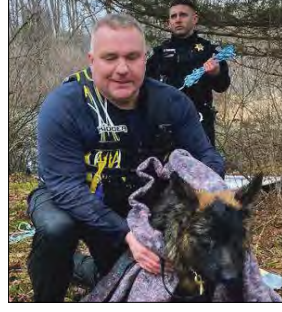




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Westerlind Pantry Offers Residents Grocery Shopping Alternatives **A2**



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Local Sheriff's Officer Saves Pooch From Frozen Pond **A5**



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Sharon Playhouse Fundraising Gala; And More **B1-2**

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## State provides renters relief, Feb. 1 deadline looms near

By **CAROL KNEELAND**  
Special to The Millerton News

**HARLEM VALLEY** — New York State residents who are struggling to meet rent payments may find help through Hudson River Housing (HRH) in Poughkeepsie.

According to Elizabeth Celaya, director of strategic initiative for the organization, "If they cannot pay, they should be applying" for assistance that is available through both state and private sources even though "the eviction moratorium should

be protecting people from eviction through May 1."

Celaya noted that while the details of the various programs, including qualifications, time period covered and amounts of funds provided differ, HRH can provide assistance in applying for the proper programs.

She said renters cannot be reimbursed "for back rent that has been paid, but if someone owes rent, they may be able to get help with that. If they cannot pay, then they should be applying."

Beyond normal rent payments,

various circumstances can be covered. For example, "If someone may be doubling up with a family member and needs to leave for whatever reason and has nowhere to go, this could potentially help put them into new housing."

She explained that flexibility is built into the process because, "The whole point is preventing homelessness. If someone is without a place to live, this funding can potentially help."

See **RENT RELIEF, A6**

### Remembering the challenges of 2020

## A last look at the year in review

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

**Part III**  
**HARLEM VALLEY** — Last week readers of The Millerton News caught up with stories from August and September of 2020, as many struggled with the challenges of a difficult year that included not only the coronavirus pandemic and a faltering economy but closed schools and months of quarantine. In this week's edition, the year in review wraps up with a last look at the headlines between the months of October through December.

### October

On Thursday, Oct. 8, the North

See **YEAR IN REVIEW, A6**



PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

Visiting from Stockbridge, Mass., on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2020, Linda Russell, left, and Liz Hazen rode their bicycles on the Harlem Valley Rail Trail's recent extension in the town of Amenia with their husbands (not pictured) along the path known as the Trail to Train project, that leads from the Wassaic Metro-North Train Station off of Route 22 into the hamlet of Wassaic.

### Reimagine, Rebuild, Renew

## Governor Cuomo presents 2021 State of the State Address

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

**NEW YORK STATE** — Outlining an agenda geared toward reimagining, rebuilding and renewing New York State in 2021, Governor Andrew Cuomo invited the public to look toward the new year with "the spirit of optimism that is grounded in experience" as he delivered his 2021 State of the State Address starting on Monday, Jan. 11, and throughout the week.

The address was broadcast live online, at [www.governor.ny.gov](http://www.governor.ny.gov), over the course of four days. Speaking from the War Room of the state Capital, Cuomo said the room was fitting "because we are at war, a war that began early last year when we were ambushed by the COVID virus and a war that continues today."

Answering what in normal years could be considered a straightforward question — "What is the state of our state?" — Cuomo said it was similar to the state of the nation and the

world, highlighting the shock that "an invisible enemy could reap such death and destruction." Yet it wasn't only the virus itself that showed the country's vulnerabilities, Cuomo said, but the fact that COVID-19 created a low tide in America that exposed the ugliness that lurked below the surface, from the racial divisions and religious tensions to government incompetence, health care disparities, social injustices and the danger

See **CUOMO, A6**



PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

A resident of Middletown, Joseph Albanese posed beside his wife, Barbara, for a post-vaccination photo after receiving the Pfizer version of the COVID-19 vaccine at the Dover Middle/High School, a county distribution site, and the only one in the Harlem Valley.

## County offers COVID vaccines in Dover

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

**DOVER PLAINS** — Almost one year after the coronavirus was declared a global health crisis, the United States has begun vaccinating its citizens, though the rollout has not been without problems, including here in New York State. Both the Moderna and the Pfizer vaccines have been available for eligible residents in phased priority groups at vaccination sites statewide, but it's become increasingly difficult for state and county officials to get their hands on supplies of the vaccine.

The vaccine is currently available for eligible New Yorkers in the Phase 1a and 1b groups, which include high-risk hospital employees, residents and staff at nursing homes, urgent care providers and other healthcare workers. Starting Monday, Jan. 11, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced the vaccine became available to individuals over the age of 65, first responders, police and investigators, teachers and education workers, public transit workers and public safety workers.

Addressing the vaccine in his 2021 State of the State Address on Jan. 11, Cuomo emphasized that the federal vaccine supply needs to increase, stating that there are currently 1 million doses in New York for over 4 million eligible residents and that the state only receives 300,000 doses per week from the federal government. At that rate, he said it will take the state 14 weeks just to receive enough dosages for those who are currently eligible.

Cuomo said the state is scheduling appointments weeks into the future, though he said it "would rather have people signed up and awaiting the vaccine than have the vaccine awaiting people. I understand millions of people want the vaccine today, but we must be patient, even though it is an impatient time."

Recognizing New York's distribution lags, county officials have been doing their utmost to keep the public informed and ensure those who are eligible can access the vaccine.

At the Millbrook Village Board

See **VACCINES, A6**

### Impeachment, inauguration article online

Donald J. Trump became the only president in U.S. history to be impeached twice on Wednesday, Jan. 13. And on Wednesday, Jan. 20, after this paper prints, President Elect Joseph Biden was slated to be inaugurated outside the West Front of the Capitol Building at noon, despite safety concerns following the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol Building. For a look at this historic moment in American history, be sure to read "President Trump impeached, again, as Biden takes oath of office," on The Millerton News website, [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com).



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## MILLERTON

## Westerlind Pantry offers much missed grocery shopping experience

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Realizing residents needed a place to shop for food, Westerlind Pantry has been offering customers a small, but satisfying taste of what they've been missing: grocery shopping. The pantry officially opened its doors to the community with food offerings in September 2020.

Originally from the U.K. and currently a resident of Hillsdale, Westerlind Pantry owner Ollie Smith was first introduced to the space in the basement of 41 Main St., where the former Saperstein's store stood for more than 70 years, while on the hunt for commercial space to open a business.

Before coming to Hillsdale, Smith was employed for a decade as the vice president of culinary at Pret A Manger in the U.K.

Though he originally wanted a space with more visibility and an on-site kitchen, Smith was anxious to open a store with some sentimental value. He acknowledged he worried how he could fulfill the needs of "absolutely everybody in town" before concluding that his business would simply be open to all. Smith said he wanted to make sure the pantry was dependable, that the quality of his products were excellent and consistent and that the food was memorable.



Bringing their own food perspectives to the table, from left, Westerlind Pantry owner Ollie Smith with his pantry team, from left, Jordan Klein and Nana Sato, who have been working together running Westerlind Pantry in the basement of Westerlind at the former Saperstein's, located at 41 Main St. in Millerton.

Following three weeks of renovations, Westerlind Pantry officially opened on Sept. 23, 2020.

After stepping through the front entrance of Westerlind upstairs on the main floor, customers can satisfy their curiosity about the food pantry by walking downstairs to the lower level. As soon as their feet reach the bottom step, their eyes will dance from the wall-to-wall shelves of pantry staples, snacking essentials, international delights, prepared meals, items for the home and more.

Smith said the pantry's layout helps regulate the flow of customers, limited to no more than 10 people at a time to deal

with COVID-19 guidelines. Customers are asked to sanitize their hands when they arrive, and they can use the baskets or trollies to store their purchases while shopping, both of which are cleaned regularly. Additionally, a plastic screen has been set up at the check-out area as a barrier between the customer and the cashier and contactless payment is an available option.

To offer a treat for those who miss shopping and a familiar sensation for those coming in from the city, Smith said, "I like the fact that we can surprise people by putting things on the shelf that they wouldn't expect. It takes people on a bit of a journey, which I think food shopping

used to be about."

When Westerlind Pantry first opened for business, Smith said its only signage advertised for fresh bread. As luck would have it, the promise of fresh bread was enough to tempt customers

to visit and has since become the pantry's bestselling item, arriving fresh every day from a local baker.

Next on its list of bestsellers are the prepared foods. Varying from week to week, a third of its business comes from sales of its chicken pot pie, shepherd's pie, brisket ragu, macaroni and cheese, paella, smoked trout pate, soups, dips and so forth. While prepared foods are a developing industry in the U.K., Smith observed they haven't taken off in the U.S., though they seem to align well with people's needs during the pandemic.

Smith said about 90% of the pantry's food is local, with fresh produce coming from Rock Steady Farm and Flowers and McEnroe Organic Farm in Millerton and Full Circus Farm in Pine Plains; coffee is from Irving Farm; and prepared foods come from Nicole Craft in Amenia. Stretching beyond the local area, other inventory features cheese from a Vermont supplier; spices

from Boston, Mass.; tea from England; Kewpie mayo from Japan; Swedish linens and candy; French lollipops; and chocolate from the U.K. and Mexico

Westerlind Pantry's hours are currently from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesdays through Saturdays and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. In addition to Smith, the team includes Jordan Klein and Nana Sato, and together the trio has worked to bring their own food perspectives to the table.

"I always wanted to do something with food and 2020 seemed like the right time to do it," Sato said.

Smith is currently in the process of getting his liquor license to sell beer and cider. This month, he plans to have the shop's inventory uploaded online to the pantry's website, www.westerlindpantry.com, so customers can order food online and pick up their orders at kiosks upstairs. For more information, call 445-600 3578.

## Village Board discusses police car, block grant and 5G wireless

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Between the various reports brought to its attention on Monday, Dec. 14, the Village Board was kept informed by the Millerton Police Department, the latest research on 5G wireless and a few updates on the village's preparations for the future.

The full board was in attendance and the meeting was live streamed to the "Village of Millerton VOM" Facebook page due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As an update on the police force's new vehicle, Millerton Police Officer in Charge Michael Veeder reported that the last news he heard was that the new vehicle went on the assembly line on Sunday, Nov. 8. Once the vehicle's off the assembly line, he said it's going to go to The Cruisers Division to be outfitted and that the Millerton Police will be notified when it's fully outfitted.

Raising the village's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for discussion, Trustee Alicia Sartori reminded the board that it had asked for \$150,000 for sidewalk replacement work in the village. Totalling an estimated 600 linear square feet of sidewalk, she said the village will do as much work as it can for the money. Though the board initially talked about how many grants it has available and how much in matching funds it would have to come up with, Sartori explained the block

grant is not a matching grant.

#### The future of 5G

Sharing his exploration into 5G wireless with the board, Trustee Matthew Hartzog reported that the company SpaceX is planning to launch 12,000 internet satellites into space that will be beaming down 5G technology. If the village were to sign up with the company's subscription service Spacelink, he said the technology wouldn't be dependent on fiber optic cable.

Hartzog noted that it would still be the same 5G setup where there would be an extension added on possibly every other telephone pole. Describing the extension as being about as thick as the telephone pole and about 21 or 24 inches high, Hartzog said it will look like an extension of the telephone pole and believes it would essentially blend in. What he is still trying to research, he explained, is whether there might be a very large tower that would be feeding the information to all of the smaller towers. In response to a question from Mayor Debbie Middlebrook, he said all of the systems are going to work off the extension.

If the village wants to somehow manage what the extensions would look like, Middlebrook considered that they'd have to add it to their zoning code, and Hartzog agreed that the village needs to have zoning regulations in place if it wants the extension. Having attended a 5G webinar with fellow Trustee Joshua Schultz,

Hartzog observed that towns that have "very nice, fancy telephone poles" didn't want something foreign and alien-looking, adding that the towns had a way to taper what the extension was going to look like. To date, he said he believed the village of Millerton has about four or five "really nice telephone poles" on Dutchess Avenue by the location of the Millerton Farmers Market; the rest, he said, are "kind of standard."

Furthermore, Hartzog said he wasn't sure if the extension was going to be one per broadcasting telephone pole or every fourth telephone pole. Attempting to describe the extension, he said it would involve a box not the size of a large suitcase, but the next size down.

"Well, I think this is something we should take up in January," Middlebrook said, adding that the board could discuss its thoughts on what it might want to have in the village, especially in the village's historic district, and what the historic district allows and doesn't allow.

Hartzog said he hasn't yet found out whether the village's water tower could be used as its big tower if and when Millerton gets 5G.

For his report, Schultz informed the board that it should have a draft version of the emergency operation plan. With the exception of some additions and items listed in his footnotes, he said the main body of the document is mostly done and that the village is definitely in the homestretch.

## MILLERTON IN BRIEF

#### Take and Make craft kits at the library

Local students may pick up Take and Make craft kits through Saturday, Jan. 30, at the NorthEast-Millerton Library, at 75 Main St.

Available to children ages 9 and up, the library will dis-

tribute one kit per student per project, with instructions, during its hours operation. Kits do not include scissors.

For more information, call 518-789-3340 or go to www.nemillertonlibrary.org.

#### NECC Farmers Market open for winter

The North East Community Center's (NECC) Farmers Market has moved its winter market indoors to the Methodist Church at the corner of Dutchess Avenue and Main Street.

Stop by to pick up fresh produce, herbs, pasture-raised meats, chicken, dry-cured sausage, bacon, cheeses,

honey, fresh baked breads and a host of fresh baked pies, cakes, donuts and more.

The market will be open the second and fourth Saturday of every month through April 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, face masks and social distancing are required.

#### Virtual D&D

The NorthEast-Millerton Library is inviting the curious and the courageous to join a Zoom Dungeons and Dragons game on Saturday, Jan. 30, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Dungeon Master Josh will lead a campaign in the BX edition of the game. For ages 10 through 15.

RSVP kmcllune@nemillertonlibrary.org.

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PHOTO SUBMITTED

Since the school's founding in 1945, the teachers and staff at Maplebrook School have worked hard to foster meaningful relationships with their students as they realize their potential and gain the life skills needed to become independent adults.

## Maplebrook School celebrates 75 years of educational roots

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Students returning to Maplebrook School at the start of the academic year in September 2020 were bound to hear the ringing of the school bells across campus, which held more meaning than they realized as 2020 was also Maplebrook's 75th year anniversary of providing education and tradition in the local community.

Tracing Maplebrook School's origin back to 1945, the school was established through the collective vision of Sunny Barlow, Majorie Finger and Serena Merck, all of whom worked at the Barlow School (which later became the Kildonan School) in Amenia. Around the time the trio envisioned their own boarding school for students with learning challenges, the Barlow School changed direction and Merck looked to enroll her son in a school that would better serve his needs, said Maplebrook School Executive Director Lori Hale.

As their vision continued to take hold, Barlow, Finger and Merck decided to turn their dream into reality by purchasing the Thompson Farm, located at 5142 Route 22, from Barlow's brother, Rex Armin. As Barlow secured the property for the school, the former chicken farm was soon transformed into the Maplebrook School campus, with Finger serving as the first head of school and Merck working as the financier handling tuition.

Hale, who has been at Maplebrook since 1982, spoke of the stimulating educational environment that since its opening has provided for a unique spectrum of students that helps them become independent adults, nurturing their vocational, educational and social potential while teaching them character education and other valuable skills as they focus on their vocational and life plans.

"Maplebrook, I believe, has maintained those core values of providing that education to students who learn differently and gives them the chance to participate in the same program as a typical high school student in a small setting where you can individualize what the learning challenges for each student are," Hale said. "Those core values have stood the test of time."

Hale remarked on how students benefit from the social setting of being surrounded by others who learn differently, especially those students who come to the school needing medication. Students are also exposed

to a wider circle in the community through on-the-job training at local businesses.

Today, Maplebrook School currently has between 60 and 70 students enrolled from the local area as well as from half a dozen countries. Students between the ages of 11 and 18 receive their education through the school's academy program while students between the ages of 18 and 21 receive their education through its Institute for Collegiate and Career Studies. Class sizes range from four to eight students and lessons are individualized according to the students' learning styles.

"It's been so rewarding for me personally and professionally," Hale said, "and I think I speak for a lot of the faculty and staff members that have been here."

Granted, Hale admitted that it's not always easy to work in a boarding school, saying that, "it's not a job but a way of life," as many staff live on campus with the students. Nevertheless, she remarked that being involved has been "incredibly rewarding as it's a community within itself and we all chip in."

Like many schools in the Harlem Valley, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted Maplebrook's operations, with a reduction in student enrollment and a shift from in-person to remote instruction. Following a period of remote learning and holiday vacations, students returned to campus on Sunday, Jan. 10, though they had to have proof of negative COVID-19 tests before coming back. As a safety precaution, the school is not currently accepting any day students, and students on campus have adopted pod quarantining, keeping within their groups and practicing social distancing.

When asked how the pandemic has impacted the students who rely on routine, Hale said, "Our students usually do better with routine and sometimes that change can be unsettling for them, but I have to say they've been remarkable... and I think it's somewhat easier for boarding schools than for others to operate in a pandemic, at least for our type of students who are very compliant, eager to please and don't challenge the establishment so much."

Hale spoke highly of Head of School Jennifer Scully's vision for Maplebrook becoming a premier 21st century school, including making its global footprint and developing global relationships and becoming a more green and sustainable school all while providing a quality education while integrating and inviting new ways for students to learn.

## Webutuck BOE reviews district business, delays SRO contract

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

WEBUTUCK — Ready to make a fresh start in the new year, the North East (Webutuck) Central School District Board of Education (BOE) got up-to-date on district matters at its first meeting of 2021 on Monday evening, Jan. 4.

The BOE assembled via Zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic. As there was no public comment, the board heard brief reports from Director of Student Services/Curriculum and Instruction Jennifer Eraca and Business Administrator Robert Farrier.

Eraca reported things are moving along in the Special Education Department as well as in the Curriculum and Instruction Department. Among her updates, she said the district is working with Dutchess Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) to develop a formalized online form for referrals that can be used when students are struggling, as was previously discussed at the BOE meeting on Dec. 21, 2020. Using this form, Eraca explained that Webutuck staff can pinpoint what they've been working on and collect data of how they're progressing to figure out how to improve and be more efficient as they help students who struggle.

## Holiday house fire levels one of Silo Ridge's largest homes

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Even with the help of additional fire companies from across the region, members the Amenia Fire Company found themselves working for roughly 10 hours to extinguish a house fire reported in the Silo Ridge Field Club luxury housing development off of Route 22 in Amenia on Wednesday, Dec. 30.

Amenia Fire Company Fire Chief Aaron Howard Jr. reported that the company was originally dispatched in the early morning hours at 4:03 a.m. in response to a report about a possible house fire at 13 Sparrow View Drive. Following the company's arrival on the scene, he said they quickly realized that it was a "fully involved house fire" with flames visible from all sides and coming through the roof and windows.

Chief Howard confirmed that the structure, which was still under construction though nearing completion, was "not occupied" at the time of the fire.

"It was close to a complete loss," he said. "I think we cleared it around 2 p.m., so we were there for a good 10 hours."

Assisted by the Wassaic Fire Company, the Millerton Fire Company, the J.H. Ketcham Hose Company and the Sharon Fire Department in neighboring Connecticut, the Amenia Fire Company used a master stream to get a large flow of water over the totally engulfed building.

While there wasn't much of the house left standing after the fire was put out, Howard said the construction company behind the Silo Ridge development and golf course community, Stoneleaf Construction in Amenia, was on the scene to make an assessment. Private homes at Silo Ridge can cost upwards of \$5 million.

The fire is currently under investigation with assistance from the Dutchess County Fire Investigation Division. However, Howard commented that the fire does not appear suspicious at this time, but rather accidental.

A Silo Ridge spokesman said the company had no comment.

Farrier reported that he's been working on the 2021 district budget, including as many items as he can in order to have a working number later this month and to at least get the BOE a rollover budget projecting the district's outlook. With a business meeting scheduled for later that week, he said one of the things he will continue to look at is the fund balance as well as reserves to possibly help with decreasing funding down the road. He also shared his hopes that some federal funding from the recently approved COVID-19 stimulus package will trickle down to Webutuck to help offset expenses down the road.

As of that day, Superintendent of Schools Raymond Castellani said the district was back in full remote instruction with the anticipation that it would move into the hybrid model by Jan. 11. He reported he had a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 6, with his fellow Dutchess County superintendents as well as the Dutchess County Department of Health (DOH) to get an update on COVID-19, adding that he would share the information with the BOE and the community if there were any new information.

Castellani reported that the BOE has been struggling mildly to run its instructional program and operations smoothly. He explained it's continuing to have people whose "normal regular positions changed to something else that is outside their job description in order to keep people employed, more so to make sure our organization is running efficiently."

### School Resource Officer

Castellani specifically said he wanted guidance on the Webutuck school resource officer (SRO).

In his discussions with Dutchess County, Castellani was informed that Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Deputy Jeff Cohen, the Webutuck SRO, was promoted to detective. As a result, the sergeant from the SRO program told Castellani to consider hiring a replacement for Cohen.

Castellani said he hesitated and told the sergeant that he'd like to postpone that discussion. That said, the superintendent said he was asking the BOE to suspend the agreement with the Sheriff's Office, which provides the district with a deputy to serve as SRO, until further notice.

As part of the ensuing discussion among school board members, Castellani said the district would not have an SRO as of Monday, Jan. 11. As far as how much the district would save, he said it would be half of what the SRO's salary is, which currently totals \$40,000. When asked if the SRO would be something the district would reinstate when students return full time, whenever that is, Castellani was unsure, although he said the district will have to let the Sheriff Office's SRO program know by March.

"I want the relationship to be built first," he said.

Even as the school district shifted to its remote and hybrid learning models, Castellani told the school board how Cohen had continued to foster relationships with students by visiting their homes.

BOE President Judy Moran said she was under the impression that when Webutuck went entirely remote, they weren't paying the SRO. Castellani replied that they were paying him, but only on an as-needed basis. When Cohen was called in to do home visits, he was paid per visit. Castellani added they used Cohen's services about a dozen times in the last year.

With the school district entering budget season, Castellani said he and Farrier have been talking about the fiscal plan and district facilities. As part of that discussion, he said they want to have a Finance Committee meeting sometime in February, followed quickly thereafter by a Facilities Committee meeting.

A Finance Committee meeting was promptly scheduled via Zoom for 6 p.m. for Monday, Feb. 1, while a Facilities Committee meeting was scheduled for the following Monday, Feb. 8, at 6 p.m. via Zoom.



## The Lakeville Journal Company

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PINE PLAINS/AREA

# Sheriff's sergeant rescues dog from icy pond

By CAROL KNEELAND  
Special to The Millerton News

ANCRAMDAL — Man's best friend got a helping hand from Sgt. Heath Benansky, of the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, who braved the icy waters of a pond on Pat's Road in Ancramdale to rescue a Doggie in Distress, a one-year old Austrian German shepherd named Andy who had strayed from home.

According to department spokesman Lt. John Rivero, when the call for help came in on Friday, Jan. 15, Sheriff David P. Bartlett called Benansky, an off-duty member of the Water Rescue Squad and Copake area resident, who immediately headed to the scene. There he was assisted by Deputy Zachary Torchia and other members of the Dive Team equipped with cold water gear.

Rivero gave special credit to Benansky, a dog handler with "special place in his heart" for this familiar breed.

Using a nearby paddle board

he "was wet up to his waist and he had nothing on his feet... He didn't care about getting his uniform wet or dirty. He went right in," said Rivero.

Giving aid to both Andy and his hero involved a good deal of "scrambling" by the Dive Team, added Rivero, who said to dry and warm both man and beast it took a good many towels and blankets, and giving Benansky "a dry set of boots that he squeezed his feet into."

The rescue was made possible thanks to the quick thinking of "two ladies that were in the area walking and heard the dog yelping — obvious signs of distress. When they located where it was coming from, they noticed that it had fallen through the ice — thin ice on the pond. The puppy wasn't in an area where they could throw something to it or get to it easily," added Rivero, so the two women thought fast and called the sheriff's office.

"The most important thing was that the women were smart enough and had the where-with-

all not to go in themselves, and leave it to trained professionals," Rivero emphasized. "If a civilian had gone in there not trained, then we're looking at two victims or multiple victims."

The dog was taken to the Copake Animal Hospital, where he was checked and then returned to his owner, who had been located via an animal Lost and Found website.

Rivero said as of Monday morning, Jan. 18, his postings about Andy's adventure had received 39,000 views on social media — 20,000 as of the first night — and that Deputy Benansky "was stunned by that — the magnitude of engagement that it got."

With winter bringing challenges for pets such as Andy, Millerton Veterinary Hospital's Dr. Carolyn Cannon, DVM, advised that drying and gradually warming an animal who is cold and wet should be done immediately while its temperature is checked. If that drops below 98 degrees, the pet should be taken

in a warm car to the nearest veterinary location.

If the temperature is above 98 degrees, the animal should be taken inside, walked around and warmed gradually with drier-warmed towels or blankets, which can be tented with the air inside — and not the animal — warmed by a hair drier.

Rather than relying on Lost and Found postings, the veterinarian recommends that pet owners invest in a \$70 locator microchip, which are more reliable and will allow for an immediate reunions with lost pets.

**Columbia County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Heath Benansky of the Copake area paddled into the icy waters of a pond on Pat's Road in Ancramdale for Andy, a shivering Austrian German shepherd, who had fallen in. After the rescue, officer and dog were happily on dry land, having been warmed by other first responders at the scene.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Give a little time and save many lives

PINE PLAINS — With the month of January recognized as National Blood Donor Month, area residents were encouraged to donate their time (and blood) to those in need by stopping the blood drive held inside the Stissing Mountain High School gymnasium on Thursday, Jan. 14. Organized by the New York Blood Center. The blood drive ran from 2 to 6:30 p.m.

To remain in compliance with COVID-19 safety guidelines, donors and attendants wore face masks, temperatures were taken and donors were kept apart from one another. Halfway through the event, organizers reported that an estimated 15 people had dropped by to make a donation.

— Kaitlin Lyle



Amanda Nee, of Ancram, donated blood on Thursday afternoon, Jan. 14.



Todd Allard, a resident of Elizaville, made a donation at the blood drive held inside Stissing Mountain High School.

# Human Rights Commission seeks members from northeastern Dutchess County

By CAROL KNEELAND  
Special to The Millerton News

DUTCHESS COUNTY — Volunteers who are anxious to "foster cooperation and good will between people throughout the county and respond to any tension and conflict" have a chance to make a difference by joining the Dutchess County Human Rights Commission, according to director Jody Miller.

With two openings on the 15 member commission, Miller said she is particularly interested in expanding representation in northeastern Dutchess, whose sole member at this time is Daniel Goldhagen of Millerton, whose term expires in May.

Miller said the commission, which was re-established in 2016, holds "programs that promote good will between people — tolerance and respect — make studies of issues in the county, and... refer cases to the New York State Division of Human Rights, because we don't have investigatory power."

This year's programs include work with the Police Reform and Modernization Collabora-

tion, Doing More Than Nothing About Hate and We're All in This Together, with some work in collaboration with the Orange and Ulster County Human Rights Commissions.

Miller said members of the commission are currently involved with a town, village and city program suggested by Goldhagen in which members speak to municipal boards to familiarize elected officials about the commission's work. It's also asking the municipal boards to appoint liaisons to work with the commission should the need ever arise.

The commission takes reports of bias or hate incidents throughout the county, such as when anti-Semitic posters were being hung throughout the village of Millerton and surrounding areas a couple of years ago, and helps those involved decide how to follow-up and possibly investigate such situations. In that instance, police were brought in to investigate the postings as a hate crime.

While COVID-19 has made it difficult to hold in-person events, the commission has held listen-

ing sessions around the county, including dialog sessions called "100 Cups of Coffee," designed to bring people together to discuss community issues they feel are important.

While the commission does not receive feedback from the state on complaints that are forwarded, it does try to track outcomes by following up with those involved. Miller cited incidents in the village of Millbrook in which LGBTQ flags were torn down from businesses and anti-Semitic fliers that were posted in the village, which the commission addressed in recent years.

The commission meets monthly, mainly in Poughkeepsie; between meetings members participate in various work groups with yearly programs generally set in January.

Recognizing that the Poughkeepsie location may cause some logistical problems for northeastern Dutchess volunteers, Zoom meetings might be used to alleviate some of those difficulties.

"Anything is possible at this point," said Miller. "We just started using Zoom before the

pandemic. We can certainly look at options."

Volunteer applicants must be at least 18 and be prepared to spend approximately five to 10 hours a month on commission work, which is described in detail online. They may apply by the end of January using the application at [www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Human-Rights/Human-Rights-Commission](http://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Human-Rights/Human-Rights-Commission).

"I encourage people to apply if they think they have the time, the passion and the interest," Miller said.

### PINE PLAINS IN BRIEF

#### Flowers into Paint Workshop Jan. 21

The Pine Plains Free Library will host a Flowers into Paint Workshop on Thursday, Jan. 21, from 4 to 5 p.m. Based on the work of American artist Georgia O'Keefe, participants will design beautiful floral paintings that are larger than life.

Starting with an interactive discussion of O'Keefe's work it will follow with a painting project. Participants will need real or plastic flowers to paint, white paper or

canvas, water-based paints, brushes, water in a container, a rag or paper towels, a palette or wax paper to mix paints and a pencil. Those who don't have a flower may use a photo; those who don't have paint may draw instead.

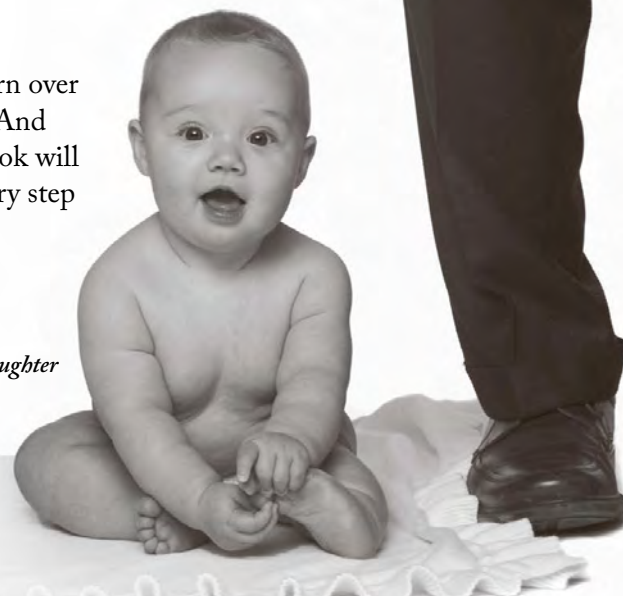
Registration for this workshop is required, at [www.forms.gle/dFsn-39rvM6TNwziT6](http://www.forms.gle/dFsn-39rvM6TNwziT6), by emailing [info@pineplainslibrary.org](mailto:info@pineplainslibrary.org) or by calling 518-398-1927.

## Some lessons last a lifetime

Isabella lives in the moment. To her, planning for her future means waiting to see if that face peeks out of those hands again. But that won't always be the case. Some day soon, with a little help, Isabella will be learning to stand on her own two feet.

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**VACCINES** *Continued from Page A1*

meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 13, Dutchess County Legislator Deirdre Houston (R-25) told residents “the federal government won’t be holding the second dose, but will release all the vaccines,” and that it’s also looking at the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, which has not yet been approved.”

As of Sunday, Jan. 17, according to New York State’s COVID-19 Vaccine Tracker of healthcare distribution sites statewide, the Mid-Hudson Region had received 111,925 total doses of coronavirus vaccines and administered 78,291 total doses, which equates to 70% of those doses being administered.

According to the Dutchess County COVID-19 Community Impact Dashboard, as of Monday afternoon, Jan. 18, there have been 16,327 confirmed cases countywide, 2,576 active cases, 153 hospitalizations and 304 deaths since the pandemic broke out last year.

Meanwhile, Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro announced on Saturday, Jan. 9, that the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health established initial Points of Dispensing (POD) sites to administer the vaccine to eligible residents; one was held at Dover Middle/High School on Saturday, Jan. 16.

The Dover POD was open by appointment from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Yet in spite of the immense need for vaccinations and

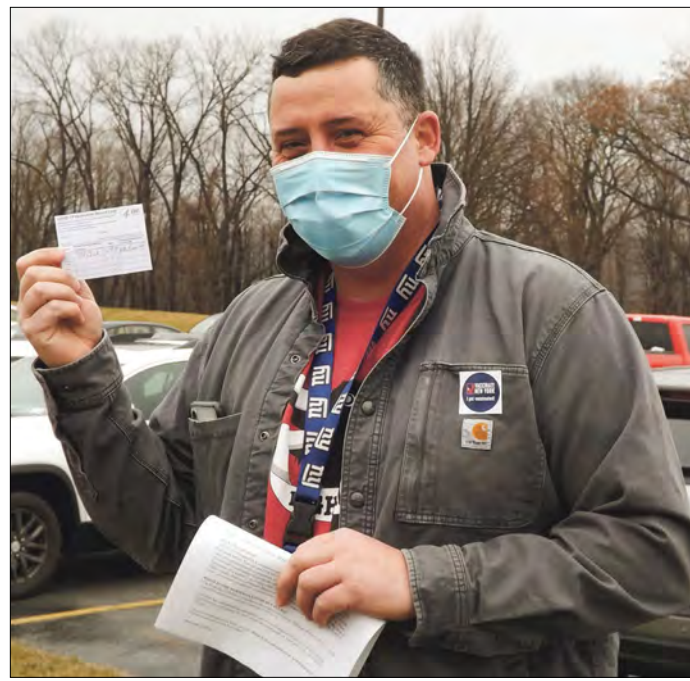


PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

**Pawling resident and kindergarten teacher Tom Sullivan received the Moderna COVID vaccine at Dover Middle/High School on Saturday, Jan. 16.**

the intense demand statewide, northeastern Dutchess residents didn’t appear to swarm the site. Absent was the expected long line stretching out in front of the school building. Instead patients were admitted swiftly into the school building once their identification and eligibility had been verified.

Once inside, eligible residents had their temperatures checked and were asked about any symptoms they might have.

After being administered either the Moderna or the Pfizer version of the vaccine, patients

were asked to wait in the lobby for 10 minutes to see if they experienced any side effects before making an appointment for their follow up shot.

“It’s nice that this resource is available that I don’t have to travel down county or down state,” said Pawling resident and kindergarten teacher Tom Sullivan following his appointment. “It’s assuring — less travel time and I get to be with my family sooner.”

“It was great — you wait 15 minutes, you set up your meeting for your next shot and you’re done,” said Joseph Albanese, a

resident of Middletown, who qualified for the vaccine as a senior citizen; he received the Pfizer vaccine.

Considering his role in the county’s administration of a vaccination program for such an historical pandemic, Dutchess County Assistant County Executive Ron Hicks said, “Every one of us in county government has had to pivot to do what we do to test, to vaccinate, to support our community. It’s actually an honor.”

The county announced on Monday, Jan. 18, it has opened new appointment slots for those eligible for Phase 1a and 1b, as it is set to receive 600 doses of the Moderna vaccine and is planning to host 600 additional appointments this week, well below its distribution capacity.

“Vaccine supply remains very limited from the state and federal government and supply allocations are not guaranteed,” according to Molinaro’s office, warning that “all appointments should be considered tentative and are subject to cancellation if the county does not receive its expected allocation.”

Once again, one of the POD Vaccination Centers will be held in Dover Plains, by appointment only, on Saturday, Jan. 23, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Dover Middle/High School at 2368 Route 22.

For more information on the county POD sites, go to [www.dutchessny.gov](http://www.dutchessny.gov).

**RENT RELIEF** *Continued from Page A1*

None of the funds, which are given directly to landlords, need to be repaid.

“[Each] allocation of funds is a one shot deal,” she stressed. “There is one payment based on a need that is determined that you have. However, people can apply again if they have a continuing need or if their need wasn’t fully met.”

Celaya said those in need may apply again for a future allocation of funds from a different source.

“They couldn’t apply to the same pot over and over again, but if we get a new infusion of dollars, they can apply again,” she said.

It is possible to combine funds from various sources to fully meet demonstrated needs. Each “pot of money” has its own

rules, with “different income thresholds and a different time period we’ll be looking at in terms of their housing needs,” she said.

The state deadline for a program covering financial difficulties caused by the COVID-19 crisis is currently set for Monday, Feb. 1, with eligible renters being entered into a lottery for the funds.

However, other programs are also available and have varying requirements and rolling deadlines.

Not wanting anyone to miss out on help, Celaya said, “We are encouraging everybody to apply to us and apply to the state.”

For more details and help with the application process, call Julio Ronda at 845-377-4407, ext. 102.

*Email news and photos to [editor@millertonnews.com](mailto:editor@millertonnews.com)*

**YEAR IN REVIEW** *Continued from Page A1*

East Town Board approved a new two-year police contract with the village of Millerton, marking the first time the two municipalities opted for a two-year rather than a three-year contract.

That same day, the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office responded to a two-car fatal crash on Route 22 in Amenia that resulted in the tragic death of a 2-year-old girl. The crash involved a 2018 Nissan Sentra operated by Millerton resident Reneisha Johnson who was reportedly struck by a 2000 Ford Explorer operated by Amenia resident Forrest McBreairt. Johnson’s young daughter, Ellie Dunlop, was a passenger in the Sentra. Johnson and Ellie were initially transported to Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital in Poughkeepsie, and then flown to Westchester Medical Center, where sadly, Ellie later passed away.

Pine Plains Pharmacy owner Nasir Mahmood was recognized by the National Community Pharmacists Association for his dedication to his work with the 2020 Calvin J. Anthony Lifetime Achievement Award.

As local, county, state and national candidates campaigned for office during the 2020 elections, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that Millbrook’s Emma Rosi, a longtime scientist at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, had been appointed to the Environmental Protection Agency’s Science Advisory Board.

**November**

Eager to participate in the

process, voters swarmed to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 3, to vote in the 2020 elections. Many had voted early through mail-in or absentee voting. After days spent waiting in anxious anticipation for early voting and absentee ballots to be tallied from across the nation, voters celebrated the historic election of former Democratic Vice President Joe Biden as the 46th president over incumbent Donald Trump, and Biden’s running mate, California Senator Kamala Harris, as the first Black-South Asian female vice president.

Despite COVID-19, the Pine Plains Free Library and The Little Nine Partners Historical Society devised a way to host its annual Evergreen Cemetery Tours, both virtually and in-person. The in-person tours were re-scheduled due to inclement weather, but then enjoyed by the community without a hitch.

While local communities organized their respective Veterans Day celebrations to honor those who have served in this nation’s military, local Town Boards adopted their municipal budgets for the 2021 fiscal year.

More than 40 years after it was purchased by the husband and wife team consisting of the late Robert and Carol Sadlon, The Millerton Moviehouse was put up for sale by Carol, who announced she is seeking “new stewards” to lead and guide the theater’s growth and evolution into the future.

Meanwhile, the Harlem Valley Rail Trail opened its new northbound extension, which stretches from Main Street in Millerton to Under Mountain

Road in Ancram.

One month after officially opening under a hybrid learning model, the North East (Webutuck) Central School District reported its first case of COVID-19 at Eugene Brooks Intermediate School on Friday, Nov. 6, prompting administrators to close all school buildings and shift to a full remote learning model. A second case of COVID-19 was reported at Webutuck Elementary School on Monday, Nov. 9, and as more coronavirus cases came to light, the district postponed its reopening plans; students and staff didn’t return to campus until Monday, Nov. 30.

The village of Millbrook reflected on the impact that “Living Millbrook” magazine co-founder and publisher Rona Boyer had on the community after her passing on Friday, Nov. 27, from lung and kidney issues at the age of 74.

**December**

The debate over whether face masks stop the spread of COVID-19 loomed close to home as readers reacted to an article and editorial published in The Millerton News on Thursday, Dec. 10, followed up with more coverage on Dec. 17 and Dec. 24, regarding the Talk of the Towne Deli’s stance against the state mask mandate, a fine issued by the health department to the deli for violating the mandate, as well as a verbal attack on one customer at the deli by another. The deli was later identified as one of many businesses whose signs was damaged by vandals, along with the NorthEast-Millerton Library, the Salisbury

Bank & Trust and other businesses on Main Street.

The town of North East and the village of Millerton rejoiced as State Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D-106) helped secure a loan worth half a million dollars for building their shared highway garage on Route 22.

The Trevor Zoo at Millbrook School was awarded a \$19,000 matching Recovery Challenge Grant to build a new red wolf breeding facility.

On Monday, Dec. 14, the Dutchess County Police Reform and Modernization Collaborative released a comprehensive report on police reform as a guide for Dutchess County municipalities to create their own police reform plans. The report was based on months of meetings among police professionals and public forums, which gave community members the chance to offer input.

Construction at the Amenia Free Library continues for its long awaited expansion project, with an opening date for the new addition scheduled for Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

In Pine Plains, the Willow Roots food pantry and The Stissing House joined forces to cook and distribute meals for local families during the pantry’s annual Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec. 20, bringing some much needed cheer to those in need during the holiday season.

Having dedicated seven years of community service as the adult program director at the Millbrook Library, Diana Bontecou retired on Dec. 31. The community expressed its thanks for her years of service.

**CUOMO** *Continued from Page A1*

of “hateful leadership.”

Given the tasks state government aims to complete and the challenges that lie ahead, he said, “We see the risk and the peril but we also see the promise and the potential... We built the greatest state in the country once before and we will do it again.”

Outlining the scope of his seven-point plan, Cuomo said New York must first defeat COVID-19 and beat back the virus’s assault in the coming months. As the state vaccinates 70 to 90% of its 20 million New Yorkers, he said it must learn the lessons of the failed public health system and realize “there will be a next time.”

Other points in the governor’s plan focused on managing

the short-term economic crisis; planning the state’s economic resurgence; seizing the opportunity to make New York a global leader in its shift to green energy; understanding the long-term effects of COVID-19; and addressing systemic injustices. Cuomo stressed all points of the plan must move forward simultaneously.

Addressing the first steps to take, Cuomo said that until the COVID-19 vaccine reaches critical mass, New Yorkers need to be diligent, reminding the public that “COVID fatigue is not an option until COVID is fatigued.”

He announced the launch of the New York State Public Health Corps and described it as a joint effort with Cornell Uni-

versity and Northwell Health that will hire 1,000 health corps fellows and train them to facilitate a statewide coordinated vaccination operation in every corner of the state.

After presenting his priorities on Monday, Cuomo continued to outline specific actions for 2021 on Tuesday, Jan. 12; Wednesday, Jan. 13; and Thursday, Jan. 14. Along with addressing how to re-open the state’s economy following its shutdown in March of 2020 after the pandemic made New York its epicenter, on Tuesday he described plans to bring arts and culture back with the launch of New York Arts Revival (a public-private partnership that will organize pop-up performances and arts events across the state)

and the launch of the Creatives Rebuild initiative.

He also discussed plans to achieve first-in-the-nation affordable internet for all low-income families; partner with state businesses for workforce opportunities; and plans to create a rapid testing network as a tool to help businesses reopen.

Last Wednesday he focused on the state’s push toward green energy, while the fourth part of his address was delivered last Thursday and focused on a \$306 billion infrastructure plan geared toward bringing New York’s airports and transportation infrastructure into the 21st Century.

More on the State of the State Address is at [www.governor.ny.gov](http://www.governor.ny.gov).

..... 2021 .....

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Events

January 21-27, 2021

**THEATER: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER**

## Glitter, Glam, Songs and a Cocktail Party with Sharon Playhouse

If you know anything about Robert Levinstein and Alan M-L Wager, the heads of the Sharon Playhouse in Sharon, Conn., then you know that they are not only Put On a Show Kind of Guys, but they're also Put on a Party Kind of Guys.

And they have a doozy planned for their winter fundraising gala, scheduled for this weekend, on Saturday, Jan. 23.

A doozy of which, you might ask? Well, both. It's a fundraising gala, so the evening begins at 7 p.m. with some of the socializing that we all miss so much from pre-COVID-19 times. It's perfect even for those of us who secretly don't like cocktail parties: It's a chance to see friends and chat from the safety of your own computer screen.

Dress up in your finest evening wear if you like (and remember that no one can see you below the waist so uncomfortable high-heeled shoes are not required) — or come in your comfiest pajamas, it's all up to you. Same with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres: Bring your own, or don't. This could be the first time in history that you can go to a cocktail party in January and not worry about breaking any new year's resolutions.

The more people who tune in for the party, of

course, the more fun it will be. But there's never a dull moment in conversation with Levinstein and Wager and it's a safe bet that someone, who knows who, will suddenly break into song during the party.

The show itself will premiere at 8 p.m. (once you have the link access you can watch it right away or save it for later).

Levinstein and Wager promise that this is a fully produced show, with either virtual backgrounds or performances recorded out in The World — look for Playhouse favorite Nicholas Ward singing "Let It Go" from "Frozen" outdoors at New York City's Cloisters, for example.

The Tri-state region's beloved Wanda Houston belts out some favorite songs in the Playhouse's Bok Gallery, which was redesigned to look like an intimate supper club for her performance.

Rex Smith, who still makes hearts flutter after all these years, will also sing a song — and encourage patrons to make donations to the Playhouse, as

will other notable performers from the area including Kevin Bacon and Kyra Sedgwick, Blair Brown and Jane Kaczmarek.

"It is a fundraiser," Levinstein and Wager reminded. They made it through a rough summer of 2020 and continued to keep singing, dancing and even movies on a new outdoor stage. For 2021, they are anticipating more of the same, but with a bigger stage, perhaps with a roof over it. And the cabaret Dinner-and-a-Show performances will begin earlier in the season, "so we can do more of them."

It seems doubtful at this point that there will be indoor seating, so the planned 2020 performances of "Brigadoon," "Singin' in the Rain" and "Mamma Mia" probably will be postponed for a while longer.

But patrons of the fundraising gala can get a sneak preview: The show will open with a performance of "The Most Beautiful Girl in the World," against a virtual backdrop of Grauman's theater in Hollywood. There will also be

three songs from "Brigadoon," including one with a dancing "dream" sequence.

"We're thinking of this as Past, Present and Future," Levinstein said of the lineup of songs for the Jan. 23 show.

"We'll have brand new things done just for us. We'll have performances from past productions: 'Anything Goes' and 'Beauty and the Beast.' The 'Brigadoon' section is really lovely; we still hope to do that in the future."

Tickets for the gala are \$25 per household; Angel donors who have given \$1,000 or more get free access to the party and the show. Donations are welcome and encouraged, and will help fund not only future shows but also the Playhouse's classes in theater and dance, for adults, teens and children.

The winter session is beginning now. Classes are held both "virtually" and in person, with a limit on how many students can be in person at a time.

The classes will be taught by the playhouse's new director of education, Michael Baldwin, with Amber Cameron and Sarah Cuoco.

Classes are either \$85 or \$90 for six sessions, depending on the class.

For information on all these exciting opportunities, go to [www.sharon-playhouse.org](http://www.sharon-playhouse.org).

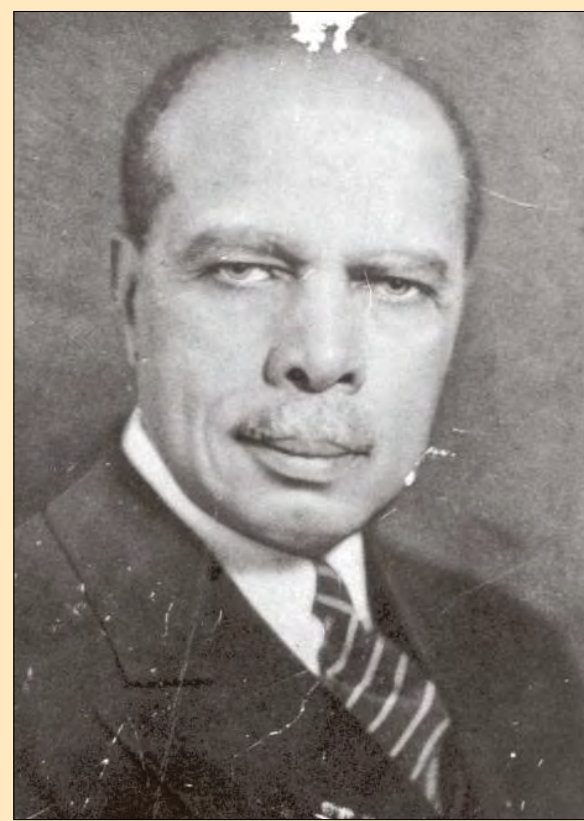


PHOTO FROM STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES OF FLORIDA

**Writer, civil rights activist, lawyer, educator and Great Barrington resident James Weldon Johnson will be the subject of an online talk on Feb. 5.**

**HISTORY: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER**

## Singing the Praises Of an Unsung Hero

In celebration of Black History Month, the Community Development Corporation of South Berkshire (CDCSB) will present a lecture that examines the life — and the historic home in Great Barrington, Mass. — of James Weldon Johnson on Friday, Feb. 5.

A native of Jacksonville, Fla., Johnson became famous during the Harlem Renaissance for his own poems and novels, for his anthologies of poems and spirituals of Black Americans and for writing the lyrics to "Lift Every Voice and Sing," which has been called the Black National Anthem.

But the arts were only a small part of Johnson's life. He was also a practicing attorney; a civil rights activist and a leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); and a professor at New York University and then the historically Black Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn.

Johnson was also a diplomat and served as the U.S. consul to Venezuela and Nicaragua under Theodore Roosevelt.

Johnson, who died in 1938, lived in the 1920s and 1930s in

a tiny cabin in Great Barrington with his wife, civil rights activist Grace Nail Johnson.

The cabin is now owned by Rufus Jones, who has been meticulously restoring the century-old house with his wife, Jill Rosenberg-Jones.

Jones is the founder and president of the James Weldon Johnson Foundation in Great Barrington and is on the Board of Directors of the CDCSB.

He will give the live, online presentation about Johnson's life, work and home on Friday, Feb. 5, at 7 p.m. There will be time for questions and answers after the presentation.

"I recognize the deep connection between what the CDCSB is doing to provide safe and affordable homes in the south Berkshires with what Johnson and his wife were seeking and what we, as a family are seeking as African Americans in a predominantly white community," Jones said.

"It's about the power of place, a place to raise our families in a safe and caring community."

"This lecture ex-

*Continued on next page*

### TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Look for a new calendar of events at our website, [www.tricornernews.com/events-calendar](http://www.tricornernews.com/events-calendar). We will also include the calendar in our print edition as space allows.

### THE BEAUTY OF BOTTICELLI IN A ZOOM TALK

Renaissance art historian Elaine Ruffolo will present a tour of the works of Sandro Botticelli (1445-1510), one of the greatest painters of the Florentine Renaissance, in a free Zoom talk sponsored by the Minor Memorial Library in Roxbury, Conn., on Monday, Feb. 1, at 4 p.m.

The talk is titled "Botticelli, Bankers and The Bonfire of the Vanities" and will trace the life and times of Botticelli from his role as a painter to the Medici bankers to a devoted follower of fiery Savonarola.

There is no charge for this program, but registration is required. RSVP online at [www.minormemoriallibrary.org](http://www.minormemoriallibrary.org) to receive the Zoom link.



DETAIL COURTESY MINOR MEMORIAL LIBRARY

**This detail is from "The Birth of Venus," which will be included in a talk on the work of Sandro Botticelli on Feb. 1.**

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## Emergency Department at Winsted Health Center is Moving

**MONDAY, JANUARY 18** the Emergency Department at 115 Spencer Street is moving to the new Hartford HealthCare HealthCenter at **80 South Main Street, Winsted**, at the corner of Routes 8 & 44.

The ED hours remain 9AM – 9PM, 7 days a week  
 There will be no interruption in service.



[Charlottehungerford.org/emergency](http://Charlottehungerford.org/emergency)



007: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

# An Evening of Bond, Blofeld and Bouffant Hairdos

Most readers of this newspaper are sufficiently seasoned that they have chosen a favorite James Bond — either Roger Moore or Sean Connery. Perhaps some younger readers might throw in a vote for Daniel Craig or Pierce Brosnan.

But it's entirely possible that our youngest generations might ask innocently, "Who is James Bond?" After all, it's been five years since the most recent film in the franchise (the relatively forgettable "Spectre," in 2015; a new entry, "No Time To Die," might be out as soon as April of this year).

Don't scorn those youngsters; envy them. After all, they get to discover the James Bond films and books with new eyes; it's like being a teenager and discovering that there was a band called The Beatles, and having the chance to hear their songs for the first time. How fresh! How thrilling!

## TAKING STOCK OF ALL THE BONDS

Anyone who would like to begin Bond Binging can find many of the films on streaming services such as Amazon Prime and Hulu. The first of the films, and a good place to begin, is "Dr. No," which introduced the suave spy to moviegoers and also introduced young Sean Connery in the lead role.

From there you could continue on sequentially but you'll have to make an important decision at several junctures, and that decision will involve whether you watch some of the minor, one-shot Bonds or only stick with the main canon.

In other words, do you skip David Niven in "Casino Royale," which was a parody and not an actual spy thriller (but which has theme music by Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass)? Do you watch the two Timothy Dalton entries ("License to Kill" and "The Living Daylights," which had Maryam D'Abo and her cello as the somewhat ridiculous love interest)?

## A BOND LIKE NO OTHER (EXCEPT AUSTIN POWERS)

And then of course ... there is the 1969 George Lazenby single entry into the world of Bond: "On Her Majesty's Secret Service."

Even many ardent Bond fans have never seen this one — or haven't seen it since it aired occasionally on network television back in the 1970s.

But this film has a lot to offer in this day and age.

For one thing, its plot centers around Ernst Blofeld's efforts to destroy England's agricultural economy through germ warfare.

This is one of the few Bond films that is actually based on an Ian Fleming



novel; it's the second in the "Blofeld Trilogy," which began with "Thunderball" and ended with "You Only Live Twice" — although Blofeld and his white cat appeared onscreen many more than three times. He was played by actors including Donald Pleasance, Charles Gray, Max von Sydow, Christoph Waltz (most recently) and was parodied by Mike Myers in the Austin Powers films.

If you like the Austin Powers films, it's a safe bet to say you'll like the out-

rageous grooviness of this particular Bond film. Bond wears ruffled shirts and, at one point, a kilt. There are shaggy flokati rugs. There are bosomy girls with bouffant hairdos.

If you're a fan of 1970s kitsch you'll also get a chance to see an icon from that era, Telly Savalas, playing the bald Blofeld.

## AND YET, IT'S PRETTY ELEGANT

Unlike many of the other Bond films, which got frankly a little tacky and a little wacky, "On Her Majesty's Secret Service" is still a relatively elegant and understated production.

The Bond Girl is Diana

Boondocks Film Society will show the 1969 James Bond film "On Her Majesty's Secret Service," starring George Lazenby as Bond and Diana Rigg as the Bond Girl who becomes his wife, on Jan. 30.

Rigg, famous not only for her catsuit in "The Avengers" but also, many years later, for her plummy intros to British television programs on PBS and a turn on "Game of Thrones."

Bond in this film (and the novel) is a more fully sketched out character, who mourns a lost love (Vesper Lynd) and then eventually marries Rigg (although she is shot to death shortly after the wedding, at the end of the film; Bond must always be a free agent).

Elegance aside, there is still plenty of shooting and skiing and gadgets and discreet sex.

In other words, on a cold quarantine winter you could find worse things to do than enjoy this film.

## BOONDOCKS FILM SOCIETY AT FOUR BROTHERS

Where to see it? Conveniently, Boondocks Film Society (based in West Cornwall, Conn.) resurfaces this month with its first film screening in many months. The film is: "On Her Majesty's Secret

Service."

Boondocks organizer Jeff Palfini has chosen the Four Brothers Drive-In in Amenia, N.Y., as the site for the screening. Traditionally, Palfini tries to find a venue that in some way reflects the movie plot, but in this COVID-19 winter, the drive-in is one of only a few screening options available.

"On Her Majesty's Secret Service" will be shown on Saturday, Jan. 30, at 6:30 p.m. The drive-in will open at 6 p.m., not only so you can get there early and get a choice parking spot but also so you can sample the themed foods and craft cocktails that always accompany a Boondocks screening.

The menu hasn't been announced yet but, since this film is set in Switzerland, perhaps it will include fondue and chocolate. You can either have food delivered to your car or truck, car-hop style; or you can pick up food at the Four Brothers restaurant.

As for heat on a cool evening, you have the option of course of keeping your engine running during the film, but most groups will find that they only need to restart a few times during the showing. There is also expected to be an intermission.

Tickets are \$14 for person in each vehicle and should be ordered in advance. To find out more and to get the ticket link, go to <https://boondocks-filmsociety.org/now-showing>.

EXERCISE: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

# A Chance To Get Outside and Exercise — or Stay Indoors!

As we come to the end of almost a full year in quarantine, with concerns that the new COVID-19 variant is even more contagious than the original, it seems likely that we will not be going to the gym anytime soon.

And of course it's winter now, so many people have stopped hiking for the season. But some people actually like to hike in snow. If they do, they can sign up for outdoor serious walking with Daryl Byrne from Norfolk, Conn., whose vigorous outings always include a scenic view.

Byrne is a former Corpsman with the U.S. Navy and a retired firefighter/paramedic for the University of Connecticut so you don't have to worry about twisting your ankle on an icy trail and not being able to get home safely.

His hikes are organized through the YMCA at Geer Village (NWCT YMCA); members can sign up through the Y's motionvibe website and nonmembers can take part by calling member services at 860-824-2790 and paying an \$11 per hike fee.

The hikes are scheduled for 11 a.m. every other Sunday and on the third Wednesday of each month.

A variety of hikes is offered, graded by difficulty and distance. Details are posted on the YMCA



PHOTO COURTESY DARYL BYRNE

**Daryl Byrne of Norfolk, Conn., is leading hikes to some of the most scenic peaks in the region this winter, including this one on the Mattatuck Trail.**

motionvibe website. Call member services for information. If you'd like to suggest a trail or get detailed information on how you should dress, what you should bring or how long you should expect to be outdoors, leave a message at the Y and Byrne will return your call (YMCA members can use motionvibe app to message him directly).

If you're more of an indoor exerciser, as I am, you probably know that there are a million online fitness classes, some of which are very good.

The YMCA also has

online classes. I learned recently that my college offers free virtual exercise classes for alumni. They're live, which is kind of good because in theory that will force me to actually "show up," in every sense.

I would have liked to test out some of the online classes and offer tips on which ones seem the best — but of course I can't because they're only open to alumni. Contact your college's alumni association, or do an internet search for "free alumni online exercise" and the name of your college, and see what they have.

## ...Unsung Hero

Continued from previous page

plores why we're here and asks the attendees to speak to the power of this place and our place within the community."

The lecture is free. Reservations are required; to access the Zoom link, contact [allison@cdcsb.org](mailto:allison@cdcsb.org) to

reserve. Donations in support of the CDCSB's work can be made at [www.cdcsb.org/donate](http://www.cdcsb.org/donate).

This is the first of what will be an ongoing series of talks sponsored by CDCSB. Learn more at [www.cdcsb.org](http://www.cdcsb.org).

To advertise your event, call 860-435-9873 or email [advertising@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:advertising@lakevillejournal.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Despite concerns about COVID-19, some cultural venues are opening again and some events are being scheduled — but some events are then being canceled as infections rise again. It's a good idea to check websites before you go to an event.



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# MILLBROOK

## Town of Washington organizes for 2021, seeks board member

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE  
judithb@millertonnews.com

WASHINGTON — The annual Town of Washington (TOW) re-organization meeting was followed by its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Jan. 14; Town Supervisor Gary Ciferri presided at the Zoom meeting held due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Councilmembers Stephen Turletes, Robert Audia and Michael Murphy were in attendance as was Town Clerk Mary Alex.

### Reorg details

Meetings for 2021 will take place on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. and will be available on Zoom only until further notice. The link for Zoom and the dates can be found on the TOW website, www.washingtonny.org.

A blanket resolution of 13 items was adopted, including appointments: Deputy Supervisor is Councilman Turletes; Lois Petrone is bookkeeper to the supervisor; Christine Briggs is both Justice Court clerk and clerk to the assessor; Chelsea Edson is recreation director; Kelly Cassinelli, formerly with the Recreation Department has moved to become Building Department clerk; Nancy Patrick remains zoning administrator; James Finley is building inspector; Nikki Caul is secretary to the Planning Board; constables are Louis Spagnola II and James Bownas; Anthony DeBonis remains dog control officer.

A resolution for the appointments of volunteers named the following: Edward Jorgensen to the Planning Board with a term ending Dec. 31, 2027; Fletcher Coddington to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), with a term ending Dec. 31, 2025; David Greenwood as both town historian and chair of the Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC); both terms expire Dec. 21 of this year.

On the recommendation of the Recreation Commission a resolution was made to appoint Aaron Kelly to the commission through Dec. 31, 2025.

The Board of Assessment Review has three positions available, which expire on Sept. 30 of 2021, 2023 and 2025.

The Bank of Millbrook will be the official depository of town funds; the firm of Van De Water and Van De Water will be the attorney for the town. Councilman Audia disclosed he serves on the board of the Bank of Millbrook. The supervisor was authorized to invest town funds in time or authorized investments as approved by the Town Board.

The official rate of mileage for reimbursement to employees and elected officials while on official town business is the IRS rate of .56 cents per mile.

Two newspapers were designated as the official papers of the town: The Poughkeepsie Journal as a daily paper and The Millerton News as the weekly paper. Legal notices will be published upon publication needs.

In the absence of the town supervisor, the interim officers will be: first, Councilman Turletes, second Councilman Audia and third, Councilman Murphy.

A final resolution scheduled a special meeting to interview candi-

dates for the vacancy left by the death of the late Councilman Al De Bonis last year and any other business that may arise on Wednesday, Jan. 27, or Thursday, Jan. 28.

### Regular business

Department reports followed. Highway Superintendent Joseph Spagnola submitted his expense report. He wants to extend work previously done from Deep Hollow Road to Tower Hill Road and asked for financial support. Some Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) money may be available for that, he said.

Bookkeeper Petrone asked for an extension to give the Annual Report, until possibly April. The board agreed.

Alex reported that tax bills were being prepared and should be in the mail by Friday, Jan. 15, or Tuesday, Jan. 19. The request that the annual audit be done at a meeting with a majority of the Town Board present to audit the records of the town clerk, the town bookkeeper and court clerk will be honored at a meeting on Jan. 27 or 28. Justices Elizabeth Shequine and Jeff Feigelson requested an outside, independent audit of their accounts. The annual request will be done at a cost of \$3,500.

Turletes and Recreation Director Edson reported that while COVID-19 has greatly limited what programs are available, those that have been offered have been full. A Kid's Yoga program is to begin in February.

Edson reported that the new thermostat at Guertin Gym is working well and she is satisfied with its performance and her ability to utilize it. The Recreation Department is looking to begin a program for toddlers this spring at the Town Park.

A route for the marathon being planned by the Eastern Dutchess Road Runners Club originally included a stretch along Wild Wood Road; Spagnola and Alex now feel it could be hazardous and plan to be in touch with the marathon organizers to ask them to plan another route.

The supervisor would like to establish a committee of Town Board members and town staff to deal with particular zoning matters. It will include the supervisor, Councilman Murphy and the town clerk.

There were no public comments. The board went into an executive session and the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

The next regular meeting is set for Thursday, Feb. 11, at 6 p.m., on Zoom. Access the website for more information at www.washingtonny.org.

# Business in Millbrook: Is it surviving COVID, and will it in '21?

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE  
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — At the beginning of 2020, the Millbrook Business Association (MBA) was looking forward to a good, if ordinary, year. With a new president, Millbrook village Trustee Kevin McGrane, new vice president, David Gruning, and a new website (still being designed), the future held promise. But by spring 2020, the coronavirus pandemic had changed everything, including the Millbrook economy and how local businesses were faring.

Governor Andrew Cuomo ordered non-essential businesses to shut down temporarily in mid-March due to the virus. Some were able to simply change their hours and offer curbside service or delivery, like restaurants; others, later on, could open at a limited capacity by enforcing safety protocols like requiring face masks and offering hand sanitizer. Now, roughly one year later, the MBA gave an update on how local businesses are faring.

Jennifer Moriarty, who owns the gift shop, Juniper, on Franklin Avenue, said she is grateful her business is doing well. She credits her customers shop online and in person, understanding how important it is to shop local. Juniper has adjusted its hours and days.

"Our customers care and stand by us," said Moriarty. "To survive these trying times we need this to continue."

Gruning said that the home décor business he's involved with, Millbrook House, located at 3300 Franklin Ave., which also sells unique gift items and offers interior design services, has a clientele that comes mostly from the city, by appointment. That, he said, has made a difference in maintaining a steady customer base that's not reliant on walk-in business.

Millbrook House follows all COVID-19 safety measures, and is looking forward to seeing things return to normal, said Gruning. The business is currently updating its website.

Irene Wing, who manages St. Joseph's Church's thrift store, Uncle Al's Attic, said it's being very careful to observe all safety measures, and continues to only allow a few customers in the shop at once. It's still managing to maintain a steady business, she said.

The pandemic has brought city residents and others to Millbrook, said Wing. She spoke of three young ladies who were in the Hudson Valley hiking before winter arrived, who stopped in the village to investigate. They told Wing that they were surprised at how careful everyone was about wearing masks, social distancing, while still being friendly and inviting. Wing said she hopes that will bode well for future business in Millbrook.

Alicia Adams Alpaca reported an uptick in online sales during the pandemic, said employee Heather Loveland, who feels the Franklin Avenue store is lucky it can sell online. The popular shop is open, sanitizing, requiring masks and following all CDC guidelines for keeping shoppers safe.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Left, Kate Anderson, manager of Merritt Bookstore, with store owner Kira Wizner. Everyone is required to wear masks, there are hand sanitizing stations throughout and social distancing is required to keep everyone protected from the coronavirus. Wizner also offers customers online and telephone orders, as well as curbside pickup.

A number of village businesses made good use of the warmer weather before the colder weather arrived, with sidewalk sales and outdoor dining.

The Antiques Mall and Millbrook Antiques both capitalized on the idea, and business was steady throughout much of the spring and summer, according to those who worked there. Black Friday and Small Business Saturday saw active sales, reported the two longtime businesses. They hope January and the rest of winter will keep the trend going.

But there have been changes in the Millbrook business community, according to the MBA. The Painted Peach, which was located on Front Street next to

the Post Office, has closed. Its owner and one of the vendors who sold out of the store now sell their wares out of the Antiques Mall. It seemed like a good fit, said Gruning, who added the women fortunately have a loyal following.

J. McLaughlin manager Ann Barton reported the upscale clothing store is holding its own, as it has many steady customers.

"We've been busy," said Barton after the holidays. "[Customers] feel safe, because we limit the amount [who can shop at once]. We sanitize continuously; clothes are left for 24 hours after they've been tried on before they are brought back out."

Barton said the store also has new customers from the city, who

want to escape to the "country" for a break.

The new Cordially Corinne's has been open for a few months now. Its owner, Corinne Tardio, said her paper specialty shop did better than expected during the summer, but did not report on holiday sales. She's taking every safety precaution to protect her customers.

Marona's Market manager Jan Smith said business has picked up during the pandemic. The community-minded supermarket is sanitizing regularly and following all safety protocols. Smith said she sees new faces all the time as well as her "steadies."

Two other businesses that closed include the Blue Barn B'nB. Proprietor Joan LaCasse retired after six years in Millbrook, announcing she wanted to relax.

"I'll have fond memories, and I've made good friends," she said. "But it's time for a new chapter, to turn to a new page."

Samantha's Sweet Shop on Church Street also closed, due to owner Samantha Martin getting ill, though no word if it was with COVID-19. The sweet shop was open for only two summers as well as for 2020. Martin said she was "sad" about closing, and thanked everyone who helped her along the way. She added the sweet shop wasn't her primary business and that all proceeds supported the community.

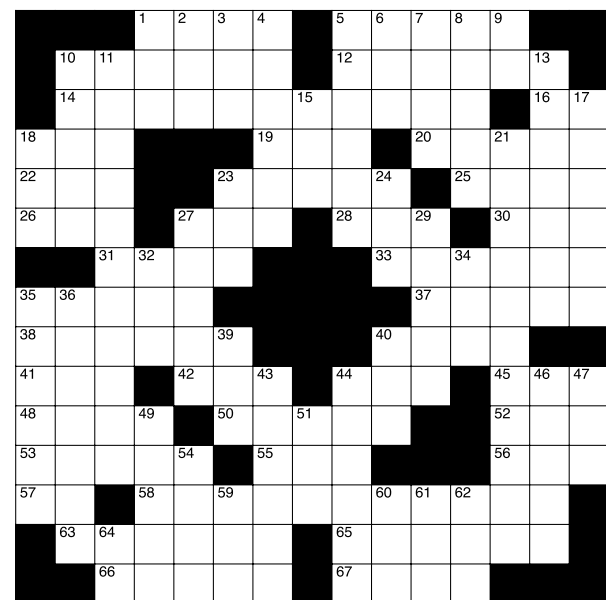
"It is hard to keep a business open in Millbrook — support for all of the small businesses is imperative for them to stay open," she said. "This is their livelihood and saying you'll support them and buying [their goods] are two different things."

And that's the bottom line, agree Millbrook merchants, who hope locals and visitors will do exactly that in 2021, to help them survive the current health crisis and beyond.

## Brain Teasers

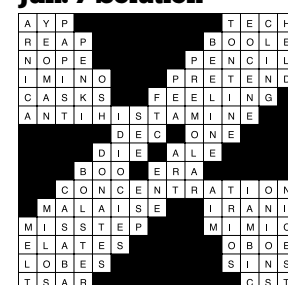
### CLUES ACROSS

1. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
5. 2014 Winter Olympics host
10. Soft fabric
12. Covered in flowers
14. Works at a college or university
16. Keeps us cool
18. Corpuscule count (abbr.)
19. Similar
20. Birthplace of Muhammad
22. They \_\_\_
23. Preamble to a book
25. Southern China people
26. Hair product
27. The woman
28. Partner to cheese
30. One point north of due east
31. Round Dutch cheese
33. Be in awe of
35. Christmas song
37. Emits coherent radiation
38. Something that is comparable to another
40. Monetary unit
41. The cutting part of a drill
42. Resinlike substance secreted by certain insects
44. Touch lightly
45. Toyota SUV
48. \_\_\_ and Andy, TV show
50. Made less dangerous
52. Assets under management (abbr.)
53. Nostrils
55. Moved quickly
56. Thai isthmus
57. TV personality Roker
58. Honors anew
63. Rags
65. One who obtains pleasure from inflicting pain or others
66. Marketplaces
67. Dark brown or black



21. Rich desserts
23. Unique motor (abbr.)
24. Disfigure
27. Chemical substance
29. Slang for famous person
32. Department of Labor
34. The A-team rode around in one
35. Beach cabin
36. Living things
39. Gun (slang)
40. Disconsolate
43. Stroke gently
44. Actress Richards
46. "Cletus Hogg" actor
47. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
49. Brazilian mountain range
51. Upset
54. One with supernatural insight
59. Insecticide
60. Taxi
61. "Much \_\_\_ about nothing"
62. Cannister
64. Popular clothing retailer

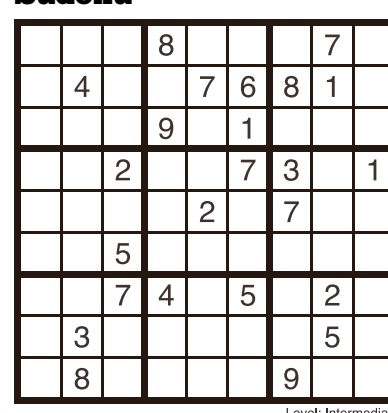
### Jan. 7 Solution



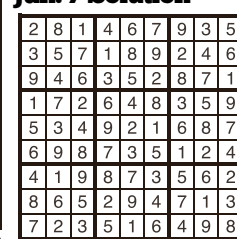
### CLUES DOWN

1. Nowhere to be found (abbr.)
2. Not new
3. Brew
4. Stain with mud
5. Chief or leader
6. Luke Skywalker's mentor \_\_\_ Wan
7. Type of sauce
8. Sharpens
9. Priestess loved by Zeus
10. Jean Henri \_\_\_, French entomologist
11. Regulates supply of fuel
13. Disturbing and horrifying
15. Equal (prefix)
17. Hosts film festival
18. Tattered piece of clothing

### Sudoku



### Jan. 7 Solution



## Realtor® at Large

Each municipality in Connecticut has a number of commissions looking after the welfare of their community. Inland Wetlands happens to be one of them and is charged with protecting the water and wetlands of their town. The Commission is filled with volunteers giving their time to ensure that regulations are followed to protect the Town's resources. The CT DEEP has an excellent primer on how ordinary community members can participate with their Inland Wetlands Commission. This is called A Citizen's Guide to Participating in the Municipal Regulations of Inlands Wetlands and Watercourses and can be found on the CT DEEP website. The more people who participate, the stronger the community. Happy to email the Citizen's Guide.

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EDITORIAL

Local journalism survives here, thanks to you

This time last year, The Lakeville Journal Company had come through a critical time in its history. Small community newspaper companies have never been places to find big profits, but in the rural communities we serve in northern Litchfield and eastern Dutchess counties in Connecticut and New York respectively, it had become more and more of a challenge to maintain printed weekly newspapers covering all our communities. To this mission, however, we remained deeply committed, so we who work at the company decided to research and find a different way to finance the papers, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News.

What was then the Membership Model, the solution we decided to try after being schooled on it by a publisher in California, found great support throughout our communities in both newspapers' coverage areas. It saved the company, and actually helped put us on a firmer financial footing. It was more than we ever expected, and the support of our readers meant so much at that moment.

Then, when the pandemic hit all of us on Earth in March, it was felt quickly in the economy of the Tri-state region. But as discussed previously in this space, we were able to apply for and receive money through the PPP loans from the federal government in the amount of \$146,643. Since then, we have applied to have that loan become a grant, and we met the qualifications to have that happen, which included using the money for payroll.

During the past year, other steps have been taken to keep the company as lean as possible, and with COVID-19 changing the way all of us work, opportunities have arisen to do that. We closed our Millerton News office at the end of the summer, in that the editorial staff had been working remotely since March. They have the office in Falls Village, Conn., available to them if they need a space to work. But remote writing and designing of pages has been working well. In addition, we have raised the cost of the newspapers to a \$2 cover price.

All this meant that our appeal to readers this year was somewhat different than last year. Our owners have taken the lead on the 2020-21 appeal, and composed a letter to readers that has run in both our newspapers as inserts, with mail-back envelopes included, and as printed ads in the papers. The response has once again exceeded our expectations.

This time last year, we had received \$114,713.86 in membership support. This year, for the newly named Community Contributor model (changed so as not to be confused with our owners' support of the company, which has been generous and so very meaningful over more than 20 years, in that they are also known as members of the company), we have received \$82,533.09. Knowing the way the world has changed so very dramatically since January 2020, it is again extremely encouraging to know so many of our readers are willing to step in to be sure the company survives another year, and into the future.

See the list of contributors' names [www.tricornernews.com/community-contributors-oct-22-2020-jan-11-2021](http://www.tricornernews.com/community-contributors-oct-22-2020-jan-11-2021). This is the time to express profound gratitude to them, who have once again shown their belief that local journalism is worth saving, and to our owners, who have stuck with us through some very tough times. Going into 2021, we take our mission to cover our communities more seriously than ever. There are many challenges to face this year, but this company will be here to cover all the local news and we will be able to keep our readers informed on into the future. Thank you all.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Salisbury Bank thankful for holiday donations

As many families in our communities are experiencing hardship during these unprecedented times, Salisbury Bank is proud to have sponsored our 13th annual "Fill-the-Basket" food drive to benefit local food pantries.

Our 14 branch offices located in Berkshire County, Mass., Litchfield County, Conn., and Dutchess, Orange and Ulster Counties in New York, collected food and cash donations throughout the months of November and December. Together we were able to collect and donate over 1,700 non-perishable food and household items as well as \$719 in cash donations. In addition, Salisbury Bank donated \$1,000 to each organization in the communities we serve.

All items collected, including monetary contributions, were donated directly to local food pantries serving each area:

- Center for Compassion (Dover Plains, N.Y.)
- Fishes and Loaves (Canaan, Conn.)
- Fishkill Food Pantry (Fishkill, N.Y.)

- Hudson River Housing (Poughkeepsie and Red Oaks Mill, N.Y.)
- Millerton Food Pantry (Millerton, N.Y.)
- Ella's Closet (Sharon, Conn.)
- People's Pantry (Great Barrington, Mass.)
- Sheffield Food Assistance (Sheffield and South Egremont, Mass.)
- St. Mary's Hope Food Pantry (Newburgh, N.Y.)
- The Corner Food Pantry (Lakeville and Salisbury, Conn.)
- The Family of New Paltz (New Paltz, N.Y.)

On behalf of our employees, we are honored to support local food pantries that serve hundreds of families during the holiday season and throughout the year. We are grateful for all the customers and community members who helped make this possible.

**Shelly Humeston,**  
Sr. Vice President, Salisbury Bank and Trust Company  
Pine Plains



Retribution or righting the ship?

The cost to the nation has been tremendous. After the inspired presidency of the first Black leader, the next president took advantage of latent hostility for that revolution and set about closing down international brotherhood and promotion of democracy, preferring to close borders, prop up familial business, squeeze every bit of corruption from business and government funding possible and, essentially, prove himself to be more corrupt than any previous president.

In fact, the estimate is that during his term, the president bilked or cost the economy of the nation more than 9% of the gross nation product of any one year. And \$83,000,000,000 is a huge sum that is still being counted. His misdeeds are hanging around his neck and in court filings, all being exposed in the media and under public and political scrutiny.

With dozens of court cases hanging over his head, there was no recourse except to stall, put up roadblocks and call on similarly corrupt government officials, especially his faithful "lapdogs" (as one paper calls them) in efforts to delay what is surely clear cases of fraud, personal enrichment schemes and, above all, a level of immorality that damaged the country throughout his term and infects it still.

Remember, this is a man who has had a long checkered histo-

Shame on us

Most of us have added to the ingredients of a cauldron of simmering political, racial and social stew over the past 10 years. A stew mostly overlooked and ignored until it boiled over on Jan. 6, that manifested over the past four years of the Trump administration. That administration's agenda led to an extreme racial divide.

Today we're experiencing radical attacks on our social freedoms, law enforcement and hundreds of years of history; educational opportunity and young thoughts suppressed; polite social, political and ethical decorum gone. Congress is so dysfunctional that it may as well not exist. Our electoral process is an embarrassment and a laughing stock around the world — not overlooked by our enemies — enemies waiting to insert their control over socialist nations. We could be headed there if we don't put the brakes on quickly.

Let me be clear: I don't like the now twice impeached former President Trump and I never have. He can be arrogant and bellicose. What I do like are his many positive accomplishments. He took on the "get nothing done" political establishment and made life better for U.S. citizens and important allies despite four years of constant harassment and abuse perpetrated by liberals and the politically biased mainstream and social media that constantly undermined him and his supporters.

And it continues. This country will become more severely divided unless our new president, Joseph Biden, can step up, control his Democratic party and calm this nation. Trump's selfish and reckless rhetoric on Jan. 6 cannot be condoned. But neither can the media's attacks and politically biased censorship be ignored.

Let's now give President Biden a chance to lead, which was

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Peter Riva

ry of evading the law, taxes and regulations. He has, for decades, faced litigation and personal financial downturns that many have caused to question how he got out of debt more than once. Similarly, members of his family have also been implicated. Enter other nefarious players, many from international criminal organizations, who helped him recover and then were allowed to bilk the nation of more funds.

Some of the later revelations of his time in office show he was taking bribes and pedaling influence for pardons and defense contracts, property usage and other schemes, which have yet to be legally pursued by authorities — now hot on this trail still. It is estimated it will take 10 or more years to uncover all the tentacles of this corruption. But court cases are and will continue to pile up. He's going down, hard.

Oh, and in case I didn't mention it, this is President Zuma of South Africa I'm writing about. The similarity may prove uncanny.

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

VETERAN'S CORNER

Larry Conklin

never given to Trump. I believe that Trump, to his credit, organized and delivered the prompt protection of all states from COVID-19. At the state level, we ran into roadblocks from incompetent governors and mayors who failed to organize respond to the pandemic and shamefully blamed others for their lack of leadership.

Once again, Florida shines as a role model. That state's governor hired additional healthcare workers and opened unused venues and mobilized drive-in testing and vaccination sites. New York, to the contrary, again failed miserably. It's been total dysfunction under Governor Andrew Cuomo. He's great as a bloviator but short on substance, with the distinction of being the only governor in this nation directly responsible for the deaths of thousands of senior citizens due to his 40-something day mandate to direct virus infected seniors into assisted living facilities and nursing homes at the height of the pandemic.

Now we must see if Biden has the fortitude and grit to guide this nation out of its current health and economic crisis; it depends entirely upon him.

I'd normally sign off with a "God bless you," to my readers, but I'm too disgusted with the present state of the world and, to be frank, not in the mood. Let me instead say, "God, please look over the survival of this still great but troubled nation." Good bye for now.

Millerton resident Larry Conklin is a Vietnam War veteran and member of both the American Legion Post 178 in Millerton, N.Y., and the Couch-Pipa VFW Post 6851 in North Canaan, Conn.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sen. Schumer, thank you, for supporting independent theaters

Over the past months, we have kept you, our loyal customers, updated on our cinema's situation, and we'd like to share a further update with you now to thank a key champion who was instrumental in ensuring that independent cinemas in our state of New York can bridge the pandemic.

During the months that Congress deliberated over COVID relief, Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) has worked tirelessly and successfully to secure aid for New York's cultural institutions, including independent movie theaters. This assistance is critical to keeping the industry alive, supporting the livelihoods of entrepreneurs and workers and protecting a critical piece of New York's economy. We also want to acknowledge the support of all the bipartisan senators and members of Congress who worked to ensure that movie theaters could get the relief we need to survive the financial impact of the pandemic. Senator Schumer champi-

oned this relief program and worked to include independent movie theaters in the proposal. He played a key role in the COVID package negotiations, and ultimately, was successful in working with the bill sponsors Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and John Cornyn (R-Texas) to pass relief for theaters. The senator has been relentless in his efforts to get this done and is now working with the Small Business Administration to enable the Save Our Stages program so it can begin accepting applications ASAP. He and his office are diligently working with New York's independent movie theaters to ensure they all have the tools and information they need.

I wanted to make you all aware of the wonderful work Senator Schumer has done and to express my gratitude for his tireless championship of our industry.

**Carol Sadlon**  
Owner, The Millerton Moviehouse  
Lakeville

Looking for some hope

We are all groping for a way forward after the vicious insurrection Jan. 6 that killed five persons and almost killed our democracy. We must be thankful that the center held, that our representatives, senators and the vice president courageously fulfilled their constitutional duties in the middle of the night, and that the election of Joe Biden has now been confirmed. But what now?

On Jan. 10, I attended the Morning Prayers at The Church of the Regeneration in Pine Plains via YouTube (<http://bit.ly/regen-youtube>). Mr. Jack Banning offered a Reflection that was very helpful to me and that I share in part with you:

"What was troubling me as I was preparing this reflection for this morning's service is a very basic question which I am asking myself as well as asking all of us in this congregation, and, indeed all Americans: How do we reconcile the desperate need for us to come together and heal with the desire for punishing the wrongdoers: the insurrectionists themselves as well as those who enabled them, indeed encouraged them through their seditious words?"

"The answer to that question — how do we heal — most definitely does not lie in taking vengeance; vengeance is, and always has been, the Lord's, not ours. That seems pretty clear, at least to me.

"But, what then?"

"I was struggling aloud with this fundamental question with my wife Irene as I was pondering how I was going to offer some words of faith or comfort of some kind this morning when she urged me to suggest that the answer lies in the concept of Justice. That there must be justice before there can be healing. And, Justice, of course, includes punishment. But, that only with Justice can we begin to heal. That got me thinking, and I decided that I think that she is right. That the Way of Love in this time and place has to be the path of Justice. From Justice will come that Love; and from that Love, the Healing that we so desperately need.

"But — and this is critical — we must, when we think of justice, be mindful that justice implies so much more than simple retribution for a crime or trespass. Yes, that is a kind of justice. But, for there ultimately to be justice in our world, there needs to be true justice in the much larger sense — social justice, racial justice, justice for All. And, while we're at it, yes... Mercy... And Compassion... And from these, Hope."

Thank you, Jack. Let us be hopeful based on punishment but not vengeance for the crime, combined with social justice, racial justice, economic justice, justice for all, mercy, and compassion.

**G. A. Mudge**  
Sharon

Send letters to [editor@millertonnews.com](mailto:editor@millertonnews.com)

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Volume 89, Number 51 Thursday, January 21, 2021

Mission Statement

The Lakeville Journal Company, LLC, Publishers of The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News  
Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, fostering democracy and an atmosphere of open communication.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### Legal Notice

Notice of formation of Custom Coatings Pro of New York, LLC Of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/13/2020 in Office in Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Custom Coatings Pro of New York, LLC P.O. Box 53 Pawling, NY 12564. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

01-07-21  
01-14-21  
01-24-21  
01-28-21  
02-04-21  
02-11-21

### Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of WildlyLush, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secretary of State (SSNY) on 12/22/2020. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 79 Wakeman Road, Millerton, NY 12546. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

01-21-21  
01-28-21  
02-04-21  
02-11-21  
02-18-21  
02-25-21

### Public Notice

The Pine Plains Fire District held its 2021 reorganization meeting on January 5, 2021

at the Pine Plains Fire House, 7 Lake Road, Pine Plains, NY. Regular monthly meetings in 2021 will be held at the Fire House on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM.

Board of Fire Commissioners  
Pine Plains Fire District  
Heather Lamont  
Secretary  
01-21-21

### TOWN OF NORTH EAST, DUTCHESS COUNTY NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF TAX BILLS AND WARRANT

TAKE NOTICE, that I, Gail Wheeler, the undersigned Collector of Taxes for the Town of North East in Dutchess County, New York State have duly received the Tax Bills

and Warrant for the collection of property taxes within the Town of North East for fiscal year 2021. Collection of taxes will begin with the receipt of taxes through March 1, 2021 at the Town Hall, 19 N. Maple Ave, Millerton, New York, on the following days and times: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.; and Saturdays during February 9:00 a.m. - noon.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that taxes may be paid on or before March 1, 2021 without penalty. All taxes received after that date shall have an added interest of 2% for the month of March, 3% for the month of April, and 4% for the month of May. In addition, after May

15th, a fee of \$2.00 will be added for each parcel.

After June 1st, all unpaid taxes will be turned over to Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance, 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

Dated: January 4, 2021  
Gail Wheeler  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector  
Town of North East  
01-14-21  
01-21-21

### Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Wildly Beautiful, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secretary of State (SSNY) on 12/22/2020. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it

may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 79 Wakeman Road, Millerton, NY 12546. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

01-21-21  
01-28-21  
02-04-21  
02-11-21  
02-18-21  
02-25-21

The deadline for legal notices is Friday at 4 p.m. for publication the following Thursday.

Notices can be emailed to [legals@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:legals@lakevillejournal.com) or mailed to The Lakeville Journal, ATTN: Legal Notices, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039

Go to [www.tricornernews.com/legalnotices](http://www.tricornernews.com/legalnotices) to view current and past legal notices.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT PART-TIME, FOR DYNAMIC NON-PROFIT IN KENT:** Knowledge of administrative procedures and computer skills, word processing, financial records and data entry. Organizational and writing skills. Flexible 10-15 hrs./wk., \$20-25/hr., DOE. Support the activities of Kent Affordable Housing's President and Directors in bookkeeping, publicity, fundraising and meetings. Experience with a comparable non-profit a plus. Observance of CT mandated pandemic restrictions a requirement. Send resume to [info@kentaffordablehousing.org](mailto:info@kentaffordablehousing.org) or KAH, PO Box 265, Kent, CT 06757.

**BERKSHIRE CHILDREN'S CHORUS:** located in Sheffield, MA, is searching for an Artistic Director. We are a 30-year-old community non-profit organization offering high quality extra curricular choral singing and education. See our full ad at [www.BerkshireChildrensChorus.org](http://www.BerkshireChildrensChorus.org).

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**IRVING FARM COFFEE ROASTERS:** is looking for a talented Head Roaster to join our team in Millerton, NY. Our Head Roaster works with our Production Director and Coffee Director to roast and QC coffee in our state of the art roasting facility. Responsibilities include day to day production roasting, coffee development, quality control, provide backup and support. Must have 2 years of coffee roasting and 1 year coffee profiling experience. This is a full time position. Compensation: \$46,000-\$56,000 annual salary DOE. Send resume or inquiries to [hr@irvingfarm.com](mailto:hr@irvingfarm.com).

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### REAL ESTATE

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Millbrook School

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Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest and resume to [pstarzyk@millbrook.org](mailto:pstarzyk@millbrook.org).

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The responsibilities for this position include:

- Provides tutoring to Millbrook students on-site in the Academic Center at Millbrook School.
- Works with students one-on-one and helps students with study strategies and techniques.
- Assesses student's progress and writes semi-annual progress reports to parents.
- Guides students in the planning, writing and editing of papers, demonstrates reading comprehension strategies and teaches note-taking and outlining as required.
- Assists students with time management by guiding students in use of a homework and appointment planning system and teaching them how to break down long-term assignments.
- Participates in tutor training and development sessions and meetings.

Qualified candidates should have:

- Bachelor's degree preferred.
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- Must be able to explain concepts effectively and using a matching strategy to student's learning style.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest, resume and application (found on this website) to Caitlin Sorriento, Director of Colhoun Academic Center at [csorriento@millbrook.org](mailto:csorriento@millbrook.org) or Jasper Turner, Dean of Faculty at [jturner@millbrook.org](mailto:jturner@millbrook.org).

Millbrook School, 131 Millbrook School Road, Millbrook, NY 12545

Millbrook School is eager to consider applications from groups traditionally underrepresented in independent school communities. As an equal opportunity employer, Millbrook School does not discriminate in hiring or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, citizenship status, sex, age, marital status, disability, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law.

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