



PINE PLAINS
Goods in Bulk **A3**



EARTH DAY
Area Events **A5**



COMPASS
American Appetite; Calendar; And More **B1-2**

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PHOTO BY SAM DECOCK

Indian Mountain School students conducted a 'trash audit' on April 3, sorting garbage from the campus to see what was thrown away over the course of just a few days, including plenty of snack wrappers — one-time food items in permanent plastic wrapping.

Student science learning spurs adults' curiosity, concern

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

MILLERTON — On Tuesday, April 4, following an intense two days of hands-on research, some students from Indian Mountain School (IMS) in Salisbury, Connecticut, and about 55 parents and community members watched the film "Junk" at the Moviehouse in awe and some dismay. The question-and-answer session that followed revealed the depth and scope of the problems surrounding plas-

tics waste—no longer confined to the ocean, if ever it was—as well as the need for each of us to step up and make changes at many levels.

The 2009 documentary short follows Marcus Eriksen, fellow sailor and marine scientist Joel Paschal, and unseen director/cinematographer Chris Jones, in a harrowing 2,600-mile voyage from California to Hawaii on a raft made of 15,000 water bottles lashed together with disused fishing nets and other plastic detritus, and topped with an old Cessna

aircraft as a cabin.

Its name, "Junk," cleverly refers to both its structure and its mission. The just-under-30 minute film, available for free on Vimeo, is an exhilarating and sobering watch. The background, updates and calls to action at this community event rounded out the presentation and the urgency of 5 Gyres and other organizations worldwide.

Scientists and adventurers
Tom Stewart, IMS' director of

See **TRASH, A6**

Funding awards to address accessibility, housing needs

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

POUGHKEEPSIE — Dutchess County Executive Bill O'Neil has announced that \$2.4 million will be awarded to programs throughout the county via its 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnership Program.

Provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the grants will help communities address infrastructure needs, affordable housing options, and accessibility concerns

for older adults and others with specific needs. Several local municipalities are recipients of the funding awards.

The Town of Amenia received \$150,000 toward the purchase and renovation of a single-family, three-bedroom home at 74 Lake Amenia Road to be rented to a low- to moderate-income family. The purchase price is still under negotiation and the closing has not yet happened.

Following the April 6 Town Board meeting, Amenia Housing Board Chairman Charlie Miller said that the town has already au-

thorized the use of ARPA funds to provide the balance of the purchase. By the next board meeting, they will have clarification on some county stipulations regarding any possible future plans to subdivide.

At the meeting, Town Supervisor Victoria Perotti noted that the town needs to follow the HUD requirements. Miller termed the expected remediations "minor," like the presence of lead-based paint and a bit of asbestos wrap on pipes in the basement. The official inspection has not yet happened.

See **FUNDING, A6**

Bald eagle successfully rehabilitated

By **ELIAS SORICH**
elias@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — When Chuck Dvorak heard his dog Willow barking up a storm on the afternoon of Jan. 6, he had to find out what the hubbub was about. What he discovered on the banks of the Webutuck Creek was a downed bald eagle, in need of medical attention and unable to fly.

After calling the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, state troopers, and others—it took 12 separate phone calls—Dvorak was finally directed to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), which agreed to send over an environmental conservation officer (ECO). For the next two and a half hours, Dvorak waited with the eagle

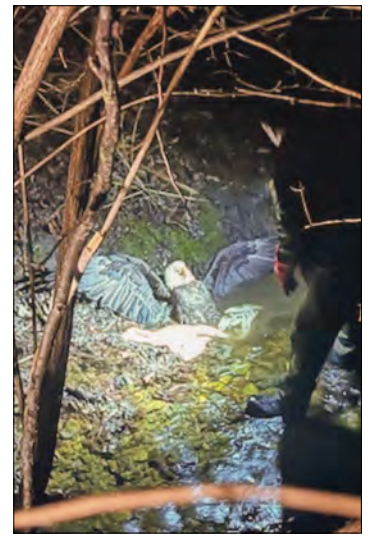


PHOTO SUBMITTED

Environmental Conservation Officer Daniel Franz initiating rescue procedures on an injured bald eagle Jan. 6 in Amenia.

See **EAGLE, A6**

Amenia moves toward creating wastewater district

By **LEILA HAWKEN**
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AMENIA — An important step toward implementation of a wastewater treatment plan for the community is the creation of a wastewater district. At a meeting on Thursday, April 6, the Wastewater Committee discussed bids received from two engineering firms, selecting one to be recommended to the Town Board.

By unanimous vote, the committee selected Laberge Group, based in Albany, to complete the mapping project for a cost of \$29,000 plus reimbursable expenses. It will be preparing a map, plan and report that will build upon the June 2022 feasibility study prepared by Tighe and Bond.

Reviewed by Wastewater Committee Chairman Charlie Miller, the work of the Laberge Group, if approved by the town, would

study and map environmental factors that would constrain the plan, including wetlands, spots of archeological significance, endangered species and waterways. The need for a wastewater district would also be documented and a list prepared of system requirements to comply with regulations.

Laberge would also resolve to study the Tighe and Bond alternative solutions and provide a recommendation on how the town should proceed along with cost estimates and funding opportunities.

The end result would be the creation of a wastewater district plan that would comply with the guidelines of the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, important to the town's eligibility for financial assistance through that state entity.

The next meeting of the Wastewater Committee will be Thursday, April 13.



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OPINION
Brilliant Solution;
Bill Schmick
Column; Letters **B4**

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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

This house in the Village of Millerton sold for \$255,000 in February. It was originally listed for \$279,800 in May 2022.

Recent property sales in Town of North East and Village of Millerton

The Millerton News will periodically publish a listing of residential real estate sales in eastern Dutchess County towns. Below is a listing of residential and land sales in the Town of North East and Village of Millerton 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.

All parcels in the Village of Millerton are in the Webutuck Central School District; however, town properties may also be in the Taconic Hills Central School District in Columbia County or in the Pine Plains Central School District. Note that all home sales range be-

tween \$200,000 and \$310,000.

Town of North East January, February 2023

63 Dutchess Ave. for \$266,000, 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, sold in January

524 McGhee Hill Road for \$310,000, 29.3 acres, sold on Jan. 23

60-70 Budd Lane for \$290,000 on 5.15 acres, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, sold on Feb. 9

451 Mill Road for \$200,000, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, sold on Feb. 2

15 West St. for \$270,000, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, sold on Feb. 6

107 Mountain Farm Road for \$410,000, 21 acres, sold on Feb. 24

Village of Millerton January, February 2023

Union Ave. for \$65,000, .66 acre lot, sold in February

8 Fish St. for \$255,000, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, sold on Feb. 7

Town of North East and Village of Millerton 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 further detail from Dutchess Parcel Access.

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

Concert to benefit New Pine Plains Herald

PINE PLAINS — On Saturday, May 4, at 6 p.m., the Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., will host a concert by jazz pianist Fred Hersch that will benefit the New Pine Plains Herald.

Hersch is a 15-time Grammy Award nominee and, in 2006, became the first artist to play a weeklong engagement at New York City's Village Vanguard. Hersch has appeared on more than 100 recordings, featuring more than 40 albums as band leader/solo pianist. His most recent releases include "Songs From Home," which was recorded in his Pennsylvania home during the pandemic, and "Alive at the Village Vanguard" with vocalist Esperanza Spalding.

In March 2022, a dozen volunteers met to address the journalism void in their community, eventually forming the New Pine Plains Herald, which began as a newsletter and branched out into a website in January 2023. In February, the Herald hired former Radio Free Europe editor-in-chief Daisy Sindelar as its managing editor and first full-time employee.

Tickets are \$50, and all proceeds will benefit the

Herald, which will have staff on hand to discuss the non-profit journalism startup and answer questions. A limited number of premium tickets will be available for \$100 each and will include a post-concert reception at which Hersch will give out signed CDs.

A portion of the price of each ticket is tax deductible, and tickets can be purchased online at www.eventbrite.com/e/528655451687

Correction

A page one article in the April 6 issue incorrectly said that the Salisbury Bank and Trust Co. merger with NBT Bancorp Inc. would be completed at a shareholder meeting on April 12. The transaction, pending regulatory approval, is expected to be completed by the end of June.

Town hears report on state drinking water protection program

By LEILA HAWKEN
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AMENIA — A significant portion of the meeting of the town board on Thursday, April 6, was devoted to hearing a report from representatives of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), who described a program to protect the sources of the town's drinking water.

"Source water is where the town's drinking water comes from, and in the case of Amenia, that water comes from surface water wells," explained Keith Estes, environmental analyst for the DEC's Source Water Assessment Program. The goal of the program, Estes said, is to reduce the risk of contamination from the land and activities around the town's wells.

The free voluntary pro-

gram is locally led and state-supported, Estes said.

Also speaking at the meeting was Grant Jiang, DEC technical assistance provider, who described program elements including testing data analysis and interpretation, mapping to identify potential contaminants, developing a list of actions to be taken and strategies to implement those actions and to help identify funding sources.

"Implementation is the backbone of the program," Estes said.

Reporting on behalf of the town's water department, Marco D'Antonio indicated that the town's water quality is tested frequently and reported on annually, consistently registering minimal presence of contaminants, well under the state's allowable numbers. The town's water department delivers

around 99,000 gallons each day to homes and businesses within the water district.

Estes said that the DEC program is working with 64 communities, adding that it assisted Pawling in 2022, helping to increase the level of protections around its wells.

A plan management team would lay out a project profile. Sample initiatives could be setting up agricultural buffers such as plantings of vegetation between the growing fields and waterways to curtail erosion and chemical runoff.

Town Supervisor Victoria Perotti reported that she had already completed the "interest form" to indicate the town's interest in learning more about the program and that she would soon be completing the two-page application form.

Barrett's bill on methane accounting gets pulled

By JOHN COSTON
johnc@millertonnews.com

ALBANY — A bill introduced by Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D-106) that would change the way New York state measures greenhouse gas emissions will not be prioritized in the state budget process, following pressure from scientists, environmentalists and others.

Barrett and Sen. Kevin Parker (D, WF-21), chairs of the legislature's Energy Committee, introduced the legislation (S.6030/A.6039) that would substitute a 20-year accounting method for greenhouse gases with a 100-year period.

In Albany last week, state officials said the bill won't be prioritized in the budget process but indicated that it would continue to be pursued post-budget process. The fossil fuel industry supports the change, which was put forth as a measure to ease the transition to a green economy for consumers.

Critics view the legislation as an end run around New York's 2019 climate law, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act

(CLCPA).

Last week, a group of approximately 60 gathered outside Barrett's Hudson office to demand the bill be dropped.

"For Assemblymember Barrett to be pushing legislation that encourages New York to burn ever more methane is unconscionable. Her constituents demand that she withdraw the bill immediately," said Bill Kish of Millerton in a press release.

In a statement, Barrett said, "This legislation is about giving us the tools and resources to continue to build out the electric infrastructure needed for a just transition from fos-

sil fuels, to reach our climate goals.

"We can start using biofuels today, drop in fuels that will significantly decrease our carbon emissions and the amount of emitted particulate matter. We know this particulate matter negatively impacts public health, especially in our disadvantaged communities which the CLCPA sets out to protect. Or we can wait for the solar and wind projects in the queue to come online and for energy infrastructure to be built, which is years out, and continue to use fossil fuels in the interim. To me, the former makes more sense."

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL ENROLLED
**DEMOCRATIC VOTERS
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THAT A MEETING OF SAID ENROLLED VOTERS
WILL BE HELD ON

Tuesday, the 25th day of April 2023 at 6:00 PM at the Village Hall, 5933 North Elm Avenue (Route 22), Millerton, New York for the purpose of selecting and nominating candidates for the following positions to be voted on at the Village Election to be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023:

- Mayor - 2-year term
- Trustee - 2-year term
- Trustee - 2-year term

and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Democratic Committee, Village of Millerton
Debra Middlebrook, Chair

New store stocks bulk, sustainable goods

By ELIAS SORICH
elias@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — With Earth Day around the corner, the town of Pine Plains has gained a new way for residents to reduce their environmental impact. Opening its doors to the public on March 31, the Rural Center Refillery is part bulk-food store and part sustainable goods depot.

Though some items come in individual packaging, for most goods on sale, consumers portion out the quantities they'll need in containers they've brought from home or purchased in-store. That means both a reduction in plastic and paper packaging entering municipal waste systems, and a reduction in food waste owed to the more individually tailored sizing.

The business is owned by husband-and-wife duo and Stanfordsville residents Nicole and Corey Clanahan, and their decision to open a refillery arose from two primary objectives: to help residents reduce their waste production, and to provide



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The recently updated inventory at Rural Center Refillery.

a physical space where community members could connect in person. And to Nicole, that goal of sustainability isn't about getting to zero-waste immediately and all at once:

"Our main focus is taking small steps to be better. No one is going to be perfect. But we can all substitute a few things to help with environmental impact, and those things add up over a month, over a year. If the whole town is doing it and neighboring towns, it can become something that carries weight....

putting people in the right mindset to make good choices, and do little things that add up and that they can feel good about."

Businesses like Rural Center Refillery have begun to pop up in townships all over the upstate region, from Village Grocery and Refillery in Kingston to the O Zone in Red Hook, and their emergence can partially be attributed to widespread failures in the recycling industry. According to the most recent data from the EPA, in 2018, only 8.7% of



Nicole Clanahan, left, with husband Corey Clanahan and their two children.

plastics processed in municipal solid waste systems in the U.S. were recycled, with the remaining 15.6% combusted for energy production and 75.5% consigned to landfills.

While dismal enough, the full truth behind those numbers is even bleaker: According to a 2022 report by Greenpeace, of the plastics that are supposedly recycled, as few as 5% of them are actually turned into new products, with the rest put into landfills.

With plastics ranking the third-highest waste product in the United States behind paper waste and food waste, a 2020 report from the Pew Charitable Trust lists reducing growth in plastic consumption by one-third as the

first step in solving the global plastic pollution crisis. In lieu of comprehensive federal programs, it can fall to businesses like Rural Center Refillery to present opportunities for consumers to make adjustments that can lead to longer-term sustainable practices.

But helping to make the planet greener in this way is just one of the Clanahans' objectives—the other is to create an environment where community members can show up and interact with each other, an aim that aligns with the Clanahans' overall approach to living in the region.

"Corey is on the Stanford Town Board, and I'm on the Rec Commission, so we're very involved in our com-

munity. We wanted to do something brick-and-mortar, a physical place where people could gather and see each other. Sometimes in this region, it's kind of hard to find a reason to get out of your house."

Detailing future plans to expand the physical space of the store and host community events, Nicole portrayed the short-term of the business as focused on adjusting their offerings to meet with demand. With nearly two weeks under their belts, they've already expanded their bulk food options, and increased the candy stockpile (Pine Plains High School is right next door).

This kind of back-and-forth with the community is not only necessary in the mind of Nicole Clanahan, it's also part of the joy behind the business.

"We're so receptive to what the community thinks and what they want to see more of, what they want to see less of. This is a project evolving for everybody.

"We're also totally willing to explain the 'bring your own container' system to anyone who comes in, by way of what kinds of containers can be used.... We're all learning about it together, and that's what makes it so cool."

Rural Center Refillery is located at 2881 Church St. in Pine Plains. Business hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays.

Webutuck Little League plans Opening Day celebration in Amenia

By JOHN COSTON
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AMENIA — Little League Baseball season is around the corner.

On Saturday, April 15, the Webutuck Little League is scheduled to hold an Opening Day family event at Beekman Park to kick off the 2023 year.

The festivities will begin with a parade starting at the Amenia Fire House. The lineup will start at 11 a.m. and the parade will begin at 11:30 a.m.

The parade expects to arrive at Beekman Park at noon. After the singing of the national anthem, there will be an opening day speech and introduction to the 2023 season. From then until 3 p.m., there will be hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks, an inflatable obstacle course, bounce house, interactive T-ball game, face painting, and a softball clinic on the softball field.

On Saturday, April 22, the first games of the season are scheduled to be played at Beekman Park. This year, the field at Eddie Collins Memorial Park in Millerton also will see the return of Little League baseball after an absence due to the pandemic.

"I think people are going to be very happy to see baseball being played again on the Millerton field," said D.J. Reilly, president of the Webutuck Little League, noting that games will be played in both locations during the season.

The Millerton infield was brought back to shape with help and support from the Village of Millerton Department of Public Works,

Amenia Fire Company to host pancake breakfast

AMENIA — The Amenia Fire Company will hold its final monthly pancake breakfast of the season on Sunday, April 16, from 7:30 to 11 a.m. at the firehouse, 36 Mechanic St. The all-you-can-eat menu is available to eat in or take out and includes pancakes, eggs, toast, bacon, sausage, coffee and juice. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$9 for older adults and children under age 12. For more information, call 845-373-8352.



PHOTO BY AMIEE DUNCAN

Last week, a coach-pitch minors team got some practice in the infield at Eddie Collins Park in Millerton. Webutuck Little League games will be played in Millerton and Amenia this season.

Townscape of Millerton and Northeast, DJ Reilly General Maintenance, and Northwest Lawn & Landscaping Maintenance.

New clay was placed on the infield and the dugout was rebuilt.

Practice already has started on the redone field. Last week, a coach-pitch minor team took to the infield, even though it was chilly enough for jackets, to get pointers

from their coach.

The Millerton park, which now is open from dawn to dusk, celebrated a reopening in October that drew hundreds of people to mark the completion of the first phase of a revitalization. The park has served as the recreational center for the region for decades.

For more information about Webutuck Little League, email webutucklittleleague@gmail.com.

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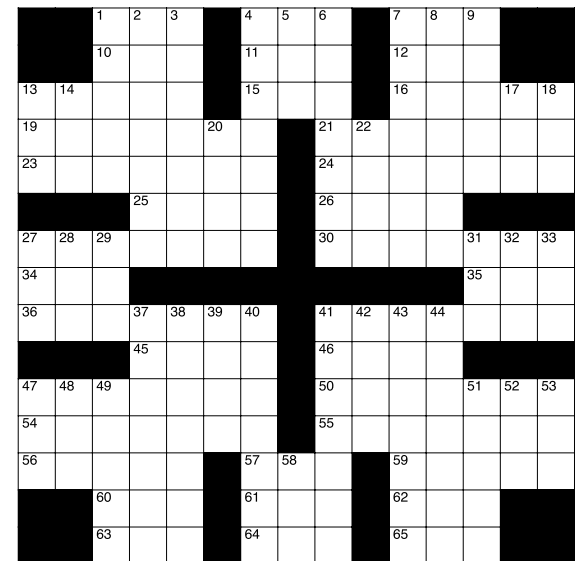
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- Atomic mass unit
- Criticize mightily
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Stand in for
- Everyone has one
- Brew
- Rectify
- Popular Dodge truck model
- Beef or chicken intestine
- Satisfy
- Of a particular people or localized region
- Movements in quick tempos
- Able to pay one's debts
- Fleshy bird beak covering
- Dueling sword
- Helps
- Court is in it
- Touch lightly
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Of one
- Baked good
- Jai __, sport
- About aviation
- Low oval mound
- Rugged mountain ranges
- Compel to do something
- A way to carve
- Sao __, city in Brazil
- Mustachioed actor Elliott
- American Idol runner-up Clay
- A way to soak
- Car mechanics group
- Born of
- Time zone
- Sea eagle
- Even's opposite

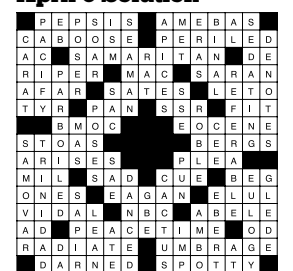
CLUES DOWN

- Sharp mountain ridge
- Thin, fibrous cartilages
- Provides new details
- Muscular weaknesses
- Ottoman military title
- Banes

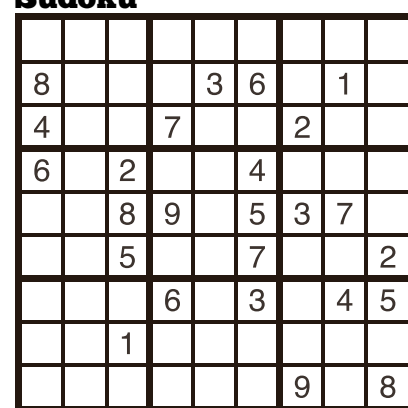


- Horse-riding seats
- Arms of a shirt
- Narrow path along a road edge
- Viper
- Disfigure
- Variety of Chinese language
- Portray in a show
- Wrongful act
- No (slang)
- State of agitation
- __ Diego
- One point east of due south
- 007's creator
- The NBA's Toppin
- Midway between north and northeast
- Examples
- __ Gould, actor
- The habitat of wild animals
- Artful subtlety
- Infielders
- Keep under control
- Herb
- Distressed
- A way to go down
- Type of acid
- Take by force
- Collected fallen leaves
- Shout of welcome or farewell
- Monetary unit
- Swiss river

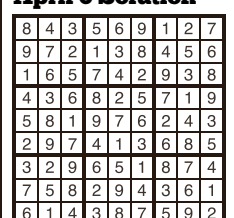
April 6 Solution



Sudoku



April 6 Solution



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OBITUARIES

Daniel Jacob Stevener

MILLERTON — Daniel Jacob Stevener, 24, a lifelong area resident, most recently of Torrington, Connecticut, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at his home in Torrington. Daniel worked as a skilled laborer for Chris Whitehead at Earthlite Contracting Corporation based in Millerton, specializing in residential and commercial building services, property services and sub-contracting services. He was a much loved and respected employee at Earthlite and will be greatly miss by his constituents.



In addition to his parents, Daniel is survived by his step-father, Clyde A. Miller III of Millerton; two siblings, Marissa Lindig and her husband Tanner of Little Rock Air Force Base, Little Rock, Arkansas, and Lucas Miller of Millerton; his grandfather, Andrew Milano, Jr. and his companion Anne Sciacovelli of Hopewell Junction, New York; his uncles, Andrew Milano III of Amenia, and Christopher Milano and his wife Kelly of Amenia; his aunts, Lori Milano, Wendy Latrell and Davida Stickle; his niece, Claire Ivy Lindig of Little Rock; his step-grandparents, Clyde A. Miller, Jr. and Marie E. Miller, Jr. of Millerton; his cousins, Andrew IV, Joey, Christopher, Makayla, Bella, Elisha, Jeffrey, Tyler and Kaylee and many great aunts and uncles and distant cousins and countless friends. Daniel was predeceased by his dear brother, Jordan M. Stevener and by his grandmother, Janice Milano and his grandmother, Gail Stevener.

Born Feb. 12, 1999, in Sharon, he was the son Audra A. (Milano) Miller of Millerton, and Richard "Rick" Stevener of Amenia. Daniel attended Webutuck High School and was an avid basketball player. He loved spending time in the outdoors, especially fishing and spending time with his beloved family.

Daniel had an infectious laugh and he was the kind of person that brightened a room when he arrived. He always made his presence known because he truly cared for others and wanted them to know that he was there for them with a big hug or a "Love you more" sentiment. He will be dearly missed by his loving family and many friends.

Calling hours were Saturday, April 8, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Ave., Millerton, NY. A funeral service was held at the funeral home. Pastor William Mayhew officiated. To send an online condolence, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com



PHOTO SUBMITTED

U.S. Bicycle Route 7, part of a route from Connecticut to Canada, at Boinay Hill Road in North Canaan.

New bicycle routes and signs posted in 12 Route 7 towns

SALISBURY — Cyclists passing through Connecticut—on their way to New York City, Montreal, or points in between—now have the option to turn off their devices, ignore the maps, and enjoy the scenery, without fear of missing a turn.

With funding from the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area (Housatonic Heritage), each of the 12 towns in Connecticut that U.S. Bicycle Route 7 passes through was furnished with all of the signs, posts and fasteners necessary to keep riders on track.

"We were delighted to provide the materials," said Dan Bolognani, executive director of Housatonic Heritage, "but this effort would not have been successful without the partnership of the individual municipalities, whose highway departments installed the signs, and the many volunteers who identified signpost locations, and delivered materials to each of the towns."

Also known as the Western New England Greenway (wnegreenway.org), USBR 7 runs from Norwalk to the Canadian border, covering three states and 400 miles. It was designed to connect the East Coast Greenway with Quebec's Route Verte, and provide

local as well as touring cyclists with a safe and scenic alternative to the region's main thoroughfare: U.S. Highway 7. "Putting up the signs is not simply about navigation," said Tom O'Brien, coordinator of the Connecticut segment of the project for Housatonic Heritage. "It's a powerful statement from a dozen towns in our state that bicycles are legitimate vehicles with every right to share the road."

Efforts are now underway to get signs up on Massachusetts' portion of U.S. Bicycle Route 7.

MILLERTON — John S. "Jack" Erickson, 94, a materials engineer and lifelong resident of Schenectady, New York, passed away on March 13, 2023, after a short illness.



Jack was born in Schenectady on Nov. 17, 1928, to Adolph G. "Del" and Signe Sward Erickson. Growing up on Avenue A, he enjoyed fishing and camping with his father in the Speculator/Moffitt Beach area of the Adirondacks and played banjo with Stephen St. John's Plectrum Orchestra, including performances on WGY radio. After graduating from Nott Terrace High School in 1947, Jack received a bachelors' degree in materials engineering from Upsala College (East Orange, N.J.) in 1951, where his activities included singing in the university choir.

He served in the Korean War between 1951 and 1953 as a U.S. Army medical x-ray instructor stationed at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas.

Subsequently, Jack joined General Electric's Research and Development (R+D) Laboratory in 1953 as an x-ray crystallographer expert, working with Jack Low's group on analysis of metallic fracture mechanisms in silicon-iron mixtures. He received a masters degree in metallurgical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1961. Jack's career then took him to Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory in Niskayuna, where he worked for the rest of his nearly 45-year GE career on refurbishment and recertification of U.S. Navy Trident nuclear submarine reactor cores. It was at the 3rd floor GE R+D coffee machine that Jack met his future wife Stephanie Terni Erickson, a bacteriologist. Married in 1960, Jack and Stephanie had two sons, Philip and Courtney, and established their home in Schenectady.

Jack's devotion to and love for his family was always paramount and an inspiration to all, including a perfect attendance record for every musical performance by his sons at school. The regular trips with his wife and sons in a Ford LTD station wagon to his in-laws at Terni's Store and Terni Ford in Millerton were particularly countless in number. Jack was an avid reader and thinker, with a deep knowledge and passion for military history and military arms collections spanning the 19th and 20th centuries including participation in a far-ranging sword exhibit at the Higgins Armory in Worcester, Massachusetts. His early adoption of computers and the internet kept Jack well ahead of his peers in electronic matters. Jack also derived joy from an encyclopedic knowledge of lyrics and melodies from the Great American Songbook era, acquired during his days as a college student while listening to the late night "Milkman's Matinee" broadcast over WNEW in NY.

Jack was predeceased by his wife Stephanie Terni Erickson and his youngest son Courtney Arthur Erickson. He is survived by his older son Philip (Sarah) Erickson and his grandson James Warren Erickson. Jack's family profusely thanks the medical staff at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady for superb care during his last illness. Jack will be deeply missed by his family and his many neighbors and friends. Jack's life was remarkable by any measure, not only for his

sharp mind and career but most importantly for his attitude as a kind, caring, and outgoing person who was always keenly interested in helping others and learning the stories of their life and work. His family will carry on this spirit and curiosity as his ongoing legacy.

A wake will be held at Daly Funeral Home, 242 McClellan St., Schenectady, NY on Friday, April 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. A service will be held at the same location, Daly Funeral Home, on Saturday, April 15, at 10 a.m., followed by interment at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Millerton, NY, at approximately 12:15 to 12:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Jack's name to the Foundation for Ellis Medicine in Schenectady (www.ellismedicinefoundation.org/ways-give), or to the West Point Leadership Center at West Point (www.westpoint.edu/leadership-center/make-a-difference).



Worship Services

Week of April 16, 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 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232</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@limerock.org (860) 435-2627</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>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 jokauloi@gmail.com All are Welcome</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>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 860-564-5002 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.thsmithfieldchurch.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 MASS SCHEDULE 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>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 Find Holy Week and Paschal schedule online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>
<p>Millerton United Methodist Church 6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 10:00 A.M. 518-789-3138</p>	<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mmgates125@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone.</p>



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All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church

313 Twin Lakes Road, Salisbury, CT 06068

Holy Week

4/13: Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Matins, Passion Gospels 6:30 pm
4/14: Holy Friday Burial Vespers 3:00 pm
Matins, Lamentations 7:00 pm
4/15: Divine Liturgy, OT Readings 9:30 am

Great and Holy PASCHA

Nocturns 11:30pm (4/15)
Matins, Liturgy 12:00am Midnight (4/16)
Vespers of PASCHA 12:00 pm Noon (4/16)
4/17: Paschal Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

For more information, visit in person or online:
www.allsaintsofamerica.us

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A cool but sunny morning in Millerton, just north of the village.

'Get Your Green On!' events set for Millerton Earth Day

By DEBORAH MAIER
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — First celebrated on April 22, 1970, as a result of efforts by Wisconsin Sen. Gaylord Nelson, which ultimately led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency, Earth Day is observed on April 22 regardless of the day of the week. This year it falls on a Saturday, and in Millerton, it is to be a much-expanded event with a variety of activities on the village green near the Millerton Inn.

The Millerton Climate Smart Communities task force (CSC) is in charge of much of the planning for this year's festivities, titled "Get Your Green On!" Claire Goodman, Chris Virtuoso and Kathy Chow and others have put countless hours and energy into making 2023's Earth Day memorable. Local businesses, plus the NorthEast-Millerton Library and the North East Community Center, also have their parts to play.

Energy efficiency at home
In the main Climate Smart tent, home efficiency is one big focus, including how to make your home energy-efficient. Visitors can see the workings of a photovoltaic panel up close, talk to energy advisors and sign up for free consultations. You can also learn about battery storage, induction cooking, heat pumps, and water filtration as well as about electric options for your home or business.

New Yorkers for Clean Power's Jim Greenhall will answer questions in person, and if needed connect people with free virtual 45-minute coaching opportunities. You can get information about energy audits; learn what you can do to cut energy use and save money; and find out about heat pumps, community solar and electric vehicle (EV) chargers.

Stanford Rec offers Earth Day celebration for kids

Participants will plant pansies in the park's planters, paint rocks to leave in the park, and have the opportunity for a meet-and-greet with the garden club while receiving a seedling to take home.

Materials and plants will be provided by the Rural Center Refillery in Pine Plains, as will a free reusable candy container with coupon for children who participate in the scavenger hunt.

For more information, contact Stanford Recreation Commission member Nicole Clanahan at nicole@ruralcenterrefillery.com

Biodiversity issues and solutions
Homegrown National Park (HNP) co-founder Michelle Alfandari will introduce and explain how each of us can easily be part of HNP's massive, science-based grassroots solution to the biodiversity crisis. Alfandari will have informational material including examples of plants native to our area, resources on the site and how to get on the HNP map. There will be handouts and yard signs for adults and kids alike.

Alfandari will appear at the Moviehouse on Sunday, May 7, at 11 a.m., introducing a free showing of HNP co-founder Doug Tallamy's video, "What's the Rush?", which will be followed by a Q&A with panelists Julie Hart, Michael Nadeau and Dee Salomon.

For gardeners who need to clear space for native plants, educator and landscape contractor Christian Allen will guide them on invasive control, show cuttings of local "bad guy" invasive plants to help people learn to identify them, and discuss methods of removal and maintenance.

Creation Station for children, youth and family
At the family-friendly Creation Station led by this reporter, you'll flex your writerly and artistic muscles. Respond to prompts, questions, examples and suggestions to write, draw or paint, then decorate your own blank Japanese wash paper and bamboo kite to take home. All supplies are provided!

Evening concert and student poetry reading

From 7 to 9 p.m., Webutuck High School students and a few others will read their nature- and sustainability-based poetic works, sharing the stage of the Methodist Church, 6 Dutchess Ave., with musicians Natalia Zuckerman and Melissa Ferrick. The proceeds of a suggested donation of \$10-20 will benefit Rock Steady Farm.

Affordable housing expo
Twelve panels of photos and text will show many of the hundreds of affordable home designs available, put together by a group of local affordable housing advocates, some of whom will be on hand to answer questions.

Sustainable transportation offerings
Shepherd Myers will share his knowledge of what to look for in an e-bike. Learn the pros and cons of retrofitting your own bike, buying directly through the internet, or purchasing from a bike shop. Myers' own retrofitted e-bike will be available for perusing. Covered Bridge Electric Bike of West Cornwall, Connecticut, will be present with some of its inventory to experience, and Bob Ensign's advice.

Additional features of the day include NorthEast Ford's EV displays, and test rides in an EV; a book and tag sale at the North East-Millerton Library from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. urging shoppers to "Reduce by

Reusing," and several Webutuck students will share their sustainability projects focusing on plastics and waste.

For refreshment and relaxation, souvlaki and beverages will be available on the Green from the Millerton Inn, and there will be special Earth Day cocktails served at 52 Main. Village merchants will hold a raffle, with proceeds supporting Rock Steady Farm.

For more information, including about Encore Events, check the Millerton Climate Smart Communities website at climatesmartmillerton.org/earthday2023

Deborah Maier is a member of the Millerton Climate Smart Communities task force.

Amenia ramps up Earth Day activities

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — When Earth Day dawns on April 22, Amenia volunteers will be ready, having planned a full day of activities to attract area residents and weekend visitors. By the end of the day, the roadsides will be tidier thanks to volunteers engaging in a morning of clean-up and visitors will have enjoyed an afternoon of imaginatively fun offerings at the Town Hall.

"This is the first time Amenia has held an Earth Day of this magnitude," said Michael Peek, Amenia Conservation Advisory Council (CAC), Enhancement Committee, praising the work of the many CAC volunteers along with the local Climate Smart Task Force.

The town clean-up activity is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon, when residents may pick up bags and instructions from either Fountain Square in Amenia or Borden Park in Wassauc. Town Councilwoman Vicki Doyle is coordinating the work of picking up the litter-filled trash bags.

Expectations are that the town will be tidy enough by noon when the Town Hall activities will kick off and continue until 4 p.m.

Organizers are pleased to offer a volunteer repair café where residents can bring

anything in need of repair, whether it be clothing, lamps, bicycles, small furniture or anything else. The volunteers will apply their proven variety of skills to the challenges that come their way.

Snacks will be provided by the Great Cape Bakery until they run out.

The Parks and Recreation Department is organizing a sports equipment swap. Gently used gear can be donated at the Town Clerk's office to be available throughout the afternoon. Helmets may not be donated. Questions can be directed to smantel@ameniany.gov.

A composting demonstration should draw a crowd and will include a drawing for a complete home composting system donated by Page Lumber in Amenia.

The Amenia Garden Club will be at the Town Hall, giving away free seeds and advice on what to do with them. Kids and families will enjoy the Earth Day art activity under the direction of Amenia artist Rachel Owens. Rounding out the afternoon, local conservation organizations will dispense literature and provide information about their activities.

For those who plan to make the rounds of the various Earth Day celebrations throughout the area, Amenia Town Hall should be one of the pins on the map.

TRASH *Continued from Page A1*

sustainability, introduced Eriksen and Anna Cummins, a married couple who, in 2009, founded 5 Gyres, a non-governmental organization dedicated to ongoing research on ocean plastics and solutions to the growing problems associated with them. He hailed its years of hard work, groundbreaking research and positivism in sometimes extreme conditions, soon to be amply illustrated in the film.

Stewart acknowledged IMS parents Sabra Clark and Andy Blumenthal for making the 5 Gyres visit possible, including the “scholar science” conducted at the school on April 3 and 4 and the evening at the Moviehouse. In the lobby, teen students sold bags of compost from IMS food waste, generated by machines also available for sale for home use.

Passing around a bottle of seawater clouded with plastic particles of various sizes, Eriksen provided some background. “The trip in the film was in 2008 and preceded the creation of 5 Gyres; we know so much more now about the global reach and the upstream origins of the problem,” among those: connections to war, our addiction to fossil fuels, and a certain intractability in our institutions, industries and politicians.

Eriksen served as a Marine in Iraq in 1991 and Cummins is an environmental scientist who has taken part in multiple expeditions to the major sites of plastics waste at sea and on land; both have documentation to back up their assertions.

When you throw it away, where is ‘away’?

In a peer-reviewed article published in early March, the current estimate of micro- and nanoplastics afloat in oceans is 170 trillion particles. So the five gyres in the world’s oceans—clockwise whirlpools of plastic waste—are no longer “trash islands”; it’s a case of plastic smog, said Eriksen. Wherever manta trawls (fine-mesh filters roughly shaped like manta rays) are submerged near the surface as seen in the film, thousands of particles of plastics are the main catch. Those particles, covered in toxins and bacteria, are consumed by fish, and the fish are consumed by humans.

But micro- (.5 mm or smaller) and nanoplastics (100 nanometers or less) are not only in oceans (and for the most part, they do not originate in the world’s bodies of water), but rather in our “throw-away society” on land, and our lack of foresight as to the “final home” of the long-lasting, basically indestructible plastics we are accustomed to. “When you throw something away, where is ‘away’?”

In a last memorable demonstration before the screening, Eriksen held up a camel bolus from Dubai, about the size of a sit-on exercise ball, cut in two. With many varied meanings, “bolus” here is a round mass found in the stomach of a camel; instead of food, it contains 2,000 plastic bags jammed in layers. The oil-rich Middle East has been using single-use plastic bags at least as long as in the U.S.; as with sea creatures and birds,

herbivorous camels often view colorful, subtly moving objects to be food.

Negative externalities

The film’s epigraph is a quote from Cervantes: “So it isn’t the masses who are to blame for demanding rubbish, but rather those who aren’t capable of providing them with anything else.”

The phrase “negative externalities”—defined as “harm to a third party caused by doing business”—is repeated at several points in the film. Together with the epigraph, and proof that “evidence of US is everywhere”—statistics about the millions of microfibers our synthetic clothing sheds in washing machines, or simply as we move through our lives, to cite one example—the film propels thoughtful questioning. The first question from the audience was, “Apart from not using single-use plastics, what can we do?”

It starts with us

Eriksen admitted that the problem is significant, but pointed to historical examples of how public outcry has led to action and to marked improvements. He cited the addressing of the hole in the ozone layer by mandated decreases in the use of CFCs now becoming a problem again, and pointed to the Microbead-Free Waters Act during the Obama administration, and changes made to maritime laws after several beaches were ruined by tarry oil spills.

Cummins added that the question is a great one. “It takes steps, but it’s the best way to achieve changes,” she



PHOTO BY DEBORAH MAIER

Indian Mountain School parent Amber De Gramont with IMS sustainability director Tom Stewart, with the ‘instant compost’ home model at the Moviehouse in Millerton on April 4.

said, and went on to explain, “Bills work at state levels only if municipalities are first” to enact them, so to insist on local initiatives is the way to go. “We have a lot more power than we think,” she reminded the audience.

To the question of what to do about plastics already existing in our environment, Eriksen suggested using the glut to arouse public awareness. “You can give it a second life where possible, but ultimately, plastics will go to landfills,” and from there to rivers, oceans, the air and our bodies. Ideally, “We’d sequester it someplace safe while we figure out solutions.”

To the question, “Internationally, what are the differences between the five gyres?”, the couple offered that, in the North Pacific, the plastics are mostly fishing gear; the North Atlantic is the bottle-cap gyre; in the southern hemisphere,

there is less; yet, Cummins said, “every gyre is remarkably similar.”

Can we recycle our way out of this?

Recycling numbers can be discouraging. While paper, glass and metals generally find dependable markets for recycled materials, plastics have lagged behind, with rates of around 8%—and that mostly for No. 1 and No. 2 plastics—for several years now. More and more plastics are being produced yearly, and the industry shows no signs of slowing on its own, with a nearly 4% projected growth rate by 2030.

Why, someone asked, is such a small percentage of plastics recycled? Eriksen responded that “companies talk about ‘recyclable’ but not how, or it’s just not feasible economically.” Since it’s cheaper for manufacturers to use “virgin plastics” made from new petrochemicals, they don’t use recycled, he said.

When measures or laws are put forth, he said, “companies resist tooth and nail; but if big companies do it, small companies will follow.” He noted that in Germany and now in Chile, as well, new laws dictate that “if you make the bottle, you must recycle the bottle,” taking the onus off the consumer to assure an eco-friendly afterlife to packaging and other plastics. New York state is currently debating similar extended producer responsibility laws.

One audience member asked how Cummins and Eriksen maintain hope. “Definitely, given the extent of problem, it is easy to spiral into overwhelm,” Cummins said, “but we’re still hopeful. There is a groundswell in every country, and lots of innovation.”

“The reuse economy will be big, and holds a lot of promise,” Eriksen added, along with a cautionary note. The changes mentioned before were made when people became aware and insisted on action by governments; but plastics are a bigger and more complex problem.

Concluding with measured optimism, Cummins spoke admiringly of the young people she and 5 Gyres have worked with. “I’m amazed at how much this next generation knows,” Eriksen, noting that thoughtful design and planning of systems is needed, added, “But it will take all of us demanding better stuff; that’s what makes change happen.”

“Junk” is available to watch online at vimeo.com/266598842 and www.junkraft.org/ holds more information about the project.

EAGLE *Continued from Page A1*

while the sun set, concerned for the bird’s well-being.

“It was getting dark, and we got the coyotes and the bears on my property. So I didn’t know if it was going to get injured.”

When ECO Daniel Franz arrived on the scene, he initiated a rescue procedure that involved wrapping the bird in a wet towel—a method that can soothe agitated birds—and was successful in getting the eagle to safety. One of North America’s largest birds with an average wingspan from 5 to 7.7 feet wide, Dvorak was shocked by the animal’s size once it was brought closer.

“When he brought it up, its head was as big as my boot! And I wear 10 1/2 or 11s.”

The eagle has landed... at a rehabilitation center

Though ECOs have the primary responsibility of enforcing the state’s environmental conservation laws, they are also professionals trained in the safe transportation of injured wildlife. For Dvorak’s eagle, this involved getting it to the Friends of the Feathered and Furry Wildlife Center (FFF Wildlife Center), one of many local wildlife rehabilitation organizations that DEC works with. But even at that initial rescue, it seemed likely to Franz that the eagle’s path to recovery might be a bit more complicated than normal.

“When I was getting closer to it, I didn’t observe any physical damage. That raised a red flag for me. Impact injuries are the primary thing we’re called for, usually by train tracks or a roadside. Birds of prey are attracted to carcasses and carrion near roadways, and there have a much higher likelihood of impact injuries from passing cars or trains.”

At FFF Wildlife Center, it became clear that the eagle was suffering from a host of maladies, all stemming from a primarily ailment: lead

poisoning. After a few days of treatment, the eagle wasn’t responding as well as it should have, and was sent to Cornell University’s Janet L. Swanson Wildlife Hospital, where more advanced care and treatments were available.

There, Dvorak’s eagle was put under the care of Cynthia Hopf, a wildlife veterinarian and assistant clinical professor. Further testing revealed that the eagle was suffering not only from lead poisoning, but also rodenticide poisoning and a gastrointestinal tract infection.

Bald eagles are a bird species particularly sensitive to lead poisoning—if a small fragment of it ends up in one’s digestive system, it can lead to permanent neurological damage. This, among other symptoms of generalized weakness, can make the talons clench together tightly “like a ratchet,” completely inhibiting perching capacity.

So how did Dvorak’s eagle end up with lead in its system? According to Hopf, for birds of prey, the cause is usually hunting munition fragments remaining in carcasses, which the birds ingest. And while Hopf doesn’t see an amount of lead poisoning cases that make her overly concerned about widespread contamination, it can be the case that

those telltale munition fragments are absent, and the exact source of the lead is a mystery.

The eagle is recovering... nicely

For the next three months, Dvorak’s eagle underwent “supportive and targeted” treatment for its illnesses. This included bacterial GI treatment, vitamin K doses (the antidote to rat poison), and a medicine that drew lead out of the bird’s system and into its stool.

From there, the bird was handled daily and assisted on the road to recovery with manual hydration and eating assistance. Luckily, Dvorak’s eagle was in a comparatively good state upon arrival—if the bird’s neurological or physical damage had been a bit more severe, supportive treatment could have involved teaching it how to walk and fly all over again.

Indeed, Dvorak reported he was told that “if I hadn’t seen the eagle, if it had been out there overnight, it might’ve not made it.”

The eagle has been released... successfully

On March 29, the eagle was released by DEC where it was rescued, and took off into a blue Amentia afternoon while Dvorak watched and filmed from the sidelines. All signs

indicate that the creature has made a full and hearty recovery—days later, it was still flying and perching around the property.

A bird species that captured national sympathy through the late 20th century, the remarkable recovery of bald eagle populations from 417 known nesting pairs in 1963 to over 71,400 in 2020 is a source of hope for many as proof of the efficacy of concerted conservation efforts.

In the specific case of Dvorak’s eagle, to Franz, the opportunity to witness the rehabilitation process from beginning to end was a heartening reminder of the importance of treating wildlife with respect and care:

To contact an ECO to report an environmental crime or to report an incident, call 1-844-DEC-ECOS for 24-hour dispatch. For inquiries on injured or sick native wild animals, call the Cornell Wildlife Hospital at 607-253-3060. And for more local inquiries, contact the FFF Wildlife Center at 518-989-6534.

FUNDING *Continued from Page A1*

Town board member Leo Blackman praised the work of the housing board in pursuing the grant, saying, “It’s exciting that we got this grant. This will be the town’s first unit of affordable housing.”

The Town of Washington received \$100,000, which will go toward upgrading the recreation building in the town park. According to recreation director Danielle Szalewicz, improvements will allow for programming for older adults and will include a new heating and cooling system, accessible parking, a dividing door, and upgrades to the light fixtures as well as to make the bathrooms ADA-compliant.

“My vision is to have a place for seniors to come and meet other local seniors. We will offer classes, games, workshops and more,” said Szalewicz.

The Village of Millbrook was awarded \$100,000 for sidewalk improvements that promote accessibility

on Franklin Avenue, focusing on crosswalks and other areas that challenge accessibility with repairs including shaving and resetting sidewalk panels and attempting to preserve trees that line the street.

A portion of the CDBG funding totaling \$25,000 was given to the Northeast Community Council for use in youth development, specifically its Teen Team and Community Partnership with Schools and Business (CPSB) programs.

CDBG and HOME applications are accepted by the county’s Department of Planning and Development each year. Applications for the 2024 programs will be available this summer, and more information can be found at www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/Funding-Opportunities.htm

Leila Hawken and Judith O’Hara Balfe contributed to this report.

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

OPERA: ALEXANDER WILBURN

La Vie de Berkshires Bohème

The Berkshire Opera Festival will open its 2023 season with a spring performance, “To Paris With Love: Opera in the City of Light,” on Sunday, April 16, at Saint James Place in Great Barrington, Mass. BOF Co-Founder and Artistic Director Brian Garman spoke with me on the universality of opera’s emotion-driven compositions and bringing Puccini — and top talent — to rural Massachusetts.

Alexander Wilburn: The spring performance for the Berkshire Opera Festival is a love letter to Paris, but what is the Paris that you’re conjuring for audiences?

Brian Garman: Because our summer main stage opera, Puccini’s “La Bohème,” takes place in Paris, I put together this program of arias and ensembles all from operas that are also set in Paris. The idea of Paris inspired a lot of composers to really great heights — and not just French composers like Massenet, but Puccini, Verdi, Strauss. People will get to see how different composers interpreted the city.

AW: “La Bohème” might be the definitive Paris opera, just as its loose adaptation, “Rent,” might be the definitive New York musical. What do you think continues to make it so enduring and accessible to audiences?

BG: I think the story

first of all is absolutely timeless — it’s young artists living in the Latin Quarter, they don’t have much money, but they’ve got a lot of passion and they’ve got each other. The story of ‘boy meets girl and then life happens’ is not a new one, so we can all relate to falling in love and obstacles standing in our way. Although this opera ends more tragically than most of our love affairs, I hope. The music that Puccini puts over this framework is astonishing. I think more than any other composer Puccini knew how to write music for his operas to create maximum emotional impact. His sense of timing is impeccable. He was a master of knowing how to manipulate his audience member’s emotions, and I use that verb with a very positive connotation. When we go to the theater we want to be taken on a journey.

AW: Last year’s production of “Don Giovanni” incorporated a new twist on the material with added choreography, are you often looking for ways to reimagine traditional productions?

BG: We don’t look for ways to do things differently just for the sake of being unusual, but we think we have an obligation as artists to either perform new works or, when we do existing works that have been around for some time, and “La Bohème” is 127

years old, to look at them with fresh eyes. That doesn’t mean setting something on the moon for the sake of doing something weird. But we do things in fresh ways to help people maybe consider these pieces in ways they hadn’t before.

AW: You’re also performing pieces from Massenet’s “Manon.” She’s based on the character from Abbé Prévost’s novel, she’s inspired multiple operas, a ballet, French films...

BG: It’s a great story that’s attracted a number of composers to the material. We have two selections in the program that come from this story. One is from Massenet’s “Manon.” We’re doing the famously passionate Saint-Sulpice scene, which is going to end the concert. We’re also doing an aria from “Manon Lescaut” by Puccini, which was his take on the story. I think Manon is a very interesting character. In Massenet’s first act she’s on the way to a convent and her train stops in Amiens. She meets new people and experiences the world in a way that she never imagined before. I think at a certain level we can relate to traveling to a new place and suddenly having our eyes opened to a whole new world of possibilities.

AW: Can you tell me about the four performers we’ll be seeing at Saint James Place?

BG: As always, one

of the things I promise from The Berkshire Opera Festival is the world-class caliber of artists that we put on our stages. We are not a large company, and we don’t have a \$50 million dollar budget, but in terms of the artists that we put on our stage, we are punching way above our weight. We bring incredible artists and big names to the Berkshires and this spring concert is no different. We have four outstanding young artists. We have the soprano Amanda Batista who is now at The Metropolitan Opera. We have the tenor Ryan Capozzo who is coming to us from the Lyric Opera of Chicago, and we have the baritone Yazid Gray who is permanently in Pittsburgh, Penn. All three of them

Clockwise from top, Ryan Capozzo, Francesco Barfoed, Amanda Batista and Yazid Gray.

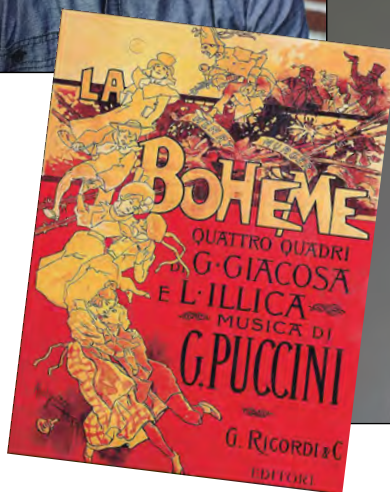
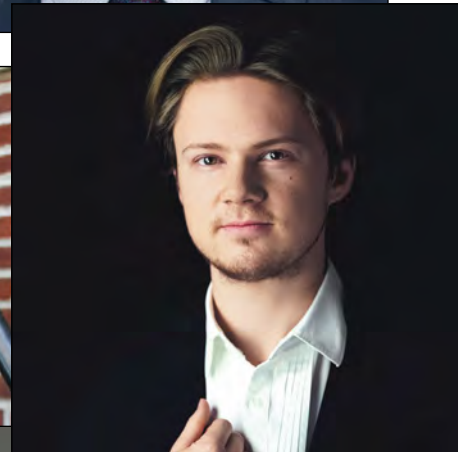
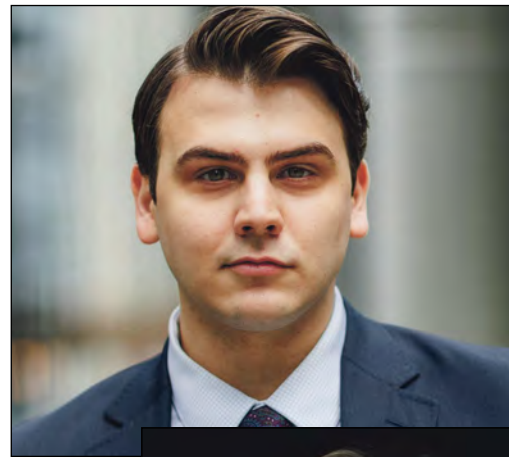
are starting to have really major careers here in the States and abroad. They are joined by the excellent Danish pianist Francesco Barfoed. One of the obligations that I think we have as an opera company is not only to foster new art but to foster new artists. I am always on the lookout for up-and-coming young talent that I think has tremendous potential.

AW: Can you tease us a bit about what we can expect later at the summer concert in July?

BG: The concert on July 22 is called “Breaking The Mold: Baroque, Bel Canto, and Beyond.” The title comes from Italian Renaissance poet

Ludovico Ariosto who wrote about the character Orlando in his poem “Orlando Furioso.” He wrote, “Nature made him and then broke the mold.” So this poem was the basis of many Baroque operas in the 1600s and 1700s including three by Handel. This is a program that is going to feature a wide range of time periods and musical styles and they’re all sung by strong characters who broke the mold in one way or another. You have everything ranging from an opera by Purcell, which was written in 1695, all the way to an opera that premiered in 2000. All of my programs usually feature old favorites and then lesser-known selections that will hopefully become new favorites.

“To Paris with Love” will be at Saint James Place in Great Barrington, Mass., on Sunday, April 16 at 2 p.m. For tickets go to www.berkshiroperafestival.org



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BOOKS: ALEXANDER WILBURN

American Appetite

New York journalist Alex Prud'homme knows a thing or two about food. His great aunt, culinary icon Julia Child, brought French cuisine to the American kitchen, and their co-authored book "My Life in France" helped inspire the film "Julie & Julia" by Nora Ephron. Prud'homme's new book, "Dinner With The President: Food, Politics, and a History of Breaking Bread at the White House" explores the fascinating relationship between fine dining and diplomacy. I spoke with Prud'homme ahead of an author talk he'll give at The Cornwall Library in Cornwall, Conn., on Saturday, April 15.

Alexander Wilburn: This book is so extensively researched and covers so much of American history, what first inspired this undertaking?

Alex Prud'homme: I grew up in this family of foodies and we liked to sit around the dinner table arguing about politics. My great-aunt Julia Child put on these two television specials on what it took to put together a state dinner from behind the scenes. She brought the first television cameras into the executive kitchen, first in 1967 with LBJ, and then in 1976 with Gerald Ford. I was writing about Julia and discovered she spent more time at the White House than just those two events. She became friendly with the cooks, particularly Chef Henri Haller. Julia and her husband Paul were diplomats before she became known as Julia Child the Chef. So she understood the political aspects of the state dinner, as well as the culinary aspect. In 2016, I was invited to give a talk to staff at the Obama White House. I

had a friend there who gave me a tour of the White House, which was unexpectedly emotional for me, looking at the busts and portraits of the presidents and first ladies...the history came alive for me. I think the seed of the book was planted then.

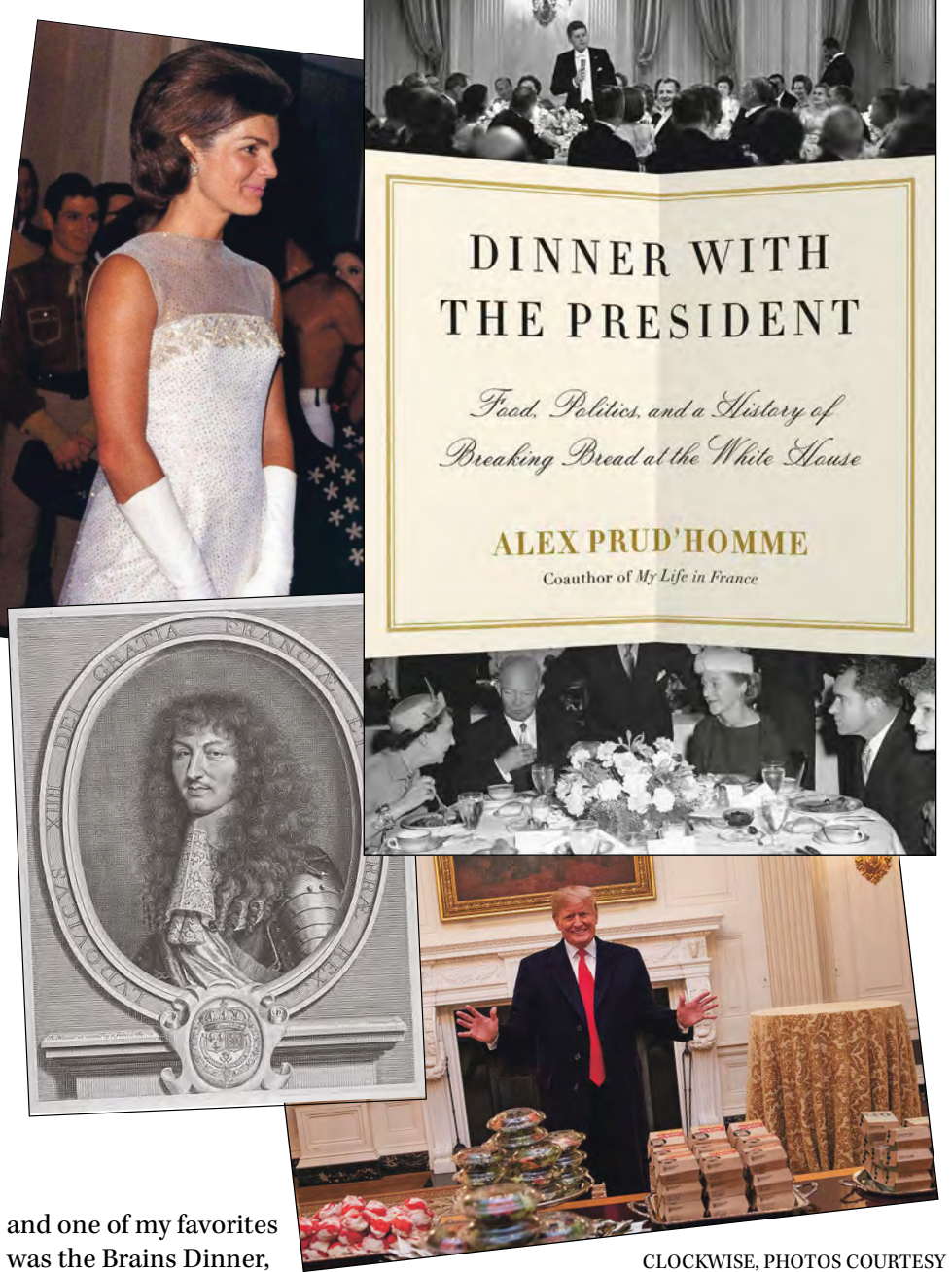
AW: Since the Obama White House we've had two presidents really associated with food — and fairly commonplace food — Biden and his ice cream, as well as the photos of Trump's Air Force One Big Macs. What do these staples tell us about these two very different men?

AP: It's interesting, because my book is really about the food of politics, and the politics of food. A meal at the White House, even a seemingly simple meal, is never just a meal, is it? It's a set of signs and symbols that go out to various constituencies, intentionally or not. So you look at Ronald Reagan and his jellybeans, which was kind of a cute candy, but it also spoke to how he had weened himself off of tobacco, the power of the sugar industry, and how he used jellybeans to judge someone's character. If someone grabbed a whole handful of jellybeans that would mean one thing, and if they picked out just the color they liked, that meant something else. When Reagan defunded school lunches to the tune of \$1.5 billion at the same time as he was promoting jellybeans, and Nancy Reagan was buying expensive china, it all backfired. That's very similar to Trump with his burgers. The burgers are a political signal to his base saying, 'you like this food, I like this food, therefore vote for me.' He didn't even have to say it, that was just the mes-

sage everyone received as he tweeted out taco bowls and Pizza Hut and McDonald's burgers. It's a very primal, powerful thing. I spoke to some academics, and when we see someone eating the food that we like it signals our prehistoric brain that we are part of the same tribe and that this someone to be trusted. When it comes to Biden and ice cream, it's similar. I think Trump genuinely likes McDonald's and Biden genuinely likes ice cream, but there's an internality to promoting those foods.

AW: We think of Trump as our modern president with this obsession with opulence, but if we go back to the Kennedys, it is Jackie who connects the White House with Versailles, and specifically the opulence of Louis XIV. But her Franco-phililia turned out to be advantageous, right?

AP: Jackie Kennedy intentionally modeled her White House entertaining on Louis XIV, the Sun King, who understood the value of food as a diplomatic tool. The older phrase 'breaking bread' goes back to the beginnings of mankind, bringing the tribe together to help everybody survive. In Louis XIV's day, breaking bread at his behest not only confers power on him, but puts the onus on his guest to return the favor, or show fealty to the king. It was a way to broker business deals, agreements, and marriages, it was a way of keeping his friends close and his enemies closer. Jackie studied this and really was brilliant. She was so young, she was in her early 30s doing this, but she had a very sophisticated social quality. She made the Kennedy White House the place to see and be seen. They had a series of famous dinners there



and one of my favorites was the Brains Dinner, named not because they ate brains, but because the Nobel Laureates were invited. JFK joked that this was the greatest meeting of intellectuals at the White House since Thomas Jefferson dined alone. Jackie understood you can get a lot of business done at state dinners, so when she hosted President of Pakistan Ayub Khan at Mount Vernon, there was a lot going on. Not only was it a magnificent, splendid evening that she staged, but behind the scenes, there was real politicking going on. It turned out that Khan was furious because Kennedy had given India, Pakistan's sworn enemy, a billion dollars in aid. But that night at Mount Vernon, Kennedy, and Khan walked through George Washington's gardens and somehow Kennedy charmed him. So between Jackie's mis-en-scène and Kennedy's sweet talk, they brokered a deal where the C.I.A. was once again able to send spy planes over China from Pakistani air bases and drop

insurgents into Tibet. That came in handy a year later when China attacked India. We were in the middle of the Cuban Missile Crisis, but because Kennedy had a relationship with Pakistan we were able to at least get some intel. That story is emblematic of what got me interested in this book. There was a lot more than a meal

going on. Prud'homme will discuss his book with Adam Van Doren at Cornwall Library on Saturday, April 15 at 5 p.m., in person and live on Zoom. To register go to www.cornwalllibrary.org

CLOCKWISE, PHOTOS COURTESY JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM, PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE, OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY JOYCE N. BOGHOSIAN, THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Japanese Cherry Blossom Concert

Music in the Nave will present the Eastern Light ensemble performing Japanese music to celebrate the cherry blossom season on Sunday, April 23, at 3 p.m. at St Andrew Parish in Kent, Conn. James Nyoraku Schlefer will be joined by Sumie Kaneka and Yoko Reikano Kimura. For tickets go to www.standrewskentct.org

Ruthless!

The Ghent Playhouse in Ghent, N.Y. will present the Off-Broadway musical comedy "Ruthless!" starting Friday, April 14. For tickets go to www.ghentplayhouse.org

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Serving North Canaan, CT, Sheffield and South County, MA

Millbrook's Stonewood Farm welcomes culinary director

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — A little over six weeks ago, Kristen Essig joined Stonewood Farm, a nonprofit and certified organic vegetable farm, as its culinary director. Essig's prowess as an executive chef, as well as her expertise in overall management, will be put to good use as she sees to the fundraising cooking classes, Sunday dinners and other affairs of the farm. Her belief in getting to know her neighbors will play a big part as she settles in to her new role.

A native of Florida, Essig went to school in Charleston, South Carolina, where she earned an associate degree in culinary science from Johnson & Wales University. From there she moved to New Orleans, where she learned from chefs like Emeril Lagasse and Anne Kearney. In her ensuing career, she learned the skills associated with managing farmer's markets, and the ins and outs of catering as well as devising curriculum for private culinary lessons.

Essig has won awards including the Michelin 2022 "Bib Gourmand" Award, and was named a James Beard Award nominee for "Best Chef, Final-



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Kristen Essig, the new culinary director at Stonewood Farm in Millbrook.

ist: South" in 2018 and 2019. In 2015 she was noted as a Food & Wine magazine nominee for "People's Best New Chef" and a Times-Picayune "Chef to Watch" in 2014.

Essig and her dog, Shirley, already love the country aspect of Millbrook and Stonewood Farm, having come from Essig's last place of employment, Washington, D.C. Essig had a few Zoom meetings with Stonewood Farm owners Ken Holzberg and Tom Kopfensteiner before meeting with them last December. She spent

three days at Stonewood, and knew almost immediately that it was the place for her.

Her philosophy is to have a relationship with her growers and suppliers; she feels that, by having that, there is more respect and care given to the preparation of the foods and the use of the products. She has always used the freshest and most local products available, so her cooking style depends on what is fresh and local wherever she happens to be.

One of the aspects of her position that she really enjoys

is the community outreach. The Farm partners with Cardinal Hayes Home for Children as well as Northeast Dutchess Immigrant Services and Essig has already met with members of each organization.

From its inception in 2000, Stonewood Farm has been a place that believes in community and giving. A portion of its harvest is given to First Harvest Pantry at Lyall Memorial Church throughout the growing season, and Stonewood also gives to Church Alliance Housing in Millbrook, the Town of Dover seniors, and Meals on Wheels.

Essig is looking forward to the interaction she'll have with local residents. There will be Garden-to-Plate cooking classes starting in June, and the Sunday Harvest Dinner series, which is already sold out. Stonewood Farm's Starter Plant Sale will be on Saturday, May 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pop-up produce markets at the Farm will begin Friday, June 2, and continue every other week on Fridays until October.

So it seems fair to say that Essig will be kept busy, both in the kitchen and out; including her work in fundraising activities at the farm and in promoting food justice throughout the Dutchess County community.

School districts prepare for votes

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

Three local school districts are working on budgets, and clerks are standing ready to accept candidates' petitions, all in preparation for the Tuesday, May 16, vote for school board members and budgets for the 2023-'24 school year. Candidates have until Monday, April 17, at 5 p.m. to submit their petitions for candidacy.

In Millbrook, there are two openings for school board positions. Newly elected positions begin on July 1, 2023, and end on June 30, 2026. The board will present its final budget on Tuesday, April 25, and a public hearing on the budget will be held on Tuesday, May 2. The 2023-'24 budget is the only proposition on the ballot for Millbrook Central School District.

There are four openings for board of education seats in the North East-Webutuck School District. On Tuesday, April 18, the board will adopt the proposed budget and approve the Tax Report Card. Public/voter-initiated propositions will be pre-

sented to the board. A public hearing will take place on Monday, May 8, at 7 p.m.

There will also be a vote on whether the board will be authorized to acquire two school buses at a cost of approximately \$293,164. Voters will also be asked to vote on the board's creation of a Capital Reserve Fund to benefit construction and maintenance of the district's buildings and grounds. Final voting will take place on Tuesday, May 16, from noon to 9 p.m. in the Webutuck High School gym.

The Pine Plains Central School District has two seats open on its board. The board is also considering Proposition No. 2, which is the purchase of two school buses at a total cost of \$303,994. A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 3. The final voting will be on Tuesday, May 16, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School, 2829 Church St.

All three districts have their worksheets and budgets-in-progress on their websites for the public's perusal, in hopes that an informed public will ensure a good turnout on May 16.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice ABSTRACT

By resolution dated the 13th day of February, 2023, the Amenia Fire District has approved a resolution subject to permissive referendum to withdraw up to \$240,000 from its Major Capital Equipment Reserve Fund to be put towards the purchase of a new fire apparatus. Petitions for a referendum must be submitted to the secretary of the Amenia Fire District no later than thirty days after the date of the above resolution. February 13, 2023.

Dawn Marie Klingner
District Secretary
04-13-23

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET, ANNUAL MEETING, SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION AND VOTE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Northeast Central School District, Dutchess and Columbia Counties, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on the Budget in the High School Library at the Webutuck High School Building, Haight Road, Amenia, New York, on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:00 P.M., for the purpose of presenting the budget document for the 2023-2024 School Year.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the budget for the 2023-2024 school year, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained by any resident of the District during business hours, between 9:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M., prevailing time, at the Webutuck Elementary School, Eugene Brooks Intermediate School, Webutuck High School and at the District Administrative Office between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., prevailing time, effective May 2, 2023, except Saturday, Sunday or holidays. Copies of the

Budget will also be available at the Northeast-Millerton Library and the Amenia Free Library.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Annual Meeting, Election of Members of the Board of Education and Vote on the Budget of the qualified voters of the Northeast Central School District, will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at the Webutuck High School gym, Haight Road, Amenia, New York, between the hours of 12:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, when the polls will be open for the purpose of voting by voting machine:

A. To elect four (4) members to the Board of Education: two seats are for three-year terms commencing July 1, 2023 and ending on June 30, 2026 to fill the vacant seats of incumbent board members Judy Moran and Rick Keller Coffey, one (1) seat to fill the vacant seat occupied by Chris Mayville (from the resignation of Chris Lounsbury) commencing on May 17, 2023 and ending June 30, 2026, and one (1) seat to fill the vacant seat occupied by Aimee Wesley (from the resignation of Jessica Deister) commencing on May 17, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024.

B. To adopt the annual budget of the North East (Webutuck) Central School District for the fiscal year 2023-2024 and to authorize the requisite portion therefore to be raised by taxation on the taxable property on the District.

C. 2023 - 2024 Transportation Vehicle Purchase

SHALL the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central School District be authorized to: (1) acquire two (2) school buses at a maximum aggregate cost not to exceed \$293,164; (2) expend such sum for such purpose; (3) levy the necessary tax thereon, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts

as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the District and/or enter into installment purchase agreements at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$293,164, and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

D. Construction Capital Reserve Fund

SHALL the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central School District be authorized to (1) create a Construction Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of financing the construction of, and general improvements, reconstruction, renovations or additions to, the District's buildings and grounds, including site work and the acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose for which such buildings and grounds are to be used; (2) fund said reserve to the ultimate amount of \$10,000,000; and (3) annually deposit into the Capital Reserve Fund such portion of the General Fund, unallocated fund balance and/or transfer from other funds, as determined by the Board of Education.

The probable duration of the Capital Reserve Fund is ten (10) years.

The election and budget vote shall be by machine or absentee ballot. The hours during which the poll shall be kept open shall be from 12:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, or for as long thereafter as necessary to enable qualified voters who are in the polling place at 9:00 P.M. to cast their ballots.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that petitions for the nomination of candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education must be filed with Clerk of the District no later than Monday, April

17, 2023, by 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, in the form and manner prescribed by Section 2018 of the Education Law. Vacancies on the Board of Education are not considered separate, specific offices; candidates run at-large for the vacant seats. Such petitions must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the School District, shall state the residence address of each signer and the name and residence address of the candidate. The petition shall also describe the length of the term of the office and contain the name of the last incumbent. Petition forms may be picked up on any school day at the Office of the District Clerk, at the Webutuck High School building, Haight Road, Amenia, New York between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. or on the district's website at www.webutuckschools.org beginning March 1, 2023.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the qualified voters of the School District shall be entitled to vote in said annual vote and election. A qualified voter is one who is (1) a citizen of the United States of America, (2) eighteen (18) years of age or older, and (3) resident within the School District for a period of thirty (30) days preceding the annual vote and election. The School District may require all persons offering to vote at the budget vote and election to provide one form of proof of residency pursuant to Education Law section 2018-c. Such form may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a utility bill, or a voter registration card. Upon offer of proof of residency, the School District may also require all persons offering to vote to provide their signature, printed name and address.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that absentee ballots will be available for this Election and Vote.

Applications for absentee ballots for the School District Election and Vote may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk at the Webutuck High School building, Haight Road, Amenia, New York on school days during school hours, or on the district's website at www.webutuckschools.org beginning March 1, 2023. The application must be returned to the District Clerk by May 9, 2023 if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, May 15, 2023, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received at the Office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, on the day of the Election and Vote, May 16, 2023.

The Education Law makes special provisions for absentee voting by "permanently disabled" voters of the District and any questions regarding these should be directed to the District Clerk.

A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District at the said District Administrative Offices during regular office hours, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., prevailing time, including the day of the Election and Vote. Any qualified voter may file a written challenge the acceptance of the ballot of any person on such list, by making his/her challenge and reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls.

The Education Law also makes special provisions for absentee voting for "military" voters of the District. Specifically, the law provides a unique procedure for "military ballots" in school district votes. Whereas absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots must be received by the voter by mail, a military voter may elect to receive his/her absentee ballot application and absentee

ballot by mail, email or facsimile. The military voter must, however, return his/her original military ballot application and military ballot by mail or in person. The Clerk of the Board shall transmit the military voter's military ballot in accord with the military voter's preferred method of transmission, or if no preferred method is identified by mail, not later than twenty-five (25) days before the vote, May 2, 2023. The Clerk of the Board must then receive the military voter's military ballot by mail or in person not later than 5:00 P.M. on the day of the vote.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a rule adopted by the Board of Education in accordance with Education Law §§ 2035, 2008, any referendum or propositions to amend the budget, or otherwise to be submitted for voting at said election, must be filed with and directed to the District Clerk at the District Office, on or before April 17, 2023; must be typed or printed in the English language; must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District; and must state the name and residence of the candidate, and the name and residence of each signer. However, the Board of Education will not entertain or place before the voters any petition or any proposition if its purpose is beyond the power of the voters or is illegal, or any proposition requiring the expenditure of monies which fails to include specific appropriations for all such expenditures required by the proposition.

Therese M. Trotter
Clerk of the Board
Northeast (Webutuck)
Central School District
194 Haight Road,
P.O. Box 405
Amenia, NY 12501
04-13-23

EDITORIAL

Brilliant solution

About one in three students in the Webutuck Central School District has enrolled in a health care program right in their school. The staff at this in-house facility hopes to make that more than two out of three in the near future. It's called the School-Based Health Center (SBHC) and it's the first in Dutchess County, operating since it was set up last May.

As of last year, there were 266 such centers operating in New York state, with the bulk of them in the five boroughs of New York City. There were more than one-quarter million New York students enrolled in schools with SBHCs in the 2018-2019 period, and of those students, about three out of four were enrolled. That tracks with the Webutuck staff's expectations to achieve about 70% enrollment in the future.

The Webutuck district in total provides education for approximately 625 students in the towns of Amenia, Northeast, Ancram, Washington, Dover, Stanford, and the village of Millerton. The health center is located between the Eugene Brooks Intermediate School and the Webutuck High School and as a Federally Qualified Health Center offers primary care and other services without regard to ability to pay.

As our reporter Deborah Maier illustrated last week in an article about Webutuck's SBHC, this kind of open-door service is welcome in a community like northeast Dutchess County where health care options are limited and changing all the time. It provides an invaluable service to students, and families — and "can be a major time-, money- and academic life-saver" for parents who have to find providers who can see their children, and often take time off from work to get to appointments. It all results in a loss of academic and work time.

Maier's report on Webutuck's center included an interview with the commissioner of the county's Department of Behavioral and Community Health, Livia Santiago-Rosado, an emergency physician who has practiced in the New York City area and more recently at Vassar Brothers. In the fall of 2021, then-Dutchess County Executive Marcus J. Molinaro appointed her as commissioner. Early in her tenure as commissioner, she noted the incidence of school absenteeism in some communities, and investigated reasons and remedies.

Students receive what they would get from a primary care provider, such as wellness visits and other testing, including for COVID-19, along with a number of other services.

Another aspect of this brilliant solution — and an exception to a students-only rule — allows families to take advantage of mental health services. Families can be brought in to work on whole-family issues that present in children and teens.

Students spend a large chunk of their waking hours in the school setting. Sometimes they just need a place to rest for a while, before going back to class. And that's provided here, too.

Barrett's climate bill without a cost?

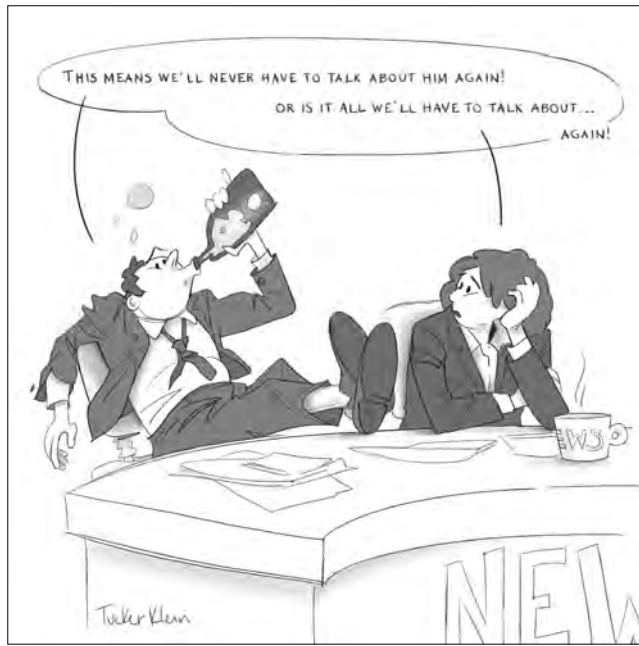
If I understand Didi Barrett's point in her March 30, 2023 letter—We Have Climate Goals . . . Now What?—we need to address climate warming somehow, but it shouldn't cost anybody anything. It should especially not burden disadvantaged people or communities. (Hard not to agree with that part.) There are lots of interim steps we can take while the zero-carbon solutions ramp up. (True.) Moreover, there's actually money to be made in the greening process and plenty of good jobs will be created. (Yup.) We can still keep growing the economy!

On this last point, we part ways. I'll come back to that.

I admire Didi's effort to please as many people as possible, and to soften the impact, but those gestures work only when the stakes are low. The present circumstances are serious—existential is not too strong a term.

The real problem, Didi, is that everything is in place to attack global warming but the determination to do it.

We all get that Americans are individualists and don't bother much with the common good. We fell our own trees and let them fall where they may. This is especially



Cartoon by Tucker Klein

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Recognizing occupational therapists at Sharon Hospital

In observance of Occupational Therapy Month, I want to take some time to recognize the importance of our team of occupational therapists at Sharon Hospital who work tirelessly to support our patients and our community.

Our OTs bring light to patient's lives and answers and solutions to their biggest challenges.

They understand the difficulty of daily tasks as patients recover from injury, illness, or surgery.

You may call on an occupational therapist to help you relearn skills or discover new ways to accomplish them. The occupational therapy team is here to assist in overcoming barriers and help you return to a sense of normalcy and regular routine.

I am proud to lead this team of dedicated caretakers that approach each patient's challenges and difficulties with individualized care plans and goals. Within our field, there is no one-size-fits-all approach. Each patient re-

quires careful intake, listening, and planning to best meet their demands and properly prepare them to meet their presented problems. Our licensed occupational therapists work collaboratively to meet individual needs. We coordinate care, so the patients don't have to.

I have happily worked at Sharon Hospital for almost 20 years, living and raising my family in our great community. I love calling Sharon Hospital home and working with such dedicated professionals that each care so deeply for their patients.

I kindly ask that you join myself, Nuvance Health and Sharon Hospital's leadership teams, and the entire Sharon Hospital staff in recognizing April as Occupational Therapy Month and thanking our OTs for helping our fellow community members recover and return to everyday life.

Melissa Braislin

Director of Rehabilitation and Cardio-diagnostic Services Sharon

New 300-foot megayachts are too numerous to count. Obviously, they are just shifting the burden to somebody else—while increasing the odds against success.

In this time of flawed heroes, lost gods, indeterminate futures, when people feel without purpose or meaning and life looks grim—there is a future we can shape and brighten. Let's make saving life on Earth the goal.

Growth, to be clear, is what got us into this mess. Growth needs to be recast. Since the first Reagan tax cuts, since the Clinton gutting of financial regulations, economic growth has benefitted the one percent (and spectacularly so). Most of us having been barely maintaining since then; many have lost ground. So let's start there, a ready source of funds for the disadvantaged, the struggling farmer, the start-up with a novel way to capture greenhouse gases.

I hope you've noticed, Didi, that the weather is getting a little weird. Still, this part of the country has been spared the extremes that have been felt elsewhere. We haven't been badly hurt yet. Which maybe explains why you think we—one assumes you believe your bill has enough support to pass—should be the first to crack, to cheat on our climate diet. Wouldn't it be ironic if the people you're trying to help get wiped out by the new weather?

Tom Parrett

Millerton

The Fed walks a tightrope

In the face of uncertainty over the fate of regional banks, the U.S. central bank hiked interest rates and said it would continue with its program of quantitative tightening.

Stocks fell and bonds rose after the FOMC meeting on Wednesday, March 22, however, the real drama was elsewhere. U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen was testifying before a Senate Appropriations subcommittee at the same time as the Fed meeting. She told lawmakers that she has not considered or discussed "blanket insurance" for U.S. banking deposits without approval by Congress.

Many traders in the markets had just assumed that since the government had made all depositors whole in both Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank, all depositors would be bailed out. Yellen made it clear that was not the case. That statement shook investors' confidence once again, given that there has been a continued outflow of deposits from smaller regional banks to the large money center banks.

Readers should know that the FDIC insures those with deposits of \$250,000 or less, but that's the limit. To change that regulation, Congress would have to act. That would take time and in the hyper-partisan atmosphere of the present Congress, it is doubtful that the limit would be changed.

Interestingly, those who listened to Fed Chairman Jerome Powell's answers in the Q&A after the FOMC meeting took away what they wanted to hear. Many in the bond market, for example, now believe that there will be no more interest rate hikes and that the Fed will begin to cut rates before the end of the year.

The financial issues that are plaguing the banks, they believe, will result in less loan growth across the entire financial sector. That will in turn slow the economy and put added pressure on the inflation rate. In other words, the regional bank crisis will do much of the work for the

THE RETIRED INVESTOR

Bill Schmick

Fed going forward.

On the other hand, more and more economists are convinced that we are on the verge of an economic slowdown that will result in at least a mild recession. The Fed's continued tightening, which has already caused some breakage (regional banks) will go too far and risk a hard economic landing. That in turn will cause corporate earnings to decline and with them the stock market.

My take is that nothing has changed after the FOMC meeting. Jerome Powell said he could pause further rate hikes, if necessary, but "rate cuts are not in our base case." He did not say that we won't see further interest rate hikes in May and June. He did say that the issues in the banking sector were real, however, and triggered a credit crunch with significant implications for the economy and the markets.

To be clear, no one, not even the Fed, knows which scenarios will turn out to be correct, or maybe some of each will occur in some form or another. The point is that we are in an environment where every headline has the power to move markets up or down by more than one percent or more daily.

I said that will result in a choppy market, which will keep the major averages in a trading range. Last week, the 200-day moving average (DMA) trendline of 3,934 on the S&P 500 Index was tested once again and bounced. Upside resistance is hovering around 4,012. That range will ultimately be broken when enough data points give the market a new direction.

Bill Schmick is a founding partner of Onota Partners, Inc., in the Berkshires. None of his commentary is or should be considered investment advice. Email him at bill@schmicksretiredinvestor.com.

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

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

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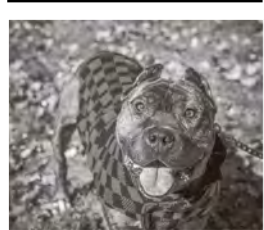
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Writing skills and basic knowledge of how New York government functions are a must.

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The Lakeville Journal Company seeks an administrative assistant to provide support for the editorial team as well as its fundraising activities.

Support includes meeting scheduling, preparation, and follow up. This position assists with donor data management and staffs various fundraising events throughout the year.

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Millbrook School

Millbrook School, a private boarding high school located in Millbrook, NY, is seeking to fill the following instructor positions. Energy for adolescents, adaptability, humor, and integrity are the hallmarks of Millbrook's faculty. We seek educators who value creating inclusive classrooms and curriculum.

SPANISH INSTRUCTOR (temporary to cover maternity leave in APRIL 2023)
Temporary Spanish instructor to cover an upcoming maternity leave, beginning mid to late April 2023.
The Spanish instructor will teach three sections of Spanish II and one section of Spanish III. Qualified candidates will hold a bachelor's degree, be proficient in spoken and written Spanish, and be fluent with the Spanish language.
Prior teaching experience preferred.

FRENCH INSTRUCTOR
Full time French teacher, capable of teaching beginning through upper-level French, to be part of a vibrant World Language Department beginning in the 2023-2024 academic year.
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Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and references to Jasper Turner, dean of faculty at jturner@millbrook.org in addition to the department chair of the corresponding subjects:

Spanish & French Instructor: Donna Canada-Smith, Language Dept. Chair at dcanada-smith@millbrook.org

Math Instructor: Martha Clizbe, Math Department Chair at maclizbe@millbrook.org

Photography Instructor: Joe Raciti, Art Department Chair at jraciti@millbrook.org. Photography instructor candidates should also provide a link to a portfolio site, if possible.

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