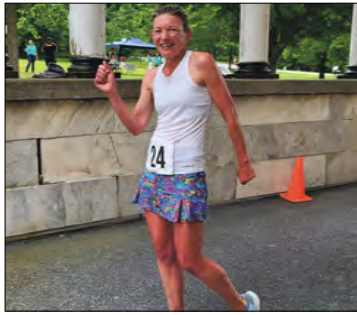




## Herrington's Sends Off Longtime Employee With Party **A2**



## Third Annual 5K Held In Millbrook To Benefit MECED **A4**



## Special, Inside

## Competitive Baking; Cool Cars; Calendar; And More **B1-2**

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**By WHITNEY JOSEPH**  
editor@millertonnews.com

By **WHITNEY JOSEPH**  
 editor@millertonnews.com

The popular Republican county executive is stepping away from the top county position to make a run

Delgado, a Democrat, was the former U.S. representative for Congressional District 19. Governor Kathy Hochul appointed him to fill the vacancy left open when former Lt. Gov. Brian Benjamin resigned in disgrace after being arrested for fraud, bribery and falsification of records.

That leaves plenty of room for the those seeking to land in Delgado's former stomping grounds, like Molinaro, who will be running on the Republican and the Conservative Party primaries for District 19 on Aug. 23. Brandon Buccola is

**See PULVER, A6**



PHOTO BY JENNIFER DOWLEY

### New volunteers urge others to join

**By DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS**  
Special to The Millerton News

**By DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS**  
Special to The Millerton News

McCulloch, a long-time Litchfield County resident, has worked with the hospital for more than

In making the announcement on Wednesday, June 8, Sharon Hospital's parent company, which owns a network of hospitals in Western Connecticut and the Hudson Valley, said McCulloch will begin her new role in the coming weeks. President Hirko will remain part of the Sharon Hospital leadership team in an advisory role as he transitions to

"We are re-affirming our commitment to the communities we serve by appointing a unique leadership team at each of our hospitals," said Dr. John Murphy, president and CEO of NuVance Health. "We know Christina is the right candi-

**See SHARON HOSPITAL, A6**



PHOTO SUBMITTED

MILLBROOK — Marching to end gun violence, a number of grandparents

Participants said they were motivated by the recent spate of gun violence, evidenced by the seeming uptick in reports of mass shootings across the U.S. Shoot-

**See PROTEST, A6**

**A group of seniors living at The Fountains in Millbrook, many of them grandparents, marched against the recent uptick of gun violence and mass shootings in the U.S. on Friday, June 10.**



editor@millertonnews.com  
860-435-9873, ext. 608

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## MFC's 'Unicorn' Training For One-Of-A-Kind Fire Department; Columns B4



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MILLERTON



Patron Helen Baldwin checked out the NorthEast-Millerton Library's (NEML) seed library as one of many resources available through a partnership with the Partners for Climate Action Hudson Valley and the Mid-Hudson Library System.

NEML focuses on Mother Earth

By CAROL KNEELAND  
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — April's Earth Day may have come and gone, but its impact is continuing at the NorthEast-Millerton Library (NEML). The library has just begun participating in the Library of Local, "a partnership between Partners for Climate Action Hudson Valley and the Mid-Hudson Library System."

NEML Library Director Rhiannon Leo-Jameson said the Millerton Library committed to the satellite program because working to go green, so to speak, is always worth pursuing.

"We were fortunate enough to be able to work with our North East and Village of Millerton Climate Task Force and see the work they were putting in," said Leo-Jameson. "This seemed to be a natural extension of the way in which we can finish this important mission. It was a way to support that and to encourage others to do so as well."

The library's most visible symbol of the action is the recently-installed "pod house," located on a table immediately opposite the front door. One of several created for the program by Hudson Valley artist Johnny Poux, the structure is the home of the NEML's newly formalized seed library, as well as a specially curated collection of books on environmental issues.

The seed library first sprouted its roots during 2020, when its implementation was stymied by the restrictions brought on by the COVID pandemic.

The library had purchased seeds with a plan to distribute them in packets decorated by original watercolors painted by former resident Pat Johnson. Unfortunately, the program went dormant with some seeds being distributed last year, but it is now back in full bloom.

Patrons are encouraged to pick up free seeds at the library, plant them and then return any resulting seeds for another cycle of sharing. Now is the prime time to plant one's garden, so make sure not wait too long to pick up those seeds at the library.

As part of the Library of Local programming, the NEML will be sponsoring a series of quarterly lectures, one of which will focus on the way in which seeds can be harvested and planted.

As programs are scheduled, information about the lectures will be posted on the sides of the pod so patrons will know where to check for more information.

The neighboring Millbrook Library and Hillsdale Roeliff Jansen Community Library are also enrolled in the program.

For more information, call the NEML at 518-789-3340, stop by at 75 Main St. or go to [www.nemillertonlibrary.org](http://www.nemillertonlibrary.org).

Robert Runge retires from Herrington's among many friends

By KAITLIN LYLE  
[kaitlin@millertonnews.com](mailto:kaitlin@millertonnews.com)

MILLERTON — More than 20 years after he walked up Dutchess Avenue to apply for work at Herrington's hardware store in Millerton, Robert Runge toasted his retirement from that very well-known and very busy business among friends and family at a community celebration on Friday, June 10.

Runge started working at Herrington's on Sept. 7, 1994. When asked why he applied to work there, he simply said, "I was in the business."

Before working at the family-owned Herrington's, Runge worked for Bristol A C Lumber & Supply Corp.

When that company announced it was going out of business, he went up the street to Herrington's at 11 Dutchess Ave. in Millerton, where he soon secured a job.

Reflecting on his 28 years at Herrington's, Runge shared his joy working with customers and "helping them with their projects and their

dreams."

Just as he'll miss those interactions, Runge will be missed by those who had the pleasure of being served by him and working with him, and just seeing him around the popular store.

"He was the best, is the best, customer service person that I know," said Herrington's owner Ed Herrington, "and he always had the ability to mentor young employees and fellow workers to follow a growth path in their careers."

"On top of all that, he's a great human being," Herrington continued. "Everything he touched, he made better. He's a team player. Whatever he undertook, he was successful at it. He always had the company at heart."

The retirement celebration for Runge was in the Millerton Yard behind Herrington's from 2 to 5 p.m. on the 10th. Along with spending some quality time with the man of the hour and congratulating him on his retirement, local residents and loyal customers savored time under the sum-



After 28 years spent working for Herrington's in Millerton, Robert Runge toasted the start of a new chapter alongside his beloved wife, Dawn.

mer sun while nibbling on sandwiches, shrimp, chicken wings and other appetizers. Smiles were plentiful and spirits were high as Runge greeted every well-wisher with the same kindness and friendliness he's been known for nearly 30 years.

"He makes the business — people like this guy," said Marilyn Herrington, a friend of Runge's. "You can't survive without him."

Runge said the celebration on coincided with his final day at Herrington's. Regarding his retirement plans, Runge's wife Dawn said with a laugh, "Once he gets through the list I have prepared for him, we are planning to do a bit of traveling. Route 66 is calling our name."

"The roads less traveled is what we're looking for, and all that there is to see and find [we hope to see]."



Perched atop a comfy chair, Noodle the pug greeted young readers at a special storytime held inside the NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex on Saturday, June 11.

'Bow Wow' heard from Library Annex

MILLERTON — Young readers were invited to join TikTok's favorite pug for a special storytime and book signing with author Jonathan Graziano and Noodle the pug at the NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex on Saturday, June 11, at 2 p.m.

Presented with Oblong Books, the library was pleased to welcome Graziano and Noodle for a fun storytime featuring their book, "Noodle and the No Bones Day."

They also lent their signature and paw print to several copies of their book for the young readers to take home with them.

As a special treat for Noodle, the children attending the storytime event were invited to bring a photo or drawing of their furry family members to share with Noodle at the

book signing.

— Kaitlin Lyle

**MILLERTON IN BRIEF**

**Irondale Schoolhouse community events**

During the next few months, the Irondale Schoolhouse will host free events for the community's education and entertainment.

On Friday, June 24, at 7 p.m., author Sarah K. Hermans will discuss her local history book, "The 1903 Jackson Corners Signature Quilt" with the community.

Come July, a magician will perform two different shows — one at 11 a.m. and one at 2 p.m. — on Saturday, July 2.

Seating is limited. Register either in person at Oblong Books at 26 Main St. in Millerton or with Ralph Fedele at [rdfedele@optonline.net](mailto:rdfedele@optonline.net) or at 518-789-4619 or with John Brunese at [jabrunese@yahoo.com](mailto:jabrunese@yahoo.com) or at 518-461-3372.

For more information, go to [www.irondaleschoolhouse.org](http://www.irondaleschoolhouse.org).

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**In November we learned in the Lakeville Journal**

**96% of our community's doctors oppose** Nuvance's plan to transform Sharon Hospital, citing the plan's dangers to the community.

The Sharon Hospital Board approved this plan **without** consulting the doctors, **without** discussing it with the local elected officials, and in **full knowledge** that, in doing so, they were violating Nuvance's agreement with the State of Connecticut. Have they realize they were also endangering the lives and well-being of our community?

From the Foundation for Community Health, Nancy Heaton who is very knowledgeable in the issues of rural health care, wants to convene stakeholders. Isn't the Foundation for Community Health a stakeholder? What were the results?

The state of CT has no "rural health program" listed CT Health Dept. Why not??

The rural communities need support from the state.

Let's ask all those folks who want our votes.

**Your town officials**

|                                                            |                                                       |                                                    |                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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**Date:** July 12, 2022 (rain date July 13)  
**Time:** 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM  
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**Food:** prepared by the Lakeville Hose Company includes: BBQ chicken, coleslaw, baked beans, potato salad, a roll, ice cream and birthday cake!  
**Beverages:** A variety of wines, beer, iced tea and other fresh summer drinks  
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Webutuck Class of 2022

# Carrissa Whitehead leads graduates into the future

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

WEBUTUCK — Before saying her final goodbye to the North East (Webutuck) Central School District, Webutuck High School (WHS) valedictorian Carrissa Whitehead will first lead the Class of 2022 to graduation.

From the age of 5, Carrissa, now 18, has been a longtime student in the district, going above and beyond to make the most of her experience, seizing every opportunity offered to her.

She's led the Webutuck Class of 2022 as its president since eighth grade and has been involved in the Student Council since seventh grade. She became vice president of Student Council in her sophomore year at WHS, then as president in her junior and senior years. After partaking in the Junior National Honor Society, Carrissa's been part of the National Honor Society since her junior year.

On the athletic field, Carrissa's engaged in track and field since seventh grade; varsity field hockey and basketball from seventh to 10th grade; and varsity golf in her senior year. In her first two years as a Warrior, she was named captain of the junior varsity basketball team.

Reflecting on her extracurriculars, Carrissa was just as involved in the local community as at school. Since 2011, she's participated in the Northern Dutchess Dairy 4-H Club, and has been a part of the Climate Smart Task Force for the town of North East since 2021.

She has also participated with the Millerton American Legion Post #178, and had the honor of participating in its Empire Girls State program the summer before senior year. Carrissa was even a nominee for Girls Nation.

Reflecting on her time at Webutuck, this stellar student said she's seen how much impact a great teacher can have on a student. Among her teachers, she was especially appreciative for the encouragement she's received from her geometry teacher, Robert



PHOTO SUBMITTED

## Carrissa Whitehead

Reid.

"I think one of the best experiences in life is having encouragement," Carrissa said. "I'm honored to be a student and soon a graduate of the school that has always supported me. At Webutuck, I gained so much knowledge and leadership skills that I'm going to use throughout my life. Webutuck has given me lifelong friends and connections."

Come this fall, Carrissa will be attending the Ivy Leagues, going to Columbia University in New York City as a mathematics major.

Further down the road, she said she'll be working toward her PhD with a goal of becoming a mathematics professor.

To Webutuck's future students, Carrissa advises they take full advantage of all opportunities presented to them, push their limits, venture outside their comfort zones, spread kindness to everyone

and, most importantly, be themselves.

"These are five actions that can not only enrich your experiences, but your life," she said. "Make the most of the experience because one action can change your whole perspective of it, and overall, your environment is what you make of it."

### Justin Carman

As the 2022 salutatorian for WHS, Justin Carman declined to be interviewed.

### Graduation details

The Graduation Ceremony for Webutuck's Class of 2022 will be held behind the high school building on Friday, June 24, at 6:30 p.m.

Send news and photos to  
editor@millertonnews.com

### Correction

Due to an error, the Brain Teasers solution for the June 2 Sudoku puzzle was not included in the June 9 issue. We regret the error.

### June 2 Solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 4 |
| 9 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| 3 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 1 |
| 7 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| 6 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 9 |
| 5 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 6 |
| 2 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| 4 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 |



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Revvng their engines, area motorcyclists could be seen riding around the town of Dover as part of VFW Post 5444's Poker Run on Saturday, June 4.

## Vets, hogs, cards and BBQ... a fast and fun VFW fundraiser

DOVER — Revving their motors for a rollicking time, area motorcyclists were invited to play their poker hands at the Dover Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Post 5444's Poker Run on Saturday, June 4.

It was all in the name of

a good cause as the VFW's relief fund went to help Post 5444's veterans in need.

Starting at 10 a.m., the poker run was hosted by the Post's Cmdr. Madison Fletcher and the Hudson Valley Biker Network at the Post 5444 Route 22 home in Dover Plains.

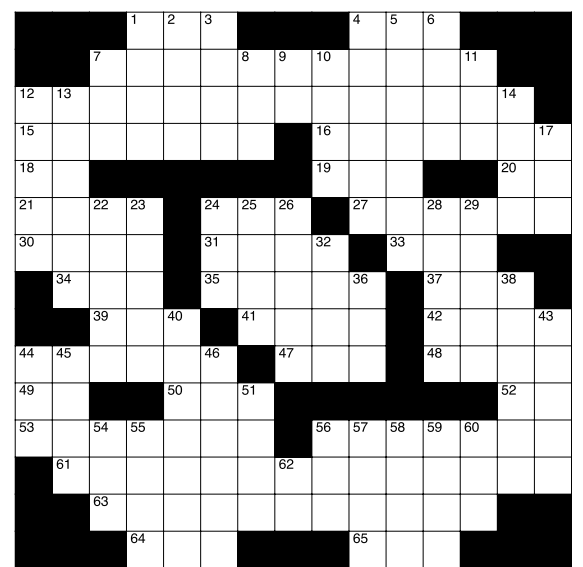
After playing plenty of hands of fairly competitive poker, the bikers were invited to stick around to enjoy some tasty barbecue. Along with barbecue dinner there were raffles, live music and a cash bar.

— Kaitlin Lyle

## Brain Teasers

### CLUES ACROSS

1. Moved quickly
4. Ocean temperature
7. Scholarly book series
12. Irregular
15. Hairstyle
16. Indigestion fixer
18. Special therapy
19. Mock
20. Partner to Pa
21. Strays
24. Swedish currency (abbr.)
27. Desired
30. Soap product
31. Traditional fishing boat
33. No (Scottish)
34. Spy organization
35. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
37. Married woman
39. Blood relation
41. German river
42. Genus of clams
44. Parts of a movie
47. Residue
48. Ethnic group of Laos and Thailand
49. Atomic #77
50. Where wrestlers work
52. Northeast
53. Type of lettuce
56. Abstain
61. Communication between two
63. One who administers medicine
64. Sun up in New York
65. Having eight



17. Male parent
22. Bring up
23. Murdered
24. Soviet Socialist Republic
25. Supreme ruler Genghis
26. Social media hand gesture
28. Semitic Sun god
29. Land
32. Database management system
36. Similar
38. Nice to look at
40. Covered with mud
43. Simple dry fruit
44. Title of respect
45. Type of footwear
46. Most lucid
51. Exam

54. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
55. "Rule, Britannia" composer
56. Small Eurasian deer
57. "Within"
58. Insures bank's depositors
59. A pause for relaxation
60. Social insect
62. Expresses acidity

### June 9 Solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | P | I | K |   |   |   |   | G | N | A | R |   |   |   |
| S | T | A | T | U | S |   |   | H | I | S | S | E |   |   |
| B | A | N | S | H | E | E |   | S | E | N | E | S | C | E |
| I | R | A |   | N | E | W | Y | O | R | K | C | I | T | Y |
| C | E | C | A |   | K | E | E | N | E | S | U | S |   |   |
| S | E | N | S |   | S | A | N | S |   | S | T | M |   |   |
|   |   | A | D | P | S |   | S | E | I | Z | E | S |   |   |
|   |   | B | E | D | L | A | M |   | S | A | T | E |   |   |
|   |   | D | O | A |   | A | P | A | R |   | R | E | T | E |
|   | S | E | N | I | H | I | L | A | T | O | R | G | A | O |
|   | S | O | I | R | E | E | S |   | E | E | R | I | E | S |
| S | T | E | A | L | S |   |   | S | N | O | R | E | S |   |
|   | E | R | N | S |   |   |   |   |   | A | U | E | R |   |

### Sudoku

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|
|   |   |   | 8 |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|   |   |   | 7 | 1 | 5 |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|   |   |   | 1 |   |   | 4 |   | 3 |   |  |  |
|   | 3 |   | 9 |   |   |   | 5 |   |   |  |  |
| 1 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 2 |  |  |
| 9 |   |   | 4 |   | 3 |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|   |   |   | 6 |   |   | 4 |   |   |   |  |  |
|   |   | 3 |   | 2 |   |   | 5 |   |   |  |  |
| 5 |   |   | 3 |   |   |   |   | 1 | 7 |  |  |

Level: Intermediate

### June 9 Solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 4 |
| 9 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| 3 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 1 |
| 7 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| 6 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 9 |
| 5 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 6 |
| 2 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| 4 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 |

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Roger Evans Bradley

VALATIE — Roger Evans Bradley, 90, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 11, 2022 in Philmont, New York. A resident of Valatie, Mr. Bradley was born in Sharon, Connecticut on April 23, 1932. He was the son of the late William J. and Marjorie F. Bradley.

He resided with his parents in Salisbury, Connecticut and moved with them to Millerton, New York in 1939. A graduate of Millerton High School, he entered the United States Army during the Korean War, proudly serving from 1952 to 1954, including 16 months in Korea with the 8th Army, Headquarters Company, KCAC, 8201 Army Unit. He was awarded the following medals and awards: United States Defense Medal, Korean War Service Medal with one Battle Star, United Nations Service Medal, Republic of Korea (ROK) War Service Medal and the ROK-Presidential Unit Citation. He also received the State of New

York Conspicuous Service Medal and the State of New York Medal for Merit in addition to the ROK Ambassador for Peace Medal.

On June 28, 1958 in Norfolk, Connecticut, he married Mary Gloria Vernali. Mrs. Bradley passed away on June 28, 2021. Upon his return to civilian life, he pursued a career in sales, retiring from Arnoff Moving & Storage in 1996. He is the father of two sons, James J. (Jay) Bradley of Lakeville, Connecticut, and Keith F. Bradley and his wife Lisa of Arizona and grandfather of two grandsons, Stephen J. Bradley and Evan J. Bradley.

Roger was a longtime civically active member of the Millerton community. He was a Past Commander of Millerton Legion Post 178, Past Vice-Commander of the Columbia County Chapter 283 of the American Legion, Korean War Veterans Association, Past President and Secretary of the Millerton Lions

Club, Past President of the North East Republican Club and was an Honorary Member and Past Secretary of the Millerton Fire Company. He also served on the Millerton Village Board of Trustees. As President of the Millerton Lions Club he was instrumental in construction of the Little League Field and as Commander of the Millerton Legion Post 178 he oversaw the construction of the home of Post 178.

Moving to Valatie, NY in 1992, he continued his civic service as an active member of the Kinderhook Lodge of Elks and was awarded that Lodge's highest honor, Elk of the Year for 1996-1997. He also received the Elks Grand Exalted Ruler's Outstanding Service Commendation for 2001-2002. He was also a member of the Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Columbia-Mid Hudson Valley Chapter. He was also a member and Vice-Commander of the American

Legion Post 184 in Hudson and a member of the Ghent VFW.

In addition to his sons and grandsons, Roger is survived by four sisters: Janet Silvernale, Marsha Phillips, Sandra Thurston and Diane Walters, his dear cousin, Elizabeth Simmons and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother, Travis Bradley and two sisters; Joan Riley and Elizabeth Layton.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday, June 16, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY. The Millerton Legion will conduct a service at 7 p.m. A funeral service will take place on Friday, June 17, at 10:30 a.m. at the funeral home.

Burial with standard military honors will follow at Salisbury Cemetery, Under Mountain Road, Salisbury, Connecticut. To send an online condolence to the family please visit [www.conklinfuneralhome.com](http://www.conklinfuneralhome.com).

OBITUARIES

J. Lawrence Blades

ASHLEY FALLS — Larry Blades, 74, of Ashley Falls, Massachusetts, passed away on May 9, 2022, at Geer Village in Canaan after a long illness. Larry was born on August 10, 1947, in Bethesda, Maryland, a son of the late Cecilia Koehler Blades and Jehu L. (Dusty) Blades. A graduate of Georgetown University, the Navy's Officer Candidate School and Columbia University's Law School, he had a 25-year career as a litigator and partner in New York law firms.

In private practice, he served as General Counsel at Skip Barber Racing School, and was an avid driver and enthusiast in the sport of auto racing.

He was an active member and volunteer in the Salisbury Congregational Church in Salisbury.

A loving husband and father, Larry is survived by his devoted wife Georgia Blades of Ashley Falls; children Matt Blades of Brooklyn, New York, (Heather Norton), Elizabeth Blades Diller of Madison, New Jersey (David), and Carla Blades of Mill River, Massachusetts (Ian Dick); grandchildren Tessa and Nicholas Diller of Madison, New Jersey, and Gavin and Sebastian Blades of Ashley Falls; sisters the late Nona Blades of New York City, Nancy Blades of Plainfield, New Jersey, and Fenix Grange (Malachy) of Honolulu, Hawaii; and brother Frederick (Rick) Blades (Mary) of Boulder, Colorado.

A Celebration of Larry's Life will be held on Sunday, August 28, 2022, at Noon at Lime Rock Park in Lakeville, Connecticut.

Email obituaries to [johnc@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:johnc@lakevillejournal.com)

Celebration of Life

David B. Lindsay

The family of David B. Lindsay, formerly of Falls Village, will host a community Celebration of his Life on Friday, July 22, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, Conn.

Celebration of Life

Bettie L. Snyder

A celebration of the life of Bettie L. Snyder will be held at the Sharon Playhouse, Bok Gallery, on June 26, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

SPORTS

MECEC 5K celebrates third year in Millbrook

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

[judithb@millertonnews.com](mailto:judithb@millertonnews.com)

MILLBROOK — With its starting point under the breezeway of the under-renovation Thorne Building on Franklin Avenue in Millbrook, 26 enthusiastic runners took off at exactly 9 a.m. on Saturday morning, June 11, for the 3rd Annual Print Run sponsored by the Millbrook Early Childhood Education Center (MECEC).

The route meandered through the village, mostly on Franklin, Maple and Merritt avenues; Elm and Reservoir drives and Church Street. Signs were erected cautioning drivers about the runners, and Millbrook Police also kept close watch on the race to keep runners safe.

The 5K was open to those 13 and older. The event also drew a good-sized group of

spectators to cheer on those running and to watch the children participate.

President of the Eastern Dutchess Road Runners Club Mill Morris was there to lend his support to the event. He even ran in the race.

With fine weather, everyone seemed to enjoy the day, with activities for all ages. On the green by the bandshell, a bounce house was set up. There was also a children's obstacle course at 9:30 a.m. for children ages 6 to 10.

At 10 a.m., MECEC Executive Director Anne Garcia presented awards to the winners of the 5K. Amanda Ruane from Sharon, Conn., came in first, completing the race in 25 minutes and 21 seconds; John "J.B." Byrne finished in second place.

The awards ceremony was followed by a concert from Bill Fiore, otherwise known as Bindlestick Bill, while

youngsters between the ages of 3 to 5 delighted in a Mini-Artist Obstacle Course. Then a 1K Walk/Run took place for ages 5 through 12 with adults or teens on hand. Preschoolers also ran in a 100-yard dash, followed by ice cream and a raffle drawing. All in all it was busy day, and clearly a lot of fun.

MECEC is located at Lyall Memorial Federated Church at 30 Maple Ave. in Millbrook. It has been educating pre-kindergartners for the past 14 years.

The 5K is MECEC's main fundraiser every year, and the preschool expressed its gratitude to the Millbrook Community Partnership for use of its property for the event and to the many volunteers who made the race possible.

For more information about MECEC, call 845-677-3536 or go to [www.mecec.org](http://www.mecec.org).



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

First-place winner for the MECEC 5K run was Amanda Ruane from Sharon, Conn., who completed the race in 25 minutes and 21 seconds.

Webutuck Little League wraps up first season

By KAITLIN LYLE

[kaitlinl@millertonnews.com](mailto:kaitlinl@millertonnews.com)

AMENIA — Six weeks after local baseball fans celebrated a new youth baseball program's first season, the Webutuck Little League (WLL) closed the inaugural season on Saturday, June 11.

Comprised of ball players from the town of Amenia and the village of Millerton, the league's Opening Day was on Saturday, April 23. During the course of what Amenia Baseball Treasurer Amiee Duncan called "a wonderful and successful season," the league celebrated several achievements.

Duncan reported the Majors team, which includes players between the ages of 9 and 12, finished the 2022 season with three wins and eight losses. It was enough to earn them a playoff game against Pawling. They ultimately won the game against Pawling on Monday, June 6, with a final score of 5-3.

The WLL was also included among Dutchess County's recent round of 2022 Learn, Play, Create grant funding awards announced on Thurs-



Prior to the pizza party and awards ceremony scheduled at noon, the Webutuck Little League's Minor 1 and Minor 2 teams engaged in a little friendly competition on the ballfields at Amenia's Beekman Park on Saturday morning, June 11.



PHOTOS BY AMIEE DUNCAN

day, June 9.

Out of a total \$362,250 set aside to fund 21 projects, WLL received \$20,000 for uniforms and equipment as well to "offset registration costs, [a] week-long summer camp/clinic to improve skills, refresh playing field and dugouts and to set up a concession stand to generate revenue to promote and grow the program," according to Dutchess County Executive

Marc Molinaro's office.

"I was just excited — we got everything we asked for," said WLL Coach DJ Reilly. "It was unbelievable."

Reflecting on the success of their first season, Reilly shared how great it's been to have ballplayers from 7 to 11 travel to other ballfields to play against different teams.

"It used to be just in-house — now we have them going to other towns," he said. "They

learned a lot seeing other kids play... You can only practice so much, but game experience is what they really learned."

With the WLL's closing ceremony held at noon at Beekman Park in Amenia Saturday, the Minor 1 and Minor 2 teams played against each other at 10 a.m., followed by the Farm League's practice at 11 a.m. Along with a pizza party and an ice cream sundae bar, players were then given awards that recognized their hard work this season.

"I have truly enjoyed this season," Duncan said. "The coaches, players and parents have done a phenomenal job and I am proud beyond words with everything we've accomplished."

Later this summer, Reilly said the league will start its Babe Ruth season for players ages 13 to 16. He said practice players 9 to 12 will also continue and later a fall team for 9 to 12 year olds will form to prepare them for next year.

Additionally, Reilly said the league will have four of its players between the ages of 11 and 12 play with the town of Dover on a tournament team.



## Worship Services

Week of June 19, 2022

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

**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](http://www.salisburyucc.org)  
Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy!  
(860) 435-2442

**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](http://www.christchurchsharon.org)

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT  
Rev. Paul Christopherson  
SUNDAY SERVICE  
10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II)  
In-Person and on You-Tube  
[www.stjohnssalisbury.org](http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org)  
860-435-9290

**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](http://www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational)  
860-824-7232  
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](http://www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org)

**The Lakeville United Methodist Church**  
319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"  
Pastor Joy Veronesi  
860-435-9496  
[Lakevillemethodist@snet.net](mailto:Lakevillemethodist@snet.net)

**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  
[sharonumc634@att.net](mailto:sharonumc634@att.net)

**Promised Land Baptist Church**  
29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT  
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Sunday School - 10am  
Sunday Worship - 11am  
Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM  
(860) 824-5685  
VISITORS WELCOME!  
[www.promisedlandbaptist.org](http://www.promisedlandbaptist.org)

**Falls Village Congregational Church**  
16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village  
10:00 a.m. Family Worship  
Coffee Hour  
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860-824-0194

**The Smithfield Presbyterian Church**  
656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY  
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[www.thesmithfieldchurch.org](http://www.thesmithfieldchurch.org)  
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SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM - St. Bridget  
SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart  
WEEKDAY MASSES Monday, Tuesday & First Friday 9 AM - Sacred Heart  
Wednesday 9 AM - St. Bernard

**Millerton United Methodist Church**  
6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812  
Millerton, NY 12546  
Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 10:00 A.M.  
518-789-3138

**Sharon Congregational**  
25 Main Street, Sharon, CT  
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
Visit our website [sharoncongregationalchurch.org](http://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](mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org)

**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](mailto:canaanct-umc.com)  
[canaanctumc@gmail.com](mailto:canaanctumc@gmail.com)  
We hope you will join us!

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for an invitation to the Zoom service  
If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone.

PINE PLAINS/AREA

# Skylee Eiffert, Lourdes Belanger lead Pine Plains graduates of 2022

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — With promising futures ahead of them, Pine Plains seniors Skylee Eiffert, 18, and Lourdes Belanger, 18, will soon be leading this year’s graduating class at Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School as valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively.

Along with spending their entire academic careers in the Pine Plains Central School District (PPCSD), Skylee and Lourdes have been involved in some of the same extracurricular activities there.

Both of the high-achieving students have played on the Stissing Mountain varsity volleyball and softball teams, and both have been involved in the National Honor Society, the Math Honor Society and the Varsity Club.

Skylee has also been involved with the Key Club and Students Against Destructive Decisions; she was a crew member for this year’s production of “The Addams Family.”

Asked what they admire most about the PPCSD, Skylee said she likes the smaller community and how “everyone knows everyone and wants what’s best for everyone.”

Lourdes shared her appreciation for how supportive and involved the teachers are, both in and out of the classroom.

“I really like when you come to Pine Plains, you know that you will know your teachers personally,” Lourdes said.

Yet it’s because of the district’s small size, Skylee said, that students have to branch out and do things for them-



PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

From left, Skylee Eiffert and Lourdes Belanger have been selected to lead this year’s graduating class in Pine Plains as valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively.

selves, taking the initiative to find opportunities outside of what’s offered in the district. That being said, both she and Lourdes agree that the PPCSD places an emphasis on the importance of community.

They said their teachers all tend to encourage students to go out into the community to help those in need. In fact, several of the high school clubs revolve around community service.

Along with helping the nine towns in the PPCSD merge into one cohesive district family, so to speak, Lourdes said by encouraging students to venture out into their communities, it teaches them how to make connections, interact with new people and find out who needs help. Then the trick is to figure out how to provide

that help.

To incoming students, Skylee advises they get involved in school and their classes, and with their fellow students, while Lourdes encourages everyone to look past the small-town mentality to find whatever opportunities are available.

Both Skylee and Lourdes will be heading to Binghamton University in Bingham-

ton, in western New York, in the fall. They are both also on the track to study pre-med. Though they’ve yet to discover where they want to focus their careers, both have an interest in working with children.

This year’s graduation ceremony for Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School will be on Saturday, June 25, at 10 a.m. in the auditorium.

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## ‘Not guilty’ pleads former undersheriff to charges of possessing child porn

By WHITNEY JOSEPH  
editor@millertonnews.com

COPAKE — The former Columbia County undersheriff who also previously served as Copake town justice and police chief entered a plea of not guilty to charges of possessing child pornography.

Eighty-two-year-old Copake resident James Blass reportedly waived his right to a grand jury when he entered his plea in the Columbia County Court on Tuesday, June 7.

The Ancram native was represented in court by his attorney, Micheal Howard. Blass was seated in a wheelchair and attached to oxygen when he made his court appearance on the 7th. A handful of his supporters were reportedly in the courtroom gallery.

The charges stemmed from an arrest on March 14, based on an investigation conducted jointly between the New York State Police (NYSP) and the Columbia County District Attorney’s (DA) Office. The NYSP and DA’s Office reported that Blass was found to be in possession of child pornography.

The man who spent more than 30 years working with the Columbia

County Sheriff’s Office until he hung up his badge in 1997 upon retirement was charged with possession of a sexual performance by a child, a felony.

Blass is facing a single count of possessing child pornography.

If found guilty of the charges, Blass faces a maximum prison term of four years and will be placed on the state’s sex offender registry.

According to Columbia County DA Paul Czajka, the pornography was allegedly found on Blass’ computer thanks to a tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The center reportedly alerted the NYSP’s Internet Crimes Against Children Unit, noted the DA’s Office.

Charging documents from Czajka’s office were explicit about what was pictured in the pornography in graphic detail.

After he waived his rights to a grand jury the former lawman entered his plea of not guilty.

An order of protection forbidding Blass from having any contact with children under the age of 18 was issued by Columbia County Judge Richard Kowec after it was requested by the prosecutors in the case.



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PULVER *Continued from Page A1*

also running in the Republican primary for the seat.

Josh Riley, from a Harvard Law School grad from Endicott, N.Y., is running in the Democratic and the Working Families Party primaries while Jamie Cheney, a businesswoman and Millerton beef farmer, is running in the Democratic primary for District 19.

Pulver ponders top county position

Pulver, meanwhile, said he's formed a committee to help him make the all-important decision, one he hopes to have finalized by August at the latest.

"I'm still slightly undecided; the support I'm getting, though, is overwhelming," he said. "I have people calling me, and people that I certainly respect are encouraging me to run. We're discussing it as a family and how it affects everything."

The head of the Dutchess County Legislature said that his wife, Tonya, and his daughter have been encouraging him and offering him support.

"My wife has been very supportive, and my daughter loves the idea," said Pulver. "I certainly would love to run. If I run as chairman of the Legislature it helps me represent the county."

Pulver added once Molinaro steps down, his unexpired term will be filled by Deputy County Executive William O'Neill.

O'Neill is a Republican who has been a part the Molinaro administration for the past decade but has never actually been elected to serve in public office.

If Pulver decides to run, it would not be until the 2023 General Election. Yet there are benefits he's already excited about when considering his decades in public service.

That career includes serving on his hometown of Pine Plains' school district's Board of Education (BOE) and in his town volunteering on its Conservation Advisory Council (CAC), its Board of Assessment

Review (BAR), its Planning Board and also serving for 12 years as its town supervisor.

"I've been on this a long time working in the trenches," said Pulver. "I've been active in the fire company, the rescue squad; I've done a lot. I've been on the National Ski Patrol for 39 years now; I'd have to curtail my involvement with that to a certain degree... And now I've really enjoyed getting around the county and meeting people, that's another positive toward this."

Yet throughout those many years of serving his community, Pulver has always only held two-year terms, he said.

"I've never had a four-year term — in anything," he said. "Town supervisor was two years, and county legislator was two years. I would love to have a four-year term."

Despite brief terms, Pulver keeps getting re-elected. He is now serving his ninth year in the Legislature representing District 19, which serves the towns of North East, Stanford, Pine Plains and Milan. He has also been elected by his fellow legislators to serve as chairman of the Legislature for the past five years.

"I'm very proud of the work we've done. Some of my peers are my strongest advocates getting me to try to run," he said, adding, "I have the utmost respect for what Marcus has done for the last 11 years now as county executive; I think certainly him and I have worked well together for the last nine years and I think I've added to the success of Dutchess County. That's what's making me lean toward running."

"I've got a great record," he added. "The best editorial I ever had was in The Millerton News. It said that once I start a project, I finish it."

Pulver said he hopes his constituents will reach out to him about whether he should make a run for the county executive office. Voters are welcome to call his cell phone at 914-474-0908 or to email him at [gpulver@dutchessny.gov](mailto:gpulver@dutchessny.gov).

MILLERTON FIRE CO. *Continued from Page A1*

If not for the ability for volunteers to train locally at what are called "acquired structures" like Dowley's, with certified trainer Tom Murphy from the Pleasant Valley Fire Department in this instance, volunteers from the MFC would have to travel for their required training.

Tack on an hour commute to get to a training facility and it can become discouraging to many thinking of volunteering. Schultz said when he trained, he often drove to Poughkeepsie, Fishkill or even New Hackensack, driving 45 minutes or more — one way. "Having a structure here in the fire district alleviated travel time and made it much more friendly to take up the offer to train," he said, adding the NEFD pays for training. "It's not an exorbitant amount of money, but the district itself does budget and pay for the training officer."

He said a more expensive year would cost around \$5,000 for training.

"Really it's a very cost effective way to bring training right here to Millerton; it's one of the reasons why we hired [Tom], to make it cost effective."

Murphy's most recently taught the North East Fire District Interior Class 1 and the North East Fire District Exterior Class 1.

The training at Dowley's property included hose line advancement, search and rescue drills, firefighter survival training, forceful entry, outside exterior work, interior crew assistance, pumping water and more. No fires were set for the drills as it not only can cause toxic fumes, but Schultz said doing so is both time- and cost-prohibitive.

A positive trend

Schultz also said for the first time in many years, the NEFD has noticed a positive trend: More volunteers have been signing up for the MFC.

That's very good news, he said, considering in recent years the volunteer pool for

**"We've been very fortunate through a variety of efforts, and we are on the good side of the coin right now."**

*NEFD Commissioner Josh Schultz*

firefighters, not just in Millerton but around the state and nationwide has practically dried up, as people are working more and/or traveling farther for work; have more personal and/or familial commitments; have two-or more-career households; or just don't have the interest in volunteering.

"We've been very fortunate through a variety of efforts, and we are on the good side of the coin right now so we want to continue that momentum," said Schultz. "In the last year it really kind of picked up. I don't know if perhaps the whole conversation we had last November regarding taxes helped, or we caught more people's attention in the desire to gain more members, but we had an influx of new members who vary in terms of socio-economic backgrounds. It's been quite interesting and quite enjoyable to watch as well because I'm hoping we're experiencing a renaissance of volunteerism."

Volunteers share their stories

Chris Reyes moved to Millerton two years ago with his wife, Nichole, a recently-elected Webutuck Board of Education member, and their two sons. Reyes just joined the MFC and is training to be an interior firefighter.

He said while at 45 he's among one of the oldest of the new volunteers, he's glad he made the leap to do something challenging that will benefit the community.

"I wanted to find something that really fit me and was suitable," he said, "because my wife was very into philanthropy in the city and always made it a point to do some kind of volunteer work at least once a month, either with a food pantry or with

seniors, to set an example for our children. I didn't grow up like that but Nichole set the example and that's what we did."

His friend, Joe Prusse, was already a Millerton firefighter and has been guiding Reyes along the way. The two have also been volunteering as soccer and Little League coaches. Working in the NEFD is just one more way to become engaged with the local community, said Reyes.

"It's a company of respect and integrity; it builds camaraderie itself," he said. "All of the firefighters come from all walks of life. You have police officers, you have electricians, have sheriff's officers, landscapers; everyone does something so different yet we can all come together for the common good, which is so neat."

"Also, with new members coming aboard, like having Leslie [Farhangi], both her and I aren't spring chickens, we're coming aboard saying, 'We want to do this.' I am 45... yet despite my age they really welcome my life experiences to get me up to speed, which is really heartwarming."

"When I first saw Leslie come in she had this huge smile and her energy [was great]. I was like, 'Go you,' and I was like, 'I'm here too.'"

North East resident, long-time Planning Board member and frequent community volunteer Farhangi is training to be an exterior firefighter. Because of that, she was not at Dowley's property under Murphy's tutelage.

At 60 years old, Farhangi said she surprised more than a few people when she volunteered with the MFC. She did so after reading a comment following the New York Times' profile on Millerton. She said it motivated her to move beyond the board table and get her hands dirty.

"One thing is I finally have an empty nest. My youngest son started college, so I have more time. I closed my business, Three Meadows Spirits, Peony Vodka. I also moved my parents to my farm, and they need a lot of care, plus COVID, so I had more time," she said. "I thought about what I wanted to do, and I wanted to do something that gave back. I am on different boards, but this is something that's more

hands on."

Farhangi said she was also really moved by the fatal Yang family house fire on Nov. 6, 2021, on South Elm Avenue (Route 22) in Millerton that left two dead. Then she read a message on Facebook from the Millbrook fire chief about how essential volunteers are to keep fire services going.

"I sent a message to the [Millerton] fire department and I wrote, 'I am a 60-year-old woman; I am not running into a burning building. Can you use me?'" she said "So it's been a journey pushing myself out of my comfort zone."

"I had to learn how to use a chain saw, how to use hoses," Farhangi added. "I have to say, I wasn't sure how it would be, and at every step, everyone in the department has been amazing, fantastic, welcoming and super helpful, super supportive and I can see how it kind of gets into your blood."

At 21, Shane Watson is one of the younger volunteers training to be an interior firefighter. He said he knew he wanted to join the department by the time he was 6 or 7.

Watson said going through the drills at Dowley's home gave him "very good knowledge" and that "everything went well."

Watson, who comes from a family with a long line of firefighters in the MFC, said of the experience, "I think everything was great... we all had hands-on practice and it was definitely easier... it was nice and it was a good practice."

Watson said he signed up to volunteer with the MFC at the tender age of 16, right out of high school. He always knew he would become a firefighter as so many in his family have, both men and women.

"I'd encourage more people to join," he said. "We're looking for more support, looking for more community help. We're all locals, of course, at some point; we're all at some point, unfortunately, going to need some assistance and need some help."

To learn more about volunteering with the MFC, in any capacity, call 518-789-4645; check out the fire company's Facebook page; or just stop by the firehouse at 24 Century Blvd. any Monday night between 6 and 8 p.m.

Reyes has also offered to chat with anyone who has questions about what it's like to be a new recruit and to take anyone interested on a tour of the Millerton firehouse. Call or text him at 516-241-3882 for more information.

SHARON HOSPITAL *Continued from Page A1*

date to lead the hospital at this pivotal moment in healthcare."

A tumultuous time in the hospital's history

The transition in leadership at Sharon Hospital comes at a time of transformation and controversy for the 78-bed community hospital. In September 2021, Nuvance Health and Sharon Hospital announced plans to shutter its Labor and Delivery Unit and pare down the facility's intensive care unit to a progressive care unit.

That decision resulted in a swift and fierce outcry from the community, an investigation by the state and a grassroots effort to force the hospital, which also serves Dutchess and Columbia Counties, to maintain its full-service status. McCulloch said she is con-



PHOTO BY MARINA BALLANTINE

**Christina McCulloch**

fident that the planned transformation will strengthen services identified as the community's greatest areas of need, while connecting patients with advance care and services offered within the Nuvance Health System.

McCulloch, who has played a central role in the transformation plan from its earliest

planning stages, said she will continue partnering with Hirko to ensure that the hospital remains sustainable and vibrant within the community for future generations.

"Our end goal is positive," noted McCulloch.

More than 180 rural and community hospitals have closed in the United States since 2005, and The Center for Health Care Quality and Payment Reform had identified Sharon Hospital at a "high risk for closing."

McCulloch, who has three daughters — a set of twins, age 12, and a 13-year-old — said she understands that the hospital's decision to cut services, particularly labor and delivery, is a controversial one.

"Sometimes the decisions that have to be made are very hard and definitely we all understand how important these services have been to the community," she said.

The hospital's new leader added that, while not everyone

may agree with the plan, she is determined to foster trust and enhance communication by "continuing to be transparent and connected, and to listen to the perspectives of others."

Career began at the bedside

McCulloch has been a clinician for nearly two decades and has worked at Sharon Hospital since 2014, serving as director of nursing, director of quality and performance improvement, and chief quality officer.

She previously worked at Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury and Griffin Hospital in Derby, where she began her career at the bedside as a staff nurse. McCulloch has a Masters of Business Administration in Healthcare Management from Quinnipiac University, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Western Connecticut State University and an Associate Degree in Nursing From St. Vincent's College.

PROTEST *Continued from Page A1*

ings have taken place in Bufalo and Uvalde, Texas, in the past few weeks, the last one happening in an elementary school that left both young children and educators dead.

Fountains resident Barbara Mannelli headed up the "Walk for Peace and Prayers for School Safety" on the 10th.

Manelli is a retired teacher, and said the deadly shooting in Uvalde hit close to home for her. The Rev. Matt Calkins of Grace Episcopal Church in Millbrook joined the walk, which went from the Inn at The Fountains to its chapel.

All who took part seemed to enjoy the lovely spring day

while conversing about the seriousness of the issue that brought them together. They join together for an occasional chant during their trek.

Once at the chapel, the bell was rung and the group prayed for peace and an end to gun violence. The protesters then walked back to the Inn.

Manelli and Calkins said they were pleased with the turn out of roughly 30 and the support they received from The Fountains Community Life Director Lisa Rieckermann and Assistant Director Donna Hansen in helping to organize the event.

— Judith O'Hara Balfe

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

BAKING: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## Baking as a Competitive Sport (And a Fundraising Tool)

Baking cake is not a specialty of mine. For some reason, my cakes are never as successful as my bread.

Which means this article will not provide you with a foolproof cake technique, other than to suggest that box cakes are much better than you think they're going to be and often in fact are much moister than a from-scratch version.

I like to believe that baking from scratch doesn't matter, and that the Sharon Historical Society's annual Let Them Eat Cake fundraising auction is less about how your cake tastes (although it should taste delicious, obviously) and more about how it looks.

"Clever" is not usually a word we associate with the word "cake," but for the Sharon Historical Society, it seems to me that often the cakes that attract the most attention are those with a catchy cake title that matches a clever design.

Myra Plescia, who is the historical society and museum's projects manager, offered some hints at how to make a successful entry in the annual cake fundraiser: "In general, well-decorated cakes with visual appeal can generate some high bids."

But, she adds: "Cakes



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH MAYHEW, THE DUTCHY OF MILLBROOK  
**Elizabeth Mayhew, the renowned cake decorator and baker behind The Dutchy of Millbrook, contributed one of her gorgeous creations to the 2021 Let Them Eat Cake fundraiser for the Sharon Historical Society & Museum.**

from bakers with generous family members who are willing to bid can also do very well."

The fundraising Let Them Eat Cake evening is generally fun and social, albeit with an edge: "The bidding can get quite competitive," Plescia warned (or promised, depending on how you look at it).

Last year, professional

cake baker Elizabeth Mayhew from Millbrook, N.Y., contributed one of her exquisitely decorated cakes (if you want to see samples of her work, visit her Instagram page @elizabethmayhew).

Mayhew's "Strawberry Fields Forever" brought in \$1,550 in the in-person auction last summer. That is not a typo — her cake did in fact sell for more than a thousand dollars. And it was only the fourth-highest income producer! (Mayhew also auctioned off the promise of a cake decorated to the bidder's specifications, for \$800 in the online auction).

Sharon, Conn., resident Rebecca Baum actu-

ally produced the two top sellers at the in-person auction: The All-American Cheesecake, which sold for \$2,100; and the Brown Sugar Bundt Cake, which sold for \$1,600.

The third highest bid fetcher was the Citrus Poppy Seed Layer Cake with Lemon Glaze by Anthony Bellomo, the celebrated owner of Orangerie Garden in Millbrook, N.Y. (it sold for \$1,600).

As you read the names of these winning cakes, it will perhaps make you doubt my idea that a clever cake can attract large bids. The entries listed above clearly won because they were lovely and promised to be delicious, not because they had funny names.

But I return to my original statement, which is that I am not a great baker of cakes. Therefore, if I were to enter a cake into the auction, I would have to count on sheer gimmick to get me into the top ranks of moneymakers.

You might wonder why I'm even thinking about this, and the answer is that any bakers in the area who are proud of their pastry prowess are invited to bake and donate to the cake auction. That means you!

Cakes must be delivered to the Sharon Historical Society & Museum on the Green in Sharon on Friday, July 1, in the afternoon.

The auction and cocktail party will be that same evening from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Of course you don't need to be a baker to help the Sharon Historical Society raise funds for its important and interesting work. It is extremely helpful if you bid on one or more of the cakes, and if you purchase tickets to the July 1 event. They are \$45 in advance or \$55 at the door. For more information, go to <https://sharonhist.org/let-them-eat-cake-2022>.



IMAGE COURTESY NE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Fidelia Bridges, a resident of North Canaan, was a founding member of the American Watercolor Society.**

## PAINTING A PICTURE OF THE LIFE OF A PAINTER

Kathryn Boughton is a writer, a journalist and the town historian for North Canaan, Conn., as well as being a native of the region. Those attributes combine to make her an unusually interesting teller of tales of local history.

She will give a talk on Friday, July 17, at 7 p.m. at North Canaan's Douglas Library about artist Fidelia Bridges, who lived in town from 1892 to 1923.

The talk is free and hosted by the Canaan Art Guild.

Bridges was an American artist of the late 19th century and a founding member of the

American Watercolor Society (and the only woman in the group). She was known for her delicately detailed paintings of flowers, plants and birds in natural settings.

The artist lived in a cottage overlooking the Blackberry River — and her beautiful flower gardens, the subject of many of her paintings.

For information, call the library at 860-824-7863. And to learn more about the history of the town and region, visit the Canaan History Center, 115 Main St., on Fridays between 9 a.m. and noon (call 860-453-4435).

## ARTISAN CRAFT MARKET AS PART OF 'DISCOVER FALLS VILLAGE'

The David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, Conn., will host an Artisan Crafts Market on the library's lawn on Saturday, July 9, as part of the Discover Falls Village Weekend highlighting the businesses, cultural offerings and local artisans in the second smallest town in the state.

The market will be outside the library, with artisans and products including Karin Gers-tel of Under Mountain

Weavers; traditional wooden furniture, including Windsor chairs, by Andrew Jack; hand-blown glass by Lucas Casey; custom wood-working by Stefan Wolf; handcrafted boxes and canoes by Roger McKee; custom kitchen knives by Jim Hurlburt; felted toys, bags and more by Jennifer Markow; and totes by Sharon Hamilton. Fine art includes forged sculpture by Will Blass and fine art and jewelry by Katie Ross of Iron Geist Studios; paintings by Danielle Mailer; photography by Sarah Blodgett; paintings and prints by Marilyn Hardy; and mixed media art by Lori Barker. Indoors on the library's ArtWall, Gail Jacobson's exhibition of colored pencil drawings of flowers on black paper, "In the Night Garden," will be on display with a special reception from 2 to 4 p.m.

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JUNE 17 • 7 PM  
MIKE WILSON  
JUNE 18 • 7 PM  
JOE VASATURO

The season for exotic vintage cars has begun. Lans Christensen will share some special items throughout the summer, including this award-winning 1949 Chevy truck, on display at the race track at Lime Rock Park for the Royals’ Garage Car Show over Memorial Day weekend.

COOL CARS: LANS CHRISTENSEN

She’s So Fine, My ‘49

Ken Ward, of Windsor Locks, Conn., has owned this 1949 Chevy truck for eight years — that’s eight years of careful, meticulous restoration. He found the car in Utah and said, “It was the cheapest one around.”

When restoration was completed and time came for paint, a long deliberation resulted in a unique color: Pond Green.

With its “cool” color and the desirable “three deuces” engine, a draw for any Chevy fan, this pickup was the logical choice for the “Skip’s Selection” award (chosen by racer and former track owner Skip Barber) at the 2022 Royals’ Garage Car Show held over Memorial Day weekend at Lime Rock Park.



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

‘THE BARD THE BEAT THE BLUES’ AT GB PUBLIC THEATER

Experimental theater takes a trip back in time with actor/musician/raconteur Will LeBow’s “The Bard The Beat The Blues” at the Great Barrington Public Theater. Performances are at Bard College at Simon’s Rock in Great Barrington, Mass.

Performances began June 8 and continue to June 26, in rotation with other solo shows.

“The Bard The Beat The Blues” is directed by GB Public Theater Artistic Director Jim Frangione.

LeBow begins the one-hour performance with his family moving from the Jewish ghetto of

Vilna, Lithuania, to Brooklyn, where his grandfather acted in Yiddish theater. Growing up in 1950s in New York, LeBow discovered Shakespeare, nightlife in the heyday of Greenwich Village, the poetry of Lawrence Ferlinghetti, and other influences that led him to his career on stage.

Performances are Thursday through Sunday at 3 and 7:30 p.m. Reservations are encouraged; go to [www.greatbarrington-publictheater.org](http://www.greatbarrington-publictheater.org).

“The Bard The Beat The Blues” will be performed seven times in the rotation of solo shows.

CALENDAR

All entries can be found in our full calendar at [www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar](http://www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar).

ART

**American Mural Project.** 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn. [www.americanmuralproject.org](http://www.americanmuralproject.org) Opens June 18.

**The Re Institute.** 1395 Boston Corners Road, Millerton, N.Y. [www.thereinstitute.com](http://www.thereinstitute.com) Pattern and Time: Geoffrey Young, Carol Diehl, Moira Kelly, Mark Olshansky, Tara Foley, Stephen Westfall, May 7 to June 25.

BOOKS

**Hotchkiss Library of Sharon.** 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. [www.hotchkisslibrary.org](http://www.hotchkisslibrary.org) Tuesday Evening Book Group, Tuesdays, 7 p.m. (online).

**Oblong Books & Music.** 26 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. [www.oblongbooks.com](http://www.oblongbooks.com) Moon, Serpent, & Bone: Oddities & Curiosities Night Market: 4th Annual Summer Solstice Festival, June 17, 6 p.m.

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KIDS

**Scoville Memorial Library.** 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. [www.scovillelibrary.org](http://www.scovillelibrary.org) Family Storytime, Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

MOVIES

**Gilson Cafe & Cinema.** 354 Main St., Winsted, Conn. [www.gilsoncafeandcinema.com](http://www.gilsoncafeandcinema.com) See website for current showtimes.

**The Moviehouse.** 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. [www.themoviehouse.net](http://www.themoviehouse.net) Now playing: Top Gun: Maverick, Downton Abbey: A New Era, Jurassic World: Dominion.

MUSIC

**NorthEast-Millerton Library.** 75 Main St., Millerton N.Y. [www.nemillertonlibrary.org](http://www.nemillertonlibrary.org) The Great American Folk Song Revival! With Caroline Doctorow, June 18, 6:30 p.m.

THEATER

**Ancram Opera House.** 1330 County Route 7, Ancram, N.Y. [www.ancramoperahouse.org](http://www.ancramoperahouse.org) STORYMAKING WORKSHOP with Celeste Lecesne, creator of POOF!, June 18, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORK AND WORLD OF RODIN

The largest exhibition of work by Auguste Rodin in 40 years will open at the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Mass., on June 18. It will remain there until Sept. 18, after which it will travel to the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, Ga.

The show will feature about 50 sculptures and 25 drawings, including familiar masterpieces and lesser-known works of the highest quality.

More than just a collection of sculptures and drawings, the exhibition also tells the story of the collectors, agents, art historians and critics

who endeavored to make Rodin known in America, and considers the artist’s influence and reputation in the U.S. from 1893 to the present.

To find out about this and other exhibits at the Clark, go to [www.clark-art.edu](http://www.clark-art.edu).

The Clark Art Institute will have a show of the work and life of Auguste Rodin from June to September, including “The Small Walking Man,” from circa 1899.



PHOTO COURTESY CLARK ART MUSEUM

LEARN TO LINE DANCE AND DO THE LINDY HOP

Jacob’s Pillow in Becket, Mass., is offering a workshop with the New England Soul Line Dance Network on Sunday, July 10, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. It’s open to all ages and no experience is needed.

The New England Soul Line Dance Network believes Soul Line Dancing

is empowering, evolving and inspiring, and can be performed with social distance.

This is the Pillow’s second Soul Line Dance Party, led this year by LaTondra Finley-Jones and Lenore Winston, and it is designed for every body and every dance ability.

The music is R&B and hip-hop. Wear comfortable clothing to move in as well as shoes, sneakers or dance shoes. Be sure to bring your water bottle.

The week before, on July 3 from 10 to 11:30 a.m., there will be a Lindy Hop dance workshop,

open to all experience levels and to ages 16 and up.

Born in Harlem’s African-American communities in the 1930s, the Lindy Hop is a timeless and popular form of partnered jazz dance danced all over the world.

Explore the basic steps, aesthetic values and technical elements in preparation for the social dance floor. No partner is necessary. Wear comfortable, supportive shoes.

To learn more about these workshops and more summer programs at Jacob’s Pillow, go to [www.jacobspillow.org/events/workshops-with-festival-artists](http://www.jacobspillow.org/events/workshops-with-festival-artists).

At The Movies

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Tara Foley  
Moira Kelly  
Mark Olshansky  
Stephen Westfall  
Geoffrey Young

**May 7<sup>th</sup> to June 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Open Saturday 1pm to 4pm and by appointment.

**Yale Norfolk School of Art**

**THE SHAPE OF EMPATHY**

**SUMMER 2022 LECTURE SERIES**

5.26 GARRETT BRADLEY  
6.2 STEFFANI JEMISON  
6.9 ANISSA MACK  
6.10 DAVE MCKENZIE  
6.16 AARON FOWLER  
6.23 GUADALUPE MARAVILLA

Yale Norfolk School of Art, established in 1948, is an intensive six-week undergraduate summer residency program for twenty-six rising seniors. In 2022, students will investigate *The Shape of Empathy*, the theme of the summer’s lecture series, with scholars and artists.

All Lectures are held at 7:00pm at the Art Barn, Yale Norfolk School of Art with receptions to follow.

More information is available online at: <https://norfolkart.yale.edu/>

Correction

An article in the June 9 Compass arts and entertainment gave photo credit to Francesca Lally for a photo from Alexandra Peters’ sampler collection. The photo credit should go to Martin Lewis.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Mari DePedro, Sonia Zurita, Lisa Pelosi and Eric Salas helped organize the Millbrook Pride Picnic on Sunday, June 12; Pelosi won “Gayest Picnics” at the event.

# Millbrook Pride Picnic triumphant

MILLBROOK — Sunday, June 12, found more than 70 residents from around the Hudson Valley enjoying the late spring afternoon on the rolling lawn of the Millbrook Winery, with tents, music, colorful pin-wheels and rainbow flags.

All attending the Millbrook Pride Picnic in honor of Pride Month seemed to enjoy themselves, as they rallied for the cause and to raise awareness for LGBTQ rights.

There were a good many dogs at the picnic, and picnic baskets, with rose wine provided by Millbrook Pride, along with water and prizes for the “gayest picnics.”

Co-Organizer Eric Salas

said the group was pleased with the response and the turnout.

“It’s all about building communications, to foster diversity and to learn about each other,” said Salas.

Millbrook Pride events began back in 2016, but have been on hold for the past two years because of the COVID pandemic. This year, 43 requests for Pride flags were made by local businesses and other community members.

In addition to Salas, other organizers for the event included Lisa Pelosi, Buffy Arbogast, Mindy Hill, Sonia Zurita and Kevin McGrane.

— Judith O’Hara Balfe

## Millbrook High School Class of 2022

# David Sager and Molly McMorris lead Blazers to Graduation Day

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE  
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Millbrook High School’s (MHS) Graduation Day will be Friday, June 24, at 7 p.m. at the MHS Athletic Field. The ceremony will highlight both the valedictorian and salutatorian, featured below.

### Valedictorian

Valedictorian David Sager began his education in Millbrook in first grade; he’s remained in the district ever since. An exceptional student, he not only excelled as a student and athlete, he enjoyed himself every step of the way.

“I have enjoyed my experience throughout each school and especially in high school,” said David. “I was involved in a lot of sports and extracurriculars and really got the chance to get to know my classmates, coaches and teachers.”

Since freshman year, David played varsity soccer and ran indoor and outdoor track.

He was on the Mock Trial Team, the Student Council and senior year he was vice president of the National Honor Society.

Loving to be physically active, especially outdoors, David got involved in skiing, pickup basketball, tennis and running



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

### David Sager

in high school.

He also worked as a lifeguard for the Town of Washington pool after his freshman year, and as a soccer referee and coach for its Recreation Department.

Although being the top student in his class takes a lot of time, as does athletics and working, David still found time to enter the Millbrook VFW’s District 2 essay competition, Voice of Democracy. He won second place.

David will attend Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., in the fall, majoring in mechanical engineering with a minor in technical study.

### Salutatorian

Molly McMorris is a native of Millbrook. In fact, her mom, Nicole, attended MHS, too.

Active in volleyball (this year as manager), softball (captain, grades eight through 12), Molly has also been in the Drama Club, the Student Council (treasurer, grades 11 and 12), she served as treasurer for the Class of 2022, and belonged to the National Honor Society (grades 11 and 12).

This high-achieving student has earned an amazing number of awards: Outstanding Student Award; Living Environment Regents Award; English 10 Award; Health Award; French Honors IV Award; Physics Award; and the Rensselaer Award.

Molly is also a Girl Scout, working on earning her Gold Award (the equivalent of the Boy Scouts’ Eagle Scout status).



### Molly McMorris

Molly is also an avid equestrian.

She will be attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RIT) in the fall. While Molly said she hasn’t decided which specific civil engineering career path she plans to pursue, she said she “would like to work in a field that gives back to the community [to] make the world a better place.”

She added she likes RIT’s motto, “Why not change the world?”

Both David and Molly had very positive comments about the MCSD and their community.

“I definitely couldn’t have gotten to where I am now without the help and support I have received from the teachers and

staff at Millbrook High School,” said David. “They have helped me immensely and I owe them a lot for everything they do for the students.”

“I am so grateful for the opportunities I have been given both within the school community and beyond it,” said Molly. “Being a member of a small town has instilled a sense of community with me that I will forever cherish and remember. MHS staff, teachers, students, families and community members have had a positive impact on my life and helped shape me into the person I am today. One of the greatest things I have gained from living in a small town is the importance of community service.”

## LEGAL NOTICES

### Legal Notice

Charisse Colvin MD, Psychiatrist PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/25/22. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the PLLC, 827 St Rt 82 Suite 10-175 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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### NOTICE OF DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL ENROLLED DEMOCRATIC VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF PINE PLAINS THAT A MEETING OF SAID ENROLLED VOTERS WILL BE HELD ON

Friday, the 24th day of June, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Pine Plains Community Center located at 7775 S. Main St., 2nd floor, Town of Pine Plains, Dutchess County, New York for the purpose of selecting and nominating candidates for the following positions to be voted on at the General Election to be held on NOVEMBER 8, 2022:

Town Justice — 4 year term

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and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting. June 16, 2022.

Democratic Committee  
Town of Pine Plains  
Chair, Jim Petrie  
06-16-22

### SECTION 00 11 16 INVITATION TO BID A Sealed bid for the: EXTENSION OF THE ROUTE 44 SIDEWALK CONTRACT

will be received at the following address:

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until 3:00 PM local time on July 12, 2022 and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud on July 13, 2022 at 1:30 PM.

This project includes installation of concrete sidewalk and curbing located along portions of Route 44. The project may include, but not be limited to, saw cutting; concrete and asphalt removal and disposal; the installation of concrete curbing, sidewalk, and ADA accessible ramps; and limited paving.

This work will be awarded as one (1) single prime contract.

The Bid will be received on a lump sum basis with alternates, if included on the Bid Form.

Work shall be substantially completed within 13 weeks of award from Town.

The Bid should not include sales and compensating use taxes on materials incorporated into the work.

If the Bid is actually received by mail or by hand after the appointed time on the date specified it shall be rejected, notwithstanding that such Bid may have been placed in a mailbox or other mail receptacle regularly maintained by the United States Postal Service before such time, and ordinarily in sufficient time to have been delivered on time.

A Bid Security in the amount of 5% of the Bid must accompany the Bid in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond and a payment bond, each in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price. Bidders will also be required to furnish a Non-Collusive Affidavit.

The issuing office for the Bidding Documents is:

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Town Clerk  
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Email: townclerk@ameniany.gov

Engineer E-mail: jfussillo@labellapc.com

Bidders may call to schedule a time to obtain a copy of the Bidding Documents at the number above.

The bidding and contract documents for this Project will be on compact disk (CD) only. CDs containing copies of the bidding and contract documents may be obtained from the Village Clerk at no charge for pick up. If a USB flash drive is requested to be mailed, a \$25.00, non-refundable payment must be provided to cover shipping and handling. Mail orders must include a cover letter specifically indicating which bid documents are being requested. Checks for the Contract Documents shall be made payable to “The Town of America

Note that only bidders who are registered with The Town Clerk will receive notification of Addenda.

The Contractor must use the higher of the prevailing federal, state, or applicable local wage rates further described in the Contract Documents. These rates apply to Subcontractors as well.

Attention of Bidders is particularly called to the requirements for ensuring that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against due to race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Town of America, as Owner, reserves the right to waive any informalities or irregularities in the Bid received, or to reject any Bid without explanation.

By Order of: Town of  
Amenia  
06-16-22

## MILLBROOK IN BRIEF

### MAG Summer Sunset Concerts

Come enjoy Summer Sunset Concerts presented by the Millbrook Arts Group (MAG), with live music performed at the bandshell on Franklin Avenue, weather permitting. The free MAG concerts will be on Saturdays from 6 to 8 p.m., and open to the public; bring chairs and snacks.

• June 18, Hudson Valley Flamenco Festival, with Flamenco dance and music

• June 25, Too Blue, with Bluegrass and Swing music

• July 1, Big Band Sound, with favorites from the Big Band Era

• July 16, Soul Purpose, a mix of New Orleans Funk, Contemporary, Swing and R&B music

• July 30, the Kenn More Band will play Folk, Rock and music from the American Heartland

• Aug. 13, the Saints of Swing, with an eclectic variety of Swing, Dixieland Jazz and Down Home Blues

• Aug. 7, Raquel and the Wild Flowers, with Country music.

## Putting out fires is part of the job

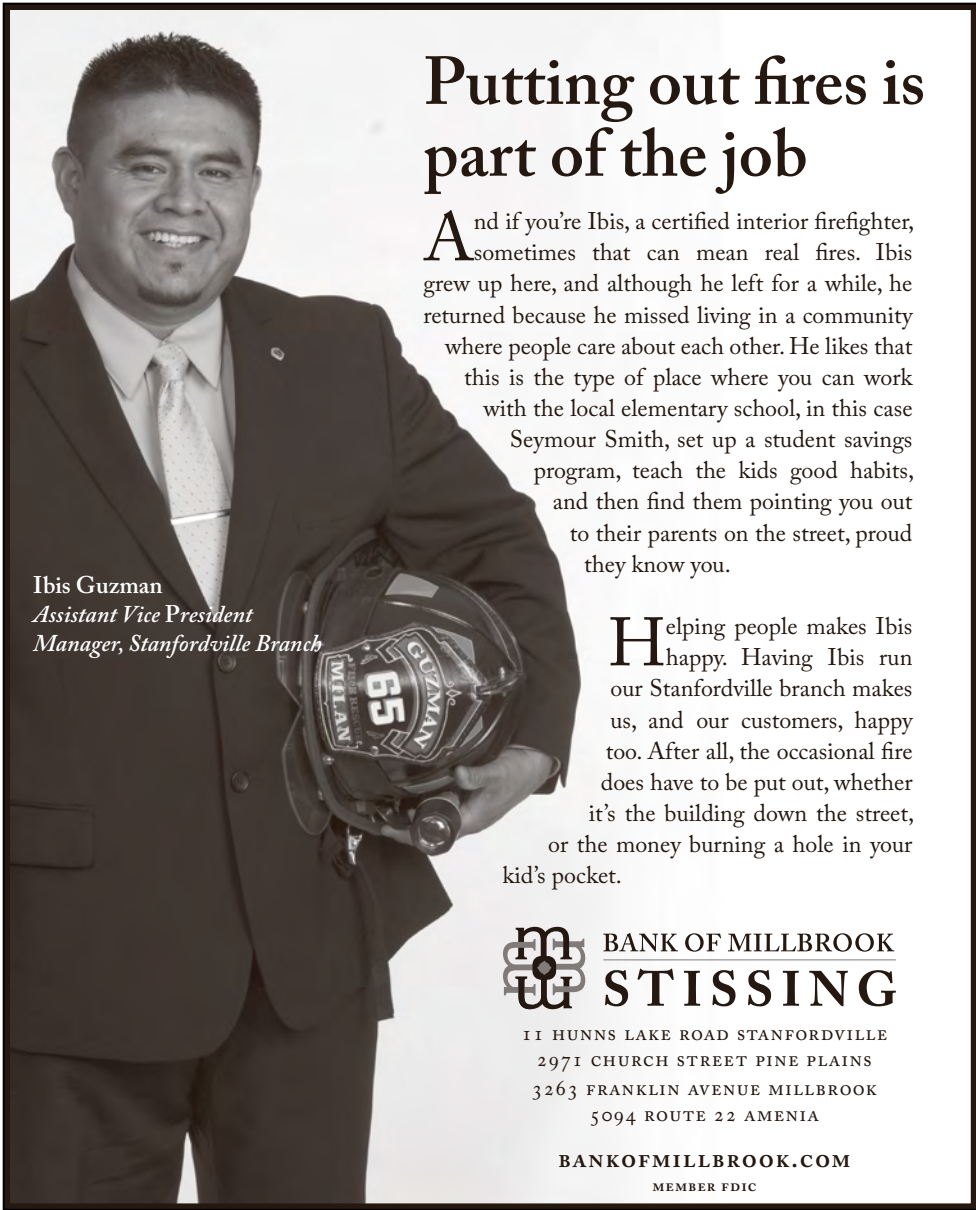
And if you’re Ibis, a certified interior firefighter, sometimes that can mean real fires. Ibis grew up here, and although he left for a while, he returned because he missed living in a community where people care about each other. He likes that this is the type of place where you can work with the local elementary school, in this case Seymour Smith, set up a student savings program, teach the kids good habits, and then find them pointing you out to their parents on the street, proud they know you.

Helping people makes Ibis happy. Having Ibis run our Stanfordville Branch makes us, and our customers, happy too. After all, the occasional fire does have to be put out, whether it’s the building down the street, or the money burning a hole in your kid’s pocket.

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EDITORIAL

MFC’s ‘unicorn’ training for one-of-a-kind fire department

If ever there was a story that got this editor revved up, it has to be the front-page article about the training exercises that just wrapped up after taking place at Millerton resident and inveterate volunteer Jennifer Dowley’s home during the past month-and-a-half or so. The reason being, simply, is that enthusiasm is contagious.

So in speaking with the new volunteer firefighters who have recently signed on to join the North East Fire District (NEFD), whether they’re training to become interior firefighters with the Millerton Fire Company (meaning they actually run into burning buildings to fight the flames, do search and rescues, etc.) or to become exterior firefighters with the MFC (meaning they fight fires from outside of structures, help pump vital water onto fires or manage fire scenes, etc.) it made no difference. All of those interviewed were equally thrilled to have joined the NEFD and to have been so deeply embraced by the fire commissioners, the veteran firefighters (one of whom has more than 70 years of active service), newer firefighters in the district, the Emergency Medical Service (EMS), those who work in the firehouse or administration — everyone has made the new recruits feel welcome, they said.

“The overall experience has been, well it’s not that I didn’t expect a welcoming feeling, but they’ve been overwhelmingly accommodating and welcoming, and it starts from the top down,” said MFC interior firefighter-in-training Chris Reyes. “I know it sounds cheesy, but from the commissioners to the chief to the officers, it sets the tone throughout. It’s a company of respect and integrity; it builds camaraderie itself.”

Which is why that favored front-page article led to this editorial. For one, we are genuinely hoping more residents, not just in the village of Millerton and town of North East, but in all of our Harlem Valley communities, will seriously consider contacting their local fire departments and find out about how to become a volunteer.

As we learned, there are many ways to volunteer besides donning a helmet. Fire companies can use all skill sets: from fighting fires to driving firetrucks to directing traffic to helping with paperwork to doing accounting to helping clean the firehouses to helping clean the firetrucks. There is no task too small for which you can’t offer your assistance.

As Dowley has proven, there are also ways to think outside of the box to help your fire department. If you’re about to renovate or tear down your home, rather than pay to have it demolished, why not let your local fire company use it to train? It’s incredibly helpful for firefighters to drill in a real-world environment, but it’s so rarely done that NEFD Fire Commissioner Josh Schultz couldn’t even remember the last time such a donation was made to the district.

He said the NEFD is “eternally grateful” to Dowley and for such a valuable training opportunity, adding “they are a very rare unicorn indeed.”

Those who don’t have a home to sacrifice at their fire department’s altar may assist in more traditional ways. All one has to do is call up their firehouse and ask for details. The number to call in Millerton is 518-789-4645, or just stop by the firehouse at 24 Century Blvd. any Monday night between 6 and 8 p.m. That’s when the MFC meets and does various chores and tasks, often doing something “fun and unique,” said Schultz, adding, “You never quite know what you’re walking into but you’ll always find a friendly face.”

Reyes also offered to chat with anyone who has questions about what it’s like to be a new recruit, how much time it takes to volunteer and what’s involved in training to become a firefighter — no pressure.

A friendly fellow if ever there was one (although every single firefighter interviewed for this week’s article went above and beyond to be frank, forthright and friendly), Reyes even offered to take anyone who would like to check out the firehouse on a tour. His number is 516-241-3882; feel free to call or text to get in touch with him.

One thing that’s certain, the MFC is like a family — a very supportive family. It would have to be, because these men and women, as we found out, is now made up of all ages, of all backgrounds, of all socio-economic groups and of all political beliefs.

The MFC members clearly trust and respect one another. They need to, because they need to know when their lives are on the line their fellow firefighters have their back. There is no question in Millerton, as we imagine at fire companies all around the region, everyone’s back is fully covered.

Be sure to read this week’s front page article on the MFC.

Letters to the editor are due by 10 a.m. Monday mornings to be published in that week’s issue. There is a 500-word limit for letters, which must be signed by the letter-writer with their full name and hometown. Please also include a phone number as all letters must be verbally confirmed before publication.

We also remind readers that the views expressed on this opinion page are not those of The Millerton News and The News does not support or oppose candidates for public office.



OFA activities for seniors

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day June 15

For many years, the Office for the Aging (OFA) has provided older adults and caregivers with resources to protect themselves from scams and elder abuse. The extent of elder abuse is difficult to measure. About 260,000 older adults are victimized in New York State each year, but many more cases go unreported or undetected.

With World Elder Abuse Awareness Day taking place on Wednesday, June 15, OFA Friendship Centers are hosting a series of presentations to help older adults advocate for themselves, as well as provide caregivers with key information on protecting the people for whom they care.

OFA presentations

Wednesday, June 29, 10:30 a.m., Heather Ohlson; Miller-ton OFA Friendship Center, 28 Century Blvd. Call 518-789-3081 for details.

Thursday, June 16, 10:45 a.m., David Lederman, New York State Attorney General’s Of- fice, City of Poughkeepsie OFA Friendship Center, 114 Delafield St. Call 845-486-2555 for details.

Signs that someone may be harming you

There’s no one profile that would fit a person who com- mits elder abuse. Older adults may be abused by spouses, part- ners, adult children, other fam- ily members, caregivers, neigh- bors or others. The abuse may be physical, sexual, emotional or financial, with several forms of abuse possibly happening at the same time.

If you suspect you are the victim of elder abuse, the Na- tional Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life ([www.ncall.us](http://www.ncall.us)) recommends watching for these signs from people close to you.

Ask yourself, do they:

- Try to limit the amount of time you spend with friends and family, or on the phone or internet?
  - Scare you, threaten you, and make you feel fearful or call you names?
  - Make you feel as if you need to “walk on eggshells” to prevent their anger?
  - Make you do things you don’t want to do, possibly threatening to put you in a nurs- ing home if you don’t comply?
  - Touch you or force you to do sexual things you don’t want to do?
  - Take money and posses- sions from you without your permission?
  - Refuse to provide care, or provide care in a hurtful way?
  - Throw or break items that are important to you?
- Additionally, have family or friends expressed their concern, or are your family members and friends afraid to visit?

If you are in danger, call 911. Your safety is first and foremost. You’re not the only one in this situation. You can talk to someone confidentially for sup-

GOLDEN LIVING

Todd N. Tancredi

port and information. Dutchess County’s Division of Adult Protective Services is avail- able at 845-486-3300, and the New York Office of Children and Family Services Human Services Call Center Bureau of Adult Services helpline is at 844- 697-3505.

Callers are encouraged to provide names and phone numbers for follow up by local departments, but anonymous calls are also accepted.

Golden Living is prepared by Dutchess County OFA Director Todd N. Tancredi, who can be reached at 845-486-2555, [ofa@dutchessny.gov](mailto:ofa@dutchessny.gov) or via the OFA website at [www.dutchessny.gov/aging](http://www.dutchessny.gov/aging).

D-Day, aka ‘Operation Overlord’

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

D-Day was an event that riveted the world, turning U.S. country bumpkins into national heroes in a matter of weeks. It’s code name was “Op- eration Overlord,” and it was the largest amphibious inva- sion throughout the annals of wartime history.

I have a list of 134 young men and a few women serving their country from the town of North East back then, which pretty much exhausted the young male population of our small northeastern Dutchess County town. My father, Mar- tin Conklin, and my friend Bill Robert’s dad, Harry, hit those beaches of Normandy.

They experienced sheer ter- ror, brutality and heroism, as did most of the soldiers who were a part of D-Day. Many involved hardly ever uttered a word of their experiences, my dad being one of them, although Harry, my pal Bill’s dad, did so toward the end of his life when interviewed by a reporter.

Harry Robert was the first Army Ranger to scale the cliffs of Normandy to neutralize en- my positions slaughtering those crossing the beaches. Though he was seriously wounded, Harry fought on, later being nominated for the Congres- sional Medal of Honor, which he refused.

His words were: “I’m proud I served, but I don’t have to be

Using nature to solve energy issues

Too many people try and find ways to solve en- ergy and food issues by making false claims, or building completely new technologies, or, worst of all, trying to tame nature. Hydro-electric dams are a case in point... stopping the flow of a river, creating a flood plain lake destroys the environ- ment and wildlife in favor of a reliable electricity source — un- til the lake dries up of course (see Lake Mead this summer!).

For centuries, shoreline peo- ple have used the ebb and flow of the tide to catch fish in nets and basket “corrals.” Anyone who has moored a boat ashore at high tide knows that it will be high and dry after a while until the next high tide.

And everyone who lives near the shore knows that the tidal schedule varies by hours up and down the coast. Imagine you’re in Virginia Beach today. The tide will be high at 4:20 a.m. and again at 5:10 p.m. (See? Not exactly 12 hours apart, tides are governed by the moon’s orbit, which varies a little.) But if you’re in Rockport, Maine, high tides today are at 7:20 a.m. and again at 8:10 p.m. — three hours later!

Now imagine you have a Tidal Energy Converter system to put on the ocean floor, espe- cially on the floor where there are strong rip tides and danger- ous currents safely away from swimming beaches.

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A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Peter Riva

of electricity when all coupled to the national grid.

Oh, and with people getting electric cars, most of whom will charge at night, the night time generation by wave and tidal flow will supply future needs without one nuclear plant be- ing built.

Now, what’s the cost? Here’s the trick: If the government would underwrite the loans, Wall Street would throw money at this power generation system because the regulations (envi- ronmental and risk assessment) are tiny compared to a new nuclear plant and collectively, for the same initial cost, they are about the same — without the 5,000 years for storage of nuclear waste).

Now, you complain, the government has to underwrite (guarantee) the loans? Well, yes. Like we did building roads across America that underwrote the car industry and airports for the plane industry and... the list is long (like that cell phone you are using). And please remember, in 2008 we underwrote those two car companies directly to keep people in work. And that money came back with interest.

With an estimate of 30% of all electricity soon being needed for AC running across the na- tion, what could make better sense than a generating system, clean, offshore, out of sight, not ruining nature? California alone could save themselves from brownouts this summer if only they had planned better by seeking to mimic the flow of nature, not tame it.

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

VETERAN’S CORNER

Larry Conklin

proud of the people who try to glorify it. The heroes are the ones who died. For every medal I received, someone had to die in front of me and behind me.”

My father would not discuss his time in hell, though I believe if he had, it would have been a proud legacy for his family. I can perfectly understand that revisiting past traumatic events could likely rekindle past de- mons, and no one wants that.

D-Day — a day when the

greatest armada of ships, the greatest fleet of airplanes and the greatest infantry of troops landing on five beaches in Nor- mandy during the WWII era was assembled to rescue our allies from infamy and preserve our own freedoms.

God bless those brave men and women and you, all of our patriotic readers and your fam- ilies. Continue to stay safe and healthy and enjoy this summer together.

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

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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Mission Statement

The Lakeville Journal Company, Publishers of The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News

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

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Publisher

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Chief Operating Officer

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In Memoriam

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Managing Partner

Robert H. Estabrook

1918-2011

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# Classifieds Real Estate

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## HELP WANTED

**HELP WANTED:** Digital news producer, to create stories and visual content that will be dual-purposed for publication online and in the print edition of The Lakeville Journal. 25 hours per week and requires occasional work on weekends and evenings. Must have own transportation to travel in the Northwest Corner. Contact Lakeville Journal Editor John Coston, [johnc@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:johnc@lakevillejournal.com).

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## REAL ESTATE

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