memorial that bears the names of those who died

in war "and is an expression of our tribute for their devotion to duty for courage, patriotism by their service for the flag of our nation."

Amenia Town Supervisor Victoria Perotti, who was flanked by honor and color guards from VFW Post 5444 and the Amenia Fire Co., also spoke: "Memorial Day offers a chance to reflect on the countless individuals who served and lost their lives by coming together with the families and communities left behind. It also includes those veterans who end their lives after they've returned. "Memorial Day is in remembrance of soldiers who fell in combat risking their lives for their country. They

have fallen but are not forgotten. And have our deepest gratitude for their ultimate sacrifice."

Following Perotti's remarks, which received strong applause, Commander Woodard escorted two children, Kaden and Avery Chrapowitzky of Wappingers Falls, to place the wreath alongside the memorial as the VFW Post 5444 and Amenia Fire Co. guards saluted while taps played.

The ceremony ended following a prayer from the Rev. R. Kent Wilson of the Church of Immaculate Conception in Amenia.

Commander Woodard invited everyone back to the post for light refreshments.

OBITUARIES

Evelyn Williams

NORTH CANAAN — Evelyn Williams, 93, formerly of Roxbury, Connecticut, died in her sleep early Sunday, May 7, 2023, at Geer Village Lodge. Evelyn was born Evelyn Virginia Atkinson on Sept. 13, 1929, in Haledon, New Jersey, the first child of Edward and Evelyn Atkinson. She grew up in Hawthorne, New Jersey, where she often roller-skated to the deli for a dill pickle (5 cents) and, in high school, spent lunch times dancing non-stop to the music coming out of the jukebox at the drug store soda fountain.



and Scott, the oldest, lives in Sheridan, Wyoming.

When Bob retired, he and Evelyn built a home in Roxbury and started the Christmas tree farm they called Clover Knoll. The cut-your-own farm was open to the public, and everybody in the extended family was employed there each year from Thanksgiving to Christmas, from the youngest to the oldest, which was Evelyn and Bob's real reason for operating the business. Evelyn also pursued her many other interests, among them making and wearing remarkable clothes, knitting whole couches as well as fine sweaters, acting in the local theater company, square and swing dancing with Bob, cooking, and drumming. After Bob died in 2002, Evelyn scaled back and concentrated on loving and caring for her growing family which, at the time of her death, included her four grown children, seven grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren, spread from Maine to Virginia and west to Alaska, as well as Bob's two grown children, one grandchild, and one great-grandchild.

Evelyn graduated from New Jersey College for Women in New Brunswick, New Jersey, and married Frederick Picton, who graduated from Rutgers and went to work on Wall Street. They settled in Watchung, New Jersey, and had four children: James, Mark, David, and Glynis. The local minister said to the family later that when he visited Fred in the waiting room at the hospital while Evelyn was giving birth to their fourth child, Glynis, Fred said, "Jesus, Reverend, I hope this one is a girl, because my wife doesn't give up easily!" But Fred died young, at 43, leaving a 40-year-old widow with four children to raise. In 1972, Evelyn married Robert Williams, a manager at Bell Labs in Holmdel, New Jersey, bringing three more children to the family. The youngest, Andy, predeceased Bob. Lori lives in Phoenix, Arizona,

A memorial celebration will be held Saturday, June 10, at 11 a.m. at the First Church on the green in Washington, CT. Memorial contributions may be made to the Housatonic Valley Association, P.O. Box 28, Cornwall Bridge, CT 06754 or online at hvatoday.org

In Appreciation

Ann Ritter Brown

I read of the passing of Ann Ritter Brown with regret. I worked at the Housatonic Daycare Center (and also later, when it became Housatonic Childcare Center) for twenty years. Many of those years were with Ann Brown as director. I remember her as loving her work. She loved interacting with the children and their parents and the staff. She was someone you could go to with a problem and she would help you solve it. She "retired" from the day care once, but willingly came back when another director left and her help was needed.

Many times during the day you could hear her sing out "Laaa Ahhh!" I believe it was her joy in life spilling out into song.

I remember Ann encouraging me as an artist and illustrator. She took interest in the life of everyone she met. She would sometimes bring her golden retriever to see the children and her husband, Dale, often stopped in to say hello. It was a warm and inviting environment.

Thank you Ann Brown. Your love of life was wonderful to see and helped many people. — Robin Roraback

Email obituaries to johnc@lakevillejournal.com

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PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039

OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Millbrook farmers market opens

MILLBROOK — Keegan Donovan, left, of Millbrook Beef & Dairy with Millbrook Farmers and Makers Market manager Greg Mruk on Saturday, May 27, the market's opening day of the 2023 season. This is Mruk's third year as manager of the Millbrook Farmers and Makers Market, and he said: "Historically, the first day is slow. This has been the best opening day in my time here." The market's vendors include BBQ Crew, Soap and Aromatics, Zen Succulents, Pat's Kitchen, and Khem Studios. Every week there also will be a co-op table, with a variety of products for sale from several vendors. Merritt Books has book signings planned, and a wide variety of music will greet the shoppers each week. The market will be open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through late October at the junction of Front Street and Franklin Avenue in Millbrook.

—Judith O'Hara Balfe



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Millie Johnson blew all the candles out first try.

Millie Johnson turns 110

By Riley Klein
rileyk@lakevillejournal.com

NORTH CANAAN, Conn. — Mildred "Millie" Johnson celebrated her 110th birthday at Geer Village in North Canaan on Friday, May 26.

Born May 28, 1913, Johnson has two daughters, seven grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, and 23 great-great grandchildren and counting. Johnson danced her way over to the cake in her leather motorcycle jacket be-

fore blowing out the candles in one breath.

"I'm going to make it to 115, which is a lot older than you," Johnson said to a reporter.

When asked what's the secret to 110 years, Johnson said, "Ask my mother, because I don't know."

Johnson enjoys deep sea fishing and riding shotgun on her granddaughter's trike.

"I've been riding since I was a teenager," Johnson said as she recalled a cross-country ride she made in the 1930s.



Worship Services

Week of June 4, 2023

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

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www.christchurchsharon.org

St. John's Episcopal Church
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Rev. Paul Christopherson
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In-Person and on You-Tube
www.stjohnssalisbury.org
860-435-9290

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
40 Leedsville Road
Amenia Union, NY
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IN-PERSON AND ONLINE
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www.stthomasamenia.com
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Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org
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The Revs. Heidi Truax & Felix Rivera
trinitylimerock.org
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30 Granite Ave., Canaan
Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm
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Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT
Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons
The next meeting will be Sunday, June 11 at 10:30 a.m.
For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com
All are Welcome

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319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039
9:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
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Pastor Joy Veronesi
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Lakevillemethodist@snet.net

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We hope you will join us!

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OUR TOWNS

Recent property sales in the Town of Copake

The Millerton News will periodically publish a listing of residential real estate sales in eastern Dutchess County and adjacent towns. Listed below are residential sales closed from January through April 2023 in the town of Copake. Currently there are 12 houses listed for sale with asking prices ranging from \$14,995,000 to \$195,000 according to Columbia Green and MidHudson MLS.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Originally listed for \$1,300,000 in May 2022, this home on Robin Lane with dramatic views and 45.6 acres of land sold for \$1,100,000 in April.

- 15 Melvin Road for \$175,000, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, sold on Jan. 3
- 30 Vista Lane for \$605,000, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, sold on Jan. 30
- 1256 Lakeview for \$385,000, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, sold on Jan. 31
- 64 Island Drive for \$225,000, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, sold on Feb. 24
- 2206 County Route 7 for \$130,000, 2 bedrooms, sold

- on March 2
- 12 Mansion for \$500,000, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, sold on March 31
- 120 Robin Lane for \$1,100,000, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, sold on April 25
- January to April residential sales in the Town of Copake sourced from Mid-Hudson MLS.

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

Temporary restraining order issued to stop New York City from housing additional migrants in the county

POUGHKEEPSIE — On Tuesday, May 23, County Executive William F.X. O’Neil announced that Dutchess County had been granted a temporary restraining order (TRO) that will prevent New York City from transporting additional “homeless adults of minor individuals” to Dutchess County for temporary shelter.

The Red Roof Inn in Poughkeepsie is currently housing 86 males, who have all legally sought asylum in the U.S. In a statement, O’Neil said “According to the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, they have been vetted, fingerprinted and identified by the Federal Government, including background checks.”

The TRO requires that New York City pay for ex-

penses related to the migrants’ stay at the Red Roof Inn, including lodging, food and security. It is unclear how long the individuals will remain in the county, and officials have requested partnership from New York City in determining their needs, what skills they have, and what will happen to them in the future.

The TRO is in effect through Tuesday, June 20. The county is seeking a permanent order.

On Wednesday, May 24, neighboring Columbia County issued its own state of emergency in regard to the relocation of migrants

from New York City to the Hudson Valley. Citing “an unusually high number of local homeless for this time of year,” Columbia County Board of Supervisors Chairman Matt Murell referenced that Columbia County has no homeless shelter and has already relocated a number of unhoused individuals to other counties.

The arrival of the migrants stems from the expiration of Title 42 on Thursday, May 11, which was put into place in March 2020 and allowed the U.S. to turn away migrants at its Mexican border during the last three years over concerns of the spread of COVID-19.

Continuing education grants available for Ancram residents; July 1 deadline

ANCRAMDAL — The Ancramdale Neighbors Helping Neighbors Association (ANHNA) is accepting applications for its Adrienne Citrin Memorial Higher Education Grant Program, which supports full-time students entering accredited colleges, community colleges and vocational schools.

Past grants have been in the amount of \$1,000 and \$1,500, and have helped students pay for food, clothing, books and transportation related to their first year of continuing education.

Applicants must reside in the Town of Ancram and already accepted into a continuing education program for the fall of 2023. Preference will be

given to first-year students, but students continuing college, vocational and graduate programs may apply.

The deadline to apply for the grant is Saturday, July 1. Along with the application, interested students are requested to submit a letter outlining their educational plans as well as documentation of college acceptance as well as financial need and support.

Those interested in applying or receiving more information may contact Mike Sturdivant at 518-329-6106 or Laura Ponkos at 518-329-2031. ANHNA can also be contacted at ANHNAinfo@gmail.com and P.O. Box 97, Ancramdale, NY 12503

Roe Jan Library to offer qigong, tai chi classes

COPAKE — The Roeliff Jansen Community Library, 9091 Route 22, will offer a weekly qigong and tai chi class beginning Thursday, June 1, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Qigong and tai chi have been used to regulate stress and promote balance and flexibility for hundreds of years.

The weekly drop-in class will be taught by David Haines, who has been involved in mindful movement for 50 years. He has taught at venues including the Omega Institute and Columbia-Greene Community College since moving to the area in 2006.

They will be held outdoors weather-permitting, or in the library’s community room. Participants are advised to wear comfortable clothing.

The classes are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the library at 518-325-4101 or director@roejanlibrary.org



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Friends support Millbrook Library

From left, Bob Mahar, Millbrook Library director Courtney Tshalis, Denise Bauer, Cathy Morrell, Sharon Maher and Michelle DelValle at a reception at the library hosted by the Friends of the Millbrook Library on Thursday, May 18, from 6 to 8 p.m., to introduce themselves and their program to library patrons and attract new volunteers, as well as thank the public for their patronage. Throughout the year, the Friends hold book sales, help out at other events, and have recently begun hosting a two-day miniature golfing event. The Friends, all volunteers, work with the library’s board of trustees and the staff of the library assisting with exhibits, cultural events and other library programs.

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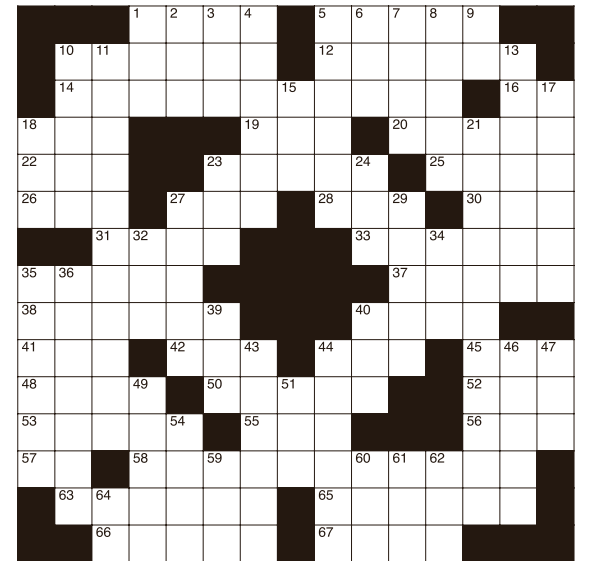


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Brain Teasers

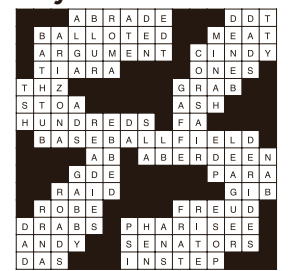
CLUES ACROSS

1. Flat tableland with steep edges
5. Where there’s __, there’s fire
10. Talked incessantly
12. Skill
14. Without shame
16. Where teens spend their days (abbr.)
18. Boxing’s GOAT
19. Used to anoint
20. Cluster cups
22. Footballer Newton
23. They make up a forest
25. Split pulses
26. Self
27. Post-office box
28. Test for high schoolers
30. Large, flightless bird
31. Expectorated
33. Falsehood
35. Prickly, scrambling shrub
37. French river
38. Told on
40. Hillside
41. Peyton’s little brother
42. Soviet Socialist Republic
44. Cathedral city in Cambridgeshire
45. Witness
48. Brews
50. Yellowish-brown
52. Arctic explorers, abbr.
53. Mexican agave
55. A type of “cast”
56. Encourage
57. Atomic #52
58. Relating to position north of south of equator
63. Gadget whose name you forget
65. Another recording
66. Small blisters
67. Dark brown or black

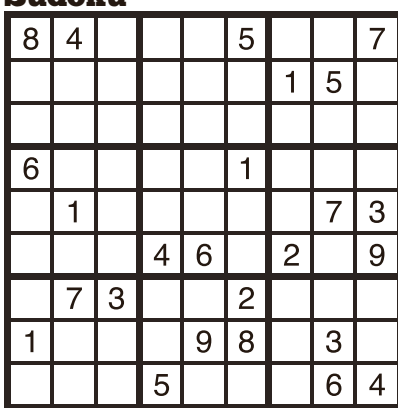


10. Soviet labor camp system
11. Strong hostilities
13. Vitamin of the B complex
15. Go quickly
17. Toast
18. A team’s best pitcher
21. A Philly culinary specialty
23. Small child
24. Unhappy
27. Trims away
29. Characterized by crying eyes
32. Soft touch
34. American spy organization
35. A person’s chest
36. Came from behind to win
39. Fall back
40. Nellie __, journalist
43. Great places to kayak
44. Suffer patiently
46. Majestic bird
47. Electroencephalograph
49. Organic compound used as an antiseptic
51. Objects connected to the web (abbr.)
54. Ship as cargo
59. The bill in a restaurant
60. Upper-class young woman (abbr.)
61. Judge in OJ Simpson trial
62. One’s grandmother
64. Siberian river

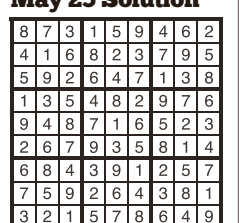
May 25 Solution



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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Seventh-grade Webutuck Central School District students from Darrin Butland's classes gathered around the DeLorean replica that will be used in the Broadway production of "Back to the Future: The Musical," opening this summer.

DeLorean, students add up to a big birthday celebration

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Watching the iconic 1985 movie "Back to the Future" as part of a class is pretty good, but getting to see a replica of the DeLorean car used in the movie is almost priceless, especially when you're a seventh-grader and helping your teacher celebrate his birthday.

Webutuck Central School District (WCSD) teacher Darrin Butland recently presented his students, as well as other students and staff, with an up-close and personal look at a replica of the DeLorean used in the movie.

The students had no idea until they came outside the building that they were in for this treat.

"I am just thankful for all of the energy, enthusiasm and curiosity my students have shown," he stated. "This is the culminating event to our Science Fiction Friday films unit in our Magic of Motion Pictures class."

Butland, who has been with WCSD for more than 25 years, is noted for his acts of kindness to the students, having recently purchased and donated a replica of a giant velociraptor from "Jurassic Park" that is in the lobby of the Eugene Brooks Intermediate School (EBIS).

He has a Hollywood Walk of Fame outside his classroom, and has many items of interest in his classroom as a means of sharing his love of movies with his students. He also has a replica of the sports almanac used in "Back to the Future Part II."

A graduate of the University of Southern California (USC) School of Education as well as USC's School of Cinema and Television, Butland is a true lover of anything cinema and hopes his elective classes instill that same love in his students.

The car itself came down from Rhode Island on a flat-bed truck. Owner Peter Var-

rica said it is fun to drive for about 30 miles; after that, it gets a bit dangerous.

This particular car is the one that will be used in the Broadway production of "Back to the Future: The Musical," opening on Broadway this summer. Varrica has built five of the cars, and often takes it to events, including stunts on television.

The car visiting Webutuck was built from a 1981 DeLorean. Parts are getting harder to acquire as time passes, and the production of the vehicles doesn't come cheap. Varrica can pay as much as \$50,000 just for the car; parts and extras in creating the replicas can start at \$25,000 and go to \$40,000. But this is some-

thing he loves to do, and it is his full-time job.

About seeing the car, student Albert Bailey, 12, said, "It's a life-changing experience, really amazing!" His friend Heyden Whiteley, also 12, was equally impressed: "Pretty cool," he admitted. "It seems so real because you can push the buttons and everything."

Each of Butland's students got a "Back to the Future" T-shirt, and had a chance to sit in the car and have a photo taken. Varrica also talked to them about the car, the mechanics, the cost, and some of the opportunities he has to show it around the country. It was an experience the youngsters will long remember, and a birthday Butland is not apt to forget.

Smithfield Church's annual pops concert draws a crowd

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — The Smithfield Chamber Orchestra performed a rousing free concert at the Smithfield Church on Saturday, May 27, attracting a sizable audience to hear an eclectic variety of musical styles. The annual spring pops concert was sponsored by the Bang Family Concert Series.

Concert director Matt Finley prepared a varied program to showcase the talents of the 12-member orchestra, including piano, winds, brass, strings and percussion players. The repertoire included pop, jazz and classical works, movie tunes and even some original contemporary jazz offered by pianist Larry Ham.

"This is where to be today," said the Rev. Douglas Grandgeorge, pastor of the Smithfield Church, as he welcomed the audience. "This is going to be fun."

"Everything will be short, between two or three minutes in length," said Finley, so that the ambitious repertoire would fit into just an hour. The hour flew on the musical wings of Latin jazz, movie themes, syncopation, show music, and original compositions.

The next concert in the



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

The Smithfield Chamber Orchestra performed its third annual spring pops concert on Saturday, May 27, attracting an ever-expanding audience.

Bang Family Series will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9, and will feature the return visit of Kent Trittle, conductor and director of music as well as

organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. He will be playing the Smithfield Church's tracker organ.

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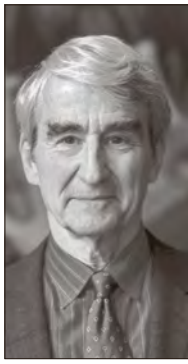
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With gratitude and good wishes,
D. Elizabeth Mauro
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OUR TOWNS

On the Boulevard: clerk & Village Hall RFQ

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



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Anyone interested in purchasing and restoring the former Millerton Village Hall on Dutchess Avenue should submit a request for qualifications by Saturday, June 24.

MILLERTON — Millerton has a familiar face in its village office. Lisa M. Cope was officially appointed as village clerk at the regular board of trustees meeting on Monday, May 22, replacing former clerk Nicole Richard. Cope, who lives just outside the village, worked for the Town of North East from 2005 to 2019 as secretary for the planning, zoning and building departments and for six years as town clerk.

Cope reported that she is happy to be closer to home and avoiding the commute to Catskill where she has been the town clerk since 2020 and “excited to be helping residents with any questions they may have.” She arrives at a critical time, with village elections approaching as well as tax season.

At the same meeting, the trustees approved the issuance of a request for qualifications (RFQ) to anyone interested in renovating and preserving the original appearance of the exterior of the old Village Hall on Dutchess Avenue. The singled structure was built in 1904 to house the E.H. Thompson

Hose Company.

The mayor and trustees would also like “the Property to be used in a manner that is beneficial to the community and preference will be given

to proposals that serve a community purpose, such as affordable rental housing, local history/information gallery, artist-in-residence spaces, and other similar uses.”

Located on a .14-acre corner lot on Dutchess Avenue, the 2,500 square-foot two-story structure with bell tower formerly served as the Village Hall, with the Mil-

lerton police occupying the second floor. Responses to the RFQ, which is available online on the village website, are due by Saturday, June 24.

Key factors for consideration will be purchase price, attractiveness of proposed plan, and development team qualifications. After sale, the building will be returned to the village tax role.

The Millerton Police Department is back in action. Over the past two weekends, there has been approximately 30 hours of coverage in the village and an additional eight hours of coverage during a water main repair on Route 22.

The police are investigating a domestic incident that occurred at the village park on Sunday, May 14, at approximately 6:30 p.m. On Memorial Day, the department was present for the parade and ceremonies with additional assistance from the New York State Police on Route 22 entering the village.

Starting on Thursday, June 1, with the non-renewal of the police contract with the Town of North East, patrols will be limited to the Village of Millerton; however, 911 calls will still be answered in the town.

With a contested village election on Tuesday, June 20, candidates are scrambling to add new party lines to the ballot.

Dave Sherman, an incumbent village trustee nominated by the Republican party, obtained signatures from registered voters in the village to add his name on the “Common Ground” line on the ballot. Kelly Kilmer, who is running against incumbent mayor Jenn Najdek, was also nominated by the Republicans and secured the required signatures to qualify under the Working Together line.

Village elections are conducted by the village clerk, not the Dutchess County Board of Elections, and will be held in the village hall on Route 22. It’s possible to register to vote in a village election up until Friday, June 9. Absentee ballots may be requested from the village clerk until Tuesday, June 16, and completed ballots must be submitted by Friday, June 19.

A candidate forum moderated by John Coston, editor-in-chief of The Millerton News, is scheduled for Wednesday, June 14, at 7 p.m. at the NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex, 28 Century Blvd.

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LIBRARY *Continued from Page A1*

New York state minimum standard, as well as the loss of its connection to the Mid-Hudson Library Association, both of which grant the library access to resources, databases and other amenities.

In the current phase of its initiative, the Pine Plains Free Library is collecting signatures of support, which must total at least 108 in order to make it to the ballot. To Gunning, at this stage, supporting the initiative is primarily about supporting the democratic process.

"Signing this does not guarantee you're voting yes, it's just saying that we get to vote on the question," said Gunning. "But the hope is that we don't break everybody's heart. If the town keeps funding us in the same way, we won't be able to continue to do our jobs. That's the reality."

A common necessity
Far from an uncommon step, according to Rebekka Smith-Aldrich, executive director of the Mid-Hudson Library System, over half of the libraries in the Mid-Hudson system use the Chapter 414 mechanism to get their funding. Those initiatives are successful roughly 95% of the time—and Smith-Aldrich has advised over 100 of them during the course of her 25 years at Mid-Hudson.

"I really worry about the libraries that don't have voter directed funding," said Smith-Aldrich. "We really see that the libraries that don't have [it], they just fall behind every single year. When they're able to make their case directly to the voters, and say, 'Look, this is what community demand is for the library, this is how much it costs to do that work, do you find that reasonable?' 97% of the time voters say,

'Yeah, that makes a lot of sense to us.'"

The Pine Plains Free Library is one of only two libraries out of 26 in Dutchess County that do not have voter-directed funding. And though the library is not permitted to spend any money in pursuit of the initiative, putting its budget to a public vote represents a significant com-

The Pine Plains Free Library provides a wide slate of programming, from story hours for children to tech assistance and tech literacy training, and any of the other 300-plus programs offered annually.

mitment of time and energy on the part of the all-volunteer board, and other volunteer groups like the Friends of the Pine Plains Library.

If they aren't successful this year, Gunning stated they will just have to try again the next.

Regional success stories
The Clinton Community Library in Rhinecliff is close to Pine Plains in terms of its size and demographics, and in 2017 and 2022, it pursued voter-directed funding initiatives to roaring success. According to Carol Bancroft, director of the Clinton Community Library, those efforts were "a lot of work for the board and staff" but deeply necessary, as the library had previously gotten its funding through a "patchwork quilt" of grants, town funding and fundraising.

What that patchwork method meant for the Clinton Library was funding insecurity—when grants were depleted, the library would take a serious hit to its programming capacity.

Receiving \$115,000 in 2017 and \$149,800 in 2022 through voter-directed funding, the Clinton Library was able to ramp up its programming, build support and goodwill

in the community, and solidify its role as a gathering space for the town. In 2017, 60% of voters voted "yes" on the initiative, and in 2022 that support increased to 73%, an indication of the success the community has viewed that first initiative as having.

To Bancroft, the Chapter 414 process is both both labor-intensive, and yet ultimately fulfilling: "As a director, it can be frustrating. But it's also very democratic. You put it to your community, and if they see the value, they say yes."

Rising costs

The necessity for a library to pursue a Chapter 414 initiative can arise from any number of regional challenges, but it often boils down to the common factor of rising costs. Though the town of Pine Plains increased the library's budget in 2017, 2019 and 2022, the increases were relatively small (from \$96,550 in 2021 to \$99,500 in 2022)—and in the intervening time, the Pine Plains Free Library has seen a dramatic uptick in usage.

If that alone weren't enough, the rising cost of inflation, wages and price-gouging from publishers on digital assets have all contributed mightily to the Pine Plains Free Library's funding insecurity.

To purchase a physical book to be used in-perpetuity, the cost for a library runs at about \$14. For a digital copy of that same book, that cost is often closer to \$60, which might make sense if that digital copy could be used by multiple people at the same time. But that \$60 buys only one digital copy. If a library wants to lend that ebook to more than one person at a time, it

has to purchase another \$60 digital copy.

And books are just the beginning of a library's digital asset woes—programs like Microsoft Word and Adobe as well as access to academic magazines or databases are often only available through yearly digital subscriptions. Moreover, costs for physical materials have skyrocketed.

As an example, the library's copier, which is in need of replacement, cost \$2,500 before the pandemic—now the same model costs \$6,000. Ink for that model has also gone up, from \$300 to \$600. According to Tackett, these inflated costs stack up quickly and mean that the library's current funding is essentially "the same equivalent funding we were at in 2013."

While the voter-directed budget increase is directed largely at stabilizing the library's funding sources, Tackett also indicated that the amount that's being asked for is intended to increase the library's offerings to meet community demand.

"If it passes, what people will see is the increase in hours that they've been asking for, they'll see an increase in materials that they've been asking for, both digitally and physical, and they'll see more programs and services offered," said Tackett.

By way of hours, Tackett's hope is to increase from 32 hours per week to 40 and to keep the library open on Mondays, bringing its open days to six per week.

What good are libraries, anyway?

If you were to think of a library, chances are you might imagine the libraries of yore, stacked with books and silent reading. And while books have remained central to libraries, as times have changed, what a library must offer a community has evolved.

Along those lines, to Smith-Aldrich, they are perhaps better framed as centers of information: "I think there's a common fallacy that that the role of libraries is changing. But I honestly think that the role of libraries has always been the same, which is to be an educational portal for folks to understand the world around them. The problem is how information has been monetized in our society, and libraries have been on the frontlines of defending people's right to access."

Beyond that, to Tackett, a

library is also a place where community member can come to get access to centralized resources in times of needs: "If somebody comes in and says 'my house burned down last night, and I don't know what to do,' I can probably list four organizations right off the bat to get them in contact with. Libraries are often the first safety net for people, which can start funneling them into all the other economic safety nets out there."

To Gunning, the ways in which a library can serve as a foundation to a community are often connected to those basics of survival.

"Food insecurity exists in our town," said Gunning. "People might still have a house over their head, but they're worried about feeding their children. People can't always afford to go and just get what they need, whether it's mental health, or help filing a request, or leaning how to use their cell phone, or getting access to internet. During the pandemic, people would

come and park in the parking lot at the library to use the internet. Those are real services that people need."

Gunning also emphasized the degree to which a library is not only a resource for those in need, but also an amplifier for community. The Pine Plains Free Library provides a wide slate of programming, from story hours for children to tech assistance and tech literacy training, and any of the other 300-plus programs offered annually. When those programs exist, Gunning stated, people come together and communities remain connected.

The board of trustees are available to discuss the proposed Chapter 414 budget initiative and take signatures. They'll keep collecting signatures until they get past the 108 mark, with a safety goal of 200.

If they're able to secure the requisite support, the library will then begin a public information campaign, which will culminate in a public vote on the November 2023 ballot.

TOWER HILL *Continued from Page A1*

ceived by the planning board. A more detailed presentation is expected at the next meeting on Wednesday, June 14, beginning at 7 p.m.

The property is presently RA-zoned and a conventional subdivision is planned to divide the property into 31 lots. Plans would call for nearly 80% of the acreage to be conserved within the boundaries of each lot, through conservation easements that would be noted as deed restrictions.

Andrews said that the total parcel could support well over

171 standard lots allowable by town regulations. Were that to be the level of density, the impact of subdivision would increase, as would traffic.

Under the 31-lot plan to be considered, the impact on the area was seen to be minimal. The aim of the project is to create large-acreage "gentleman farm" parcels.

The question posed to the planning board was whether the project sponsor had identified the acreage most deserving of conservation designation.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Making Music in Millbrook

MILLBROOK — The Millbrook Arts Group provided the music for the opening day of the Millbrook Farmers and Makers Market on Saturday, May 27, with the local Jordan Stoner Band (from left: Brian Stoner, Jordan Stoner, Dave Mucci, Andy Bale and John Salvati) from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., on the Village Green. The band played old favorites and original music as people gathered around to listen or enjoyed it from a short distance as they shopped at the farmers market and at the stores nearby.



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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

BOOKS: ALEXANDER WILBURN

When JMB Met JMB

These days the work of Jean-Michel Basquiat is so prevalent — Basquiat-branded phone cases, skateboards, BE@RBRICK collectible toys, even t-shirts at Abercrombie & Fitch — it's hard to imagine a time, before his estate decided to sell-out and cash-in, that the gay Black young man was an artist who spoke for those on the outside. Before dying of a heroin overdose at the age of 27 in 1988, the Brooklyn-born son of a Haitian father and a Puerto Rican mother began his career as a graffiti artist and by 22 was one of the youngest to exhibit at The Whitney Biennial in New York. The

visual appeal of his erratic, chaotic acrylics often belied their biting commentary on racial politics and class warfare, notably in his work "Irony of Negro Policeman."

In "JMB," a beautiful new limited edition book by Kent, Conn., based photographer Jeanette Montgomery Barron, whose famed portraits of New York City's art world have transfixed us with their moody mystery, Barron collects her intimate sittings of Basquiat through the 1980s. She will discuss "JMB" at House of Books in Kent on Saturday, June 3, at 6 p.m. For more go to www.houseofbooksct.com



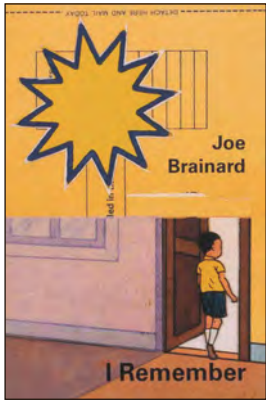
PHOTO COURTESY THE ARTIST

Jean-Michel Basquiat and Andy Warhol by Jeanette Montgomery Barron

BOOKS: MAUD DOYLE

The New York Men Who Made The City Modern

The Haystack Book Festival, a program from the Norfolk Foundation in Norfolk, Conn., will inaugurate its fifth year with a series of events around the theme "New York Stories." Punctuating the summer months from June 4 to Aug. 5, the festival's four readings, performances, and conversations will tell the story of how modernism infiltrated and cross-pollinated dance, poetry, music, photography, and painting in New York between the mid-1940s and the mid-'60s.



GRANARY BOOKS

While the more established September Haystack Book Festival is known as a more traditional literary conference, in which a committee pursues books and writers for a weekend of literary edification, the festival's co-directors, Steve Melville and Michael Selleck, conceived of the summer festival as a way of integrating Norfolk's historic ethos as a home to the arts into its biannual celebration of literature.

This festival's four events will be held in conjunction with the celebrated local arts institutions based at the Ellen Battell Stoeckel Estate in Norfolk — in June, the Yale Summer School of Art; in July, the Yale Summer School of Music and the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival; in August, the Yale Poetry Center — to explore a range of different art forms through the lens of contemporary literature.

The festival will begin on Sunday, June 4 at The Art Barn on the



COURTESY THE ARTIST / ASHER GREY GALLERY / FREDART.NET

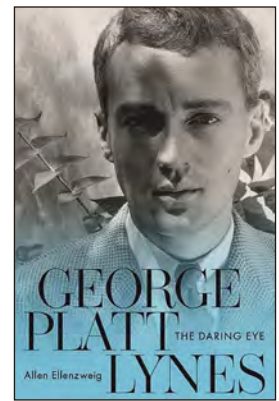
Joe Brainard, 1975 by Frederick Fulmer

Stoeckel Estate, with a participatory reading of "I Remember," Brainard's book-length autobiographical poem. Brainard, who died of AIDS complications in 1994, is

better known for his work as a visual artist of the New York School, working primarily in painting and drawing, collage, and assemblage — a style that is echoed in "I Remem-

ber," a series of memory fragments brought into harmony by the titular refrain.

On Friday, June 23, also at The Art Barn, will be a conversation between artist and writer Jarrett Earnest, the author



OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

of "The Young and Evil: Queer Modernism in New York, 1930-1955," and Allen Ellenzeig, author of "George Platt Lynes: The Daring Eye," the first complete biography of George Platt Lynes. Inspired in part by this year's theme at the Yale Summer School of Art, "Freedom of Form," Earnest and Ellenzeig will look beyond Platt Lynes's more established role as a portraitist and fashion photographer to explore his work as the principal photographer of Balanchine's dancers as well as his pioneering engagement with the male nude, to locate the his place in the development of American Modernism.

Timed with the opening events of the Norfolk

Music Festival, "John Ashberry's Playlist" Sunday, July 9, at The Norfolk Library, will explore Ashberry's poetry and the soundscape in which he wrote it. "I have always felt that my ideas came out of music," Ashberry has said. "I listen to music all the time, especially when I am writing." A discussion between Karin Roffman, author of "The Songs We Know Best: John Ashberry's Early Life," and Melvin Chen, Deputy Dean at the Yale School of Music and director of the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival (Chen also happens to be Roffman's husband), will be followed by a performance, by Chen, of some of the music that inspired Ashberry's work.

The festival will close *Continued on next page*

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ACTIVISM: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Waterston champions ocean conservation

In 2016 an annual review from the Australian Institute of Marine Science read, “A decade ago, the general narrative was that coral reefs face an uncertain future under climate change. Now, as evidence from observational and experimental research is mounting, providing more signal to the noise, the narrative focuses increasingly on the consequences for society...”



PHOTO BY ANGELA GEORGE

Climate change has had a profound impact on ocean life, from rising sea temperatures to the loss of vital aquatic habitats. Founded in 2001, Oceana, an ocean conservation nonprofit led by actor Ted Danson, has lobbied for marine preservation, particularly in regard to halting overfishing, offshore drilling and wind farms. On Friday, June 2, The Salisbury Forum will welcome Academy Award-nominated actor and Chair of the Board of Oceana Sam Waterston to Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, Conn., to discuss the organization’s conservation efforts to save our oceans.

During a phone interview from his home in Litchfield County, Conn., Waterston remarked that he grew up in New England believing the ocean was an endless expanse that would limitlessly provide. “Then I was reading the newspaper on the beach in Rhode Island in the ‘70s and learned the cod fish industry had collapsed. It

was simply unbelievable, impossible...” he said. “The sea was not inexhaustible. I became more at more aware of how the environment was suffering because of our treatment, and carried this fear for Earth with me, and didn’t know what to do with it.”

Waterston’s talk is ahead of International World Ocean Day on June 8. Since its official recognition by the United Nations in 2008 the annual event has had a theme, with 2023’s announced as “Planet Ocean: Tides Are Changing.” Streaming live with presentations by UN representatives and celebrities, we can only hope they tell us the change is for the better.

FILM: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Opening at The Berkshire International Film Festival

The 17th Annual Berkshire International Film Festival, held over four days in Great Barrington and Lenox, Mass., beginning June 1, will showcase two notable documentaries about pioneering female voices whose resonant and sincere work has marked them as masters of American storytelling — the folk-singing duo The Indigo Girls and author Joyce Carol Oates.

Coming off its premiere at this year’s Sundance Film Festival, “It’s Only Life After All” directed by Alexandria Bombach recognizes the groundbreaking career of Amy Ray and Emily Saliers, the platinum-selling lesbian icons of confessional rock. With lyrics peppered with references to Galileo Galilei, Grigori Rasputin, and “The Iliad,” the musical poetry of Ray and Saliers has always been literary — their 1992 album “Rites



“IT’S ONLY LIFE AFTER ALL” STILL COURTESY OF SUNDANCE INSTITUTE / PHOTO BY JEREMY COWART

of Passage” even features a song about reading the diaries of Virginia Woolf. Combining sing-along acoustic melodies with intricate turns of phrases to explore unrequited love, existential pondering, and optimism in the face of loneliness, the out-and-proud pair created anthems in the ‘80s and ‘90s for gay women whose intricate feelings of longing were rarely heard on the Billboard chart.

If the harmonizing vocals of Ray and Saliers often created a seemingly single voice, Joyce Carol Oates is their opposite: a solitary intellect who shapeshifts into any and all man, woman, and beast; a chameleon writer. In Swedish director Jonas Åkerlund’s “Joyce Carol Oates: A Body in the Service of Mind” the 84-year-old author of over 50 novels shows no signs of slowing down. The identities of her first-person narrators

are as varied as their voices are frighteningly realistic and fully realized, from Marilyn Monroe in “Blonde” to a Jeffrey Dahmer stand-in in “Zombie,” to a fictionalized version of Mary Jo Kopechne, the girl who drowned in a car driven by the U.S. senator Ted Kennedy. With an eye for the true horror that

lives within the cracks of American society, Oates has courted controversy as she channels the inner worlds of those who live on the fringes, who indulge in acts we wouldn’t dare, and who keep secrets in the dark.

For tickets and a full schedule of films and events go to www.biffma.org



JOYCE CAROL OATES COURTESY MANTARAY FILMS

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COURTESY MAHAWIE / PHOTO BY JENNY ANDERSON

SUTTON FOSTER LIVE

The Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass., announced a live performance by two-time Tony-winning Broadway star Sutton Foster on Saturday, Aug. 19. Foster is known for her turns in “The Music Man” and “Anything Goes” as well as starring in the television series “Younger” and “Bunheads.” For tickets go to www.mahaiwe.org

HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL ART

The Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield, Mass., will unveil “Romance & Nature” featuring paintings from the Hudson River School of Art on Saturday, June 3. For more go to www.berkshirerivermuseum.org

...Modern

Continued from B1

on Saturday, Aug. 5, with “Modernism and Tradition: The Foundations of American Art and Culture,” a conversation between Jennifer Homans, author of the Pulitzer-finalist “Mr. B,” a biography of George Balanchine, and Hugh Eakin, author of “Picasso’s War: How Modern Art Came to America.”

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OUR TOWNS

Charming toads, immersive house parties delight onlookers at the Wassaic Project's summer show

By ELIAS SORICH
elias@millertonnews.com

WASSAIC — Rain did little to stem the steady tide of gallery-goers at the opening of the Wassaic Project's summer show on Saturday, May 20, titled "Counting the Seconds Between Lightning and Thunder." Featuring 40 artists from near and far, the show's opening reception was packed with attendees, so many that a line snaked around and through art installations as folks waited to ascend the Maxon Mills' seven flights.

Featuring a vibrant array of work from Marianna Peragallo's anthropomorphic plant sculptures to Danielle Klebes' immersive house party on the top floor, one emergent theme of "Counting the Seconds..." was a contemporary perspective of nature and ecology.

KK Kozik's "Ghost" oil painting, for instance, depicts a crow marching around a dead tree, its jaunty legs evoking a Miyazaki-like whimsy. Dan Gunn's toad sculpture series, "The Ungrateful Son No.1-7," plays on the particular brand of ugly-charming



Carliann Rittman of Amenia peers through 'Kaleidoscope IV' by Natalja Kent.

that toads often inhabit; and Ping Zheng's oil painting "Looking into the Distance of a River" warps a natural landscape with a uniquely human blend of movement and nostalgia.

But the show is by no means hemmed to a single theme—indeed, another defining characteristic of "Counting the Seconds..." was a true breadth of styles and fascinations. Standouts

include Chiara No's bizarre stoneware bells, and Fern Apfel's balanced still lifes of paper and playing cards, but viewers will find much to explore and enjoy.

And though the art was the main event, the opening also featured opportunities for the younger crowd to have fun and express themselves. The upstate New York-based nonprofit Super Stories set up shop under the Mills' porch

and provided paint, material and encouragement to artistic aspirants. Many paint-encrusted hands ensued, and co-owners Grace Long and Ramiro Davaro-Comas described the day as a wonderful opportunity to help kids flex their creative muscles.

The work of the Wassaic Project's after-school art program was also on display at the opening, tucked neatly into the Maxon Mills' loft.

A program run by education coordinator Jill Winsby-Fein, the exhibition was the culmination of a year's worth



PHOTOS BY ELIAS SORICH

A line forms around 'Venting Spacetime' by Shawn Biters and Matthew Garcia at the opening of the Wassaic Project's summer show 'Counting the Seconds Between Lightning and Thunder' on Saturday, May 20, at Maxon Mills in Wassaic.

of effort from students in and around the Webutuck Central School District, and featured many exemplary pieces—including an array of cloche sculptures responding to the work of Kate Pasquarelli, an exhibitor at the Wassaic Project's winter show (see "Tour-

ing the surreal..." from the Dec. 8, 2022, Millerton News for more details).

"Counting the Seconds Between Lightning and Thunder" is open to the public Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. through Saturday, Sept. 16.

'A-Fair to Remember' to support 4-H

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — The Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC) has announced that 4-H A-Fair to Remember fundraiser will be on Sunday, June 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Millbrook Winery. There will be food trucks, 4-H Club displays and lots of activities. Funds raised allow 4-H members, family members and others to participate in and/or attend the Dutchess County Fair in August.

In the food and beverage

department, one can look to Tomas Smokin' BBQ, Dave's Global Chicken, Cider Bros. Roadhouse, Pizza Joe on the Go, and Cheesecake Heaven. There will also be real milkshakes, ice cream, lemonade, shaved ice, popcorn, cotton candy, and wine and beer for the adults.

Attendees can learn about archery, shooting, and arts and crafts. They can participate in all types of fair games, have fun with the photo booth or just meet the animals. There will be dogs, rabbits, and an array of bugs to learn about, as well as farm animals. A live auction will also take

place.

The 2022 fundraiser enabled every 4-H youth to participate in the Dutchess County Fair, with all fees paid. A total of 292 young participants entered into 1,864 classes. The proceeds also provided 25 scholarships to support families, and 61 immigrant families were fully funded to attend.

For registration, ticket prices or more information about the event and the 4-H program, go to dutchesscounty4h.weebly.com or contact ccedc4h@gmail.com



Amenia resident Pickle Gutierrez with her cat painting, made with materials provided by Super Stories.

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Phragmites is an invasive plant that has become established here in the NW corner and is hell to try to get rid of. They tend to be in wetlands and around lakes and ponds choking out the native plants and wildlife. UCONN's Invasive Plant Working Group is a good place to understand the options to see what would work best for your property. One may also have to gain the approval of your local Wetlands Commission and CTDEEP, so it would be smart to call your Town's Land Administrator to confirm. To view UCONN's information, please go to: cipwg.uconn.edu/phragmites.

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LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF AMENIA PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to NYS Town Law § 277 and Chapter 105 of the Town of Amenia Code, the Planning Board of the Town of Amenia will hold a public hearing on the application by Edward Petkovich and Paul Reinheimer (the "Applicants") for a lot line adjustment (the "Application") between lands located at 14 and 28 Springview Drive in the Town of Amenia that are designated Parcel Grid Identification ## 7064-02-544680 and 7064-02-538722 (the "Project Site"). The Project Site is located in the Suburban Residential zoning district.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Planning Board hold the public hearing on the Application on June 14, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, New York 12501.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the Application is on file in the Planning and Zoning Office for public viewing and inspection during normal business hours. The Application can also be viewed and downloaded from the Town's official website at www.ameniany.gov.

PLEASE TAKE

FURTHER NOTICE that the Planning Board will hear all persons interested in the Application at the public hearing noticed herein. All persons may appear at the hearing in person or by agent and may also submit written comments to the Planning Board at or prior to such hearing by emailing comments to Planning Board Secretary Judy Westfall at jwestfall@amenia.ny.gov.

Dated: May 25, 2023.

Robert Boyles, Jr.
Chairman
Town of Amenia
Planning Board
06-01-23

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of RD Fab, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 4/23/23. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to RD Fab, LLC. 215 Perrys Corners Rd., Amenia, NY 12501. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

05-18-23
05-25-23
06-01-23
06-08-23
06-15-23
06-22-23

Legal Notice

Palomba Engineering, PLLC, a domestic PLLC, filed with the SSNY on 6/17/22. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY is designated

as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Palomba Engineering, PLLC, 1060 Broadway #1031, Albany, NY 12204. Professional engineering purposes. www.palomba.io.

05-04-23
05-11-23
05-18-23
05-25-23
06-01-23
06-08-23

Legal Notice

In the Matter of the Establishment of Sewer District No. 1 in the Town of North East, in the County of Dutchess, NY ORDER CALLING PUBLIC HEARING

WHEREAS, a written Petition dated May 11, 2023 has been submitted in due form by the owners of taxable real property situate in the proposed Sewer District No. 1 for the Town of North East, owning in the aggregate more than one-half (1/2) of the assessed valuation of the taxable real property in said proposed Sewer District as shown on the latest Assessment Roll of the Town of North East, County of Dutchess, State of New York, to establish Sewer District No. 1, which shall comprise that portion of the said Town outside of any incorporated village or city and wholly within the Town, which is bounded and described on Exhibit "A"

annexed hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, the improvements proposed within the said Sewer District are to consist of a sewer collection system to serve said District, as described in §2.3 of a Map, Plan and Report prepared by Tighe & Bond Engineering and Landscape Architecture, PC, dated December 2022, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town of North East Clerk, and is incorporated by reference herein; and

WHEREAS, the sewer collection system will be operated in conjunction with a water resource recovery system which will be constructed within the Village of Millerton as described in §2.4 of said Map, Plan and Report; and WHEREAS, said systems will be operated together as described in the said Map, Plan and Report pursuant to an Intermunicipal Agreement between the Village of Millerton and the Town of North East; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount proposed to be expended for the improvements for Water District No. 1 is \$2,955,000 as set forth in §3 of the said Map, Plan and Report; and

WHEREAS, a hook-up fee will be required to hook-up to the system within the District but will be waived for parcels that connect during the initial construction

period established by the Village and the Town, and future hook-up costs and charges will be charged for connections to the system that occur after the initial construction period, as set forth in §3.4 of the Map, Plan and Report; and

WHEREAS, the properties within the proposed District consist of commercial properties only and the cost to a typical commercial property within the District are as follows: Annual Capital Cost (BU) \$2, 965.00; Annual Operating and Maintenance Cost \$788.00; Total Annual Cost \$3,753.00; and Total Monthly Cost \$316.50, all as set forth in §4.1 of the said Map, Plan and Report.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED that a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of North East shall be held on June 8, 2023 at the Town of North East Town Hall, located at 19 North Maple Avenue, Millerton, New York, to consider said Petition and to hear all persons interested in the subject thereof, and for such other and further action on the part of the Town Board, with relation to the premises; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to publish notice of said hearing in the Town's official newspaper at least once no less than ten (10) and no more than twenty

(20) days before the date set for the said public hearing; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Town Clerk shall cause a copy of this Order and the exhibits annexed thereto to be posted on the sign board of the Town of North East not less than ten (10) nor more than twenty (20) days before the designated date for the public hearing; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to post notice of this public hearing with a copy of this Order and the exhibits annexed hereto on the Town's official website no less than ten (10) nor more than twenty (20) days before the designated date for the public hearing; and be it further

ORDERED, that a copy of this Resolution and the said Map, Plan and Report shall be made available for inspection at the office of the Town Clerk during regular business hours.

This motion was offered by Councilwoman Winkler and was seconded by Councilwoman Morrison. The Resolution was carried by a 5-0 vote of the Town Board members on May 11, 2023.

Elizabeth Strauss
Town Clerk
Town of North East
06-01-23

EDITORIAL

A different Memorial Day

The tiny state of Connecticut has done something remarkable, something that no other state has tried: Create a coherent gun control law.

The constraints are few: You can walk around your own property with a gun. You can't own an assault rifle unless you actually need one. You can only buy three handguns a month. You can't own a ghost gun, an untraceable gun made from a kit bought online.

And now in Connecticut the legal age to buy a "long gun"—shotguns, rifles—will be raised to 21, in stark contrast to a state like Florida, where the legislature is in the process of lowering the long-gun age to 18, and also basically making it possible for anyone to carry guns anywhere, any time.

The story in today's issue from our partners at CT Mirror gives the details of Connecticut's latest effort. As Mark Pazniokas describes it: "The legislation would prohibit the open carry of firearms and further tighten restrictions on military-style weapons and high-capacity magazines largely banned after the Sandy Hook school shooting. It would also target repeat gun offenders with dedicated court dockets, higher thresholds for bail and probation, and tougher penalties."

Connecticut has been a leader in gun control legislation since the 2012 Sandy Hook tragedy. In December of that year, a 20-year-old man walked into the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut and shot and killed 26 people, including 20 children.

Last year on Memorial Day, long-time Millerton News publisher Janet Manko penned a passionate editorial just after the Uvalde, Texas, school massacre, in which 19 students and two teachers were killed.

She wrote: "Americans who value gun ownership more than the lives of children will be judged by history, whether such violence occurs on the streets in urban neighborhoods where most gun deaths of young people occur, or in classrooms in suburban and rural ones. If the United States cannot find a way to overcome its love for guns, it will continue to pay too high a price in the loss of innocent lives."

This Memorial Day, we'll add the victims of the Sandy Hook massacre, and other senseless episodes of gun violence, to our list of remembrances. There have already been 24 school shootings this year. There have been 168 since 2018.

Jessica Rekos (age 6), Olivia Engel (age 6), Avielle Richman (age 6), Jesse Lewis (age 6), Grace Audrey McDonnell (age 7), Noah Pozner (age 6), Ana Marquez-Greene (age 6), Emilie Parker (age 6), Charlotte Bacon (age 6), Catherine Hubbard (age 6), Josephine Gay (age 7), Daniel Barden (age 7), James Mattioli (age 6), Caroline Previdi (age 6), Allison Wyatt (age 6), Dylan Hockley (age 6), Madeleine Hsu (age 6), Chase Kowalski (age 7), Jack Pinto (age 6), Benjamin Wheeler (age 6), Victoria Soto (age 27), Lauren Rousseau (age 30), Dawn Hochsprung (age 47), Mary Sherlach (age 56), Rachel Davino (age 29), Anne Marie Murphy (age 52).



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

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

Publication is at the discretion of the editor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Combating scam calls to ensure safety for seniors

I recently witnessed the potentially devastating impact of scam calls on seniors. Like many others from their generation, my parents feel more comfortable and secure using a landline. Unfortunately, this choice exposes them to a relentless stream of undesired and deceitful calls that exploit their vulnerability.

A staggering 85% of landline calls (www.joinimp.com/blogs/news/landline-landscape-2022-q-4-report) are now unwanted or spam. My parents have become frequent targets, facing re-

lentless intrusion into their daily lives. Recently, they narrowly avoided falling victim to a caller who requested their bank details under the guise of verifying their account. It was a close call that spurred me into action.

After extensive research, I promptly added their number to the Do Not Call list and began exploring options for a spam call blocker. However, my journey revealed a stark truth: there needs to be more resources to educate and protect seniors effectively in the face of this growing menace.

And it's a more significant issue than you think, with half a million seniors in Connecticut (www.communityphone.org/landline/ct#landline-usage-statistics) still relying on a landline today.

The consequences of these scams are not limited to emotional distress; they also result in significant financial losses. The FBI's Elder Fraud Report of 2022 (www.ic3.gov/Media/PDF/AnnualReport/2022_IC3ElderFraudReport.pdf) revealed that a staggering \$33,660,316 was lost due to scams, and 908 senior victims

over 60 in Connecticut alone were targeted. On average, seniors lose \$500 or more when they fall victim to these malicious schemes.

State and local authorities must step up and take bold, decisive action to address this urgent issue. Our seniors are counting on us. It is high time we allocate the necessary resources to develop robust educational programs that equip them with the knowledge and tools they need to protect themselves.

Seth Kavanaugh
Millerton

Supporting Lisa Erdner on the ballot

If you're looking to vote for a Village of Millerton Trustee in the upcoming election, look for Lisa Erdner's name on the ballot. I've worked with Lisa on numerous committees and events in the last couple of years and I can honestly say she's one of the best I've ever had the pleasure of working with.

Lisa is currently Vice President of Townscape and is a member of the Village Zoning Board of Appeals.

Since getting involved in the community, she has spearheaded the opening party for Eddie Collins Park and now the Concert in the Park to be held July 8. Lisa attends Village Board meetings,

Millerton Business Alliance meetings, housing meetings and even plants flowers in Veteran's Park and on Main Street! She's eager to learn about how the village works, and most of all, to get to know what our community is about and what it is that residents want and need.

I know she'll continue to

work hard to be sure that every voice is heard and do what she can to make Millerton the kind of place we deserve to live, work and play in. We all love our village; let's vote for people like Lisa who love it too and want to see it be the best it can be!

Catherine Fenn
Millerton

The Trade of the Poet

Our job is to speak to you
About that certain part of you
That you do not know about

That part of you that's potent to deceive
With which fear for yourself you will receive
That by iniquity you'll feel cajoled

It's that amount of the irrational that needs to be nurtured
That inevitable incoherence that needs to be heard
The peak of your vulnerability comes in times of idleness, when

Your essence dwells completely in the mind, and hence
It is in fear of fear — that you are held in mental anguish's bind

Tim Lacy

Cornwall, Conn.

The Normandy invasion: D-Day — June 6, 1944

At the altar where I first joined the sanctuary of God I ask to seek divine guidance for me in the great struggle that looms ahead," Gen. Douglas MacArthur would write Dr. W.P. Witsell, rector of Christ Episcopal Church at Little Rock, Arkansas, prior to the Normandy invasion.

An event that would rivet world attention and turn U.S. country bumpkins into national heroes in a matter of weeks. I have a list of 134

VETERAN'S CORNER

Larry Conklin

young men and a few women serving their country from the town of North East then which pretty much exhausted the young male population.

My father Martin Conklin and my friend Bill Roberts' dad Harry hit those beaches of Normandy. Sheer terror, brutality and heroism was experienced by most. Many involved hardly ever uttered a word of their experiences, my dad being one of them although Harry did so toward the end of his life when interviewed by a reporter. Harry was the first Army ranger to scale the cliffs of Normandy to neutralize enemy positions slaughtering those crossing the beaches. Though seriously wounded Harry fought on later being nominated for the Congressional Medal of Honor, which he refused. His words: "I'm proud I served but I don't have to be proud of the people who try to glorify it. The heroes are the ones who died. For every medal I received, someone had to die in front of me and behind me."

My father would not discuss his time in hell, though I believe if he had, it would

have been a proud legacy for his family. I can perfectly understand that revisiting past traumatic events could likely rekindle demons of the past and no one wants that. D-Day — a day when the greatest armada of ships, airpower, airborne and infantry of that era was assembled to rescue our allies from infamy and preserve our own free-

doms. God bless those brave men and women and you patriotic readers and families. Stay safe and healthy and enjoy this summer together.

Town of North East resident
Larry Conklin is a Vietnam veteran and a member of both the Millerton American Legion Post 178 and the VFW Post 6851 in North Canaan, Conn.

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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

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PHOTO SUBMITTED

Memorial Day Past — Who third veteran from left?

Millerton's Memorial Day parade in 1949 is shown here with Parade Marshal William "Bill" Bradley in the lead with four Navy veterans as Honor Guard. Can anyone identify the third veteran from left? From left: Richard A. Guptill Jr., Robert Webb, (unidentified), and Donald Loper. If you recognize this unidentified sailor, email editor@millertonnews.com. Bradley, the last World War I Veteran in the Town of North East, participated in every Memorial Day Parade from 1940 through Memorial Day 1991, the year before he died.

OUR TOWNS

Hinchey, experts talk about tick-borne illnesses

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

DUTCHESS COUNTY — Dutchess County is full of trees, flowers, greenery and an assortment of animals such as mice, deer, foxes, birds—and ticks. State Sen. Michelle Hinchey (D, NY-41) would like to see more done to control the tick population as well as providing more research into learning about ticks and tick-borne diseases.

On Thursday, May 18, Hinchey co-hosted the virtual information program "Let's Talk About Ticks." One of her co-hosts was Richard Ostfeld, Ph.D., disease ecologist with the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, which has been involved in tick and Lyme disease research for more than 30 years.

Ostfeld used charts to show how the tick problem has escalated over recent years; in 1996 there were fewer than 20,000 cases of Lyme disease recorded in the U.S.; in 2019, there were over 40,000 cases recorded. He feels that tick-borne diseases are underreported.

In two maps, Ostfeld showed the increase in the tick population and the disease. The first map, from 2001, showed a small amount of tick-borne disease across the U.S., with the only heavy concentration on the East Coast, and the Hudson Valley as the epicenter.

The same map, updated in 2017, showed a rise in the number of ticks and disease geographically spread across the country, but the same concentrated East Coast, with the Hudson Valley still the most heavily affected.

Grasses, trees and other greenery provide breeding grounds for ticks, while the wildlife act as hosts. When there is plenty to eat, the wild-life population increases.

Add to that later winters and earlier springs, and it's easy to understand why ticks and disease are on the rise.

Kathy Nolan, M.D., senior research director for Catskill Mountainkeeper, talked about how tick-borne diseases impact an individual's life. After stating that she was not giving medical advice, her first tip was that those need medical treatment should seek out a clinic that specializes in Lyme disease. She pointed out that the disease can take many forms.

Caught early and treated, Lyme disease may not have too serious an impact, but if not caught early, the consequences

can be dire and lead to various symptoms including consistent bone and muscle pain, cognitive decline and even heart disease.

Nolan doesn't agree with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's method of treatment, but rather prefers large doses of antibiotics over periods of time determined by the length of time the tick has been imbedded; the longer the tick has been attached, the higher the dose of antibiotics and the longer the duration of the medicine.

Nolan also recommends DNA testing for Lyme rather than other methods, and advises one to look into alternative treatments as well.

Information about what to wear, where to go, and the best way to keep safe around ticks was provided by John Thompson, director of the Catskill

Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) with the Catskill Center, and Barbara Campbell, Master Gardener with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County.

Wear shoes or boots with tall socks and long pants, preferably with the bottoms of the pants tucked into the socks. Long-sleeved shirts are best.

Remember that you'll find the most ticks in bushes and in longer grass, so when hiking, stay in the middle of the path and avoid vegetation. Ticks are everywhere, however, so whenever you've been outdoors, do a careful check when you get home.

Thompson advises taking clothes off, putting them in a plastic bag. Put them in a clothes dryer and run the dryer for about 10 minutes: The dry heat from will kill ticks. Don't wash the clothes first, as ticks

thrive in warm water.

Look for ticks in and around the ears, inside the belly button, between the legs and behind the knees. Also check in and around the hair, under the arms, around the waist and in warm, dark areas.

There are products you can spray on your clothes; you can also send out clothing to be treated with repellent that lasts through many washings. Pre-treated clothing can be purchased. There are many treatments for pets, but the experts feel one should talk to their veterinarian about what to use for each pet.

With Hinchey's forum and other agencies available to offer tips, you can enjoy the beauty, the sun and the greenery while keeping your family, your pets and yourself protected by following safety guidelines.

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