



MILLBROOK
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PINE PLAINS
Willow Roots Celebrates Another Year With Party **A7**



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The Millerton News will not publish Dec. 30, and will publish again Jan. 6, 2022.

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Village Board institutes some unwelcome MPD changes

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

MILLERTON — The mayor and the Village Board have instituted a number of procedural changes within the part-time Millerton Police Department (MPD) in order to maximize efficiency, prevent overspending and improve safety for residents and visitors during busy weekend days when village streets are full of shoppers, diners and moviegoers. That's according to Mayor Jenn Najdek, who explained the new move is for a one-month trial basis, to see if the strategy will be effective. If not, she said, she and her board members will be willing to reassess.

Mayor wants transparency

The mayor and Deputy Mayor Alicia Sartori met in mid-November with MPD Officer-in-Charge Mike Veeder and former Officer-in-Charge Dave Rudin, still active on the force, to discuss the changes they plan to institute in January.

In an interview with this newspaper on Friday, Dec. 17, Najdek said she is aware that change is rarely welcome. She also noted that as Millerton's new mayor, it's normal for her to want to make improvements, as she and her trustees believe they

"You always get resistance when you make change; nobody likes change, but sometimes change is necessary."

Mayor Jenn Najdek

can strengthen the MPD and better daily life for the community-at-large.

"My job as mayor — is I want to do the best job I can for the community. I live here, I was born here, I was raised here and I will probably die here. That is my goal. I have no agenda," she said. "My goal is simply to do the best job I can for the community. You always get resistance when you make change; nobody likes change, but sometimes change is necessary."

New protocols

The main change made thus far, confirmed at Monday night's Village Board meeting on Dec. 13, has to do with the MPD's patrol schedule. Because of security concerns and not wanting to show the department's hand, the mayor, those on the joint Millerton/North East Police Committee and Veeder asked the newspaper not to publish the specific details of the new schedule.

Suffice it to say the Village Board switched the patrol schedule to cover more daytime shifts. That's when the mayor and her trustees believe having more officers on-hand will benefit people who patronize local businesses; can assist drivers who battle for limited parking and have frequent accidents while dealing with heavy, often commercial traffic; can assist the growing number of trail users on the popular Harlem Valley Rail Trail; and be present for the many locals and visitors who regularly take advantage of the numerous village and town resources throughout the year.

"So we're trying to put patrols on when [it's] most helpful in the community," said Najdek, a fan of community policing. "We're also trying not to add shifts because we want to keep our budget within our means."

Yet those in the MPD have expressed concern that the change in shifts could leave the shifts now left unattended vulnerable. The mayor said if that turns out to be the case, she is more than willing to re-evaluate at month's end.

Veeder weighs in

Officer-in-Charge Veeder said he thinks the move was a bad decision,

See **POLICE DEPT., A6**



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY PHOTOGRAPHY

From left, The Dig co-owner Katja Schultz and her mother, Natalie Pere, prepared to make a fresh smoothie together at its smoothie bar.

Millerton laments loss of The Dig on Main St.

By **KAITLIN LYLE**
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

and the economy that has fallen ill alongside it.

The Dig

MILLERTON — Nearly a year and a half after opening The Dig in Millerton, Katja Schultz has decided to close the café and store for good come Friday, Dec. 31. The village resident poured her heart and energy into creating an accessible, comfortable community space at 3 Main St. Yet when 2022 arrives, the village will find that cheerful place for everyday enjoyment vacant, another casualty of the COVID pandemic

Schultz and her husband James teamed up with their friend, Raquel Madar, to open The Dig in August 2020. Since then, it has become a place where people can purchase groceries sourced from local vendors and do so much more.

Yet even with The Dig's initial success, Schultz understood the all-consuming nature of running a small

See **THE DIG, A6**

Hundreds turn up in Pine Plains with wreaths in hand to honor vets

By **KAITLIN LYLE**
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Seeking to recognize heroes past and present and teach the value of freedom to the next generation, area residents gathered in solidarity to salute the experiences and sacrifices of this nation's soldiers through the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony held on Saturday, Dec. 18, at Evergreen Cemetery in Pine Plains.

As an emblem of the community's steadfast support for its veterans, American Legion Post 426 Cmdr. Marie Stewart announced at the ceremony that they were able to secure more than 400 wreaths for this year's program — a staggering increase from the 93 wreaths secured last year.

Despite the cold drizzle, residents headed over to the cemetery for the ceremony at noon, showing their

See **WREATHS, A6**



PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

With help from the Pine Plains community, the 45 gravestones in the Dutchess County Veterans section of Evergreen Cemetery were decorated with deep green wreaths as part of this year's Wreaths Across America program.

The deed is done

Molinaro puts pen to paper and signs budget

By **KAITLIN LYLE**
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

tax decrease in Dutchess County's history, according to Molinaro's office.

DUTCHESS COUNTY — As of Tuesday, Dec. 14, Dutchess County is well-equipped to enter the new year with expanded services and programs for its communities and more than \$20 million in annual tax relief after Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro officially signed the 2022 County Budget.

Totaling \$532,679,702 in total appropriations, this historic budget features a \$5.5 million cut to the property tax levy — the largest property

Other budget features include a property tax rate reduction of more than 10% (from \$3.18 in 2021 to \$2.85 for 2022 per \$1,000 of true value assessments) and an elimination of county sales tax on clothing and footwear purchases up to \$110.

Included in the list of expanded and enhanced county services and programs, the 2022 County Budget dedicates resources and funding to-

See **BUDGET, A6**



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OPINION

May 2022 Look
Better And Brighter;
Columns; Letters **B4**



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MILLERTON



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Webutuck High School sophomore Olivia Farnham and senior Tyler Howard were both recognized with honors for their performances on the soccer field during the 2021 soccer season.

Webutuck honors athletes Tyler Howard and Olivia Farnham

By **KAITLIN LYLE**
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

WEBUTUCK — With the 2021 soccer season behind them, Webutuck Warriors Tyler Howard and Olivia Farnham were recently honored for their performances on the field this year. Both were selected to join the Section 9 Class C/D All Start soccer teams.

A senior at Webutuck High School (WHS), Tyler was recognized as a four-year contributor to the Webutuck varsity boys soccer team, said Athletic Director Joseph Lasaponara.

Leading his team in goals for the season, Lasaponara said Tyler was an excellent player and welcomed students from Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School with open arms after Webutuck High School decided to merge with the Pine Plains boys soccer team this year.

"It was great to see him grow over the last four seasons," Lasaponara said, "and he will be greatly missed when he graduates this June, but we wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors."

Tyler earned the honor of being selected to the Section 9 C/D All Start Team for boys soccer as a result of how well he played this year — a culmination of his many years of hard work on the soccer field at Webutuck.

Just a sophomore at WHS, Olivia has been playing on the varsity soccer team at Webutuck since she was in seventh grade.

Despite her age, she assumed the role of team captain this year, and enjoyed a successful season thanks to her hard work and dedication, said her coach.

In recognition of her talents on the field, Olivia was selected to the Section 9 Class C/D All Star Team, the Section 9 All-Section Team and the 2021 Fall All-State Girls Soccer Class C

North East makes progress with highway garage, wastewater projects

By **KAITLIN LYLE**
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

NORTH EAST — Addressing two key local projects that have been long overdue, the North East Town Board approved a resolution to solicit bids for the joint village and town highway garage's construction and an agreement with Tighe & Bond regarding the North East Wastewater District. It did so at its meeting on Thursday, Dec. 9, held at 7 p.m. at North East Town Hall.

Joint garage project

Town Supervisor Chris Kennan reminded the board that the town has completed construction of the fuel tanks (now being used by the town, village and North East Fire District), the storage building and the salt and sand structure at the new garage site. That leaves the actual construction of the garage facility itself as the last phase of the project to be built.

Equipped with the design for the garage building, Kennan said the board authorized the town to go out to bid for final phase of the project earlier this year. However, because the bids the

board received were almost \$1 million higher than the original estimates for the project, the board rejected those bids.

At the time those bids were submitted, the cost of materials were spiking due to substantial shortages in labor, which Kennan said likely contributed to the overpriced bids.

He explained at the Dec. 9 meeting that the board held off on putting the project out to bid until the winter, when contractors usually begin to schedule work for their summers.

He hoped by doing so that the board could then put the project out to bid in early January when people get back from their holiday activities and plan their calendars.

"It's something that we need to get done," said Councilman George Kaye. "We've already got the first two parts of this project completed... It's time to get it done."

Kennan agreed and said the timing at this point is optimal, and it may be possible to get a lower bid. The board unanimously passed the resolution to rebid the construction of the highway garage.

Town sewer system

Turning to another important issue, Kennan said the town has needed a sewer for decades.

"It has been elusive, it's been daunting and it just hasn't moved forward despite efforts over the years," he said.

With the benefit of changing technology, Kennan said the town no longer has to face ripping up Main Street to install a sewer system. There's also more funding available for water and wastewater projects.

With Millerton pursuing its own wastewater system, he noted the village wants to develop a wastewater district and construct a treatment plant, both of which would be located inside the village lines.

The town is also looking to create a wastewater district, outside village boundaries. Kennan said it would likely start along Route 44 in the Boulevard District, going out toward Kelsey Brook and perhaps further.

To move forward, the town must create a Map, Plan & Report for the potential North East Wastewater District. The town has engineers working with the village on its wastewater proj-

ect who are prepared to assess where a wastewater district would best be situated in the town of North East.

As a member of the Wastewater Committee assembled by the village, town Councilmember Lana Morrison reported the committee is meeting weekly and getting close to visiting properties for Phase 2 of the project.

Kennan said that's the first tangible step the town has taken toward getting a wastewater system. He added it received American Rescue Plan Act money provided to towns for infrastructure projects during the pandemic. Though he anticipates future funding challenges, he noted there will likely be more resources made available in the future.

"This is a simple step today but it's going to be a lot more complicated down the road," Kennan said, yet he remained optimistic. "It's further than the town has gotten before."

The board also gave unanimous approval for Tighe & Bond to prepare a Map, Plan & Report for the town's future Wastewater District.

Housing group seeks volunteers

Following two successful training sessions this past fall, the Tri-Town Coalition housing group is seeking volunteers interested in learning how their community could benefit from expanded affordable housing options, and how they could be a part of the solution.

The next training session is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2022.

To register, email North East Community Center Community (NECC) Program Director Nathan Briggs at nathan@neccmillerton.org or 518-789-4259, ext. 129.

Holiday supply drive

Instead of focusing on a food drive this holiday season, the North East Community Center (NECC) is focusing on stocking some of the household supplies that its clients need most.

Since these items can be hard to get through the Regional Food Bank, those who can are being asked to donate items that could help someone in need. By doing so, they'll help free up household resources so that NECC's clients can prioritize paying for rent, utilities, transportation and food.

Included on the Food and Supply Pantry Wish List, NECC is asking for donations of laundry detergent, toilet paper, shampoo and conditioner, dish soap and garbage bags. For details, contact NECC at 518-789-4259.

MILLERTON IN BRIEF

Legion hosts Sunday Pancake Breakfasts

Monthly Pancake Breakfasts are back on at the Millerton American Legion Post 178. There will be breakfasts on Sunday, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, March 6 and April 3, 2022.

The monthly breakfast will consist of pancakes, home fries, scrambled eggs, sausage and bacon, and will cost \$8 per meal.

Report street light outages online

The staff at the Millerton Village Hall would like residents and those who work in the village to know, if anyone notices

Meals will be available for eat-in or take-out. Breakfast sandwiches will also be available for \$5.

The Legion will serve from 7 to 10 a.m. Please call 518-789-4755 to place orders.

The Post 178 Legion Hall is located at 155 Route 44, Millerton.

a streetlight out, they can report it by going to the following link: www.cenhud.com/outages/streetlight-out/.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

The Millerton Presbyterian Church at 59 Main St. cordially invites the community to a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Friday, Dec. 24, at 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome. Masks will be required.

Send news briefs & photos to editor@millertonnews.com

EARLY DEADLINE

Advertising deadline including legal notices, for the Jan. 6TH issues will be **THURSDAY, DEC. 23RD, at NOON**

Classified line deadline will be **MONDAY, JAN. 3RD, at NOON**

NO NEWSPAPERS PRINTED THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30TH

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OBITUARIES

Mary Ellen Downey

AMENIA — Mary Ellen Downey, 93, passed peacefully in her sleep at her home in Amenia on Dec. 16, 2021.

The eldest daughter of Florence (Licht) and Walter McDonald, Mary Ellen was born in the Bronx on March 14, 1928. She graduated from Immaculate Conception School and Amenia High School.

On Feb. 12, 1949, she married her high school sweetheart, Thomas Joseph Downey Jr., who predeceased her in 2004. She was a lifelong member of Immaculate Conception Church and Catholic Daughters of America.

Mary Ellen actively mothered her three children and many of their friends through Boy and Girl Scouts, 4-H and numerous athletic programs while juggling a variety of careers in telephone switchboard operation, retail, election inspection and therapy assistance.

In her younger years, she was an avid bowler, skier, gardener, camper and horsewoman in the Bit-N-Spur club. After raising her family, she pursued her lifelong dream and obtained a BS from SUNY-New Paltz and a Master's in Social Work from CW Post. Mary Ellen's final career as a social worker for developmentally disabled adults was her true calling and she maintained strong relationships with both clients and coworkers throughout her life.

In retirement, Mary Ellen enjoyed baking, working at Fitch-Kain tag sales, and a variety of needlecrafts. Sewing more than 100 quilts for family, friends and charitable organizations gave her great pleasure. Her genealogical interest led to active membership in the Amenia Historical Society and Indian Rock Schoolhouse as well as local research for an extensive McDonald family reunion in 2002. Mary Ellen was very

proud of her Irish heritage and had fond memories of her and Tom's trip to Ireland with the Gallaghers.

In addition to her parents and husband, Mary Ellen was preceded in death by her sister, Patricia Macura; her daughter-in-law, Deborah Downey; and her great-grandson, Dolan Thomas Duncan.

She is survived by her sons, Thomas III and his wife, Moira; Robert and his wife, Bernadette; daughter Deborah Smith and her husband, Edward; brothers Walter and Joseph and his wife, Gail; sister Anne Cutolo; sisters-in-law Ellen Caldarelli and Catherine Gallagher and her husband, Edward.

She will be missed by her grandchildren, Michelle Downey-Demczar and her husband, Joseph, Rebecca Duncan and her partner, Steven, Thomas Downey IV and his wife, Kimberly, Robert Downey Jr., Kimberly Hazzard and her husband, Zachary, Zachary Smith and his wife, Casey, and Nicholas Smith and his wife, Jennifer; and her beloved great-grandchildren, Braeden, Thomas, Reilly, Liam, McKenna, Skarlytte, Addysyn, Jameson and Korben; as well as numerous step-grandchildren, step-great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and many dear friends.

Calling hours were held Dec. 21 at Hufcut Funeral Home in Dover Plains. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 22 at Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. Burial followed at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Amenia.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests donations to Immaculate Conception Church, 4 Lavelle Road, Amenia, NY 12501; or the Amenia Historical Society, P.O. Box 22, Amenia, NY 12501. To send the family an online condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.



Akke Jasmine de-Vlas

FALLS VILLAGE — Akke Jasmine de-Vlas, 83, passed away peacefully on Dec. 7, 2021, at Fairview Hospital surrounded by close family.

She leaves behind her husband of 37 years, Dennis Jasmine; her stepchildren, Jeff Jasmine, Randy Jasmine and Amy Jasmine; her grandchildren, Andrea Jasmine, Taylor Jasmine, Scott Jasmine, Hailey Holbrook and Jakob Ervin; as well as her great-granddaughter, Madelynn Wheeler.

Akke was born on May 12, 1938, in Leeuwarden, Netherlands, to her father, Hotse de Vlas, and her mother, Sipkje Posthumus. She was the second of three children, between her older sister, Anneka, and her younger brother, Feike.

Her early years saw both the German occupation of her home country and, later, the liberation of the Netherlands by Canadian troops.

Akke's passion for teaching started early and she began teaching elementary-age children in public schools in the Netherlands.

In 1963 she came to America as an exchange student and began working with special education students, as well as students with disabilities. Teaching these students became her purpose in life and she impacted the lives of many students at both the Kolburne School in New Marlboro, Mass., and Hillcrest Education Centers in Lenox, Mass., in her over 44 years of teaching. She also led Girl Scout troops for

her female students and awarded the Bennett Merker Award for Dedication to Special Needs Scouting in 1996.

As well as to her years of dedication to her students, Akke was also dedicated to volunteering at the D.M. Hunt Library, where she led knitting classes, summer reading groups, story hour for young readers, fundraising efforts and many other activities for children and adults alike. Her passion for reading and children's literature was evident in her tireless dedication and service to the patrons of the library.

She had a passion for knitting and needlework as well as a love of singing. She lent her musical talents to the choir of the Falls Village Congregational Church. Akke also enjoyed traveling. In addition to her trips back to the Netherlands to visit her family, she also enjoyed trips to France, Alaska and Vermont with her grandkids. Her joy for life as well as her dedication to students, family and community will be greatly missed by all.

A celebration of life for Akke will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 29, at the Falls Village Congregational Church at 10 a.m. If you have a fond memory of Akke that you would like to share, please email it to akkememories@gmail.com. Donations in Akke's memory can be made to the D.M. Hunt Library, P.O. Box 217, as well as The Falls Village Congregational Church, P.O. Box 72, both in Falls Village, CT 06031.



Memorial service:

Mark Douglas Niedhammer

SALISBURY — A funeral Mass for Mark Niedhammer will be held on Thursday, Dec. 30, at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Church in Lakeville. A reception will follow at the Grove in Lakeville.

Mark died Dec. 9, 2021, at

Vassar Brothers Hospital after a short illness.

Contributions may be made in his honor to a charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk Palmer Funeral Home in North Canaan.

In appreciation:

Joanne Wojtusiak

You never know what kind of critters you're going to run into when you take a hike in Housatonic Meadows Park. I've seen bald eagles, talons raised, fighting for perches. I've seen a red-tailed hawk glide like silk away from a band of pesky, squawking crows. And a while back I had the good fortune to observe a merganser dive under the surface of the river, chase down a hapless trout, come up for air with the trout (almost as big as the merganser itself) stuffed half in and half out of its mouth — only to be set upon and chased all over the river by all the other hungry mergansers. I've even had the good fortune to have a short (for safety's sake) silent staring match in the woods with a big ol' moose (I lost that staring contest right quick; the moose lowered its head and came in my direction).

But I must say that the critter that surprised me the most and made me most proud to be there with her, by her actions, happened a couple of weeks ago.

A small group of concerned citizens was gathered in a loose circle chatting with a member of the park ranger police. We were

asking him questions about how we could protest the cutting of the beautiful trees in the park. He mentioned that the reason he was there at all was because "someone" had broken the law and spray-painted, in large red letters (neatly done) on the roadway pavement, a short four-line message to "stop the cutting of the trees..."

No sooner had the words left his lips than a walking cane and two black sneakers supporting a hunched figure (hunched from Parkinson's disease and other ailments) slowly inched forward to the center of the circle. Both the left and the right sneaker were stained with flecks of red paint. Above them a wizened smiling face slowly raised itself proudly and gazed up to the park ranger policeman and looked him straight in the eye. She took her cane and gestured to her sneakers and said: "It was me, officer. I did it. Are you going to arrest me?"

Joanne Wojtusiak, a spirited, caring and dedicated advocate passed away in her sleep on Dec 13, 2021.

Michael Moschen
Cornwall

Worship Services

Week of December 26, 2021

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

<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10:00 a.m. www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>	<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) <i>In-Person and on You-Tube</i> www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC <i>Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people</i> 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232</p> <p>FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock In person services on Sundays 8:00 and 10:30 A.M. Livestream at 10:30 on www.trinitylimerock.org The Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green <i>Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits</i> 10 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer Pastor Sun Yong Lee 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Join our virtual Zoom service on Sunday, January 9 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT <i>Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!</i> Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> Pastor Joy Veronesi 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>
<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mmgates125@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone. <i>We hope you will join us!</i></p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH <i>Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk</i> <i>St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan</i> <i>St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville</i> MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm <i>St. Joseph Chapel or Church</i> Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am <i>Church of St. Mary</i> ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org <i>21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</i></p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am <i>Cornwall Village Meeting House</i> <i>8 Bolton Hill Rd., Cornwall</i> Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister <i>Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</i></p>
<p>SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH 860-927-3003 The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge CHRISTMAS EVE MASS 4 PM St. Bridget, St. Bernard, Sacred Heart CHRISTMAS DAY MASS 10 AM - Sacred Heart SUNDAY DECEMBER 26TH MASS 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart JANUARY 1ST HOLY DAY MASS 10 AM - St. Bridget</p>	<p>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>

SPORTS

All aboard for Wrestling Team's Movie Night

PINE PLAINS — While the Pine Plains Wrestling Team is usually found refining their techniques in the library's basement, they moved upstairs to the Community Room above the

Pine Plains Free Library to host a Holiday Movie Night for the community on Saturday, Dec. 4.

The doors to the Community Room opened at 4:30 p.m., welcoming local children clad in

their coziest pajamas.

Priced at just \$5 per person, tickets included popcorn, cookies and a drink. By 5 p.m., the children who showed up to watch the classic holiday story of "The Polar Express" unfold were finally settled in, their eyes glued to the big screen.

The Community Room was filled with excited students,

mostly from the Pine Plains Central School District, who sat among their friends and nibbled on their snacks, ready to watch one of their favorite movies of the winter season while supporting those on the town's wrestling team raise some much-needed funds to compete during the year.

— Kaitlin Lyle



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Dressed in their coziest pajamas, children from the Pine Plains Wrestling Team and the local community celebrated the holiday season together at the team's Movie Night screening of "The Polar Express" on Saturday, Dec. 4.

Correcting Errors

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

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POLICE DEPT. *Continued from Page A1*

and told the board as much at its meeting.
 “Basically we need to have further conversation regarding the hours that they want us to work,” he said. “I’m concerned that we’re not on when there’s the highest level of call volume and the severity of calls is worse. My biggest concern is for public safety. There was no discussion about it, no one asked our opinion about it or anything.”
 Najdek said Veeder had promised to bring a report with the most active call times to the Dec. 13 meeting, but failed to do

so. Veeder said the county is still compiling the information, and he hopes to have it soon.
 The mayor said if the call data shows “more serious level of calls coming in on particular times, [the board] will take another look.”
 “It’s a work in progress,” said Najdek, adding much of it has to do with making sure the MPD doesn’t run over budget.
 Veeder wasn’t convinced. “Since I have been running the department we have been under budget every single year. It’s not a budgetary thing at all.”

Copake Colleen creates a cheery community Christmas

By CAROL KNEELAND
 Special to The Millerton News

COPAKE — With the season of good cheer and generosity well underway, dozens of area residents have been giving of themselves to help others in countless ways.
 One bright and shining star on that living-giving tree is Colleen Quinn, who lives her philosophy: “You’ve got to leave your mark while you can.”

This single mother with a familiar face and two teenage sons, Christopher and Dominic, holds down three very active jobs.

One is as the friendly, ever sunny waitress at Dad’s Diner; another at the local gas station; and lastly again as a server at the Clock Tower Pub & Grill.

Despite that incredibly hectic schedule, she is once again knee-deep in holiday preparations as she looks for donations as well as diners for what has quickly become a beloved Christmas tradition in the town of Copake, for residents from around the area. It’s the third annual “Be Our Guest” Community Christmas Dinner 2021 (COVID-style).

In less time than it takes for a “wink of an eye and a nod of a head” — Copake Colleen — as she is often called, has turned the spark of an idea into a major success. She’s fed a total of 430 residents, with more to come this year.

Knowing what it is like to be alone on a holiday, Copake Colleen began the project in 2019 when she “volunteered for

Thanksgiving with a bunch of local churches that do Thanksgiving every year.

“I asked where I could go for Christmas, and they told me nobody does a Christmas one around here. I didn’t like that, so I decided to start a Christmas dinner,” she said.

“I have a lot of angels that help,” she added, including Ginsberg’s Foods in Hudson, which donates “most of the food, which is amazing. Last year they donated all the ham, and this year, they told me whatever I need at all, just to let them know.”

Other local businesses have also supported her initiative, which has been key. She started the project by asking for \$5 donations and placed donation jars “everywhere and anywhere.”

With that help, she said, the dinner is “completely funded by the community — and then all the extra money gets funneled back into the community,” with \$1,800 raised the first year and \$7,600 raised last year — all going to the local food pantry.

This year, she plans to distribute any excess funds among the

Roe Jan Food Pantry, the Blessing Box, Ancramdale Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Columbia County Burn Victims Fund and the Safe at Home Committee of Hillsdale.

The flyer advertising the project notes that “Every human being reading this” is invited to the free holiday feast of ham, mac & cheese and various fixings with staggered assigned pick-up times scheduled between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Clock Tower Pub & Grill (moved from the Town Park).

To sign up for a meal, leave a message at 518-567-1208, email dosbambinos5307@gmail or Facebook Colleen Quinn.

Donations to help Quinn pay for the meal may be made through Zelle, Venmo, PayPal or Facebook.

Donation jars are also stationed throughout Copake at the Clock Tower Pub & Grill, Dad’s Diner, the Copake Sunoco; in Hillsdale at Four Brothers and the Gulf Station; in Millerton at the Talk of the Towne Deli; and in Ancramdale at the Ameri Store on Route 22.

THE DIG *Continued from Page A1*



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY PHOTOGRAPHY

From left, workers at The Dig Avery Wickwire, Natalie Pere, Kaitlyn Cope, Zachary Pere and co-owner Katja Schultz greeted customers at the popular 3 Main St. site in Millerton.

business, especially in Millerton. Over time, she said it became obvious that she and her mom couldn’t sustain The Dig. Between the time commitment and the challenge of hiring people in today’s climate, the pair realized it was just too much for them.

After coming to their final decision, Schultz said. “We had met our goals and I felt like this

was the right time to close. It felt like we had a good season one and we didn’t want to have a bad season two.”

Schultz said she wants to stay involved in the Millerton business community and help merchants succeed where she struggled, almost as a liaison.

Despite their loss, Schultz said she and her mother will be

celebrating till the end of the month — in other words, they plan to go out with a bang.

The Dig will be open Fridays through Mondays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a blowout sale before Christmas and plenty of fun before closing on the 31st.

Anyone interested in renting space at 3 Main St. should contact Dutchess County Realty.

ward mental health, substance use, youth programming, emergency response, veteran services, domestic violence and other programs geared toward opening opportunities for county residents.

Molinaro first presented his Executive Budget in an address at Dutchess County Community College on Oct. 27.

The Dutchess County Legislature held a public hearing on the amended budget on Nov. 30, before adopting the budget with bipartisan approval on Thurs-

day, Dec. 2.

The budget was then given to Molinaro for his consideration at the Legislature’s board meeting last Monday at the County Office Building in Poughkeepsie.

Once Molinaro signed the budget, the Legislature finished the budget process by adopting the tax levy.

“For years, our conservative spending, coupled with wise fiscal planning, have allowed Dutchess County to return to

residents the hard-earned dollars while delivering the services they need and expect,” Molinaro said in a statement released by his office late last week. “The County Legislature’s bipartisan support for the budget demonstrates what a sound plan it is. I thank the legislators for their thorough deliberation during the budget review process, and I look forward to working with them in the new year to continue to our service to our residents.”

BUDGET *Continued from Page A1*

WREATHS *Continued from Page A1*

respect for their fallen heroes. Each fixed with a bright red ribbon, deep green wreaths lay in cardboard boxes waiting to be collected and laid down on the gravestones of local soldiers.

Welcoming everyone to the ceremony, Stewart thanked residents for joining the community “as we celebrate the mission to remember the fallen, honor those that serve along with their families and teach the next generation the value of freedom.”

The community honored Stewart’s request for a moment of silence to remember their fallen comrades, prisoners of war and soldiers missing in action and to honor those who have served and are presently serving in the country’s Armed Services.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, residents from around the region stood solemnly in the bone-chilling rain in remembrance of those veterans now gone.

After a closing prayer by American Legion Post 426 Chaplain George Keeler, Stewart announced their goal for next year is to cover all the veterans’ graves in Evergreen Cemetery with wreaths. That totals 550 graves — and 550 wreaths.

The 2022 Wreaths Across America ceremony is already scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 17. Organizers are hopeful participation will be even greater.



PHOTOS BY KAITLIN LYLE

This gentleman saluted as residents from around the region set wreaths down at Evergreen Cemetery in Pine Plains in honor of veterans who served in the different branches of the Armed Forces as part of Wreaths Across America.



American Legion Post 426 Cmdr. Marie Stewart reminded residents to remember fallen veterans, honor those who serve along with their families and teach the next generation the value of freedom.

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Recently there have been a number of lot line adjustments in favor of neighbors as a way of saying thank you for support given over the years. To do this, several things have to happen, the first being an approved B100a from the Torrington Area Health District. The reason for this is that any parcel that is diminishing in acreage has to prove that there is room for a reserve septic system. This involves an engineer to supervise the soil tests and to design the system. The second will be a surveyor to lay out the new lines for the lot line adjustment. And lets not forget the lawyer to update the land descriptions in the deeds. So it is a bit of work, but a wonderful way to show appreciation!



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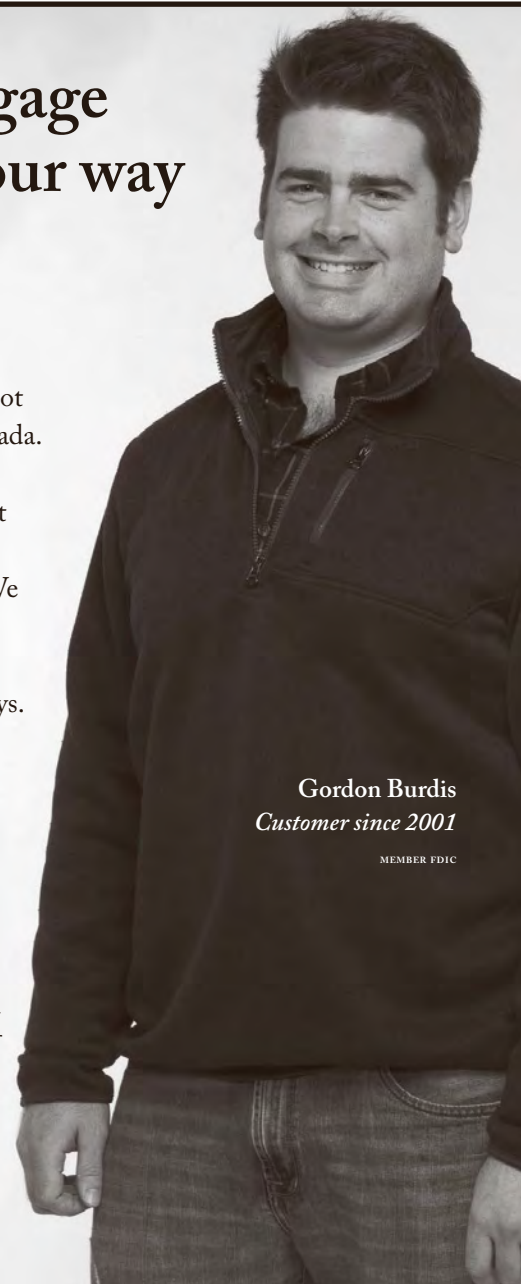
Like most of us, Gordon Burdis leads a busy life. As regional sales manager for his family’s company James L. Taylor, a local business that has made woodworking machinery for over 100 years, he spends a lot of time traveling the Western US and Canada.

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COVID PROTOCOLS OBSERVED

Pine Plains shows support for food pantry**Willow Roots shares holiday meal with community**By KAITLIN LYLE
kaitlin@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Touched by the full-hearted community effort organized by Willow Roots and its many volunteers, the faith of Pine Plains residents in their community was amplified as they watched countless local organizations, businesses and individuals join together to make spirits bright at the food pantry's third annual Christmas party on Sunday, Dec. 19.

Organized by Willow Roots' holiday events coordinator Dani Nicholson, the event ran from 1 to 3 p.m. in the parking lot behind The Stissing Center (TSC) on Church Street (Route 199). Willow Roots was blessed with an afternoon of sunshine and spirit in equal measures.

Whether those who came for the free meals drove through to pick up their food or ambled around the parking lot, visitors were instantly overtaken by the sense of community spirit.

Families had the option of staying to savor the holiday meals and festivities among friendly faces or taking them to go.

Their hands hovering over the warmth of a fire pit, a group of carolers supplied music as they sang seasonal favorites with gusto.

Willow Roots Vice President Brett McCormack and FORM + LIGHT Founder Sarah Rigano offered visitors on foot and in vehicles artful branches of natural greens as festive symbols of hope to add to their homes for the holidays.

As motorists advanced forward, they were greeted warmly by volunteers who offered them hot chocolate donated by Ronnybrook Farm; cookies donated by the "Cookie Fairies" from various churches in town; and presents in brightly colored bags arranged by



PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

From left, Yarami Gutierrez and her dog, Luna, gathered alongside The Stissing Center building for a holiday photo with her little sister, Renata, Santa Claus and Buddy the Elf.

Robert Burden.

"It's a good little event and the cars keep on coming," observed Jack Banning, an avid advocate of Willow Roots and one of the masterminds behind TSC.

Meals cooked with skill and crafted with a wide-ranging menu were provided by talented local chefs from Champetre, Cider Brothers Roadhouse, Farmer's Wife, Lia's Mountain View, Moose on the Loose and Tower Restaurant. Altogether, Willow Roots Co-Founder Lisa Zayas counted 181 dinners served at Sunday's party.

Making an early appearance in town before Christmas Day, Santa Claus (thanks to his close friend, Rich Jewitt, manager at Stewart's Shop) and Buddy the Elf (thanks to his close friend, David McGill, shift manager at Stewart's) visited with local children to give away some gifts before the big day.

"It's amazing: Every effort you see here, there's a human behind it," McCormack said, "and we believe that's what it's about — creating a community. There are so many helpers, it would be impossible to name them all."

The list of volunteers and organizations that made this year's holiday party possible was seemingly endless, as was the community's appreciation for all that Willow Roots does to uplift and support them, with free food distribution at 7730 South Main St. in Pine Plains from 10 to 11 a.m. on the first, third and fourth Saturdays of each month.

"I think the most important thing is to care about each other and show up for your neighbors and your community from a place of hope," Rigano said.

"It's all about the community," Jewitt said from behind his Santa beard. "For me, it's about the kids and the community, especially with COVID-19 and everything that's been happening the last couple of years."

"Willow Roots does such a fantastic job in the community in all the things they do and the events they do in the community," Jewitt said. "Everything the whole town does to come together is amazing, and that's what small-town living is all about."

To contact the food pantry, email willowrootsinc@gmail.com or call 518-751-0164.

PPCSD first in county to enforce bus safety programBy KAITLIN LYLE
kaitlin@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Taking the lead on protecting students from motorists illegally passing stopped school buses, the Pine Plains Central School District (PPCSD) recently became the first district in Dutchess County to implement the county's new school bus safety program to protect students and educate motorists.

On Monday, Dec. 13, Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro announced Dutchess County's new partnership with the company Bus-Patrol to launch the school bus safety program. Through this new partnership, over 1,000 school buses across the county will have access to safety technology at no cost to local taxpayers, according to a press release issued by Molinaro's office last week.

Such technology will include STOP-arm cameras to capture images of motorists passing school buses; GPS, routing and telemetry to identify the buses' location at any given time; and Cloud-managed 360-degree safety cameras for the bus's interior, windshield, rearview and side-

load to provide a full view activity surrounding the bus.

All of the technology, installation and maintenance of the new hardware and software will be free to the school district and its taxpayers — funded entirely by violators over a five-year term.

For the PPCSD, this entails implementing the safety program across its entire fleet of 38 school buses. Effective Monday, Dec. 13, any driver who illegally passes a stopped Pine Plains school bus will receive a warning until Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2022.

As of Thursday, Jan. 13, drivers who pass a stopped school bus will receive a citation and fine in the mail.

Regarding PPCSD's efforts to enhance student safety from errant motorists, Superintendent of Schools Martin Handler said while the district has had the STOP-arm cameras installed on its buses for a year, the cameras haven't been operational until recently, because all the legalities had to be sorted out.

"We're very excited about it because these passed school buses create a tremendous hazard for students getting on and getting off the buses," Handler said. "And if we can get people aware of the situation, we're hoping it's going to cut down on the number of people who are doing this."

He remarked Pine Plains has been lobbying for this safety program for at least five years, and while it may be the first district, he heard Wappingers will be the next one to do so.

Handler said the PPCSD often gets complaints from its bus drivers. Not a week goes by when there aren't at least a couple of instances when drivers pass school buses, he said.

"What's exciting to me is that ultimately we will go a long way to solving this very important safety concern," Handler said of the dangerous practice.

Chair of the Dutchess County Legislature Gregg Pulver (R-19), and a Pine Plains resident, said the county was instrumental in getting the program through, with Dr. Handler pushing them the entire way.

"He really was at the forefront of this," Pulver said, "and we think it's an amazing program. Anything to further the safety of students, I think, is very worthwhile, as is the program itself, and Pine Plains being the first is a trial basis for the entire county — hopefully it'll spread like wildfire."

AREA IN BRIEF**Christmas Services at Copake Falls church**

COPAKE FALLS — Community members are invited to attend Christmas Services at the Church of St. John in the Wilderness in Copake Falls.

The church will hold a traditional Christmas Eve Service on Friday, Dec. 24, with a Candlelight Service and Christmas Carols at 7

p.m. and the service itself at 7:30 p.m.

Masks are required; extra masks will be available.

The Church of St. John in the Wilderness is located at 261 Route 344 in Copake Falls; for more information, call 518-329-3674 or go to its Facebook page, www.facebook.com/stjohnwilderness.

BOE meeting Jan. 5

PINE PLAINS — The Pine Plains Board of Education (BOE) announced its next meeting will be on Wednesday, Jan. 5, at 7 p.m. in the Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School library at 2829 Church St.

For details, contact Pine Plains District Clerk Julia Tomaine at j.tomaine@ppcsd.org.

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

Orange You Glad You Didn't Throw Out Your Citrus?

'Tis the season for big bowls of oranges on side tables, where you can easily reach and peel and eat one while you're reading a book by the fire or drinking cocktails in the living room before a dinner party.

All different shapes and varieties of oranges are arriving at grocery and specialty stores now — and many of those oranges will be dry and tasteless with thick, pithy skins.

Don't despair. If you decide not to eat those unexceptional oranges, you also have a month in which to convert them into holiday season decorations that are festive and fragrant.

I associate oranges at this time of year with Victorian England — but also with my Asian relatives, who keep bowls of satsumas or tangerines or Clementines in bowls on tables all around the house in winter. Why not? They're tasty, healthy and hydrating — certainly more so



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

than cookies and eggnog. According to national citrus growing association websites, this year's citrus crops (oranges and lemons) is the smallest it's been since the 1940s, with the exception of four years

ago when Hurricane Irma destroyed the crop. There doesn't seem to be a single factor involved in this year's low numbers, but that's not really what this article is about anyway.

I have already made up one batch of clove-studded oranges, mainly because I bought a bag of navel oranges that turned out to be too dry to eat. In the past I've tried to just poke the cloves into the thick orange skins and have had only moderate success. This year I figured out that I can cut the design into the skin of the orange with

Winter is the season of citrus. Oranges are abundant and if you don't eat them all, the leftovers make festive and wonderfully fragrant decorations.

a small, sharp knife. Drawing on the design with a waterproof pen first is even better — but if you do that, you won't be able to dunk your cloved orange in tea or hot cider.

For the first few days, the cloves and oranges have a lovely mild scent. But after a couple weeks, as the slices into the fruit widen, the scent becomes so rich that you'll wonder if someone snuck the most gorgeous citrus incense into your house.

As the weeks progress, your oranges should dry out enough that you can use them as ornaments on your holiday tree (they weigh less as they lose their juice).

You can also make a wreath to stretch across your fireplace mantel.

If you want to try either of these projects, be sure to run a barbecue skewer from top to bottom through the fruit, so you can then put string or florist wire through the center. Once the fruit has dried out, it will be too hard to pierce.

Continued on next page

HISTORY:
CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

The Holidays in Old New England

To fully put us in mind of sleighs dashing through seasonal snow and festive caroling on town greens, the Salisbury Association in Salisbury, Conn., has put together an exhibit of 19th-century Christmas ornaments, books and cards.

They are on display at the association's headquarters in the Academy Building on Main Street, across the street from Town Hall. The items come from the Holley-Williams House Collection.

For those who don't remember, the Holley Williams house is the former residence of the Salisbury iron master, in the historic district of Lakeville. The building was left to the town by Margaret Williams in 1971. A history of the house and the bequest can be found on the front page of The Lakeville Journal issue of March 4 of that year (find it in our online archive through the Scoville Memorial Library at <http://scoville.advantage-preservation.com>).

What was known for many years as the Holley-Williams House Museum has now reverted to private ownership. But in the years when it was still a museum of 19th-century life, it hosted a

wonderful annual December tour that allowed visitors to see how the house would have been dressed up for the holiday season.

Some of those items, saved and stored, are in the show at the Academy Building.

And if you find that it's enjoyable to travel back through time with old issues of The Lakeville Journal, the show will also include three Christmas supplement covers from our newspaper. They were donated to the Salisbury Association by Heather Kahler, who died last October. Heather was the daughter of Stewart and Ann Hoskins, long-time past publishers of the newspaper and the wife of Lakeville Journal poet-at-large Michael Kahler.

Among the covers is at least one of the really glorious drawings by the late Marianna van Rossen Hoogendyk, who lived in Sharon and whose art work we turned into a Lakeville Journal Co. fundraising puzzle last year.

To see the historic holiday show, visit the Academy Building on Main Street through the end of December, Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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FIGURE SKATING: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

A Chance to See Olympic Contenders in Stars on Ice

Not all competitive figure skating is interesting to watch. But, as is the case with all high-level athletics, every now and again there are

some figure skaters who make you think, "Oh, I get it. That's what it's supposed to look like." The best of these athletes return year after year, so you can watch them grow and develop.

It happens that right now there are several very interesting skaters who have been competing for many years of their young lives, and several of them will come to Hartford, Conn., for the Stars on Ice tour that will follow the 2022 Winter Olympics.

The performances will be on April 23 at the XL Center. Tickets went on sale on Dec. 10. Prices start at \$39; there are group discounts. Order them online at www.starsonice.com, www.XLCenter.com.

Included in the roster is Nathan Chen, a 22-year-old from Salt Lake City, Utah, who is bringing the sport back to life — for Americans and for skate fans around the world. He's been a competitor since a very young age (and for a while had to endure repeat showings on television of



PHOTO COURTESY OF STARS ON ICE

Mirai Nagasu is one of the Olympic figure skaters (and a beloved American champion) who will take part in the 2022 Stars on Ice tour, which comes to Hartford in April.

one of his first competitive skates, when he was about 10). He is a three-time and reigning world champion and a five-time and reigning U.S. champ. Gold has so far eluded him at the Olympics but there is a general expectation that he will win gold in the 2022 Olympics in China.

More than just a champ, he has that ineffable star

quality that makes the best skaters so interesting to watch. He's passionate and beautiful on the ice. As an athlete he is capable of executing the insane multiple turns that to a large degree make modern skating so boring. He manages to make it interesting when he launches into a four-turn spin.

Other skaters taking part in the tour this year include Jason Brown, who first competed in the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, Russia, when he was 20 and had a big smile and a pony tail. He will also be in the Stars on Ice Tour, as will two of the most interesting partner teams, Madison Hubbell and Zachary Donohue and Madison Chock and Evan Bates.

Mirai Nagasu, a personal favorite, showed such grit and grace in her first Olympics in 2010, when she was 16. She just missed earning a medal, and almost stopped competing. She found her love for the sport again, matured beautifully, and will also be in Stars on Ice this year.

HOLIDAY GIFTS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

For Love of Ivy: My Beloved Mini Printer

Here's an idea for something everyone in the family will love and should in theory be able to share: A Canon Ivy mini printer that works with your smartphone (\$98.99).

I bought one a few weeks ago and I'm completely in love with it. I've already bought two for friends.

The quality of the images is very good. If you are able to work with your phone camera and do any light editing to make images brighter, darker etc, you will find this printer to be very easy to manage.

This is a no-ink printer (or ZINK, which stands for Zero Ink), so you're not always fussing with expensive cartridges. The ink is in the paper; but the paper is smooth, not puffy like the old Polaroids.

Each piece of photo paper has a sticker back; the images are small (2 by 3 inches), which is perfect for journaling, keeping a travelogue and doing step-by-

step or Final Masterpiece photos of new recipes for your own recipe file.

You can also buy coin-sized pre-cut sticker paper for your printer, perfect for kids to decorate their laptops or schedule books.

A pack of 20 pieces of 2-by-3-inch photo paper is \$10; 50 sheets is \$24; 20 sheets of sticker paper is \$12.

Another brand worth looking into is the Kodak Mini 3 Square 3x3 Retro Portable Printer. As its name suggests, this printer (also known as the P300R) gives you 3-inch-square prints.

There are other models that make different-sized prints. The P210R prints are 3.4 by 2.1 inches, and there is a 4-inch printer called the Dock Plus.

The prices vary, depending on who's selling them and which model you get. Most of the Canon and Kodak printers usually are sold bundled with some packs of ZINK printer paper. It does make sense



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

An expensive gift becomes less pricey when it's a gift for everyone in the family. One such option: A mini printer that works with your smart phone.

to order some paper, so the family can test drive the printer right away (before it gets put in a drawer and is forgotten).

One thing you do need for both these printers is Bluetooth on your phone. The Canon Ivy has a USB cord that allows you to charge it up; the charge seems to hold for a fairly

long time (I haven't yet run out of power). I'm not certain whether the Kodak units can be charged or if they are battery-only.

I'm not a super high-tech person and I found the Canon Ivy stunningly easy to set up and use. If you're unsure, you can go online and find several YouTube tutorials.

... oranges

Continued from previous page

You can also cut your orange into quarter-inch slices and dehydrate them in your oven (200 degrees for four or five hours; flip them several times during the baking period).

You can then poke yarn or a sturdy twine through the top of each slice to make a garland. Alternate cinnamon sticks with the citrus slices, and maybe use one of the (heavier) clove-studded oranges in the center.

My newest orange craft is edible and comes (as is so often the case) from the internet. The website www.downshiftology.com by Lisa Bryan has a recipe for chocolate-dipped orange peel that I've now made twice. It's super easy.

Take an orange and with a sharp knife peel off the orange outer skin, leaving behind as much white pith as you can. I usually go back after the first round of peeling and gently slice away as much remaining white pith as possible.

Then cut your orange

peel into strips. I like mine super thin, but most people make them 1/4 inch wide, maybe a little wider.

Put your slices in a small pot and cover them with water. Bring to a boil. Drain out the water and cover the peels again with fresh water. Bring to a boil again and drain off the water again.

Then take modified simple syrup: two parts water to one part sugar (for example, two cups of water and one cup of sugar). Bring to a boil, stirring



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

to help the sugar dissolve. Add in your orange peel and bring it to a boil, then simmer it for 30 minutes.

You can add in some ginger or a vanilla bean for extra flavor.

Meanwhile, line a baking sheet with parchment paper and lay a roasting rack on top. After the peels have simmered for 30 minutes, lift them with tongs from the simple syrup and lay them on the roasting rack. They'll clump up and fall through, but don't worry, it's fine.

Let them sit for a minimum of eight hours but ideally for as long as 24 hours. Prepare a bowl or a jar with some sugar. I used an unprocessed natural sugar, and you can use a fancy sugar but white processed sugar will be fine. Roll the orange peel in the sugar; I put my peels right in the jar with the sugar and shook them up every few hours for the first day. This seems to distribute the sugar over them neatly. And then what do you

do with the peels? They smell great and they taste amazing. Because mine are so thin, I use them as a garnish on mashed sweet potatoes. You can also dip them in melted chocolate once they've been coated with sugar, and eat them as candy.

Of course you can also add them to your traditional holiday fruitcake!

It's not a super practical food project, but again it's easy and it's a good way to use up your surplus oranges.

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Send items to calendar@lakevillejournal.com. All entries can be found at www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar.

MISC.

D. M. Hunt Library, 63 Main Street, Falls Village, Conn. www.huntlibrary.org

HOLIDAY POP-UP SHOP, through Jan. 11.

Hancock Shaker Village, 1843 West Housatonic St., Pittsfield, Mass. www.hancockshakervillage.org

Hancock Holiday Nights, Dec. 27 to 29, 5 to 8 p.m.

Salisbury Association, 24 Main St., Salisbury, Conn., www.salisburyassociation.org

19th-century Christmas ornaments and decorations, on display through December, Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Kent Chamber of Commerce, Kent, Conn. www.kentct.com

Kent Gingerbread Festival 2021, through Dec. 31.

The Mount, 2 Plunkett St., Lenox, Mass. www.edithwharton.org

Holiday House Tours, Nov. 27 through Jan. 2.

ART

Canaan History Center, 115 Main St., North Canaan, Conn. www.northcanaan.org/entities/town-historian

Retrospective of works by artists associated with the Northwest Corner, Fridays and Saturdays through the end of the year, Fridays 9 a.m. to noon, Saturdays 2 to 4 p.m.

Gallery 25 and Creative Arts Studio, 11 Railroad St., New Milford, Conn. www.gallery25ct.com

Gallery Artists: Deck The Halls, Nov. 14 to Dec. 31.

Washington Art Association & Gallery, 4 Bryan Memorial Plaza, Washington Depot, Conn. www.washingtonartassociation.org

Holiday Gift Show, Nov. 26 to Dec. 25.

BOOKS

The Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. www.cornwalllibrary.org

ANNUAL BOXING DAY READING, Dec. 26, 4 to 5 p.m.

KIDS

Kent Memorial Library, 32 N. Main St., Kent, Conn. www.kentmemoriallibrary.org

Family Movie Night - Holiday PJs & Dinner, Dec. 27, 4:30 p.m.

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. www.hotchkisslibrary.org

Weekly Story & Craft: Time Capsules!, Dec. 29, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Norman Rockwell Museum, 9 Glendale Road, Stockbridge, Mass. www.nrm.org

December School Vacation Week - Jan Brett's Winter Wonders, Dec. 26 to 31.

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. www.scovillelibrary.org

Game Day at SML, Dec. 23, noon to 3 p.m.

Sing in 2022 with Danny Tieger, Dec. 31, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

MOVIES

The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. www.themoviehouse.net

Gremlins, Dec. 29.

MET LIVE 2021-22: CINDERELLA (MASSENET), Jan. 1, 12:55 p.m.

MUSIC

Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, 14 Castle St., Great Barrington, Mass. www.mahaiwe.org

The Berkshire Bach Society presents: Bach at New Year's Live!, Dec. 31, 6 p.m.

Norfolk Library, 9 Greenwoods Road East, Norfolk, Conn. www.norfolklibrary.org

Holiday Open House: Music for Marimba featuring Andrew Thomson, Dec. 30, 4 to 6 p.m.

THEATER

The Clark Art Museum, 225 South St., Williamstown, Mass. www.clarkart.edu

THE MAGIC FLUTE, Dec. 26, 12:55 to 3:55 p.m.

Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, 14 Castle St., Great Barrington, Mass. www.mahaiwe.org

Scott Eyerly's Virtual Met Opera Lecture: Massenet's Cinderella, Dec. 30, 5:30 p.m. (online).

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UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR MODEL

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Dear reader,

When this newspaper made a plea to our readers for support in 2019, The Lakeville Journal Company, publishers of The Lakeville Journal, The Millerton News and www.tricornernews.com, was at a crossroads. Then, we were looking at drastically cutting costs in order to survive.

Two years later, after two highly successful appeals to our readership for contributions that saved your local community newspapers, this small media company is in a very different place. Your generosity kept us alive, even during a worldwide pandemic, and we were able to apply for and receive tax-exempt status from the IRS as a public charity. Your contributions to The Lakeville Journal Foundation are now tax deductible to the extent permitted under the law. Now it is time to regroup again and make a new plan to take this media company into a successful future.

During COVID-19 shutdowns and restrictions, this company was able to obtain two PPP grants from the U.S. government, which, combined with our readers' generous support, helped us remain in place to report the news of your communities. Your wish for local news is what drives our mission, which publishes in the newspapers every week:

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

We sincerely ask you to be a Community Contributor, donating whatever you can to support local news, to The Lakeville Journal Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization. Unlike the last two years, your donations are now tax deductible within the limits of the law.

Thank you for keeping track of your local news in our publications, and profound gratitude for your support that kept The Lakeville Journal, The Millerton News and www.tricornernews.com here for your communities.

Noreen Doyle, Chair

Janet Manko, CEO, executive director

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EDITORIAL

May 2022 look better and brighter

Congratulations, everyone, we have finally made it to year's end. 2021 is quickly coming to a close and somehow, some way, we have all managed to survive another challenging and tumultuous 365 days during year two of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As all of us know all too well, it wasn't easy, and for many, it may not have been much fun. But good for each and every one of you for your sticktoitiveness and determination to ensure you and your loved ones survived another 12-month cycle. Let's hope in 2022 we not only survive, but thrive.

For in 2021, we worked diligently to guarantee the survival of many things: There was our physical health; our mental health; our families; our pets; our homesteads; our finances; our jobs; our businesses; our education; our social networks; our communities — all of these things we worked hard to see that they made it through what has unquestionably been a trying year.

A number of these things may have gone through some changes, been modified for the times or perhaps, not quite been able to make it through in tact. Maybe you have hopes of them returning in another form sometime in the future. If so, we wish you the best of luck.

Whatever the case may be, it's been no easy task. You should be downright proud of yourselves for accomplishing so much under such strenuous conditions.

Really, think about all you have been able to do this past year to protect yourself, your children, your spouse or partner, your friends, your neighbors, those in your community, your co-workers. You've probably been wearing masks, trying to social distance, keeping yourself and those around you as healthy as possible.

Now it's the holiday season and many have been supporting local causes; local businesses; local holiday parades; Christmas tree lightings; Menorah lightings; festive dinners; church services; nativity scenes; concerts; chances to take photos with Santa; and all sorts of wonderful winter-time events.

It's a magical time of year, somehow made even more magnificent through the efforts of our towns and villages; our local merchants and restaurateurs; our community centers and school districts; our fire companies and police departments; our VFWs and American Legions; our churches, temples and nonprofits; and, of course, the people who call the Harlem Valley home.

It's those who live and work here who seem to possess that special something, that innate ability to come together in the best of times and the worst of times, to put aside their differences when it matters most and focus on what's important.

What's important today, and what will always be important, is family, community and supporting one another. Knowing we hold those values dear, as those in the Harlem Valley have shown time and again when it matters most, gives hope as we transition into 2022.

We wish you all the very best as you gather together this holiday season with your loved ones. We hope you experience good health, good cheer and a good life.

Here's to a better and brighter New Year in 2022!

The 3G network shutdown and how it affects seniors

Adapting to new technology is a double-edged sword for seniors: While it opens vast new possibilities for seniors to stay connected, the speed of advances in technology may not quite register with seniors who came of age in an era of built-to-last products.

Nana's got a cast iron skillet her own grandmother brought over from Italy. Dad's still got the pair of boots he wore at Woodstock. Grandpa is still wearing the watch he wore in Korea. That iPhone 4S wasn't cheap, it's only 9 years old, it's paid for and it's only used to make calls. Why change?

The answer has to do with the nature of advances in the technology that uses wireless networks — not just phones, but older medical devices, tablets, home security systems and other connected products.

Newer, faster and more reliable technology can't move forward unless older technology using the same wireless network space is phased out.

Older devices may need to be upgraded or replaced next year. That's because the "3G" network on which older devices operate is being phased out during 2022, so providers can begin using faster and more advanced network services. 3G stands for "third generation," and it's being replaced with 5G, which is — you guessed it — the fifth generation technology standard for broadband cellular networks.

The Institute of Electri-

GOLDEN LIVING

Todd N. Tancredi

cal and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) notes three key benefits to 5G networks:

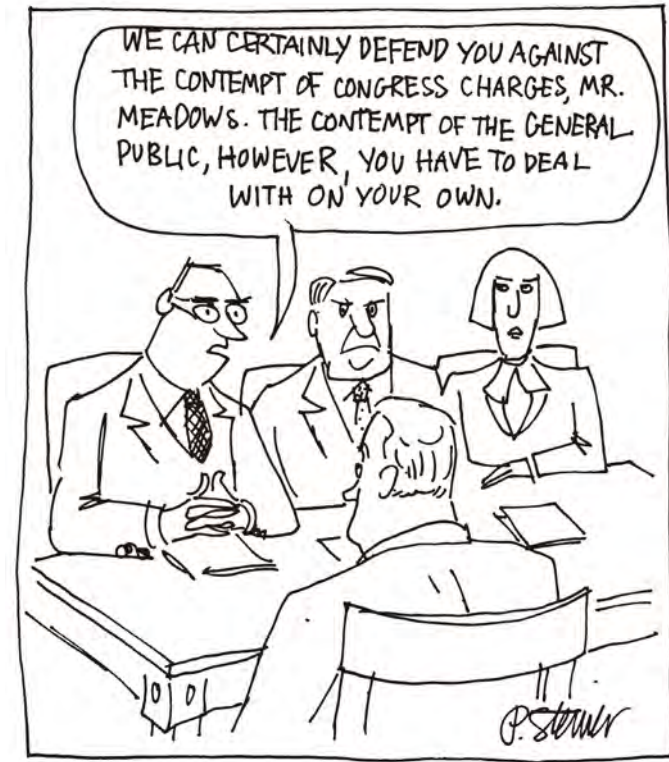
- Much higher data rates, enabling consumers to download content more quickly;
- Much lower latency (delayed network response) — measured in milliseconds, imperceptible to humans; and
- Increased capacity as the network expands.

Still, anybody who's driven through rural areas knows there are stubborn "dead zones" where consistent mobile coverage is all but impossible to come by.

On the other hand, it's encouraging to know that 5G will be using some of the frequencies once used by over-the-air TV broadcasts. In theory, if your home picked up those TV broadcasts, 5G has a good chance of being available at your home as well.

What happens to my phone if I don't upgrade?

As a rule, if your phone dates to 2012 or earlier, there's a good chance it won't be much use next year without being upgraded or replaced. According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), many older phones will become unable to make or receive calls or texts,



Amenia Town Board should endorse Gov. Hochul's mask mandate

As of Dec. 16, the average daily rate for COVID infection in Dutchess County was 148 per 100,000 residents. That change shows a 93% increase over the last two weeks with 13 deaths, and a 15% increase in hospitalization.

Only 65% of Dutchess County residents are vaccinated.

In early December, Governor Kathy Hochul mandated all indoor venues except homes either require masks or vaccination. This statewide mandate took effect Dec. 10, and gave businesses those two separate choices, to continue through Jan. 15, 2022.

She later revoked the mandate after numerous counties, including Dutchess, refused to participate, but then reinstated it on Friday, Dec. 17, until at least Jan. 15, when she will re-evaluate conditions.

On Dec. 2, some upstate hospitals were required to end elective procedures due to an onslaught of Delta unvaccinated individuals and others with the new Omicron variant. Healthcare officials say a "perfect storm" of new COVID cases, staff shortages and filled nursing homes have created a crisis.

"COVID hospitalizations in the region have more than tripled since August when the Delta wave began to sweep through the state." The state DOH is coordinating "with each impacted facility to ensure that National

Guard deployments target each facility's unique needs and that the additional staff is assimilated smoothly." (NYTimes, Dec. 1.)

Until today, the last we heard from our county government was a dire alert in August. A.K. Vaidian, MD, former county health commissioner warned:

"Dutchess County has seen new COVID-19 case count rise at a dramatic pace over the past several weeks, with active case counts increasing nearly 200% since the end of July. Dutchess County is currently classified as a "High Transmission" area by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/DBCH/Docs/Public-Health-Alert-08182021.)

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro said he would not enforce Gov. Hochul's mandate, calling it "unenforceable." Molinaro's office said Dutchess County "does not have the public health resources necessary to enforce this public health regulation." (Poughkeepsie Journal, Dec. 13.)

This is not leadership. It's political pandering that is costing American lives.

Will the Amenia Town Board discuss this, publicly record its vote and support the mandate? This is necessary because of the massive misinformation about public health policy from the highest reaches of our county.

I would like the Town Board to encourage residents to get vaccinated and protect the community by explicitly supporting the mandate to wear masks at all indoor venues.

While we may not have the force, funds or backing of the county to require Amenia residents wear masks due to Molinaro's undermining OUR COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, I do expect our town representatives to own their leadership role and publicly endorse this life-saving measure.

That leadership will influence those still wavering on vaccinations — thereby saving lives.

As a citizen and as a retired public health professional, I am asking the Amenia Town Board to make a statement in support of public health for our town and to urge individuals and businesses to get their vaccinations and wear masks indoors.

Nancy F. Mckenzie, PhD Retired Professor, CUNY School of Public Health Amenia



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

Future fallen needles

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ancramdale Neighbors Helping Neighbors awards vocational grants

Through a generous gift from an anonymous donor to Ancramdale Neighbors Helping Neighbors Association (ANHNA), the organization is helping two deserving students pursue their vocational goals.

ANHNA is proud to support Leslie Boice and Alyssa DeRocha in pursuing their career goals.

Leslie Boice received her Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy. ANHNA supported her efforts to pass the National Boards of Occupational Therapy and obtain her New York State License. She is presently using these skills with her work in the Webutuck Central School District.

Alyssa DeRocha is a half-time student at C-GCC working towards her nursing degree and license. She has a full-time job

and plans on achieving her goal by the Spring of 2023.

Town of Ancram residents who wish to advance their job skills are encouraged to apply for these grants. To learn more about these grants contact Laura Ponkos at 518-329-2031 or Jane Moore at 518-339-0292.

For general information on how ANHNA can assist in potential community needs, call Jack Lindsey at 518-329-7306 or Hila Richardson at 917-414-8270.

In addition, you can reach us through email at ANHNainfo@gmail.com. Contributions, and inquiries, can also be mailed to ANHNA, P.O. Box 97, Ancramdale, NY 12503.

Laura Ponkos ANHNA Board member Ancram

Holiday corny laughs

Holiday gatherings are a time for wine, laughter and some very corny jokes. In the spirit of post-2020 and departing 2021 — where we all need a laugh — here are a few (hopefully new to you) jokes to share while we all Zoom or call family:

What do you call a gator asking questions? An investigator.

What did the mathematics student say to the orientation dean? I have so many problems...

If a clock chimes 13 what time is it? Time for a new clock!

What types of jokes do tomatoes prefer? Juicy ones.

What did Venus say to the very flirtatious planet Saturn? "Put a ring on it or else."

What fruit is always sacrificed in a competition? A pear, split in two.

Why did the cantaloupe jump into the lake? To become a watermelon.

What music do balloons hate? Pop.

The editor asked the author why she put her manuscript in the fridge. "To refresh my plot."

Angry mother to son, "Again you're in front of the TV?" Answer: "Well I tried sitting behind it but I couldn't see anything."

Silence is golden, except when you have toddlers, then it's fool's gold.

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Peter Riva

Little boy to a sarcastic friend, "Do you hate being a girl?" "Anything is better than the alternative."

Moses could never get clean. Every time it was bath time, the water parted.

How did Mary and Joseph know Jesus' weight when he was born? They had a weigh in a manger...

Why was the snowman in the supermarket looking at carrots? He was picking his nose.

What do you call a bunch of chess players bragging about their skills sitting in front of a fireplace? Chess nuts boasting in an open foyer...

A rebel without a Clause is a kid who doesn't believe in Santa!

What are the desert nomads singing at Christmas? "O Camel All Ye Faithful..."

Cutting down your own tree? You're Christmas-chopping!

How do New Mexican Big-horn Sheep say Merry Christmas? Fleece Navidad!

Peter Riva, a former resident of Amenia Union, now celebrates the holidays in New Mexico.

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

Facebook icon THE MILLERTON NEWS www.facebook.com/themillertonnews

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Webutuck hopes for feedback on survey for new principal

By KAITLIN LYLE
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

WEBUTUCK — In preparation for Webutuck High School (WHS) Principal Katy McEnroe's retirement next summer, the North East (Webutuck) Central School District (WCSD) created a survey to garner input from the community as to the kind of leader residents would like to see fill the position.

"We give our best to Katy and wish her good luck in her next chapter of life," said Superintendent of Schools Raymond Castellani. "She's been with the district many years and served the district well."

McEnroe's retirement will be effective come Thursday, June 30. The Millerton News will take a look back at her time in the WCSD in a future edition.

For McEnroe's replacement, Castellani said what Webutuck is hoping for someone with a true sense of the community, district parents, students and staff.

The survey is seeking input from residents on their feelings of the type of leader Webutuck needs at the high school — in the best of times and in the worst of times.

"I believe that any high school is the beacon of any school district in any town," Castellani said, "and the person we need to

hire has to be someone who will make sure that the light from that beacon shines brightly."

Castellani issued a letter to the Webutuck school community on Tuesday, Dec. 7, in regard to the district's plans to work "collaboratively with families, teachers and the community in filling this position."

A copy may be found online at www.webutuckschools.org.

Concerning the search, Castellani said the most important qualities McEnroe's successor should have include helping students succeed. He added her replacement should be someone who cares deeply about children; the superintendent said he's looking for an educator and administrator who can "walk the walk and talk the talk."

He's also searching for someone who can hold students and staff accountable for reaching those expectations; who is an instructional leader who can manage a tight ship and someone who "knows rules have to be followed."

To help in the search process, the district is seeking four parent volunteers to serve on the WHS Principal Search Committee. Those interested in volunteering to serve on the search committee should email Castellani at Raymond.Castellani@webutuck.org no later than

Monday, Jan. 10.

Castellani noted if there are more interested volunteers than spots available on the committee, search committee participants will be chosen by a random lottery.

Opportunities to serve on the committee will be provided to all those who contact the superintendent, who will then meet with the finalists and give his input before a final decision is made.

Aided by the information shared in the survey, the WHS Principal Search Committee will be in charge of reviewing application materials and conducting interviews with qualified candidates before presenting a final list of candidates for consideration to Castellani and the Board of Education (BOE).

The final hiring decision will then be made by the superintendent and the BOE.

The survey may be found online at www.docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeS1rC0YsGr4GLvuO8Ypu6SslaEG27LCNzIo8_prowpliSRIA/viewform or by clicking on the link included in Castellani's letter online.

The survey will close on Wednesday, Jan. 5, and its results will be shared at the Webutuck Board of Education (BOE) meeting on Monday, Jan. 10, at 7 p.m. For more details, go to www.webutuckschools.org.



PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

From left, Maplebrook School faculty members Rolinda Luther and Michael Schnurr and students Thomas Schiavone Jr., Rebecca Rowland and Anna Sudderth sold a variety of delicious treats at the Winter Fest bake sale.

Maplebrook School holds Winter Fest

By KAITLIN LYLE
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Embracing the season of sharing and caring, the students and staff at Maplebrook School worked together to transform their campus into a winter wonderland for its Winter Fest holiday celebration on Friday, Dec. 10, and Saturday, Dec. 11.

Visitors were asked to bring donations of a new hat, scarf or pair of mittens for the price of admission to the event, which ran from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday night and from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday.

Walking around the decorated campus of recognizable yellow buildings located off Route 22 in Amenia, revelers could spot a cheerful group of students singing Christmas carols to ring in the holiday season.

Holiday gifts, hot chocolate and other treats were made available for purchase, and

visiting children were invited to take part in Christmas crafts and other festive activities. Many even got the chance to make their own snow globes, take holiday photos behind painted Christmas cutouts and even visit with Santa Claus.

Though the weather was more frightful than delightful on Saturday, no amount of rainfall could dampen the Maplebrook School's holiday cheer as it adjusted the festivities around the forecast.

All proceeds raised at the Winter Fest went to benefit the decades-long Adopt-A-Family program in Millerton, which donates new winter clothing, toys, books, sports gear, etc., and gift cards to children in need enrolled in the Webutuck and Pine Plains Central School Districts during the holiday season.

To send a donation to Adopt-a-Family, mail it to P.O. Box 880, Millerton, NY 12546 or call 518-789-4508 for details.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER SCULLY

Dressed for the holidays from head to toe, a pair of students welcomed visitors to Maplebrook School's Winter Fest.

Man injured in Wingdale mining accident

WINGDALE — The JH Ketchum Hose Company in Dover Plains, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office and Dutchess County Emergency Response were among the first agencies to respond to the scene of a mining accident reported Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 14.

The accident occurred at Wingdale Materials, a company owned by the paving materials supplier Peckham Industries.

Though his name hasn't yet been reported, the 40 year old victim has been identified as a nine-year employee of Wingdale Materials, who was struck by a large rock was stuck in an excavator around 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon.

According to Dutchess County Commissioner of Emergency Response Dana Smith, JH Ketchum Fire Company was dispatched with a re-

port of a man stuck in mining machinery. Firefighters from the Arlington, LaGrange and Poughkeepsie fire companies responded to the scene with JH Ketchum Hose Company acting as primary agency, freeing the man at around 3:30 p.m.

The man was later flown to Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, N.Y., with a reported injury to his wrist.

— Kaitlin Lyle

BOXING DAY & BEYOND

SALE

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HAMMERTOWN

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MILLBROOK

School district returns to remote learning as fourth wave of COVID hits

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judith@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Because of the resurgence in COVID-19 cases, the Millbrook Central School District (MCSD) has canceled in-person learning at all of its school buildings until Monday, Jan. 3.

Superintendent of Schools Laura Mitchell announced the decision in a letter to staff and district families on Thursday, Dec. 16. She said the MCSD will proceed with remote learning until students start their holiday vacation on Thursday, Dec. 23, at which point it will reassess the decision.

As of last Tuesday and Wednesday, students were using the new protocol to "Test

to Stay," which allows them to remain in school after having been exposed to the coronavirus in the classroom as long as they are tested for the virus regularly and remain healthy.

However, as Mitchell pointed out in her letter, that can be difficult for the district to deal with.

"As the number of cases grows, so do the number of close contacts in our student and staff population, making it increasingly challenging to sustain in-person instruction," she wrote.

The MCSD did not share the exact number of COVID cases it is dealing with at the moment, but according to the New York State COVID-19 Report Card, there were five students in Elm

Drive Elementary School who tested positive for the virus, along with two staff members who tested positive for COVID there on Wednesday, Dec. 15.

On Thursday, Dec. 16, one student and two staff members at Millbrook High School tested positive, and Millbrook Middle School reported eight students and one teacher tested positive for COVID-19, according to the New York State COVID-19 Report Card.

Mitchell said anyone impacted by the positive COVID cases will be contacted by either MCSD or county health officials.

Other schools have similarly switched to remote learning, including Carmel High School in Putnam County, which will like-

wise remain closed through the holiday break due to the high number of COVID cases.

Dutchess County reported that as of Saturday, Dec. 18, active COVID cases had risen to an 11-month high of 1,647. Numbers have not been at that level since Jan. 25, when there were 1,707 active cases county wide.

The current surge in the Hudson Valley is troubling to county and school officials, as there were just 375 cases in Dutchess County seven weeks ago — and it reflects an increase across not only New York but across the country. On Sunday, Dec. 19, The New York Times described the rise in COVID cases culminating just one week before Christmas as "the fourth wave of coronavirus infections."



PHOTO BY PAMELA FREEMAN

In spite of dropping temperatures, the first ever live Nativity Scene was presented by Grace Church on Sunday, Dec. 19.

Grace puts on Nativity

MILLBROOK — Grace Church Director of Formation Alison Quin led a live Nativity Scene on Sunday, Dec. 19, and it was a big success. It was the first time it did so, with its choir, parishioners playing the parts of Mary and Joseph, three wise men (and women) and a bevy of little angels with glittering wings and halos, though some of the halos were lost in the process.

Quin told the story of the Nativity, interspersed with favorite Christmas hymns such as "Silent

Night," "Little Town of Bethlehem" and others.

An audience of about 25 participated by bringing stars to lay at the foot of the crib.

Two lively and inquisitive goats were provided by the Mustello family, and some quiet, well behaved sheep from the Fountain family were on hand.

Coffee and cookies were available in the rectory afterward, but due to COVID there were no in-person gatherings indoors.

— Judith O'Hara Balfe

A bit of the 'West Side Story' told at Marona's

MILLBROOK — David Bean, an actor and dancer on stage and screen, played the character of Tiger in the original film "West Side Story" in 1961. He made his comeback with a cameo appearance in director Steven Spielberg's movie adaptation of the classic story with the 2021 version of "West Side Story" this year.

On Saturday, Dec. 18, Bean was at Marona's Market in Millbrook signing copies of his new book, "When You're a Jet," which promises to be lively, funny and at times poignant.

The book is the story of an active and richly lived life, which Bean spent here, in London and wherever fate took him, on stage in more than 700 theatrical performances and on screen.

The actor can often be found at Jeannie Bean's and Family, a restaurant in nearby Clinton Corners. The business is a family enterprise, he said.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Actor and author David Bean, who played the character of Tiger in the original film "West Side Story," was at Marona's Market on Saturday, Dec. 18, signing copies of his new book.

Fans can look for Bean these days at Jeannie Bean's and at other book signings and ap-

pearances around the Hudson Valley.

— Judith O'Hara Balfe

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF AMENIA ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AREA VARIANCE RELATED TO PROPERTY LOCATED AT 21 FOLAN ROAD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Section 121-59(G) of the Town of Amenia Zoning Code, a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) of the Town of Amenia, New York, on January 10, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. The following matter is scheduled for a public hearing:

Applicant Joseph Fontaine seeks an area variance to allow an existing side yard setback of 26.5 feet where 30 feet is required in the Suburban Residential (SR) District. The property is located at 21 Folan Road, Tax Parcel #132000-7168-00-197209, Amenia, NY.

A copy of the application is on file in the Planning/Zoning Office, 2nd Floor for public viewing and inspection, Monday-Thursday, 1-4 P.M. by appointment. The Application can also be viewed and downloaded from the Town's official website at www.ameniany.gov.

At the public hearing noticed herein, the ZBA will hear all persons interested in the application. Persons may appear at the hearing on their own behalf or by agent and may also submit written comments to the ZBA prior to or at such hearing.

Dated: December 15, 2021
John Terry Metcalfe
Chairman
Town of Amenia Zoning Board Appeals
12-23-21

Legal Notice
Reorganizational Meeting of the Amenia Town Board is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022 at 6:00pm with Oath of Office beginning at 5:30pm at

the Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia NY.
Dawn Marie Klingner
Town Clerk
12-23-21

Legal Notice
The Board of Trustees of the Evergreen Cemetery Inc. have scheduled a lot owners and general business meeting on December 28, 2021 at 10:00 am.

The meeting will be held at the American Legion Post #426 located at 9 North Main Street
Pine Plains, NY 12567.
11-23-21

Public Notice
TOWN OF PINE PLAINS RESTATED RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING A SPECIFIC AMOUNT TO PAY THE COST OF PREPARING A MAP, PLAN AND REPORT FOR THE CREATION OF A PROPOSED WASTEWATER DISTRICT WITHIN THE TOWN OF PINE PLAINS CENTERED AROUND THE HAMLET BUSINESS ZONING DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Pine Plains has been considering the establishment of a wastewater district for the Town of Pine Plains, which will be centered around the Hamlet Business Zoning District pursuant to the provisions of Article 12-a of the New York State Town Law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the engineering firm of Tighe & Bond Engineering & Landscape Architecture, P.C. (Tighe & Bond) is duly qualified to prepare such map, plan and report, as required by §209-b of the New York State Town Law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the cost of the preparation of the map, plan and report will not

exceed \$11,700; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board has applied for, and received, an \$11,700 Water Infrastructure Grant to pay for the cost of such map, plan and report.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Pine Plains, in regular session duly convened, as follows:

1. That the engineering firm of Tighe & Bond be, and hereby is, directed pursuant to the provisions of §209-b of the New York State Town Law to prepare a map, plan and report meeting the requirements of said section of the law.

2. That the expense incurred for the preparation of the map, plan and report shall be a general charge and shall be levied and collected in the same manner as other Town charges except that it is anticipated that the preparation of the map, plan and report will be completely funded by the said grant.

3. That this Resolution, in accordance of §24 of the Municipal Home Rule; Article 7 of the New York State Town Law and §209-b of the New York State Town Law is subject to a permissive referendum.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call on December 16, 2021 which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Cloud
Aye
Councilman Bartles
Aye
Councilman Chase
Aye
Councilwoman Jones
Aye
Councilman Zick
Aye

The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted. 5-0 Passed.

By Order of the Town Board
Madelin Dafoe
Town Clerk
12-23-21

MILLBROOK IN BRIEF

Christmas with Grace Church

Grace Church, located at 330 Franklin Ave., Millbrook, will hold Christmas services.

There will be a Christmas Eve Family Service on Friday, Dec. 24, at 5 p.m.

The church will also hold a Christmas Eve Festive Holy Eucharist, with Carols and the Choir performing on Friday, Dec. 24, at 8:45 p.m.

To stay safe during the COVID pandemic as we celebrate the holiday, sing carols and celebrate together, please wear masks and respect social distancing. Suitable for all ages. Call 845-901-8103 or go to www.gracemillbrook.org for more information.

St. Joseph Church celebrates holidays

Christmas Day Service will be held throughout the morning at St. Joseph-Church of the Immaculate Conception at 15 North Ave., Millbrook, on Saturday, Dec. 25.

St. Joseph will also hold a Christmas Eve service on Friday, Dec. 24, at 4 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and at midnight.

On Christmas Day, Saturday, Dec. 25, the church will hold services at 9 a.m., 10 a.m. and at noon.

New Year's Eve, Friday, Dec. 31, St. Joseph will hold services at 5 p.m., and then again on New Year's Day, Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022, at 9 a.m. and at noon.

For more information, call 845-677-3422 or go to www.stjosephmillbrookny.org.

Christmas service, meal at Lyall Church

Lyall Memorial Federated Church at 30 Maple Ave., Millbrook will celebrate the holidays with a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Friday, Dec. 24, at 7 p.m.

Stonewood Farms is also celebrating its 5th Annual First Harvest Pantry Christmas Day Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 25, from noon to 2 p.m.

There is no charge for the community meal; everyone is welcome. The to-go dinners may be picked up at the church or they can be delivered. To make a reservation, call 845-677-3485.

For more information, go to www.lyallmemorial.org.

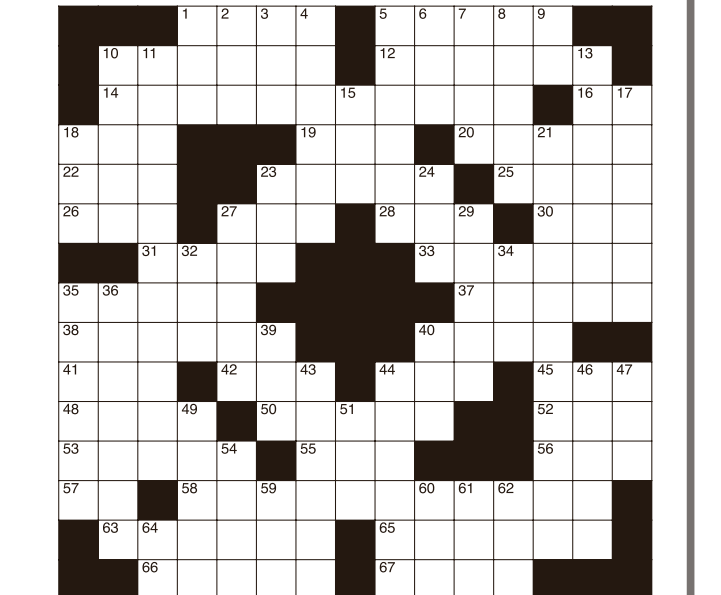
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- Chinese Muslim group
- Alternative name
- Resounds
- Supporter
- Furnishes anew
- Beloved Hollywood alien
- Supervises flying
- Ballplayer's tool
- Coarse edible red seaweed
- Former CIA
- Basketball player
- Travel necessities
- Honey producer
- Military analysis (abbr.)
- Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- Mental sharpness and inventiveness
- Popular Easter meal
- Man (Spanish)
- de la
- Counterweights
- Made a harsh, grating noise
- Monetary unit
- Commercials
- Cool!
- Partner to cheese
- Expression of creative skill
- Unit of angle
- Transported
- N. American people of Kansas
- Computer game character Max
- Moved swiftly
- Everyone has one
- Tin
- A mole is one
- Nocturnal hoofed animals
- Oppositional to
- Monetary units
- Not on time

CLUES DOWN

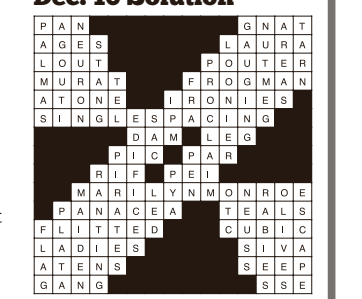
- Hoghead (abbr.)
- Misery resulting from affliction
- Defunct European group
- Line on a map
- Becomes less intense
- Back muscle
- Frosted
- Ethiopian town
- Midway between south and east
- Wipe from the record
- In a continuous way
- Breathe
- Cleaning device
- Male organ
- Tab on a key ring



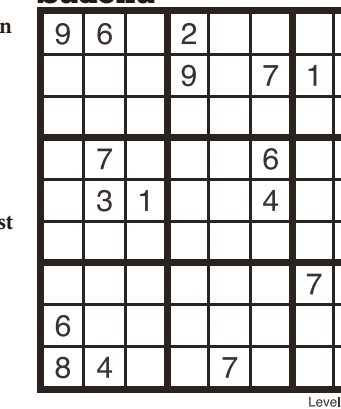
- Criminals
- Taxi
- Cheer of encouragement
- Wartime American escort carrier
- Polish river
- Current unit
- Life form
- Painful contractions
- Glowing
- Press against lightly
- Melancholic
- Something you can be under
- Of the mind
- E. Indian cereal grass
- Couple
- Sharpshoot
- A baglike structure in a plant or animal

- Blyton, children's author
- Human gene
- Data mining methodology (abbr.)
- Examines animals
- Mineral
- Cools your home

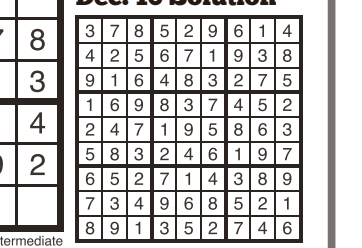
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LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF AMENIA PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Chapters 121 and 162 of the Code of the Town of Amenia and NYS Town Law Sections 274-a and 276, a public hearing will be convened by the Town of Amenia Planning Board at 7:00 p.m. on January 12, 2022 to consider the application of Wassaic Fire Company (the "Applicant") for the expansion of an existing firehouse and truck bay (the "Project") to be located at 27 Firehouse Road, Town of Amenia, Dutchess County (Grid#132000-7165-01-093923,083916, 074001), for a lot line adjustment and site plan approval (the "Application"). The subject property is located in the Hamlet Mixed Use and Hamlet Residential zoning districts and the Historic Preservation, Stream Corridor, Aquifer and Floodplain overlay districts.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the Application is on file in the Amenia Planning Board Office for public viewing and inspection during normal business hours. The Application can also be viewed and downloaded from the Town's official website at www.ameniany.gov.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Planning Board will hear all persons interested in the Application at the public hearing noticed herein. All persons may appear at the hearing in person or by agent and may also submit written comments to the Planning Board at or prior to such hearing by emailing comments to Planning Board Secretary Judy Westfall at jwestfall@amenia.ny.gov.

Dated: December 7, 2021.
Robert Boyles, Jr., Chairman
Town of Amenia
Planning Board
12-23-21

THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST RESOLUTION #1412021 APPROPRIATING A SPECIFIC AMOUNT TO PAY THE COST OF PREPARING A MAP, PLAN AND REPORT FOR THE CREATION OF A PROPOSED WASTE WATER DISTRICT WITHIN THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST CENTERED AROUND THE ROUTE 44 BOULEVARD DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Village of Millerton is in the process of developing a wastewater district for the Village of Millerton; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Millerton has completed a Wastewater Feasibility Evaluation for the Village of Millerton in March of 2020, which was revised in June of 2020 to address comments received from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation ("NYSEFC"); and

WHEREAS, the said Wastewater Feasibility Evaluation Report delineated a proposed wastewater district for the Village of Millerton with a portion of said district in the Town of North East centered around the Route 44 Boulevard District. See map and parcel listing annexed hereto as Schedule "A"; and

WHEREAS, the engineering firm of Tighe & Bond has been retained by the Village of Millerton to develop a map, plan and report for the said sewer district; and

WHEREAS, the Town of North East is considering establishment of the wastewater district in the Town of North East in conjunction with the creation of the district of the Village of Millerton; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined based on the estimate prepared by Tighe & Bond that the engineering firm of Tighe & Bond Engineering & Landscape Architecture, P.C. (Tighe & Bond) is duly qualified to prepare such map, plan and report, as required by §209-b of the New York State Town Law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the cost of the preparation of the map, plan and report will not exceed \$10,500; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board anticipated that the cost of the preparation of such map, plan and report will be reimbursed to the Town

through available grants and aids.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of North East, in: regular session duly convened, as follows:

1. That the engineering firm of Tighe & Bond be, and hereby is, directed pursuant to the provisions of §209-b of the New York State Town Law to prepare a map, plan and report meeting the requirements of said section of the law in accordance with its proposal dated November 19, 2021.

2. That the expense incurred for the preparation of the map, plan and report shall be a general charge and shall be levied and collected in the same manner as other Town charges except that it is anticipated that the preparation of the map, plan and report will be completely funded by one or more grants.

3. That this Resolution, in accordance of §24 of the Municipal Home Rule; Article 7 of the New York State Town Law and §209-b of the New York State Town Law is subject to a permissive referendum.

MOTION: Councilman Fedele

SECOND: Councilwoman Morrison

SUPERVISOR KENNAN Voted; Aye

COUNCILMAN FEDELE Voted; Aye

COUNCILMAN KAYE Voted; Aye

COUNCILMAN MIDWOOD Voted; Aye

COUNCILWOMAN MORRISON Voted; Aye

The Resolution was carried by a 5-0 vote of the Town Board members on December 9, 2021

Elizabeth Strauss
Town Clerk, Town of North East
12-23-21

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS OF PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF RANDOLPH IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT RANDOLPH COUNTY FILE NO. 21 JA 68

IN RE: JULIE HANNAN TO: RICHARD CAMPBELL, FATHER OF JULIE HANNAN, A FEMALE CHILD BORN ON OR ABOUT MARCH 11, 2006 IN COLUMBIA COUNTY, NY.

TAKE NOTICE that a juvenile petition with respect to the above-described child has been filed in the above-entitled proceeding.

You are required and directed to make a defense of such pleading by filing an Answer

to the Petition in this proceeding within forty (40) days after the first publication of this notice, exclusive of such date. The Answer must be filed with the Clerk of Superior Court no later than January

25, 2022.

A Permanency Planning Hearing has been scheduled at 9:00 a.m. on February 2, 2022 at the Randolph County District Court, Courtroom #1B, Randolph County Courthouse, 176 E. Salisbury Street, Asheboro, North Carolina. You are entitled to attend any hearings affecting your parental rights. If you are indigent, you have a right to appointed counsel. If you request counsel, do so at or before the time of the hearing. You are further notified that this a new proceeding and any attorney heretofore appointed to represent you will represent you in this proceeding.

Upon your failure to file an Answer to the Petition within the time prescribed, the Petitioner, the Randolph County Department of Social Services, will apply to the Court for relief sought in the Petition, UP TO AN INCLUDING POSSIBLE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS with respect to the above-described minor children.

This the 16th day of December, 2021.

Chrystal Kay
Staff Attorney, Randolph County Department of Social Services
Post Office Box 3239
Asheboro, North Carolina 27204
(336) 683-8050
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12-23-21
01-06-21

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