

OUR TOWNS



Mrs. Claus looks on as Ruben Caleb Mallari, 4, beams next to Santa. Ruben, from Verbank, is thoroughly enjoying his visit with the Clauses at Angels of Light on Front Street on Saturday, Dec. 3.

Millbrook celebrates with Parade of Lights

MILLBROOK — When Santa came to Millbrook on Friday, Dec. 2, he and Mrs. Claus spent time at the Angels of Light building at 28 Front Street. There was a huge, decorated tree, donated by the Tribute Garden, with mounds of stuffed animals under it, donated by Petco to be given to the children.

Lori Cassia-Decker, co-founder of Angels of Light, was thrilled with the turnout, and grateful for all the donations and the volunteers who made this event magical. There were cookies, hot cocoa, and a table for making cards for the sick children at the Mid-Hudson Regional and Maria Fareri Children's Hospitals.

Angels of Light began as a Christmas deed, helping critically ill children and their families in the Hudson Valley to have good Christmases in spite of the illness. A 501(c)(3) since 2016, it has expanded to assist children and families with life-threatening illness and death all year-round with medical bills, utilities, food, gas, and much more.

The rest of the magic happened after dark. The parade began with Santa in a fire engine waving to the crowd, followed by the Angels of Light float. Then came about 60 trucks, cars, tractors, fire engines, dump trucks and yes, even a boat; they became lighted floats, carrying Santas, snow men, animals, people, more than a couple of Grinches and toward the end, one waving cowboy. For 45 min-

Correcting Errors

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

MCSD board meets, hears from BOCES Superintendent Schetelick

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK - The Millbrook Central School District Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 22, included a presentation from Jason Schetelick, district superintendent of Dutchess County BOCES, as well as discussion of special education and the approval of various co-curricular appointments.

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by board President Perry Hartswick and began with Schetelick, who talked about new programs that have been added to the curriculum at BOCES, including partnering with Marist College, adding ambassador marketing, and preparing some students who have been studying auto mechanics to enter into Toyota and Honda dealerships upon graduation. BOCES is accelerating its welding program as well, and is getting new equipment for the program. It is hoping to add entertainment technology, and has greatly enhanced the arts program already.

There are 28 MCSD students who attend BOCES in diverse programs including

culinary arts, security, nursing, and plant and animals studies, among others, and there are 12 special or alternative students enrolled.

Schetelick also gave an update on the financial aspects of the capital fund the district voted in: he reported that 95% of the funding is in possession. He expects the official grand opening of the new campus to be held in spring 2023.

Following the presentation, the consent agenda items were approved, as were the minutes from the last meeting. Several agreements were voted on and approved: The board established the health services contract rate for the 2022-23 school year to be \$1,387.72 per student at a grand total of \$1,501,509.53.

An agreement was approved for Cardinal Hayes School, setting forth the terms and conditions for providing special education and related services for Student No. 709612, effective Sept. 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023.

A lease agreement was approved between MCSD and Quadient Inc. for a postage machine.

Kenneth Crowley was approved as mentor to Elliott Garcia in his new position as assistant superintendent for business and personnel, effective Nov. 29, 2022-March 30, 2023. Garcia was appointed to the positions of purchasing agent and Dutchess Education Health Insurance Consortium (DEHIC) trustee, and workers' compensation consortium trustee in his position as assistant superintendent.

Paige Emerson was appointed central treasurer of extra class funds and deputy district treasurer. Co-curricular appointments for the 2022-23 school year at stipends (or half stipends for co-advisors or co-coordinators) as per the approved MTA contract were made for Aaliyah Cottman as head varsity cheerleading coach at \$2,444.14; Benjamin Glassman as fall weight room supervisor at \$1,096.69; Alfred Hammell as summer athletic director per MTA agreement; and Shawn Stoliker as winter weight room supervisor at \$1,096.69.

Volunteer positions were taken by Jason Zmudsky as varsity girls' basketball coach; Jonathan Crane as varsity cheerleading assistant and Mike Sinon as varsity boys' basketball assistant. Marc Boissey was appointed as-

stant and boys' modified soccer coach at a stipend of \$2,444 for the 2022-23 school year.

A second reading and adoption of the Policy Series 8000 Support Service goals and Policy 8121.1 Opioid Overdose Prevention took place.

An enrollment report was given: There are 192 students in Elm Drive School, 168 at Alden School, 200 at the middle school and 268 at the high school for a total of 628 students. Cardinal Hayes has 25 in-residence students, and there are 130 students in MCSD special education with two in related services, 15 in pre-K, two who are parent-placed, and 15 at BOCES and special school.

There were two suspensions in October: one in-house suspension for a seventh grader, and one out-of-school suspension for a sixth grader.

The next regular board meeting is on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. in the Millbrook Middle School cafeteria and will be livestreamed on the Millbrook Media Channel, which can be accessed through the MCSD website at millbrookcsd.org.

Amenia Lions plans Memory Tree to support hearing aid campaign

AMENIA — The Amenia Lions Club is accepting donations for its Memory Tree, which benefits the Dutchess County Hearing Conservation Committee and purchases hearing aids for those who can't afford them.

Forms may be picked up at Jack's Auto, Havens Real Estate, and from any Amenia

Lions Club member. Forms can also be downloaded from the Amenia Lions Facebook page or by contacting Lions Club President Lori Hale at bjdhale@gmail.com. The names of loved ones may also be submitted by emailing Lori Hale at the address above and paying via Venmo (@amenia-lionsclub).

Names must be submitted before Friday, Dec. 16, to be included in the listing in the Thursday, Dec. 22, issue of the Millerton News. Those interested in more information about Club activities or how to join may reach out via the Amenia Lions Facebook page.

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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY RHIANNON LEO JAMESON
Michelle Smith helped prepare for a, Saturday, Dec. 3, Free Toy Give-Away at The NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex at 28 Century Blvd. which was co-sponsored by the Webutuck Teachers' Association. Dozens of "shoppers" lined up for the event an hour before opening to get their pick from the hundreds of items which had been left over from previous Adopt-a-Family and Teachers' association events. Head Librarian Rhiannon Leo-Jameson reported that everything was gone within a half an hour.

Adopt-a-Family marks another year of giving

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to the Millerton News

MILLERTON — Although there have been many changes over its three decades of operation, Adopt-a-Family is once again bringing holiday joy to children from infancy to the age of 13 in the Webutuck and Pine Plains school districts, thanks to the hard working elves under the direction of Stacey and Vicki Moore at Moore and More printing in Millerton.

As a result of COVID as well as space issues, instead of collecting toys for distribution the organization is focus-

ing on raising funds for the purchase of gift cards which families may use at CVS and Oblong Junior in Millerton and Dollar General, Family Dollar, Fresh Town, Tractor Supply and Label Shopper in Amenia.

Because the purchase of toys has become a family tradition for many in the area, the group has already received a number of donations which

Vicki Moore said have been forwarded to Willow Roots in Pine Plains where they will be distributed to families who have registered with the program.

To register for Adopt-a-Family, call Moore and More 518-789-4508 by Wednesday, Dec. 14. Donations may be dropped at the shop at 17 Dutchess Ave. or mailed to PO Box 880, Millerton.



The

MILLERTON NEWS

www.facebook.com/themillertonnews

Citizen of the Year named and recognized during Festival of Lights

By LEILA HAWKEN
lhawken@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — Receiving well-deserved recognition for unflagging service to the community, Four Brothers Pizza Inn and Restaurant was presented with the Citizen of the Year award at the annual Festival of Lights on Sunday, Dec. 4, at Fountain Square.

Presenting the award was Town Supervisor Victoria Perotti, who cited the extraordinary civic contributions of the Four Brothers restaurant since their opening in the 1970s. Six members of the Stefanopoulos family, owners of Four Brothers, were present to accept the award.

There had been activities throughout the day, culminating in the annual parade of floats and fire trucks to delight the kids and everyone else. Trees were decorated and so were merchants' windows. Squash soup was being dished out at the library, with hot chocolate and tacos nearby. Santa was settled in at the bakery. And the Grinch was working the sidewalks. By the end of the day, it was clear that the holidays were off to a good start in Amenia.

The Festival of Lights was organized by Paul Winters, the town's Recreation Commission chairman, and for the day, a credible Grinch. The event was also brought into being by the Amenia Wassaic Community Organization.



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

Town Supervisor Victoria Perotti presented the Citizen of the Year award at the Festival of Lights on Sunday, Dec. 4. This year, a business was selected for the honor, Four Brothers Pizza Inn and Restaurant. The award was presented to the Stefanopoulos family during the Fountain Square ceremony. Standing to the left is Perotti and members of the Stefanopoulos family: Peter, William and Paul.



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The real estate market is in flux at present, dealing with low inventory, rising interest rates and the threat of inflation. As both a seller and buyer, it helps to understand what is currently happening and how this will impact the market going into 2023. In searching for information on Litchfield County I found the following to be very helpful in understanding the dynamics of this market on both Litchfield County as a whole and our individual Towns: www.virtualpreview.com/q3-2022-market-watch-litchfield-county/full-view.html.



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OBITUARIES

Ethel Rita LaMere

MILLERTON – Ethel Rita LaMere, 90, a sixty-two year resident of Millerton, died peacefully in her home on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022, with her loving family at her bedside. Mrs. LaMere had a long career with New York State where she worked as a therapy aide for over 27 years at the Wassaic Development Center in Wassaic. She retired in 1995.

Born Aug. 20, 1932, in Lyon Mountain, New York, she was the daughter of the late Nelson and Rose (Prespare) Charland. She attended Dannemora area schools. On April 26, 1952, in Lyon Mountain, she married Francis William LaMere. Ethel and Francis shared a loving marriage that lasted nearly 59 years. Mr. LaMere passed away on Jan. 1, 2011. Ethel enjoyed jigsaw and crossword puzzles, playing cards, Bingo, tending to her lawn and garden, dancing, especially to her favorite classic country music and celebrating milestones and holidays with family. Her favorite pastime by far was taking care of her family and spending time with her children and grandchildren. She was a deeply spiritual woman who loved God and prayed continually and fervently for her family, friends, neighbors and community.

Ethel was well known for her generosity of spirit and kindness, and she will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Ethel is survived by four

children, Richard LaMere, Sr., Roger LaMere and his wife Cheri, Donna Carman and Rodney LaMere and his wife Dorothy; her grandchildren, Becky Revette and her husband Matt, Richard LaMere, Jr., Lisa Sears and her husband David, Kenneth Rodriguez and his wife Jill, Shelly Kaye and her husband Chris, Nicole Gifford, Paul Limoges, Amber Limoges, and granddaughter in-law Jenna Limoges. Ethel is also survived by many great grandchildren and a great-great grandchild as well as several nieces and nephews.

She is also survived by her in-laws, Mary and Lance Gardner, Judy LaMere, and Gloria Charland. In addition to her parents, thirteen siblings, and her husband, Ethel was also predeceased by her grandson Michael Limoges, great grandson Michael Parker Limoges, and great granddaughter Skylar Waldorf.

Calling hours will take place on Tuesday, December 6, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 10am at the funeral home. Rev. Robert K. Wilson will officiate. Burial will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Pine Plains. Memorial contributions may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice, 80 Washington Street, Suite 204, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

George W. Gardner

HILLSDALE, N.Y. — George W. Gardner, photographer, trapper, pilot and longtime Hillsdale resident died on June 12, 2022, at the age of 82 of congestive heart failure.

Gardner was born on July 22, 1940, in Albany, New York. In 1964, he graduated from the University of Missouri with a BA in Anthropology. While at the university, he was greatly influenced by the school's department of photojournalism. While never actually a photojournalism student, he nonetheless won 25 awards from the department for his photography, including the school of photojournalism's Major Portfolio award.

Using a 35mm Leica and working in black and white, Gardner traveled throughout the 1960s and '70s across America by motorcycle, car and his single-engine plane, serving as a sort of anthropologist photographer. His books America Illustrated and Gun People, published 1982 in 1985 respectively, gave us all a look at America's response to the Vietnam War, guns and bibles. He forced us to look at ourselves and at America, for better or worse. The New Yorker compared his work to that of Lee Friedlander, Gary Winogrand and Dave Heath.

Flying in their 1947 Cessna 195 in the early to mid-1980s, Gardner and his then-wife, Roberta Homan Gardner,

photographed inns and authored guidebooks to inns across the country, including the series Country Inns of America; and they also roamed from Labrador to the Yucatan Peninsula for A.J. McClane's Great Hunting and Fishing Lodges of North America. In recent years, Gardner was an avid trapper, outdoorsman and collector of artisanal hunting gear and arms.

Gardner's work is held in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, Smithsonian American Art Museum and DePaul University Art Museum. In 1981, he received the New York State Creative Artists Public Service Fellowship.

Gardner is survived by his son, Cooper, and daughter-in-law, Pascaline (Richir); his sister, Susan Nevin; and his grandson, Victor. He was predeceased by his daughter, Caroline.

Another obituary appears on Page A5

Katherine Emily Gannett

WEST CORNWALL — Katherine Emily Gannett, "Katie," as she was known to all, passed away in the afternoon of Nov. 17, 2022, in her home in West Cornwall.

Katie was born in St. Louis, Missouri and graduated from De Pauw University in 1952 with a degree in Education and Counseling. She went on to earn her Masters' Degree from Columbia University in 1961.

Katie first worked as an Assistant Dean at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. She joined the staff of Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1964, first as a Health and Physical Education teacher and then as a Guidance Counselor. At Housatonic, Katie counseled hundreds of students in her over 20 years in the Guidance Department and volunteered with many organizations and activities, such as the American Field Service (AFS) and the Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapters. Upon her retirement, Katie also served on the Cornwall and Region One School Boards, serving as Chair of each for at least one term.

Katie was devoted to Housatonic's AFS Chapter, which is the oldest continuously operating chapter in the United States. For over 50 years, she was dedicated to its mission of providing young people with intercultural experiences. Through this work, Katie ensured hundreds of exchange students were hosted with Northwest Corner families and that Housatonic students were hosted in countries around the world. She kept alumni together by hosting annual reunions, fundraisers, and other gatherings. Katie also volunteered regularly at the national AFS headquarters in New York City.

Another of Katie's great loves was the Future Farmer's Association Alumni Association. For 34 years, Katie served as secretary for the organization, uniting its members through annual gatherings and fundraisers. Katie herself maintained a legendary garden, which she shared with her friends and visitors.

She and Michael Gannett, her late husband, generously provided an endless supply

of flowers to Housatonic and other local organizations. In 2006, her garden was archived by the Smithsonian Institution.

Katie's passion for the outdoors and her commitment to nurturing young people included her work with the John Austen Cheley Foundation. Katie had worked as an assistant director and director at Cheley Camps in the 1950s. More recently, Katie served as a trustee of the Foundation from 1995-2003 and as a member of the Campership Committee for years following.

Over the years of her involvement, Katie sponsored over 30 students to attend the Cheley Camps on scholarship. Many of her sponsored students went on to become counselors with the various Cheley Camps.

Katie also loved her dogs, including the dog who adopted her, L.D. and then four lovely Airdales, Daisy, Daisy II, Sarge and Dyna. Sarge and Dyna were adopted from New England Airedale Rescue. Katie hosted over fifty members of the Rescue family in her lovely garden in support of the organization's efforts.

For her over 50 years of outstanding service and dedication to the young people of Region One, Katie was honored in 2017 with the Community Award of Merit by the Regional School Board at the annual HVRHS graduation ceremony.

In 2016, Katie was named Volunteer of the Year by the John Austen Cheley Foundation for her years of service and support of the Foundation and its campers.

Katie lived a full, beautiful life, actively involved with her passions of nurturing young people, promoting global understanding through youth exchange, and cultivating the great outdoors and its future leaders through gardening at home and farming in Northwest Connecticut.

She adored her husband, Michael Gannett, and together they hosted countless events, including weddings and fundraisers, in their lovely home and gardens. Her wit and strong personality were known to all and she was well-loved and cherished because of them.



In Appreciation

Katherine Emily Gannett

Katie's obituary about says it all, yet I am compelled to write. I worked with Katie for nearly three decades after founding principal Paul W. Stoddard turned the AFS mantel over to her. Katie was always Katie or KT or KEG; I never knew her middle name until now, Emily.

Always discreet, highly organized, she made the tasks she took on become joys engaging her penchant for accomplishing matters thoroughly with utmost attention to detail, making an event a joy for others as well. The anticipated AFS picnic on her beside-the-river lawn under a huge tent with catered meal and exchange student presentations was always a joy for all (Katie inevitably commanded a beautiful day).

For years Katie hosted the FFA Alumni Officers, past and present, for a Christmas gathering at her home, later at the Interlaken, the Alumni Officers having out-grown her cozy living room. Always abundant joy, perfect dinner

and surprise gift exchange from under the tree. Who would open a massive stuffed animal, a very well-used fur coat or the ever-reappearing WC seat, tactfully disguised?

Yes, with a generous heart and hand, Katie created possibilities and opportunity for young people through AFS and the Colorado camp, and surely through wise counsel. Also she and her husband Michael occasionally visited our returned AFS foreign exchange students abroad. For several years KEG volunteered at the AFS New York office, which provided special insight for our chapter.

Always a lady with class and moxie, KEG enjoyed our chuckles over our disagreements. Katie devoured mystery novels and loved dark chocolate. Thanks be to Lottie's gentle care, a tender reflection of Katie's tending her own beloved, elegant formal gardens—indeed a reflection of Katie. I miss her.

Ellery Sinclair
Falls Village, CT



Worship Services

Week of December 11, 2022

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lakevillemethodist@snet.net

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We are happy to correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention. We are also happy to correct factual and/or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning. Notice of such error must be given to us after the first run of the advertisement.

OUR TOWNS

Amenia eyes density bonus to spur affordable housing

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — The Thursday, Dec. 1 meeting began with Supervisor Victoria Perotti opening a Public Hearing pertaining to a Local Law for Affordable Housing.

Charlie Miller, speaking for the Housing Committee, said a revision had been presented to the town attorney and talked about a density bonus.

The density bonus is the most common form of incentive used by inclusionary housing programs, and provides an increase in allowed dwelling units per acre, and can also mean that more housing units can be built on any given site. Miller feels that the density bonus would be an incentive to builders. He also feels if a density bonus were offered, and the builder opts out they should not be allowed to pay a fee in lieu of building affordable housing.

Perotti is leaving the matter open until the next meeting on Thursday, Dec. 15.

Clerk Dawn Marie Klingner mentioned events taking place, such as the Toy Drive. There are boxes in the Town, and also in Town Hall, for new, unwrapped toys to be given out.

A resolution was voted on and passed to renew the contract with the Pine Plains Veterinary practice to feed, house and provide veterinary care for dogs obtained through Amenias dog control.

A resolution to contract with Uncharted for their services at a cost of \$75,000 was discussed. Uncharted gave a presentation in October. It gathers data and builds a platform, also suggests grants for the town to pursue regarding the water district.

Councilmember Leo Blackman felt that the contract suggested that Uncharted would only pursue grant materials for the water district, and that the waste water project was being ignored.

There is \$10,000 budgeted for grant writing for the waste water project, but Blackman felt that more was needed

given that \$75,000 was being earmarked for the water district.

After some discussion, in which Perotti said that the water district is an existing entity with 300 parties in the district, that it needs immediate help, and is the town's priority. She said that they need a new tank, a new well and improvements to the water infrastructure.

Information gathered by Uncharted can be used for any grants the town wants to pursue.

One Board member recalled that in the October presentation it did not specifically state only the water district was a project, but also mentioned other water projects, including waste water or sewer.

A resolution to contract Capital Market, at rate of \$250 per hour was voted on and passed. It will assist with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, which if not used must be returned. Perotti supported the resolution. After a vote, it was passed. A final resolution, allowing the transfer of funds, was voted on and passed.

Discussion took place on a piece of property owned by the Town, located at the head of the Rail Trail that Habitat for Humanity has expressed interest in for affordable housing.

Habitat for Humanity inquired whether the town would donate the property; the town attorney said that wasn't possible. Before the town can offer the property for sale it has to be appraised. A resolution was made to obtain bids for an appraiser.

There is a property the town is interested in obtaining and officials have applied for a grant.

The owner wants the town to make an offer. It has been appraised at \$300,000. The offer is contingent on appraisal, survey and inspection of said property. At the next meeting a resolution will be made to accept a bid for appraisals.

The meeting adjourned about 8:45. The next meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 15.

FALLS VILLAGE — Elizabeth "Betsy" Howie, of Falls Village, passed away on November 25, 2022, with her beloved daughter, Calpurnia "Callie" Carter, at her side. She was 60 years old. A cherished member of the Falls Village community known for her wit, warmth and outspokenness, Betsy was also a longtime resident of New York City where she worked with aplomb in the theater and publishing worlds.

Born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, on June 6, 1962, to Mary Lou Howie and Charles R. Howie, Betsy grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan with her older brothers, Tim and Randy Howie. Betsy attended Northview High School where she swam competitively. As a teenager participating in community theater, she discovered her life's joy and passion, and made some of her closest, lifelong friends.

After graduating from high school, Betsy moved to New York City where she attended New York University and studied acting at the renowned Stella Adler Studio. As a young woman, Betsy's friends, habits, and jobs all revolved around her number one priority: theater. She worked as part of many repertory theaters. Her passion for theater paired with a gift for writing.

She wrote the book for "Cowgirls," a musical that she also performed in, which was staged across the country. When "Cowgirls" opened Off Broadway in 1996, The New York Times reviewer called it a "joyous slapstick hoedown." In 1987, Betsy produced and performed in Caryl Churchill's "Top Girls" with fellow staff members from Phebe's bar on the Bowery, at the nearby New Theater. Betsy worked at Phebe's—which was an East Village staple serving cops, actors, and what Betsy called "all the usual suspects"—as a bartender and waitress on roller skates.

Betsy was a prolific writer. During her life, she wrote numerous books, including a humorous memoir, "Callie's Tally: An Accounting of Baby's First Year (Or, What My Daughter Owes Me)," and the novel "Snow. She also wrote many children's books under the pen name, Howie Dewin.

As a young adult in New York City, Betsy lived in the East Village and in various

neighborhoods in Brooklyn. In addition to waitressing and acting, she took on a wide range of odd jobs: a nanny for the Mayor of New York City, an assistant to Stella Adler, an organizer of the re-opening of Ellis Island, and a one-time speechwriter for Ronald Reagan. She also worked for environmental causes which were another one of her lifelong passions.

Beginning in college, Betsy loved to ride her bike around New York City. In 2015, when she and Calpurnia got an apartment in the Bronx, Betsy would commute by bicycle to her job at Scholastic Book Clubs in Manhattan. Betsy began working as a freelancer at Scholastic in 1994 and became a full time staff member in 1999.

Betsy gave birth to 2001 to her only daughter, Calpurnia, whose father is the playwright and longtime Falls Village resident Lonnie Carter. Betsy raised Calpurnia in Falls Village, and when Calpurnia was 14, they began dividing their time between Falls Village and the Bronx, commuting back and forth every week for years. They made both places their home.

Betsy moved to Falls Village on a whim, surprising her co-workers one Monday morning when she announced that she had bought a farmhouse in a small town in rural northwestern Connecticut. Betsy is thought of by her friends and family as being "fearless," and the move out of the city was a move out of her comfort zone—but one that was well worth it. Betsy became an active and loving

member of the Falls Village community, working on the Board of Education, Recreation Commission, and performing as the long-time live-auction host at the David M. Hunt Library. She also contributed her theater talents as the acting coach at Housatonic

Valley Regional High School. Betsy founded and operated for about a year the Falls Village Marshmallow Company, which was a testament to her love of marshmallows. Falls Village became one of Betsy's greatest comforts, especially in the last three years, after she was diagnosed with cancer. The community became her family.

Betsy loved building things. She constructed sheds for both herself and her late mother, and a playhouse for Calpurnia. She was known for her love of simple food, reminding her friends who cooked for her that she was Lutheran, and therefore had "white-bread taste".

Betsy took great pride in her extensive work constructing a very detailed family tree, using Ancestry.com. Her focus on this project allowed her to combine her incredible creativity with her intense intelligence.

She also had a deep love for Frankfort, Michigan, where her family owned a summer home that her grandfather built. The house was a staple of her childhood, and her daughter's. Her affection for Lake Michigan remained strong in her heart throughout her life.

Betsy had great respect for animals. She was known to have cats walk up to her

house, or jump in her car, and immediately become a part of her family. She had many cats throughout her life, in addition to a rabbit and a few dogs.

Betsy had many, many friends. She had a beautiful way of gathering people from all walks of life and holding them close over long periods of time. She was absolutely loveable, and completely full of empathy and kindness.

Betsy's greatest accomplishment and love was Calpurnia. They were two peas in a pod, and Betsy's last few years of life were spent in complete peace with Calpurnia by her side.

What wasn't Betsy? She wasn't dishonest, selfish, and she wasn't disloyal. Witness the outpouring of love and affection from all corners of the land — a testament to her brilliance, kindness, and amazing good humor.

Betsy is survived by her daughter, Calpurnia, her brothers Randy and Tim Howie, her sister Sarah Howie, her step-mother Wendy, her daughter's father/true friend Lonnie Carter, her future daughter-in-law Dee Dee Davis, her cats Isa and Bo, and her grand-dog Darla.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 11 a.m., at Trinity Lime Rock Episcopal Church. The service will be live streamed on the church's website at trinitylimerock.org. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department at PO Box 1, Falls Village CT, 06031.

More obituaries appear on Page A4

OBITUARY

Elizabeth 'Betsy' Howie



Fifteen years goes by in a flash

We're pleased to let you know that the Bank of Millbrook is now offering a 15-year, fixed-rate mortgage. It's a terrific option to get your house paid off faster at a secured rate and to save money at the same time.

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TREES Continued from Page A1

Extension of Dutchess County. Instead of visiting the farms to either cut their own trees or pick a special one to be cut for them, families will need to make their selections from those imported to the area.

Murphy noted that the shortage began a few years ago “when the flood gates opened up” with customers generally opting for larger trees, leaving just the smaller ones for the final days’ sales. But with the patience needed by all who work the land, of those, he says: “If they go, they go. If they don’t, they’ll be bigger next year.”

Murphy believes the shortage has multiple causes including the ever-present banes of a farmer’s existence: drought, fungi, and pests including “root aphids that suck the saps out of roots that discolors and stops the growth and eventu-

ally kills them.”

Citing that problem, he explained: “I planted 850 trees in the spring of 2020-21, and I’ll probably pull them up next spring. I don’t think they’ll make it through the winter.” Undaunted despite the challenges, Murphy said of planting a new crop, “I will probably shut down for two years and then start over.”

Knowing he is not alone, Murphy said, “Any tree farmer will tell you there’s so many things that can go wrong when you have so many trees together.”

One thing that can also become an issue for farmers is the basic cost of doing business, including the rising costs of the trees he plants, fertilizers, sprays and machinery.

That doesn’t include the human toll with tasks which, he says, begin when “we start

planting the second week in April. Then I start spraying for weeds, start spraying for insects, start spraying for fungus. Then I start mowing. In the middle of summer, I start pruning and that takes me several weeks. There’s always something to do. People don’t realize how much goes into it.”

Saying, “I try to be fair,” last year, for the first time in a decade, he raised the cost of a tree up to 8 feet tall to \$75. Considering the seven to 10 years it takes to grow the product, he is generally grossing less than \$10 a year on his investment.

Knowing there will always be challenges, he also know he will always have customers, a group that has grown markedly over the past few years with an increase in the number of permanent residents.

Once trees are purchased,

care shifts to the buyers, who are then responsible for keeping their homes safe from fires started by highly flammable trees that are not properly managed during their stays inside.

David J. Alfonso, Dutchess County fire coordinator, shared the following suggestions for a safe season:

- Cut The tree at 45 ° angle.
- Immediately place it in water away from any heat source.
- Use only non-flammable decorations approved by Underwriters Laboratories.
- Inspect lights for fraying and other damage and replace them if they are flawed.
- Do not leave a lighted tree unattended.
- Add water to the stand daily.
- Discard the tree as soon as it becomes dry.

SHARON HOSPITAL Continued from Page A1

bury attorney David Singer, a neutral arbitration specialist. He said that the intention is to keep Sharon Hospital as a full-service hospital.

Singer indicated that about two weeks earlier, the OHS had granted the SSH organization the intervenor status it had sought. The approval clears the way for an attorney representing SSH to cross-examine witnesses testifying on behalf of Nuvance during the Dec. 6 public hearing.

Illustrative of the wide geographic area served by the hospital, attorney Robert

Miller of the Dutchess County Board of Health attended the meeting, describing Sharon Hospital as one of the shining stars in the region. Residents who spoke asked questions of clarification and spoke of the urgency, encouraging others to testify at the Zoom hearing.

One resident, urging residents to speak out, said of Nuvance, “They are playing a long game: profits over people.”

Moore invited area residents to assemble at Sharon Town Hall for an all-day Zoom testifying and viewing party.

SB&T Continued from Page A1

buildings and the name on your checks.”

Centele said the NBT management, of which he will be a member, “anticipate keeping all customer-facing” employees.

“And we’ll be keeping the new operations center [on Bissell Street in Lakeville] as a regional operations hub.”

NBT has also agreed to add some \$500,000 to SBT’s current community donations.

“I’ve worked here all my

life,” he said. “In the bigger picture, this is a good thing. It’s very challenging for community banks in the current market.”

NBT describes itself on its website as a “full-service community bank with 140 locations in New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine and Connecticut. “

SBT has 14 branches in Connecticut, New York and Massachusetts.

EDELMAN Continued from Page A1

and she reviews theater for Berkshire On Stage in Williamstown, Massachusetts, as well as serving as a board member for the Berkshire Theatre Critics’ Association.

She presents a daily radio show at WBRK Inc., in Pittsfield; was assistant program director at WHDD-FM in Sharon; and worked at WKZE-FM in Sharon and Red Hook.

The Lakeville Journal Foundation, a nonprofit established in 2021, publishes The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News with a goal to sustain and expand both newspapers, which were hard hit by the pandemic.

“The Lakeville Journal Company is thrilled to have Emily Edelman coming on board as managing editor at The Millerton News,”

said Publisher and Editor in Chief Janet Manko. “It has been our mission to cover eastern Dutchess County as thoroughly as possible since the company bought The Millerton News in 1972, but challenging since our previous editor Whitney Joseph moved to Florida earlier this year. We look forward to a new era for the newspaper, and for our vibrant communities.”

Edelman has been helping manage coverage of news in the News for the past few weeks, and said she looks forward to getting to know the community.

“I’ve spent time in Miller-ton weekly for the last month or so and have met many kind and interesting people,” Edelman said. “I hope my varied background and interests will be a good match for the community. I’m happy to be involved with helping tell the stories of the area and glad to be active in Dutchess County again.”

WASSAIC PROJECT Continued from Page A1



Above, Richard Barlow with a segment of his installation chalk drawing, Sequana. Right, Cate Pasquarelli with her cloche sculpture House with Ladder and oil painting Lake.



PHOTOS BY ELIAS SORICH

unifying concept in Barlow’s work, one that he hopes evokes the climate crisis.

“The environmental concern of these landscapes was central for me. That by our presence in the gallery, these hopefully beautiful drawings we want to consume are threatened, and will go away.

“And then, maybe it makes you think about whether the landscapes they depict will go away.”

In this fashion, and as is typical of the Wassaic Project, No Misery Can Tell makes great use of the ample, and odd layout of the Maxon Mills. To access the rest of the exhibit, gallery-goers must literally walk through Barlow’s drawing, after which they are greeted by the bright, neon landscape of Clint Baclawski’s photography.

From there, it’s up seven flights, where on each floor a wide array of fascinating and sweeping work is on display. From Kate Johnson’s towering, handwoven linen artworks, to Farwoh Rizvi’s vibrant oil paintings.

Juxtaposed with these larger-scale works were the miniature, cloche sculptures of Cate Pasquarelli. A church flipped onto its side as if by magic, a fleet of school buses driving into the water. To Pasquarelli, exhibiting in the

Mill offered the chance to explore perspective, isolation, and the distance that a rural setting puts between people.

“I spent the majority of the pandemic in Bantam, Connecticut and that spurred a whole series about isolation. I’m a classic New Yorker who doesn’t know how to drive, so I would go on runs and, like, peer into people’s property. And so I felt like an onlooker and a visitor.”

To fill that distance, Pasquarelli let her imagination weave narratives. The Milton Congregational Church was lassoed and pulled down by mini-congregants, who fled the scene, leaving behind a flipped building on a grassy hill. Such stories, however, remain subliminal—a dynamic Pasquarelli enjoys.

“When people see the work, it reads as narrative, but they don’t know what the story is. Which I like, because then people bring their own imagination into it.”

This sort of whimsical, and sometimes darker distortion of reality connected much of the work on display at No Misery Can Tell, and to walk through it felt often like a tour through wonderland.

Curating this sense of flow

through the Mills’ physical space is a skill that Co-Director Jeff Barnett-Winsby says the Wassaic Project has grown into—realizing over time that floors, staircases, and windows could be made available to artists to heighten the immersion. Rizvi’s piece Wrapped Around My Finger, for example, extends onto the floor, and Baclawski’s Pink Church is visible from far-away hills through a newly cleaned window.

Later in the evening, as the public flowed through, an attendee leaned against the wall for a photo, prompting Barlow to rush over to protect his freshly smudged drawings. Long before, the chalk around the door-handle had smudged—to Barlow, a predictable yet stubbornly anxiety-provoking reality of his site-specific work.

“I always say there’s a sort of existential concern, as well. I mean, everything gonna go away. We all have to make peace with that.”

No Misery Can Tell, No Word of Farewell, which opened Saturday, Dec. 3, is open to the public from to March 18 at the Maxon Mills in Wassaic on Saturdays only, from noon to 5 p.m.

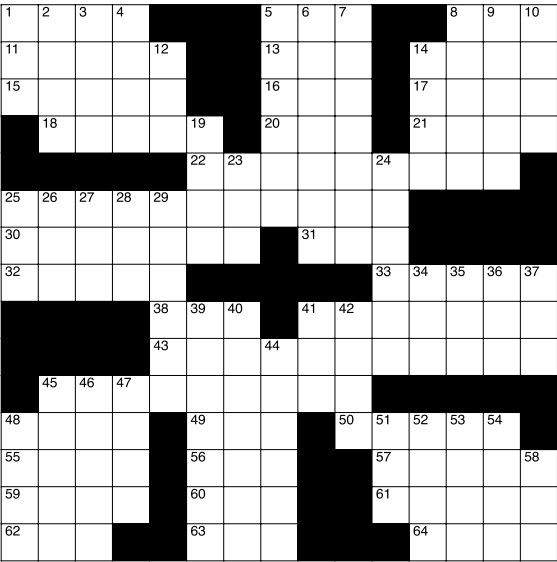
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A people of Eastern Afghanistan
- 5. Supervises interstate commerce
- 8. Touch lightly
- 11. Relating to bees
- 13. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
- 14. Mosuo culture religion
- 15. Italian village
- 16. Stiff bristle
- 17. Wealthy enclave in Rio
- 18. Cause to lose courage
- 20. Examines animals
- 21. Ethnic group of Laos and Thailand
- 22. Gets rid of
- 25. Having easily perceived thoughts
- 30. Removed surgically
- 31. Principle underlying the universe
- 32. Popular airline
- 33. Antelopes
- 38. Peacock network
- 41. Utter repeatedly
- 43. One from the Golden State
- 45. Photographers
- 48. Father
- 49. Popular BBQ dish
- 50. Cavalry sword
- 55. Ancient Greek sophist
- 56. Atomic mass unit
- 57. Afflicted in mind or body
- 59. Indian mythological figure
- 60. Mild expression of surprise
- 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Brew
- 63. Doctor of Education
- 64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

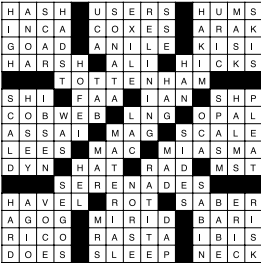
- 1. State attorneys
- 2. Itated
- 3. Latvian capital
- 4. Irish goddess
- 5. Taste
- 6. Dried
- 7. Spanish saloon
- 8. Mother of Perseus



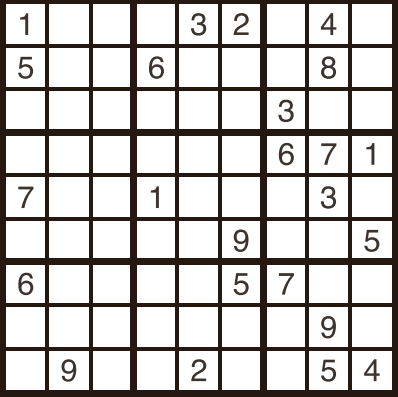
- 9. Evergreen coniferous trees
- 10. Refuse to comply
- 12. Negative
- 14. Hyphen
- 19. A way to record
- 23. Not good
- 24. One who tends the furnace
- 25. Small amount
- 26. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 27. The whole quantity
- 28. __ King Cole, musician
- 29. One’s opinion
- 34. Holds ashes
- 35. Stablecoin cryptocurrency
- 36. Side-blotched lizards genus
- 37. Legislator (abbr.)
- 39. Concentrated bombardment
- 40. Took for oneself

- 41. Nigerian City
- 42. Thousands of pounds
- 44. Inspired
- 45. Secret clique
- 46. Expression
- 47. Dough made from corn flour
- 48. Comedian Carvey
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. Resistance fighters
- 58. Criticize

Dec. 1 Solution

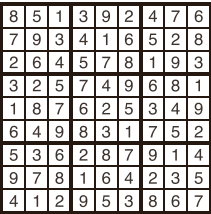


Sudoku



Level: Intermediate

Dec. 1 Solution



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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Getting high with my NFT edible

The mellow tingling that pulsates with an unprovoked, weightless euphoria has arrived. The wooden leg of my desk brushes against my leg — or did my leg brush against the desk’s leg — and I am in a brief fit of laughter. I am high on a piece of art I purchased at Standard Space, a contemporary gallery in Sharon, Conn.

“Zubenelgenubi” by Kristin Worrall is both a THC-laced dessert and an NFT — which might make me the first person in Litchfield County to not only purchase marijuana artwork, but also the first customer to walk away from a local gallery with a piece of digitally encrypted art.

Combining the culinary arts with performance art, Kristin Worall hosted a live auction at Standard Space on Saturday night, Dec. 3. All titled after science fiction influences —from actual stars to names of alien species pulled from 1980s paperbacks — the gelatin sculptures fused the perfectly molded aspics of the 1950s domestic goddesses with intergalactic oddity and vague sexuality. The visuals of popular science fiction have always dabbled

in abstract phallic and vaginal imagery, turning space into a Freudian landscape of the absurd. Consider the birth-anxiety of 1979’s “Alien,” or the teeth-baring vortex pit in 1983’s “Return of the Jedi,” or the vacuum-mouthed sandworms of Frank Herbert’s “Dune.” Of course, within the history of dessert are plenty of cheeky references, from

the Neapolitan naughtiness of the *Capezzoli di Venere* — the Nipples of Venus — to the myth that the Champagne flute was modeled off the curves of Marie Antoinette. “Zubenelgenubi” was the only THC-laden creation sold at Worrall’s performance, but it singularly marks a new direction possible for the conflation of art and marijuana in Connecticut after recreational use was legalized in the state in 2021. Possibilities that

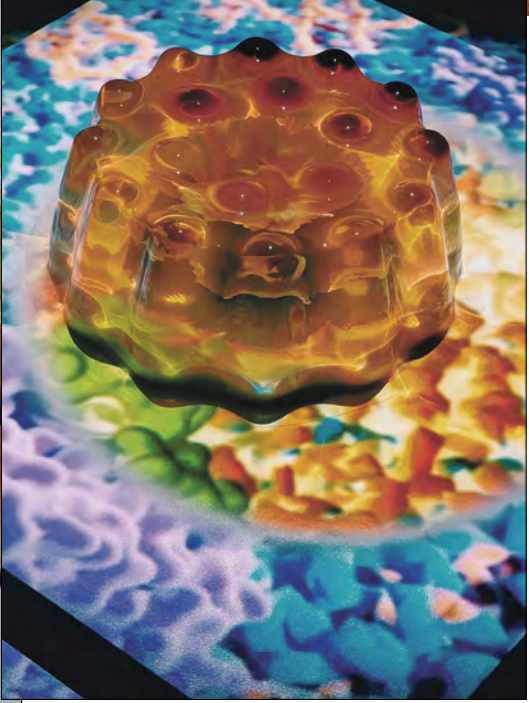
may be curbed by small-town government. In Falls Village, Conn., the hometown of The Lakeville Journal Company’s office, a special Nov. 10 meeting of the town’s Planning and Zoning Committee concluded by barring both the issue of growers licenses in Falls Village and licenses for recreational marijuana retail. Resident Daly Reville said at the meeting that “bringing people into town as an adult cannabis retail destina-

tion didn’t seem practical or advantageous to the town.” Meanwhile, Hartford Business reported this week that “Connecticut’s cannabis industry could account for more than 10,000 jobs just a few years after the recreational market launches.”

It does not escape me that in purchasing this giant gummy edible — which may leave me crashing into a deep slumber — I also purchased my first NFT in a crashing market. It’s been less than a month since FTX filed for bankruptcy, leaving Sam Bankman-Fried, the former chief executive of one of the leading digital currency exchanges, as a figure of Internet and old print mockery. This is the Sisyphean tumble after years of cryptocurrency’s dogged climb towards legitimacy.

For context on the inflated market of NFTs, think of the Internet as a large island nation, except instead of stumbling upon it after voyaging on the sea, we built it. Now that land needs to be claimed, bought, and sold — we must colonize our own creation, and “we” (meaning “they”) must find a way to make even a leaf on a tree a transactional opportunity. NFTs — non-fungible tokens — are a way of turning images into profit. This may sound like the very definition of the art market, except the baseline concept isn’t creativity, but a creative solution to a problem. Images, even copyrighted images, are duplicated and dispersed with little control across the Internet, which makes them free — a problem. So NFTs are commonly bought with cryptocurrency like ether used on Ethereum, an open-source blockchain platform. One ether as of writing this is worth \$1,282.9, a significant drop from this time last year. A purchase of an NFT is also the purchase of an individual identifier recorded in a blockchain ledger. It does not necessarily give the buyer supreme copyright, but the system does bring in the idea of an online image as a particular object.

Think of an NFT as the newspaper you’re reading. It is an exact copy of one of the thousands of newspapers this publication printed and distributed this week, but only this newspaper is the one you’re holding. It contains the oil on your



PHOTOS BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

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North Canaan

Continued on next page

...*NFT high* *Continued from previous page*

fingertips, your coffee stains, a stray tear in the paper. Turn to the front and you will see a serial number, clearly identifying this as a particular newspaper — one of a copy, but one of a kind.

The traditional-medium artist to make the biggest splash from the NFT craze was Damien Hirst when he launched the conceptual project “The Currency” through the international art services business Heni. Hirst first made his splash in the 1990s with his formaldehyde-pickled tiger shark, and the bad boy of British art has continued to invent new attention-grabbing methods that make sure even those with little contemporary art knowledge are passingly familiar with his fame. In a 1994 issue of Parkett the late author Gordon Burn wrote, “It is one of

Damien’s great strengths, both in the cool medium of his work and the hot medium of his person, that he is always pushing towards full disclosure.” Critic Julian Spalding has called Hirst’s work “the sub-prime of the art world” more in line with creatively-marketed, hot-button luxury goods than lasting and meaningful art.

For his first delve into the crypto market, Hirst returned to a familiar subject, his instantly identifiable — and by no small coincidence, easily duplicable — prismatic dot paintings. This dot series was presented by Hirst and Heni as “a collection of 10,000 NFTs which correspond to 10,000 unique physical artworks which are stored in a secure vault in the UK.” Once the purchase had been made, the game began.

Unlike my gelatin edible and its corresponding NFT, Hirst’s buyers did not have the option to keep both — they had to choose. Either delete the NFT or burn the physical piece of art. Which one held more currency? This October Hirst even welcomed fans to watch him burn the canvases which had been viewed as less desirable, less collectible, than their NFT counterparts.

Worrall described “Zubenelgenubi” as a melding of orange blossom and blackberry flavors, but devouring the gelatin by the forkful, all I could taste was the THC. It wasn’t unpleasant actually, a sexy sense memory that reminded me of having a joint on my tongue, the sound of the lighter flick, the burn and crackle of paper, my proximity to someone close by, breathing on



PHOTO COURTESY OF HENI

Last week Heni announced a new collection of Hirst dots, purely physical canvases this time around. The game? You must apply to buy.

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Pleiades XII
by Liz Dexheimer

Liz Dexheimer
'The Cascade Series'

If cryptocurrency feels too cryptic, return to the physical realm of Liz Dexheimer's large scale acrylics. A tumbling waterfall in broad-stroked abstract, gold paint scraped against canvas, or a bounty of autumnal leaves billowing before a night sky? Look up and you might find the answer. Pleiades is named after an open star cluster known as The Seven Sisters — daughters of the Oceanid nymph Pleione — these stars are hot, middle-aged and visible to the naked eye.



Located in the constellation of Taurus The Bull, the stars were drawn by Galileo, the first astronomer to view The Sisters through a telescope. He published his findings in 1610.

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OUR TOWNS

Annual Christmas Concert remembers Katharine Dunlop

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — The annual Smithfield Church Christmas Concert and Tea had been the brainchild of Amenia resident Katharine Dunlop, but with her death earlier this year, church members assembled their talents and presented the event on Saturday, Dec. 3, right on schedule.

Every detail had been looked after with the care that Dunlop would have specified. Musicians were gathered by Rob Murphy, concertmaster for The Smithfield Chamber Orchestra. The music was orchestrated for the 12 musicians over many months by Matt Finley of Pine Plains, director of the orchestra. The silver tea services had been polished. The community was invited using written invitations, posters and ads.

Katharine Dunlop had a vision and a sense of community, inviting folks to enjoy the historic Smithfield Church community. For this year's concert, as before, the church was filled to capacity.

The concert was hosted by the Bang Family Concert Series, thanks to the generosity of Bill and Mary Ann Bang.

Their daughter, Susan Bang, spoke of the lead-up



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

The Smithfield Chamber Orchestra, directed by Matt Finley, assembled to perform at the annual Christmas Concert and Tea at The Smithfield Church on Saturday, Dec. 3.

work. "It took a platoon to fill Katharine's shoes, paired with a wonderful concert. We have honored her memory."

"Katharine is gone, and this is her legacy," said orchestra member Denise Jordan Finley during the tea that following the concert.

Speaking of Dunlop, pastor Douglas Grandgeorge recalled that she was invaluable for the church. She had been baptized, confirmed, and married at Smithfield. "Every time she sold a house, she told the new owners about Smithfield Church," Grandgeorge said.

Local architect Darlene Riemer recalled coming to Amenia with her husband Robert, "Katharine was the

first person I met when we came to Amenia looking for a house. We drove by the church and decided we wanted to live on Smithfield Valley Road, as near as possible to the church." As it turned out, she said, "We do."

Town board member Leo Blackman described Dunlop as a "village celebrity, larger than life."

"Let's have a really fancy tea party with silver tea service," was Katharine Dunlop's idea 19 years ago. And so, the church did, and soon added the feature of a concert to go with the tea.

This year's concert event opened with Richard Machir's "Child of the Bells," music director Finley told the audience, "If you don't



The Reverend Douglas Grandgeorge welcomed the audience to the annual Christmas Concert and Tea at the Smithfield Church in Amenia on Saturday, Dec. 3.

like something, wait about a minute, and we'll be playing something else."

Finley had spent months

orchestrating each of the 11 pieces to be performed, ranging from classical to jazz to Latin jazz to carols, and to

what Finley said might have been a first in church, "Jazz Funk." There was a rousing encore of "Sleigh Ride."

Organist Nancy Brown recalled that 19 years ago, Dunlop had asked her to play for the first concert and tea, and Brown assumed that she was being asked to play the entire concert. She declined. In ensuing concert years, she came to understand that the request had been only for a single piece, and so relieved, she became one of the annual performers.

A plaque remembering Katharine Dunlop will be installed in coming weeks. The Christmas Concert and Tea will continue as an annual tradition.

Stanford Free Library December offerings

STANFORDVILLE — The Stanford Free Library at 6035 Route 82 in Stanfordville has special plans in December, in addition to its regular events.

The December Hybrid Book Club, available on Zoom or in person, will feature Violeta by Isabel Allende on Monday, Dec. 12 at noon.

"Like Water for Chocolate," a part of the Foreign Film Series, will run on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 3:00 p.m.

A detailed listing of regular monthly activities is available on the library website. They include:

Brain Games, Thursdays 10:30 a.m. to noon; Knitting, first, third and fifth Thurs-

day of the month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.; Mahjong for intermediate players, Fridays 10:00 a.m. to noon; Yoga with Mia, first Friday of the month is Free, 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. Link sent upon registration; Bridge, Mondays 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Literacy Connections Classes for English Language Learners

Mondays 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.; Water Color Workshop, first, third and fifth Tuesday of each month 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.; Fiber

Arts, first and third Tuesdays 6:00 p.m.; Story Time, Tuesdays, Preschoolers (Ages 3-4) 10:00 to 10:45 am and Toddlers (Age 18 months – 2 years) 11:00 to 11:45 a.m.; Meditation Class, third Wednesday 10:00 a.m. In-Person (Masks Required) or via Zoom. Link sent upon registration.

Registration is required for events unless noted otherwise. Please email stanfordlibrary@optonline.net or call 845-868-1341.

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LEGAL NOTICES

ANNUAL ELECTION OF AMENIA FIRE DISTRICT #1 DECEMBER 13, 2022

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Annual Election of the Amenia Fire District #1 will take place on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the firehouse located at 36 Mechanic Street, Amenia, New York for the purpose of electing (1) Commissioner to serve a five (5) year term commencing on January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2027.

Candidates for District Office of Commissioner shall file their names and the position they are seeking in writing to the District Secretary, Dawn Marie Klingner, PO Box 214, Amenia, New York 12501 no later than December 8, 2022. Only residents of the Fire District duly registered with the Dutchess County Board of Elections as of November 17, 2022 shall be eligible to vote. 11/14/2022.

Dawn Marie Klingner
Secretary
Amenia Fire District #1
Board of Commissioners
12-08-22

Legal Notice
TOWN OF NORTH EAST
ZONING BOARD
OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of North East, Dutchess County, New York, on Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 7:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as possible, in the Town Hall, 19 North Maple Avenue, Millerton, New York, on the application of Brooklyn Zen Center, owner of tax parcel # 7272-00-479805, for a special permit for a church and monastery. The parcel is located at

87 Kaye Road in the A5A Zoning District of the Town of North East.

The above application is open for inspection at the Town Hall.

Persons wishing to appear at such hearing may do so in person or by attorney or other representative. Communications in writing relating thereto may be filed with the Board at such hearing.

Dated: December 2, 2022
Julie Schroeder, Chair
Town of North East
Zoning Board of Appeals
12-08-22

PINE PLAINS TOWN BOARD
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED INCREASE
IN WATER RATES
AND FEES FOR THE
PINE PLAINS WATER
IMPROVEMENT AREAS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Pine Plains Town Board shall hold a public hearing on December 15, 2022 at 7:05 p.m. at the Pine Plains Town Hall, located at 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York, on the proposed increase in water user rates and fees for services of the Pine Plains Water Improvement Areas. The proposed water user rates shall be increased from the current minimum usage fee of \$41.50 to \$45.00 for the first 9,000 gallons recorded, and from \$5.00/1,000 gallons to \$5.80/1,000 gallons recorded over the initial 9,000 gallons recorded. In addition, a new Special Reading Fee in the amount of \$50.00 will be established and charged to any account that requests a special reading taken outside the normal quarterly billing cycle. The purpose of these rate increases is to offset substantial increases in materials and supplies to operate and maintain the Pine Plains Water Improvement Area Water

System. Any person wishing to be heard shall be given an opportunity to do so at said public hearing. A copy of the proposed rate change will be available for inspection at the Town Clerk's office at regular business hours.

BY ORDER OF THE PINE PLAINS TOWN BOARD.

Dated: November 28, 2022.

MADELIN DAFOE
Town Clerk
12-08-22

VILLAGE OF
MILLERTON
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Millerton on December 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at the Village Hall located at, 5933 N. Elm Avenue., Millerton, New York to hear all interested persons regarding Local Law "E" of 2022 entitled "A Local Law to Amend the Village of Millerton Village Code by Amending Chapter 145 "Taxation", Article III "Senior Citizens Tax Exemptions",

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that copies of said proposed Local Law are available for review at the Village Hall, 5933 North Elm Avenue, Millerton, New York and at the village website, www.villageofmillerton.net

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard in person or by directing comments in writing to the Village Board of Trustees, 5933 North Elm Avenue, Millerton, New York, 12546.

By order of the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Millerton dated November 28, 2022.

Nicole Richard
Village Clerk
Village of Millerton
12-08-22

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The Lakeville Journal

FOUNDATION



Bistro responds to tomato pie accusations
The Lakeville Journal, February 9, 2012

**There are lots of great reasons to support
The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News this holiday season.**

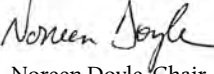
Here's one you probably didn't think of: Tomato pie.

The controversial treat (www.tricornernews.com/tomatopie) makes for a splendid variation on the familiar Thanksgiving menu of turkey, stuffing and the rest. It's also been the topic of delightful and informative articles chronicling the fierce battles the dish has stirred up among area chefs, a reminder of the pleasures to be found only in hometown newspapers.

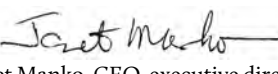
So please don't forget to give thanks for the richness of life in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut and eastern Dutchess County, and of our vigorous local journalism.

We are making changes at The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News, to preserve local reporting and to expand it. A fine way to express your support for this crucial project is by making a tax-deductible contribution to what is now a nonprofit enterprise in this holiday season.

And from all of us at The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News to all of your families and friends, Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy your turkey — and tomato pie!



Noreen Doyle, Chair



Janet Manko, CEO, executive director

The Lakeville Journal Foundation, Inc.



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The Lakeville Journal **MILLERTON NEWS** **TriCornerNews.com**

EDITORIAL

Support early childhood education

American society has changed dramatically since the time that the public school structure was first created. It is within the last 50 or so years that there has been a shift to both parents working outside the home to keep their lives in balance, whether it was a financial necessity or a psychological one, where both men and women wanted to use their educations as springboards into full lives of work, service and family life.

This is the reason that high quality child care centers are so critical to the health of any community. Those young children, who should be seen as our most important resource for the future, are not given the primary thought in the United States that they should be given, left out of the public school structure supported by taxes and state and federal funding. Studies keep finding that those early years are extremely important to the development of any person, yet they are too often an afterthought here when it comes to finding them revenues and funding on a consistent basis to keep them afloat and thriving.

In other nations across the world, early childhood education does find universal strong support from consistent and reliable streams of funding, as in the Nordic countries and especially Sweden, for instance, building systems that put the needs of children and their families first. In the U.S., the struggle to find such funding continues, with too much of the burden being put on the backs of young families, who are just starting out their lives, and the educators who choose to take on the important task of teaching these young children.

If you missed it, do go back and read the story in this newspaper last week by Elias Sorich on child care centers and the staffing and funding shortages they face, not only in this region, but across the country. There is only so much young families can afford to pay for early childhood care. Child care centers, mainly nonprofit, strive to supplement tuition with fundraising in their communities, yet with shrinking staffs to keep the centers operating, less time can be given to these initiatives. If you are thinking their missions don't touch your lives, if you don't have young children or grandchildren in the area, think again.

Think about those essential workers and volunteers who do have children younger than school age, who fill positions in your community that are critical to its healthy functioning. Take an interest in the child care center that services the families in your town, and find out how many families they affect, giving them safe, fun and high quality child care while they work. The benefit to having centers that cover your local region is that the students become familiar with one another and become friends, sometimes lifelong, and wind up attending school together. Their annual appeals are mainly going out to their supporters now for the end of the year giving opportunities, so it's a good time to be very aware of their needs and support them as much as you possibly can.

Winter-proofing

Whether you're an older adult or somebody who's caring for an older family member, most of us want to live out our lives in our own homes, for as long as it's safe to do so. The key is to make the "safe to do so" part last, and we can start toward that goal by adapting the home with an eye on safety. If there's only one improvement you can manage for now, fall-proofing is it. Falls are potentially deadly, life-altering, and expensive. The financial burden of fall-related costs to taxpayers through Medicare and Medicaid was \$674 billion as of 2020, a cost that has only risen since then.

Falls are the single leading cause of both fatal and non-fatal injury for American older adults. Not all falls are avoidable, but nor are they inevitable. Let's get working on prevention, starting with some zero- and low-cost options. Start with one room at a time and work systematically so that the job doesn't overwhelm.

Decluttering? Sort and be ruthless. As you go through your belongings in each room, have three piles – what you need to keep; what can be sold, donated, or put into storage; and what can be thrown away. If there's something that you haven't used in at least a year, and no chance it'll be used soon, away it goes. It's sad but true: family heirlooms are rarely needed by grown children and grandchildren. We'll have more ideas on what to do with items

GOLDEN LIVING Dutchess County Office for the Aging

of sentimental value in a future column.

Lose the throw rugs and carpets. They can be slipping/tripping hazards. Remove them or replace them with mats that have a non-slip backing. Non-slip mats are essential for bathrooms as well.

If it's in the wrong room, put it back. Where's the screwdriver? You brought it in from the garage to fix a loose door hinge, and then the phone rang, and the dog was hungry, and the Giants game was on, and... we know. While you're in decluttering mode is the time to put things back in their correct location.

Need a bathroom grab bar? Many fall-prevention improvements are as simple as a trip to the hardware store. If it's time to replace a doorknob, look for one with a lever handle. They're easier on aging hands.

Get off that ladder. Outdoors falls at height are some of the most dangerous falls, and this time of year is when they're most common. One misstep and you could have a broken bone or a head or spinal injury. You could be unconscious with nobody aware that you have fallen because you're outside.

Golden Living is prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, ofa@dutchessny.gov



We Need Gatekeepers

America is the land of the free and this generally encourages everyone to think this gives them license to act freely, of their own volition. And when the population of the USA was less than half of what it is today in 1950, the year I was born, the possibilities of expansion and open decision-making was infectious to the population back then, especially after the end of the Second World War. And back then, the notion we needed to have guardrails around what was said or done was amply catered for by the police and people of authority in government and the military.

I want to give the youngest of readers a clear picture of what the '50s were like. You had to call the operator and book a long-distance call. New York to LA would cause a delay of up to 5 hours... Calling Europe? Try a day or more. A telegram would arrive within the same day, often quicker. There was no telex, no fax, no Internet. The US mail was fast, 1st class mail NY to LA in two or three days. Within the same city? By next morning. Radio and TV were broadcast on Federal, licensed (and federally owned), radio frequencies... what you said over the public airwaves was controlled by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Fairness Doctrine. Coming off of WWII, the news reporting was made to be clinical, accurate, and without opinion. When Walter Cronkite cried on live TV when President Kennedy was assassinated it was the most opinionated newscast of the time. No one had ever done that before.

All that oversight, all that gatekeeping on truth and facts without opinion went out the window in an engineered coup organized by Karl Rove and Dick Cheney who broke the Fairness Doctrine citing the advent of cable broadcasting (that is, not public radio waves controlled by the FCC) that made such control unworkable. No, it was workable... 95% of all TV was still received by public airwaves... but they saw a way to break the FCC's control and allow new broadcasters to color, spin, and frankly lie their way to financial success for all TV and radio pretending that the 5% of cable

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE Peter Riva

receivers outweighed the needs for control for the remaining 95%. Radio was not, at the time, a cable broadcaster, but Rove and Cheney made sure that the likes of Rush Limbaugh and Conservative talk radio could be unleashed. What Rove and Cheney had not accounted for were Twitter, Facebook, now Meta and other Internet purveyors of content who are unlicensed, unguarded, and unfettered. The "new media" of the Internet can spout any nonsense they want to. The FCC has no effective control whatsoever.

Want to know how to build a bomb? Want to know how to kill children in a school? Want to know how to poison someone? Want to listen to a KKK grand duke or someone spout racial hatred? Want to teach "alternative facts" to a public brought up with newscasters like Cronkite and Murrow? There is now nothing to stop these people.

And in case you think I am advocating for nationalization of the news and killing free speech, I am not. In the same way that it is irresponsible and unlawful to yell "FIRE!" in a crowded room where there is no fire, so should we have gatekeepers of truth and honesty on public platforms, whether they be commercial or not.

Currently, the only safeguard we have are like the warnings on cigarette packets telling you that if you smoke, you will get cancer and die. If it were not for lawsuits against pharma companies, do you really think it is the FCC making them tell you that you could get, "...headache, nausea, vomiting, death, dizziness, and even death." These are not FCC mandated warnings; these are from lawyers and the FDA covering their rears.

I don't want the FDA or lawyers to control what is fair and honest on TV or the Internet. I want our government to set and apply standards of decency and honesty. I want a gatekeeper back. That's the real value of America: truth and honesty.

Library board weighs in on Sharon Hospital planning

From the editor: This is a letter sent to the Connecticut Office of Health Strategy on behalf of the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon board of directors.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, I write to oppose NuVance Health's proposed closure of the Labor and Delivery Unit at Sharon Hospital.

The two most important institutions in Sharon (the school aside) are without question the Hospital and the Library. The Hospital looks after the body; at the Library, we help nurture the mind. At times we collaborate, as in the case of the Books for Babies program the Library established. Under this program, every baby born at the Hospital receives a package containing a library card, two board books and a pamphlet for the parents. Since 2011, the Library has distributed 2,234 of these packets to the families of newborns. Apart from its promotion of literacy, this program recognizes that the future of the Library and indeed the entire community depend in no small part on engaging our youth.

The Library recently concluded a major capital campaign to fund the renovation and expansion of our facility. Work is underway. The Children's Room will be redesigned in keeping with the latest concepts. There will also be an addition with a room suitable for children's activities which we've been unable to hold in the current building due to space constraints. This work is another demonstration of our commitment to the younger generation(s).

It appeared that the Hospital was like-minded. In 2009 it opened a large and sophisticated Birthing Center, designed to make the experience as pleasant as possible for the mother and the infant. Innovatively, the Center has six comfortable suites where the mother stays throughout labor, delivery and recovery. The message, albeit implicit, seemed to be: "Come to Sharon. Have your babies here. We want you."

One would think that NuVance would have made that message explicit by promoting this state-of-the-art facility. As attractive as the Northwest Corner is, it would be even more so to couples knowing that they would receive all the health care they need to

GUEST COMMENTARY Thomas Trowbridge

start their families here. This marvelous facility would have been a particularly strong draw. This, moreover, was an opportune time, with families moving here to escape the pandemic. Having attracted them, we want to keep them, and a fully operational Birthing Center would have played an important role in that effort.

That, though, isn't what happened. I am aware of no efforts by NuVance to promote the Center. It's almost as though NuVance doesn't want the existence of this facility to become widely known out of concern that it would become too popular. And so, instead of publicizing it, they argue that the Center is unprofitable and must be closed.

It is difficult to believe that, given the substantial expense involved in constructing the Birthing Center, it was anticipated that that investment would be fully recouped and the Center would turn a profit. Rather, it seems likely that it was imagined as a loss leader, and that parents, having been introduced to the Hospital through a birth, would use its other services. "Come for your baby. Stay for your hip."

One doesn't dispense with a loss leader because it loses money. That's what it's expected to do. In a not completely apt analogy, that would be like a restaurant deciding not to serve food because its profits mostly come from liquor sales. Were it to do so, it would cease being a restaurant.

And that is what frightens us. There would be both the dire consequences if we were to lose the Labor and Delivery Unit as well as implications for the rest of the Hospital. The fear is that, like the restaurant (RIP) that stopped serving food, the Hospital, before long, would cease to be a hospital.

Please don't let them close the Labor and Delivery Unit. We want to keep delivering books to babies born there, and, along with the Hospital, play our part in helping the community, beginning with its youngest members, thrive.

Sincerely, Thomas R. Trowbridge, III President, Board of Directors The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon

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Mission Statement
The Lakeville Journal Company, Publishers of
The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News
Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, and to foster the free flow of information and opinion.

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OUR TOWNS

Schaghticoke roundtable draws interest in indigenous culture

By DEBORAH MAIER
Special to the Millerton News

PINE PLAINS — The Schaghticoke First Nations (SFN) Roundtable at Pine Plains Free Library on Saturday, Dec. 3 brought up a wealth of genealogical information, current projects, dreams for going forward, and a host of questions from the audience that reflect the complexities of this moment in our nation’s history. About sixty people were in attendance.

Dyan Wapnick of Little Nine Partners Historical Society began the program with an acknowledgement of the unceded land known as Shekomoko, and a hope that the erasure of its indigenous peoples can be rectified to ensure fairness for their living



PHOTO BY DEBORAH MAIER

descendants. Though the Pine Plains Bicentennial scheduled for March 2023 will celebrate its “discovery,” she noted, it was already inhabited by a complex and sophisticated indigenous culture.

Valerie LaRobardier, SFN

Tribal Genealogist, presented a series of slides outlining the difficulties of drawing upon sources from the earliest colonial days. Questions of perspective, of oral versus written sources, alternate name spellings, and similarly named individuals who were numbered

Gregg Osofsky, left, of Watershed Center in Millerton chats with Sachem Hawk Storm at the Schaghticoke First Nations forum in Pine Plains on Saturday, Dec. 3.

for convenience (‘Gideon 33’) made for a good introduction. Of special interest were the Praying Towns set up in western Massachusetts to Christianize Indians, with British families installed as ‘models of civility’. To a modern eye, it is noteworthy that they were led by “a speculator in Indian lands”, one Ephraim Williams. In the ensuing decade, thousands of acres of Mohican lands were “secured” — many if not most without compensation.

The role of the Moravian

Missionaries was a fascinating exception to this phenomenon: they were allies to native Americans; they socialized with them, advised and protected them, when necessary, from the actions of some of the colonists. Their careful documentation, while not always flawless, affords us knowledge that would otherwise be lost.

The post-break presentation by Sachem (Chief) Hawk Storm began with a reminder that the indigenous peoples of the United States were “not as isolated and separate as some would have us believe”. While conceding that there are differences among tribes, he stressed that all in this region were under one governing body, led by those who called themselves simply the Algonquin word for ‘Easterners’.

Sachem Hawk highlighted his group’s many efforts at building the dream of a world where clean food and water, as well as satisfying livelihoods connected to the land, are available to all.

Caskoak (‘place of the herons’), their 73-acre parcel near Copake, has already begun its transformation into an Agro-Food-Forestry paradise, with 3000 new trees planted, all of them fruit- or nut-bearing. Plans are afoot to build “a Conservation and Cultural Center where we can host workshops and conferences, bringing indigenous voices from around the world to share their knowledge and experience.”

What is planned is future-

focused stewardship of both land and communities: “Our goal on this land is ecosystem restoration, reconnecting communities with the land, and providing a real-time example of a food-focused initiative that is based on the use of Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge.”

As the meeting drew to a close, audience members raised the thorny issue of recognition by state and federal authorities; and the question of how to deal with historically objectionable artifacts, mascots and other representations — like the head of Sas-sucus, a Pequot chief, in a local high school’s logo — elicited some spirited responses. Both Sachem Hawk and a speaker from Rhinebeck agreed that in some cases contextualizing, not cancelling, those remnants is the wiser course.

The image in question was the side wall, recently painted over, of the former Pine Plains Platter restaurant, depicting Indians in a way that some found offensive. As a counterpoint, Sachem Hawk cited John Gast’s 1892 painting, “American Progress”, with its suggestion that American Indians fled willingly from the new technology of the age.

Millerton attorney and historian Ed Downey likely spoke for many in the audience when he praised Valerie LaRobardier’s impressive research and commended Dyan Wapnick for giving us the opportunity to understand our world more fully. “That’s the primary reason we study our



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Cooper’s Hawk perched in the rain on a fence post in North Canaan.

Christmas Bird Count set in Connecticut and New York

SHARON, Conn. — For over 120 years, small groups of birders have ventured out in December for the Christmas Bird Count, with the sole purpose of counting birds.

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Sharon Audubon Center’s count area is a 15-mile circle with its center at The Hotchkiss School, thus taking in some good birding areas in Sharon, Salisbury, and Falls Village, and Amenia and North East in New York.

Interested participants can contact the Audubon Center by Friday, Dec. 16 to determine meeting times and places throughout the count day for each birding area on our map.

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