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PHOTO SUBMITTED

New York State Senator Sue Serino (R-41) officially announced her breast cancer diagnosis to the public on Sunday, July 12, in an effort to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining routine health screenings, even though the coronavirus pandemic is taking most of the focus when people think about their health these days.

## Sue Serino reveals breast cancer diagnosis

# Senator urges keeping up with cancer checks

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

NEW YORK STATE — Regardless of whether one is bringing a new life into the world, recovering from an unexpected injury or getting a routine health screening, residents may feel anxious checking into the hospital during a global health pandemic. However, even as the world continues to battle COVID-19, the magnitude of keeping up-to-date with routine health screenings remains just as important as it was before the coronavirus first made headlines.

Just recently diagnosed with breast cancer, New York State Senator Sue Serino (R-41) has taken it upon herself to share her diagnosis in hopes of reminding her constituents of the importance of maintaining their routine health screenings, even in these uncertain and frightening times.

It was during her scheduled mammogram in February that Serino first learned something was amiss. She said her doctors told her that they saw something during the mammogram, though she was told that it could be attributed to a fall she previously had. Keeping that in mind, Serino said she "[put] it in her head not to worry about it." Though her biopsy was originally scheduled for March, the COVID-19 pandemic postponed the procedure until May 7. It was a good thing she didn't wait much longer.

**"I always say our personal stories compel us forward and this is going to go to be another focus of mine."**

*New York State Senator Sue Serino*

Serino's cancer diagnosis came on Wednesday, May 13. She was told by her doctors that the cancer was contained but had started to break free to where the cells could travel. According to a release from her office, Serino's official diagnosis is for ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS), a form of non-invasive breast cancer. Serino had a lumpectomy on Tuesday, June 2, and the surgery was deemed a success. While her doctor believes all of the cancer cells were removed, Serino said she's been having radiation treatments to prevent other cells from spreading.

When asked whether she was scared about going into a hospital for treatment during the COVID-19 health crisis, Serino replied, "I didn't think about it — I think because I was so confused with my thoughts about cancer, when your doctor gives you that prognosis, your world falls out. I just thought I have to get this out, I have to take care of it — I wasn't thinking about the COVID-19."

What especially moved Serino was

See **SENATOR SERINO, A10**

## 19th U.S. Congressional District

# Millbrook's Van De Water declared primary winner

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

NEW YORK STATE — Millbrook resident, lawyer and former Village Trustee and Town Board member Kyle Van De Water has been declared the victor of the Republican primary for the 19th U.S. Congressional District against GOP challenger Ola Hawatmeh, a Poughkeepsie fashion designer, in what was an extremely close race.

Although primary elections took place on Tuesday, June 23, due to the coronavirus pandemic results took longer than usual to be counted. New York voters had the option of voting via absentee ballots rather than voting in person to avoid crowds and potentially spreading the virus. In Dutchess County, voters also had the choice of voting at one of two early voting sites in the county between June 13 and June 21, again delaying returns.

By law, absentee ballots were not allowed to be counted until June 30, giving the state Board of Elections (BOE) enough time to ensure absentee voters did not cast their ballots elsewhere in New York and also that their ballots were not duplicated.

As of Tuesday, June 23, according to the Dutchess County BOE's unofficial results, Van De Water had earned 814 votes in Dutchess County

See **VAN DE WATER, A10**

## Area schools try to answer the big question

# Should New York schools reopen come fall with COVID concerns?

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

HARLEM VALLEY — After waiting for Governor Andrew Cuomo to offer guidelines for reopening schools come fall, school districts throughout the state received the latest data-driven guidance on Monday, July 13. Now they're evaluating their options.

As published online at [www.governor.ny.gov](http://www.governor.ny.gov), Cuomo announced that schools in a region can reopen following the statewide shutdown forced by the coronavirus pandemic this March if that region has reached Phase 4 of reopening, and if its daily infection rate

remains below 5% using a 14-day average. However, schools will close if the regional infection rate rises above 9% using a seven-day average.

"Everybody wants to reopen schools, but you only reopen if it's safe to reopen, and that's determined by the data," Cuomo said at a press conference on Monday, July 13. "If you have the virus under control, reopen. If you don't have the virus under control, then you can't reopen. We're not going to use our children as the litmus test and we're not going to put our children in a place where their health is endangered. It's that simple."

The state, its Reimagine Educa-

tion Advisory Council and its Department of Health (DOH) issued finalized guidance and guiding principals for reopening schools on the 13th, posted online. The guidance document has outlined the protocols and procedures that schools must follow in order to reopen, including requirements for wearing face masks and maintaining social distancing; implementing mandatory health screenings; increasing ventilation with outdoor air to the greatest extent possible; promoting hygiene, cleaning and disinfection; and notifying the state and local

See **SCHOOLS, A10**

## NECC Chef & Farmer Brunch canceled due to COVID-19, online fundraising continues

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

MILLERTON — Tradition would have it that on this coming Sunday, July 26, generous donors would typically be gathering for The Chef and Farmer Brunch, the North East Community Center's (NECC) main fundraiser of the year. But instead of NECC celebrating the event's 10th anniversary this year, many of those served by the community center are finding themselves at a time when their needs are at their greatest due to the effects

See **CANCELED BRUNCH, A10**



ARCHIVE PHOTO

Recently retired President and CEO of Dutchess Tourism Mary Kay Vrba, left, was among the many guests at last year's sold out NECC Chef & Farmer Brunch fundraiser held at the Millbrook School on July 28, 2019.



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**OPINION**  
Reopening Schools — No Easy  
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# INTERSECTIONS

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# MILLERTON

## CVS locations remain busy with COVID testing

By WHITNEY JOSEPH  
 editor@millerntonnews.com

MILLERTON — CVS Pharmacy is offering no-cost drive-up coronavirus testing at both its Route 44 Millerton location and its Route 22 Dover Plains location.

Patients must be at least 18 years of age to get tested for COVID-19, which has limited appointments to those who qualify. According to the pharmacy's website, www.cvs.com, "Because of limited supplies and in accordance with CDC guidelines, testing is limited to certain patients."

An insurance card and proof of identity are required, as well

as an email or text confirming the test appointment (made at www.MinuteClinic.com). Those who are uninsured are advised to have their Social Security number (card not needed), driver's license or state ID "to submit the cost of their test to the federal program for the uninsured," according to the CVS website.

There are also free test sites run by New York state, approved by the FDA, which can be found online at www.coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-testing.

According to Governor Andrew Cuomo's website, www.governor.ny.gov, "Testing is free to all eligible New Yorkers as ordered by a health care provider

or by calling the New York State COVID-19 hotline at 1-888-364-3065."

New Yorkers who go to a test site operated by "local governments, private companies including pharmacies and medical practices or not-for-profit organizations are advised to check with the testing site and their insurers in advance of being tested to confirm if they will be responsible for any fees associated with their test," according to Cuomo's office.

The test at CVS — both in Millerton and in Dover Plains — is conducted at the pharmacy's drive-thru; the patient is asked to swab his or her nose while re-

maining in his or her vehicle. Afterward, the sample is sent to one of CVS's lab partners; CVS then emails the patient a link, which will send the results, typically within six to 10 days.

CVS tests for active infections only; it does not administer antibody tests, which indicate whether someone has been infected with COVID in the past.

According to the governor, local health departments "are the best community contact for COVID-19 concerns."

"The single most important thing we can do to combat and contain the novel coronavirus is test for it," he stated online.

To call CVS in Millerton, dial 518-789-3444; to call CVS in Dover Plains, dial 845-877-6372.

There are other testing sites throughout Dutchess County, primarily in Poughkeepsie, Hopewell Junction and Hyde Park. For more information, call the county's Department of Behavioral & Community Health at

845-486-3400 or go to healthinfo@dutchessny.gov.

Meanwhile, in an email sent to town of North East community members on Thursday, July 16, North East town Supervisor Chris Kennan said there's been "some concerning news" from the county regarding rising coronavirus numbers.

"There has recently been a significant increase in cases of COVID-19 in Dutchess County" wrote Kennan. "Up to now, here in the Town of North East, we have been spared much of this dangerous and destructive epidemic. But it would be naive and foolish to think we are in the clear. We're not."

He clarified days later that active numbers in the county "have gone up" by a few dozen on Saturday, which though "not as high as in April" is still concerning.

"We just want to be vigilant," he said.

As of last week, North East had between zero and five CO-

VID cases reported while the village of Millerton reported the same. Kennan said locally low numbers are no reason to let up on important safety measures.

"We may be tired of these hot and uncomfortable masks, we may long for more social interaction, but we need to stay strong and stay safe," he implored. "We all need to keep wearing our masks when in public or unable to maintain social distancing. We need to avoid larger gatherings, especially indoors. It's an Executive Order from the governor, but it's also the main thing we can do, as individuals, to keep ourselves, our families and each other healthy. Let's just do it, for each other."

According to the New York State Department of Health, as of Monday, July 20, there were 4,376 confirmed COVID cases in Dutchess County, 153 deaths, 3,994 people recovered, 78,781 tests completed and 229 active cases.



PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

The weekend of July 18, Dylan Bowman, left, a resident of Washington, Conn., purchased a brand new book from Emma Warren, a bookseller at Oblong Books & Music.

### Business is back, face to face

MILLERTON — The village's favorite independent bookstore, Oblong Books & Music, reopened its doors for in-person shopping with limited hours on July 9. Starting

July 23 its in-store hours will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursdays through Mondays; it's closed to the public Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Curbside pickup only is available all week, from 11 a.m.

to 5 p.m. All customers are required to wear masks and sanitize their hands upon entering the store, which has a customer capacity of six.

— Kaitlin Lyle

## Millerton couple 'amazed' by support following fire

By KAITLIN LYLE  
 kaitlinl@millerntonnews.com

MILLERTON — While they continue to recover from the heartbreak of having recently lost their home in a fire, married couple Janice Hylton [of Hylton Hundt Salon] and Gail Smallridge were humbled by the community support they've received through the GoFundMe page created to help them recover.

On the afternoon of Sunday, July 12, the pair discovered a solar battery on fire in their garage, leading to a two-alarm fire that cost them their Boston Corners Road home and most of their

belongings. While no physical injuries were reported, the emotional toll of losing their beloved house was huge.

Davin Eurich, the couple's niece, decided to create a GoFundMe page entitled, "Janice & Gail House Fire Go-Fund-Me," with the goal of raising \$5,000. While Hylton and Smallridge were initially reluctant to agree, they were "blown away" by the community's support, according to Hylton. By late Monday morning, July 20, there were already 116 donors — many of whom left heartfelt messages on the page — and a total of \$17,660 raised.

"The support has been astonishing, humbling and we are deeply, deeply grateful, and it will really jumpstart our path forward," Hylton said.

"It's just been so remarkable how many people have come forward with offers of kindness, donations of money, emotional support, clothing, food, all kinds of things," said Bonnie Hundt, Hylton's long-time partner at the

salon, "and it definitely makes the process a little bit easier, certainly emotionally, and it's been amazing."

As of now, Hylton and Smallridge are staying with a friend in Ancram. Looking ahead, Hylton said they believe they've secured a long-term rental in Millerton and that she and Smallridge are looking to move forward with the process of rebuilding.

"It's going to be a long haul," she said, "but it's a step at a time and the path for us, we are grateful to be unfolding full of grace. We think we're going to end up where we need to be."

To the five fire companies that responded to the emergency call last week, Hylton commended their service, adding that she and Smallridge owe them "a huge debt of gratitude."

As for their neighbors who have stood by them through this unexpected loss, she said, "We feel loved and very fortunate."

To donate online, go to www.gofundme.com/f/m2xte2-rebuilding-after-a-fire.

## NECC offers virtual summer program for youth who have few other options

By KAITLIN LYLE  
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MILLERTON — Now that the 2019-20 school year has ended and summer is in full swing, the North East Community Center (NECC) is prepared to offer local youth four weeks of free summer programming to keep them engaged during the season through its Virtual Summer Enrichment Program.

When local school districts closed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic back in March, NECC rose to the call, continuing to offer opportunities for children to stay connected through its After-School Connection program. Based on what NECC observed from that program, NECC Youth Program Director Kathryn Atkins said it found that the children really missed being in each other's company — especially with classes, sports and other activities canceled and much of the state shut down.

"It's important for us to give them the space to talk and have conversations," she said, "and we want to make sure we give them the environment to do that comfortably, safely and easily."

This summer's program runs from July 20 through Friday, Aug. 14. Employing two NECC staff members and two teen interns, there are two counselors and two counselors-in-training.

By hosting the virtual summer camp, Atkins said NECC is trying to keep children engaged without having them stare at a screen all day, adding that they're excited to offer ways to engage area youth. To that end, themed programs (or cabins) are being offered each week. For the program's inaugural

week, NECC hosted a Paper-Mâché Madness Cabin, which began on July 20 and will run through Friday, July 24. Coming up, the program will feature a Crafter Camp Cabin for the week of Monday, July 27, through Friday, July 31; a Geo Caching Cabin for the week of Monday, Aug. 3, through Friday, Aug. 7; and a Coding Lab Cabin for the week of Monday, Aug. 10, through Friday, Aug. 14.

After registering for the program, Atkins said its staff will send participants a list of supplies they might find around their homes in order to join in the fun. This might include a measuring bowl, a bottle of water, salt and other everyday materials. As for the supplies participants might not otherwise have lying around the house, supply bins with materials have been assembled and will either be delivered to campers' homes or campers will be offered contactless pickup. Other than that, all participants need is a working iPad to log on to the program.

The link to NECC's Virtual Summer Enrichment Program website can be found online at <https://sites.google.com/view/nec-virtualsummercamp2020/home>.

By clicking on the link, families can access the online registration form to pre-register their children for as many weeks of virtual summer camp as desired. Because space is limited, NECC encourages early registration.

Atkins clarified the program isn't a virtual drop-in programming as NECC needs to arrange for supplies for each child in advance. She added that NECC wants to make sure it has an opportunity to check in with campers and their parents the week before to make sure all of the technology is set.

Registrations for each week will be accepted up until the Wednesday of the previous week, and the program will be organized using Google Meet as the virtual platform. Depending on the week, Atkins said the program has room for three to five children around the ages of 8 to 12 or who are enrolled as rising fourth- through seventh-graders. Though NECC has been focusing on children who are already enrolled in its programming, Atkins said its summer program has a couple of spots available, and

the community center is excited to see if others will join in the fun.

"We do have a limited number of supplies, so that's the defining factor," she said, "and we want to make sure the kids have a great time with the program and get the individualized attention they need."

"We want to make sure we keep the numbers small," she added. "We also want to make sure the kids have fun and get to know each other and socialize with each other."

### Realtor® at Large

If bears in our kitchen were not enough, now we are faced with the uncomfortable fact that someone has stolen one of our cars from the driveway. One of the nice things about living here was never thinking of locking the car or house. Apparently that has changed, so I wanted to highlight this issue so other people could avoid this experience. Our resident State Trooper, Chris Sorrell, has also issued a warning about the rise of car thefts. Additionally we should be aware of not leaving valuables that are visible in our cars. If you have any questions or see any suspicious activity, please call Chris at 860-435-2938 or the Troop B station in Canaan at 860-626-1820. Finally, if you see our black Mazda CX-5 with a fishing pole in it, please call!



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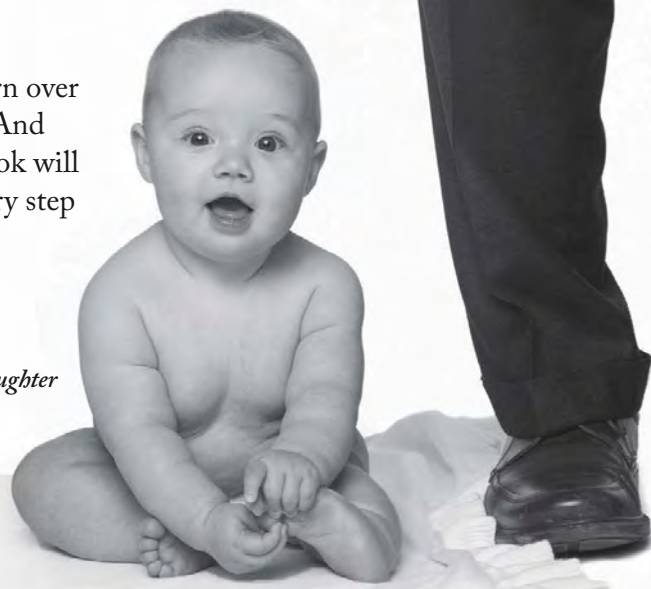
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## Some lessons last a lifetime

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.

It's a lesson we learn over and over again in life. And the Bank of Millbrook will be there to help, every step of the way.

**Isabella Susan Morin**  
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# Public hearing part two on Altice cable contract renewal

By KAITLIN LYLE  
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AMENIA — After setting the conversation in motion at its previous meeting on Thursday, July 2, the Town Board continued to solicit feedback on the town's franchise renewal agreement with Altice USA at a continuation of its (virtual) public hearing on Thursday, July 16.

As reported at the last public hearing, the town first entered a franchise agreement in 2010 when the company Altice USA was previously known as Cablevision Systems Dutchess Corporation. The company agreed to provide cable service via a cable system within the town as part of the agreement. Before

renewing its agreement with Altice, the board had to hold a public hearing on the matter.

The meeting was held via Zoom and live streamed to the town's YouTube page, "AmeniaTV," due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to technical difficulties, the meeting began later than its original 7 p.m. start time.

After the hearing opened, John Dullaghan, the director of government affairs for Altice, gave an update on the customers who spoke on July 2. Regarding those who requested service, Dullaghan said he worked with Altice's design and construction team and heard from seven customers wanting service, three of whom they could provide service for and four of whom the com-

pany has to conduct surveys with in order to provide service. He reported that they are now looking to have a sales representative reach out to each customer and to have the design team reach out to those who don't have service.

Though he clarified that he didn't want the expectation to be that they could "provide service tomorrow," Dullaghan assured the board, "We will be moving forward to work with every one of these customers to have a solution to provide service."

Dullaghan then gave an overview of the franchise agreement. He explained that it was born out of the Cable Act of 1984, which created a framework for agreements between cable operators and local government. As

a result, he said all of the terms and conditions of the agreement are subject to federal and state regulation by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Public Service Commission (PSC). Once the town and Altice comes to an agreement on terms, Dullaghan said the PSC will have to review and bless the agreement.

Essentially, Dullaghan said the franchise agreement between the town and Altice "gives us access to the right of way to construct, operate and maintain our network." In exchange, he said Altice provides the town with a franchise fee; in this case, it's 5% of gross revenues, which are collected from the town and admitted back to the town on a

quarterly basis

After evaluating the highlights of Dullaghan's report, the board opened the floor to public comment, but technical difficulties ensued as local residents tried to call into the meeting. In response, Town Clerk Dawn Marie Klingner supplied a phone number for residents to dial and invited the public to send their questions to her via email. Residents who dialed in were put on speaker to be heard by the rest of the board.

Altice USA representatives — Dullaghan and Altice consultant Roger Connor — addressed a question about whether Altice would need the town's consent to transfer the franchise agreement, to which Dullaghan re-

sponded it would. There were also concerns about residents having "the privilege of signing up for basic cable service from Altice" and the differences between the town's original agreement and the proposed renewal agreement in terms of Altice's obligation to provide service.

The board encouraged all individuals who were unable to call into the meeting to send in their comments within the next 10 days. With three votes in favor of closing the public hearing and two votes against it, the board closed the hearing with a majority consensus.

For more on the Amenia Town Board's July 2 public hearing on the Altice contract renewal, go to [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com).

# Screening event draws real-world parallels

By KAITLIN LYLE  
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AMENIA — Teaming up with the Boondocks Film Society, the Four Brothers Drive-In Theatre invited spectators to a socially distanced block party featuring a screening of the film, "Do The Right Thing," on Thursday, July 16, an experience that united the community while drawing parallels between the film and today's racial tensions.

The party's pre-film happy hour kicked off at 7:30 p.m. With the event having sold out days in advance, the drive-in drew a terrific crowd of spectators from the local area and beyond from all walks of life. As the hour leading up to the main event drew near, the field in front of the main screen was teeming with cars.

Donning face masks to stay protected from COVID-19, people spread out on the grass in groups, enjoying hot slices of pizza and cold cocktails while catching up with friends and keeping their distance. The event featured a film-inspired menu as an added touch of movie magic.

There was live music by local musician Li Sabas, followed by a live dance performance by Kingston performer Kamora Houser set to Public Enemy's "Fight the Power" as a tribute to actor Rosie Perez's dance performance in the film's opening credits.

"I'm really excited for it to be re-screened," Houser said. "I think a lot of people need to see it — it's a great movie and I'm really excited."

Though director Spike Lee's



PHOTO BY KAITLIN LYLE

From left, Abigail Herace and Liz Burroughs spent a night on the town at a socially distanced block party held at the Four Brothers Drive-In Theatre on Thursday, July 16.

film about a Brooklyn neighborhood forced to confront racial tensions premiered in 1989, many of those last week saw the film's social relevance with today's current events.

"I have my two sons down here to see something that's still relevant to race relations now," said Roger Crain, a resident of Lakeville, Conn. "The idea that they have no idea about this movie... If you know this movie, the race relations in the neighborhood scenario are very relevant to this time. I'm waiting to see my children's reaction to whether it's relevant to what's going on now — one of the

reasons I've brought them here is because these problems have been going on for quite a while."

"I think it's a very appropriate choice. It's an old film, but the themes are still pertinent," said Columbia County resident John Nafziger, "so I applaud the owners in making the selection and not selecting something more safe. We still haven't moved the ball forward in any significant way."

"That was part of the draw to be here, the whole topic," said Doug Stuke. "I think it's a very unique way for a community to come together around a very important topic that apparently never goes

out of style, unfortunately."

By 8:45 p.m., it was time for the show, and not even the falling raindrops could derail the crowd's enthusiasm.

"We're very happy to see it's a sold-out show and we're happy with the results," said John Stefanopoulos, one of the theater's owners, "so we're looking forward to having more events like this. It's just a fun, safe, responsible way to have people come out — we're just happy to give them a place to escape to."

All Boondocks Film Society proceeds were directed to benefit the Mid-Hudson NAACP.

# HRHCare fundraiser earns more than \$80K to benefit COVID-19 response effort

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

HARLEM VALLEY — Rising to meet the region's healthcare needs in these challenging times, Hudson River Health Care (HRHCare) has been working hard to provide top level care to those residing in its service areas these past few months. Though the COVID-19 pandemic meant they were unable to gather in person this year for its annual Honoring the Hands fundraiser, HRHCare, in partnership with Wölffer Estate Vineyards, held a virtual wine tasting fundraiser on Saturday, June 26.

With locations in Amenia, Dover Plains, Pine Plains and beyond, HRHCare's mission is to "increase access to comprehensive primary and preventive health care and to improve the health status of our community, especially for the underserved and vulnerable," according to its website at [www.hrhcare.org](http://www.hrhcare.org).

For the last five years or so, Honoring the Hands has helped HRHCare raise funds to provide comprehensive health care to those in need.

In previous years, the event has primarily focused on the east end of Long Island to raise money for agricultural farmers who relied on HRHCare for their health care needs. Jeramie Barber, the executive director of the HRHCare Foundation, explained that's because this demographic "is one that had really hidden from being cared for" and that "there's been impediments for them in getting

the healthcare they really needed."

Through past fundraisers, HRHCare has been able to raise enough money to purchase a mobile health unit to go out to farms, communities and churches to provide healthcare to those in need, resolving the transportation barrier that has otherwise hindered people's ability to get to a healthcare facility. By moving this year's Honoring the Hands fundraiser to a virtual setting, Barber said HRHCare was able to engage more people through its entire healthcare service area, including in the northern Hudson Valley area.

"This was a little bit new for them because we didn't normally have an opportunity for them to engage in this," Barber explained.

From installing pop-up health sites and offering telemedicine to treating COVID-19 cases, HRHCare sought to raise money to benefit its COVID-19 response effort through the event.

Along with producing an opportunity to open its fundraiser

to more people and share the organization's work with regard to the pandemic, Barber said this year's Honoring the Hands gave HRHCare an opportunity to introduce the organization as a whole to new groups of people who aren't necessarily located in its geographic area.

The fundraiser was held via Zoom, it drew 125 households (at least 250 people). In the days leading up to the virtual wine tasting, HRHCare sent out wine packages to more than 160 households, with each package containing three different wines from Wölffer Estate Vineyards. Following a video created by HRHCare during the COVID-19 pandemic and a message from HRHCare CEO Anne Kauffman Nolon, participants were set to dive into the tasting.

More than \$80,000 has been raised so far, and Barber reported that the organization is continuing to receive generous contributions from numerous donors. To make a contribution, go online to [www.hrhcare.org](http://www.hrhcare.org) and click on the

## AREA IN BRIEF

### Wassaic Project 2020 Summer Exhibition

WASSAIC — The 2020 Summer Exhibition is now live on The Wassaic Project's website.

The show features 161 works by 67 artists, laid out in a way that mimics the physical spaces in and around Maxon Mills — the historic, seven-floor grain mill out of which the arts collaborative hosts its exhibitions. Almost all of the work in the show was selected well before the onset of COVID-19 prevented the group from hosting a physical show.

According to The Wassaic

Project, current circumstances have allowed the nonprofit to explore two new mediums for exhibition: online and a limited edition book published by Small Editions. The book costs \$135. It is currently available for pre-order online; it will ship in early August.

To view the summer show entitled, Now, More Than Ever, or to order the book, go to [www.wassaicproject.org/2020-summer-exhibition?mc\\_cid=b2720da452&mc\\_eid=51463b6b35](http://www.wassaicproject.org/2020-summer-exhibition?mc_cid=b2720da452&mc_eid=51463b6b35).

### Sign up for free and reduced school lunches

WEBUTUCK — The North East (Webutuck) Central School District wants to let district families know it has released its free and reduced price meal policy for area school children for the fall.

Students in New York state who are approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch meals at no

charge.

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Events

July 23-29, 2020

DAY TRIPS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## Thinking of Whales and Trails During a Heat Wave

As the Tri-state region experiences a few particularly hot days, it's pleasant to think about ocean voyages; and to consider sitting indoors with a fan or the air conditioning on, while reading a very long book.

"Moby-Dick" obviously springs to mind. I mostly associate Herman Melville's

Great American Novel with New Bedford and the whaling towns of Massachusetts, but Melville has some significant connections to us, in the Berkshires and Connecticut.

As a curiosity: A descendant of the author lives in Cornwall, Conn. I will respectfully not mention her name here, but I thank

her for having written many lovely articles for this newspaper, and for sharing the information that her nephew, the musician Moby, earned his nickname as a bald toddler, in honor of his illustrious ancestor.

But there is another local connection to Melville that I hadn't known about until last week, when I received

a press release from Arrowhead, which was the Melville family residence from 1851 to 1891 and which is in (relatively) nearby Pittsfield, Mass. (about 37 miles — or one hour by car — from my house in Lakeville, Conn.).

It was at Arrowhead that Melville wrote many of his

*Continued on next page*

TAKE-OUT:  
CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## Road Food (Since You're Getting it 'To Go' Anyway!)

This article tags along with another one on this page, about taking a day trip to Pittsfield, Mass., to visit Herman Melville's farm, known as Arrowhead.

My first thought (typically) was that there is a yummy restaurant right near Arrowhead and wouldn't it be lovely to stop there for a snack and some really outstanding coffee.

But it occurs to me in this COVID-19 quarantine world that there are many outstanding cafés in all the towns in our area that deserve a shout-out and some support. Think of this as a sort of pilgrimage list of wonderful places to get food and drink "to go" during a day of driving around.

There are many ad-

*Continued on next page*

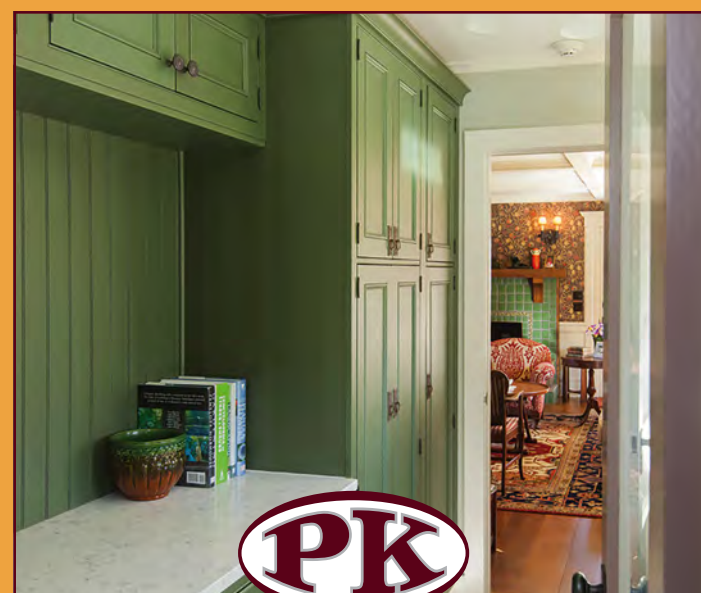


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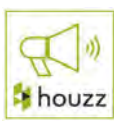
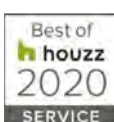
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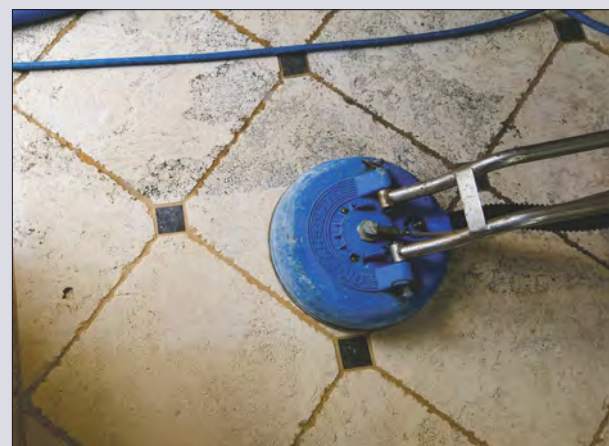


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## ... whales and trails Continued from previous page

most famous works, including the novels "Moby-Dick" and "The Confidence-Man" and the short stories "Benito Cereno" and "Bartleby the Scrivener."

In his novel "Israel Potter," Melville describes the views from Arrowhead: "On one side the eye follows for the space of an eagle's flight, the serpentine mountain chains, southward from the great purple dome of Taconic — the St. Peter's of these hills — northwards to the twin summits of Saddleback, which is the two-steeped natural cathedral of Berkshire; while low down to the west the Housatonic winds on in her watery labyrinth, through charming meadows basking in the reflected rays from the hillsides."

### INSIDE/OUTSIDE

The views from the property are still relatively intact, thanks to the hard work of the area's many land conservancies and sensitive property owners. And while of course you can see the Housatonic River and the Taconic mountain range from many vantage points in the area, how fun would

it be to see them through the eyes of one of America's first and most famous writers? (After the heat wave ends, of course.)

The property has recently opened again, after a COVID-19 quarantine that ended on July 9. Tours of the house and barns are offered by appointment Thursdays through Mondays at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. There can only be four people at a time on each tour. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors, \$10 for students (children 12 and under are free). To set up an appointment, go to [www.berkshirehistory.org/arrowhead-opening](http://www.berkshirehistory.org/arrowhead-opening) or call 413-442-1793.

The grounds are open from dawn to dusk daily.

### HERITAGE TOUR

There is also a Melville history trail that includes eight places in the area that the author visited: Park Square, Hancock Shaker Village, Crane Museum of Paper Making, Balance Rock, Lenox Court House, Tanglewood/Hawthorne Cottage, October Mountain and Mount Greylock. The trail and information about



PHOTO COURTESY OF BERKSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**This photo from the late 1800s shows the grounds of Herman Melville's home in Pittsfield, Mass., known as Arrowhead. The farm and home are open for tours.**

each of the stops along it is sponsored in part by Housatonic Heritage and the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, which was started by a group here in Salisbury, Conn., and which includes history and culture sites in Litchfield and Berkshire counties.

If you've never undertaken a cover-to-cover reading of "Moby-Dick," a hot quarantine summer could be the perfect time to do it. You can order a copy through one of our excellent and hardworking local booksellers (who could all

use your support), or find the text online at no cost at [www.gutenberg.org](http://www.gutenberg.org).

*Writers who are inspired by Melville's work, or by the landscape, can apply for the Writer in Residence program at Arrowhead. This year's writers were announced in mid July; the summer-season writer is Robin Catalano of Stephentown, N.Y.; in autumn, the writer will be Kevin O'Hara of Pittsfield. For more information on the residency program, go to [www.berkshirehistory.org/herman-melville-arrowhead/writer-in-residence](http://www.berkshirehistory.org/herman-melville-arrowhead/writer-in-residence).*

## MOVIES: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

# Screenings for Berkshire Film Festival

There is something about doughnuts that signals comfort, home and happiness. Perhaps that's why legend has police officers taking a break during the stressful patrolling of their beats and having some coffee and one of the puffy pastries; perhaps that's why Ma Kettle in the novel "The Egg and I" offers solace to a sad neighbor with strong coffee and a plate of homemade doughnuts.

During every 20th-century war that involved our soldiers, American women (and some men) traveled to war zones to remind the soldiers that home and happiness were still there and worth fighting for. These volunteers were known as Donut Dollies, and they did little more



PHOTO FROM "THE DONUT DOLLIES"

**Norman Anderson's documentary about the Donut Dollies during the Vietnam War is featured in this year's Berkshire International Film Festival.**

than offer some sweets to eat and drink and a bit of a respite from the horrors the soldiers were facing.

Norman Anderson has

made a documentary film about the Donut Dollies of the Vietnam War era, called (obviously) "The Donut Dollies." The film is one of the 40-some titles to be screened as part of the Berkshire International Film Festival, which begins July 23 and continues to Sept. 13.

The films will be shown four evenings a week outdoors, "drive-in" style, on the grounds of Shakespeare and Company in Lenox, Mass.

"The Donut Dollies" will be shown on the evening of Thursday, Aug. 27.

Another of the featured films at this year's festival will be "Olympia," a documentary directed by Harry Mavromichalis (made in partnership with the Williamstown Theatre Festival) about the beloved and hilarious actress Olympia

Dukakis.

It debuts on Friday, July 24, and will be shown again on Friday, Aug. 14.

For those who missed it when it first came around, the 2018 music documentary "Echo in the Canyon," directed by Andrew Slater, will be shown on Friday, Sept. 11. Slater and Jakob Dylan (son of Bob) interview rock-world luminaries about the music that came out of Los Angeles' famous Laurel Canyon.

On Aug. 1, the featured film is "Ai Wei Wei: Yours Truly," directed by Cheryl Haines.

The gracious Chinese dissident artist very nearly purchased a large farm in Salisbury, Conn., in recent years. After a protracted zoning tussle, he moved to a different area instead.

Find out what the Tri-state region lost out on in this 2019 film not only about art but also about human rights.

For more information about the film festival, go to [www.biffma.org/drive-ins](http://www.biffma.org/drive-ins).

## ... road food

Continued from previous page

ditional and excellent eateries that I'm sure I've left off; forgive me, and please help out your favorite restaurants by letting them make your breakfast, lunch or dinner from time to time.

This all begins with Arrowhead in Pittsfield, which is about a 20-minute drive from the purveyor of my favorite coffee: Six Depot, which is in West Stockbridge.

I haven't yet been to the Six Depot Café and roastery (the coffee can be purchased at LaBonne's in Salisbury and at the Coop and Guido's in Great Barrington), but if I were headed to Berkshire County for the day I would definitely plan a stop at the Six Depot shop and restaurant, where you can get their excellent coffee (including water-process decaf, which is hard to find) by the cup and by the pound. They also have sandwiches, salads and breakfast baked goods. Everything for now is "to go." Find the menu and order online ahead of time at [www.sixdepot-cafe.com/categories](http://www.sixdepot-cafe.com/categories).

Continuing south on this food pilgrimage takes us to Provisions at The White Hart and Sweet William's Cafe and Bakery, both on Main Street (Route 41/44) in Salisbury, Conn.

Sweet William's is a popular spot for coffees, chai teas and espresso drinks as well as outstanding sweet and buttery pastries, from croissants to cakes. Order online at [www.sweet-williams.com/s/order](http://www.sweet-williams.com/s/order) and pick up at the shop from Tuesday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. There are a few small tables out front.

Provisions at The White Hart also offers

espresso drinks and coffees and teas and baked goods and particularly scrumptious oatmeal and some breakfast sandwich offerings. The café continues on through the day and also offers lunch and, on certain days of the week, dinner. Everything is still "to go" at this point, but the inn has a lovely spacious lawn with tables and chairs for DIY outdoor dining. Order online at [www.app-serve.com/s/the-white-hart-salisbury](http://www.app-serve.com/s/the-white-hart-salisbury).

Over the state line in Millerton, N.Y., is the ever-popular Irving Farm, which (like Six Depot) is primarily a coffee roastery but also serves an excellent breakfast and some lunch dishes. For their current menu and information on ordering, go to [www.cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0923/5128/files/LimitedMenu\\_Millerton.jpg?v=1590691673](http://www.cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0923/5128/files/LimitedMenu_Millerton.jpg?v=1590691673).

JP Gifford in Kent and Sharon, Conn., has strong coffee and a wide array of breakfast, lunch and meal options. Find their menu and ordering information at [www.jpifford.com](http://www.jpifford.com).

Kent is the southern terminus on this take-out odyssey. Next door to the excellent Gifford café is the outstandingly creative and delicious Frank.Food, which has baked goods and salads and sandwiches during the day and has recently introduced a dinner option. Some sample dishes from this week's menu: garlicky beef tenderloin with lemony salsa verde and red onion, pine nuts and arugula salad; grilled chile-lime shrimp with Israeli couscous, mango and zucchini; charred cauliflower and shishito peppers. Yum. To get on their email list or to see the menu, go to [www.frankfoodco.com](http://www.frankfoodco.com).

## ASTRONOMY CLUB OFFERS STAR PARTIES

The Litchfield Hills Amateur Astronomy Club offers tips about what to look for in the night sky. Of interest this month:

"Jupiter recently reached opposition, meaning that it's directly opposite the Earth, so it's visible all night. Look for a bright white dot in the southern sky.

"Saturn rises a little later. It's a bit dimmer and tan in color. They'll rise a little earlier each day, so your chances of seeing them improve as the weeks go by. Mars is visible in the late evening and high around 2 a.m."

For stars: "The spring constellations are drifting westward. Ursa Major and the Big Dipper are lower each night. Follow the arc of the Dipper's handle to Arcturus, and speed on to Spica, a bright star in Virgo.

"Hercules, with its wonderful globular cluster M13, is high. And Virgo is 'Galaxy Alley,' full of galaxies, some bright, some dim."

The club hosts monthly Star Parties at the obser-

vatory at White Memorial Conservation Center in Litchfield, Conn. The next party is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 21. Stargazing begins at 8:30 p.m.

The club meets on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. To get the Zoom link, send an email to club secretary Denis Williamson at [LHAA-Csec@gmail.com](mailto:LHAA-Csec@gmail.com). The club's website is at [www.lhastro.org](http://www.lhastro.org). For daily sky data, go to [www.skymaps.com](http://www.skymaps.com) and select the 40° North chart.

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## PINE PLAINS/AREA

# Veterinary practices are open, though cautious

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

**HARLEM VALLEY** — As businesses slowly reopen and New Yorkers test the waters to see if they can re-enter society in the months after COVID-19 first swept the nation, pet owners can rest easy knowing that their canine, feline and other four-legged friends have been well taken care of by their local veterinarians during the pandemic. Deemed an essential business by the state, veterinary practices have been able to take care of animals while keeping their doors shut to the public. Ever since New York has been reopening in phases, local vet offices have been looking to allow the public back inside, cautiously; some are offering curbside service to those who aren't comfortable entering their buildings at this time.

Millerton Veterinary Practice, located at 199 Route 44 in Millerton, had to adapt its operations to meet COVID-19 protocols, such as launching curbside service back in March. With more people staying home due to COVID-19, the practice's business initially slowed down for a few weeks in the spring. According to Dr. Carrie Cannon, DVM, who owns the business, revenue was down at least 30% during height of the pandemic and is now down about 10% from last year. She attributed this to the change in business, particularly since the practice has been conducting much work over the phone and taking a longer time to attend to each patient.

"We're really only seeing one patient at a time," Cannon said. "We're able to do what we need to do, but it's been challenging



PHOTO SUBMITTED

**Though its practice has changed operations in the past several months due to COVID-19, the Millerton Veterinary Practice has been more than happy to welcome the community's animal companions into its building on Route 44 for their appointments as needed, to see the doctors and vet techs on staff.**

and it has its rewards as well." Cannon said she makes around two to three phone calls per patient. A technician will also speak to the client in the parking lot to go over any details. For each appointment, the technician will go out to the parking lot to retrieve the animal. Once they're inside, the staff keeps the animals calm and happy by using fear-free tactics.

"We're actually having a ball with them," Cannon said. "The

dogs like to come in and visit with everyone and get lots of treats."

The goal is to create an environment where the clients can see their pets being treated as well as be able to talk back and forth with the vet without having direct contact.

The practice is gearing up to be able to allow people in the building one family at a time, hopefully by the end of August. It all depends on how the pandemic goes and what the state will allow. Even when the practice reopens its doors completely to the public, Cannon said they will still offer curbside service.

And in addition to enforcing social distancing inside of

at least 8 to 10 feet, the practice also installed Plexiglas shields at the reception desk. Cannon added they'll probably have one receptionist at the desk when people are let into the building and that they might use a bigger area to examine the pets rather than the exam rooms, since the exam rooms tend to be closed in with the doctors, technicians and owners.

"We feel grateful to be able to work through this time and to be there for the pets," Cannon said, "because we're an essential service and we're grateful to be in a position to be working, be safe and keep our clients safe as well."

To contact the Millerton Veterinary Practice, call 518-789-3440.

Located at 7915 Route 22 in Copake Falls, Copake Veterinary Clinic also offers curbside service; the public is likewise barred from entering the build-

ing during the health crisis. With more than 25 employees, Copake Veterinary Clinic Business Manager Tait Wheeler said the clinic initially split its staff into two teams for several weeks so it could continue operations in case someone got sick.

Similar to the Millerton Veterinary Practice, Wheeler said

COVID-19 has impacted its ability to communicate with clients. Though the number of animals the clinic sees per day has decreased significantly, he said client demand has increased significantly since the clinic's clientele demographics include second home and summer clients.

For appointments, clients must drive into the clinic's driveway and call the front office. In addition to reaching out to their clients via phone, Wheeler said the clinic recently started broadcasting through a local AM radio transmitter in which clients are instructed to tune into the call so they have all the information and know when to check their animal into the clinic — keeping everything contact-free. Once the clinic is ready, owners bring their pets into the foyer and come back later to retrieve them after the appointment is over.

Wheeler said, "Our techs are very good with the animals, and my observation is we haven't had big issues with the animals because we make them feel pretty good."

Predicting the clinic won't be opening its doors to the public in the near future, Wheeler said they're preparing the clinic through the summer. If anything should change, the clinic will inform the public.

To contact the Copake Veterinary Clinic, call 518-329-6161.

## Ancram CAC urges water conservation

By KAITLIN LYLE  
kaitlinl@millertonnews.com

**ANCRAM** — With summer temperatures on the rise and the forecast predicting more days of sun than rain, Ancram residents have been advised by their town's Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) to be mindful of their water usage this summer in order to minimize the impact of the current drought conditions.

Included in a recent e-newsletter issued by the town of Ancram, the CAC reminded residents there's been an absence of rainfall in the last few weeks and that Ancram's population has grown since this past April.

"We have a very unusual drought situation going on because we had a severe shortage of rainfall quite early in the season," stated Ancram CAC member Kim Tripp. "To have one that essentially started in May and ran through June is really unusual — it's much more common for us to have droughts and short periods of droughts later in the summer, and it's much harder on the plants, the crops and the animals that depend on the rainfall."

On top of the drought's impact on local crops and livestock, Tripp pointed out that the town has a lot of people who have and use wells for their water supply. By asking people to be conservative with their water usage, she said there'll be less of a demand overall on both the aquifers and the regional water supply, ensuring everyone will have an adequate

supply over the season. While there's no telling how long these drought conditions may last, Tripp said the CAC anticipates an unusually hot and dry summer this year and residents will most likely need to be conscious of their water usage through the summer into early fall.

As far as what people can do to conserve water, Tripp recommended, among other suggestions, taking shorter showers; running washing machines and dishwashers with a full load instead of a partial load; and turning off faucets and hoses tightly and checking for water leaks. She also advised residents water their plants either in the early morning or at the end of the day to minimize evaporation and maximize water contact with the soil. And, she said, keep in mind that the water supply is finite, even if one has a well.

"When you turn on the tap or take a shower or turn on the hose, just think what is essential and what's luxurious," Ancram CAC Chair Jamie Purinton advised.

The CAC also reminded residents in its e-newsletter of the increased risk of fire due to the current drought conditions. To that end, it urged residents not to burn landscape waste and to make sure to "dispose of cigarette ends by completely extinguishing them before discarding."

Residents are also urged to use extreme caution when using their fire pits and barbecues and to always have a water hose nearby.

### AREA IN BRIEF

#### Buick auctioned off to help Roe Jan Library

**COPAKE** — On Saturday, July 25, at noon, Copake Auction will be auctioning off a classic 1962 Buick Invicta hardtop. Proceeds will be donated to Roeliff Jansen Community Library.

The car is in mint condition with many original details; photos are at [www.copakeauction.com](http://www.copakeauction.com), under the listing for the July 25 auction. For more information, email [info@copakeauction.com](mailto:info@copakeauction.com) or call the auction house at 518-329-1142.

The library serves Ancram, Copake and Hillsdale. For more information, call 518-325-4101 or go to [www.roejanlibrary.org](http://www.roejanlibrary.org).

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- 2.) Crushed stone (all sizes)
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- 4.) Liquid calcium chloride for summer and winter.
- 5.) Blended diesel fuel.
- 6.) #2 Heating oil for garage, winter mix December through February for heating oil only.
- 7.) Mid-Grade and Regular no lead gasoline.
- 8.) Liquid Propane for garage and library. All bids should use the Albany OPIS for the Friday immediately preceding the bid opening date.

Bids will be accepted until 12:00 noon Friday August 7, 2020 at the Town Clerks Office, PO Box 955, 3284 Route 199 Pine Plains, NY 12567 at which time they will be opened and read aloud.

In order for your bid to be considered complete, the following must be submitted as required by Section 103D of the Municipal Law:

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Materials Bids 2021  
August 7, 2020, 12:00PM

The Town Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. The F.O.B. plant price will be analyzed with full consideration given to the distance of the plant to the project location. Any questions should be directed to the Highway Superintendent, Heather M. Emerich at (518) 398-6662.

By order of the Town Board of the Town of Pine Plains  
Judy S. Harpp  
Town Clerk  
07-23-20

### NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY IN NEW YORK BY A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Name: Arthur May Redevelopment Holdings, LLC. Application for Authority filed with sec. of state of NY (SOS) on 7/1/20. Office location: Dutchess County. SOS is designated as agent of LLC for service of process. SOS shall mail copy of process to 32 Pine Tree Dr, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

07-16-20  
07-23-20  
07-30-20  
08-06-20  
08-13-20  
08-20-20

### Legal Notice

The name of the Foreign Limited Liability Company is: 39 Eastdale Avenue, LLC. App. For Authority filed with the Dept. of State of NY on 07.09.20. Jurisdiction: Delaware and the date of its organization is: 06.23.20 Office location in New York: Dutchess County. The Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against It may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 39 Eastdale Avenue, LLC, c/o Couch White, LLP, 540 Broadway, PO Box 22222, Albany, NY 12201.2222.

07-23-20  
07-30-20  
08-06-20  
08-20-20  
08-27-20

### Legal Notice

The name of the Foreign Limited Liability Company is: 31-35 Eastdale Avenue, LLC. App. For Authority filed with the Dept. of State of NY on 07.09.20. Jurisdiction: Delaware and the date of its organization is: 06.23.20 Office location in New York: Dutchess County. The Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against It may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 31-35 Eastdale Avenue, LLC, c/o Couch White, LLP, 540 Broadway, PO Box 22222, Albany, NY 12201.2222.

Address maintained in its jurisdiction is: 251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808. The authorized officer in its jurisdiction of organization where a copy of its Certificate of Formation can be obtained is: DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal Street, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful act.

07-23-20  
07-30-20  
08-06-20  
08-20-20  
08-27-20

### Legal Notice

The name of the Foreign Limited Liability Company is: 27 EASTDALE AVENUE, LLC. App. For Authority filed with the Dept. of State of NY on 07.09.20. Jurisdiction: Delaware and the date of its organization is: 06.23.20 Office location in

New York: Dutchess County. The Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against It may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 27 Eastdale Avenue, LLC, c/o Couch White, LLP, 540 Broadway, PO Box 22222, Albany, NY 12201.2222. Address maintained in its jurisdiction is: 251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808. The authorized officer in its jurisdiction of organization where a copy of its Certificate of Formation can be obtained is: DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal Street, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful act.

07-23-20  
07-30-20  
08-06-20  
08-13-20  
08-20-20  
08-27-20

### NOTICE OF FILING OF ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION IN NEW YORK BY A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Name: Reckess AMR, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with sec. of state of NY (SOS) on 6/25/20. Office location: Dutchess County. SOS is designated as agent of LLC for service of process. SOS shall mail copy of process to 32 Pine Tree Dr, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

07-09-20  
07-16-20  
07-23-20  
07-30-20  
08-06-20  
08-13-20

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.



# MILLBROOK

## Pleasant Valley BLM rally meets resistance, attacks

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE  
judithb@millertonnews.com

PLEASANT VALLEY — There have been many protests and marches lately, some local, some far away — all in the name of social justice. The local protests have been mostly peaceful mirroring the kind of behavior expected in small towns and villages in the Hudson Valley. But on Saturday, July 18, in the neighboring town of Pleasant Valley, that was no longer true. The peaceful rally planned for that day, for the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, met with counter protesters and it turned ugly fast.

BLM organizers Royal Parker, Kevin Halcott and Lauren Sky, along with a number of others, many from the town of Washington and village of Millbrook, announced their plans to march on July 2. Immediately afterward, they said, they began to get death threats. The protesters said they spoke with the Pleasant Valley town supervisor, and that the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office assured them they would be protected. So plans were made to carry on the event.

Shortly after, the Dutchess County Conservative Party of New York announced a counterprotest, but Parker said he felt safe because of his commitment to keeping things peaceful, and because the group had been promised protection. There were even snacks, water, T-shirts and a peace-keeping group wearing yellow vests; several speakers were slated to address the group, among them Millbrook mayoral candidate Kay Vanderlyn, Genesis Ramos and others. Also at the rally was Debbie Wright, the chairman of the Millbrook Democratic Committee.

The crowd was about 400 strong, with Blue Lives Matter protesters on one side and Black Lives Matter protesters on the



PHOTO BY DAVE BOCCO

Royal Parker organized a rally for Black Lives Matter (BLM) on Saturday, July 18, in neighboring Pleasant Valley. He marched with protesters from a Blue Lives Matter group behind him. Parker has organized several peaceful BLM rallies in the village of Millbrook in recent months.

other. Some supported the police, some held President Trump signs and both sides had American flags on display.

Upon arrival, Parker's group gathered at Cady Recreation Park and prepared to march the planned parade route along Route 44; the counter group gathered on both sides of the road and behind the BLM group. It reportedly started to crowd the BLM protesters in, marching toward them. Those attending the rally described it as frightening. There were signs, flags, spitting, yelling and name calling — including the "N-word," according to Parker.

At one point, a grown man was recorded hitting a 12 year old child, knocking her to the ground, and a scuffle with the girl's mother occurred. Another woman, Margerite Pastor, intervened, and was hit in the face while her attacker reportedly laughed. When she tried to enlist help from officials, she said she was told she'd have to report it later.

Several of those in the BLM group have protested recently in Millbrook. The Millbrook protests were peaceful, and demonstrators were praised for their good behavior by Millbrook Police Officer Jared Witt at this month's Village Board meeting.

Tia Scott, a 17 year old who is biracial, spoke at length about the terror she felt at Saturday's rally. A resident of Pawling, she said it was deeply troubling.

"It was really rough. We were attacked, there was yelling, spitting, we were told to go home, and called the 'N-word,' coward and filth," she said. "I'll never forget the look of hatred that was in their eyes."

Parker said he and the yellow-vested peace-keepers begged BLM supporters not to engage the counter-protesters, but it was hard not to. He said they knocked banners out of people's hands, were verbally abusive and that the BLM protesters were not protected by sheriff's deputies.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Celebrity chef Dafna Mizrahi has teamed with hockey great Mark Messier on Instagram to bring healthy food and fitness tips to the public. She is pictured here during a cooking event from her children's cooking show.

## Messier and Mizrahi make magic with new healthy enterprise online

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE  
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — In times of need, sometimes worlds collide in a positive way, and just recently a star chef and a world famous sports star came together to bring fitness and healthy eating together, online and free of charge.

Hockey legend Mark Messier and celebrity chef Dafna Mizrahi have joined together to create a program, available through Instagram, that brings the best of both worlds to the public.

Messier played 25 years in the National Hockey League (NHL) with the Edmonton Oilers, the Vancouver Canucks and the New York Rangers gaining international fame, and winning the Stanley Cup in 1994. He retired in 2005, but has kept active, including through a recent venture with partner Isaac Chera of Honeycomb Fitness Centers, designed to promote physical and mental health, wellness and fitness. Celebrity trainers Stacey Griffith, David Kirsch and Tracy Carlinsky are also on board.

COVID-19 prevented the brick and mortar opening of the proposed centers, but did not deter Honeycomb from bringing the programs to the public

through Instagram.

Mizrahi gained local popularity as chef-owner of Monte's Local Kitchen and Tap Room in Amenia; she also won the hit TV show, "Chopped," on the Cooking Channel. Since then, she was at the upscale Silo Ridge development in Amenia, and has started a cooking school for children in Millbrook, the extremely popular "Kids to Table," which had to temporarily suspend operations due to COVID-19.

With both operations in limbo for the present, Messier and Mizrahi, who have been acquainted for several years, came up with the idea of joining forces, bringing a holistic approach to fitness, offering an on-line resource to the public, blending healthy living with fitness training and cooking lessons for those who want to get through the pandemic and its stress with a healthy body and mind.

Messier shared his thoughts with viewers recently.

"The concept of Honeycomb struck me as an opportunity to share my passion for high-level performance with like-minded people," he said online. "Building a community to help people reach their full potential is something that I feel very fortunate to create with the help of my partners."

Mizrahi is known for her passion for local and farm fresh foods.

"Dafna's Kitchen will spearhead and lead the culinary program at Honeycomb right now virtually and hopefully one day in the free-standing locations," she said, adding, "I will be hosting live shows introducing new recipes to the community and kitchen tips."

She and Messier recently did their first show together using a split screen. More than 500 viewers were counted. Feedback was immensely positive, with comments about how easy the lesson proved to be for both the avid cook and the less experienced.

An unlikely combination of talents? Not at all, according to Messier and Mizrahi.

"Both brands... emphasize the same idea of wellness not only through being physically fit but also fit in the mind and the soul," said Mizrahi.

Found now only on Instagram, the hope is that once the threat of COVID-19 has passed, the brick and mortar locations will open in the New York area; the pair is planning on designing and selling their own line of products as well.

For details, go to [www.honeycombfit.com](http://www.honeycombfit.com); for more information on Dafna's Kitchen, go to [Instagram.com/dafnaskitchen](http://Instagram.com/dafnaskitchen).

## Town Hall reopens, departments give updates via Zoom meeting

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE  
judithb@millertonnews.com

WASHINGTON — The Washington Town Board held met on Thursday, July 9, via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Town Clerk Mary Alex and town Supervisor Gary Ciferri led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a report from Highway Superintendent Joe Spagnola, who reported that routine work is ongoing despite the pandemic. One particular note: depending on the weather, July 27 and 28 will see road work on Killlearn Road between Route 343 to Hoxie Road and Mudlow Road. Blacktopping and other necessary roadwork continues on a regular basis.

Town Hall reopened to the public on Monday, July 6, but most services remain available to the public via phone and e-mail at this time. Finances are not too out of line, according to Alex, and taxes collected for penalty fees in the amount of \$9,750.52 have been received by the town. Sales tax collected next month will tell more about any losses, she said.

Zoning Administrator Nancy Patrick and Assessor Lisa Evangelista have also remained busy. Assessments were down during the past four months and are expected to be down for 2021. Millbrook Central School District's prior assessment was \$1,392,634,347; it is now assessed at \$1,388,328,872, the difference is \$4,305,475.

The Board of Assessment Review provided information that five property grievances had been denied; six were granted with stipulations, for a value change of \$4,419,081.

In reporting about the Recreation Department, the Town Park is open, as is the Town Pool; both

met all Department of Health requirements. Social distancing is required; go online to [www.washingtonny.org](http://www.washingtonny.org) for specific details as well as the summer schedule.

Ciferri closed a public hearing on a request from the Millbrook Winery regarding a subdivision application.

Councilman Al DeBonis reported on the Zoning and Planning Boards and Departments, including a permit requested by Millbrook Winery to build a residence for workers, allowing a lot line revision for properties located on Altamont Road and a subdivision on Valley Farms/Shunpike, all of which were approved. A request

for a private pond by resident Maryann Hegel is on hold until further information is submitted. And a request by the Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies for an 8-foot fence and additional trees to shield its solar panel field on Route 44 will be heard at next month's meeting. Ruge's Auto on Route 44 supplied a site plan for four new street lights to be installed in the parking lot of the dealership and for its parking area across the road from the showroom and garage to be blacktopped.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Thursday, Aug. 13. Please check the town website mentioned above for details.



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## Brain Teasers

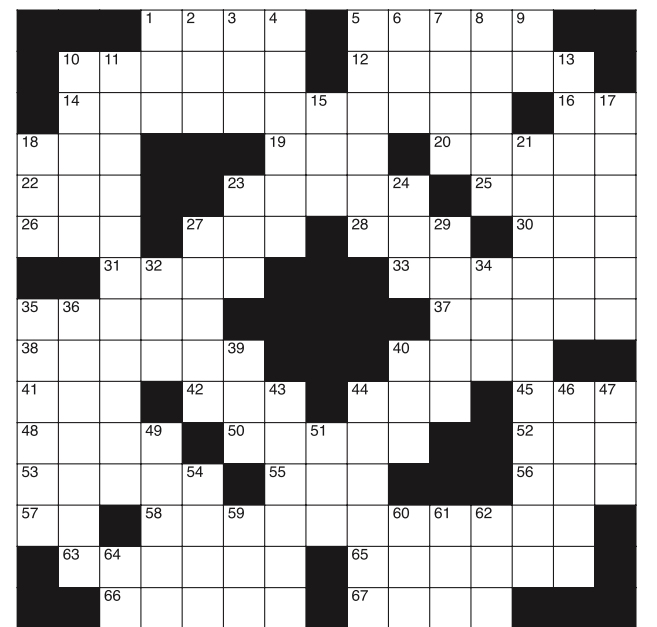
### CLUES ACROSS

- One-time world power
- Central Florida city
- Winged nut
- Elevate spiritually
- Creative
- It cools your home
- Woman (French)
- "60 Minutes" network
- Old World lizard
- Swiss river
- Ethnic group of Cambodians
- Abba \_\_, Israeli politician
- Tire measurement
- Affirmative
- Thrust horse power (abbr.)
- One point north of due east
- A type of "pet"
- Tech giant
- European nation
- Fencing swords
- Acquired
- Origin
- Cashless payment interface (abbr.)
- Pouch
- Peter's last name
- Inclined
- Palestinian territory \_\_ Strip
- A type of syrup
- Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- Weather Underground activist
- Run batted in
- Frozen water
- Sodium
- Philly specialty
- Cuts the wool off
- Rules
- Icelandic literary works
- Tattled

- Woods
- Make yourself attractive
- Concealed
- Large primate
- A favorite saying of a sect or political group
- Tropical fruits
- Obstruct
- Car mechanics group
- Stroke gently
- They're in your toolbox
- Thongs
- One and only
- In a way, bent
- "Downton Abbey" broadcaster
- Herring-like fish

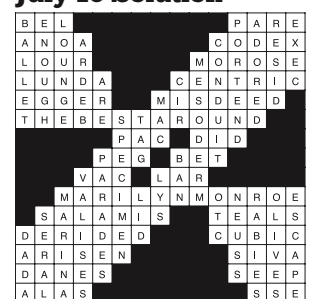
### CLUES DOWN

- "Pulp Fiction" actress Thurman
- Actors' organization
- Conscientious investment approach (abbr.)
- Ranch (Spanish)
- Beginning
- Index
- Portuguese wine
- A feudal superior
- Military brach (abbr.)
- Lithuanian given name
- A way to become different
- Able to be domesticated
- Defensive nuclear weapon
- Hosts film festival
- Shows you how to get there
- Arranged alphabetically
- S. Thai isthmus
- The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet

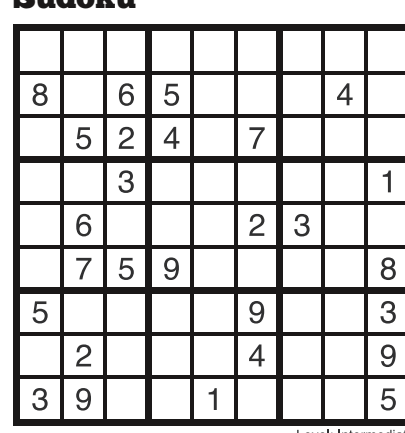


- A major division of geological time
- Vast body of water
- Cannister
- Encourage
- The man

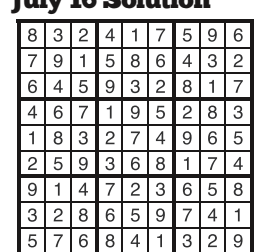
### July 16 Solution



### Sudoku



### July 16 Solution



Level: Intermediate



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## OBITUARIES

### Mary W. Stanton

NORTH CANAAN — Mary W. Stanton from Pittsfield, Mass., was born on April 18, 1926, to Kenneth and Lillian Whitman.

Mary passed away on July 6, 2020, in Bradenton, Fla.

In 1991, Mary left her home in North Canaan to move to sunny Sarasota, Fla.

Before moving she enjoyed her jobs as a bookkeeper for Canaan National Bank and Nutrition Program Manager for Geer Memorial Hospital, until her retirement in northwest Connecticut.

Mary is survived by her sister,

Thora Booth from North Easton, Mass.; her loving daughters, Nancy Clow in Winter Springs, Fla., and Jane Dakers in Torrington; and her loving son, Scott Stanton from Bradenton. She will be missed by her six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her loving husband, Samuel H. Stanton.

No local services are planned at this time.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that memorial donations be made to the Sarasota Friendship Center.

### Patricia McVicker Landis

NORTH CANAAN — Miss Patricia McVicker Landis, 87, of North Canaan Road, died July 16, 2020, at Sharon Hospital after a short illness.

She was born in Hackensack, N.J., on Feb. 22, 1933, the daughter of the late Helen (McVicker) and William Wilder Landis.

She graduated from St. Margaret's School and attended The Bouve Boston School.

Miss Landis was employed by SNET for 30 years, retiring in 1985.

She was a communicant of Christ Church Episcopal in North Canaan, where she was a member of the Altar Guild and a former member of the vestry.

Miss Landis was predeceased by her brother, William W. Lan-

dis Jr.

She leaves a niece, Miriam L. Babcock; a nephew, William W. Landis III; one great-niece; and five great-nephews.

Pat is fondly remembered for her generous spirit, talented gardening skills and kindness to anyone who was lucky to have known her.

The Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon is in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, July 25, at 11 a.m. at Mountain View Cemetery in North Canaan. All are welcome; please wear masks and socially distance.

### James A. Tanner Sr.

NORTH EAST — James A. Tanner Sr., 48, passed away Monday, July 13, 2020, at home.

He was born on April 6, 1972, in Sharon, the son of Roberta (Twing) and Arthur Tanner Jr.

James was co-owner of Tanner's Home Services in Millerton.

Jim had a heart of gold and was a dedicated husband, father, son, brother and friend to many. Those who knew him describe him as being a kind soul. His friends and family say having a great work ethic and treating others with honesty and respect were some of his best traits.

Jim liked his Ford vehicles and was known to leave "his mark" around town in his beloved blue Mustang.

His love for the outdoors included activities like hunting, camping and spending time at the family cabin. Jim was never one to sit around, and enjoyed doing things with his hands like gardening and building bird houses for family and friends. He was always there to lend a hand to anyone in need.

Jim had a great sense of humor and loved small children and animals, especially his "good boy" Max.

On Aug. 16, 1997, in Millerton, he married Molly (McLane) Tanner. They have been together since 1991. She survives him at home.

In addition to his loving wife, Molly, survivors include a son, James A. Tanner Jr., and his long-term girlfriend, Taylor Ellis; a son, Spencer Tanner and his unborn child; a daughter, Emily (Tanner) Weaver, and his son-in-law, Joshua Weaver; a brother, Arthur Tanner III and his wife, Dorothy; three sisters, Sheila Stickle and her husband, Tommy, Rita Ezersky and her husband, Pat, and Joanne Sweeney and her husband, Donald; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held on July 18 from Faith Bible Chapel in Millerton, with Pastor William Mayhew officiating. Interment will be at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 1275 York Ave., New York, NY 10065; Faith Bible Chapel, 222 Silver Mountain Road, Millerton, NY 12546; or the Millerton Fire Department, 24 Century Blvd., Millerton, NY 12546.

To sign the online register, go to [www.peckandpeck.net](http://www.peckandpeck.net).

## In appreciation

### Jim Tanner

MILLERTON — "A farewell to a decades-long enduring friendship..." It's a sad day. Our cherished friend Jim Tanner passed this morning.

Jim, you leave behind a loving legacy well-lived. An enduring heritage of family, honor, respect

and self independence. Jim, you did it your way. The right way. We love you and miss you. Our prayers are with you and your family. Farewell until we meet again.

Larry and Yoshi Conklin Millerton

*Do you have a family member or friend in the military who would be interested in the news from home?*

### Remember

The Lakeville Journal Company offers free online subscriptions to our website, [tricornernews.com](http://tricornernews.com), for active duty military personnel from the Tri-state region. For more information or to set up a subscription, contact Sandra Lang at [circulation@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:circulation@lakevillejournal.com) or 860-435-9873, ext. 301.

*With thanks to those who serve.*

## SPORTS

# In which we learn to use the Tenkara rod

## TANGLED LINES

Patrick L. Sullivan

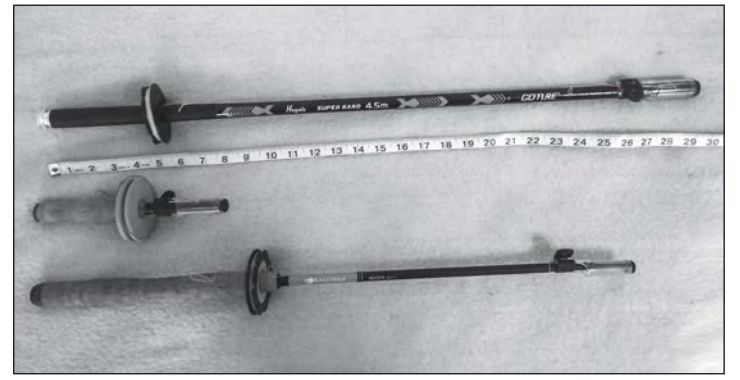


PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

These three rods illustrate the range of fixed-line fishing options. The top is a heavy rod designed for carp fishing, and is almost 15 feet long when extended. The middle rod is very small at 5 feet when extended and barely 8 inches collapsed, making it literally pocket-sized. The bottom rod can be fished at lengths of about 8 feet, 9.5 feet and 11 feet.

A few years back I received a strange birthday present from a friend. It was some kind of fishing rod that collapsed. I took the cap off the butt and the sections started sliding out. I pushed them back in, screwed the cap back on, and stuck it in the fish closet.

Where it remained for several months, until said buddy asked, "Did you try out that Tenkara rod?"

"Why, yes," sez I.

I hesitated. Asking the next question would reveal my ignorance. On the other hand, so what?

"What the heck is it?"

The rod in question was a 10.5-foot Temple Fork Tenkara rod. Under my pal's tutelage, I extended it and he showed me how to tie a line to it.

"OK," he said after I took a few tentative casts on the grass. "Let's go fishing."

Tenkara refers to a collapsible, telescoping, lightweight rod that has a line attached to it and no reel. The rods are similar in feel to fly rods, but there is no reel. Did I mention there is no reel?

A line is attached to the tip via a short piece of cord called a lillian. I don't know why they picked on Lillian.

The lillian is attached to the rod tip. The line is attached to the lillian. Tippet material is added to the line. Put on a fly and you're ready to fish.

I asked the obvious question. "What happens when the fish runs?"

Answer: It either stops or breaks off.

There are all sorts of fixed-line telescoping rods around, and many different names for them, many in Japanese. I don't pretend to understand the nuances. I just call it Tenkara and leave it at that.

I always groan when someone says some computer thing is "intuitive."

But Tenkara is intuitive. If you're standing in a stream with a long stick with a string attached to it with a fly at the end, what else are you going to do except make a cast?

The Japanese have been fishing this way for centuries. It's a recent development in the U.S. A small but increasing number of fly-rodgers are playing around with it.

Some, like my buddy, have gone almost completely over, even to the extent of selling most of his Western fly rods.

I continue to view it as an adjunct to a fly rod... but there are occasions when I barge into the woods in search of brook trout armed only with a Tenkara rod.

The advantages are many. The rods collapse to something that's usually a foot or two long, tops. Yet they extend to anywhere between 8 and 13 feet.

For those of us accustomed to fishing little blue lines with an abbreviated fly rod (under 7 feet long) trying it with a 9- or 10-footer seems nuts.

But there is often far more room in those streams than you might think. And having the extra length means hanging back farther from the stream. Which means the spooky trout can't see you.

A well-planned cast allows the angler to keep the line, and even most of the tippet, off the water. So when fishing dries, you can get a great drift.

When it's time to move on,

collapse the rod, secure the line on a spool or line winders attached to the rod, and make your way through the woods to the next spot. This is a lot easier than scrambling around with a rigged fly rod.

Tenkara is not just for little brookies, either. I bought an inexpensive Chinese rod, 13 feet long, and tied two Woolly Buggers on. Then I hit the Housatonic River.

On the second cast I hooked two smallmouth bass. Neither was especially big but together they were a handful. After a lengthy fuss I got them both in the net. (Then I lost the net but that's a different story.)

In the summer I fish for largemouth in a lake. Hooking a 4-pound bass on a fixed line rod is a lot of fun.

For river fishing, I found that using a Tenkara rod made me a better overall angler. I had been getting lazy about where I was in the river, preferring to compensate for a poor position with a longer cast or a tricky mend.

With Tenkara I was plotting my moves ahead of time, much as a golfer sizes up the next two or three shots.

There are disadvantages compared to Western fly gear. If you have a 12-foot rod with a 12-foot line and 4 feet of tippet, getting your fish into the net can be difficult, unless you have really long arms and a net with a 6-foot handle. Which I don't.

If it's super-windy Tenkara's probably not the best choice.

And despite my twin Woolly Bugger experiment, these rods are, generally speaking, not built for slinging big heavy weighted flies around. (Although I have one 18-footer, designed for carp fishing, that can handle a saltwater streamer easily.)

Note: People often compare Tenkara rods to cane poles. There are some similarities, but Tenkara rods are much more sensitive and infinitely more portable.

Mostly I like Tenkara because it's fun. I've been fly-fishing since the age of 12, roughly, and I am 58 now. I make that 46 years.

And I've had lots more fun in the last six, largely because I have added Tenkara rods to my lineup.

I have a few recommendations if you're curious.

Chris Stewart runs the Tenkara Bum website and shop. He's forgotten more about this than I will ever know.

Teton Tenkara is a website from Tom Davis, who has also forgotten more...

There are several stateside Tenkara companies that offer rods, lines and accessories. I have done business with Tenkara USA and Dragontail Tenkara and been very pleased.

I also recommend Morgan Lyle's book "Tenkara Today," which cuts through the more esoteric aspects of Tenkara and gets right down to the nitty.

### Second year in Heaven Gary Frank Thornton

May 30, 1967 - July 21, 2018



It's been said that each life is like a song

A melody and theme that only to you belong

You gave us a memory of a mountain where

Together you and your Dad will share

On and the song does play

Today, tomorrow and for all our days

Love and miss you always

Mom and your brothers Charlie, David, Scott and Doug

### 29 Year Memorial of Michael Lamay


July 23, 1991

I was just a child then, you were young as well. It was in the summer and we had to go and tell the kids at summer school you had an accident with Guy. We had no idea how we would all get by. Standing in the hallway, most everyone in tears, I remember it like yesterday after all these years.

It felt like time was standing still though life continued on. We cannot believe it's been so long since you have been gone.



We love and Miss you Michael, Your Aunt Ruth Your Cousin Bobbie-Jo

 <h2 style="margin: 0;">Worship Services</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Week of July 26, 2020</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Call ahead or visit websites for updates on remote or in-person services.</b></p>	
<p><b>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.</b> 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10am <a href="http://www.salisburyucc.org">www.salisburyucc.org</a> Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>	<p><b>Falls Village Congregational Church</b> 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>
<p><b>St. John's Episcopal Church</b> 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Marilyn Anderson Rev. Paul Christopherson <b>SUNDAY SERVICES</b> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Said 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) <b>WEDNESDAY HEALING SERVICE</b> At Noon - with Eucharist <a href="http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org">www.stjohnssalisbury.org</a> 860-435-9290</p>	<p><b>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon</b> 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 <a href="http://www.christchurchsharon.org">www.christchurchsharon.org</a></p>
<p><b>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC</b> Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people Pastor Savage Frieze 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am <b>AT THE PILGRIM HOUSE</b> 50 GRANITE AVE, CANAAN: FISHES &amp; LOAVES Food Pantry and CLOSETS for clothing Tuesdays from 5 to 7 and Thursdays from noon to 2 <a href="http://www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational">www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</a></p>	<p><b>Greenwoods Community Church</b> 355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA Sunday Service 10:30 AM Kidz Connection K-6th grade (during Sun. Service) Nursery Care All Services Pastor Trip Weiler 413-229-8560 <a href="http://www.greenwoodschurch.com">www.greenwoodschurch.com</a></p>
<p><b>North East Baptist Church</b> Historic Meeting House, Main &amp; Maple Millerton, NY God's word is always relevant! A Warm Welcome Awaits You <b>SUNDAY SERVICES</b> Family Bible School - 9:30 AM Morning Worship - 11:00 Evening Service - 6:00 PM <b>WEEKDAY MEETINGS</b> Weds. Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM at Parsonage 33 S. Maple Ave. Sat. Bible Studies for Men &amp; Women 3:00 PM <b>FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON</b> First Sunday of each month after AM services Pastor Henry A. Prouse 518-789-4840</p>	<p><b>St. Thomas Episcopal Church</b> 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY <b>VIRTUAL SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30</b> Please go to <a href="http://www.stthomasamenia.com">www.stthomasamenia.com</a> to log on. Followed by a virtual coffee hour Rev. AJ Stack <a href="http://www.stthomasamenia.com">www.stthomasamenia.com</a> 845-373-9161</p>
<p><b>The Sharon United Methodist Church</b> 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:45 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-364-5634 <a href="mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net">sharonumc5634@att.net</a></p>	<p><b>Trinity Episcopal Church</b> 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock Virtual Sunday Service 10:30 AM Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page Virtual Coffee Hour &amp; Bible Study Rev. Heidi Truax <a href="mailto:trinity@trinitylimerock.org">trinity@trinitylimerock.org</a> (860) 455-2627 <a href="http://www.trinitylimerock.org">www.trinitylimerock.org</a></p>
<p><b>Canaan United Methodist Church</b> 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 <a href="mailto:canaanct-umc.com">canaanct-umc.com</a> <a href="mailto:canaanctumc@gmail.com">canaanctumc@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT</b> The format for our Unitarian Fellowship has changed to Zoom. There will be no August meeting. For information call 860-455-2319 All are Welcome</p>
<p><b>Promised Land Baptist Church</b> 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! <a href="http://www.promisedlandbaptist.org">www.promisedlandbaptist.org</a></p>	<p><b>The Lakeville United Methodist Church</b> 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Sunday School 9:15 a.m. "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-455-9496 <a href="mailto:Lakevillemethodist@snet.net">Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</a></p>
<p><b>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall</b> Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9am Email Rev. Mary Gates at: <a href="mailto:mngates125@gmail.com">mngates125@gmail.com</a> for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone. We hope you will join us!</p>	<p><b>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH</b> Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville <b>MASS SCHEDULE</b> Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 am, Immaculate Conception Church <b>DAILY MASS SCHEDULE</b> Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p><b>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church</b> 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. <a href="http://www.thesmithfieldchurch.org">www.thesmithfieldchurch.org</a> 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p><b>UCC in CORNWALL</b> Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am Cornwall Village Meeting House 8 Bolton Hill Rd., Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p><b>Sharon Congregational Church</b> 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Visit our website <a href="http://sharoncongregationalchurch.org">sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a> for current online sermons. Bible Study Guides also available by request: <a href="mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org">info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a> Or contact us at 860-364-5002</p>	<p><b>SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH</b> 860-927-3003 The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge <b>MASS SCHEDULE</b> 9 AM - St. Bridget (indoors) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday &amp; First Friday <b>SATURDAY VIGIL</b> 4 PM - St. Bridget (outdoors) <b>SUNDAY MASSES</b> 8 AM - St. Bernard (indoors) 10 AM - St. Bridget (outdoors) Face masks required Limited attendance indoors</p>



EDITORIAL

Reopening schools — no easy answers

Should schools reopen come fall? That is the big question for politicians, school officials, teachers, parents, even students — as the world tries to predict how the coronavirus pandemic will look by the start of the next academic year. Certainly with numbers spiking across the U.S., we're not overly optimistic that school campuses will be incredibly safe spaces for our young students — children ages 5 and older — who may be unable in all reality to social distance, stay disease free and keep from bringing COVID home to others in their households.

So where does that leave us? With remote learning, which we can probably all agree is a less-than-ideal solution for educating young minds. Think about it: Do you truly believe students get the same quality instruction from their teachers, who, bless their hearts, are doing their absolute utmost to impart their years of wisdom and expertise on what we can only imagine are wandering young minds, distracted beyond belief in a home environment (where there is constant access to television, cell phones, video games, snacks, the outdoors, siblings, friends, parents, pets, toys, games, sports, and any number of other things this writer is too outdated to think of to entertain young minds)... all outside of view from the Zoom screen teachers are limited by, with which they interact with their students?

Of course not. It would be an impossible task. And it is by no means the teacher's fault. Nor is it the school's fault. Nor is it the state's fault. It's really no one's fault. It's due to the virus. We're in the midst of a deadly global pandemic — an emergency health crisis. We must deal the hand we've been dealt, which is exactly what states and school districts are trying to do.

President Trump has said that schools must reopen come fall or risk losing federal funding. On Tuesday, July 7, Trump said that he wants kids back in classes despite COVID cases rising to more than 3.9 million across the U.S. (as of Tuesday, July 21).

"We are very much going to put pressure on governors and everybody else to open the schools to get them open, and it's very important. It's very important for our country," he said.

Trump argued it would be more costly to keep students home than to have them physically return to school. He also alleged that "people [want] to make political statements or do it for political reasons... so they keep the schools closed... No way."

That's all well and good, Mr. President, but is it realistic? As Governor Andrew Cuomo said on Monday, July 13 (with a slightly heightened sense of responsibility compared to our president), "If you have the virus under control, reopen. If you don't have the virus under control, then you can't reopen. We're not going to use our children as the litmus test and we're not going to put our children in a place where their health is endangered. It's that simple."

He's right. It is that simple.

Around the Harlem Valley, our school districts are doing their best to draw up reopening plans, along with guidance from the state, its Department of Health, its Department of Education and various other agencies, for in-person learning for the 2020-21 academic year. There are, of course, contingency plans being made for distance learning in case the coronavirus is not under control by then, or if we face that dreaded second wave.

According to the Sunday, July 19, New York Times, there is real cause for concern. The paper reported on a new South Korean study that indicates reopening schools will lead to more cases of COVID-19.

"The study of nearly 65,000 people found that children younger than 10 transmit to others much less often than adults do, but the risk is not zero," wrote the Times. "And those between the ages of 10 and 19 can spread the virus at least as well as adults."

The article continued to state that "the findings could mean clusters of infection in children of all ages..." adding that "the director of the Harvard Global Health Institute called the study 'one of the best' to date on the issue."

It's very possible that whatever plans our local school districts begin the year with may change, as the pandemic is a fluid situation and virus numbers have the potential to shift. Administrators must be prepared for that, as well as teachers, staff, students and their families. So, too, must employers, as parents may need flexibility when it comes to child care and scheduling.

There are so many unknowns. Science is trying to catch up and provide answers. The race for a cure is surging forward at break-neck speeds. More medical knowledge would give states and educators additional data to base their decisions on, but there's no way to predict when that data will be forthcoming. The resulting frustration and confusion is understandable, but we commend those working on important pieces of the puzzle — like if and when to reopen schools — to the best of their abilities.

The goal is to keep everyone safe. That means students, of course, but also our teachers, administrators, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, coaches and each and every staff member in all of our schools — not one of whom probably ever thought they would have to risk their life to do their job.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Life in the Trump era

I'm what most folks consider a traditionalist, often referred to as a conservative. Today that connotation carries with it a hatred unseen in our past. If you don't follow the liberal agenda, you're labeled a racist. That could be kind in view of other names often banded about.

How we came to this point remains a mystery. When did it become OK to accept the demands of a minority, while the silent majority stands by largely ignoring the ever-growing crisis? As long as that angry crowd is banging on someone else's door, why should anyone care? Maybe because it should be obvious things will only get worse if the trend continues.

Until we get agreement on the need to obey existing laws, I see no end to the ever-increasing violence in many of our larger cities. Defunding the police is another example of the lunacy some would have you believe will make things better. You're not worried cause you got a gun... ask those folks in St. Louis who were defending their home from protesters why their weapons were confiscated? So much for the right to bear arms.

Thankfully in our little part

of the world we've had minimal exposure to the turmoil of which I speak. Simply tuning out or turning off the news might make one feel better, but it's not likely to change things. That can only come about when people start exerting themselves and let their voice be heard.

No, I'm not suggesting everyone should run out and become another protester, conservatives typically don't do that. Although if you'd like to stop suffering in silence, remember we still have the right to vote in this country.

In my lifetime I can't recall a more important election. We can fix what's wrong, perhaps not if we keep electing the same folks. Career politicians have helped to get us where we are now. I beseech every voter to educate themselves before making their decision on our future leaders.

Lest anyone forget, freedom isn't free! Have we forgotten all those in the past who sacrificed so much to get us where we are today? My wife and I proudly display old glory in front of our home. Sadly, too many have no regard for that which it stands.

John Walters

Millerton

Excited to share Millerton park plans

The coronavirus has detrimentally impacted recreation in the village of Millerton and surrounding communities. Many communities canceled summer camps due to safety concerns. For Millerton, the absence of a pool and the need to transport children miles away for swimming lessons and a chance to cool off also played a significant role in foregoing an important summer program. The Eddie Collins Memorial Park Revitalization Committee is determined to see a pool return to the park.

Despite restrictions imposed to contain the spread of the virus, the Committee has continued its work alongside the village of Millerton to follow through with a Park redevelopment plan four years in the making. In the past year, the Committee has helped the Village secure grants and personal donations totaling more than \$900,000. These funds

are to be used for the initial \$1.25 million phase. Phase 1 will relocate the park entrance, improve the handicapped accessible playground, add two new basketball courts and a full-sized soccer field.

Most recently, the village board reviewed numerous bids for a detailed design, including construction documents, for the entire proposed project. The Charlins Companies, an engineering firm based in Poughkeepsie with extensive experience in park restoration, was awarded the contract. The Committee is eager to get the designs in place and have the first phase of construction completed so it can push on into phase 2: a new pool.

Stephen Waite

Chairperson, Eddie Collins Memorial Park Revitalization Committee  
Millerton

Know thy neighbor — he probably knows a thing about you

It only took 28 years to learn why the guy around the corner had my number.

"Hey, Mister Ripp — how are things over on Simmons Street?"

I squinted and waved at the handsome man in gray shorts calling out to me on Church Street. We'd exchanged greetings for weeks as I walked past his house across from the graveyard, next to the church parking lot where my kids had their first driving lessons. And yet, I had no idea who he was and what else he knew about me.

After 31 years of owning a weekend home in Millerton, I still occasionally feel like an outsider from New York. Some old-timers referred to our house by the prior family long after we'd been there.

"Oh, you're in the Crawford place, huh?" they'd say.

In the early days I worried that anti-Semitism was the cause of tire tracks dug across our front lawn — it turned out to be the contractor dropping off a new basement boiler.

Not everything was imagined — as when Phil Terni always seemed to run out of Saturday newspapers just as I walked in the door of his store on Main Street. I knew I'd finally arrived around year 10, when he disappeared behind a curtain into the back room and emerged with an extra copy he'd just found for me. From then on, I always had a New York Times or Wall Street Journal waiting, along with some good stock tips.

In the anonymity of New York, I'm the observant one who recognizes strangers I've noticed for years at cross-walks or crowded restaurants. You don't know me, but I know you. In Millerton, it sometimes feels I'm the one under observation.

"Up for the weekend?" a neighbor asks cleaning his yard after we've been away for months.

Not lately. Since March we've been mostly in residence, working super remotely while enjoying the rhythm of village life all week long. I've connected with locals I barely spoke to for decades. Farmers shoot me a two-finger wave when they roll by on their tractors. Housepainters and people on porches seem eager for a chat. And I know to cover my ears (and my dog's) for the noon siren from the firehouse a block away, a wailing hold-over from the era of air raid warnings.

But here was this uber-friendly guy with the big hello — not only did he know my name and address but he may have been inside our house. He even mentioned my son, asking if I'd ever forgiven him. Was he too friendly? It was getting creepy. I finally blinked and dared ask back, "Sorry, how do we know each other?"

"I'm Ron Lejeune," he replied. "I was there, when you had the fire."

The fire! That was a take-me-back jolt, to a certain Sunday evening in August 1992.

My wife and I were rushing as

GUEST COLUMN  
Allan Ripp

unable to clean house, corral the kids and head back to the city, when a weird popping sound sent me rushing upstairs to my son Nathaniel's bedroom. Flames were shooting from a halogen sconce and engulfing the wall and ceiling. The oxygen-sucking crackle was terrifying.

Unable to work the kitchen fire extinguisher I threw a plastic soup container of water at the lamp, sparking an electric blow-out and sending smoke through the second story. Luckily, our volunteer fire department arrived within minutes, and the police as well. It seems that Nathaniel, then 7, had left his McDonald's Dream Team souvenir mini-basketball on top of the sconce and it ignited when he turned the light on above his bed.

The fire was mostly out but I was still burning when the responders came, leaving Nathaniel skulking in a far corner of the porch. It was a big event and The Millerton News ran a Page 1 story on the blaze and an accompanying editorial about emergency planning and the need for having working smoke detectors and family drills. I even wrote a letter to the editor thanking our volunteer squad for their dedication (you can look it up — Aug. 13, 1992!).

"You were one of the firemen?" I asked Ron.

Nope, but he was having dinner at our neighbor Rob Cooper's down the street when the call came in on the scanner and he joined the crew to help contain the chaos and clean up; he also saw me yelling at Nathaniel. Ron was in his mid-20s then. A generation later, he's got three grandchildren but still works for Rob's Associated Lightning Rod — he's done installations on New York's tallest office towers, condos and even train stations; and was still at it until COVID struck.

"I'm a high-story guy," he explained, adding he's glad to be off the road these days and sticking close to home.

I assured him I'd long forgiven my son for almost burning our house down, and apologized for scolding him so publicly, especially since it took a perfect shot for his rubber ball to land atop the sconce. Now, I'm the one who calls out to Ron when I approach his house a couple of streets away — sometimes it's the good guys who know your name and where you live.

*Part-time Millerton resident Allan Ripp runs a press relations firm in New York. His essays and reporting have appeared in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, the Atlantic, Newsweek, Time, USA Today, Newsday and Tablet.*

Pine Plains supervisor offers thanks

The past three-plus months have been something of a nightmare for all essential workers — in Pine Plains as well as the rest of the country. I'd like to extend thank yous to everyone now.

Firstly, I want to thank our local farmers for providing food for people here, both for our food lockers and those who can afford to buy their own. When I hear what other towns are experiencing in terms of food scarcity, I am astonished at how available meat and produce are right here. Predictions for the near future nationally list the supply-chain disruption of food as the number one crisis they foresee coming. Pine Plains is the breadbasket of Dutchess County in a lot of ways, and the farmers here have kept us all going strong.

I want to thank Ted Tenore for stepping up again to help level the beach and put down new sand and dirt for the ball fields. They've been graded and look wonderful.

Enormous thanks to Jen Chase for her Camp and Beach Directorship in a pandemic. The amount of work that went into opening both has been heroic. For state compliance, she had to create a workable plan and submit it for approval, handle the Department of Health on a daily basis, and hire, train and implement her teen crew — all before camp and the beach even opened. Now it's vigilance over the protocols that is all-consuming. Her people and organizational skills are truly appreciated. She reported at the Town Board Workshop Meeting last Monday that it was all worth it

to see the kids smile so much after such a hard winter alone.

Jen wanted me to make sure to thank Bobby Lee Couse for all his help in repairing the picnic tables and the dock, which fell apart the first week. Bobby Lee and his able-bodied assistant, Vinnie Parlman, have been instrumental in keeping our buildings clean and our public grounds maintained, and the specifications for that have increased their work quite a bit.

A big thank you also to all the people who stepped up to volunteer to be on our Broadband Committee. The first meeting takes place next week. The Town Board is looking into ways we might help college students who have no internet to study up in the Community Room at the library. This will take

some real planning and maintenance. Anyone with ideas about how we might do this, please lend them to me!

Finally, a parting thank you to Lanaea Bailey, who moved to town a few years ago and set right to volunteering, becoming a member of the Garden Club and the Library Board. Lanaea's landlord is selling her rental home, and she is off to new adventures in Troy. We will miss you and your daughter so much and thank you for all you've contributed to Pine Plains. Come back and visit please.

And to everyone wearing a mask protecting their fellow citizens and family members, thank you!

Darrah Cloud

Town supervisor  
Pine Plains

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**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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**VAN DE WATER** *Continued from Page A1*

while his opponent, Hawatmeh, had earned 776 votes. The 19th Congressional District includes all or parts of 10 counties in addition to Dutchess, including the Hudson Valley and the Catskills, and the results from those counties (excluding absentee ballots) originally had Hawatmeh ahead, 5,502 (52.2%) to Van De Water's 5,027 (47.79%) — a difference of 475 votes.

Dutchess County BOE Republican Commissioner of Elections Erik J. Haight said immediately after the primaries that there were roughly 8,000 absentees, district wide, across all 11 counties, that the BOE had to count. The board began canvassing absentees on around July 1, according to the commissioner.

According to the AP, the final tally had Van De Water with 12,159 votes while Ola Hawatmeh earned 8,992 votes.

Forty year old Van De Water was born in Rhinebeck and raised in Poughkeepsie; he graduated from Spackenkil High School in 1998. He served with the Army in Afghanistan, received the Bronze Star in 2011 and continues to serve in the

U.S. Army Reserves legal corps.

An attorney with the firm Corbally, Gartland and Rappleyea, LLP, Van De Water's platform includes increasing funding for opioid treatment, protecting the Second Amendment and securing the southern border.

In November he'll face incumbent U.S. Rep. Antonio Delgado, who is finishing his first term as congressman for the 19th District after defeating former Republican U.S. Rep. John Faso in 2018. Delgado, a Rhinebeck resident, won with the Blue Wave of Democrats who helped take the House that year with a more progressive agenda.

In addition to being on the Democratic ticket, Delgado ran in the June 23 primary unopposed on both the Working Families Party ticket and on the SAM (Serve America Movement) ticket.

Also running for the 19th District in November will be Steven Greenfield, who ran unopposed in the primary with the Green Party, and Victoria Alexander, who ran unopposed in the primary for the 19th District with the Libertarian Party.

**CANCELED BRUNCH** *Continued from Page A1*

ARCHIVE PHOTO

**Supporters of the North East Community Center (NECC), including Millerton resident Cathy Fenn, far right, posed at the Peony Vodka booth at last year's NECC Chef & Farmer Brunch fundraiser held at Millbrook School. Roughly 300 attended.**

of the COVID-19 pandemic. And just when times are especially tough, the center's long-relied upon brunch fundraiser — an important source of income — has been canceled due to that deadly illness. The need, though, still exists.

NECC Board Chairman Christine Bates said she anticipated that this year, the "all volunteer" event would have brought together farmers, between 10 to 15 chefs and an estimated 400 donors, up from last year's high of 300, with the whole project already organized thanks to Eleanor Nurzia, owner of popular restaurant, 52 Main.

Bates feels the brunch has been increasingly successful each year as "it's a combination of people loving the idea of coming together and seeing all their friends in the community and supporting the NECC."

With the brunch canceled due to the health crisis, however, she said organizers have sent out a mailing explaining that while the fundraiser can't be held in person, the hopes are many will support the center "as though they were going to the brunch."

NECC Executive Director Christine Sergent said that as of last week, more than \$56,000 had already been raised. She is hopeful that more will be donated as NECC tries to reach the \$200,000 to \$250,000 mark it was aiming for through the originally planned brunch.

Tickets to the brunch usually cost between \$125 to \$150, with other donations often coming from those attending. Sergent added that any and all donations are much appreciated.

"Around Chef & Farmer Brunch time there are so many people who want to give \$10, \$25, \$50 — and those gifts are just as important to us because I know how meaningful they are to people who give them to us," she said.

While NECC has played an important part in the lives of many in the community for

the past 30 years, Sergent now feels a particular urgency to keep programs going. During the pandemic, the center amped up its involvement with local food pantries, providing essential nourishment through both curbside and home delivery; it's continued its transportation service for those in need; facilitated critical advice for those seeking information about and enrollment in various programs; and it's utilized online communication for everyone from tots to teens to adults of all ages who normally connected through various in-person programs.

"This has been a very scary time for our whole country and our local community," said Sergent. "We've muddled through, and I think the NECC has done a really good job in being there for our community for the last four months. We don't yet know the real impact that this is going to have on our families and our economy, and we don't even know where this is going from here after the pandemic."

She feels strongly, however, that "we have to be strong and forward thinking" as the center will be needed by the community in even more "meaningful ways" as people deal with the fallout of the health crisis.

On a cautionary note, Sergent said that as many as "50% of nonprofits in our area are likely to go out of business by the end of the year," as funding from both government and private sources dry up.

"We do not want the NECC to be one of them," she said adamantly, hoping supporters will step forward at this time to help the long-serving nonprofit continue its good work in the Harlem Valley and beyond.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of The Chef & Farmer Brunch, share videos and stories of NECC and join the community center online for "a unique and special activity on July 26," go to [www.neccmillerton.org/chef-farmer-brunch](http://www.neccmillerton.org/chef-farmer-brunch).

**SENATOR SERINO** *Continued from Page A1*

the fact that, had she waited to go in for her routine health screening, the outcome may have been very different. In talking with other women who have had received the same diagnosis and are currently going through cancer treatment, Serino gained a clearer understanding of how important it is to schedule and keep cancer screening appointments. Don't procrastinate, she warned.

"It's just amazing, the stories that you hear," Serino said. "I know we've come a long way, definitely, but you wonder if there's even more that we can do."

Regarding her plans to raise awareness, the senator said, "I always say our personal stories compel us forward and this is going to going to be another fo-

cus of mine."

Driven to inspire others with her personal story and to increase awareness about keeping up with health screenings, Serino went public with her cancer diagnosis mid-July. In the weeks following her announcement, she said she's been thrilled to learn that hundreds of people have made their appointments for their health screenings.

On Monday, July 13, Serino began her first week of radiation treatment. As announced by her office, she will be undergoing the treatments five days a week for the next four weeks, but will continue to maintain her public schedule and update the community on her progress. Even in the wake of the unexpected diagnosis, Serino has maintained her positive spirit, which she be-

lieves is key to getting healthy.

According to the American Cancer Society website at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org), "screening tests are used to find cancer before a person has symptoms." By going in for these tests, people increase their chances of having certain cancers detected early — when they are easier to treat.

When it comes to detecting breast cancer, the American Cancer Society recommends that women ages 40 to 44 have the choice to start their annual breast cancer screenings with x-rays of the breast (or mammograms) while women ages 45 to 54 should get mammograms every year and women ages 55 and older should either switch to mammograms every two years or continue with yearly screenings.

Emphasizing how important it is to know how their breasts normally look and feel, the American Cancer Society has urged women to immediately report any changes to their breasts to a health care provider. For those with a family history of breast cancer, a genetic tendency and other like factors, the society recommends that they be screened by a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine along with mammograms.

For more information about screening for breast cancer as well as other cancers that should be checked for regularly, including colon and rectal cancer, cervical cancer, endometrial cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer and other forms of cancer, go to the American Cancer Society website at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

**SCHOOLS** *Continued from Page A1*

health departments immediately after learning of any positive COVID-19 test results. It also covers protocols related to transportation, food service, aftercare and extracurriculars, etc.

Additionally, all school districts, Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), charter schools and private schools are required to develop individual plans for reopening and operating during the COVID-19 health crisis. Each plan must include details for in-person instruction; monitoring health conditions; containing potential transmissions of COVID-19; and closing school facilities and in-person instruction if necessitated by widespread virus transmission. All plans must be submitted to the DOH and the New York State Education Department (NYSED) by Friday, July 31.

The NYSED has offered guidance to school districts to develop their plans. In addition to addressing health and safety, NYSED offered to help with facilities, instruction, school schedules, nutrition and transportation; as well as special education; budgets; attendance and chronic absenteeism; social-emotional wellbeing; and so forth.

For in-person instruction, state guidance is prioritizing efforts to return all students to in-person instruction to ensure equity in education. Yet "based on the dynamic nature of local community transmission of the COVID-19 virus," a phased-in approach or a hybrid model that combines in-person instruction with remote/distance learning at various times throughout the coming school year is being considered.

Aided by state guidelines, Harlem Valley school districts have been examining their options for the 2020-21 academic year and forming re-entry committees to evaluate possible scenarios and the various logistics involved.

The North East (Webutuck) Central School District created a three-pronged task force that meets on a weekly basis, with Webutuck Business Administrator Robert Farrier overseeing transportation, food services, custodial and maintenance; Webutuck Director of Student Services/Curriculum and Instruction Jennifer Eraca working with health and mental services (including the school psycholo-

gist, nurses and social workers) and with principals and teachers to discuss instructional delivery; and Eugene Brooks Intermediate School Principal Matthew Pascale working on athletics, arts, music and extracurriculars. Following guidelines set forth by the state and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Webutuck Superintendent of Schools Raymond Castellani explained the task force is working closely with the district's safety consultant, Needham Risk Management Resource Group, and evaluating what other school districts may be doing.

"We are going to be prepared with any form of guidelines that New York state puts out for us, including regular sessions, modified sessions, virtual learning or whatever else the state has asked us to do," Castellani said in June.

Following the release of the state's latest guidelines, Castellani said Webutuck's goal is to get students physically on campus while following state guidelines. A survey is being prepared to ask parents how comfortable they are letting their children attend classes in person.

"It's very difficult with the guidelines we've been given to bring the students back to school," Castellani said. "We're coming up with different options that we're going to try to see what works best with the allowable guidelines from the state and from the DOH, and that may include in-person instruction as well as a hybrid model with distance learning instruction. We're looking at what mixture works best."

In the Pine Plains Central School District, its Board of Education (BOE) has dedicated several meetings to assessing which re-entry option seems most viable. At the BOE's most recent meeting on Wednesday, July 16, the board engaged in a lengthy discussion of its options, examining what must be included in its reopening plan and the logistics that must be considered. From screening and transportation to classroom configuration at all three school buildings, Pine Plains Director of Curriculum and Instruction Brian Timm walked the BOE through what a typical day of school would look like after reopening, highlighting the factors, processes and procedures that are being examined.

The BOE created a Re-Entry

Committee with 25 stakeholder members, including BOE members Chip Couse and Amie Fredericks, several parents and various key district staff members. Though the committee will make a recommendation for reopening, Pine Plains Superintendent of Schools Martin Handler affirmed that "ultimately, the decision belongs to the BOE."

Now that the committee is fully aware of the state's re-entry requirements, Couse reported on a later date that it is scheduled to meet on Thursday, July 23, when it will complete its review process and forward a recommendation to the BOE.

"The quality of the discussions is extremely impressive to hear," Couse said. "All segments of the school have provided valuable insight on the challenges to be faced and limitations on various proposed solutions. Dr. Timm's leadership of the committee has been outstanding in keeping the group focused and alert to the deadline. I can't say I've been part of a more impressive discussion in my 21 years on the board."

As BOE president, Couse added he will receive the committee's recommendation "with the knowledge that maximum thought has been put into it and fully expect that there's no plan that will make everyone happy," adding that "student and staff safety has been the main theme while also recognizing that deviation from the normal school experience is upsetting to students and parents."

### Lakeville Journal and Millerton News offices during COVID-19 safety measures

The Lakeville Journal Company has made the decision to continue with our remote work system in light of the potential increase of cases of COVID-19 in the region and the nation. During this time, there will be limited office hours at the Falls Village office. The Millerton News office is not open at all. But all of our staff is available through voice and email communication, and the newspapers continue to publish.

Contact [editor@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:editor@lakevillejournal.com) or [editor@millertonnews.com](mailto:editor@millertonnews.com) for editorial news, [cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com) for obituaries, [legals@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:legals@lakevillejournal.com) for legal notices, [classified@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:classified@lakevillejournal.com) for classified line ads and [advertising@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:advertising@lakevillejournal.com) for display advertising.

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