



MILLERTON

What's Old Is New Again At Designer Finds On Main Street **A2**



MILLBROOK

Local Do-Gooder Named '22 Woman Of Distinction **A5**

COMPASS A Perfect Summer Read; Invasive Plants; Groundbreaking Musicals; And More **B1-2**



Special, Inside

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PHOTO BY RHIANNON LEO-JAMESON

Twilight concert at Rudd Pond

The band Roger and Lenny was accompanied by musicians Mark Yard and John Lynch at the next-to-last summer concert at Rudd Pond in Millerton on Friday, July 23. Local musician Roger Cohn is on the right with his musical partner Lenny Sutton on the left; in the back row to the left is Lynch while Yard is to the right. The performance drew a crowd of Tri-state music-lovers eager for a relaxing evening among the trees and later, the stars, with great tunes to accompany them. There's only one concert remaining in the NorthEast-Millerton Library's summer music series, set for Saturday, Aug. 13, at 6 p.m. with The Mia Brazilian Jazz Ensemble. The library has asked concert-goers to note the earlier start time, as visitors arriving before 6 p.m. will be charged a parking fee.

Superintendent of schools steps down

Mitchell leaves MCSD, Hernandez-Pidala steps up

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — In what some saw as a surprise move, a special Board of Education (BOE) meeting called on Monday, Aug. 1, announced Superintendent of Schools Laura Mitchell had resigned, among other news. The agenda also noted the board planned to officially accept her resignation that evening.

A letter from the school board

dated Aug. 2 was sent to parents and guardians in the MCSD explaining the BOE had approved an Addendum Agreement to Mitchell's May 3, 2020, Employment Agreement at the Aug. 1 special meeting. BOE President Perry Hartswick expanded on Mitchell's departure in an interview with The Millerton News.

"The parties were able to reach a mutually acceptable agreement to resolve the employment relationship," he said. "We wish her well in

her future endeavors."

Beyond that, Hartswick did not elaborate on the cause for Mitchell ending her term as superintendent early. She began it in 2020. Mitchell came to the MCSD as interim superintendent in May 2020 to replace former Superintendent Philip D'Angelo and was officially named superintendent in July 2020.

Former Deputy Superintendent

See MCSD, A6

Sharon Hospital earns third consecutive 5-star rating

SHARON, Conn. — Sharon Hospital, part of Nuvance Health, has been awarded a five-star rating — the highest overall — by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for quality patient care.

The overall rating, between one and five stars, provides consumers with a summary of a hospital's overall quality performance into a single summary score. Scores are determined from a variety of data reported, including mortality, safety of care, timely and effective care, readmissions and patient experience.

Sharon Hospital is one of three

hospitals in Connecticut to earn the five-star rating and one of 429 facilities in the nation to earn the top score. More than 3,000 hospitals are measured by the federal agency.

"Our third consecutive five-star rating is a hallmark of our inspiring healthcare professionals who share in our culture, one dedi-

cated to excellence and the best outcomes for every patient," said Christina McCulloch, the hospital's new president. "We thank you, our community, for the support to help us reach this achievement, and to our staff for their dedicated leadership in quality and safety standards across the institution, especially during the pandemic."

Sharon Hospital update

Nuvance to phase out labor and delivery

By PATRICK L. SULLIVAN
patrick@lakevillejournal.com

SHARON, Conn. — Christina McCulloch, the new president of Sharon Hospital, said that the hospital's parent company, Nuvance Health, is going ahead with its plans to close the Labor and Delivery unit and consolidate two critical care units into one.

Aug. 8 Webinar

McCulloch was one of several panelists during an online community forum Monday, Aug. 8. The online meeting included a report from the independent monitor that evaluates the hospital's compliance with its agreement with the state and is required twice a year.

During the question and answer session at the end of the meeting, McCulloch was asked if the influx of new families into the hospital's coverage area as a by-product to the COVID-19 pandemic might

make the hospital reconsider the plan to close the Labor and Delivery unit.

McCulloch said that while the hospital looks at current as well as historical demographic trends, the new families would not result in "nearly enough volume to drastically change our strategic plan."

McCulloch started off by recognizing and praising hospital staff and by noting a number of awards the hospital has recently received, including a five-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (see story, this page).

Noting some \$14 million in capital investments, McCulloch said the hospital has added 3D mammography; updated MRI capacity and access; and sponsors several support groups, including groups for stroke patients, people having

See SHARON HOSPITAL, A6

New in The News

By WHITNEY JOSEPH
editor@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Astute readers of The Millerton News may have noticed that last week's issue, published on Thursday, Aug. 4, was the first issue in many, many years in which we did not label our pages with the names of the towns from which the articles

See LAYOUT, A6

Visit Lakeville Journal history exhibit

SALISBURY, Conn. — The Lakeville Journal is celebrating its 125th anniversary with a month-long series of events beginning with a reception for a new exhibit on Saturday, Aug. 13, from 4 to 6 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the Salisbury Association and will be held at the Academy Building, 24 Main St., Salisbury.

"Life of a Community: The Lakeville Journal Celebrates 125 Years" will be on display from Aug. 13 to Oct. 1.

The exhibit chronicles the history of The Lakeville Journal weekly newspaper, whose first issue was published Aug. 14, 1897, along with local events in the six Connecticut towns covered: Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, North Ca-

naan, Salisbury and Sharon.

Just as the newspaper business has changed dramatically during that time, the exhibit reflects changes in the community. In an era when many local newspapers are going out of business, The Lakeville Journal maintains its local connection and commitment to covering community news.

On Sunday, Aug. 14, the exhibit will be open during The Lakeville Journal's 125 Anniversary Fair featuring music, food and fun activities on Academy Street from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information about the exhibit and reception, call 860-435-0566 or go to www.salisburyassociation.org. For information about the anniversary festivities, go to www.lakevillejournal.com.



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OPINION:

With Gratitude: We Make It Because Of You; Letters **B4**

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OUR TOWNS

Old is new again at Designer Finds

By MOIRA KELLY
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — Dana Scarpa opened a vintage clothing store, Designer Finds of Millerton, on April 15 this year while most people were busy filing taxes. The store is at 30 Main St. in the bustling village, next to The Moviehouse.

Scarpa is a woman of varied talents. She's cared for Arabian horses, worked at Bergdorf Goodman and Ann Taylor and run the Encore consignment store in Salisbury, Conn.

Now she's opened Designer Finds. Why? Because, she said, "Millerton is thriving." So much so that she took on the lease of the retail space sight unseen.

Scarpa's had more than 100 visitors a day at her shop, she said. Tourists, yes, but also a wide range of local residents. She said she thinks it's important to serve the community and has items for as little as \$5 (or as much as five digits for a rare find). She also has a thriving men's department.

All items are sold on consignment. This means the store takes 60% of the sales price while the consigner takes 40%. What does not, or will not sell, is donated to the North East Community Center in Millerton for families in need. Donors get a tax deduction.

Patrons range from teenagers to retirees. There are "a lot of hipsters looking for the unusual" and older people who just want to



PHOTO BY MOIRA KELLY

Designer Finds owner Dana Scarpa said business is booming.

buy clothes that make them look good for a good price.

The store is organized according to style, price and size, and is just like a regular boutique versus a muddle-some, crowded thrift store. Part of her success, she said, is that there is no back order shipping.

Scarpa speaks with all her consigners, who come from New York City, Connecticut, Massachusetts and even as far away as New Jersey. She also keeps a customer log in her head to look out for any specific requests.

Today, when recycling is the name of the game and everyone's trying to beat inflation, vintage clothing stores like Designer Finds are an invaluable resource. Don't let the term "upscale" on the sign put you off — this is a store for everyone.

Designer Finds is closed Tuesdays but open every other weekday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Artist donates half of all sales from exhibit to Millerton library

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — Well-known abstract artist Harper Blanchet has once again demonstrated his generosity, as he has not only provided a number of his abstract paintings for the August display at the NorthEast-Millerton Library (NEML), but said he plans to split evenly with the organization any earnings that might result from sales at the showing.

Library Director Rhiannon Leo-Jameson said that artists do often offer to make much-appreciated donations if works are sold, but Blanchet's offer is exceptional, as was a previous donation.

In 2018, Blanchet mounted his first NEML exhibition in which in which he offered a particular painting for what he said at the time were "New York city prices." The artist's pricing was spot on, not surprising because he has regularly sold paintings at galleries in the city as well as throughout the Northeast.

The painting sold to a fan who happily paid the undisclosed price, half of which Blanchet donated to the library in what at the time was an unmatched contribution resulting from an exhibit.

As generous as that was, this time Blanchet said he has upped the ante by putting all nine of his 16 x 20-inch acrylic on canvas pieces on the block in hopes that at least one will sell.

"This is a great venue for artists to show their work," Blanchet said of the library,



PHOTO BY LOUIE TOMAINO

Artist Harper Blanchet and NorthEast-Millerton Library Director Rhiannon Leo-Jameson examined one of Blanchet's abstract paintings for sale at the library, with half of all sales being donated to the library.

suggesting others take advantage of the opportunity.

That perspective echoes previous comments in which Blanchet explained that he wanted to support the NEML because he appreciated the kindness and generosity that Leo-Jameson and other members of the staff had always provided him throughout his career.

That includes both residing and working in gallery space in Millerton for a period. At the time he said he particularly appreciated library resources, including computers and the internet, both of which proved to be valuable to him and neither of which he had access to in

either his home or studio.

Having lived and worked in a number of inspirational locations, most recently in Falls Village, Conn., Blanchet is currently looking for a new location in the Tri-state region to both live and work in, but like so many in this time of housing shortages, he is yet to succeed.

Of his exceptional generosity, Leo-Jameson said the donation was totally unexpected. She added it has the potential to be one of the most significant contributions by any of the artists who have displayed their work while also providing much-appreciated support from sales.

The funds, she noted, are

certainly very helpful as the NEML needs to meet mounting expenses.

"We are also very grateful for the art itself, because through the exhibits our patrons can have an opportunity to enjoy work they otherwise might not see," said Leo-Jameson. "That is certainly the case With Mr. Blanchet's paintings, which are bringing color, bright light and energy to the library."

For more information on the NEML at 75 Main St., go to www.nemillertonlibrary.org or call 518-789-3340.

Work by Blanchet, who is represented by the Garage Galleri at 2 Main St., is posted at www.harperblanchet.com.

Send news and photos to editor@millertonnews.com



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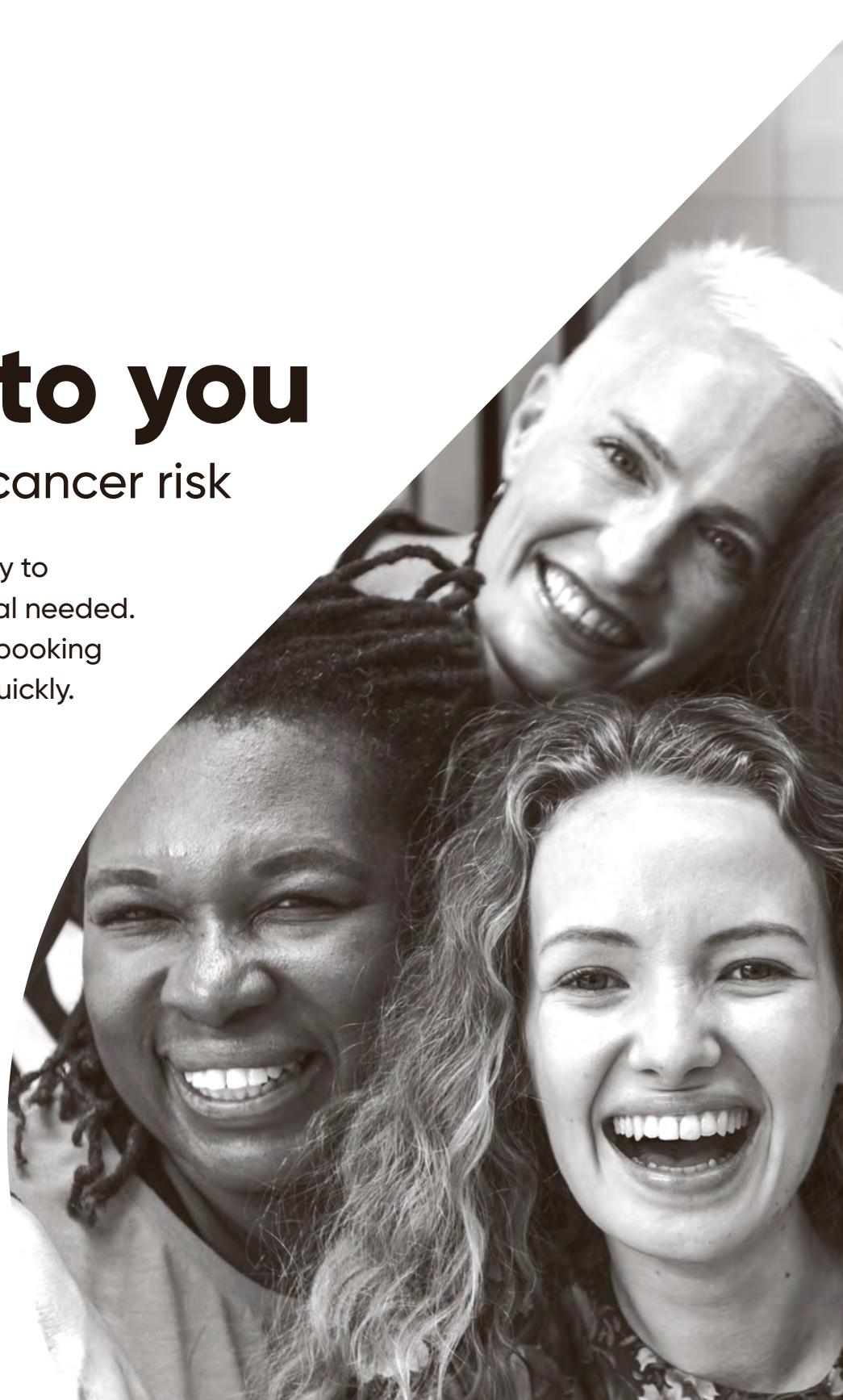
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Sharon Hospital



Don't miss Amenia Wastewater Committee's presentation of feasibility study on Aug. 18

By **JIM WRIGHT** and **CHARLIE MILLER**
Special to The Millerton News

AMENIA — Residents, businesses and community leaders of Amenia have recognized for decades that without a municipal wastewater system in the central hamlet, the town won't thrive. Many septic systems in that area are old and failing; most

don't meet current standards. The majority of systems can't be replaced, though, because the construction of new septic systems is limited by small lots and high groundwater levels.

For this reason, both Amenia's 2007 Comprehensive Plan and the 2008 Hamlet Development Study stated without a municipal wastewater system, housing and

business development in the hamlet would be nearly impossible.

Likewise, the Dutchess County Department of Behavior and Community Health endorsed the "design and construction of a central sewer system for the hamlet to protect public health and to enhance economic opportunities in the hamlet."

Amenia has a long history of investigating the wastewater issue and working to address it. Studies and reports regarding central wastewater systems were prepared in 1995, 2003, 2009 and 2012.

Most recently, the Amenia Wastewater Committee (AWC) spent the past two years examining possibilities for wastewater projects — nearly half of it in the form of grants and forgivable loans available to communities like Amenia.

In 2021, the Town Board selected Tighe & Bond Engineering to perform a new sewer feasibility study. With the passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021 there's a new urgency; the law allocated almost \$12 billion dollars over five years for wastewater projects — nearly half of it in the form of grants and forgivable loans available to communities like Amenia.

Benefits

A central wastewater system in Amenia would provide significant benefits. It would:

- Replace outdated septic systems
- Allow existing businesses to reach their full capacity
- Encourage the growth of new small businesses in the hamlet
- Allow for multi-use buildings with commercial

and residential space

- Encourage capital investments, including in much-needed workforce housing
- Protect the environment
- Promote sustainable community development

Current work

The AWC has done extensive research into treatment systems and technologies, conducted site visits, spoken with leaders of neighboring towns, and met with engineers and officials at the Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority.

One of its most important priorities has been community engagement. In December 2021, the AWC mailed all homeowners and business owners in town a Wastewater Survey, asking for details and feedback about their septic systems; personal wastewater-related issues; issues they know of in the hamlet; and their thoughts on a municipal wastewater system.

To encourage feedback, the AWC also conducted targeted outreach by phone and e-mail to residential and business property owners in the central hamlet area. Two-thirds said the hamlet would benefit from a central sewer system and 56% of respondents in the envisioned sewer district said they would connect to a municipal wastewater system.

2022 Feasibility Study

The AWC has been working tirelessly with Tighe and Bond throughout the creation of its detailed sewer feasibility study. It was closely involved in researching potential recovery/return sites, the delineation of the proposed dis-

trict and discussions around project need, technology applications, expandability and sustainability. Many lessons from past attempts by the town were incorporated into the current study. The report may be found at www.bit.ly/amenia-sewer.

2022 Sewer

District Delineation

The study proposes a district centered around the main hamlet at the intersection of routes 22, 343 and 44 and extends:

- North along Route 22 to the Cascade Country Corner including Freshtown Plaza (Cascade Road isn't included)
- East along Route 343 to the Sun River Health office
- South along Mechanic Street and Depot Hill Road including the residential neighborhood around Midway Avenues, Lango Road, John L Road and Prospect Avenue
- South from the main intersection along Route 343 and Broadway down to Fudgy's Ice Cream
- West along Route 44 to Welsh Sanitation

It contains 233 parcels (65 commercial and 168 residential).

2022 Estimated user fees

Delivering a residential

user fee folks could afford was a top requirement, and the most vocal supporters of a central sewer have been businesses, which have a greater need and will be the biggest beneficiaries.

The engineers used what's worked in other communities — a higher commercial rate that subsidizes residential users. This allowed the AWC to cap the estimated monthly cost of a single-family user to \$63. The average small business estimated monthly cost is \$292.

Immediate next steps

Throughout the summer and fall, AWC members will be contacting property owners in the envisioned district to discuss the proposed system. Tighe and Bond will present the 2022 Sewer Feasibility Study to the Town Board on Thursday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m. Community members are strongly encouraged to attend.

Questions?

Please email all questions and comments to cleanwater@ameniany.gov.

Jim Wright is a member of the Amenia Wastewater Committee and Charlie Miller is the committee's chairman; both men reside in Wassaic.



PHOTO BY TIA MAGGIO

Farmers market kids market

Join Roeliff Jansen Community Library's Tia Maggio at the Copake-Hillsdale Farmers Market for the rest of the summer through Labor Day weekend, as she shares stories and conducts activities with the library's youngest patrons. Children can learn about food that's grown locally while shopping on their own at the Farmers Market, a brand-new experience for most of them. This past weekend there were arts and crafts for little ones.

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OBITUARIES

George Thomas Smith

SOUTH EGREMONT — Mr. George Thomas Smith, 84, of South Egremont and South Harbor, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, died peacefully at his home on Tuesday, August 2, 2022, or as George would say, he was “gathered up.”

Depending on how you knew him, George was affectionally known as George, GT, Bowtie George, HoHo and Dad. He was a man who wore many hats, literally and figuratively. His claim to fame was his longevity in any of his endeavors whether it be his volunteerism in his community, his adventures in his vintage MG, or his patriarchal care of his family. As he got on in years he was often heard saying “I’ve been doing this for ages” or something to that effect.

Born February 17, 1938, in Winsted, George was the son of Irving G. Smith, a veteran of World War I and an entrepreneur, and the former Mary O’Meara, a teacher. He was an only child who was fortunate enough to grow up during the post war prosperity in small town America. On more than a handful of occasions a youthful George could be caught playing hooky with the mayor’s son or on an unapproved drive around town with one of the cars from his father’s Chevy dealership.

George was fortunate to be able to attend the Loomis School in Windsor, Connecticut, formerly the Loomis School, an all-boys school. He then attended the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business and graduated with a degree in economics in 1960.

While at Penn he was member of St. Anthony Hall, Fraternity of Delta Psi. George remained an active member of St. Anthony Hall for the entirety of his life.

George’s professional career began at Anaconda American Brass in Waterbury. Soon after George began selling a bookkeeping system and accounting services throughout Berkshire County and relocated to South Egremont, Massachusetts. Here George had found his happy place, often spending time at nearby Catamount Ski Area where he became a member of the ski patrol and socializing at the Swiss Hutte. It was at the Swiss Hutte that George met the love of his life, the late Jane Cannon Smith, when he extinguished a small fire in her hair by dumping his scotch on her head. After the shock of her introduction to George wore off, his charm overtook

her, and they married in 1968 remaining in South Egremont where they began a family.

George was immensely proud of his role as a father raising his three children with his wife Jane. Childhood under George was not typical. Instead of organized sports his children were often donning hunting gear and setting out on a Friday night to hunt racoons or spending Saturday mornings hunting pheasants. If you wanted George’s parental attention you needed to be a good mechanic as he often was tinkering and fixing his beloved MG TC to make it ready for racing or touring. The winter season brought skiing, a favorite past time and he eagerly taught each of his children how to ski as soon as they could stand. He was also very proud of his role as grandfather and great-grandfather. He looked forward to sharing milestone moments with his five granddaughters and was often a participant in cheering them on from the sideline, encouraging them to study hard or genuinely inquiring about their latest endeavors.

Among his family it was joked that he had a fourth child, his 1948 MG TC. This object of George’s fancy received a great deal of attention and care. In 1959 he purchased this classic auto from legendary racer John Fitch. George found equal joy tooling around in his MG with his wife by his side, calling on clients or touring New England. In 1986 he set out on a three-week cross-country adventure with his son Colin. George also took up vintage racing in the mid 1970s and had the opportunity to race circuits throughout New England and the Mid-Atlantic. George remained an active racer late into his 70’s.

Along with his love Jane, George discovered peace and relaxation in the highlands of Cape Breton Island in northern Nova Scotia, Canada. They loved it so much that they built a small vacation home there at the oceanside in hopes that children and grandchildren would visit them often as they spent their summers there. George was fortunate to realize this dream and each year would

happily mark up the vacation house calendar with the events of each day such as what hike he did or who came to visit.

George is best known for his county wide accounting practice Smith, Watson and Company, LLP which started in 1973 with John (Jack) Watson. George and Jack had a reputation of honesty and it allowed them to grow their business from a four-person office to a successful cornerstone business of the community. Today the business carries on with the success that George and Jack had laid the foundation for. For George, community was so very important to him. Shortly after settling in South Berkshire County George recognized the need for formal emergency medical services after an auto accident in 1967 and along with 24 other community members formed Southern Berkshire Volunteer Ambulance Squad. As the squad grew and became well established George moved on to work with Fairview Hospital, then a separate organization from Berkshire Medical Center. As president of the board, he led the hospital through its building expansion and modernization. He later would become integrally involved in the merger of Fairview Hospital and Berkshire Medical Center to form Berkshire Health Systems, the healthcare resource our community relies on today. George was very generous with volunteering his time over the years. Healthcare always remained his passion.

George is survived by his three children Colin (Jennifer Gaenzle), Mara and Grinnan; five granddaughters, Marissa, Sara, Catherine, Jane and Lena and one great-grandson, Jake. He was predeceased by his wife Jane Cannon Smith.

A Liturgy of Christian Burial was held at Our Lady of the Valley Church, Sheffield, Massachusetts on August 9, at 11 a.m. The family received visitors at the family home 33 Bow Wow Road, South Egremont, on August 8 from 4 to 6 pm. (Note: GPS location may not be accurate. House is located 1/2 mile in from Route 41 end of Bow Wow Road.) Memorial contributions may be made in George’s memory to Southern Berkshire Ambulance Service or Fairview Hospital.

NORTH CANAAN — Robert D. Harris, Jr., age 76, died at home on August 3, 2022. He was born in North Canaan, graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School, and received his BA from the University of Connecticut in 1967. After serving in the Army in Vietnam, Bob worked for the State of Connecticut his entire career, retiring as the Director of the Office of Fiscal Analysis in 2001. He continued his service to the state on the State Library Board and the Capitol Preservation Board throughout his retirement. Bob enjoyed collecting art and antiques, but is best known for his life-long love of reading and books. In his later years he greatly enjoyed meeting authors at signing events and book festivals.

Bob was generous, thoughtful, and funny. He loved to gift books to people, especially when he knew of their interests or hobbies. He also

loved chewing gum. Bob is survived by his loving husband and partner of almost 40 years, Father Michael F. Ray, retired pastor of St. Thomas’s in New Haven, his daughters Debra (Ryan) and C. Catherine Ray, sons Phillip (Laurie) and Daniel (Hui), grandchildren Anuhea and Evan, and his sister Patricia Harris Glennon.

Bob was a great lover of animals, especially dogs, and was preceded in death by his beloved rescue greyhound Oberon. A memorial will be planned at the convenience of the family. If you knew Bob, you know he rarely threw anything away including the copious paperwork from the many charities he supported. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the charity of your choice, as it’s likely one he supported. To send condolences to his family, please see obituary at www.beecherandbennett.com.



Katherine G. Disbrow

MILLERTON — Katherine G. Disbrow, 105, a seventy five year resident of Millerton, died peacefully on Sunday, Aug. 7, 2022 at Sharon Health Care Center in Sharon. Mrs. Disbrow worked for Delson’s Department Store and Dick’s Pharmacy as a sales associate for many years, and also worked as a waitress and cook at the Millerton Diner. She ultimately retired at the age of 88 when the Dick’s Pharmacy closed.



Born July 20, 1917 in Mt. Kisco, New York she was the daughter of the late Edward and Mabel (Hyatt) Sands. Following her years at school, she married Frederick E. Disbrow. Mr. Disbrow died in 1990. Mrs. Disbrow was a life member, past secretary and past president of the Millerton American Legion Post No. 178 Ladies Auxiliary. In her spare time she enjoyed bowling at the Millerton Bowling Alley and at Cove Lanes in Great Barrington. She also liked to dance and enjoyed relaxing on the beach in Miami Beach, Florida, and Atlantic City, New Jersey and Rudd Pond in Millerton. Her greatest joy was spending time with her loving family and many friends.

Mrs. Disbrow is survived by her daughter, Katherine J. Schienda of Millerton and her son, Frederick Disbrow of North Carolina; a brother, Donald Sands and his wife Eva of Meriden, Connecticut and two sisters, Mabel Colt and her husband Carlisle of Southington, Connecticut and Edna Neubauer and her husband Raymond of Forestville, Connecticut.

She is also survived by three grandchildren; Karen Cooke and her husband Joe of Valatie, New York, Robin Neil and her husband Doug of Rexford, New York and Sherri and Paul Mier of Hudson, New York; eight great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband, she was predeceased by her dear siblings, Hilda Sands and Douglas Sands of Millerton, her son-in-law, Raymond Schienda and daughter-in-law Elizabeth Disbrow and her granddaughter, Samantha Neil and several additional brothers and sisters.

Private family visitation will be held on Thursday, Aug. 11, 2022. A private funeral service and burial will follow at Irondale Cemetery in Millerton. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made to the Millerton Legion Post No. 178, 155 Route 44, Millerton, NY 12546 or Millerton Fire Company, P.O. Box 733, Millerton, NY 12546. Arrangements have been entrusted to Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com.

Worship Services

Week of August 14, 2022

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. Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker 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 YouTube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God’s people 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7252</p> <p>FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock In person services on Sundays 8:00 and 10:30 A.M. Livestream at 10:30 on www.trinitylimerock.org The Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:50 a.m. Sunday School “Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors” Pastor Joy Veronesi 860-435-9496 lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Join our virtual Zoom service on Sunday, September 11 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer Pastor Sun Yong Lee 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am Cornwall Village Meeting House 8 Bolton Hill Rd., Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>	<p>Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for current online Bible studies and Sunday services In-person Bible study will resume in the fall. Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</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>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>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mngates125@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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Serino honors Angels of Light founder as woman of distinction

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Held at the Locust Grove historic site in Poughkeepsie, State Senator Sue Serino (R-41) named Lori Cassia-Decker as the 2022 Woman of Distinction for the 41st District for the State of New York. Cassia-Decker received the honor at a networking event entitled "Flipping the Script," held on Wednesday, July 19.

It featured two other nominees: Alyssa Carrion of the of Dutchess County Veterans' Programs and Jacqueline Salvatore, undersheriff for the Columbia County Sheriff's Office.

Each woman spoke about her journey to the present day, including Serino, who started the program. Each story was inspirational and spoke to the tenacity and strength of the featured women.

"Lori Cassia-Decker is a true trailblazer in every sense of the word," said Serino when bestowing the award. "Through Angels of Light, Lori is making a real difference in the lives of children battling life-threatening illnesses, while offering hope and support to their families. In addition to serving more than 1,300 children since launching the organization, Lori also goes above and beyond as a volunteer with numerous community-based organizations"

Cassia-Decker and her husband, George, co-founded Angels of Light (AOL) more than 20 years ago. They were inspired when George



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

From left, Angels of Light (AOL) Vice President Ariana Peterman; AOL Co-Founder and Director Lori-Cassia-Decker, recently named this year's woman of distinction by State Senator Sue Serino (R-41); and AOL President Danielle Mollica-Whiteley all gathered for a photo at the nonprofit foundation's grand opening of its new Millbrook headquarters on Monday, July 25.

coached athletics, and a young girl on one of his teams was battling a terminal illness.

With Christmas nearing, the Deckers and their children wanted to do something special for the young girl and for her family, so they could enjoy the holidays and not focus on her illness. The Deckers asked for their wish lists, shopped, wrapped the presents and then delivered them in time for Christmas, providing a stress-free holiday the family would not have been able to provide for themselves.

From there, AOL was borne; the program grew, with more families added every year. The Deckers have been blessed with tireless volunteers determined to help families of children with grave illnesses. They provide gifts, a holiday dinner, help with transportation and offer

the means and ability for parents and children to remain together, even when a child is in the hospital, far from home. AOL fulfills the dreams of many come Christmas time, and has been doing so for roughly two decades.

With the introduction of the COVID-19 virus in the U.S., other needs arose, and were not limited to just the holiday season. People needed help with transportation, food, utilities and more, so the Deckers expanded their mission and became a 501(c)3 nonprofit in 2020 to help provide a more holistic solution through their charity.

AOL has grown so much, that Cassia-Decker said she realized it was time to establish permanent headquarters. AOL found space in the village of Millbrook at 28 Front St. On Monday, July 25, it held

a celebratory Open House (for details, go to www.tri-cornernews.com).

Cassia-Decker is a small business owner; she and her husband have owned and operated Forza Fitness on Franklin Avenue in Millbrook for many years. She also somehow finds time to volunteer for other organizations. Her willingness to serve is well-known by the Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation, the American Heart Association, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and many others.

This woman who is so often on the run is also a board member of the Eastern Dutchess Road Runners Club.

Cassia-Decker said while organizing fundraisers for AOL and for other important causes takes time, she still manages to focus on family, and spend time with her children and grandchildren, who rank high on her list of priorities. She's also known to be a great friend and neighbor, and is an involved resident of the village.

And Millbrook is clearly proud of Cassia-Decker and how she tends to her community, as those in the community continue to show their support for her, AOL and her many other causes.

There's no doubt Serino chose well, as Cassia-Decker seems to be the perfect example of a woman of distinction.

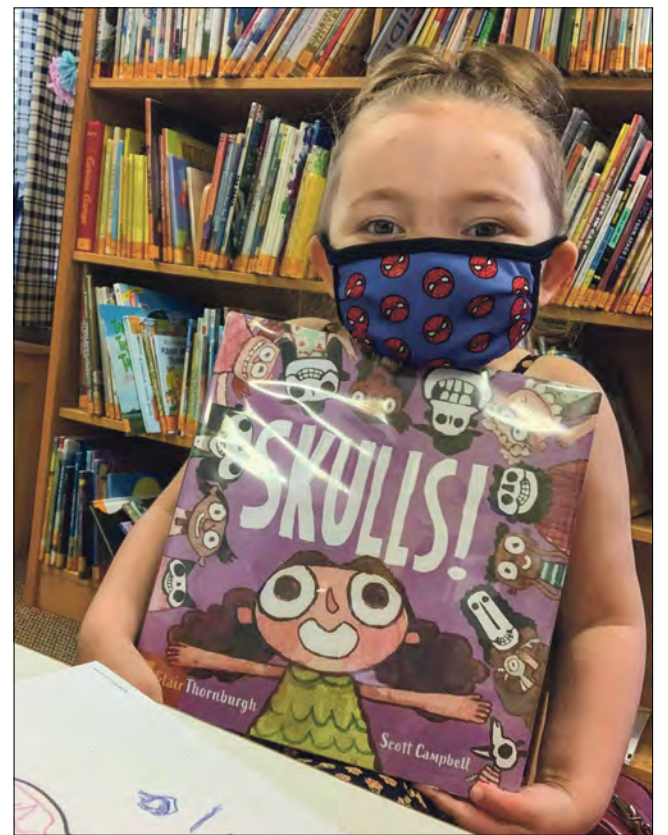


PHOTO BY KRISTIN MCCLUNE

Using skills to read 'Skulls'

Darla Gangloff, 4, picked up the book "Skulls" to read at the NorthEast-Millerton Library (NEML) recently to meet her summer reading goal. This summer, the NEML's community summer reading goal was 500 books, said NEML Youth Services Coordinator Kristin McClune, who encouraged Darla and all other local children to read throughout the summer and continue to do so all year long. The last day of the Summer Reading Program is on Friday, Aug. 12, after which the number of books read will be tallied to see if the goal was met.

AREA IN BRIEF

NECC's Family Program spreads out

The North East Community Center (NECC) is now offering bilingual case management services in two new satellite locations. Walk-ins are welcome at the Pine Plains Library every Thursday from 9 until 10:30 a.m. and at the Amenia Town Hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments may be made by calling NECC at 518-789-4259, ext.116.

"Nuvance's proposed closures are an abandonment that will leave our families high and dry!"

Amy Scheim gave birth to her first child in 2021 at Sharon Hospital and she emphatically explained that, "I can't say enough positive things about my experience, about Dr. Mortman and the entire Sharon Hospital staff."

"I am completely outraged that Nuvance is trying to close Labor and Delivery. Sharon Hospital and their birthing suites really stand out in terms of the level of care and support being offered, well beyond the day that you go home."

"Nuvance has an opportunity to stand out and support pregnant people and families, but instead they're going to abandon them and walk away. They will be abandoning a large part of our population and will ultimately be putting them at higher risk. The closure is an abandonment instead of an investment in our community, and Nuvance will be leaving our families high and dry."



Amy Scheim with her husband and newborn, leaving Sharon Hospital after giving birth in 2021.

SAVE SHARON HOSPITAL

To learn more about how you can help Save Sharon Hospital, please visit www.savesharonhospital.org



125th Anniversary Celebration
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A Weekend to Celebrate!

The 125th Anniversary of
The Lakeville Journal's First Issue
AUGUST 13-14

On August 14, 1897, The Lakeville Journal printed its first issue. Now, 125 years later, our weekly newspaper, as one of the oldest weeklies in New England, continues as a pillar of this close-knit countryside community. The Lakeville Journal Foundation invites you to celebrate a monumental anniversary for this nonprofit publication.

The Opening of the Exhibit
"Life of A Community
The Lakeville Journal Celebrates 125 Years"
Saturday, August 13, 4-6 o'clock

THE SALISBURY ASSOCIATION
24 Main Street, Salisbury

Join us for the opening reception of The Salisbury Association's retrospective chronicling the history of the century-spanning Lakeville Journal. The exhibit will be available for viewing at The Historical Society through September.

Summer Street Fair
The Lakeville Journal's 125th Anniversary Day
Sunday, August 14, 10-4 o'clock
Academy Street, Salisbury

Come one, come all to Academy Street in Salisbury as The Lakeville Journal takes you back to the good old days with our classic summer fair to celebrate our official anniversary — the very first issue of The Lakeville Journal was printed on August 14, 1897. We're commemorating this historic birthday with traditional New England flair — food stalls, ice cream, live music, children's games, stilt walkers, a community tent and a specially designed streetscape for the occasion. And the exhibit at the Salisbury Association will be open, too.

In 2021, The Lakeville Journal Foundation was founded as a 501(c)(3) non profit, which accepts tax-deductible contributions. The Lakeville Journal and Millerton News are owned by the Foundation.

The Lakeville Journal • 860-435-9873 • www.lakevillejournal.com

MCS D *Continued from Page A1*

for Curriculum, Instruction and Pupil Personnel Caroline Hernandez-Pidala has been appointed interim superintendent while a search is conducted for a new superintendent.

"Caroline has been an integral part of the MCS D team since 2015, and most recently, since October 2021 as deputy superintendent of schools," Hartswick stated in the BOE letter. "Ms. Hernandez-Pidala has demonstrated a tremendous capacity for forging positive relationships within the school community and has enriched the education programs and opportunities for many of the district's students."

Hernandez-Pidala came to Millbrook as principal for the high school in 2015; she was previously a principal in the Arlington school district.

"I am truly humbled at the

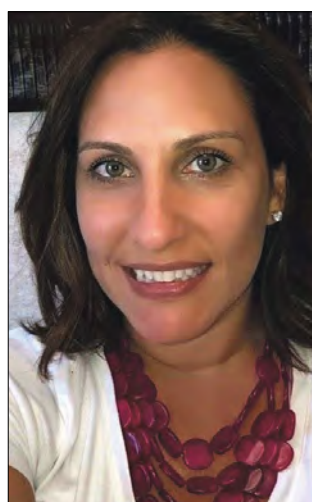


PHOTO SUBMITTED

Caroline Hernandez-Pidala, left, was appointed interim superintendent of schools for the Millbrook Central School District after Laura Mitchell resigned from the post on Aug. 1.

in partnership with the community to face these new challenges head on.

"We have an incredibly supportive community network and some of the best educators and support staff in the region," added Hernandez-Pidala, "and I look forward to many positive days ahead."

Hernandez-Pidala reminded the community the MCS D has a new strategic planning initiative, which will resume with the new school year.

"I encourage participation from all stakeholder groups as those opportunities become available to help shape the mission, vision and values of our district," she added.

Other BOE business

The board then moved on to other business, beginning with a discussion of cameras on school buses.

opportunity to lead the Millbrook Central School District into the 22-23 school year," she said. "Emerging from the global pandemic has left our school community with new and different needs than ever before. I look forward to working in collaboration with the faculty and staff and

SHARON HOSPITAL *Continued from Page A1*

joint replacements and an arthritis exercise class.

Meeting the recruitment challenge, telehealth

Recruitment of staff has been an ongoing concern. McCulloch said a new primary care physician has been hired and will start in the fall. (The presentation also included a short recruitment video featuring actors Liam Neeson and Meryl Streep.)

McCulloch also mentioned the hospital's expanded telehealth facility, which aims to improve patient access to specialists.

Certificate of Need

McCulloch said the certificate of need application for the phasing out of the Labor and Delivery unit is complete and the next step will be a public hearing before the state Office of Health Strategies (OHS).

She said the certificate of need application for consolidation of two critical care units into one "progressive care unit" is in progress.

She said the current units have under used space and the new configuration will be more efficient.

"Same staff, same equipment, different location."

That application will also be the subject of an OHS public hearing.

Monitoring process

David McMillan of PYA, P.C., the independent monitoring firm that was hired by OHS (and is paid by Nuvance)

to monitor the hospital's compliance with the original settlement agreement with the state, went through a lengthy list of conditions and concluded that the hospital was in compliance during the bi-annual evaluation period that just ended.

McMillan did say that Nuvance's cost savings projections have "in most cases fallen short."

He explained that in such a case, Nuvance has to explain why their estimates were off, and have done so, and are therefore in compliance.

Closing Labor & Delivery

Pressed during the question and answer period about Nuvance's plan to close Labor and Delivery, McMillan explained that while he and his company are aware of the discussion and issues involved, PYA's job is to determine whether or not Nuvance is in compliance with the original agreement, not pending matters.

One questioner asked how a new EMS coordinator, a position that was announced, will function. McCulloch said the new job will involve acting as a liaison between the hospital and local emergency crews.

More to come...

A scheduled presentation on the hospital's Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion program didn't happen because of technical problems and will be rescheduled.

Over 50 vendors at Sharon Arts & Crafts

By RILEY KLEIN
Special to The Millerton News

SHARON, Conn. — Artisans from the Northwest Corner and beyond set up shop at the Sharon Green on Saturday, Aug. 6, for the Sharon Arts and Crafts Fair. It was the 63rd year of this popular event.

Creativity and craftsmanship were on full display within the tents that lined the Green along Main Street.

Matt Andrus-Mette, who has coordinated the event for 22 years, was pleased with the turn out despite the hot and humid weather.

"It's the localness, I think, that attracts the people," said Andrus-Mette.

While most vendors were from the area and have been attending the annual fair for years, there were a handful of new faces this year from both near and far. Crafters traveled from across New England, New York and New Jersey to display their wares.

For some first-timers, the fair provided an opportunity to introduce themselves to their new neighbors. Anne Cameron of Tissé Designs, who moved to Sharon last

The meeting then went into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of particular individuals, which led to the appointment of particular individuals to receive legal counsel.

The regular meeting then reopened, and the earlier mentioned addendum agreement was approved; Mitchell's resignation was also accepted.

A leave of absence was then approved for Hernandez-Pidala (for her former post) an appointment made and an execution of an addendum agreement was authorized.

Amended appointments were then made, from Mitchell to Kenneth Crowley, for the following: Purchasing Agent; trustee for Dutchess Education Health Insurance Consortium; and trustee for Dutchess Worker's Compensation Consortium (no added compensation for 2022-23).

The resignation comes about a month after Graduation Day for Millbrook High School's Class of '22; Mitchell had congratulated students that day. Her sudden departure seems to have taken many in the MCS D by surprise.

and photos on those pages were generated.

Rather, this newspaper is trying out a different approach and changing its format, to instead reorganize the interior pages of each weekly edition. We will be grouping articles together based on subject matter for each page, as seen by last week's "Government Page" and the ever-popular "Sports Page."

Our front page, obituary and classified pages will remain unchanged.

We also still plan to run a lead story on each interior page, along with a couple of shorter articles plus news briefs and police reports, wherever possible. Of course, we'll also print as many interesting and engaging photographs as we can manage to squeeze in between the margins. Rest assured, there will be plenty for readers to feast their eyes upon once they flip from the front page to check out what's inside.

The great thing about our new approach is its flexibility, as it will allow us to work with a more fluid format. This way, we can compose pages according to the latest breaking and most impactful news — the news we

think is most relevant and interesting to you, our readers.

No matter how The Millerton News changes through time — whether it makes slight adjustments or seismic shifts — please know we will always strive to bring you the most essential and vital local news, delivered in the truest and fairest manner possible. We promise you will be in the know, with real and accurate information.

We realize how much your community means to you — because it's also our community — and it means as much to us! Thank you for bearing with us as we continue to grow through time, constantly working toward that unattainable goal of perfection, but always enjoying the journey for the lessons learned.

Thank you, too, for continuing to pick up The Millerton News each week, for holding it in eager hands and for turning each page tenderly until reaching the end.

That's when the reader, just like the writer, realizes an entire week must pass until the next issue will come "hot off the press," and we can both tear into our beloved paper once again.

Anne Cameron worked on a portable loom during the Sharon Arts and Crafts Fair Saturday, Aug. 6.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Passports in Salisbury will close come September

By JOHN COSTON
johnc@lakevillejournal.com

SALISBURY, Conn. — Passports will be closing its antique and gift store on Main Street in Salisbury in September after more than 15 years in the community.

Passports was founded by the late Elaine LaRoche in the early 2000's as she was living overseas in Asia and had a passion for sourcing unique items during her travels.

In a 2019 article in Millerton's Main Street Magazine, LaRoche noted she would "scour the countryside and send back containers of Chinese country furniture and other vintage items" that would end up in her Passports store and then in the homes of those in the community.

The success and long-term tenure can be attributed not only to the unique offerings, but also to the excellent store management and curation by Christopher Baetz and others.

"Passports was one of my

mother's passions — she loved sharing the world with others. It has been almost three years since her passing and while Christopher has done an excellent job maintaining the store, we cannot source the same treasures she did. Ultimately, it is time to move forward," said

her daughter Eve LaRoche.

Eve will continue to own and maintain LionRock Farm in Sharon, which hosts weddings and events bringing new people to the community and creating a multitude of opportunities for local vendors and businesses.

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Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

THE UNGARDENER: DEE SALOMON

Should it Stay or Should it Go? You've Got to Let me Know

At least from where I sit, in Litchfield County on the banks of the Housatonic River, two plants flowering in the woods have caught my attention. Both are small and delicate; one is native and one is not.

I found a group of about 20 native spotted wintergreen on my way to the swamp. Called Pipsissewa by Native Americans (the Latin name is *Chimaphila maculata*) these plants are 3 to 4 inches tall. They have thick dark green leaves with white veining that spread from the very bottom of the plant, and a single thin red stalk that grows above its leaves and branches out at the top like an umbrella. At each tip is a white flower that later becomes a seed capsule.

The other plant, the non-native one, is a small orchid, the *Epipactis helleborine* (helleborine as in resembling a hellebore.) The ones deeper in the woods seem to blossom better than those in the sun, which can look like small, wilted asparagus. It is pretty when it is in bloom, liked by bees, and is not terribly invasive — so far.

There are native plants that act like invasives and there are non-native plants that behave well in the woods. Last year, in the exuberance of naiveté, I posted on Instagram a photo of native *Clematis virginiana* sprawling its small white blossoms over some



PHOTOS BY DEE SALOMON

Native clematis, left, and non-native helleborine orchid both grace the woods in late summer. Should only one be allowed to stay?

shrubs. I was a bit miffed when Anne Day commented, "A killer invasive — be careful." Well, kill it did. It killed the shrub underneath and this year sprouted all around the area where it had grown the prior year, ready to smother more small trees and plants. Luckily it is not hard to cut back, which is what I have been doing, but should have heeded the advice sooner.

Anne's comment underscores an issue I have with the term "invasive," as it has come to mean a non-native plant with invasive tendencies. But natives can also have invasive tendencies, as Anne considerably tried to warn me.

This presents a challenge: in one's effort to

restore our woodland and meadows; how does one decide which plants should stay and which should go (and why do I feel like Carrie in "Sex and the City" at this moment)?

Aubree Keurajian, botanist and founder of Ungardening Native Plants, hesitates to make any blanket statements about a particular species, as decisions vary with each individual property or habitat.

"Many introduced species can provide pollen and nectar to adult pollinators and some more than others. For example, Queen Anne's Lace (*Daucus carota*) is one of the very few that is also a caterpillar food source. The foliage is eaten by Eastern Tiger

Swallowtail caterpillars.

"Some native plants have gained a bad reputation for being bullies in the garden, but I absolutely love *Clematis virginiana*. Its flowers are a total powerhouse for medium and small pollinators. A few moths, including the Brown Bark Carpet Moth and Spotted Thyris, feed on the foliage as caterpillars.

"It is not browsed by deer and other mammals, which can cause it to be overrepresented in some areas. It responds well to being cut back so periodic maintenance — perhaps a yearly big cut — can be sufficient to keep it in check. In naturalistic or rewilded habitats, while it may dominate an area for a short time, other native species will be able to compete with it and strike a balance."

I keep thinking that some kind of decision-making matrix (one that includes amongst other variables environmental detriments and benefits, growth tendencies and aesthetics) would help me make better decisions about which plants should stay and which should go. Any suggestions? Maybe a native plant wiki?

Until that resource exists, Aubree suggests paying attention to which insects are enjoying which plants and how they grow alongside others in the habitat. Which means slow down and look. That is a suggestion I can appreciate and will apply to the helleborine orchid.

What I am pulling out now is poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). This highly toxic invasive is now in flower and looks like it could be the evil stepsister of Queen Anne's Lace. Look it up and look for it on your property.

Dee Salomon "ungardens" in Litchfield County.

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL THROUGH THE YEARS

It is the job of newspapers to explain the events of the world, and to help put them into context. It's fitting, then, that there is a new exhibit at the Salisbury Association that celebrates the 125th anniversary of the Northwest Corner's own newspaper, The Lakeville Journal, and that offers history and context.

"Life of a Community: The Lakeville Journal Celebrates 125 Years" will be on display from Aug. 13 to Oct. 1, at the Salisbury Association's Academy Building, 24 Main St. in Salisbury, Conn. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, Aug. 13, from 4 to 6 p.m.

The exhibit chronicles the history of the community-owned weekly newspaper from its first issue (published Aug. 14, 1897) up to the present day.

The exhibit talks about the major events in the six

towns that the newspaper covers: Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon.

Just as the newspaper business has changed dramatically during that time, the exhibit reflects changes in our community. In an era when many local newspapers are going out of business, The Lakeville Journal maintains its local connection and commitment to covering community news.

On Sunday, Aug. 14, the exhibit will be open during The Lakeville Journal's 125th Anniversary Fair featuring music, food and activities on Academy Street from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about the exhibit and reception, call 860-435-0566 or go to www.salisburyassociation.org.

For information about the anniversary festivities, go to www.lakevillejournal.com.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Chairs are such an essential part of our lives that we rarely think of where they came from and how they developed. A show at the Kent Historical Society offers some enlightenment.

JUST SIT ON IT: CHAIRS AND HOW THEY GOT THAT WAY

"Put It Down Over There: Musings on Early Chairs" is this summer's exhibit at the Historical Society in Kent, Conn., headquartered at the historic Seven Hearths

Museum. The show opened July 30 and will be open on weekends from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Sept. 5.

There are more than 40 chairs from several donors, with information cards written by design historians Roger Gonzales, Frank Tosto and Jeffrey Morgan.

Admission is free for members; there is a suggested donation of \$5 for non-members.

For directions to Seven Hearths and more information, go to www.kenthistoricalsociety.org or call 860-927-4587.



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STACEY DAVIDSON

Two shows will be on display July 2nd through August 28th

Open Saturday 1pm to 4pm and by appointment.

BOOKS: DIVYA SYMMERS

The Unexpected Warmth of the Getty Clan Makes for a Perfect Summer Read

It's not surprising that the Tri-state region book launch for "Growing Up Getty: The Story of America's Most Unconventional Dynasty" took place last month at Tent, the sumptuous home furnishings shop that opened in Amenia, N.Y., in late 2020.

Author James Reginato has been friends with the store's owner, interior designer Darren Henault, for at least 20 years, and they share a luxe sensibility informed by appreciation for what are generally considered the finer things in life.

It's also a nice coincidence that Aimee Bell, editorial director at Simon & Schuster's Gallery Books, which published "Growing Up Getty," is a long-time resident of nearby Lakeville, Conn. Married to writer David

Kamp, she was previously deputy editor at Vanity Fair, where Reginato is a writer-at-large.

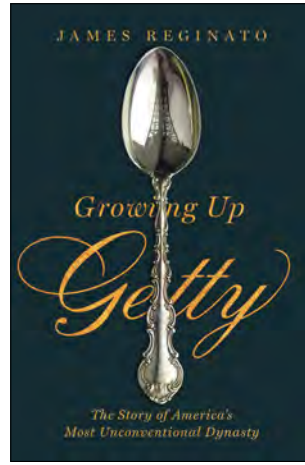
Born in Chicago but a New Yorker since graduating from Columbia, Reginato has famously interviewed everyone from the Aga Khan to the Prince of Wales, with whom he spent a week gallivanting by private plane on a royal 70th-birthday tour. His previous book, "Great Houses, Modern Aristocrats" (Rizzoli Books), offered "an intimate and lively look at some of Great Britain's most historic and majestic houses" as well as the fabled families who dwell in them.

His interest in the kind of lifestyle that only great fortunes can buy stems to the 1990s, when he was features director

at W magazine. "John Fairchild [the publisher] was fascinated by high society, so it became part of my beat," he said at Tent, where copies of his new book sold out. "I specialized in getting hard-to-get people to open up."

Over decades, he interviewed a number of Getty family members, but writing the book was more of a challenge than anticipated, he says. It took three years, including a full year of meticulous research, to untangle various plots and subplots involving the wives (five), girlfriends (numerous), children (five sons), grandchildren (19) and great-grandchildren (47) of J. Paul Getty, who died in 1976.

Luckily, Reginato had access to the Getty Center's archives, which in-



clude Getty's daily diaries, many from Sutton Place, the grand English manor where he spent the last 16 years of his life with a famously upper-crust butler and two pet lions.

Getty's fortune began in 1903 with his father's lease of a small but oil-rich Oklahoma lot; it pin-nacled a few years after his own prescient 1949 lease of the former Neutral Zone in Saudi Arabia. By 1957, Forbes cited him

as the richest American, and in 1966 the Guinness Book of World Records named him the richest man on earth. The key to his success, he explained, was easy: "Rise early, work hard — and strike oil."

He was a serious collector of rare, historic furniture and art and today his public legacy is less about oil (the company he founded was dissolved in 2012) and more about the stunning Los Angeles museum that bears his name. It also includes a well-endowed third and fourth generation of Gettys who are artists, designers and musicians as well as business owners and quiet environmentalists.

Most surprising to Reginato, the image of J. Paul Getty as cruel and unfeeling (those of a

certain age remember his much-publicized refusal to pay his 16-year-old grandson's kidnappers, even after the boy's ear was sent to the police), is patently false.

This was a man who married five times yet remained friendly with his exes. A man who remembered old lovers' birthdays with red roses and gifts of money. A man whose journals kept a record of daily oil prices while fondly noting his grandchildren's christenings and visits.

"J. Paul Getty is so often portrayed as this cold, monstrous character, but people who knew him really liked him," Reginato says. His book is a "rapturous biography for casual readers," says the Library Journal. And that makes it perfect summer reading.

STREAMING: ED FERMAN

From Stage to Screen: Three Groundbreaking Musicals

If you love musical theater or want to introduce it to your kids or grandkids, here are three landmark shows that can be streamed.

"OKLAHOMA"

Rodgers and Hammerstein reinvented the musical in 1943 with "Oklahoma," the first show to integrate the book — and a rather dark one — with the songs.

The 1955 film stars Gordon MacRae as Curly, a cowboy whose romance with a farm girl, Laurey (Shirley Jones), is violently interrupted by a disturbed farmhand, Jud (Rod Steiger).

Rodgers and Hammerstein oversaw the film, and few changes were made from the stage version. This was almost certainly a bad thing. What works on the stage can look oddly unnatural on the screen. Fred Zinnemann's hands were tied and he never directed another musical.

There is also a 1999 film of the Royal National Theatre production directed by Trevor Nunn and choreographed by Susan Stroman. Watch this one if you can find it; it's grittier and Hugh Jackman as Curly is a better actor than Mac-Crae.

While this book doesn't match the brilliant plots of the other shows covered here, the songs are pure joy and all probably embedded in your mind. My favorite is "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top." Ask YouTube or Spotify to play the covers by Jackman or Mel Torme. Stream on Disney, rent on Amazon and others.

"CABARET"

It's hard to think of a musical more inventive and ambitious than "Cabaret," which opened on Broadway in 1966, about a singing star in a Berlin club during the beginnings of anti-Semitism and Nazism in 1931. The book is by Joe Masteroff (who also wrote the musical "She Loves Me") with songs by John Kander and Fred Ebb.

Bob Fosse directed the 1972 film, and many changes were made from the stage version, all to the film's benefit. The side romance between Fraulein Schneider and Herr Schultz was dropped, and Kander and Ebb added new songs including "Money Money" and "Maybe This Time."

Although many talented actresses have played Sally Bowles, it's hard to think of anyone in this role except Liza Minnelli, who won an Academy Award, as did Joel Grey as the master of ceremonies. The movie won eight Oscars but missed Best Picture; it was the year of "The



PHOTO FROM IMDB

Ariana DeBose, Ana Isabelle and Ilda Mason make a compelling case for watching the new "West Side Story," made in 2021 by Steven Spielberg, with new choreography by Justin Peck.

Godfather."

If you have only seen stage versions of "Cabaret," this very different film offers an enjoyable surprise. Stream on HBO Max, rent on Amazon, Apple, others.

"WEST SIDE STORY"

At age 25, Stephen Sondheim saw himself as a composer and did not want to write lyrics for this show. He was encouraged by his mentor, Oscar Hammerstein, who said, "You'll learn something."

And so Sondheim got together with compos-

er Leonard Bernstein. They wrote "Something's Coming" in one day in Bernstein's apartment. Both were baseball fans: "Catch the moon, one-handed catch." When the show opened on Broadway in 1957, their reimagining of Romeo and Juliet on the

streets of Manhattan became an instant landmark musical.

The 1961 movie, directed by Robert Wise and Jerome Robbins, won many awards, but it might be hard to watch today, with a miscast Natalie Wood, the Sharks in brown-face, and most

songs dubbed by ghost singers.

You should watch the 2021 film, in which Steven Spielberg and Tony Kushner update this classic in spectacular fashion. Rachel Zegler made her film debut as Maria; she won the role at age 16 in an open casting call. She looks lovely and has a thrilling voice. Ariana DeBose won an Oscar for her role as Anita.

The dance numbers are stunning and more realistic and suitable to the action than the choreography in the stage versions. In short, a great play renewed as a great movie. Stream on HBO Max.

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MOVIES MAKE THE NEWS
Celebrating 125 Years of The Lakeville Journal

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HIS GIRL FRIDAY - Aug 24

THE KILLING FIELDS - Sept 10

CITIZEN KANE - Sept 14

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SPORTS

Grace Church golf tourney to honor Innisfree and Byron

By PAMELA FREEMAN
Special to The Millerton News

MILLBROOK — On Monday, Aug. 15, Grace Episcopal Church will host a golf and dinner benefit, honoring Innisfree Garden of Millbrook and John Byron for their contributions to the greater community and the church.

The Grace Golf & Dinner Benefit raises funds to provide financial support for vital charitable programs including the Millbrook Community Preschool, Grace Immigrant Outreach, the Food of Life Program, Church Alliance Senior Housing Program and EPIC (Engaging People in Change), a regional high school leadership program, along with the Grace Year Fellowship program.

The event, which takes place at the Quaker Hill Country Club in Pawling, includes 18 holes of golf with a tee-off time of 12:30 p.m.

The private Quaker Hill Country Club is rich in beauty and history, and is at 1013 Old Quaker Hill Road in Pawling. Registration is now open for sponsorships, golf and dinner.

This year's Pillar of Grace honoree is John Byron, who has helped lead, support and sustain Grace Church for decades, always pitching in, and being faithful. He recently celebrated in 95th birthday.

Byron is a U.S. Navy veteran who served in WWII and the Korean War. He was a NYC Police Department sergeant,

Golf includes lunch, on-course refreshments, golf cart and prizes. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. with a cocktail hour and presentation by Kate Kerin of Innisfree and a silent auction that ends out the night.

Silent auction items include a vacation package at the Julietta House in Gloucester, Mass.; gift certificates to area restaurants such as Troutbeck and the Millbrook Café; tickets to sporting events at Marist College, West Point Army Football and the Hudson Valley Renegades; spa packages from Marion's Salon and Tyte Medispa; gifts from Elizabeth Boutique and J.McLaughlin; theatre tickets to Paramount and Sharon Playhouse, Millbrook Vineyards and Winery and so much more.

The cost is \$125 for dinner; \$145 for golf and lunch; and \$195 for golf, lunch and dinner. Croquet will also be played.

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Byron is a U.S. Navy veteran who served in WWII and the Korean War. He was a NYC Police Department sergeant,

where he served more than 30 years. He is a real-life hero.

This year's "Community Builder" award goes to Landscape Curator Kate Kerin and Innisfree Garden, with 185-acres of designed and natural landscapes around the serene Tyrrel Lake in Millbrook. The landmark is listed on the National Register of Historic Places with exceptional significance. The garden's remarkable choreography invites exploration, contemplation and renewal.

Innisfree has been the host of "Blessing of Sacred Places" ecumenical service for the past several years. This event invites people of all faiths to gather and pray throughout the garden.

Sponsorships are available: Corporate Golf costs \$2,500; Business Silver costs \$1,000; Lunch costs \$500; Hole in One costs \$500; Eagle costs \$400; Birdie costs \$300; Honoree costs \$250; Golf Ball costs \$200; and Grace Outreach costs \$150.

To register, call 845-677-3064; 845-341-7348; or 914 456-1097; email office@gracemillbrook.org; or go to www.gracemillbrook.org.

Pamela Freeman has been a parishioner of Grace Episcopal Church for the past 25 years and is retired from the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook. Pam volunteers as a puppy raiser for Guiding Eyes for the Blind.



PHOTO BY MOIRA KELLY

Studio Lakeville and Green Café owner Leslie Eckstein, right, helped train a client recently in her Lakeville, Conn., gym, which will soon close as the building's been sold.

Studio Lakeville and Green Café to close in September

By MOIRA KELLY
Special to The Millerton News

LAKEVILLE, Conn. — Studio Lakeville is a beautiful listed building at the intersection of the roads to Millerton, N.Y., and Salisbury and Sharon, Conn., in Lakeville. Once the old firehouse, with three large opening doors, now windows, the building was refurbished by contractor Seth Churchill.

Its current use is as a gym, physical fitness center and café. As Studio Lakeville and the Green Café, the 2,000-square-foot facility opened in 2018 under the direction of Leslie Eckstein, as a gym and personal training center also offering spin classes and massage therapy as well as the café's wholesome food and beverages.

All went well until COVID hit. Eckstein, a veteran of personal training, had to close the gym and the classes ceased. Undeterred, Eckstein introduced on-line classes, 95% of which are still in operation. She used a truck to rent out

her equipment to locals. At the time the gym had around 300 members.

This was not to be the end of her problems. Last year a consortium from New York City bought the Lakeville building, intending to use it as a restaurant. So far, no details have emerged as to what use the building is to be put to, but Eckstein tenaciously held onto her lease.

The gym is to remain open until the end of September, though the café will close at the end of August.

With a strong sense of determination, Eckstein is going to re-open the gym at the Interlaken Inn and Resort in Lakeville. She has held fast to her dream of fitness training since the age of 15 when, at high school, she led a class in step aerobics. She is dedicated to her community. Most of those she takes for personal training sessions are elderly.

"I want to keep people feeling young, maintaining the quality of life and to be able to age gracefully" she said, adding

she's training to be an esthetician and to offer facials and skin care to her clients.

Eckstein's facility at Interlaken will be open to the public as members or for a daily fee and will include classes, personal training, a regular gym and massage. It will open in October.

Help honor Pine Plains' winning softball team

PINE PLAINS — The Pine Plains Youth Baseball/Softball Program extends an invitation to the community to a sign reveal that was created as a result of the town's 12u Softball girls team winning the New York State Little League District 17 12u Softball Championship this past spring.

Chair of the Dutchess County Legislature Gregg Pulver (R-19), league President Rich Tamburrino and coaches will speak about the team and its accomplishment. Afterward, a new metal sign

that will be hung at the field will be revealed. This has never been done in Pine Plains and "is a big deal for the team and the community," said Tamburrino.

The special event will be Thursday, Aug. 11, at 6 p.m. at The Stissing Center at 2950 Church St. (Route 199).

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF AMENIA HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT Highway Material Bids BIDS FOR THE PERIOD 9/15/2022 to 9/21/2023

NOTICE is hereby given that sealed bids for the purchase of supplies used by the Amenia Highway Department during the year will be received until 2 p.m. on Monday, August 29, 2022 at the Town Clerk's Office, Town of Amenia, Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, NY 12501 and opened and read at the Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, on Tuesday, August 30, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

Bids are requested for the following road materials: Bank-run, sand, Item #4, crushed quarry stone and washed gravel, light, medium, and heavy stone fill, sub base NYS

DOT Type #2, calcium chloride, bituminous mix hot and cold, road oils, concrete, catch basins and equipment rentals, Tree Work, Sweeping.

Detailed specifications may be obtained at the Highway office at 845-373-9922. All bids must include a notarized non-collusive statement and corporate bidders must file a corporate resolution with a corporate seal. All envelopes must be clearly marked "Bid 9/15/2022 to 9/21/2023".

The Town Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Bids will be awarded at the next scheduled Town Board Meeting September 15, 2022.

Megan Chamberlin
Superintendent of
Highways
Town of Amenia
08-11-22
08-18-22

Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to United States Corporation Agents, INC 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY, 11228. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

08-04-22
08-11-22
08-18-22
08-25-22
09-01-22
09-08-22

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Gurley Pond LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 5/25/22. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Northwest Registered Agent LLC at 90 State St, Ste 700 Office #40, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

08-11-22
08-18-22
08-25-22
09-01-22
09-08-22
09-15-22

Legal Notice

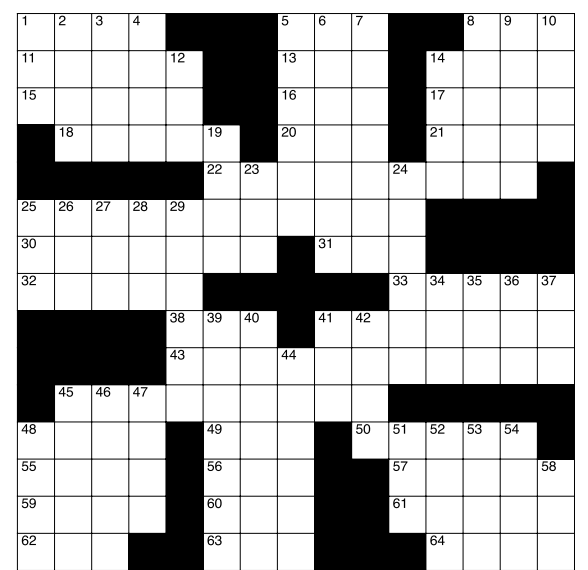
Notice of Formation of Countryside Lawn and Home Care LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on June 7th, 2022. Office location:

The deadline for legal notices is Friday at 4 p.m. for publication the following Thursday.
Notices can be emailed to legal@lakevillejournal.com or mailed to The Lakeville Journal, ATTN: Legal Notices, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039
Go to www.tricornernews.com/legalnotices to view current and past legal notices.

Brain Teasers

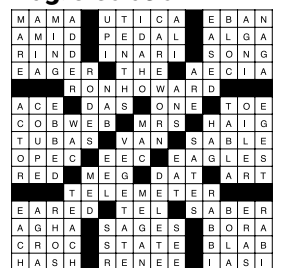
CLUES ACROSS

1. Breezed through
5. Time units (abbr.)
8. Pigeon's murmur
11. Moves aside in fright
13. Partner to "ahh"
14. Taxis
15. Monetary units of Turkey
16. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
17. Prolific Italian opera composer
18. Restaurants
20. One's grandmother
21. Ancient Greek City
22. Italian mountain ranges
25. Data
30. Acted in an obedient way
31. Autonomic nervous system
32. Not on the up-and-up
33. Mock lightly
38. Mimic
41. Built
43. A neighborhood
45. Inflammation of the kidneys
48. Semitic fertility god
49. Temporary name of Seaborgium
50. Wise people
55. Tear down
56. ___fi (slang)
57. Diamond weight
59. Frosted
60. Predecessor to EU
61. Makes changes to
62. Some are secret
63. Tooth caregiver
64. Old English poet

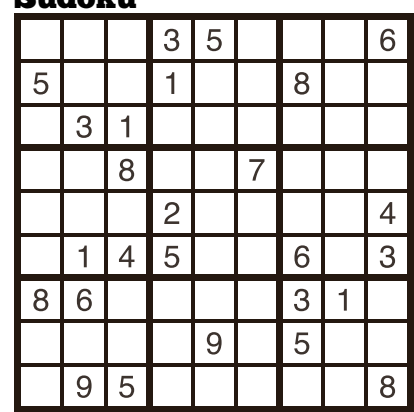


12. Midway between south and southeast
14. French commune
19. Alike
23. A bachelor's apartment
24. Foot part between the ball and ankle
25. Belonging to a thing
26. Japanese classical theater
27. Supervises flying
28. Not even
29. Capital of Saudi Arabia
34. Electronic countermeasure
35. Consumed
36. American politician (abbr.)
37. Sun up in New York
39. Casually looked through
40. Revealed the presence of
41. Peyton's little brother
42. Diana __, singer
44. Study of moral values and rules
45. Civil Rights group
46. Makes less severe
47. Made an emotional appeal
48. Vivacity of style
51. One who is highly skilled
52. Gets around in pursuit of pleasure
53. Famed guitarist Clapton
54. Most common Japanese surname
58. Recipe abbreviation

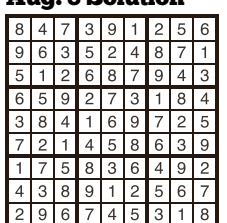
Aug. 8 Solution



Sudoku



Aug. 8 Solution



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EDITORIAL

With gratitude: We made it because of you

The challenge of keeping any business or service going for 125 years cannot be overstated: as times change, needs change, and there are no easy answers to remaining relevant. So for a small community weekly newspaper like The Lakeville Journal, sister paper to The Millerton News, to have continued over all these years was not a given.

Consider the rate at which other community media outlets have been closing over the past few years, and continue to close. This news outlet is grateful to be here still to serve our communities in the Northwest Corner and beyond.

But we would not be here without the extremely generous support of our readers, donors and advertisers. When this newspaper saw the writing on the wall in 2019 that it would not be able to survive without taking desperate measures, and asked for extra community support to continue publishing weekly, the call was answered and exceeded. Now having attained nonprofit status, we can offer our donors additional benefits, and can apply for grants otherwise unavailable to us.

Thank you to all our supporters and to everyone who reads their local news every week. However you find us, in print or online, our goal is to be here for you as long as you want to know about what's happening in your communities.

— Janet Manko
Publisher and editor in chief

Celebrating 125 years

In a country ruled by division — every front page of every major newspaper is about division — here in the countryside we have our own. We have our weekend residents from Manhattan and Brooklyn, we have the former weekenders making the shift to the weekday local life. We have the old-timers, the Connecticut families with passed down legends of long ago, who remember the iron works and furnaces, the secrets and scandals, the festivals and fairs.

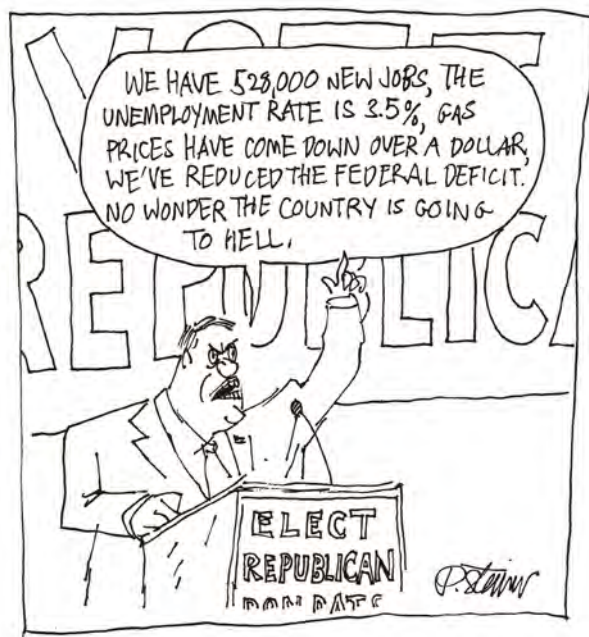
But whether you're a movie star, a self-published historian, a newcomer, or the great-great-great grandson of a family with their name on a street sign, what makes this corner of the countryside special is that we all share. Together we squeeze into the aisles of the grocery store, we cozy up at the bar in winter, we stretch out at Lakeville Lake. In a close-knit community of little equalizers, The Lakeville Journal has stood the test of time as one of our most reliable.

The same paper for everyone, covering everyone, printed every week. It's the hub for announcements from every organization in our region: the nonprofit fundraisers, the church tag sales, the local government meetings, the land preservation grants. It marks the graduations, the wedding announcements, the memorial services and the tributes to the lives we've lost.

The Journal has been witness to the greatest achievements of our small towns, even the little ones, especially the little ones, the victories that the rest of the world would never notice. The Journal has been there at every record-breaking ski jump, at the garden tours, at the middle school play. When a volunteer receives an award for their lifetime of service, when a girl and her horse nail that big jump, when a black bear on Main Street is finally caught by the wildlife preserve, the Journal's been there.

We're a community of New England traditions, and The Lakeville Journal, founded in 1897, stands alongside our oldest 19th century institutions — the stone libraries, the boarding schools, our historic inns and our landmark homes. The current staff: our editors and writers, photographers and delivery drivers, are not the owners of this 125-year-old paper. We are its caretakers. We have inherited its past, we preserve its present. But it is only together, as a community, with donor support, that we ensure it remains a tradition with a future.

— Alexander Wilburn
Senior associate editor



Schumer, Gillibrand should cosponsor mother and child law

According to the World Bank, the worldwide maternal mortality rate in 2017, the last year for which they have data, was 211 per 100,000 live births.

While it has improved significantly since then — the Gates Foundation reports that the 2020 rate was 152 per 100,000 live births — we still have a long way to go to reach the U.N.'s 2030 target of 70 per 100,000.

The Gates Foundation projects, for example, that the rate in 2030 will be almost double that, at 133 deaths per 100,000 live births. These rates are particularly troubling in poorer countries, with a 2017 rate among low-income countries of 453 per 100,000, middle-income at 253 per 100,000, and high-income countries clocking in at only 11 deaths per 100,000 live births.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), around 94% of all maternal deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries.

Child mortality is also a huge problem. In 2020, the global mortality rate for children under the age of 5 was 37 deaths per 1,000 live births, and 66 deaths per 1,000 live births in low-income countries.

To frame it another way, of the 5.04 million under-the-age-of-5 deaths that occurred worldwide in 2020, more than 1.45 million, or just under 29%, occurred in low-income countries, despite these countries accounting for less than 10% of the global population.

Enter the bipartisan Reach Every Mother and Child Act. The bill, sponsored by Sena-

tor Susan Collins (R-Maine), aims to create a strategy to be implemented over a five-year period to work toward reducing maternal and child mortality in low- and middle-income and conflict-affected countries, as well as those with "weak health systems."

The bill mandates that the strategy should identify these countries, identify factors of maternal and child mortality in these countries, and establish targets that work toward mitigating those factors.

The bill also says that the strategy shall "promote investments in community-based activities that empower women, support volunteerism and provide respectful maternity care," as well as address the regression in access to maternal healthcare as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the Borgen Project, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that advocates for foreign anti-poverty aid, the bill has garnered support from more than 20 nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), including UNICEF.

For these reasons, I urge Senators Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) to cosponsor the Reach Every Mother and Child Act of 2021.

Emma Benardete
Amenia

Molinaro is the man for CD 19

The odd circumstances surrounding this year's redistricting of New York's Congressional Districts (CD) may have been confusing for the voting public, but there is a very important special election coming up very quickly now on Aug. 23 (early voting starts on Aug. 13) to determine who will fill the vacancy in the current 19th CD created by the resignation of Antonio Delgado to become New York's lieutenant governor.

To fill this vacancy, please support Marc Molinaro, who has a lifetime of experience and service to Dutchess County and its surrounding communities. Consistent with his record as Dutchess County executive, Marc favors common sense approaches to the economy and our national energy policy, and he will work to help control the size, spending and intrusiveness of the federal government, while always looking out, as he has for many years, for the less-advantaged among us.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NECC is grateful for support shown at brunch fundraiser

The North East Community Center (NECC) was proud to host our 11th annual Chef and Farmer Brunch this year at Lime Rock Park. The event was held in person for the first time in three years. We at the NECC would like to thank those members of the community who attended our event on Sunday, July 24th, as well as those who were unable to attend but still showed their support through generous donations.

Our organizational efforts, including through events like these, would not be possible without the sustained support of the community who have helped the NECC grow and thrive over the years.

Northeastern Dutchess County is an area of five deserts: food, child care, mental health, housing and

transportation. The NECC has developed programs that begin to address all these desert issues. With your help, we have impacted the lives of so many of our friends and neighbors.

As always, the event gave everyone a chance to come together and enjoy the special, tight-knit and rural community that remains so important to the NECC.

Through our shared events, fundraisers and direct-care programs, we will continue to be a beacon for those in need, and a haven for those in search of community friendship. All of this is the direct result of the programs you helped NECC to build.

Thank you again,
Christine Sergent
NECC Executive Director
Millerton

Ryan is the one we need to elect for CD 19

I suggest that Congressional District (CD) 19 Aug. 23 voters, if considering voting for current Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro, first examine what Molinaro stands for.

Pat Ryan has made his positions clear: He supports a woman's right to choose; health and financial benefits for his fellow veterans; support for consumers against large corporations and utilities like Central Hudson who overcharge customers; and democratic values over the extremism of our former president.

Molinaro, in 2019, opposed New York State (NYS) legislation to codify abortion protections. Not surprisingly, he recently stated that he would oppose similar federal legislation.

Molinaro also has a history, as a NYS assemblyman, of voting against pro-worker and pro-community bills. He voted against: Helping small

businesses make health care benefits available to employees; guaranteeing workers meal breaks and rest stops; fair wages; protection for freelance workers; and authorizing an inter-city bus permit system for those needing mass transit.

As for his support of the former president, his views, as the Ithaca Voice stated on July 5, "remain evasive."

I believe that Pat Ryan is the candidate who deserves our votes. As Ulster County executive, he has consistently served the people. He spearheaded rehabilitation of the former IBM site, leading to over \$200 million in regional investment; increased mental health and addiction recovery services; put Ulster's first electric buses on the road; and started a green careers academy at SUNY Ulster.

Let's elect a veteran and true patriot: Pat Ryan.

Amy Rothstein
Pine Plains

The redistricting has resulted in changing the boundaries of the 19th CD from 2023 on, and Marc will also be standing for election in November in the new 19th CD, which will be extending further to the west of us and (sadly for us) will no longer

include Dutchess County. Marc Molinaro has earned our support over many years. There is no finer public servant in the Hudson Valley, and we can count on him to represent our interests well in Congress.

Michael Chamberlin
Amenia Union

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PHOTO BY DICK SOBIELO

Thoughtful, rather than mocking

OUR TOWNS

The charm of Chimney swifts

Hearing a cacophonous sound from inside your chimney this summer? While I can't promise it's not a poltergeist, I can offer an alternative explanation: Chimney swifts.

This bizarre bird is native to Eastern North America and cousin to three other swift species that are found out West: White-throated, Vaux's, and Black swifts. Despite their similarities to swallows at first blush, Chimney swifts (and their relatives) are members of a completely different family and thus bear no close relation. In fact, swifts are the only members of their family (*Apodidae*), informing us that they bear no immedi-

NATURE'S NOTEBOOK

Bethany Sheffer

ate relation to any other bird species worldwide.

Chimney swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*) are cavity nesting birds that adapted to using brick or stone chimneys for rearing their young since European colonization in the 1700s. They historically relied on snags and dead trees for rearing their young, which were plentiful enough to sustain the species when our Eastern forests were abundant and continuous. But once European colonists

arrived, instead of experiencing population declines because of habitat destruction, Chimney swifts thrived in the advent of breeding structures that they likely didn't have to compete with other animals over.

This in and of itself is interesting, as many animal species fail to adapt to such drastic changes in their environments in so short a time.

When we observe their features up close, we're privy to a couple of adaptations that make these birds well-suited for dark spaces.

Let's start with the most obvious: their sooty feather coloration. Imagine being a hungry racoon and hoping to

find a quick snack near the opening of a chimney. Good luck! These birds are diurnal and thus brood their young in chimneys by night, so natural selection has fine-tuned their camouflage to render them virtually invisible in the dark.

Next, we might notice how large their eyes are in comparison to their small heads. This feature is also a nod to the birds' proclivity for darkness, the large eye possessing an increased capacity for absorbing light in environments where light is scarce.

Lastly, when we look at the feet, we would notice the odd arrangement of toes: all four facing forward. The muscles in swifts' feet are so underde-



PHOTO BY SUNNY KELLNER, SHARON AUDUBON

More than 40 Chimney swift fledglings are treated at the Sharon Audubon Center's wildlife rehabilitation clinic. All viable subadults will be released into a 'staging' colony in mid-August when a large flock begins to assemble for migration to the Amazon River basin.

veloped that they're physically unable to perch horizontally, and thus must always maneuver about vertically when not in flight.

Unfortunately, we're seeing a decline in these magnificent bird's population throughout the Eastern U.S.

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Classifieds

Real Estate

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