



PINE PLAINS
Seymour Smith
Hosts Boo Thru
Drive Thru For
Halloween **A5**



MILLERTON
American Legion
Post 178 Hosts
Meal To Thank
Local Veterans **A2**

COMPASS
Chimney Sweeps; '50
Shades of Blue'; Wild
Mushrooms, Calendar;
And More **B1-2**

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★ Elections 2021 ★

Chair of Legislature Pulver campaigns for fifth term

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

PINE PLAINS — For all the progress that's been made thus far in Dutchess County to benefit his constituents, Chair of the Dutchess County Legislature Gregg Pulver (R-19) knows there's still work to be done and hopes to serve a fifth term in the Legislature if successful on Nov. 2.

Pulver first ran for County Legislature in 2013, taking office in 2014. As part of his lifelong career in community service, he served as Pine Plains town supervisor from 2000 to 2012, after serving that community's Board of Education for many years.

Reflecting on his eight years as legislator, Pulver takes pride in how

See **PULVER, A6**

Owens challenges Pulver for largest county district

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

MILLERTON — Having always been drawn to the power of public service and manifested her service in "helping others do the work that changes the world," Claire Owens saw the need for an advocate for the northeastern corner of Dutchess County, took a leap of faith and de-

ecided to run for the Dutchess County Legislature's 19th District.

Running against long-time lawmaker and Chair of the Legislature Gregg Pulver (R-19) of Pine Plains, Owens is campaigning under the Democratic and Working Families party lines as well as the independent party line, Community First.

See **OWENS, A6**

Houston seeks third term in County Legislature

By **JUDITH O'HARA BALFE**
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Dutchess County Legislator Deirdre Houston (R-25) is running for a third two-year term in the Legislature, basing her campaign on her experience as a small business owner and being a Dutchess County resident for more than 30 years.

District 25 consists of Amenia, the Town of Washington and the Village of Millbrook, and part of Pleasant Valley. She wants to keep Dutchess County affordable for middle-class residents and senior citizens on fixed incomes, believing that smart growth and a strong economy can co-exist.

Running on the Republican and

See **HOUSTON, A6**

Hutnik challenges Houston for District 25

By **JUDITH O'HARA BALFE**
judithb@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Challenging incumbent Deirdre Houston (R-25) for a seat in the Dutchess County Legislature, is newcomer Danny Hutnik of Amenia. He is running on the Democratic and Working Families ticket for the two-year position. Although he's relatively new to the area, he

has strong feelings about the community, its residents and its needs.

"Our community is struggling yet our current legislator voted against directing American Rescue Funds to communities where the pandemic hit Dutchess County hardest, right here in District 25," said Hutnik.

He wants better government for

See **HUTNIK, A6**



The great, ghoulish pumpkin paint-off

COPAKE — The Roeliff Jansen Community Library in Copake held a special library program called Painting Pumpkins on Saturday, Oct. 9.

Children's Librarian Tia Maggio and her energetic group of volunteers set up tables, paints, brushes, water, paper towels and wet wipes in the backyard of the library, and each child got their own very own pumpkin to paint.

"They were so creative!" exclaimed Maggio, herself an artist. "We had about 44 children attend the event."

Maggio said all of those who turned up to share in the pre-Halloween fun had a great time and let their creativity flow.

— Whitney Joseph

This young library patron to the left matched the pumpkin she painted to her colorfully tie-dyed mask.

PHOTO BY TIA MAGGIO

Pine Plains Hose Co. mourns loss of its fire chaplain in house explosion

By **WHITNEY JOSEPH**
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PINE PLAINS — The Pine Plains Hose Co. is mourning the loss of one of its own this week, after the company's chaplain, Larry Pariseau, died when his house at 41 Hoffman Road exploded on Wednesday, Oct. 13. His wife of roughly one month, Kim Dunn, was also injured in the blast.

"It's tragic," said Pine Plains town Councilman Matthew Zick, who heard Chaplain Larry speak at the town of Stanford's 20th commemoration of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks this year. "He gave a very moving address. It's heartbreaking — devastating. I know he also took in a family and that he's a volunteer fireman."

Chaplain Larry, 61, was among the many heroes who helped out at Ground Zero. He shared some of his gut-wrenching tales for the very first time at the Stanford 9-11 tribute this summer, of those who lost loved ones and those who made it through what was one of this nation's darkest days. A first responder in NYC at that time, he later decided to become a chaplain after witnessing such horrors first-hand, he said.

He joined the Pine Plains Hose Co. as its chaplain and also as a volunteer firefighter when he and Dunn, 62, moved to town two years ago. Pine Plains Fire Chief Brian Walsh said Dunn just became certified as an EMT recently so she, too, could help contribute to the community.

"Together they were committed



PHOTO BY PHIL AMELIO

Pine Plains Fire Chaplain and volunteer firefighter Larry Pariseau, 61, perished when his house at 41 Hoffman Road exploded on Wednesday, Oct. 13. His wife, 62-year-old Kim Dunn, was injured in the blast. A family they had put up in their home has also been displaced.

to serving the community," he said.

Town Supervisor Darrah Cloud agreed on their benevolence as she described the couple, whom she considered friends, in the days after the explosion.

"He was a very eclectic man and a lot of fun and very funny," she said. "He moved to town and he just volunteered for everything and came in and became a member of the church where I go. He just jumped right into town life. Not a lot of people do that but he and Kim, his wife, really did. We were grateful when he was alive

for that. It was a real loss."

The explosion

According to Walsh, the Hose Company got the call Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. from the 911 center. The emergency call was placed from a neighbor, said Walsh, and the "initial dispatch was there in less than one minute.

"When I arrived on scene the explosion had already happened and the fire had happened," he said. "It hit third alarm right off the bat, which is not common. I'd never hit a third-alarm fire personally, and I've



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Millerton.....	A2	Compass.....	B1-2
Amenia.....	A3	Millbrook.....	B3
Obituaries.....	A4	Legals.....	B3
Sports.....	A4	Opinion.....	B4, B5 & A6
Pine Plains/Area.....	A5	Classifieds.....	B5-6

OPINION

Support Local Library
Propositions Nov. 2;
Letters **B4, B5 & A6**



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MILLERTON

MBA plans for Black Friday, 2022 food fest and Earth Day

By KAITLIN LYLE
kaitlin@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Along with sharing feedback on the first annual Millerton Food Festival as heard from merchants and festival attendees, the Millerton Business Alliance (MBA) exchanged ideas for future iterations of the festival as well as other future celebrations in the village of Millerton at its meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 6.

About 13 MBA members along with local officials attended the meeting at 5:30 p.m. behind the Irontdale Schoolhouse. MBA head Thorunn Kristjansdottir invited members to share feedback about the festival and whether they'd like to see it in run next year.

Lann Rubin from North East Ford talked about the activities held at his business on the day of the festival, while Jan Gilmor of the former Gilmor Glass shared how the number of people seeking parking for the festival added to local parking issues.

As well as commenting on how packed the town was, Dana Rohn from Montage said she frequently heard that people thought the festival ran until 8 p.m. when it didn't. Since the village was packed around dinner time, she said it would have been great to have more vendors available.

"I feel to go forward, it needs to be bigger," Rohn said.

MBA members commented on the lack of connection, or "dead zones," between the activities taking place on the Harlem Valley Rail Trail and the lawn of The Millerton Inn on Main Street, and how people were looking for more gourmet food and more variety of food.

"Thorunn, I think you did

an excellent job putting this together, and the marketing was amazing," said Cathy Fenn, and Rohn recommended Kristjansdottir form a committee for next year's festival.

As the discussion evolved, people spoke about making it more of a general festival with more vendors next year.

Kent Hunter from Hunter Bee said one complaint he heard from non-food vendors was about people trying to bring food into shops.

Kristjansdottir shared what she heard from people who hadn't been to Millerton before the festival and were excited to return, which she said was an objective of the festival.

"I think what you folks have done needs to be emphasized," said North East town Supervisor Chris Kennan, "which is this markets Millerton... It's not just the people who were there, it's the people who heard about it."

As a thought for next year, Gilmor asked what was needed to have food trucks in Millerton. MBA members exchanged ideas for the best time of year to hold the festival, particularly in relation to Community Day celebrations in nearby municipalities. They also discussed solutions for potential parking problems; a suggestion of having shuttles or hay wagons was raised, as was the idea of adding more tables for people to sit and eat at and where to place those tables in the village.

Sept. 17, 2022 was marked as a potential date for next year's festival.

Black Friday is a go
Coming up, MBA members were informed that the village's annual Black Friday holiday event will proceed this year, though there will be no after-

party at the Millerton firehouse.

Rohn asked about contacting David Maltby, new owner of The Moviehouse, about showing a Christmas film for local children. If not, NorthEast-Millerton Library Director Rhiannon-Leo Jameson said the library has the license and equipment to show something in the library Annex.

Earth Day, 2022
MBA member Jennifer Dowley brought next year's celebration of Earth Day in Millerton up for discussion and what the village did last year. Seeing as Millerton has never had a "robust" Earth Day, she said there was no reason not to have one this year.

Rubin suggested tying Earth Day into the village's tree fundraising campaign. On that note, Dowley thanked everyone for their support of the campaign, which has raised just over \$7,000 thus far.

Rohn raised the idea of having a flea market in Millerton for Earth Day to promote recycling, upcycling and sustainable interiors, though she brought up weather as a factor for holding the market.

MBA member Jeanne Vanecko agreed the weather was a real issue, particularly in terms of planting trees in the village. Dowley said she'd talk with the Climate Smart Task Force to see about postponing the Earth Day event for when the weather is warmer.

This would perhaps make way for more "Green Millerton" events and activities later in the spring, and MBA members seemed to like the idea of celebrating Earth Day in May and having an event celebrating Millerton becoming more sustainable.



PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

From left, State Senator Sue Serino (R-41), MHA representative Victoria Newman, Chairman of the Dutchess County Legislature Gregg Pulver (R-19), MHA representative Alyssa Carrion and Dutchess County Veteran Services Director Adam Roche greeted local veterans at the annual Veterans Appreciation Pasta Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 17 at the Millerton American Legion Post 178.

Vets thanked with pasta and praise

MILLERTON — Engaging in an annual tradition to support and thank local veterans, State Senator Sue Serino (R-41) partnered with the Mental Health America (MHA) of Dutchess County Vet2Vet Program to host a free Veteran Appreciation Pasta Dinner in Millerton on Sunday, Oct. 17.

Served drive-thru style for safety reasons, veterans received a hearty serving of spaghetti, meatballs, salad, cake, bread and butter and a beverage of their

choice.

Held from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Millerton American Legion Post 178, veterans were greeted warmly by Serino, Chair of the Dutchess County Legislature Gregg Pulver, MHA representatives and Dutchess County Dutchess County Veterans Services Director Adam Roche.

The meals were made possible through the PFC Joseph Dwyer Vet2Vet Program and were delivered right to the vet-

erans' car windows. Information about veteran services was also made available.

Roughly veterans registered for the meals. Another free Veterans Appreciation Pasta Dinner will be held on Sunday, Oct. 24, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the VFW Post 170 at 1 Violet Ave. in Poughkeepsie. So far, MHA representatives said 250 people have signed up for that event, but they are planning for 300 hungry diners.

— Kaitlin Lyle

Library, teachers and Oblong host Great Give Back for community

MILLERTON — As a way of giving back to the community that's supported its operations over the years, the NorthEast-Millerton Library partnered with the Webutuck Teachers' Association (WTA) and Oblong Books to host the library's third annual Great Give Back event on Saturday, Oct. 16.

From 10 a.m. to noon, community members dropped by the Library Annex to pick up free clothing, toys and household goods as well as a limited number of brand new school supplies and winter gear, provided by the WTA, Oblong Books and community donations.

— Kaitlin Lyle



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Members of the Webutuck Teachers' Association (WTA) gathered inside the NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex before welcoming community members in for the third annual Great Give Back, an event made possible through a partnership with the library, the WTA and Oblong Books in Millerton.

North East Community Center

A celebration of the Latin culture

MILLERTON — The North East Community Center (NECC) invited the local community to take part in a vibrant afternoon of culture at the Hispanic Heritage Festival on Saturday, Oct. 9.

Held from 2 to 4 p.m. at 51 South Center St., NECC brought a little extra flavor to Millerton with its annual community celebration, complete with live music by the band Sancocho, sweets and treats, flamenco dancing, bachata lessons and Dia De Los Muertos masks.

Masks were required and made available to ensure the community's safety during the celebration in light of the COVID-19 health crisis, but there was an ice cream truck on site to keep things sweet. Those who were in attendance stayed cool with the icy treats, as the weather was still mild at the time of the festival.

NECC also organized a COVID-19 Vaccination and Information Pop-Up event that day, from noon to 4 p.m. at its site on South Center Street. It offered those who stopped by the Johnson & Johnson and Pfizer



PHOTO SUBMITTED

From the live music performed by the band Sancocho to the flamenco dancing, the North East Community Center at 51 South Center St. in Millerton embraced Latin traditions with zeal at this year's Hispanic Heritage Festival on Saturday, Oct. 9.

versions of the COVID-19 vaccine without needing an appointment.

— Kaitlin Lyle

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This little piggy bank went to market

Zach has been watching customers shop in Marona's since he was a kid visiting his Uncle John and Aunt Agnes. So when Agnes decided to sell the shop they had owned for 54 years, Zach already had ideas about how to transition it into a business that could sustain the next 54.

And while we can't help with his plans for local products in every category, we can help with things like loans for a mortgage and capital improvements. Zach thanked us for making that part easy, but for us, easy is being able to walk to your local grocer.

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MILLERTON IN BRIEF
Trunk or Treat
On Wednesday, Oct. 27, the NorthEast-Millerton Library, in partnership with the North East Community Center's (NECC) Teen Team Leadership Program, will host its first Trunk or Treating extravaganza from 5:30 to 7 p.m.
Children may put on costumes and go trunk or treating at the library. Participants can decorate their car trunks and give out candy and other Halloween treats. RSVP is required. To sign up, go to www.nemillerton-library.org.

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The Northwest Hills Council of Government hosted a zoom meeting recently on the topic of "Protecting Lakes and Water Quality in NW Ct". The presenters were local experts on this subject and the meeting was recorded. To watch this presentation, please go to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=beScuDnQAKc&t=219s. In addition, a flyer on how to protect water quality was handed out listing all the resources a community could access for help and advice. Happy to email a copy if interested!

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Election Day is Nov. 2

Amenia Free Library seeks voter support on Proposition No. 7

By WHITNEY JOSEPH
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AMENIA — When voters in the town of Amenia head to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 2, the Amenia Free Library Board of Trustees will be holding its breath, as its members hope those voters will flip the metaphorical lever for Proposition No. 7.

Although electronic ballots no longer call for flipping levers when voting these days, the sentiment is just the same — the library is depending on the proposition passing, as it will mean the town will increase vital funding to support the library's operation and maintenance.

"We're asking for an increase from \$125,000 to \$175,000, an increase of \$50,000, the first time we've asked for an increase in three years," explained President of the Board of Trustees Alan Gamble. "That's pretty much the way we approach it because we have to go through the petition process to be on the ballot, and we don't want to go through that every year."

That's why the library projects what it will need to spend for the next three years to serve its nearly 1,000 patrons. This year, and for the past few years, however, it's spent a tad more than usual — in the neighborhood of \$1.8 million — thanks to its library renovation project that was roughly 27 years in the planning.

As Gamble explained in a letter to the editor that ran in the Oct. 14 edition of this newspaper, "The increase requested in Proposition No. 7... would result in a tax increase of \$14.48 for an average residence assessed for \$250,000 in Amenia... that's just \$1.21 per month for expanded library services, which our community deserves."

New library addition

The library expansion cost includes \$900,000 for the construction itself and more than \$100,000 for the engineering and architectural costs. Then there are the costs for furnishings and other finishing touches.

Amazingly in the day of the coronavirus pandemic and resulting construction delays



PHOTO BY ALAN GAMBLE

The new, modern 3,200-plus square foot expansion to the Amenia Free Library at 3309 Route 343 can be seen next to the original 880-square foot structure, built in 1938 as part of FDR's WPA project to put people back to work during the Great Depression. The addition is nearly complete.

and material increases, Gamble said there were few cost hikes, though there were a few holdups in the project time line.

"We had change orders in the \$47,000 range, an increase," he said, for all the water that was found that had to be remediated. "The water table in Amenia is so high we had to put in some extra stone for drainage... The other thing that happened, when we did excavation for the parking lot that used to be the Amenia Theater, when it was torn down after a fire in 1974, they basically buried everything, so we found some chunks of concrete in excess of 10,000 pounds, which meant bringing in an excavator to remove it. It's something you just don't see going in to it."

But Ducillo Construction kept the costs low and didn't pass the unexpected expenses onto the library, said a thankful Gamble.

A little history

The old library was built in 1938 under the administration of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project to help put people back to work during the Great Depression.

Gamble said it is unique in that it's the same design as "probably eight or 10 libraries that look just the same in the state. So that's kind of a unique feature... [but] our library is unique in the fact that it's still operating and now under construction."

The old section was a mere 880-square feet, measuring 40-feet by 22-feet. The new addition is 3,200-plus-square feet — nearly four times the size.

Gamble tried to describe what the library will look like when patrons walk in the door once the renovations are complete. He said it will be modern looking, upon recommendation from the state historic preservation office, which gave a coveted \$445,000 grant for the renovation.

"They want the old building to stand out," he said. "If anybody asks why the new library looks modern and not like the old library, there was a \$445,000 reason."

Project details

Gamble said after walking through the vestibule, that the circulation desk is in front to the right, and immediately to the left is the children's area. He said everything is defined "with colorful touches," adding the new library is ADA compliant, will have "state of the art fire and security systems," there will be "a modest increase in the number of volumes" and continued access to the Mid-Hudson Library System's 2.5 million volumes, from which the library will now get deliveries three times weekly.

Town Supervisor Victoria Perotti said she is relishing the day the project is completed.

"The Amenia Free Library is the heart and soul of the town,"

she said. "It not only provides books and education, computers and computer education, it provides multiple programs for children to instill in them a love of books and a love of reading, which I think is so important."

Perotti added the library started to fundraise in 1994 in order to afford the expansion, rather than ever request funds from the town.

"The library has worked very hard to get donations to do the renovation without having to ask the taxpayers for anything," she said, "and that far outweighs the amount they are asking for in the proposition."

The Library Board of Trustees made a point to hire local laborers to do the work, whenever possible, including: architect Darlene Riemer of Amenia; Renna Engineering Design of Dover; Electrician Jesse Loucks of Sharon, Conn.; O'Neil Plumbing of Wingdale; Excavator Tom Henessy of Clinton Corners; Cabinets by Kevin Dunlop and Marty Miller of Amenia; and Twin Brooks Gardens of Staatsburg did the to landscaping.

Library patrons and Amenia voters are invited to preview the newly expanded library on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Board of Trustees and Library Director Victoria Herow will on hand to provide tours and answer any questions visitors may have.

"It is going to be quite a celebration for the library and our community, to see our new and updated library, and what we can do and offer in the future," said Herow, hoping residents will attend the open house. "Once the construction is finished, I'm very excited to be able to host programming on-site and have ample room for our patrons."

Tentative budget sees recreation line double, tax cap under 2%

By KAITLIN LYLE
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AMENIA — Setting to work on the budget development process for the 2022 fiscal year, the Amenia Town Board held a meeting for the 2022 tentative budget on Tuesday evening, Oct. 12. Starting at 5:30 p.m., the meeting was at Amenia Town Hall and the public was welcome to attend.

As a highlight for next year's budget, town Supervisor Victoria Perotti reported the town's taxes will be under the 2% tax cap.

Recreation increases

Another important aspect of the 2022 budget, she said on a later date, is that all of the summer recreation, special recreation — such as the town's dance program and other youth program lines — "have budget amounts in addition to increases in the senior activities line."

Under the Programs for the Aging line of the 2022 budget, the sub-total amount

increased from \$4,550 in the 2021 budget to \$9,350 in the 2022 tentative budget.

Meanwhile, under the Parks and Recreation budget line, the subtotal amount increased from \$50,190 in the 2021 budget to \$99,212 in the 2022 tentative budget.

Tax rates

According to the tentative tax rate schedule section of the 2022 budget, the total appropriations for next year was calculated at \$4,716,018 while the amount to be raised by taxes was calculated at \$3,473,942. The implied tax rate was calculated at \$5.91989 per thousand while the current tax rate was calculated at \$5.88418 per thousand, marking a 10.98% decrease from the 2021 fiscal year.

As of this time, the Amenia Town Board does not have a date to review the 2022 preliminary budget, though Perotti said the preliminary budget was due to the Amenia Town Clerk on Friday, Oct. 15.

AMENIA IN BRIEF

Fire Company chicken barbecue Oct. 23

The Amenia Fire Company will sponsor its mouth-watering take-out only chicken barbecue on Saturday, Oct. 23, at the Amenia firehouse, 36 Mechanic St.

It will be a drive-thru style event, with dinners ready for pickup between

the hours of 3 and 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$16 each and are available on a pre-order basis by calling 845-418-8633.

The dinner is an important fundraiser for the fire company, and all purchases are greatly appreciated.

Send news items and photos to editor@millertonnews.com

Hometown Heroes banners will wave in honor of Amenia's veterans

By KAITLIN LYLE
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AMENIA — Traveling through the town of Amenia, local residents are likely to spot the red and blue banners that now hang throughout town in recognition of Amenia's veterans and their military service.

As was initiated in the town of Pine Plains last year, the Hometown Heroes program offers local families and organizations the chance to sponsor a banner in honor of those who have served or are currently serving their country, and the Amenia Lions Club invited the community to join in honoring their local veterans at the Hometown Heroes banner unveiling and dedication ceremony held on Saturday, Oct. 16.

Starting at 10 a.m. at Fountain Square in front of the former M&T Bank, the event attracted a good crowd of local officials, county representatives and area residents who came to pay their respects to the veterans who fought for their country and those who gave their lives for the safety of their fellow citizens.

Amenia Lions Club member Wayne Euvrard delivered a heartfelt speech.

"A veteran is a person who would lay down his life for his country," Euvrard said. "A veteran is one who is well-deserving of our love and our prayers 365 days out of the year."

On behalf of the Wassica-Amenia Community Organization and Silo Ridge, Juan Torres, managing member of Silo Ridge Ventures, shared how proud both



PHOTO SUBMITTED

A veteran of the U.S. Army who served during World War II, George Phillip's service to his country was recognized by the Hometown Heroes program as a banner noting his service and a photograph of Phillips in his military uniform was created in his honor and hung in the town of Amenia.

entities were to partner with the Amenia Lions Club to support the program.

"As our friends and neighbors drive through the streets, it is our hope that these banners remind each of us what binds us together," Torres said. "[These veterans] are the best of us, the best of Amenia, the best of America."

Speaking on behalf of Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro, Dutchess County Veterans Services Director Adam Roche said

the Hometown Heroes program celebrated the region's veterans.

Amenia Lions Club President Lori Hale thanked all who supported the program as well as the veterans who have served and continue to serve with immeasurable sacrifice. Hale then invited everyone to enjoy the beautiful banners that now hang throughout town. As the crowd began to disperse, residents approached veterans in attendance to personally thank them for their service.

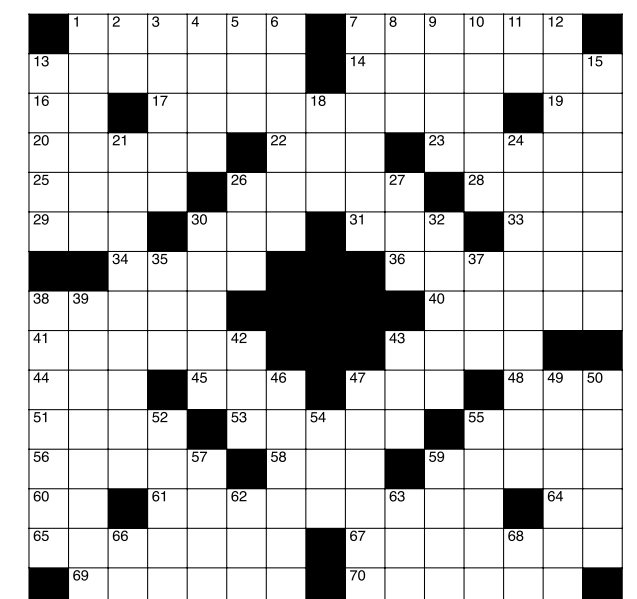
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. Break
7. Ruled Russia
13. Having several lobes
14. Walked around proudly
16. Atomic #77
17. Largest living land animals
19. The Great Lakes State
20. A type of toast
22. Partner to feather
23. Bristlelike
25. Bowfin
26. Distributes
28. Hairlike structure
29. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
30. Where wrestlers work
31. Blood relation
33. A great deal
34. Round Dutch cheese
36. Move further away from
38. Type of wrap
40. Furies
41. Removes from the record
43. Young salmon
44. Feline
45. Skin decor
47. Disfigure
48. They ___
51. Formal term for "on"
53. Weight of precious stones
55. Traveled rapidly
56. Long-winged aquatic bird
58. Prickly husk
59. Expressed pleasure
60. Exclamation of surprise
61. Most irritable
64. Virginia
65. Optimistic
67. Humorous works
69. Arranged systematically
70. Emerges

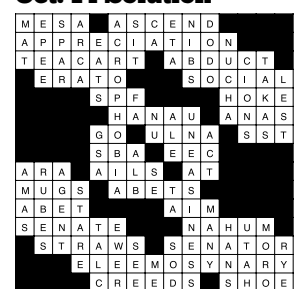
CLUES DOWN

1. Wives of a polygamous man
2. Where hurt ballplayers land
3. Single-celled animal
4. Rhythmic pattern
5. One from Utah
6. A group of seven
7. Refrains from inflicting
8. Light brown
9. Humanistic discipline
10. Emits coherent radiation
11. It says who you are
12. Roundworm
13. Group of Native Americans
15. Makes wider
18. Headgear
21. One who sets others free

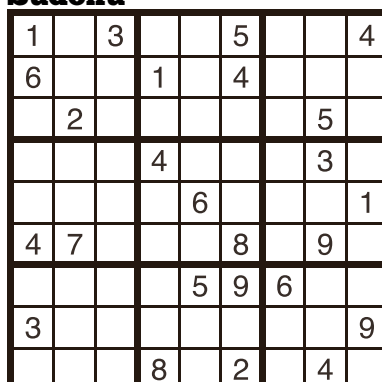


24. Form of communication
26. A Brit's mother
27. Title of respect
30. Famed modernist painter
32. One-time province of British India
35. Prosecutors
37. Motor vehicle
38. Non-religious
39. Native Americans of Colorado and Wyoming
42. Pouch
43. Touch gently
46. Chose
47. Actress Tomei
49. Former Broncos coach Dan
50. Icelandic poems
52. More decent
54. Grillmasters use it
55. Self-immolation by fire rituals
57. Expression of annoyance
59. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
62. Consumed
63. Body part
66. Thus
68. Rupee

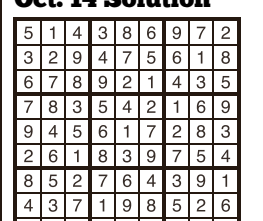
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OBITUARIES

Harold Lee Decker Jr.

MILLERTON — Harold Lee Decker Jr., 84, a lifelong resident of Millerton, passed away peacefully on Oct. 16, 2021, at his home.



Harold was born June 5, 1937, in New York City to Harold and Elaine Decker of Anramdale, N.Y. He married the love of his life, Carol Hoyt, on Dec. 31, 1957, in Hudson, N.Y., and they were fortunate to enjoy 64 years together.

Harold and his wife operated the Sears Catalog Store in Millerton for 10 years. After that they opened the Millerton Appliance Store for six years prior to their retirement. In their retirement they traveled extensively and spent winters in Florida.

Harold was an avid outdoorsman throughout his life. He enjoyed hiking, camping, hunting and especially fishing. He was skilled at archery and entered many competitions.

In addition to his wife, Carol,

Harold is survived by his son, David Decker of Millerton; his daughter, Diana and her husband, Carlos Tanon, of Parkland, Fla.; a brother, Robert Decker and his wife, Barbara, of Gallatin, N.Y.; and an uncle, Alton Hoysradt of Germantown, N.Y.

Graveside services and burial will take place on Saturday, Oct. 23, at 12:30 p.m. at Iroindale Cemetery in Millerton. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. A reception in Harold's honor will follow at the Millerton American Legion Post 178, 155 Route 44, Millerton.

Memorial contributions may be made to the NorthEast-Millerton Library, 75 Main St., Millerton, NY 12546.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home in Millerton.

To send an online condolence to the family, go to www.conklinfuneralhome.com.

Maureen E. Prentice

CORNWALL — Devoted wife, mother, grandmother and volunteer Maureen E. Prentice passed away on Oct. 8, 2021, surrounded by her loving family at Geer Nursing & Rehabilitation.



Maureen was born on July 29, 1933, in New York to the late Hetty (Carley) and Frank Cole. She was predeceased by her loving husband, José Antonio "Toni" Machado Prentice.

Maureen graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1951 and went on to graduate from Green Mountain College in 1953 with an associate degree in Retail Management. She put her degree to good use at G. Fox in Hartford and as floor manager at G. Fox in Enfield, Conn. She married Toni in 1955.

Soon after, three incredible, active and unique children arrived.

Between being a hands-on mom, working, numerous pets, running kids from one activity to another and summers at the camp in Otis, Mass., she found time to volunteer at Milton Hall, the Historical Society and the Cornwall Women's Society annual Rummage Sale, where she ended up cleaning in the sink and

working the Tiffany Table.

She had a great love of history and spent many years archiving photos of Cornwall for the Historical Society as well as countless hours on "The History of Cornwall" book.

Ever the advocate for voting she was a pollster at election time in Cornwall.

Brought up Catholic, she had a great devotion to her beloved St. Bridget Church of Cornwall Bridge. She read at Mass, took care of the alter linens, helped at many potlucks and their annual rummage sale.

She leaves behind her son James Prentice and his wife, Jane; a daughter, Sara Prentice; her son Michael Prentice and his wife, Shailla; a granddaughter, Helen Prentice; a grandson Kale Prentice; a brother, Jim Cole and his wife, Peggy; a brother-in-law; and two nieces.

The Prentice Family would like to thank the wonderful staff on Cardinal Court at Geer for the love and care of Maureen for the last two years.

In lieu of flowers please donate to Alzheimer's Research, the Cornwall Historical Society or your local animal shelter.

A Mass service was held at St. Bridget's Church in Cornwall on Oct. 13.

Heather Kahler

SALISBURY — In loving memory of Heather Kahler, wife of Michael Kahler, youngest daughter of Ann and Stewart Hoskins and sister of Lee (Hoskins) DiCesare. Heather passed away peacefully in her home on Oct. 15, 2021, surrounded by her family. She leaves behind her loving husband, Michael; daughters Michelle, Robin and Sharon; son-in-law Bob; and grand-daughter Kayden.



Heather was born in Bronxville, N.Y., moved to Lakeville at 4 years old and grew up in Lakeville, while her parents Ann and Stewart Hoskins purchased and ran The Lakeville Journal. She enjoyed living on Lake Wononscopomuc with her family and her dog, Thor. At age 21 she married Michael Kahler, who at the time had just opened Stagecoach Hill Inn in Sheffield, Mass., where they had their three daughters.

At age 35 Heather and family moved to England and raised their family in various locations in the U.K. before returning to the United States.

Heather had several careers including innkeeper, restaurant manager and teacher.

After retirement Heather and Michael traveled the world, living in the USA, Canada, Switzerland, China, Spain and France and then returned to Lakeville, her roots. She loved Lakeville, and always considered it her home with fond memories of growing up swimming and canoeing across the lake.

Heather was persistent and completed her bachelor's degree later in life. She worked as both a substitute teacher and taught English as a second language to students internationally. She was a devoted mother, wife and grandmother, incredible hostess and enjoyed playing checkers and gin rummy.

In her last years, she was cared for by her family, close friends and incredible aides. You will be missed Heather, mum, mom, mummy, granny and Aunt Hedy. May you find incredible peace on your journey.

Heather will be cremated, and her ashes buried in the family plot at Salisbury Cemetery. There will be a celebration of life on Nov. 14. Please email kahlercelebration@gmail.com for time and location.

Jill (Blodgett) Polito

FALLS VILLAGE — Jill (Blodgett) Polito, age 69, beloved Wife, Mother, Gram, Daughter, Sister, Auntie, Friend, Teacher, and Mentor went to Heaven on Oct. 10, 2021.



She was born in Great Barrington to James and Aurelia (Graham) Blodgett. She grew up in a small town, Falls Village, in the heart of the beautiful Berkshires of Connecticut. She graduated from Vermont College with a degree in Medical Technology. Her laboratory career spanned more than four decades teaching Medical Technology students, Residents and Fellows in Microscopy and Hematologic Morphology.

She was predeceased by her father, James H. Blodgett. She is survived by her husband of 38 years, Frank; her mother Aurelia Blodgett; her daughter, Kate Pierce and her husband, Steven; her grandchildren, David and Adeline Pierce; her sisters, Laurie Parmelee and her husband, David, Allison Blodgett and Susan Kelsey and her husband, Berkeley; her in-laws, Concetta Polito, Maria Polito, Diane Chenkus and her husband, Bob,

and Tony Polito and his wife, Nancy; and an extended Italian family of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Anyone who met Jill loved her like family. She was funny and bright and was regarded by all as a great cook. She was also an exceptional baker, known for her famous cakes, pies and Christmas cookies.

She had a deep appreciation for beautiful flowers. Her vegetable and flower gardens, particularly her peonies, were always the envy of the neighborhood.

Please honor her memory by performing small acts of kindness. Do chores for an elderly neighbor, invite someone over for a hot meal, or bring someone fresh baked goods. Share funny stories about Jill. Now is not the time to mourn, but to celebrate her life.

Calling hours will be Thursday, Oct. 21 from 6 to 8 p.m. and Friday, Oct. 22, from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home in North Canaan. A celebration of life will be held on Friday, Oct. 22, at 1 p.m. at the Falls Village Congregational Church.

Memorial service:

Edward R. Ted' Davis

LAKEVILLE — A celebration of the life of Edward R. "Ted" Davis will be held Sunday, Oct. 24, at the Town Grove in Lakeville from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The family requests remembrances (photos, written memories or tributes) of Ted to

be sent to Aimee at connectand-balance@gmail.com to share at the celebration.

Ted died on Dec. 27, 2020, at Portsmouth Regional Hospital, N.H., following complications from a major stroke. He was 77 years young.

Lora (Miller) Pelton

LAKEVILLE — Lora (Miller) Pelton, age 66, of Wells Hill Road, died Oct. 14, 2021, at Hartford Hospital.

Lora was born Nov. 9, 1954, in Oklahoma City, Okla., the daughter of the late Jean Hughes Miller and the late Norman Clark Miller.

Lora graduated from Hillcrest High School in Dallas, Texas, and subsequently graduated from University of Texas in Arlington, Texas, with a degree in graphic arts. She lived in Texas for many years and moved to Lakeville in 2000. She worked in Dallas, Texas; Houston, Texas; and Pough-

keepsie, N.Y., in public relations and advertising sales.

Lora is survived by her beloved children, daughter Jennifer Leigh Pelton and son Joe Lee Pelton; her sisters, Marla (Miller) Brintnell and Valerie (Miller) Levy; her brother, Erik Clark Miller; and Barbara Chatfield Reynolds, with whom Lora had a very special relationship.

All services are private. The Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon is taking care of arrangements. Lora will be interred at Sparkman Hillcrest Funeral Home and Mausoleum in Dallas, Texas.



Worship Services
Week of October 24, 2021

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

The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.
30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT
Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!
Online worship, Sundays at 10am
www.salisburyucc.org
Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442

Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon
9 South Main, Sharon CT
Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM
Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker
All welcome to join us
860-364-5260
www.christchurchsharon.org

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

Greenwoods Community Church
355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Kidz Connection
K-6th grade (during Sun. Service)
Nursery Care All Services
Pastor Trip Weiler
413-229-8560
www.greenwoodchurch.com

North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC
Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people
Pastor Savage Frieze
172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT
Worship services Sundays at 10 am
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and Thursdays from noon to 2
www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
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Amenia Union, NY
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Visit our website for links
Rev. AJ Stack
845-573-9161
www.stthomasamenia.com
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112 Upper Main Street,
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10 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care
No Sunday School in Summer
Pastor Sun Yong Lee
860-364-5634
sharonumc5634@att.net

Trinity Episcopal Church
484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock
Virtual Sunday service 10:30 AM
Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page
Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study
Rev. Heidi Truax
trinity@trinitylimerock.org
(860) 435-2627
www.trinitylimerock.org

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Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT
Join our virtual Zoom service on Sunday, November 14 at 10:30 a.m.
For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoio@gmail.com
All are Welcome

The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall
Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9am
Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mimgates125@gmail.com
for an invitation to the Zoom service
If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone.
We hope you will join us!

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

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Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary
Sunday 11 am,
Immaculate Conception Church
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Thursday 8am
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SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart
WEEKDAY MASSES Monday, Tuesday & First Friday 9 AM - Sacred Heart
Wednesday 9 AM - St. Bernard

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Rev. Lee Gangaware
860-824-5534
canaanct-umc.com
canaanctumc@gmail.com

Sharon Congregational
25 Main Street, Sharon, CT
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for current online sermons.
Bible Study Guides also available by request: info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org
Or contact us at 860-364-5002

All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church
315 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT
Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M.
Rev. John Kreta
860-824-1340
allsaintsofamerica.us

SPORTS

Millbrook Board of Education lends Pine Plains football helmets for the season

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

PINE PLAINS — Following a brief remote meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 29, the Pine Plains Central School District (PPCSD) Board of Education (BOE) approved an intermunicipal agreement with the Millbrook Central School District (MCS) regarding it borrowing football helmets from Millbrook for the 2021-22 sports season.

The meeting was held via Zoom at 6 p.m. and live-streamed on www.ppcsd.org.

The PPCSD BOE readily approved this ultimate act of sharing — something all schools teach from the moment students enter their very first classroom as young tykes.

"I'd like to offer thanks to Millbrook for this level of cooperation," said longtime PPCSD BOE member Fred "Chip" Couse. "As the school districts get smaller, more and more of this is taking place, and it speaks

well of the cooperation between towns."

Pine Plains Superintendent of Schools Martin Handler explained Millbrook doesn't have a football team in place this year due to too few players being able to man a team. (To read about Millbrook High School sending two of its football players to participate on the Dover High School Dragons' team this season, go to www.tricornernews.com.)

As a result of MCS not having its own football team and therefore not using its football helmets this season, Handler said it agreed to loan the equipment to the PPCSD and to the Rye City School District in Westchester County.

In Pine Plains, Handler said the district has a few more students playing the sport than it has helmets needed for this year's football program.

"We were really appreciative because they're not available," Handler said. "Even if we want-

ed to buy some extra helmets, we would not have been able to do so and that would have meant kids not participating."

BOE member James Griffin asked if Pine Plains will buy helmets next year. Handler said it might, but reminded the BOE that "it's a fluid situation with football" as far how many students register to participate in the athletic program. There's also the cost to consider.

"We have a larger number of modified players and that's what kicked us over into the situation," Handler said.

On a later date, Pine Plains

Athletic Director and Varsity Football Coach Rob Scott confirmed the PPCSD currently has 26 student athletes participating on the varsity football team this year and 26 students participating on the modified football team.

The BOE unanimously approved the intermunicipal agreement between the Pine Plains and Millbrook districts at its meeting on the 29th.

"I'm very happy that the Millbrook athletic director and superintendent worked with us to just give these kids opportunities to participate," Scott said.

Find more sports online

We jam-packed so much important reporting into this week's issue of The Millerton News, that readers will have to go to our website, www.tricornernews.com, to find more of the latest local sports.

Not only will they find the most recent Bleacher Views sports column, from fan favorite Theodore Kneeland as he ruminates on the Red Sox and their latest run of good luck in the post season, thanks to reporter Kaitlin Lyle's extensive sports reporting, they can also read all about how the Pine Plains/Rhinebeck Football team defeated Dover High School as well as how the Webutuck Lady Warriors scored against Oteora on the soccer field.

Make sure to catch those stories and more this week online.

PINE PLAINS/AREA

Meet the Candidates Night

Voters hear from candidates at forum

By KAITLIN LYLE
kaitlin@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Pine Plains voters became more informed about their 2021 candidates after spending the evening of Friday, Oct. 15, in the Community Room above the Pine Plains Free Library. That's where they heard the candidates for the Pine Plains town supervisor, Town Board and the Dutchess County Legislature campaign for office at 7 p.m. The Meet the Candidates Night was hosted by the Pine Plains Free Library and moderated by the Dutchess County League of Women Voters. It was a packed house.

Starting with the Town Board candidates: incumbent Matthew Zick (NOP) running on both the Democratic and Republican lines, Diana Woolis (D) and Robert Ambrose (R), each candidate summed up their principles, policies, past experience and plans for the future. They also gave closing statements. Once their platforms were presented, they took questions submitted by the audience.

Town Board candidates were asked what the top three infrastructure needs are in town and how they plan to address them.

Woolis highlighted broadband, sustainable economic development and keeping families in town and attracting new families to Pine Plains.

Zick cited installing sidewalks at the recreation fields, the Durst project and getting a sewer system.

Candidates were later asked about addressing affordable housing; implementing a compost system in town; the government's role in safeguarding public health; and how to encourage rational development without ruining Pine Plains.

Asked how to bridge the gap between longtime residents and new homeowners, Ambrose suggested having community events to get everyone involved while Woolis said to forge a connection between "the old-timers and the new-timers," Pine Plains needs a bigger tax base to do more for the community.

Asked what they hope to accomplish on the board, Ambrose said he wants to work on ongoing projects and help Pine Plains grow. Zick said he wants to see current projects completed, such as moving Town Hall to the center of town, and for everyone to

be on the same page and work together. Woolis said the town's priorities must be laid out in an updated Comprehensive Plan.

Responding to the question "How do you define good government?" both Ambrose and Zick agreed that means working in the best interest of the taxpayers while Woolis named transparency; engaging citizens and having their voices heard; and enacting policies as key features of good government.

Next, the candidates for town supervisor spoke — current town supervisor Darrah Cloud (D) and her opponent, Brian Walsh (R), the fire chief of the Pine Plains Hose Co. They highlighted what they've accomplished for the town and what they hope to achieve in the future.

Asked how much time they have to dedicate to the supervisor role, Walsh replied, "I have the amount of time it takes to get the job done and accomplish what needs to be accomplished."

Cloud, who has served two terms, noted the position is 24/7 and reflected on her own flexibility and accessibility.

The audience asked about the need for a sewer system; what candidates would do to improve the town; what skills qualify them for the position; and their priorities as far as updating the Comprehensive Plan.

Addressing how to bring Pine Plains natives and newcomers together, Cloud spoke of "citizen assemblies" to bring people together while Walsh suggested reviving past Community Day events.

The last question for the town supervisor candidates was about encouraging growth and development.

"We need to grow, we need to bring new people in, we need to bring the younger generation in, we just need to be more open," Walsh said, adding affordable housing is vital, as is word of mouth to attract more new residents.

Cloud said Pine Plains needs better broadband access in every home, and infrastructure is key.

Lastly, the audience turned its attention to Claire Owens of Millerton and Chair of the Dutchess County Legislature Gregg Pulver (R-19) of Pine Plains, both of whom are campaigning for the 19th District in the Dutchess County Legislature. To learn more about Owens and Pulver, read this week's front page.

Email news and photos to editor@millertonnews.com



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE PINE PLAINS ELEMENTARY PTA

Dressed for Halloween a little early, a group of local students greeted incoming Boo Thru spectators from atop an enormous red Radio Flyer float.

A haunting we will go...

PINE PLAINS — Something wicked breezed through the Pine Plains Central School District (PPCSD) on Friday, Oct. 15, as the Pine Plains Elementary PTA hosted its second annual Boo Thru at Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center.

Local children and their families were invited to dress up and come out for tricks or treats, while district residents were invited to decorate their cars for an early Halloween celebration. The line-up for the Boo Thru started at the Pine Plains firehouse at 6:15 p.m., drawing almost 200 cars in attendance.

As the Boo Thru took off, spectators admired the spectacular variety of floats and displays set up throughout the Seymour Smith parking lot as well as the students' creativity with their Halloween costumes.

Thanking the PPCSD staff as well as the Pine Plains Police Department, the Pine Plains Hose Co. and the local community for pulling off another fantastic parade, the Pine Plains Elementary PTA stated via its Facebook page, "Life can throw many curves, but when you have a community like ours, anything is possible."

— Kaitlin Lyle



With a few candles, skulls and potion ingredients at their disposal, a trio of young witches in the making offered some toil and trouble at their Boo Thru display.

Roeliff Jansen Library seeks voter support for Prop. No. 6 at the polls

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to The Millerton News

COPAKE — As the staff of the Roeliff Jansen Community Library continues to prepare programs for everyone from seniors to newborns, voters in Ancram, Copake and Hillsdale

are deciding whether to approve Proposition No. 6, which will increase those towns' contributions to the vital organization.

According to detailed information provided on its website, an affirmative vote would result in a cost just over \$9 a year per \$100,000 in property value, which is lower than the rate of \$9.50 voted on in 2013, the last time Copake and Hillsdale voters approved such contributions.

Local public funding accounts for 33% of the library's budget with that amount being increased to 40% with proposal approval. The remainder of the budget is met by private donations and grants.

Library Director Tammy Gaskell said under state regulations library employees are not permitted to support political issues including the funding proposal. Yet she did add that in every instance they encour-

age patrons to vote — no matter their perspective.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2, with early voting beginning on Saturday, Oct. 23. Absentee ballots are available through in-person registration at the County Board of Elections, at 401 State St., Hudson.

To learn more specifics of the proposal and its impact on taxation, go to www.roejanlibrary.org/414-faqs/ and be sure to read the thoughtful editorial on library funding on this week's Opinion Page, Page B4.

So far this month, the library has provided community support and activities including: The Great Give Back, in which patrons donated items and children's handmade cards for cancer patients; one of a series of four art workshops; Pumpkin Painting as pictured on the front page of this week's Millerton News; "Eleanor Roosevelt: Becoming Who She Was," the

first of a series of history programs on FDR, presented by Jeff Urbin, educator from the Roosevelt Presidential Museum and Library in Hyde Park; a small business seminar that including local vendor Mei's Handmade Dumplings.

Upcoming activities include: The Art of the Novel: A Graphic Novel Workshop Series on Thursdays, Oct. 21 through Nov. 11, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Trick or Treat, Saturday, Oct. 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Zoom Senior Balance & Strength Class, Thursdays, from 9 to 10 a.m.

For more information, including hours and programming at the Roe Jan Library, located at 9091 Route 22, call 518-325-4101 or go to www.roejanlibrary.org.

AREA IN BRIEF

Cemetery tours

PINE PLAINS — On Friday, Oct. 22, and Saturday, Oct. 23, the Pine Plains Free Library and the Pine Plains Historical Society will host the 2021 Evergreen Cemetery Tours to illuminate the history of Pine Plains and the characters that helped shape its story.

The tours will feature six local actors bringing stories from the town's past to life through costumes and oral histories.

Regular tours are on the 22nd at 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., and the 23rd at 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

A limited mobility tour will be offered on Oct. 22 at 5 p.m., featuring a seated version of the performances during the twilight hours for those who aren't comfortable walking in the dark.

Ticket prices are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and free for kids under 5.

To purchase tickets, go to www.eventbrite.com/e/evergreen-cemetery-lantern-tours-2021-tickets-172397895747.

Turkey dinner

STANFORDVILLE — Stanford Grange #808's Harvest Turkey Dinner is on Saturday, Oct. 23, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82. All dinners are take-out only starting at 5 p.m., for a \$15 donation.

For reservations, call 845-868-7869.

FAMILIES ★ JOBS ★ PINE PLAINS

VOTE THE DEMOCRATIC TICKET ON NOVEMBER 2

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TOWN SUPERVISOR

DIANA WOOLIS
TOWN BOARD

MATT ZICK
TOWN BOARD

CLAIRE OWENS
COUNTY LEGISLATURE

LEADERSHIP ★ COMPETENCE ★ CONTINUITY

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PULVER *Continued from Page A1*

the county has decreased taxes every year while increasing services. As chairman of the Legislature, Pulver said he's brought "a louder and a stronger voice for the northeast corner of Dutchess County."

Serving the largest district in the county, and the most rural, Pulver, a working farmer, is running under the Republican line and the Common Ground line, which is his own independent party line.

Pulver said he's excited about the Youth Opportunity Union program the county will be working on for the next few years. So far, \$25 million has been allocated toward the program by

the county.

Looking ahead, the lawmaker anticipates brainstorming ways to increase volunteerism, create more opportunities for local veterans and continue to help the towns he serves with ongoing projects. Those include Pine Plains' plans for a central sewer system and the nearly \$8 million revitalization of Eddie Collins Memorial Park in Millerton.

If elected to another term, Pulver aims to foster more open dialogue with the communities he serves. He already makes himself very accessible to his constituents, which he has always believed is very important.

"I think the challenge in all our

communities is to start talking to one another," he said. "COVID-19 has changed all of our communities in some manner. All of our communities need to embrace our residents — that's what I'd love to see — that's where we get our ideas from for doing projects in our towns."

The multi-generational Pine Plains farmer and family man added, "I think it's important we all talk to one another and not just with people who agree with us. It's important to talk with people who disagree with us and learn both sides of the issue."

District 19 includes North East/Millerton, Stanford, Pine Plains and Milan.

OWENS *Continued from Page A1*

A Millerton resident, Owens serves on the North East Zoning Board of Appeals and belongs on both the Tri-Town Coalition affordable housing group and the Millerton Climate Smart Community Task Force.

Asked which of her strengths would best serve the county, Owens said it's her life experience that would benefit constituents. Growing up, she said her family struggled with homelessness and food insecurity; she wants to make sure her neighbors never have to deal with

those challenges. She also has experience working with every level of government from a career in communications, which she said would be an asset in government.

Owens said the Legislature desperately needs to address infrastructure, especially housing that's accessible to everyone, stable and affordable broadband service, public sewer systems and bringing a full-service supermarket to the village of Millerton.

"I believe that when young people, and especially young

women, run and win elections, our democracy gets stronger," Owens said. "We live in a unique area where the demographics are changing constantly. I think that we need a new generation of leaders that are ready to roll up their sleeves and get stuff done for our changing communities while honoring, uplifting and incorporating our rural history and culture."

"I would be proud to serve the people of the 19th District to create stronger communities that are set up success to grow and thrive," she added.

HOUSTON *Continued from Page A1*

Conservative tickets, Houston wants to preserve farmland and open space; to that end she co-sponsored the Right-to-Farm Law.

She also hopes to expand services for children, seniors and veterans; she serves on the Veterans Affairs Committee. Houston is chair of the Government Services Committee, is vice chair of the Public Safety Commission and is on the Human Services Committee.

She also serves as liaison to the Dutchess Community College Board of Trustees and to the Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County, which among her other efforts supports the FFA.

Houston gained some of her expertise in public affairs by serving on the Millbrook Central School District Board of Education for five and a half

years, participating in a number of diverse committees while doing so. She's also a former trustee of the Millbrook Educational Foundation, and is a former board member of the Millbrook Arts Group.

She co-sponsored legislation that brought ethics reform to Dutchess County, resulting in county elected officials having to now file financial disclosure forms. The legislator also supported setting term limits for all county elected officials.

Working across party lines is essential, said Houston, to accomplish work for taxpayers.

She is a firm believer in having an open-door policy and makes herself available to her constituents on an ongoing basis, maintaining a flexible schedule for local residents.

Having lived in Millbrook for more than 20 years, Hous-

ton and her husband raised their children in the village and sent them through the Millbrook Central School District. Houston owns Millbrook Floral Designs on Franklin Avenue in the village.

She often attends Millbrook Village Board and Washington Town Board meetings to keep abreast of what is happening in the area, and to give reports of what is going on in the county. Throughout the COVID 19 pandemic, she has kept her constituents updated concerning masking, vaccinations and local mandates.

HUTNIK *Continued from Page A1*

citizens on all fronts, including improved education. He'd also like to see better access to quality health care, both physical and mental healthcare basics.

Working as a New York State Education Department Social Worker, he is a member of the United Federation of Teachers. He works with children in pre-k through high school.

"I am running on protecting our children's future through quality education and care in schools," said Hutnik. "I'm working with school leaders to provide better social, emotional learning supports and training for educators and counselors that will give them

new skill sets for working with our children."

He added that "County government should be helping those who have been most impacted by the pandemic — struggling families and small businesses. With the right leadership we can turn this crisis around and build back a stronger economy and community."

Hutnik has strong views on housing and doesn't think people should have to choose between where they work and where they live when deciding on jobs and living situations.

He also believes residents should have a voice in how funds are spent on infrastructure, including water and sewer,

as well as roads and broadband access.

Most of all, he would like to help close the gap between the haves and the have-nots, believing that fair taxation allows everyone to enjoy a better quality of life. He said District 25's municipalities of Millbrook/Washington, Amenia and part of Pleasant Valley are no exception.

Hutnik has been busy campaigning and has gotten to see firsthand the needs of District 25 while visiting a number of local food pantries, charity drives and fundraisers.

Originally from New York City, Hutnik and his husband now reside in Amenia.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Voters, be aware of Silo Ridge's ties to Amenia Strong candidates Nov. 2

As I've been speaking to folks in Amenia, I am struck by how few people are aware of the efforts by our neighbors at the luxury housing development Silo Ridge to lower their taxes.

To accomplish this, they have been suing the Town and are now supporting a slate of candidates to gain control of our Town Board. This should concern every resident.

In 2019, Silo threatened a lawsuit and negotiated a nearly \$1 million decrease in their total assessed value.

Since then, 60 of its homes have been completed and purchased, with sales prices recorded. Thus assessments on these multimillion dollar units were based largely on fair market value.

Not happy with that huge reduction, this year 87 separate lawsuits were filed (one by Silo and signed by town supervisor Amenia Strong candidate Julie Doran, the others by Silo owners). They are requesting up to 90% lower tax values than assessed.

The Town has spent nearly \$150,000 of much-needed taxpayer funds to fight these lawsuits.

In case they can't win through the courts, Silo is trying to take over the Town Board by running their own "Amenia Strong" candidates: Julie Doran (full-time employee at Silo), Jamie Vitiello (owner of one of the luxury homes in Silo) and Brad Rebillard (husband of Silo's public relations person).

This effort is backed by a lot of money, an aggressive PR campaign, a new newspaper, a new charity and many road signs.

A refusal by Silo residents to pay the same taxes as every other Amesian seems to me grossly unfair.

I volunteer weekly at St. Thomas' food pantry and know how many families depend on it to survive. They pay property taxes too, but don't have the time or money needed to sue and get them lowered. A decrease would help them enormously, but means nothing to the very wealthy residents of a luxury resort.

I have also been working for two years on affordable housing and wastewater issues for the town, so it pains me that both needs remain unfulfilled.

Although the developer had once promised to provide one or both (the zoning code required 25 worker units), neither has been built. Those essential projects and a predicted huge bump in tax revenue were much of the reason Silo was welcomed into our valley.

In an ideal world, both the Town and Silo Ridge would be communicating and supporting each other. It is certainly in Amenia's best interest to have a successful resort paying needed taxes, and in Silo's to have a thriving downtown and happy community.

We have to change our sour and non-productive stand-off, as it damages both. But turning over the Town Government to the Amenia Strong candidates is not the answer.

Please consider all that when you cast your vote on Nov. 2nd.

Leo Blackman
Amenia Town Board candidate

Wassaic

HOUSE EXPLOSION *Continued from Page A1*

been in fire service for 15 years, and chief for the last six years. So far they've only gone up to second alarm. It was extremely intense, as well as throwing out the possible entrapment of four people who were trapped inside the structure."

Walsh said that "it only ended up being two people who were in the residence." They were Chaplain Larry and his wife.

Fortunately, the volunteer firefighters rescued Dunn with the help of a neighbor, but "the second unfortunately turned out to be a fatality," said Walsh, who added "when we were called to the scene we didn't know it was Larry's home."

Walsh described the multi-unit response as "larger than normal," adding that "usually on third-alarm fires it is a bigger response."

Fire companies from Copake, Ancram, Millerton, Millbrook, Milan and Stanfordville responded, with Tivoli on standby. Walsh said he believed Rhinebeck and Red Hook were there as well, and possibly a few others.

The Pine Plains Police Department also assisted, as did the Dutchess County Fire Investigation Division, the State Office of Fire Prevention and Control and the New York State Police.

The two-story house was completely leveled as a result of the blast and resulting fire, said Walsh. He said the family that Chaplain Larry and his wife had welcomed into their home was living in the same single residence, splitting the living space.

"It was all one home; it was one structure," said Walsh, who wouldn't speculate if the ongoing construction contributed to the cause of the explosion.

The investigation is ongoing at this point. In fact, although the fire was extinguished in a matter of hours, Walsh and fire investigators stayed on scene for nearly 24 hours.

"We were there until 4 p.m. Thursday, and we got the call 7:30 p.m. Wednesday," he said. "Fire burns as fast as it's fed with a fuel source, and it had a fuel source that broke apart, so it spread fast. Along with that time on the scene was also the investigation, and the investigation was longer than normal due to the fact that there was a fatality involved."

Phil Amelio also lives on Hoffman Road; he was in his recliner with his four Labradors when the explosion occurred. He said he stuck his head out the window, and there was dead silence. He described the scene as "absolutely eerie" at the time.

"Larry was the kindest individual you'll ever meet... If you needed anything he was there, whether it was the community or the fire service"
Brian Walsh, Pine Plains Fire Chief

"It's just a shame — it's awful. I live two houses up. We lived in that house when I was a little kid," said Amelio. "That house had been around a long time. They're were fixing it up. They were doing a nice job. It was so nice to see someone working on it — it's just a tragedy."

Walsh said that losing Chaplain Larry has hit the entire fire company hard.

"Larry was the kindest individual you'll ever meet," he said. "He always cared for everyone he met. If you needed anything he was there, whether it was the community or the fire service. He was just the kindest person you'd ever meet. That's who Larry was."

On Thursday, Oct. 14, Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro posted on social media his hopes and prayers for those affected by the fire and the entire community.

"Please pray and stand with our neighbors in Pine Plains. A family was displaced, life lost and fire company rocked. We are fortunate to have so many amazing emergency responders who worked tirelessly at this scene and so many others. Keep them all close to your heart, in your thoughts and center in your prayers."

Dunn, who was initially transported to MidHudson Regional Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, was later sent to Westchester Medical Center.

GoFundMe page
Meanwhile, Kaitlyn Weise,

the 18-year-old daughter of the family that had been taken in by Chaplain Larry and his wife, has organized a fundraiser on GoFundMe, entitled, "The collapse of two families." As of 6:08 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 18, \$56,971 had been raised of the \$20,000 goal.

According to Weise's statement, "This family was the best, allowing me and my family to stay at their fixer-upper home they were making into a little home for us. In the fire was all of my two little brothers, my mother's and my belongings..."

"This would of been the fifth

time we have moved in a little over two years... Also inside were all the memories and belongings to the amazing family that let us call their home our home. We are very confused and unsure why bad things happen to such good people."

She said the money that is raised through GoFundMe will go to her family and to help Dunn "get everything she needs after she recovers," as well as to make sure Chaplain Larry "gets the send off he deserves."

Walsh said on Friday, Oct. 15, as Dunn remained hospitalized at that time, arrangements had not yet been announced for the chaplain. While he had spoken with the family about arrangements, he said "everything is in the works" and "still being kept quiet."

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More letters to the editor on on Pages B4 & B5.

Letters to the editor are due by Monday, 10 a.m.
Please include phone number and hometown.

COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

FIREPLACES: JOHN TORSIELLO

Winter Is Coming, Time to Get Your Chimney Checked

It's getting chilly and Tristate homeowners are starting to think about "firing up" their woodstoves and fireplaces. In addition to getting a supply of wood or pellets, it's also important to call a reputable company to check over the chimney lining and exterior to be sure they're in good shape for winter use.

"One of the most difficult times to get your chimney cleaned is the start of heating season," said Robert Zaleski, owner of 3G Chimney Services in Torrington, Conn. — but that doesn't mean you shouldn't at least call and get on the schedule.

Homeowners who have fireplaces or woodburning stoves should have their chimneys cleaned on a regular basis — but maintenance may not always be on the mind of homeowners with chimneys that vent fumes from oil or natural gas furnaces.

"It's important for these



Most modern chimney care companies won't give you a song and a dance, as Dick Van Dyke did in the classic film version of "Mary Poppins."

homeowners to also have their chimneys inspected because over time, although fuels such as natural gas burn 'cleaner,' deposits can build up and sometimes break down the interior of the chimney," Zaleski said.

Samuel Lopez, owner of Master Sweep of the Hudson Valley in Elizaville, N.Y., said homeowners who burn "two, three or four cords of wood a season should have the chimney cleaned annually."

Those who burn a cord or less of wood a year can usually wait two years before the chimney needs to be cleaned.

Lopez conducts an inspection of the chimney, takes photos to identify any damage, assesses the overall condition of the chimney and talks to the homeowner about any repairs that need to be made.

If a chimney has been ignored or is damaged through constant use over many years, for example, a new liner may be needed, to ensure proper venting of gases and fumes and to secure the interior safety of the structure.

"A new glass liner can cost upwards of several thousand dollars," Lopez warned, "so if you want to avoid that cost, have

a regular inspection and cleaning of your chimney."

Chimney maintenance work goes on all year long. "I would say the only down time we have is from February until mid-April," Lopez said.

But again, don't wait; Call up a chimney care company in your area and get on the schedule.

'COUNTRY COME TO TOWN' AT STANDARD SPACE

Courtney Childress has curated a show at the Standard Space gallery on the Green in Sharon, Conn., that celebrates country life and its intersection with city life.

Childress is from the South, and recalls that when she moved to New York City, "I immediately toned down my accent, wore less color, and tried to assimilate."

"At this moment, I want to embrace localism and where many of us come from, letting our

country-fried flag fly. For this show at Standard Space, I wanted to bring together a group of artists making work highlighting this attitude."

The artists are Natalie Baxter, Todd Bienvenu, Poppy DelataDawn, Kady Grant, Michael Hambouz, Roxanne Jackson, Rebecca Morgan and Deja Patterson.

The show remains at Standard Space until Nov. 14, with visits by appointment only. Call or email to 917-627-3261 and info@standardspace.net.

BAROQUE SOLO CONCERTOS BY CRESCENDO

Members of the Crescendo Period Instrument Orchestra will perform an orchestral concert of famous Baroque solo concertos on Oct. 29 and 30, with soloists Jeremy Rhizor, violin, Chris Belluscio, natural trumpet, Hideki Yamaya, mandolino, and Crescendo's founding artistic director Christine Gevert, organ and direction.

Performances will be Friday, Oct. 29, at 7:30 p.m. at Saint James Place in

Great Barrington, Mass., and Saturday, Oct. 30, at 4 p.m. at Trinity Church in Lime Rock, Conn. Tickets at \$35 general seating, \$60 premium (preferred seating) and \$10 youth, can be purchased online at www.Crescendomusic.org or at the door.

Admission to the concert is possible only with proof of full vaccination at the door. Masks are required indoors at all times. Both venues will operate at reduced capacity.



William Parker Newton moved to Norfolk, Conn., after a career as a commercial artist. This painting shows the Blackberry River.

A HISTORY OF OUR WORLD THROUGH ARTWORKS, LARGE AND SMALL

A retrospective showing of works by artists associated with the Northwest Corner is being displayed at the Canaan History Center in North Canaan, Conn.

Some of the works, loaned by an anonymous owner, were created by such well-known 20th-century artists as Dines Carlsen and Fidelia Bridges, while others were done by lesser-known, but talented local artists such as North Canaan's John Godburn.

Sixteen paintings are included in the show.

An opening reception will be held at the center, 115 Main St., on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 4 to 6 p.m. The works will continue to be exhibited through the end of the year on Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon, and Saturdays, 2 to 4 p.m.

These works are by artists who were both well-known and amateur enthusiasts, said history center Director Kathryn Boughton. "They demonstrate the breadth and depth of the artistic community that flourished here in the 20th century."

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 FIRE SHUT UP IN MY BONES

48 MAIN STREET, MILLERTON, NY

'50 Shades of Blue' in Sharon

The art shows at the town hall in Sharon, Conn., curated by Zelina Blagden, have returned.

The new show, now on display, features photographs by Pamela Peeters, who describes herself as "an environmental economist and sustainability strategist, also writer, producer and artist. My main mantra is to 'inspire the World to do good to Mother Earth' — and she needs it more than ever."

The show in Sharon is called "50 Shades of Blue" and features work created while Peeters was on an Ice Safari in Ilulissat, Greenland, in June 2021.

The show will remain up at Town Hall until Jan. 6. Peeters has also written a graphic novel for chil-



PHOTO BY PAMELA PEETERS

dren called "Eco Hero & Dr. Narwhal," which is for sale at the Sharon Pharmacy.

Learn more at www.myelementsdeck.com and www.pamelapeeters.com.

A new show of work by Pamela Peeters, with images from her voyage last summer to Greenland, is on display at Sharon Town Hall.

FORAGING: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

A Very Good Year for Wild Mushrooms

We get monthly articles on gardening and nature from the University of Connecticut, and this month's missive is about wild mushrooms, and was written by Pamm Cooper.

"This year was an excellent one environmentally for mushrooms," she reports. "Many species have recently shown up on lawns, in gardens, in the woods and many other places."

It's so very tempting to want to hunt for them and eat them. It is a fun and delicious adventure — but potentially fatal or, at best, sickening and unpleasant.

Don't just take my word for it; Cooper also warns

that, "While many are edible, many mushrooms are not, and some are poisonous. It is not a good idea to eat any mushrooms if you are not able to identify them correctly. There are many look-alikes, so this is a job for an expert."

From time to time, there are workshops with mushroom experts such as David Paton. He and other mycologists can safely steer you toward mushrooms you can eat. And of course many local farmstands and markets have wonderful mushrooms that you can buy.

But it's always fun to be out in the woods, either purposefully seeking fungi or stumbling upon some interesting specimen nestled under some leaf debris.

Pamm Cooper has an idea: If you find an interesting mushroom and you feel strongly that you want to take it home and do something with it (as opposed to photographing it and posting the image on social media), try making a mushroom spore print. The short version of how to do this is to get a fresh mushroom, take off the stem, and put the cap, gill side down, on a sheet of paper. The spores will come out and make an image.

Cooper recommends that you use the "Peterson Field Guide to Mushrooms" if you want to try and identify some of the mushrooms you find on your lawn or in the woods. But she offers a few descriptions of species you might find at this time of year.

Puffballs, for example,



PHOTO BY PAMM COOPER

The agaric mushroom (this particular one is an Eastern yellow fly agaric) looks like the classic illustration from a fairy tale.

"appear in late summer and early fall. Most start off as white, gray or light brown and may be lumpy, round, smooth or slightly spiny. Most have no stalk. Often these are familiar to people who encounter the familiar *Langermannia giganteum*, which appear as white balls on their lawns. "The gem-studded puffball *Lycoperdon perlatum* is white and has small warts and spines on the capsule that give it a gem-like appearance.

"The most recognizable mushroom in the world is the fly agaric. The red cap studded with white warts makes this mushroom easy to recognize.

"The Eastern yellow fly agaric has a bright yellow cap and white scales that may fall off with age. This agaric is usually found under pines, spruce, hemlocks, birch, oaks and poplars.

"Both of these agarics

start off as a rounded cap studded with white that will eventually flatten out, reaching 6 or more inches across. Both are from the Amanita family and are poisonous."

Have fun but remember: Even if you have a Peterson field guide, you should never eat anything unless an experienced mushroom hunter shares it with you. And some mushrooms might be toxic to the touch, so it might be a good idea to wear gloves if you handle a mushroom you're not familiar with.

IONESCO'S 'THE CHAIRS' AT SHAKESPEARE & CO.

Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, Mass., presents Eugène Ionesco's "The Chairs," directed by James Warwick at the Tina Packer Playhouse, until Oct. 31.

One of the first plays by the master of absurd theater, "The Chairs" is a "tragic farce" about an elderly couple who collect

chairs and tell tales that are refracted through their failing memories.

Tickets in a range of prices are available at www.shakespeare.org. The show stars Malcolm Ingram and Barbara Sims. Performances are indoors; proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test are required.

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

ART

Carol Corey Fine Art, 12 Old Barn Road, Kent, Conn. www.carolcoreyfineart.com
Elise Ansel: The Women, through Oct. 31.

The Clark Art Museum, 225 South St., Williamstown, Mass. www.clarkart.edu
Living with Les Lalanne: A Conversation with Brian McCarthy and Edith Dicconson, Oct. 23, 2 to 3 p.m.

BOOKS

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. www.hotchkisslibrary.org
Fall Discussion Series with Mark Scarbrough, Oct. 21, 10 to 11 a.m. (online)

Oblong Books & Music, 26 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. www.oblongbooks.com
Alan Cumming in Conversation, Oct. 25, 8 p.m.

KIDS

Berkshire Botanical Garden, 5 West Stockbridge Road, Stockbridge, Mass. www.berkshirebotanical.org
Garden Sprouts: Pumpkin Play!, Oct. 28, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. www.scovillelibrary.org
Online Teen Writing Club, Fridays, 4 to 5:30 p.m. (online).

MOVIES

Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, 14 Castle St., Great Barrington, Mass. www.mahaiwe.org
DEDICADA A MI EX (2019), Oct. 21, 6 p.m.

The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. www.themoviehouse.net
Openig Oct. 22: Dune, Bergman Island. Opening Oct. 29: Lamb.

MUSIC

Crescendo, Lakeville, Conn. www.worldclassmusic.org
Chamber Orchestra Concert "Italian Concerti", Oct. 29 and 30.

MASS MoCA, 1320 MASS MoCA Way, North Adams, Mass. www.massmoca.org
ELI KESZLER, Oct. 23, 8 p.m.

Warner Theatre, 68 Main St., Torrington, Conn. www.warnertheatre.org
Terence Blanchard's FIRE SHUT UP IN MY BONES, Oct. 23, 12:55 p.m.

THEATER

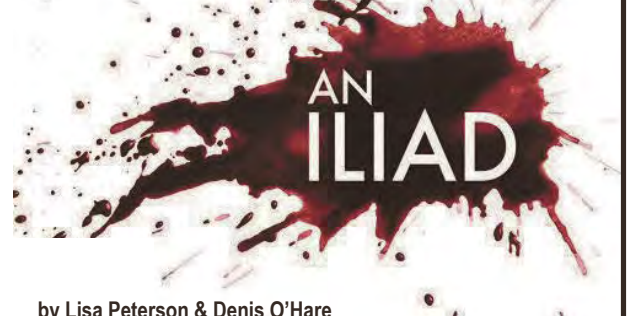
Barrington Stage Company, 122 North St., Pittsfield, Mass. www.barringtonstageco.org
Mr. Saturday Night, Oct. 22 to 30.

Sharon Playhouse, 49 Amenia Road, Sharon, Conn. www.sharonplayhouse.org
Cocktails and Comedy: Adult (21+), Oct. 27, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

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Fried resigns, new playground underway for Elm Drive School

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — The Millbrook Central School District (MCSD) Board of Education (BOE) met at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 5.

October BOE meeting

William Murphy Excavators offered to donate his services to dig a 40-square foot buy 40-square foot foundation for a new playground at Elm Drive Elementary School. The BOE accepted.

The BOE hired Comforting Hands, out of Poughkeepsie, to provide substitute nurses as needed. Neuropsychologists Andreas Smoller and Nelson Dorta were hired to serve students in MCSD.

At the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Caroline Hernandez-Pidala, Tracey Ferreri, LPN, will be hired for a probationary period ending April 20, 2021. Kim Moffitt was hired as a teacher's aide; and Lee Jack was hired as a maintenance helper.

Samantha Bopp's appointment as data coordinator was rescinded; Kelly Eaton was then hired as data coordinator at Elm Drive Elementary School and Jessica Quint as Data Coordinator at Alden Place Elementary School.

Co-curricula appointments were made for Colette Alonge-Watz and Michelle Cring as student council advisors.

Resignations were accepted from maintenance worker Richard Jankowski and website coordinator Kelly Weller.

A donation of \$420 was accepted from the Millbrook Educational Foundation to fund the Cannon Ball Run for the Junior Class.

The Oct. 5 meeting adjourned following an executive session held pertaining to employment issues.

September BOE meeting

Highlights from the Sept. 7 meeting include agreements with the Spackenkill Free Union School District, Red Hook School District and Arlington School District to provide non-resident special education services for individuals students.

A special detail agreement was authorized for the BOE to execute for the 2021-22 school year with the Millbrook Police Department.

The board hired Evelyn Avelledo as senior typist; Alexander Meisner was hired for a probationary period of four years as music teacher; Judith Fox was appointed athletic trainer for 16-hours per week at \$41 per hour; Kristen Stuart was hired as a full-year mentor for a student for 2021-22. Extra class appointments were made for seven teachers.

A resignation was accepted from Andrew Strawinski, boys modified soccer coach; Brian Lafin was named head coach for the boys varsity basketball team; Tom Bell was named volunteer assistant coach for the boys varsity basketball team; Brian Kelly was named girls modified soccer head coach; and Nicholas Porta was named boys modified soccer head coach.

Resignations were accepted from teacher's aide Ann Burkart; part-time school nurse Marianne Bridges; and food helper Katelyn Shaw.

Capital project update

A time line for the capital project was presented; the work should begin with the BOE seeking Requests for Proposals (RFP) for an architectural and engineering firm to partner with the district to provide a foundational assessment of all district facilities. This should include a review of all buildings, grounds and related systems.

The review will be similar to that of the state-required Building

Condition Survey model last performed in 2015 and not due again until 2024. The time line begins this fall and should end in May or June of 2023.

Miscellaneous matters

A second reading was done of the Disclosure of Wrongful Conduct (the Whistle-blower Policy).

The BOE approved its Building-Level Safety Plan; a first reading was done of the Code of Conduct Policy. A donation was accepted from the Millbrook Rotary Club of \$500 to support the middle school garden.

Fried submits resignation

After an executive session, the meeting resumed. The board accepted the resignation of long-time Assistant Superintendent of Business, Finance and Operations Brian Fried, effective Oct. 31, 2021.

Technology Director Elliott Garcia was appointed through 2022 as Title II ADA Compliance Officer, with no increase in pay. Hernandez-Pidala is Alternate Purchasing Agent for 2021-22.

The Tuesday, Sept. 21, meeting included a report from Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) District Superintendent Jason Schetelick; he said it's now on target, adding he's enthusiastic about what it will mean to BOCES students and their education.

First Student bus managers responded to delays and their reported mishandling of scheduling at the start of the school year. Students were forced to spend inordinate amounts of time on buses, and schedules were not kept. The problem is reportedly being corrected, but there's a lack of drivers making it tough to keep schedules.

A public hearing was held on the Code of Conduct. There was no comment, and the code was adopted. Two donations of \$1,000 were accepted; one for the high school from IBM and one for Alden Place to replace carpeting.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

From left, Maryanne Herzog, Village Trustee Mike Herzog, former Director of the Recreation Department Warren McMillan, June Markle, Arthur Kacsak and Susan Kacsak enjoyed their senior luncheon.

Recreation Department hosts Senior Luncheon

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Pleasant weather and the delicious aroma of food put happy smiles on the faces of 19 seniors at the annual luncheon provided by the Town of Washington Recreation Department on Friday, Oct. 8, at the Guertin Gym at Village Hall on Merritt Avenue in Millbrook.

Tables were set with colorful pastel tablecloths, and the food was catered by Paul Iannucci, owner of Nooch's Pub & Grill on Church Street in Millbrook and the Fireside BBQ & Grill in nearby Salt Point, and included chicken, penne a la vodka, salad, green beans and a seasonal apple cobbler for dessert. There were also cold beverages to drink as seniors caught up with friends.

Usually held at the Town Park, this year it was held at the gym because the Recreation Department hosted a Family Bingo Night there the same evening.

Several raffle winners received gifts, which added to the festivities. Everyone appeared to be pleased with the food, the prizes and the general conviviality.

Local seniors look forward to the event each year, and are grateful to the Town of Washington Recreation Department for keeping them in mind.

Perhaps next year, if the COVID pandemic continues to decline, the event will be bigger and better than ever. All the seniors on hand this year, though, agreed that the festivities this year were just perfect as they were.

The Recreation Department sponsors several events each year for local residents, young and old alike. On Saturday, Oct. 30, it will once again hold the annual Trunk or Treating event at the Town Park in Mabbettsville. Costumed youngsters are encouraged to stop by with their parents and go trunk to treating from all of the parked decorated cars as area residents hand out Halloween candy. The Trunk or Treat will be held at noon. Children must bring their own treat bags.

For those who wish to decorate their cars at the park, they can register at the Rec Department's website, www.washingtonny.myrec.com. Following the event at noon, there will be Pumpkin Painting event. Participants should bring their own pumpkins, but art supplies will be provided, as will donuts and apple cider.

For more information or to register for any of these holiday events or any others, or for information on sports programs, go to rec.director@washingtonrec.org or call 845-677-3419, ext. 6.

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[SG] Janet Manko, Publisher

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties).

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice Notice of Submission of Question to Voters of the Town of Amenia at the next General Election

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to NYS Education Law §259(1)(13), and in accordance with the provision of the N.Y.S. Election Law, the following question will be submitted to the qualified voters of the Town of Amenia at the General Election to be held on the 2nd day of November, 2021:

Shall the annual contribution of the Town of Amenia for the operating budget of the Amenia Free Library be increased by Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars to the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand (\$175,000) Dollars annually?"

Dawn Marie Klingner
Town Clerk
Town of Amenia
10-21-21
10-28-21

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of North East, Dutchess County, New York, at a meeting held on the 14th day of October, 2021, duly adopted the resolution published herewith subject to a permissive referendum.

Dated: Millerton, New York, October 14, 2021.

Tilly Strauss
Town Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION DATED OCTOBER 14, 2021.

A RESOLUTION SUPPLEMENTING THE BOND RESOLUTION DATED MAY 13, 2021, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF AN ADDITIONAL \$1,051,000 SERIAL BONDS OF THE TOWN OF NORTHEAST, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK, TO PAY PART OF THE COST OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF phase

3 OF A NEW HIGHWAY GARAGE FACILITY WITH FUEL DEPOT ON A TOWN OWNED PARCEL OF LAND ON ROUTE 22 IN MILLERTON, NEW YORK, IN AND FOR THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A REVISED MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$4,275,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT EXCEEDING \$1,051,000 ADDITIONAL BONDS OF SAID TOWN TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF.

WHEREAS, the capital project hereinafter described, as proposed, has been determined to be an "Unlisted Action", pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, which it has been determined will not have any significant adverse environmental effect; and

WHEREAS, all other conditions precedent to the financing of the capital project hereinafter described, have been performed; and

WHEREAS, by a Bond Resolution dated May 13, 2021, the Town Board of the Town of Northeast, Dutchess County, New York, authorized the issuance of \$2,929,000 bonds of said Town to pay a portion of the cost of the construction of Phase 3 of a new highway garage facility with fuel depot on a Town owned parcel of land on Route 22 in Millerton, New York, in and for the Town of North East, Dutchess County, New York, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, site improvements and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, there are hereby authorized to be issued an additional \$1,051,000 bonds of said Town, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

WHEREAS, it has now been determined that the maximum estimated cost of such specific object or purpose is \$4,275,000, constituting an increase of \$1,051,000 over that previously authorized; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to authorize the issuance of an additional \$1,051,000 bonds of said Town for such specific object or purpose; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the total voting strength of the Town Board of the Town of Northeast, Dutchess County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. For the specific object or purpose of paying the \$1,051,000 additional costs of the construction of Phase 3 of a new highway garage facility with fuel depot on a Town owned parcel of land on Route 22 in Millerton, New York, in and for the Town of North East, Dutchess County, New York, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, site improvements and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, there are hereby authorized to be issued an additional \$1,051,000 bonds of said Town, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that the maximum estimated cost of such specific object or purpose is now \$4,275,000, which specific object or purpose is hereby authorized at said maximum estimated cost and that the plan for the financing thereof is as follows:

a. By the issuance of the \$2,929,000 bonds of said Town authorized to be issued and \$295,000 current available fund monies appropriated pursuant to the aforesaid bond resolution dated and duly adopted on May 13, 2021; and

b. By the issuance of the additional \$1,051,000 bonds of said Town herein authorized to be issued pursuant to this bond resolution.

Section 3. It is hereby now determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is thirty (30) years, pursuant to subdivision 11(a) of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law. It is hereby further determined that the maximum maturity of the serial bonds herein authorized will exceed five years.

Section 4. The faith and credit of said Town of Northeast, Dutchess County, New York

are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property in said Town, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Supervisor of said Town, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Supervisor, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. All other matters except as provided herein relating to the bonds herein authorized including the date, denominations,

maturities and interest payment dates, within the limitations prescribed herein and the manner of execution of the same, including the consolidation with other issues, and also the ability to issue bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, shall be determined by the Supervisor, the chief fiscal officer of such Town. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Supervisor shall determine consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 7. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said Town is not authorized to expend money, or

2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 8. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 9. Upon this

resolution taking effect, the same shall be published in full or summary form in the official newspaper of said Town for such purpose, together with a notice of the Town Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 10. T H I S RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM.

10-21/21

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the Planning Board of the Town of North East on Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at the North East Town Hall, 19 N. Maple Ave., Millerton, NY at 7:40 PM or as soon thereafter as possible on the application of Donald Hoysradt, Steven Sandman and Laura Riehlman for a Minor Subdivision/Lot Line Adjustment on Tax Parcel #7274-00-528126 (Owner: Tenamore LLC) located at Quarry Hill Drive (Lot #23), Millerton, NY in the A5A Zoning District of the Town of North East.

The above application is open for inspection at the Town Hall or via email. Please request a copy by emailing the Planning Board office at pb@townofnortheastny.gov or calling 518-789-3300, Ext. 608. The application is also available on the Town website for inspection.

Persons wishing to appear at such hearing may do so in person or by attorney or other representative. Communications in writing relating thereto may be filed with the Board at such hearing. Dated: October 14, 2021.

Dale Culver
Chairman
Planning Board
10-21-21

EDITORIAL

Support local library propositions Nov. 2

When Tuesday, Nov. 2, arrives, voters around the United States will head to their polling places to cast their ballots — as it will be Election Day. While most voters will understandably have their attention laser-focused on the candidates running for office that day, we would like to redirect their gaze to the local propositions that may be on the back of some ballots for those who live in a few Harlem Valley communities, along with a handful of other proposals.

In the town of Amenia, voters will have the opportunity to weigh in on an important proposition that could provide essential funding for what is, as Amenia town Supervisor Victoria Perotti put it, “the heart and soul” of the town — the Amenia Free Library.

The Amenia Free Library Board of Trustees is requesting a \$50,000 increase, from \$125,000 to \$175,000. It’s the first increase the library has asked voters to approve in three years — solely to fund operating expenses — salaries, materials and supplies, maintenance and utilities.

Library Board President Alan Gamble explained how the increase requested in Proposition No. 7 would affect taxpayers in Amenia if they pass Prop. No. 7 at the polls. It would increase taxes by \$14.48 for an average residence in Amenia assessed at \$250,000.

“That’s just \$1.21 per month for expanded library services,” he wrote in an Oct. 14 letter to the editor published in this newspaper, adding that “Voters should be aware that NO taxpayer dollars were used for land purchase or construction of the newly expanded and renovated library. Our expansion is the result of 25-plus years of fundraising as well as a significant grant from the New York State Education Department.”

Don’t forget the many generous donors in the community who contributed to the library addition since 1994, when it began fundraising. But let’s not get off-track.

The point here is that aside from the incredible library expansion that will bring more enlightening and educational programs and services, not to mention resources and improved facilities to the town of Amenia and its residents, by approving Prop. No. 7, voters will, as Gamble explained, allow for “an increase in our operating hours, and additional print and digital materials that the public has been asking for and which our patrons deserve.”

The extra tax dollars will go to support the kinds of things that all libraries should be able afford in an ideal world, but can’t always — because, as our parents loved to tell us — money doesn’t grow on trees. That’s especially true in the age of COVID-19, when economies are struggling, as are families trying to educate their children.

That’s why, just a few miles northward, in the town of Copake, the Roeliff Jansen Community Library, which serves not only Copake, but also Hillsdale and Ancram, is similarly asking voters in those communities to approve Proposition No. 6.

According to an article readers can find by reporter Carol Kneeland on Page A5 this week, a vote in favor of that measure would cost a little more than \$9 a year for properties worth \$100,000, which is lower than the rate of \$9.50 voted on in 2013, which was the last time patrons of the Roe Jan Library approved such contributions.

If approved, Copake taxpayers will be responsible for \$66,472 of the library’s budget; Hillsdale taxpayers will have to contribute \$44,142; and Ancram taxpayers will have to pay \$29,977 toward the library’s annual budget.

Local public funding makes up 33% of the Roe Jan Library’s budget; Prop. No. 6 is proposing that amount be increased to 40%. Private donations and grants contribute to the remainder of the library’s annual funding.

The Roe Jan Library reported having more new patrons in 2020 — especially families — than any year since 2013, and said it expects 2021 will show those numbers to be even higher. That’s in spite of the COVID pandemic, during which it’s held roughly 200 outdoor programs for the year, on Zoom and in person, attended by more than 3,500 people. Circulation this year is expected to reach an astounding 45,000 items.

Considering all our libraries have done for us, our families and our communities throughout the years — even when in the midst of major renovations like the one Amenia is currently undergoing — approving what amounts to a minor monthly funding increase (that, let’s face it, at \$1.21/month would barely make a dent in our daily lives), it’s the least we could do.

For more on the Amenia library expansion and Prop. No. 7, turn to Page A3; for more on the Roe Jan Prop. No. 6, turn to Page A5.



Vote for Democrat Claire Owens as Dutchess County Legislator (D-19)

I write in support of Claire Owens for District 19 County Legislator. Claire, a 13-year Millerton resident, has energy, idealism and commitment to the community. This District needs a representative who has greater concern for the needs of the people of this district than does our current representative, Gregg Pulver.

As Chairman of the Republican-majority Dutchess County Legislature, Gregg Pulver supported approval of \$12.5 million of the \$57 million federal money awarded to Dutchess County under the

American Rescue Plan (“ARP”) for upgrades for a luxury clubhouse and other facilities at the Dutchess Stadium.

ARP money was intended for frontline workers, small businesses and essential infrastructure needs like water, sewers and broadband, focused particularly on low-income communities. Improvements to the Dutchess Stadium may be nice — but hardly as important as the critical issues that the ARP was designed to address. And not, I think, worth 20% of the county’s ARP money. As Claire has stated, “In run-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Amenia Town Hall is a beautiful Town Hall

The Amenia Town Hall is a treasure for many reasons. For one thing, it sits in a prominent location and gives the town dignity and charm. It confidently welcomes those citizens who utilize its governance, its judicial system, its archives and its varied community activities (activities before COVID, that is).

Once known as “Cook’s Hill,” that particular place of prominence was chosen as the site for the Amenia Seminary, the first co-ed boarding school in the region, in 1835. Attracting students from across the country, this popular academy put Amenia on the map. It prepared hundreds of young people for positions of leadership in many professions. In 1888, when public high schools began appearing on the scene, the Seminary

closed its doors.

The first Amenia High School was a wood frame building situated across the road from the Presbyterian Church. When it was falling into disrepair in 1929, a grand brick edifice was constructed on the Seminary hill. The Amenia School contained all grades, K through 12, until the Webutuck High School was built in 1957. The brick building continued to be used as an elementary school through 2007. For a few years, the empty building was a concern for the town.

When the Town of Amenia acquired the brick school building from the Webutuck School District and transformed it into a local government building, the idea of a multi-purpose Town Hall was well-received by the townsfolk. Leaving the cramped quarters at the Amenia firehouse was long overdue and moving into the spacious school was an exciting prospect.

It was understood that there would be major expenses involved in refurbishing the building, but saving the beautiful structure and having a place that could meet the needs of the town government made the endeavor worthwhile.

One community organization which has benefitted from being located in the new Town Hall is the Amenia Historical Society. Before AHS acquired a room in the building, the society had never been in a location where it could securely house its archives and make them available to the public. Having a room in the Town Hall has also made it possible for the historical society to welcome visitors and to have historical items on display.

The Amenia Historical Society is grateful to the Town Board and to town Supervisor Victoria Perotti for providing a secure place for the preservation of Amenia’s history. Consequently, it is in the Town’s best interest to preserve the Town Hall as a Town Hall.

Betsy Strauss
Vice President,
Amenia Historical Society
Amenia

ning for County Legislature, my main goal is to ensure our towns get the attention and resources we sorely deserve and need in this unique time.”

It is that attitude that we need in a legislator. Claire’s warm personality will help her work with Republicans to accomplish important goals for all of us. As she has said, “The issues we face are not partisan issues, they are community issues.”

Claire Owens for County Legislator!
Amy Rothstein
Pine Plains

Hostile audience didn’t serve voters

I attended the Meet the Candidates event last Wednesday evening, Oct. 6, at the Webutuck High School for Amenia’s candidates for Town Board and town supervisor.

What troubled me most was the audience’s lack of respect when listening to some of the candidates as they spoke.

While freedom of speech is a right of our citizenry, a lack of manners and the use of unkind language only exacerbates the political divide in our nation. Also evident and quite palpable at the event was the animosity shown

by some of the candidates for, not only Silo Ridge, but also for the residents who have chosen to live there.

Ms. Lee described Silo Ridge residents as people “who have more money than God.” (God must have raised an eyebrow at this comment.) This reflects her bias against people who happen to have the good fortune of being able to afford to live there. They may have, indeed, worked very hard in order to reap this benefit. Those of us familiar with scripture will remember the phrase — “The

poor will be with you always.” So, I believe, the same can be said of the rich.

In listening to the candidates, the one who struck me as having an open mind as well as a forthright quality of character was Brad Rebillard. He exhibited no hostility, only a willingness to serve and work with others in order to make the best possible decisions for the town and its residents. I found this refreshing and commendable. He will have my vote.

Margaret O’Brien
Amenia

Amenia meets goals of new Town Highway Garage

Our goal of identifying land for a new Town Highway Garage was met when 5 acres of DEC land costing \$7,000 was transferred to the Town of Amenia by working with multiple state agencies.

Furthermore, an RFP (Request for Proposals) for Highway Garage Engineering Services prepared by the town grant writer was advertised in newspapers and in Empire BidNet. As a result, 11 Highway Ga-

rage Engineering bids were received as follows: Wendel Engineering; Delaware Engineering; La Rocca Greene Architects; Lamont Engineering; Bergmann Engineering; C&S Companies; Battaglia Lanza Architects; Mc-

Goey, Hauser, Edsall Engineers; Lothrop Associates; Chazen/LaBella Associates.

Finally, the Amenia Town Board approved a Resolution to hire Crawford and Associates, who has experience designing Highway Garages. They will review and score the bids according to RFP bid criteria and cost so that the Town Board can make an informed decision choosing the right bid to start planning the Highway Garage and Salt Shed.

Victoria Perotti
Amenia Town Supervisor
Amenia

Join me in voting for Leo Blackman

I first got to know Leo in 2018, when we served as members of Amenia’s Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). He was thoughtful, fair and attended every meeting. His questions were smart and relevant. Plus he brought a welcome sense of humor to the sessions. (More about that later.)

He resigned from the ZBA to join the Planning Board. But soon enough, we were working together again on important issues facing our town: First on the Tri-Town Coalition where Leo spearheaded efforts to get affordable housing built in Was-saic and Amenia and then on

the Wastewater Committee. As chairman of that group I counted on Leo to help plan the steps to the installation of a sewer in the hamlet of Amenia. Thanks in large part to his tireless efforts, the committee meets this week with our engineer to start work on a feasibility study for a wastewater treatment system.

Leo loves Amenia and has worked hard for many years to make it a better place to live and work. I think he would be an effective member of the Town Board, because of what he has learned through his extensive volunteer work. As someone who has served with him on several committees I know he is very good at collaborating to accomplish shared goals.

I referred earlier to his sense of humor. At the candidates’ forum and then on Facebook Leo was criticized for a “joke” he made during a Housing Board meeting several months ago. He has apologized for this dumb, insensitive remark and has asked that his making it be judged in the context of his report at that meeting. I respectfully ask that you consider it in the context of all that he has contributed in years of volunteering in our town. Consider it also in the context of his working for all of us as a dedicated, imaginative, energetic Town Board member.

Thank you,
Jim Wright
Co-Warden, St. Thomas
Episcopal Church
Chairman,
Wastewater Committee
Amenia Union (resident
since 1984)



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

Vote Griffin Cooper for North East councilman

I have worked alongside Griffin, us both being recent members of the Millerton/North East Climate Smart Community Task Force.

He is continually willing to volunteer and always brings his “A” game.

I am also witness to the work

he contributes to Main Street Magazine, and in addition, the generosity he offers to the community at large.

I wholeheartedly offer my support for Griffin Cooper to volunteer and always brings his “A” game.

Christopher P. Virtuoso
Millerton

More letters to the editor on Pages A6 & B5.

Straight and tall

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A transparent Amenia Town Board needed

The "Meet the Candidates" event sponsored by The Millerton News and moderated by The League of Women Voters at Webutuck High School provided an invaluable service to voters in Amenia.

Unlike the National level, where TV talk shows, big-time opinion leaders and a barrage of ads do their best to shape our vote, Town politics is terrifically personal. To get past the jumble of wordsmithed bullet points on mailers, one needs to hear from the horse's mouth. Many thanks to the candidates. Not only are they stepping forward to offer their time on behalf of the community, but also to stand in the spotlight and face public criticism.

I was glad to hear the Republican candidates; Victoria Perotti, James Morris and Brad Rebillard expressed real knowledge of the town, conviction in the benefits of small, but effective

government and a desire to finally solve the single biggest impediment to sustainable growth... a sewer system in the center of Amenia. Kudos to the many volunteers who, over several decades, have participated on the Sewer Committee. Now, due to renewed interest in rural town life, the success of Silo Ridge and The Wassaic Project, my bet is that good communication and capable consultants will get the project off the ground, not the empty promises

Support Meg Winkler for Town Board

Anyone who frequents the Millerton Farmers Market knows Meg Winkler. Perhaps not by name, but by her familiar face that they recognize on a weekly basis.

She is known for her dedication to helping people participate in democracy. A true patriot, she honors our right

of politicians.

Finally: special interests work hard to make things go their way... and it's the job of our elected and appointed representatives on the Town and Planning Boards and the Zoning Board of Appeals to weigh the costs and benefits of their decisions to the whole community.

In a small town the intersection of special interests is considerable... we're all invested one way or another. So it's critical that we have both transparent

and inclusive or "balanced" representation in Town Government.

A Silo Ridge-backed "Amenia Strong" slate meets neither criterion. Amenia should stick to the wide path of diverse interests and opinions on the Town Board and we were fortunate to hear some of those on Wednesday night, Oct. 6.

Mark Doyle
Chair, Amenia
Republican Committee
Wassaic

thinker. She is running as an independent candidate for a seat on the Town Board in the Town of North East.

Meg truly cares about the individual. She has helped me run a registration drive several years ago in Wassaic. I am proud to know her. I fully endorse Meg Winkler for North East Town Board.

Stacy Mantel
Amenia
Candidate for Town Board

County comptroller is a vital public office

Recently I was fortunate enough to hear County Comptroller Robin Lois speak to an audience. Not only was it interesting, but I realized the elected office might be sometimes overlooked. I under appreciated just what the comptroller does.

I think the office and title may be over-shadowed by others in the limelight, but I learned it might be the most important one of all to Dutchess County taxpayers.

The county comptroller heads up a department at the county, who essentially monitors and assesses all spending, contracts and audits done by the county.

This is an office that needs a competent professional as leader, and staff, and literally works on our behalf to make sure policies, audits and fiscal responsibilities are all carried out to a high standard.

I believe, no matter who is in the executive seat, or the Legislature, the comptroller is our representative, and represents the best interests of taxpayers who contribute the many millions of dollars needed in funding.

This is a truly a balanced gov-

ernment operation, helping ALL residents.

Robin Lois has now served a term in this office, after many years as a small business owner, and an employee of international corporations. She has deep experience in accounting and finance.

She brings this to our County, and while there, she has already expanded the office to not only better serve us, but to make it transparent. Anyone can access online a lot of information showing just what the office does. Anyone can easily contact her office, or contribute suggestions.

Above all of the experience and skills that she brings to this role, she also cares about her job, and the county residents she works for, and watches out for every one of our dollars spent by the County.

This is truly public service.

If you did not know what this elected office, I hope this brings more attention, and if you care about your money, and who gets elected, Robin Lois is seeking re-election in November, so please consider voting for her.

Andy Durbridge
Wassaic

More letters to the editor on Pages A6 & B4.

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HELP WANTED

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS MANAGER: American Institute for Economic Research, a 501(c)3 economic research and education organization in Great Barrington, MA, is seeking a program manager to create high-quality colloquia, seminars, workshops, community events, etc., both on campus and offsite, and to be responsible for the planning, coordination, and logistics needed to ensure a productive, valuable experience for all. Please visit <https://aier.applicantpro.com/jobs/2006502.html> to see the full job description and to apply.

FLEXIBLE HOURS! SILVER LAKE CONFERENCE CENTER: A year-round retreat center in Sharon, CT, is looking for school-year help with housekeeping, maintenance, landscaping, and food service. No experience necessary; we will train! Week days and weekends available. Ideal for a high schooler (16+) or someone looking for flexible hours. Start immediately! Must be able to pass a background check, have reliable transportation to the site, and be fully vaccinated against Covid-19. \$14-\$15/hour DOE. Email jennkc@silverlakect.org for more information.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TECHNICIAN: American Institute for Economic Research located in Great Barrington, MA is seeking an IT technician to support all AIER employees and users with their computer, audio/video and technology needs. The technician works closely with AIER management and staff to ensure the optimal running of all information technology systems. To see full job description and to apply, go to <https://aier.applicantpro.com/jobs/1968664.html>.

PROPERTY ASSOCIATE: Full-time position with benefits at The Option Institute in Sheffield, MA. Works with Property Coordinator and responsible for maintaining property buildings, systems, grounds, and equipment. Tasks include painting, light carpentry, light plumbing, light electrical, and equipment maintenance. Required to be "on-call" at various times throughout the year to respond to property issues; may require some weekends. High School diploma or equivalent; experience in similar position; valid driver's license; basic knowledge of wells, water purification, septic and sprinkler systems, HVAC, power tools, and motorized equipment; basic computer skills. Snow removal experience preferred. Please send resume to dane@option.org.

PT GARDENER LAKEVILLE: Flowers, weeding, pool/boat care, dump runs. Light snow removal. Year round, 20 hrs/week, mornings. \$20-\$25/hr., based on experience. Long term opportunity. Beautiful setting. Extensive Background Check. Contact: Rob Pearson. Email: Pearson.r99@aol.com.

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LOOKING FOR PART TIME CUSTODIAN/SET UP PERSON IN GREAT BARRINGTON: General cleaning, setup and breakdown of events, handy person a plus. Must be able to work independently and follow written instructions. Espanolafriendly. Good pay. Weekend days required, Sundays from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm, Wednesdays, 3 pm to 5:30 pm, Saturdays from 8:30 am to 12:30 am. Potential to work into full time. Please call Kate VanOlst at 413-528-6378 or email kvanolst@hevreh.org.

PART-TIME ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Do you want to work at an organization that helps families and children? Do you have endless energy and enthusiasm? Join our team where you will be respected and appreciated for the work you do. 20 hours/week position at the Option Institute in Sheffield, MA. Responsibilities include communicating with staff, clients, and the public with integrity, clarity and understanding as directed by the DOO; writing correspondence, taking meeting notes, scheduling, generating reports and special projects. 2 years relatable experience, excellent organizational skills, computer skills, and communication skills required. Please send resume to dane@option.org.

PT/FT EXECUTIVE HOUSEKEEPER: Lakeville, CT/Great Barrington, MA area. Experience with large estate or 5-star type hotel. Meticulous cleaning skills. Must have great references. Flexible Schedule. Long term opportunity. \$25-\$30+/hr, experience based + benefits. Learn more at www.housekeeping-job.com.

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REAL ESTATE

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Qualified candidates should have five years professional commercial HVAC experience. Control system experience a plus. Certification or experience in refrigeration & a clean driver's license required.

PLUMBER
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The plumber will be responsible for installing & maintaining campus water supply systems that transports water, waste, gases and hot liquid. Must know how to read blueprints & drawings to understand or plan the layout of plumbing, waste disposal and water supply systems. The plumber must be able to locate and repair issues with water supply lines (leaks) & repair broken drainage lines, clogged drains & faucets. Additionally, will repair domestic appliances, assist in snow removal and serve in on call rotation.

Qualified candidates will have five years of professional commercial plumbing experience and a solid understanding of water distribution and disposal systems in residential and commercial buildings. Must have a clean driver's license.

SCHOOL NURSE

The per diem school nurse will serve as an on-call nurse to provide general care for the student population. This position includes dispensing medications based on instructions from physicians & parents, evaluating patients and communicating with parents & teachers about illnesses & injuries.

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Millbrook School requires all employees to be fully vaccinated against COVID19.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest and resume to pstarczyk@millbrook.org or mail to Millbrook School, Attn: Human Resources, 131 Millbrook School Road, Millbrook, NY 1254

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