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**Spring
Cleanup**

Special Banner, Pages A2-3

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PHOTO BY DEBORAH MAIER

McEnroe Organic Farm composting director Matt Hamm with part of the 3,000-cubic-yard pile of 10-12-month-old finished compost.

Composting: One problem, multiple solutions

By **DEBORAH MAIER**
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — “There will never be a time when we hear, ‘Hey, sorry, we have no food waste for you,’” Matt Hamm averred, gesturing over the vast acreage at the McEnroe Organic Farm soils and compost facility. Hamm, who is the director of composting, estimated that \$600 billion worth of food is wasted every year.

At the center of the McEnroe operation stands a kind of mountain range in miniature, a 30-foot pile of rich, garden-ready compost, or “black gold,” the end product of a roughly 18-month cycle, in what is a consciously circular process. The 1,200-acre farm, a 501(c)(3), uses much of the compost it makes for its own growing and selling, but has a clear and significant educational mission.

What’s the problem/hurry?

With most awareness going to recycling efforts, composting is often overlooked as a main driver of sustainability. But composting diverts food waste from landfills. Shocking as it may seem, 40% of food in the U.S. goes uneaten.

According to an NRDC document, that works out to 20 pounds of food per person every month, including various sources. In the western Hudson Valley, 15 tractor trailers filled with waste leave the waste facility in Kingston six days a week, heading to the landfill in western New York.

In the landfill, decomposing food waste produces methane gas, a greenhouse gas 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Removing food waste from the landfill would equate to removing one-fifth of the cars in the U.S.

An exemplar in our back yard
McEnroe’s has been composting at Coleman Station Road since about 1987, when the McEnroe and Durst families set up the farm and in a step visionary for the time, to create organic compost.

“We’re permitted to do up to 15,000 cubic yards of food waste per year, and 55,000 cubic yards of total inputs,” Hamm explained. Much of it comes from New York City restaurants, and “micro-haulers” bring yard and farm waste from various municipalities and

See **COMPOSTING, A2**

Village budget under tax cap; new chief of police

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

MILLERTON — A mystery man attended the Village Board meeting on Monday, April 10, along with four village residents. A public hearing was opened on the proposed 2023-24 budget for the village, and comments were received and responded to from the audience concerning recreation and the wastewater project.

The board then tackled closing the approximately \$13,500 gap that would allow the village not to exceed the New York state tax cap on taxes levied. This was ac-

The trustees expect Joseph Olenik will be officially approved to become Millerton’s chief of police and will begin supervising the department by Monday, May 1.

complished by modestly increasing revenues from the fund balance from \$25,000 to \$35,000 and decreasing potential unemployment insurance costs by \$3,500 to \$6,500. All trustees approved the modifications.

The village budget of \$720,000 pays for the expenses of the village government, the police department, the highway department, recreation, streetlights, and even trees. In fact, it will spend less next

year than the fire district. Overall, budgeted revenues and expenses have been reduced from last year by about \$125,000 when the village received grant money for the wastewater project and invested in computers.

Important other changes are reduced police department expenses of \$92,228 from \$119,059 last year because the Town of North East

See **VILLAGE BOARD, A8**

Marathon entrants meet with drizzle, hills, thrill of victory

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

MILLBROOK — In spite of a nagging drizzle, over 130 runners came out on Sunday, April 16, to run a 26.2-mile marathon.

Known as challenging due to its hills and turns, the Millbrook Marathon is also known for the beautiful sights that runners can view as they run for success and the thrill of the race.

The marathon, hosted by the Eastern Dutchess Road Runners Club (EDRRC) started and finished

at a balloon-decorated arch in the Town of Washington Park.

EERDC President John Morris first approached the village and town about having a marathon in 2020, but due to COVID-19, the first marathon took place a year later, in 2021.

Casey Smith from Torrington, Connecticut, came in first place with a time of 3 hours, 9 minutes and 6 seconds. This was his first year running in the marathon. “It’s very difficult,” he said. “It’s very hilly and the hills never stop. Just when you think you are done with

the hills, another one comes along. But it’s beautiful. I’d do it again.”

Second place winner was Matt Decker from Wappinger Falls, who was also running the race for the first time, and he finished in 3:13:00. Decker said he’d like to do the Millbrook run again, even though it was the second most difficult marathon he’s run.

Justin DePierro from Goshen, Connecticut, came in third at 3:21:22. Also his first time running in this marathon, he found it beauti-

See **MARATHON, A8**



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Let’s play ball!

Escorted by fire trucks and transported on open farm wagons, young ballplayers and coaches enjoyed a parade through Amenia on Saturday, April 15, as the community celebrated the opening of the 2023 Little League season. The parade ended at Amenia’s Beekman Park where more festivities awaited. For more on this and other sports news, see page A7.



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OPINION
Earth Day 2023;
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COMPOSTING *Continued from Page A1*

other local sources.

An 8-acre compost bed nearby is divided into windrows 8 feet high, 22 feet wide, and very long, where active composting happens.

“Thermophilic” composting refers to using heat, and heat-loving organisms, to decompose matter. Windrow covers keep the compost at proper levels of heat and moisture, principles that home composters will recognize as keys to success.

A temperature of 135-160 degrees Fahrenheit, turned five times in 15 days, assures that the material is cooked thoroughly. Drainage swales and collector areas keep the area moist but not sopping wet.

Nuisance rodents or vermin are dispatched by the countryside predators: hawks, eagles and coyotes are the natural pest-control solution in the vast McEnroe campus.

Surprisingly, odor is not very evident in most conditions, and certain smells, like ammoniac ones during anaerobic decomposition, act as “time to turn” signals. As to effects on nearby residents, “We have wind socks to show wind direction, since we want to be as mindful as possible of our neighbors.”

But the process’ recipe is so well-honed, he added, that those working in the office just adjacent to the huge pad leave the windows open.

Sad contamination, here as everywhere

A giant pile on the other side represents what any large-scale composter, or any steward of nature, faces: shockingly large numbers of plastic bags and other waste. Next to the huge open-air “screening plant,” the pile bristles with plastics amid its half-composted soil.

“This is a real problem, one that we all have to deal with,” Hamm said, “and we don’t see what we’ve done to our planet until we see these processes. With composting, you’re talking about carbon sequestration, and ensuring soil health for generations to come...just

taking a bit of time out of your year to make compost happen is really a step toward saving the planet for future generations.”

The foresight of the farm’s owners, the McEnroe and Durst families, before ‘organic’ was a byword, ensure that this efficient, closed-loop operation can extend well into the future. Tours of the facility will be available to the public on Saturday, May 13.

What can each of us do?

For DIFM (do-it-for-me) methods, contributing to McEnroe’s drop-off bin on the south end of its Route 22 store’s parking lot is one easy way for some people to make sure their food waste doesn’t become part of the problem. “We’re about to rebuild the steps into a deck to make it easier to dump food scraps,” said McEnroe farm store manager Olivia Skeen.

While the large-scale, carefully engineered process allows for materials usually forbidden in home systems—meats, fish, dairy, cooked foods—and pretty much anything that spoils at home can be added to the small dumpster, she noted, they’d rather not have yard waste because of its bulkiness; that can go down Coleman Station Road to the main facility.

Skeen pointed out that the farm’s nonprofit status will be highlighted in many community activities and fundraising. The Education Garden is a small-scale display of everything that is done on the farm, a safe way to introduce processes to the public without stressing young greenhouse plants too much.

The DIY route

In terms of individual, household, or even neighborhood composting, there are several choices. People who have a fair bit of property may prefer the “lazy composting” method, consisting of two or three separate piles at a distance from the house—one onto which fresh food scraps (“green” elements, in compost lingo) are thrown, then covered with leaves or such



PHOTO BY DEBORAH MAIER

Nuno Ramos, left, and Eliot Ramos in front of the three-part composting system at their home in the village of Millerton.

other “brown/carbon” layers to balance what is needed for decomposition; the other pile is the result of that process, further on. That or a third pile is used as needed.

As a vegetarian, Rich Stalzer of Millerton finds the open-piles system works fine for him. “When I do have meat scraps from feeding guests or their pets,” he added, “they either take their scraps home [New York City has curbside composting] or I freeze them until I make a trip down 22 and drop them off at McEnroe.”

Perhaps because of the limited inputs, he finds few issues with odor or animals.

For a three-part system that is definitely not “lazy,” a look at Eliot Ramos’ and Nuno Ramos’ system at their home in Millerton village is instructive. Built of wooden planks from pallets, the first bin holds scraps, yard waste and large pieces of branches, twigs and so on.

In the second bin, similar but older material is finer in consistency but still not soil. The third bin holds what looks like rich dark soil: completed compost. Nuno turns each bin out onto the ground every

two weeks or so, advances the parts that are ready, and adds to the first bin.

Don’t provide buffet for local wildlife

A common problem for home composters (and gardeners in general) is the presence of animals, who find our fresh greens irresistible. The Ramos’ bins are protected by rope-mesh covers that can keep squirrels out, and probably discourage other animals. Without animal products and their odors, larger animals are not attracted to the piles.

For bin-style composters like the Earth Machine, currently on sale by Dutchess County for about one-third of the list price, the trick may be to place the bottomless bin on a layer of metal mesh with small enough openings to deter mice—probably 1/4 inch to be safe, since those creatures are experts at self-compression, fitting into holes the size of dimes.

Extend the protection well beyond the object, and possibly vertically into the surrounding soil as well, in the case of a serious population issue. Attention to the size of food bits (the smaller the better), moisture, turning the

mixture, and locating it where it can absorb and maintain warmth will ensure maintaining the proper conditions for decomposition and minimize unwanted results.

Conventional wisdom, updated warnings

Home gardeners have been told for ages to beware of composting weeds, especially invasive and those that have already seeded. Garlic mustard, for example, should be cut before it flowers, because seeding happens soon after that. And many home composters never reach the ideal temperatures as noted above.

But newer learning suggests that there is no good way to compost a garlic mustard plant (which is prohibited in New York state), since its roots exude allelopathic anti-fungal substances. Those cause disturbances in relations between mycorrhizal fungi, trees and “good” plants, a link recently shown to be crucial to the entire ecosystem.

In addition, it is one of several plants, including sunflowers, that absorb lead in the soil. The upside of that is their use in phytoremediation of brownfields and so on, but it’s yet another reason to keep them out of composting systems.

Another plant to avoid composting, if one is unlucky enough to encounter it, is Japanese knotweed, a bamboo lookalike whose root systems can destroy foundations, septic tanks and other materials usually thought to be indestructible. Both of those invasive nasties should be bagged, marked, left to dry and lighten in weight, then disposed of, but so carefully that instructions are reminiscent of toxic or radioactive waste management.

Challenges and hopes

As helpful as it can be for the environment, for some people, the challenges of composting at home are too great, considering space, time, equipment and so on.

In Nuno Ramos’ community composting idea, a blend

of DIY and DIFM, bins for food scraps would be located at community homes that have the space and system to compost them; neighbors would bring their scraps, the owner of the bin would maintain the system, and all would share the compost that results. Worth noting: No animal fat is used at such a scale of composting.

He also posited a small-business aspect: “Small-scale local entrepreneurs [would] collect food scraps – from residences, restaurants, grocery stores, breweries, coffee shops and other sites – by bicycle, trailer, or truck and transport material to a nearby composting operation.” This might be part of the town government, using state and federal grant monies to help set up and support pilot programs.

“It’s something we need to figure out,” Ramos said. “Even though New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut are close by, we all compost differently;” in states that accept all food, including meat and dairy, the systems tend to be on an industrial scale, and dependent on fossil fuels.

But local composting can be modestly scaled and more sustainable, using what is on hand and avoiding long-haul transport. “There are many opportunities. If we work together as a community, Millerton could be the first community in New York with a truly local, sustainable composting solution.”

McEnroe’s food waste drop-off: www.mcenroeorganicfarm.com/programs/compost-drop-off

Japanese knotweed ID, disposal info: warren.cce.cornell.edu/gardening-landscape/warren-county-master-gardener-articles/japanese-knotweed

Reasonably-priced compost bins: dutchessny.gov/DutchessCountyOnlinePurchases/WasteManagement/PurchaseCompostBins

Spring Cleanup

Spring has arrived and that means it’s time to tackle some of many projects we’ve added to our lists throughout the winter. Whether you need landscaping, gardening, remodeling, building, general spring cleanup or ongoing maintenance, you can count on each of the businesses on this page to assist from start to finish. And when you call, let them know you saw their ad in *your* community weekly newspapers, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News.

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Stanford Road bridge replacement, town budget focus of Millbrook village meeting

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Although some residents had come to the meeting to be heard regarding the parking codes, that topic was put off until the Wednesday, May 10, meeting, when a member of the Millbrook Central School District is expected to attend.

Near the top of the agenda was guest speaker Mathew Dutcavich, director of engineering for the Dutchess County Department of Public Works. The topic was the plan to replace Stanford Road bridge.

The plans now include planning, bids, and possibly, in a little over a year, replacing the bridge. In his report, he



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Mathew Dutcavich shows replacement bridge plans at the Village of Millbrook Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, April 12.

identified the main issues having to do with the need for the replacement, mentioning first that the bridge is almost 100

years old, having been built in 1929. One section has lost some of its steel beams. There is an aging abutment and walls.

Dutcavich had printed materials available, which included some of the new bridge details, such as a 43-foot precast arch; 10-foot travel lanes and 4-foot shoulders; and a pedestrian height railing. The proposed detour would be Route 44 and Harts Village Road, with a potential closure of Dineen Road at Harts Village.

The engineering and design were awarded to HVEA in 2021. Property rights would have to be gotten from the village. Some easements would be temporary for the purpose of construction, some would be permanent easements for maintenance access, and some would be fee acquisitions for structure blueprint.

The schedule looks to complete plans over summer

2023 and acquire the necessary permits at the same time. Fall 2023 would complete the right of way acquisitions, and would also include a fall 2023 bid process. If all goes to plan, construction would take place April through September 2024.

The 2023-24 budget was also presented and can be found online at villageofmillbrookny.com by clicking on the "Packet" link of the April 12 meeting date under the "Agendas & Minutes" menu.

The mayor opened the public hearing: There were no comments. The public hearing was closed and the budget was voted on with one change, that being the SBA water fund at \$11,000. All voted aye and the 2023-24 budget was passed,

effective June 1, 2023.

The next meeting is Wednesday, May 10, at 6 p.m. at the Millbrook Firehouse. The meeting can be attended in person or seen on Channel 22; the video of the meeting is generally available within two days of the meeting and can be found on the village website.

Local roadway improvements to be funded

POUGHKEEPSIE — The Dutchess County Legislature has issued \$9,447,724 in bonds to pay for a portion of county improvements pertaining to highways, bridges and culverts.

Projects will include work on 12-15 miles of county highways as well as bridge replacements on County Route 53/ Cold Spring Road over Wappinger Creek in Stanford and on Stanford Road over East Branch Wappinger Creek in Washington.

The complete cost is estimated at \$14,643,542, with the remaining balance to be paid with funds from the state's Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIP), PaveNY and Extreme Winter Recovery program.

Proposed legislation to give additional tax break to EMS, firefighters

By EMILY EDELMAN
emilye@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D-Dutchess/Columbia) has introduced A.6274, and act that would allow volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel to receive both a \$200 income tax credit from the state as well as a local property tax exemption.

Legislation signed into law in December gives local governments the option to provide a property tax exemption of 10% to volunteer firefighters and ambulance personnel, but Section 606 of New York state tax law makes accepting both options an impossibility.

In January, members of the Dutchess County Legislature sent a letter to state representatives urging the

introduction of legislation guaranteeing both tax breaks and its inclusion in the 2023-24 state budget.

If adopted, the act will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2024.

In an interview with The Millerton News, Legislature Chairman Gregg Pulver (R-Pine Plains) said: "Didi and I have a good relationship, we talked... I talked with Michelle Hinchey... I also talked with

Sen. Rolison and Assemblyman Beephan.

This is one of those things that I think was overlooked. I don't think they meant to

preclude one or the other, it just was done, and it's nice that Assemblymember Barrett took the initiative to do that."

Correcting Errors

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

Correction

In an article on Page 5 of the April 13 issue, Christian Allyn was incorrectly identified.

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OBITUARIES

Richard M. Christiansen

AMENIA — Richard M. Christiansen Jr., 87, (affectionately known as Dick), a resident of Amenia, passed away peacefully at home on April 11, 2023. Born March 22, 1936, in Shawangunk, New York, he was the son to the late Richard Sr. and Margaret (Romer) Christiansen. On Dec. 31, 1957, in Pawling, he married Patricia (Carol) Christiansen, who survives at home.

Dick served in the United States Navy and was honorably discharged on Nov. 27, 1953.

Mr. Christiansen worked at various locations throughout his lifetime, finally retiring in 1998 from the Wassaic Developmental Center where he was a Therapy Aide.

Mr. Christiansen was a 64-year lifetime member and Past Fire Chief of the Wassaic Fire Company where he could still be found at the firehouse daily.

Dick was a HUGE NY Mets fan and a one-time season ticket holder #LFGM. He additionally enjoyed NASCAR and watching his favorite driver, Jeff Gordon. Richard enjoyed trips to the area casinos and was an avid Joker Poker player for many



years. In addition to his loving wife Patricia, Mr. Christiansen is survived by son Richard M. Christiansen III (wife Tina) of Syracuse, New York, daughter Carol Robert (husband Tony) of Amenia, son Mark Christiansen (wife Donna) of Dover Plains. He is also survived by sisters Patty Austin, Alice Kreiling, Irene Christiansen and Peggy Mercado; grandchildren Matthew Christiansen, Andrew Christiansen, Jeremy Robert, Shayne Robert, Tyler Christiansen, Austin Christiansen, Jeremy Christiansen, Brandi Doyle and Ricky Christian- sen; great grandchildren Joey, Logan, Alana, Annabelle and Leon.

He was predeceased by brothers Roy Christiansen, Robert Christiansen, Raymond Christiansen and a sister Joan Rockwood. A graveside service will be held on Saturday April 22, at the Irondale Cemetery in Millerton, N.Y. at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Dutchess County SPCA located at 636 Violet Ave., Hyde Park, NY 12538

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

KENT — Roger Lee Lintner, 82, a 12-year resident of Kent, formerly of Amenia, died peacefully on Friday, April 7, 2023, at his home in Kent. Mr. Lintner was a supervisor at Taconic Developmental Disabilities Services Office in Wassaic for 33 years, retiring in 1995.

Born on May 20, 1940, in Malone, New York, he was the son of the late Thomas and Mildred (Quilliam) Lintner. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by three brothers, Thomas, Donald and Darrell. He was a former member of the Amenia Lions Club in Amenia.

Roger is survived by five

children: a son, Jamie and his wife, Kendra, of Hanover, New Hampshire, and four daughters, Megan and her husband, Keith, of Lugoff, South Carolina; Kara and her husband, Eric, of Millerton; Ellen of Fort Covington, New York and Karen of Fort Covington, New York. In addition to his five children, he is survived by his former wife, Bonnie, of Vero Beach, Florida. He is also survived by a sister, Gloria of Rochester, New York, and two brothers, Paul of North Bangor, New York, and Carl Lintner of Florida; eight grandchildren: Ruby, Vera, Hugh, Rachel, Lauren, Cole, Bryce and Sydnie.



While normally reserved, if Roger liked you, he would have plenty to say. After many years of working for the state, including the last 12 on the nightshift to accommodate the raising of his children, Roger retired early at 55. He enjoyed retirement, spending time around his home in Amenia, mostly putting, gardening, and cooking BBQ on the back deck. Luckily, Roger was blessed with amazing neighbors, Ned and Pat, who treated him and his kids like family. A loving thank you to the Ahearn family.

The little house in Amenia was its own community, with three young kids going in all directions, often accompanied by too many friends to count. In recent years, Roger was able

to experience it all again, with the addition of grandchildren, and always there to offer advice when asked. The best part about living into your 80's is watching the family grow, and the experiences that accompany a long life.

Funeral services and burial will be private and at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions may be made to the Amenia Lions Club, P.O. Box 472, Amenia, NY 12501.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hufcut Funeral Home in Dover Plains. To send the family an online condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com. For comments, or related info, email Jamie at jlintner@yahoo.com

Birthe Elizabeth Larsen

KENT — Birthe Elizabeth Larsen, age 81, fondly known as Elizabeth, passed away peacefully at home on April 10, 2023, following a long illness. Born in Copenhagen, Denmark, on Aug. 21, 1941, Elizabeth was the daughter of Hans Peter Christian Larsen and Karen Marie Kristine Jensen.

Elizabeth is survived by her son Philip W. Shay, daughter Inge Marie Hankins, granddaughter Amber Rose Marie Purdy and her sister Inge Nielsen. Elizabeth was predeceased by her son Paul Eric who died shortly after birth in 1960.

Upon coming to New York City in 1962, Elizabeth worked various jobs in the garment district as well as a home care attendant.

After relocating to Connecticut in the early 1970's her love of cooking led her to several local restaurants as a chef including The Boulders Inn, New Preston, The Bulls Bridge Inn, and the Fife and Drum in Kent. Elizabeth also ran a small catering business out of her home for many years. Later in life Elizabeth found her calling to nursing, and devoted her career to home care for the terminally ill. Elizabeth took loving care of many people in the local area including the mother of Henry Kissinger in the early 1980's.

Elizabeth cared deeply for her patients, and it often showed through the gourmet meals she would often prepare not just for her patients, but also their entire families. Her devotion to comforting

patients in their final stage of life was often not easy, but as a five-time cancer survivor herself, she was a fighter to the very end. Elizabeth loved and cared for many, and was loved and cared for in return. Elizabeth enjoyed many hobbies over the years, including needle point, crocheting, painting, and caring for her beloved outdoor gardens and houseplants. Elizabeth had a special fondness for the Christmas Cactus, and had a knack for helping them bloom when others could not. Elizabeth had many friends in the Northwest Corner and always enjoyed a good lunch. She loved meeting people and chatting with both old and new friends at her favorite establishment, The Woodland in Lakeville.

The family would like to acknowledge and thank the following, Dr. Peter Anderson, Kent Volunteer Ambulance, Food Bank of Kent, the staff at Templeton Farms, The Jane Lloyd Fund, The Kent Community Fund, the people of The Town of Kent, especially the social workers who were of tremendous assistance to Elizabeth and her family and all of her wonderful close friends that helped her and looked in on her throughout the years.

There will be a grave side service May 20, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Flanders Cemetery in Kent CT. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Kent Volunteer Ambulance, The Jane Lloyd Fund, Kent Community Fund, American Cancer Society.



PHOTO BY SANDY RHOADES

Bear scare in Falls Village

The Rhoades family had an unwelcome visitor Saturday, April 15, in the form of a hungry bear, which broke in and helped itself from the refrigerator.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

The following information was provided by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office as the Harlem Valley area activity report for April 7-12.

April 8 — Deputies responded to Beilke Road in the Town of North East for a male/female verbal domestic over child custody. Matter investigated and concluded without further police intervention.

April 9 — Deputies responded to Charwill Drive in the Town of Stanford for a fraud complaint. Caller reported unknown subject(s) gained access to her Paypal account and used her credit card to make purchases. Investigation ongoing.

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

All information will be kept confidential.

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

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Worship Services

Week of April 23, 2023

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

<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10:00 a.m. www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>	<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on You-Tube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-573-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7252</p> <p>FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org Misa en español a las 4 de la tarde el último domingo de mes The Revs. Heidi Truax & Felix Rivera trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Pastor Joy Veronesi 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons The next meeting will be Sunday, May 14 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokiuloi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer Pastor Sun Yong Lee 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am Cornwall Village Meeting House 8 Bolton Hill Rd., Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>	<p>Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for current online Bible studies and Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH 860-927-3003 Rev. Robert Landback The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge 8 Bolton Hill Rd., Cornwall SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM - St. Bridget SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart WEEKDAY MASSES Monday & Friday 9 AM - Sacred Heart Tuesday 9 AM - St. Bernard</p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!</p>	<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Email Rev. Mary Gates at: nmgates125@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone.</p>
<p>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Lenten Services online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>	

Amenia Planning Board hears internal report on Troutbeck plans

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — Responding to residents' numerous concerns voiced at public hearings in connection with an application filed and revised by Troutbeck for adaptive reuse, the board's counsel and the board's engineer reviewed results of their consideration of those concerns at the regular meeting of the planning board on Wednesday, April 12.

Planning board attorney Paul Van Cott and planning board engineer John Andrews spoke about each major impact point raised by residents during the earlier hearings. Troutbeck's plans seek to expand services at the hospitality venue, although the revised plans describe a smaller expansion than was initially envisioned.

For each of the topics of concern to residents, Van Cott and Andrews reported their findings that Troutbeck's plans carry minimal or no adverse impact to the area.

The next step is for other entities such as Dutchess

County officials and historical associations to provide their input. Once those statements have been received, the planning board will consider and reach a decision on the project.

The detailed internal report's findings covered such topics as impact on surface water and populations of wildlife, septic design, and impact on the land. At present, only 8.5 acres of the 43-acre property are being used.

The supply of groundwater is more than adequate for the project, Andrews reported. Water that is taken out is returned at 85%. A robust sewage treatment plan is designed to replenish the ground water.

"As much as is being taken out is flowing back," the engineer said of the groundwater supply.

Habitat protection for resident wildlife will be assured by timing the construction for the colder weather months. Of concern are the populations of timber rattlesnakes, bats (New England and long-eared), and bog turtles.

The applicant has submitted a plan for stormwater management. There is no impact to the flood plain.

Planning board member Nina Peek asked about the phasing of the plantings to provide a vegetative screening buffer for neighbors.

"The proposed project is consistent with the town's comprehensive plan and it poses no adverse impact while also being consistent with the existing landscape," Van Cott said.

Planning board Chairman Robert Boyles asked about electric vehicle charging stations. Troutbeck owner Anthony Champalimaud responded that there is one station available to guests now, and that more could be added as electric vehicles become more numerous.

Anticipating that the additional comments requested from county and historical agencies will be received in the coming weeks, the planning board expects to discuss the project at its Wednesday, May 10, meeting.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

This 1,700 square foot cottage is tucked away near Hunns Lake. It was listed in October 2022 at \$359,999, went to contract in December and closed for \$330,000 in February 2023.

Recent property sales in the towns of Amenia and Stanford

The Millerton News will periodically publish a listing of residential real estate sales in eastern Dutchess County towns. Below is a listing of sales in the towns of Amenia and Stanford during January and February 2023. Most of these transactions had

a signed contract between buyer and seller in late 2022; however, the sale was not completed until 2023.

Like other towns in the northeast corner of Dutchess County, there are affordable homes and luxury properties.

Amenia, January and February 2023

25 Lower Powder House Road for \$335,000, 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, sold on Jan. 5

698 Butts Hollow Road for \$270,000, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, sold on Jan. 24

263 Bog Hollow Road for \$240,000, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, sold on Jan. 11

59 Westerly Ridge Drive for \$1,325,000, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, sold on Jan. 11

399-401 Sinpatch Road in Wassaic for \$260,000, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, sold on Jan. 12

3370 Route 343 for \$350,000, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, sold on Feb. 3

Stanford, January and February 2023

196 Mountain Road for \$194,000, 4 bedrooms, 1 bath, sold on Feb. 4

26 Hunns Lake Place for \$330,000, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, sold on Feb. 3

729-731 Cold Spring Road for \$1,625,000, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, sold on Feb. 22

Town of Amenia and Stanford residential sales closed between Jan. 1, 2023, and Feb. 28, 2023, sourced from Mid-Hudson MLS, and Dutchess County Real Property Tax Service Agency with detail on ownership from Dutchess Parcel Access.

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

The Stissing Center dedicates Banning Hall

By EMILY EDELMAN
emilye@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — "It matters what we do in small towns," said Eileen Yajure, a member of the board of trustees of the Stissing Center (TSC) and one of the many attendees who spoke at an event held at TSC on Saturday, April 15, to recognize TSC founders Jack and Irene Banning by renaming TSC's main performance space Banning Hall in their honor.

Featuring a three-course dinner and cocktail-hour hors d'oeuvres catered by neighboring French restaurant Champetre, the event attracted 112 attendees, including Dutchess County Legislature Chairman Gregg Pulver (R-Pine Plains); Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D-Dutchess/Columbia), whose swearing-in ceremony took place at TSC in January; and former governor

Eliot Spitzer, who recently pledged \$1 million in funding to TSC.

In his speech closing out the night, Jack Banning said, "The fact of the matter is that this was a group effort which involved dozens of people... In many ways, it is amazing what we accomplished, but it was as a team, and now we have to finish the project."

The Bannings have raised over \$7 million to date for the refurbishment of TSC, which, according to Executive Director Brett Bernardini, is scheduled to close for at least nine months beginning in September for renovations that will include building out the downstairs space to accommodate a commercial kitchen; finishing the roof; adding an elevator complex to the back of the building; and renovating the third floor to be used as an art gallery and office space for other community nonprofits.



PHOTO BY EMILY EDELMAN

Irene and Jack Banning on Saturday, April 15, at an event at the Stissing Center to name its main performance space Banning Hall in their honor.

Webutuck school district board discusses budget vote, need for remedial reading program for students

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — The Webutuck Central School District Board of Education met Monday, April 10, in the Webutuck High School library to discuss the upcoming budget vote, student programs and other business.

The meeting began with Laura Marquis, curriculum, instruction and technology director, presenting on Wilson Just Words, a program for students in the fourth through 12th grades who are decoding and spelling below grade level. Several teachers called in expressing the need for the program.

Marquis noted that Wilson is looking to partner with districts such as Webutuck to ensure that the effectiveness of the program that has been achieved in urban areas translates to rural areas with lower economic status. The program would be available to the district at a lower-than-

normal cost, and could help to raise reading comprehension scores and vocabulary.

With the budget and board position election coming up in May, the board reviewed the adopted budget for 2023-24, which totals \$25,039,114 with a tax levy of \$16,973,699.

The proposed budget for 2023-'24 is \$25,972,698, a 3.7% budget-to-budget increase. The maximum tax cap allowable is 4.95%. The proposed tax cap is 3.95%. The proposed levy total is \$17,644,160. The overview consists of salaries at \$588,867; debt service/inter-fund transfers at \$279,199; a reduction of long-term debt payment of \$343,862; and a bus BAN increase of \$65,663.

Also included are employment benefits of \$169,459; health benefits of \$62,000; ERS/TRS/FICA of \$42,458; Medicare reimbursements of \$65,000; special education out-of-district placements of \$51,982; \$196,938 for BOCES; and a \$5,200 transportation fuel increase.

Voters' propositions in-

clude: approval for two 65-passenger buses; an approval of the \$10 million capital reserve account; and use of excess fund balance to fund capital reserve over a 10-year period and no requirement to fund every year or at all if excess fund balance is not available. Four board members will be elected.

Kathryn Martyniak was appointed substitute teaching assistant as of April 11 at a salary of \$14.20 per hour; and approval was given for agreements between Webutuck and Pawling Central School District and also Webutuck and Taconic Hills Central School District for health services.

There was a first reading of Policy 0115, which is being reviewed concerning student harassment and bullying prevention, a complaint form for such, and intervention regulations.

A reading of Policy 2340 brought about an adoption of the policy which had to do with administration and a date for the evaluation of the

superintendent, on Tuesday, April 25.

The annual public budget hearing is on Monday, May

8, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 16 is the annual school district budget vote, noon-9 p.m. in the high school gym.



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Town of North East makes progress on Town Hall, wastewater district

By EMILY EDELMAN
emilye@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — The majority of the Thursday, April 13, meeting of the North East Town Board involved progress on two major issues: the purchase of a new Town Hall and the formation of a wastewater district.

The town is under contract to purchase the former Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses at 5603 Route 22 to replace the current Town Hall. Town attorney Warren Replansky said that, while the process is moving along quickly, there are "a couple of loose ends" that the town needs to deal with, one being that the building is located in the town's R3A district, which doesn't permit a town hall.

"As a matter of fact, there's not a district in the town in which a town hall is a permitted use; it's one of the deficiencies in our zoning law," said Replansky.

In order to use the building as a town hall, the town conducted what is known as a Monroe balancing test, which states that a municipality must consider certain factors when deciding in favor of a project that goes against current zoning laws in order

to determine if it is in the municipality's interest.

In accordance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR), the town reviewed an environmental assessment form and verified that the purchase of the property will not have an adverse environmental impact.

Replansky confirmed that the conversion of the new town hall premises will be overseen by town officials with the plans being fully vetted by town officials, boards and citizens.

Replansky had prepared a resolution adopting the Monroe balancing test determination, which was accepted by the board. "I think the purchase of this property for the town of North East," said Town Supervisor Chris Kennan.

Kennan then moved on to the subject of the formation of a wastewater district, which the town must achieve in order to move forward on fundraising for building a sewer system.

Replansky reminded the board of the public information meeting held March 29 at the NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex, at which he discussed the two processes

by which a district can be established.

On Replansky's recommendation, the board decided to use the petition method, in which a petition is presented to the town by the property owners within the proposed district who represent at least 50% of the assessed value of the district.

With the board's approval, Replansky will draw up a petition on behalf of the town to be presented to the property owners in the district for their signatures, which would then be presented to the town board to proceed with a public hearing.

Replansky said he will have a draft petition ready by Monday, April 24, and at a special meeting of the board on that night, he will present the petition to the board as well as a resolution to formally adopt the "Map, Plan and Report" drawn up last year by engineering firm Tighe and Bond. The board will circulate the petition among the property owners and can then go about creating the district.

"I want to move forward as quickly as we can on this," said Kennan, "because we have an enormous amount of work to do after the formation of the district."

Land conservancy receives state grant for \$750,000

By DEBRA A. ALEKISINAS
Special to The Millerton News

KENT, Conn. — Farms and land trusts in the region seeking to increase climate resiliency will have an opportunity to receive professional support through a \$750,000 state grant that has been awarded to the nonprofit Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy (NCLC).

NCLC, the state's largest land trust working with the communities of Litchfield and northern Fairfield counties, was one of only 12 organizations statewide to receive a grant from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry Grant Program.

The state allocated \$7 million for the initiative in a highly competitive process that drew 78 applications seeking more than \$55 million in grant funds.

"We are very grateful that the state has allocated this funding to climate-smart investments. That demonstrates how much need there is in our farming community," said NCLC Executive Director Catherine Rawson.

Rawson said the grant will fund climate-smart agricultural assessments by the nonprofit Berkshire Agricultural Ventures of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, as well as provide direct funding for projects and farmland improve-

ments that will help working lands in the region become more resilient in the face of a changing climate.

"Climate-smart agricultural practices include those that will help our local farms become more energy efficient, adapt to extreme weather events, improve water quality and reduce water use, and extend growing seasons," she explained.

Examples of projects that qualify under the grant include the installation of high tunnels to extend the growing season, the use of cover crops to improve soil health, stream corridor buffer plantings to improve water quality and control, and address the spread of invasive plant species.

"The funds can also be used to install solar panels on existing farm buildings to help offset onsite energy use and costs," said Rawson.

As part of NCLC's state grant application, the regional conservation organization sought input from about 25 land trust partners throughout the region who reached out to farmland owners in their communities to gauge interest in the program. As a result, roughly a half dozen projects were forwarded to the state as examples of the need.

This is the first time the state has had a grant program specifically targeting climate-smart agricultural practices,

said Rawson, who noted that she hopes it will not be the last.

Public Act 22-118, passed during the 2022 legislative session, allocated \$14 million to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture to support Climate Smart Agriculture production and practices. The first \$7 million was distributed for climate smart practices, with the additional \$7 million coming available for farmland restoration and climate resiliency projects in the near future.

On March 30, Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz, Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt and DEEP Deputy Commissioner Mason Trumble concluded Climate Action Week with the announcement of the 12 grant recipients.

Hurlburt noted that the vigorous response demonstrates a "clear desire by the industry to make change and the structure of the grant program allowed us to touch more than just the 12 recipient organizations, as many applied on behalf of a collective or will distribute funds through their own award process."

Rawson said farms interested in seeking assistance will be able to apply later this year when NCLC opens the application process. The program is limited to applicants in NCLC's service area as well as Sherman, Newtown and Brookfield.

Second annual Y.O.U.R. Health fair at DCC

POUGHKEEPSIE — The Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health will hold its second annual Y.O.U.R. (Young, Old, Urban, Rural) Health fair on Saturday, April 29, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dutchess County Community College's Falcon Hall, 53 Pendell Road.

More than 75 exhibits and demonstrations will include

the topics of pediatric, women's and older adult health; mental health; resources for veterans; sexual health; physical activity and wellness; and emergency preparedness. Games, raffles and health-related giveaways will also be part of the event. Interactive experiences such as car seat and bike checks, student performances; and sensory-

friendly children's games will be available.

The event is free and open to the public, and Dutchess County Public Transit will have free shuttles to the event from the Transit Hub on Market Street, running continuous loops from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For more information about the fair, contact healthfair@dutchessny.gov



PHOTO PROVIDED

From left: Dan Carr and Marleen Van Gulick with sons Orion, 4, and Oliver, 7.

From office to apiary

By MIKE COBB
Special to The Millerton News

FALLS VILLAGE, Conn. — When beekeeper Dan Carr talks about beekeeping in one of his courses, he typically covers the anatomy and social structure of honeybees as well as the basics of starting and managing a hive.

With almost two decades of experience as a beekeeper, Carr has been teaching beekeeping courses for years at Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture in Westchester, New York; at the Brooklyn Grange rooftop farm in New York City; and at his family farm, Beavertides Farm in Falls Village.

In one of his courses, he met Marleen Van Gulick, who had been keeping bees for a couple of years in a small garden in New York City and enrolled in one of Carr's courses to learn more.

Van Gulick had been fermenting, baking, and growing vegetables in her landlord's yard, while living in the city. She even learned pig butchering while still being a vegetarian and was yearning for country life.

"A few years ago, I was working in an office in New York City, dreaming of more community, more freedom, eating great food that I'd grow and prepare, and of knowing how to take care of myself in a more natural setting," she said.

Van Gulick was intrigued by how bee communities form, balance with the natural world, and by the art of managing a hive resulting in delicious, sweet honey.

Van Gulick got more than

a beekeeping education. She and Carr found a connection, and soon afterward, the couple made for the country and started Beavertides Farm, a sustainable livestock farm and apiary that has pastures, woodlands and wetlands.

"We had two baby boys, started with an apiary, raised chickens and ducks, and quickly expanded production with a herd of meat goats and grass fed beef cattle.

"We also managed an orchard that produced apples, pears, quince, peaches and much more," Van Gulick said.

Today, Van Gulick and Carr focus on providing 100% grass-fed meat from sustainably raised sheep and goats, honey and other bee-related products.

Beekkeeping course

Starting in May, the couple will begin to teach a 10-session beekeeper training course, as well as a Newbees class for the youngest beekeepers.

Carr's courses cover everything from installing a beehive, harvesting honey and preparing for winter. Students are typically assigned to a hive to start and tend together with a course partner for the entire program. The course is designed so that participants feel comfortable enough to work a beehive by themselves by the end.

Students need to bring their own veil, beekeeping jacket or suit, a hive tool and smoker, and if desired, beekeeping gloves. Carr can recommend further gear after students sign up.

"Students learn about the connection between the bees and our pastures, about how

our grazing practices offer opportunities for wildflowers to flourish, and how that provides our bees with a diverse forage. They see the different blooms throughout the season; the fruit trees, dandelions, clover, vetch, birds-foot trefoil, asters, goldenrod and more, and may be able to recognize those blooms in the flavor of the honey at the end of the season," Van Gulick said.

"If there is anything to learn from a colony of honeybees, it is the importance of community, of connection, and being in tune with the seasons. We try to mimic these lessons within our beekeeping course and our farm as a whole," she added.

In addition, Beavertides Farm offers events, including farm tours, sharing their knowledge of beekeeping, animal husbandry and sustainable living. They even have a small cabin in the woods where campers can stay the night, visit the farm, and cook farm products on an old-fashioned wood stove.

Beavertides Farm sells its meat in New York City, in northwestern Connecticut and directly from the farm.

For more information, see: beavertidesfarm.com or follow them on Instagram @beavertidesfarm.

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PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Anticipating the start of the 2023 Webutuck Little League season, local coaching personnel gathered the young ballplayers sporting the season's new jerseys for a group photo on Saturday, April 15, at Beekman Park in Amenia.

Webutuck Little League is a home team to root, root, root for

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — Opening day for the Webutuck Little League on Saturday, April 15, brought out young ballplayers in their new official jerseys and their families. A noon-hour parade carried coaches and team members through the Amenia town center and on to Beekman Park to enjoy a rally atmosphere and fun activities.

The 2023 season will see games played at Amenia's Beekman Park and Millerton's Eddie Collins Memorial Park. Games will be played at both locations throughout the season, scheduled to begin on Saturday, April 22, with the first games at Beekman Park.

Months of effort by Millerton town crews and local businesses have prepared the ballfield at Eddie Collins Memorial Park to host a number of this season's games. New clay has been provided for the infield and repairs have been made to the dugout. Con-

tributing to the revitalization were the Village of Millerton Public Works Department; Townscape of Millerton and Northeast; DJ Reilly General Maintenance, whose owner also serves as president of the Little League organization; and Northwest Lawn and Landscaping.

For the ceremony at Beekman Park, players and coaches lined up along the base lines of the baseball diamond to thank the business sponsors of the season; listen to the national anthem; hear the players and coaches recite the Little League pledge, a step done with obvious pride; and to catch the inspiring words of Senior Coach John Lamb.

Lamb addressed the gathering wearing his No. 24 uniform, honoring his years of professional play for the Pittsburgh Pirates as a right-handed pitcher. Today, he provides coaching and advice to local young players, and he had much of value to share.

"Baseball is the greatest game in the world," Lamb told the crowd, as part of his

season opening pep talk. The message clearly came across to the rapt young listeners.

The family of Noah Thompson was invited to speak, providing a touching remembrance of their son and sibling who died in February at the age of 17 as the result of an accident in Millerton. His mother spoke of the importance of the Webutuck Little League program in influencing Noah's life growing up. His experience as a young player paved the way toward his playing varsity baseball at Webutuck High School, she said.

"He will be forever 17," she said, noting that this year's jerseys carry a remembrance and she shared her feeling that Noah will be cheering on the Webutuck Little League players throughout their season. A memorial bench in his honor is being planned for installation at Beekman Park.

More information is available by emailing webutucklittleleague@gmail.com and at [facebook.com/WebutuckLittleLeague](https://www.facebook.com/WebutuckLittleLeague)



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Pine Plains Bombers varsity baseball team on their trip to Baseball City in Tampa, Florida.

Pine Plains Bombers visit spring training in Florida

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — The Pine Plains Bombers varsity baseball team is back from a spring trip to Baseball City in Tampa, Florida, and is ready to make a great season.

The Stissing High School members, in the ninth through 12th grades, have

just started the 2023 season. If their spring break trip was any kind of an omen, it was a good one, because all 17 young men enjoyed visiting Baseball City, playing scrimmages against other baseball teams from up and down the East Coast.

They also got to watch some college baseball, and they thoroughly enjoyed all that their beach resort had to

offer. Coach Steve Huber reported that they played well and hard, had some fun times, and were very grateful to the donors, all local businesses and folks, over 100 of them, who made the trip cost-free for them.

As of Tuesday, April 17, the team stands at 2-2.

The trip was paid for by local sponsors.

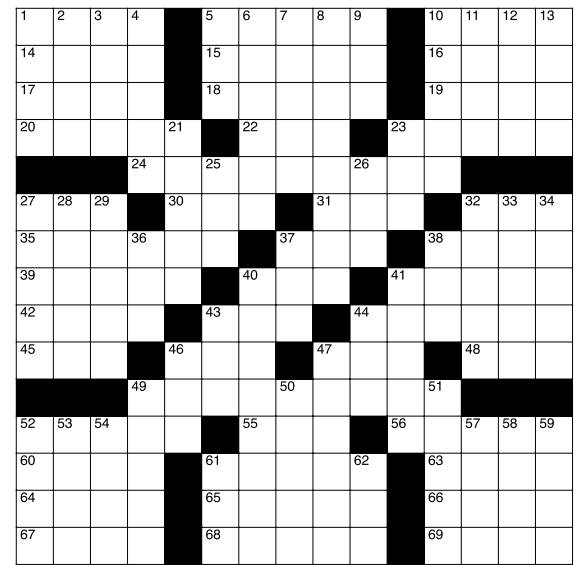
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. Dylan and Marley are two
5. Makes healthy
10. The Who's "O'Riley"
14. Side sheltered from wind
15. Flat-bottomed sailboats
16. Egyptian supreme god
17. Advice
18. Mass of small, loose stones
19. Online learning services provider
20. "Lords" in Northwest Semitic languages
22. Of she
23. A place to relax
24. Critical and mocking
27. Consumed
30. You get one in summer
31. Bath
32. Luxury automaker
35. Spiders spin one
37. Guy (slang)
38. Greek personification of Earth
39. Large instruments
40. Domestic cattle genus
41. Appetizer
42. Oil group
43. Where to put groceries
44. Speak incessantly
45. Popular color
46. A place to sleep
47. Make fun of
48. Former CIA
49. Salts
52. Bleated
55. Never sleeps
56. Sword
60. Water (Spanish)
61. Cyprinids
63. "Dark Knight" actor Christian
64. Fictional demon
65. Old World lizard
66. The content of cognition
67. Makes a mistake
68. A way to make wet
69. Tide

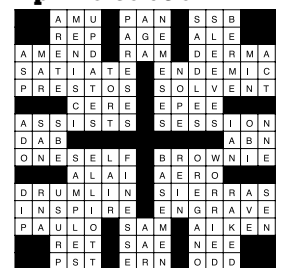
CLUES DOWN

1. One-liner
2. Evergreen genus
3. College in Rome
4. Prevents from seeing
5. Cycles/second
6. Mischievous child
7. Less common
8. Honorably retired
9. Midway between south and southeast

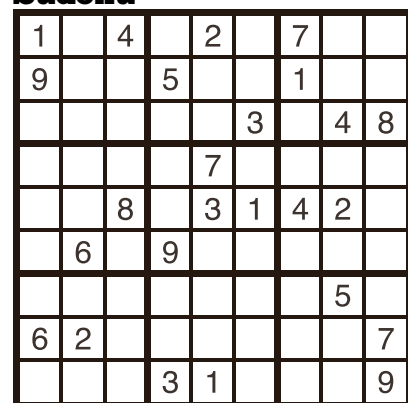


10. A confusion of voices and other sounds
11. Bony fish genus
12. Type of pear
13. Egyptian cross
21. Satisfies
23. Founder of Babism
25. Bar bill
26. Chicago ballplayer
27. Performer
28. Hairpiece
29. Partner to flowered
32. Aircraft formation
33. You have 3 per day
34. Goes into
36. College athletic organization
37. Wet, muddy ground
38. Talk
40. Witty conversation
41. Gurus
43. "French Price of ___ Air"
44. Sports equipment
46. Try to get
47. Flower cluster
49. Sea dwellers
50. Palmlike subtropical plant
51. Polio vaccine developer
52. Baseball's Ruth
53. Gelatinous substance
54. Hungarian violinist Leopold
57. Offered
58. Ancient Greek City
59. A way to derive
61. Touch lightly
62. Witnessed

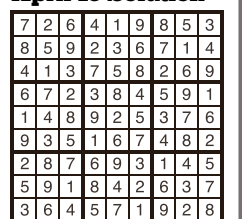
April 13 Solution



Sudoku



April 13 Solution



Level: Intermediate

Fore!

Trinity Pawling School's (TP) varsity golf team competed against four area schools at the Hotchkiss Quad Match in Lakeville, Conn., on Saturday, April 15. TP finished in fourth place with an aggregate score of 215. The Pride were led by Owen Rabituille, right, who shot 40 on the par 35 course. Matt Yamin, below, finished one stroke behind with a score of 41 for TP. Brunswick School placed first in the meet with an overall score of 187. Salisbury School finished two strokes behind at 189. The Hotchkiss School placed third with a score of 195 and Canterbury School rounded out the day at 222.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KEIN

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MARATHON *Continued from Page A1*

ful but challenging. "It was a little humid," he said, and he might do it again.

Kristin Sherwood was the first woman in at 3:38:11. This was her second year running in the marathon. Sherwood, from Poughkeepsie, is the entertainment director of EDRRC. Asked if she will participate next year, she said it depends on whether the dates coincide with the date of the Boston Marathon, which she has qualified for.

The course is mostly over paved roads, although there are some packed dirt roads as well. As mentioned by the runners, there are lots of hills, but there are water stations along the way, and more than 30 volunteers work to keep things safe and running smoothly, including the Millbrook Fire Department, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, and the Millbrook Village Police Department.

Finishing the race included running under the arch, much applause and cheering, as well as cold water and various snacks, and sharing notes with other runners.



From left: second-place finisher Matt Decker, fourth-place finisher Jeff Kramer, first-place finisher Casey Smith, Eastern Dutchess Road Runners Club President John Morris, and third-place finisher Justin DePierro gather under the winners arch at the Millbrook Marathon on Sunday, April 16.



PHOTOS BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Kristin Sherwood was the first female to cross the finish line at 3 hours, 38 minutes and 11 seconds. A board member of EDRRC, she has qualified for next year's Boston Marathon.

VILLAGE BOARD *Continued from Page A1*

has terminated its historic contributions to police coverage. Expenditures are forecast to increase for the highway department by \$28,000 with the addition of a full-time superintendent, and by \$9,000 for employee benefits to total \$55,000.

After closing the tax cap gap, the trustees discussed whether to pass Proposed Local Law A of 2023, which would allow the village to exceed the state calculated tax cap. The trustees felt comfortable that the cap would not be exceeded and wanted taxpayers to know it was the trustees' intention to stay below the arbitrary limit.

Next year, anticipated vil-

lage property taxes will rise to \$456,000, an increase of 2.9% over last year's taxes. No trustee was willing to make a motion to vote on the Local Law A and it was rescinded. Typically, these laws are passed as safety nets in the event that the final budget does go over the tax cap.

The \$305,000 budget for the water district was also approved at the meeting. The cost of the water system is completely covered by the quarterly flat fees that town and village residents pay for municipal water. Expenses include allocated salaries and benefits, utilities, chemicals, testing, repairs to water line breaks, and interest.

The board then went into executive session with only the mysterious man mentioned above remaining in the room with the trustees. The identity of Joseph Olenik was revealed when the trustees returned to announce the hiring of a chief of police (COP) to supervise the Millerton Police Department.

The village police have remained on paid leave since March 28 when the village trustees followed the recommendation made in the village police department study to hire a qualified COP to supervise the department and to suspend activities until a chief could be found.

Olenik will be hired at a salary of \$25,000 per year and is expected to work about 20 hours a week. The mayor of Millerton, Jen Najdek, expects Olenik to officially start once there is final approval from the Department

of Criminal Justice and Civil Service.

Najdek later explained to The Millerton News that Olenik had reached out to her about the position after hearing about the Millerton police study.

On Monday, April 17, the board met briefly to extend the paid administrative leave of two part-time Millerton police officers, Erik Breen and Michael Veeder, until the end of the month.

The trustees expect Olenik will be officially approved by all authorities to become Millerton's chief of police and will begin supervising the department by Monday, May 1. Breen and Veeder will receive pay based on their average work hours per week for the last three months they have reported for duty.

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One of the two Millerton police cars that has been parked at the North East Ford dealership after repair. The car is waiting until the police to return to work, which should happen as soon as the new police chief takes charge.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

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Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment



Eveready Covid by Onaje Benjamin

PHOTOS COURTESY THE ARTIST



COURTESY OF WASHINGTON ART ASSOCIATION

Algerian Night Club
by Robert Andrew Parker

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Po-Town Up & Down

Before the Eyewitness News, there is the eyewitness account — if we are observers of our communities, if we keep our heads up while walking our streets, the sociological and economic stories

of change and struggle will unfold before us. The human details that reveal these stories at play are waiting to be seen. Onaje Benjamin's camera is the watchful eye of Poughkeepsie, N.Y. In a new show on the second

floor of Kent Art Association in Kent, Conn., Benjamin's monochrome street photography depicts the anatomy of a city as colorful as New York, worn down but alive in its conflict, hardship, activism, and joy.



Gentrification

Little ironies are glimmers of humor peeking through the indignities of existence. In "Gentrification," a transient cyclist hauling garbage bags of cans wheels by a for-profit hair school that's sprouted, fungus-like, in the defunct carcass of a Classical Revival bank building. In "Band of Brothers," two middle-aged Black soldiers, furrowed brows and cigarettes sparking between their fingers, slump on a front stoop, while a lawn figurine of a saluting marine is chained like a bicycle to a porch post — they're wary of what can be stolen. The neon lights of the retro chrome diner, gleaming across a dark winter sky like an Americana "Nighthawks," may beckon you in, while the COVID-precautionary plastic bubbles keep customers eating outside. A faceless mannequin in a kitschy storefront finds its outfit du jour in a Black Lives Matter sweatshirt, soon to be swapped out.

Benjamin's photography is a stance against the erasure of working class dignity, of historic neighborhood character, and the distinct Black culture of urban Upstate New York.

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN

A Lust For Life

It is a well-trodden anecdote that Vincent van Gogh, the most popular and cherished artist of the modern age, couldn't sell his work. Proportionally, Robert Andrew Parker may face a similar problem, but only because there is so much of his work to sell. Turning 95 this year, the prolific painter who has long resided in West Cornwall, Conn., is undoubtedly one of the most beloved Litchfield County artists. A visit to his rural studio reveals a boundless supply of watercolor paintings, piled and stacked and waiting to be uncovered, along with books, cards, sculptures, and his model dog-fighter planes suspended by wire, soaring from the rafters.

Opening on Saturday, April 29 at The Washington Art Association in Washington, Conn., is a mighty retrospective of his paintings and lithographs, along with a 95th birthday celebration and artist's reception on Saturday, May 14.

Parker's masterful illustrations render scenes of wartime aerial combat, foreign travel, sultry women, silent-pic-

ture stars, parrots, and pet dogs, all curled, slanted and exaggerated, awash in a soak of poppy pastels. His work is in the collections of MoMA, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and The Whitney, but at 28 years old, and employed as a high school art teacher, he took the chance to play van Gogh — well, his hands at least. He was selected to fly to Arles, France by MGM to create van Gogh reproductions for the 1956 biographical film "Lust For Life," starring Kirk Douglas as the Dutch painter and directed by Vincente Minnelli, known for his movie musicals like "Meet Me in St. Louis" and "Gigi."

In his account for Arnet of his brief film career, Parker recalls little fondness, but concludes, "I learned a lot copying van Gogh's work and of course I greatly admired him. He took more risks with color than anyone before him. Once, at Ecole Emile Loubet, I copied his drawing of an old man with his head in his hands called "At Eternity's Gate" that so moved me I had tears in my eyes."

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Seeking writers with knowledge of classical music or theater. Send a short cover letter and a sample of your writing to alexw@lakevillejournal.com

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Send press releases to compass@lakevillejournal.com.

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

I Love You, Get Away From Me!

Sharon Playhouse in Sharon, Conn., will present two performances of "I Love You, Get Away From Me!" in The Bok Theater on Thursdays, April 20 and 27, at 7:30 p.m. A comedy about three generations growing up — a widow at 75, an empty nester divorcée at 50, and a young son at 23 — as performed by Dena Blizzard, who has toured her Off-Broadway shows, "One Funny Mother" and "My Name is NOT Mom", across 75 cities throughout North America through November 2022. For tickets go to www.sharonplayhouse.org

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FILM: ALEXANDER WILBURN

The Rarest Milkmaids and Pearls

“Paris Syndrome” was first coined by a Japanese psychologist in the 1980s to label the particular ennui — or rather, *kanashimi* — that tourists from The Land of the Rising Sun suffered upon discovering that Paris was not a romantic fantasia but a real-life metropolis spoiled by garbage, pickpockets and noisy crowds. In 2006, the BBC even mistakenly reported that the Japanese Embassy had set up a hotline for depressed victims of Paris Syndrome. Like being *un touriste*, seeing da Vinci’s “Mona Lisa” in The Louvre is said to be its own disappointment: a little painting swarmed by photography.

I personally wouldn’t mind manning a hotline for the select few who have made it into The Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam this year and seen “Girl With A Pearl Earring” in person. It would be hard to imagine they would feel let down. Tickets for the national museum of The Netherlands exhibition on Johannes Vermeer, which opened in Febru-

ary and closes in June, are completely, definitively, sold out, making this exceptional retrospective even more exceptional. With a collection that presents 28 of the 37 known paintings by Vermeer, with loans from institutions that include The Frick in New York City, The National Gallery in London, and The Louvre, this rare and extraordinary exhibit is a

once-in-a-lifetime sight... or perhaps, a not-in-this-lifetime sight.

For the rest of us, there’s “Exhibition On Screen,” a documentary series that has brought audiences as close to the paint as possible, minus the museum ticket stub. “Vermeer: The Blockbuster Exhibition,” directed by David Bickerstaff, is a guided tour with expert analysis through The Rijksmuseum, contemplating the precise details

that lend magic to the scenes of daily life in Delft — the rippling folds of satin dresses, stained-glass windows bouncing glow and shadow on white-washed walls, the milky smudge that adds weight to a perfect pearl, and those grand skylines of animated, cumulus clouds. Even if we’re not in Amsterdam, it is tulip season.

At The Moviehouse in Millerton, N.Y. on Sunday, April 23 at 1 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RIJKSMUSEUM/KELLY SCHENK

Installation of the Vermeer exhibition at The Rijksmuseum.



COURTESY OF FURNACE ART ON PAPER ARCHIVE

Cut to Length No. 1 by Janis Stemmermann

Two Openings at Furnace

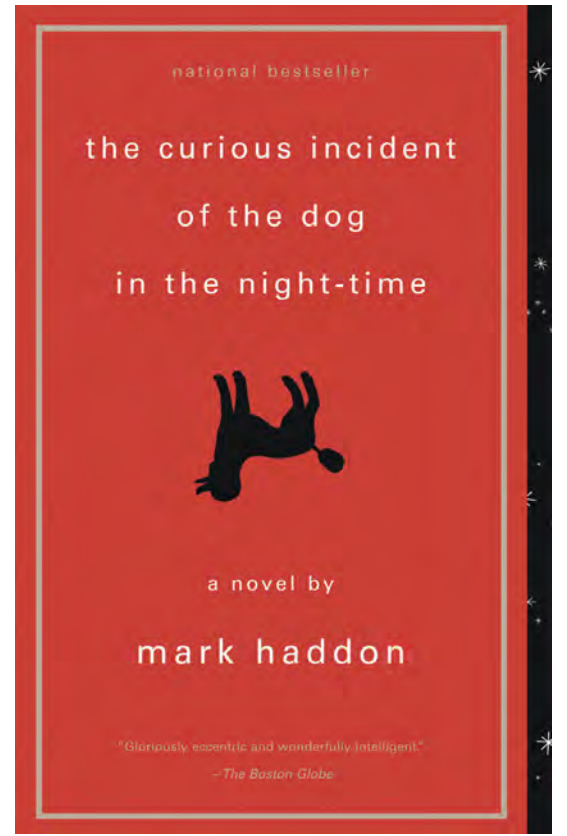
Furnace - Art on Paper Archive in Falls Village, Conn., will open two shows on Saturday, April 29. In the main gallery will be “Cut to Length,” with prints by Janis Stemmermann, and in the Vault Project Space will be “Hills, Trees, and Others” with graphic ink on paper landscapes by Jimbo Blachly.

Tea & Talk on Edie Sedgwick

Art historian and author Alice Sedgwick Wohl will speak at Ventfort Hall Mansion and Gilded Age Museum in Lenox, Mass., on Saturday, April 22, at 4 p.m., as part of the “Tea & Talk” series to discuss her memoir “As It Turns Out,” about her younger sister, Pop Art icon Edie Sedgwick through the lens of the art of Andy Warhol. For tickets and reservations go to www.gildedage.org.

Jazz Night at The American Mural Project

The American Mural Project in Winsted, Conn., will present Ed Fast & Conga Bop in “Rumbafied!” the second event in the Live @ AMP music performance series on Saturday, May 13 at 8 p.m., with a night of Afro-Cuban-inspired jazz and dance. The American Mural Project will be open an hour before the event for guests to explore the five-story high mural. For tickets go to www.americanmuralproject.org/live.



COURTESY PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE

THEATER: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Downward Dog

It’s few shows that would open with the murder of a beloved pet — or hitch their narrative to solving the mystery of who skewered the neighborhood pooch with a garden fork like an appetizer — but that’s what kicks off “The Curious Incident of The Dog in The Night-Time,” opening at The Warner Theatre in Torrington, Conn., on Saturday, April 29. Falsely accused after being found at the scene of the punctured poodle, 15-year-old mathemat-

ics prodigy Christopher becomes an unlikely detective while attempting to solve a problem he can’t add up: what makes other people tick? Falling on an unspecified spot on the autistic spectrum, Christopher confines himself to a pre-calculated world of his own making, an equation for living that shuns social situations and shatters upon disturbance.

Based on the novel by English author Mark Haddon, “The Curious Incident” was adapted by Simon Stephens and won the Olivier Award for Best New Play in 2013 for its West End theater run and won the 2015 Tony Award for Best Play when it made its way to Broadway. In translating Haddon’s first-person narrative to the stage the production becomes a play-within-a-play, as Christopher’s teacher reads aloud an essay recounting his experiences. An ensemble remains on stage for the duration, whizzing through multiple roles to take on the many players who are repelled, confused, or concerned for Christopher, and occasionally try to understand him.

For tickets go to www.warnertheatre.org.

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Ann Leary Book Signing

Author Ann Leary will sign copies of her new book “The Foundling” at The Hickory Stick Bookshop in Washington, Conn., on Saturday April 29, at 1 p.m. This signing will take place as part of Independent Bookstore Day at The Hickory Stick. Ann Leary is the New York Times bestselling author of the novels “The Children,” “The Good House,” “Outtakes From A Marriage” and the memoir “An Innocent, A Broad.” This event is free and open to the public.

Final Crescendo Concerts

Crescendo will present its final concert series of the season, “In Search of Bridges,” on Friday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Church in Lakeville, Conn., and Sunday, April 30 at 4:30 p.m. at Saint James Place in Great Barrington, Mass. The repertoires include the premiere of a composition commissioned by Crescendo: “In Search of the Bridges,” a four-movement work by composer John Myers. For tickets go to www.crescendomusic.org.

Hotchkiss Philharmonic

The Hotchkiss Philharmonic Orchestra at The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Conn., will presents their final performance of the season on Saturday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m., with Slovenian guest clarinetist Darko Brlek, and conductor Fabio Witkowski. This concert will include Mozart’s Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K.622, Khachaturian’s Adagio from Spartacus, and Lorenzo Fernandez’ Batuque. The concert is free to the public in the Katherine M. Elfers Hall.

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Conversing with bees

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

SHARON, Conn. — One thing is certain about the art and science of beekeeping: Successful beekeepers know a lot about bees. A local artist has gone a step further, finding an intersection between his artistic drive and the natural instincts and behaviors of the resident insects in his hives.

The result has been what local resident and artist Randy Orzano terms “bee art.”

“I began artistic collaboration with bees in 2004,” Orzano recalled, having produced his first piece that year.

His commitment to beekeeping began in 2000, quite accidentally.

“I found bee equipment at the transfer station and stacked it up in my garage, intending to pass it along to a beekeeper friend,” Orzano said. But, within a month, a swarm of bees had found the equipment and moved in. His beekeeper friend helped him to set up a hive with that equipment and the resident bees.

During an interview with Orano on Tuesday, April 11, and a visit to his fenced hives, now more than one, Orzano pointed out the hive entrances that were active with bees on a seasonably warm spring day. Entrances face the south for the sun, with openings at the top and the bottom to promote air circulation, Orzano said.

“Bees generate body heat for warmth,” Orzano noted, adding that if the air did not circulate, harmful condensation would form inside the hive.

Asked where the bees are in their cycle during the month of April, Orzano explained that on cold April days or nights, the bees cluster into a ball to keep warm. The warmest part of the cluster is in the center where the queen would be. The worker bees take turns going from the center to the outer edges of the cluster.

On warmer days, the queen is laying eggs near full strength, and her brood is being reared by the worker bees with pollen and nectar, if available. There is a risk of starvation since pollen and nectar sources are still limited and there are not as many foraging flights as during warmer months, Orzano said.

Red maples bloom early and provide pollen. Nearby sugar maples haven’t bloomed yet.

“I have seen skunk cabbage, witch hazel and lots of



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Randy Orzano with an example of his bee art.

Siberian squill with blue pollen,” Orzano said.

As to how the hives fared over the winter, Orzano said: “One hive seems very healthy and one hive was dead by February. I usually lose one hive every year either from starvation, cold, disease, weakened state from parasites or pesticides, or a combination of these factors.”

“Nature is very violent,” Orzano observed. “You don’t see it. A whole world goes on, struggling to survive and thrive.”

Orzano’s art focuses on wax moths and bees. Wax moths are a parasite that will destroy a hive as their larvae chew through a brood of bees. Both insects produce useful wax in their abdomens.

“I’m interested in the bees’ intuition and the marks they make,” Orzano said. “I think we are all animals and capable of making art. I wondered how paper or canvas depicting bees or other animals and plants could be transformed by the actual organism of a colony of bees.”

“I’m interested in their marks and their work in chewing the art paper using their mandibles to remove small bits of paper and add

their wax deposits. They are depositing propolis, a mixture of wax, sap and enzymes to make a golden resinous glue.

“It’s a conversation. I can strive to see what happens if I place a single sheet of folded paper (usually watercolor paper) or folded canvas and see how they have done their work,” Orzano said.

“Working on plastic is relatively new for me,” Orzano said. He is working with layering using mylar, having placed the mylar in the hive.

“I take what the bees and moths have done and bring it into public view,” Orzano explained in response to a question about why he does it, why he sought a connection between bees and visual art.

“I’m interested in nature. My challenge is to work without thinking; bees work off of intuition and instinct,” he said.

While Orzano has no public exhibits coming up, he said he usually participates in the Open Your Eyes Studio Tour organized by the Northwest Connecticut Arts Council. He maintains a studio and invites appointments that can be arranged by phoning 860-364-0592.

Free rabies clinic in Red Hook

RED HOOK — The Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health and the Dutchess County SPCA will hold a free rabies clinic for Dutchess County residents on Sunday, April 30, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Red Hook Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway.

The clinic is for dogs, cats and ferrets. Dogs must be leashed, and cats and ferrets must be in carriers. There will be a charge of \$10 per pet for non-Dutchess County residents.

Registration is required and can be achieved by calling 845-4527722 ext. 425 or online at DCSPCA.org



PHOTO SUBMITTED

From left: Diana Herold, Eliot Osborn, George Potts and Louise Lindenmeyr of the Joint Chiefs, who will open this year’s Music in the Annex series at the NorthEast-Millerton Library on Saturday, May 13.

Music in the Annex returns to library in May

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — An annual tradition since 2010, Music in the Annex is set to kick off its season on Saturday, May 13, at 7 p.m. according to NorthEast-Millerton Library director Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, whose organization sponsors the program.

For the first time since the concert series moved to its temporary outdoor location at the Taconic State Park - Rudd Pond Area in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, performances will be back at their home location of 28 Century Blvd.

With a hotter-than-normal summer predicted due in part to El Niño, Leo-Jameson added that “we’re very happy to be having it in the air conditioning,” although she did note that the beauty of the pond was a plus for concertgoers and will be missed.

Balancing out that loss, however, will be a new sound system, which is expected to enhance the experience for all. Leo-Jameson said: “The older one was good, but it was larger and would vibrate the room and things that are in it, and when certain notes were hit, it would make the sound ‘muddier.’ This one has equipment which allows us to correct for that, making the sound sharper and clearer.”

As they have been, concerts and their accompanying refreshments will continue to be free, though, in the past, many patrons made

donations at the door, which supplemented the grants the program receives from various sources. The bookroom will also be open for sales throughout the series.

“The last couple of years, we were honored and excited to have it at Rudd Pond,” said Leo-Jameson, “but unfortunately, due to the nature of having it in a big open park, we weren’t able to collect the immensely helpful donations that we normally would.” The lack, she noted, has had an impact on the series’ finances.

As a result, she said, “It’s going to be a bit of a short season, but we’re bringing back some favorites who haven’t been here for a while,” noting that the program has always made a point of paying the performers, who are all local, a “fair wage” which accounts for the majority of the concert

series’ budget. First up will be the Joint Chiefs, consisting of Eliot Osborn, Louise Lindenmeyr, George Potts and Diana Herold, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m.

The HBH Band with Scott Heth, Jay Bradley and Wanda Houston will perform on Saturday, June 17, at 7 p.m.

Roger and Lenny will return at 7 p.m. on Saturday, July 15.


Donald Sosin and Joanna Seaton are set for the last scheduled concert at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 12.

A final concert is tentatively scheduled for November but no performers have yet been signed.

The concerts are open to all area residents. For more information, visit nemillertonlibrary.org or call 518-789-3340.

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Recently I found an interesting site where private property owners rent out their pools by the hour, which really caught my attention as something unique and fun. The site is swimply.com and it identifies pools in a community that offers this service. While there are not many pools offered in our area, I would imagine that there could be once people are aware of this. One thing is for sure, there are certainly enough pools in the NW Corner! To learn more on becoming a host, please go to: swimply.com/become-a-host.



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EDITORIAL

Earth Day 2023

Earlier this month at Indian Mountain School in Lakeville, students conducted a trash audit to see what was thrown away over the course of a few days. Of course, the sorting of garbage and refuse revealed a lot of plastic waste, including one-time food items in permanent plastic wrapping. The next day, students and parents from IMS along with community members watched a documentary film — “Junk” — at the Moviehouse in Millerton. The 2009 film is about a voyage from California to Hawaii on a raft made of 15,000 water bottles secured by discarded fishing nets and plastic waste. The film spurred concern by both students and parents about the five gyres in the world’s oceans — large systems of circulating ocean currents. Those slowly moving whirlpools also draw in the pollution released in coastal areas, known as marine debris. There are five gyres: the North Atlantic Gyre, the South Atlantic Gyre, the North Pacific Gyre, the South Pacific Gyre, and the Indian Ocean Gyre. In the North Pacific Gyre, a Great Pacific Garbage Patch persists in an area between Hawaii and California. The vast patch is made up of tiny micro plastics along with larger items of debris.

More than five decades ago, it was students behind the anti-war movement who helped inspire the Earth Day movement. Sen. Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, seeking to ignite consciousness about air and water pollution, announced the idea of a teach-in on college campuses. The day that ultimately was chosen was April 22, 1970, the first Earth Day — a weekday falling between spring break and final exams.

The grandparents of today’s IMS students may remember the first Earth Day. At the end of it, Walter Cronkite anchored a CBS News special. “Good Evening,” he began. “A unique day in American history is ending. A day set aside for a nationwide outpouring on mankind seeking its own survival.”

Student groups in 2,000 colleges and 10,000 lower schools and citizen groups in 2,000 communities planned to participate in the first Earth Day. Cronkite went on to say it was unclear how many actually participated, but the network’s correspondents nevertheless reported on the day’s activities across the nation.

Today, by some estimates, 1 billion people get mobilized for Earth Day.

Our communities in the Northwest Corner and across eastern Dutchess County also mobilize around Earth Day. This coming Saturday, April 22, it will be hard not to come across an Earth Day event or exhibit or activity in town after town.

Who pays for what?

All developed nations subsidize their industries and thereby put goods on the market at artificially low prices. This, in turn, means that developing nations (without budgets for subsidies) cannot compete in an open and fair marketplace leaving them little recourse but to strip mine their natural resources and cut manufacturing costs where they can (as well as producing old-fashioned energy with makes abundant pollution).

It’s a fair argument, on the one hand, and an unfair one if seen from a different perspective.

Let’s try to tell the truth first. Everything developed nations produce has some subsidy applied, either to raw goods or energy or delivery. In the USA and Europe, the planes built were designed from specs originally developed as part of your taxpayer defense budget. The trucks that deliver goods are fueled by diesel that has a reduced import rate or a domestic tax credit as an essential product for the economy, and run on roads in which private cars pay a hugely disproportionate amount of tax for the wear the trucks actually cause. Food produce is subsidized to the tune of billions of dollars annually, even though farmers hardly make a reasonable wage for that most dangerous occupation. All cell phones have been subsidized by monopoly rights and monthly service fees for decades. Computer components have been designed with ample support of defense budgets and, further, that industry receives

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Peter Riva

some of the most generous tax incentives and government guaranteed loans of any industry.

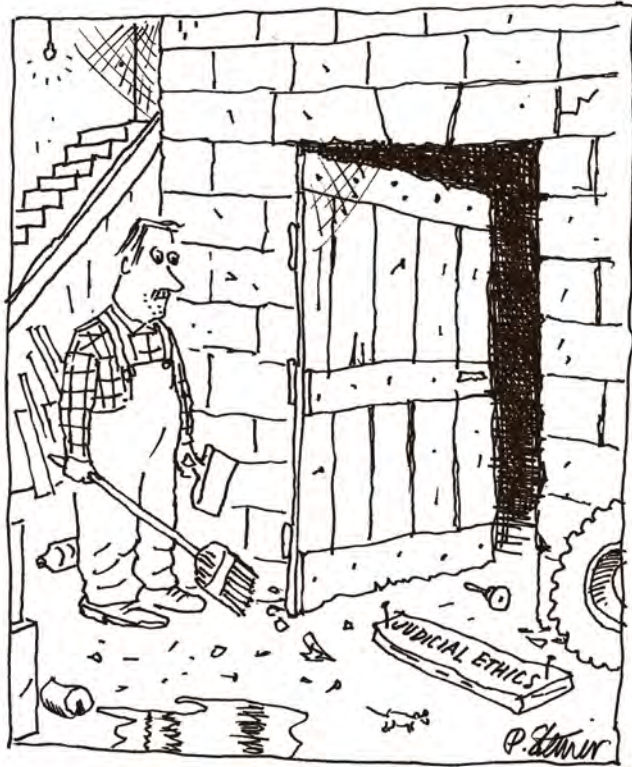
You may ask: “Why do we have these subsidies?” It’s called managed common good.

For example, computers are good for a modern economy. Made from raw materials refined in, processed in, assembled in and shipped from developed nations, this industry keeps many thousands employed and makes efficient use of raw materials. The subsidies and tax credits applied to this industry means that developed nations’ technology remains cheaper and in demand across the world. Now, of course, we have to pay for these subsidies. How?

By earning more and paying more tax.

Henry Ford first realized this paradigm. If he paid his workers \$5 a day (an unheard-of amount of money in 1920) then not only could he demand more of those workers, but they would have more money to spend. On what? A car, of course. Once the Model T started showing up everywhere, the boom took off.

Take the case of corn. America is the No. 1 producer of corn worldwide. Our regular corn production is so heavily subsidized (from farm credits, tax incentives, and export tax kickbacks to the reduced cost of fertilizers and diesel fuel made from oil)



Is it really bad for the planet to upgrade my phone every two years?

Dear EarthTalk: Is it really bad for the planet to upgrade my phone every two years?
— A.J., Darien, CT

EARTHTALK
Alexander Birk

Smartphones have certainly become ubiquitous, with some 85% of Americans and 67% of adults worldwide possessing one. Manufacturers sell almost 1.5 billion of them per year. And every year these manufacturers come out with upgraded models to lure customers into trading in their old models to get the latest technology at their fingertips. According to the Consumer Electronic Association the average lifespan of a smartphone is 4.7 years, but the average American user replaces their smartphone within three years. This can be, in part, attributed to planned obsolescence by manufacturers. As new smartphones are manufactured, new software updates accompany them; these updates can lead to older phones becoming unusable if

they do not have the capacity to accommodate the new software.

Regarding pollution created by the industry, 95% of emissions come from the production phase. A culture that requires constant replacements results in ongoing growth of manufacturing emissions. In addition, continuously replacing phones creates e-waste in the form of the phones themselves. In 2019, 50 million tons of waste came from smartphones, which constitute about 10 percent of e-waste globally.

One way to combat e-waste is to recycle. However, according to the World Economic Forum, only about 20 percent of global e-waste is recycled. The Basel Action Network used radio tracking to verify where

shipments of e-waste were sent. They found that nearly 40% of e-waste from the United States was exported illegally to developing nations where it was unsafely processed or even burned in the open air.

There are steps manufacturers can take to alleviate the environmental burden, one being to introduce “repairable” phones. Currently manufacturers hamper smartphone repair with very high repair prices and restricting third parties from having access to the needed parts. Europe is leading the charge on embracing a circular economy surrounding smartphones that encourages repairs, refurbishments and upgrades instead of replacement. Various European countries have instituted programs to address the problem. France maintains a publicly accessible phone repairability index to help consumers there make smart choices about their smartphone purchases. Meanwhile, Sweden and Austria both offer

support of the community. We thank everyone who attended our meals this season, and we will return again in the fall.

Andy Murphy,
Breakfast Committee,
Amenia Fire Co.
and Auxiliary
Amenia

Amenia Fire Co. thanks

On Sunday, April 16, the Amenia Fire Company sponsored our monthly Pancake Breakfast. We were pleased to have a nice crowd of 157 people in attendance for our annual meal. We rely on the breakfasts to raise needed money for general operations and we always appreciate the

The letters deadline is 10 a.m. each Monday

financial incentives for device repairs to encourage fixing instead of junking old smartphones and other electronics.

Whether or not such programs exist in your neck of the woods, you can be part of the solution by simply waiting longer to upgrade your phone, which will help reduce the demand on production while lowering your environmental footprint. While it may not seem like much at first glance, keeping your phone for an extra year can reduce your lifetime device usage by 25%. When it is finally time to get a new phone, an eco-conscious consumer can turn to companies like Fairphone and SHIFT that offer easily changeable parts and support software upgrades throughout the phone’s lifespan.

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that we export corn at less than 50% of the cost of comparable corn producers in India, South American farmers, and most African nations. On the one hand, this well managed U.S. subsidy produces a strong economy, assures a national defense strategy, and makes our customers (who sell on the corn to the end-users throughout the world) dependent on at least one American product (and good will). It is worth noting that the State Department has used these visible subsidies, especially the export tax credit subsidy, as part of most treaty negotiations since before Nixon. In fact, the great inflation recession of the early ‘70s was caused by a Senate-approved subsidy for wheat that caused us to lay out \$350 billion in one purchase order to Russia (which had a catastrophic wheat failure that year). Subsidies can work for and against us. But managed properly, subsidies can move financial resources from, say, excess shopping at Walmart to the farming sector and make America stronger. In the end, you pay for it. This way you pay less for bread and gasoline, but more for that toaster oven than you should.

Seen from a developing nation’s perspective, subsidies are evil and the cause of their poverty. In truth, what they want to know is: How do we get up enough of a head of steam to do the same? How will Tanzania or Zambia turn away from simply licensing those huge mines of copper or gems to foreign companies and actually make the copper pipe at

a cost-effective price, or polish those emeralds in Dar es Salaam instead of Holland? To do so they need to subsidize those industries from somewhere, but their economies are too fragile, they have no tax base, no spreading of the common wealth to rely on. So they scream “Unfair!” at world trade and environmental forums. They have a point. We have shown them the promised land but are doing little to help them get there.

The solution is not to dismantle our system, but to help them, like the Marshall Plan, and build theirs. There will always be parts of society that need more help than others. NPR is necessary to maintain some semblance of media balance away from commercial interests.

Good roads are necessary for industry even if they are paid for by the family car. Our airways are a vital means of national communication, defense, and transport and deserve to be paid for by that surcharge on your holiday ticket. What you now need to do is listen to the voices of your cousins in Asia and Africa and South America and embolden our congressmen and -women to promote the true American dream into reality. In the end, it will be beneficial to us all. If that Zambian earns more, he will surely want to buy the best American goods. Henry Ford was right, make the best product, create the most affordable new way of life and they will flock to your side.

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



PHOTO BY LIBBY HALL-ABEEL

A scent of magnolia

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Where's the beef?

Over the past 80 years, the world's human population has quadrupled while, at the same time, people's taste for meat has grown considerably. But the supply has not been able to keep up with the demand. Currently according to the World Health Organization, nearly a third of the world's population have inadequate food. But raising animals for food is an ever greater strain on the environment as forests worldwide are cut down to make way for giant fields to grow animal feed. The amount of land, energy, water, fertilizer, human labor and other resources needed to raise animals for meat is staggering, increasingly expensive, and the environmental toll on the planet is huge. Despite the arguments in favor of reducing our meat intake, the U.S. (followed by

OCCASIONAL OBSERVER Mac Gordon

Australia and Argentina) is, on a per capita basis, the world's largest consumer of beef and meat in general. But this may be beginning to change. Largely because of cost but also for environmental and health reasons, a new competitor to traditional meats has arrived in restaurants and grocery stores: imitation meat made from vegetable products and designed to resemble beef, pork, chicken and other meats.

Currently more than 50,000 grocery stores and restaurants across the country including fast food chains such as Burger King, McDonalds, Subway, KFC, Wendy's

and many more carry products from the two leading imitation meat suppliers, Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods, and others. During the past year, fast food restaurants served more than 228 million plant-based burgers, still but a tiny fraction of sales of all-beef burgers (over 6.4 billion).

In many states, particularly those dominated by meat processing companies, efforts have been made to outlaw the use of the word "meat" in describing those products made with vegetables. The "imitation meat" business is little more than a decade old and may change considerably in the future.

Typically, imitation "meat" is formed into a patty, sausage, or nugget so as to resemble the item it is imitating. The material is formed into a paste containing as many as two dozen different vegetable in-

gredients. All seem to contain several "vegetable proteins" extracted from their host plant and introduced into the mix.

Two ingredients that occur in many of the products are pea and soy. Soy leghemoglobin (as heme) is a key ingredient in some items for color and texture. Canola and coconut oils are frequently added. Other common ingredients include methylcellulose, thiamine hydrochloride and zinc gluconate. Nearly all of the imitation meat products use copious amounts of water, sugar, and especially salt.

As someone who has always favored natural foods and who had never tried artificial meat, I approached the actual eating of a sample fake meat meal with some trepidation. From my local grocery store, I purchased an Impossible Foods' Impossible

Burger, currently the nation's best-selling artificial meat product.

Following directions, I browned the patty for two minutes per side in the fry pan and placed it between two slices of semolina toast. I added a thin slice of Gouda cheese but otherwise left it as is, forgoing the fast-food restaurant ploy of gussying up the burger with all sorts of extraneous ingredients.

Then I ate it. The appearance and the texture were surprisingly convincing: almost like a beef burger at a fast food restaurant.

The taste wasn't bad. Despite my fear, I had no trouble keeping it down. But I was not able to find the desired "beefy" taste. As I ate, I kept remembering the 40-year-old Wendy's commercial in which an older woman with a hoarse voice asks, "Where's the beef?"

Of the many flavors I tasted, the dominant one wasn't beef but salt. Still, millions of people are persuaded and think an imitation meat product is almost the same as the real thing.

But the purveyors of fake meat should not rest on their impressive accomplishments. A new type of product labelled "cultured meat" takes cells from live animals and grows them in a special chamber where, in a short time, the cells grow into pieces of meat (without the bones and other inedible parts).

These products are in the process of getting development approval and should be on the market soon. Might this trigger a science-fiction field day?

Architect and landscape designer Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville.

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