



MILLBROOK
Immigrant services go nonprofit **A3**



REGIONAL
Hidden Black histories **A7**



COMPASS
Children's right to read, string quartet dazzles, and more **B1-4**



PHOTO BY KATE FARRAR

The farmstand at Foxtrot Flower Farm in Stanfordville is closed up for the winter.

Letter from the farm: The argument for CSAs

Signing up for a CSA is one of the most effective ways to support small farms and help community agriculture thrive

STANFORD — International CSA Day is Thursday, Feb. 22! So what is a CSA, and why should you sign up for one?

Like any good idea or innovation, the CSA (community supported agriculture) model was created out of a vast shared need: the economic survival of small farms and farmers.

A CSA is a subscription service. You subscribe to a local farm's CSA for a fixed cost, and the farm regularly provides you with its produce and/or products for a set period of the year.

The concept is that local cus-

VIEWPOINT Kate Farrar

tomers invest in a farm when the farm needs it most: up front, before a farmer has any produce to show for themselves or with their investors.

Without the CSA model, farmers work, pay and invest back into the farm year-round but only make their income seasonally.

I founded Foxtrot Farm & Flowers in Stanfordville three years ago, after working for eight years in ag-

riculture. I built Foxtrot around a CSA model because in my experience it's financially effective, time efficient, and most rewarding for a farm of my scale to sell directly to their community, building relationships over the years.

A year on the farm

At Foxtrot, the year of expenditures on the new crop begins now, in mid-February, when I begin to sow, tend to and heat — with propane — this year's crop.

Apart from the CSAs, my in-

See **CSA, PAGE A8**

Amenia aligns with Hochul's Pro-Housing Commitment

By **LEILA HAWKEN**
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — By unanimous vote, the board adopted a Pro-Housing Commitment to promote opportunities for affordable housing at their regular meeting on Thursday, Feb. 15.

The commitment aligns the town with a 2023 executive order

issued by Gov. Kathy Hochul, by which the state will prioritize distribution of discretionary funding to be directed toward towns that promote construction of affordable housing.

Town Supervisor Leo Blackman explained that to be eligible for state funding, the town needs to adopt the pro-housing policy.

The pro-housing program was

discussed at a joint budget hearing at the New York State Legislature Wednesday, Feb. 14, when Ruth-Anne Visnauskas, commissioner of New York State Homes and Community Renewal, spoke of the newly instituted initiative.

Although the budget hearing focused mainly on downstate ur-

See **HOUSING, PAGE A8**

Webutuck's \$12.6 million project to begin this summer

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

AMENIA — The final contractor bids for the North East Webutuck Central School District capital improvement project were accepted at the WCSD Board of Education's Monday, Feb. 12 meeting. Work is slated to begin this summer.

The board first proposed the Webutuck CSD capital improvement project in December 2022. Once the project was voted on and approved in May 2023, the board began soliciting contract bids.

The work will be done with no additional tax impact on residents because a capital improvement debt incurred 20 years ago will be paid off at the same time the new debt is added, and dollar for dollar, the amount is almost the same.

In December 2022, the board named three reasons for the pro-

posed projects, saying they were need-based, necessary for the health and safety of the students and staff, and that they focused on critical infrastructure needs.

The improvements that the contractors will begin this summer include facilities updates: on-site parking, sidewalks and roofs must all be replaced due to aging and normal wear and tear. Some elements of the sanitary system have also aged out.

Taking care of the facilities means less chance of unexpected problems such as burst pipes — in January 2022, a burst pipe flooded the school's auditorium with six inches of water — data loss, and missed school days, explained Webutuck CSD Superintendent Raymond Castellani.

In the Webutuck Elementary

See **WEBUTUCK, PAGE A8**

Dollar story: Dollar General application still in limbo with Zoning Review Committee

By **CHRISTINE BATES**
Special to The Millerton News

NORTH EAST — The status of the application to build a Dollar General store on Route 44 next to The Talk of the Towne in the Town of North East remains unclear.

To date, Lorna Sherman, bookkeeper and budget officer in the Town of North East, confirmed that the Dollar General application has not been withdrawn, and remains open but inactive.

During the July 12, 2023, meeting of the North East Planning Board, Robert Trotta, the applicant, was asked to place \$4,000 in escrow to cover legal fees and the expenses of the town planner, Will Agresta, "to see if the plan as it stands is worthy of going forward," according to minutes from the meeting.

In August and September, de-

ductions were made to the account totaling \$1,312.50, and Agresta provided the applicant with a memo identifying the deficiencies in the site plan as presented.

There has been no further communication from Trotta with the Town, but neither has there been a request for refunding the fee.

The plan as it stands is to build a store on Route 44 on the 2.7-acre empty lot now occupied by the driving range next to the Talk of the Towne and Trotta's Liquors store, all owned by Trotta. The building would be 12,000 square feet with parking for 40 cars. Inside, 3,000 square feet would be devoted to fresh produce.

During the North East Planning Board meeting July 12, 2023, Chairman Dale Culver observed that "This particular type of store

See **DOLLAR GENERAL, PAGE A8**



CONTACT

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OPINION

'Stay Informed';
Columns, Letters **A5**



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OUR TOWNS

Millbrook votes in short-term Rental regulations

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — The long-awaited vote by the Village of Millbrook Board of Trustees unanimously passed new regulations on short-term rentals (STRs) on Wednesday, Feb. 14.

After two years of public hearings, proposals, changes, heated discussions and social media hype, it proved to be anticlimactic.

Three residents attended, including one STR owner and one former STR owner.

A last-minute letter to Mayor Tim Collopy, as well as objections raised at the meeting, suggested that Valentine's Day was not a fair time to hold the last part of the public hearing, as it can be a busy evening for STR and business owners. Collopy reminded the group that he had announced the meeting at last month's meeting, noting at that time that it would be held on Valentine's Day, so the meeting proceeded.

Negotiated STR regulations

Some of changes made to the regulations that have taken place over the two-year negotiations included changing the number of permits issued from 20 to 15.

Originally, the author of the bill, Trustee Peter Doro, had specified there could not be two STRs adjacent to each other; that was done away with.

The clause that states that the owner must be on the premises at the time of rental was given a two-year extension in the case of Laurie Sepe-Marder, an STR owner whose house has been in the family since the 1930s.

Two-year permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis at a rate of \$1,000.

Collopy has said that the village board is still not sure

what costs will be incurred by the Village.

STR owner Tanya Jackson spoke, and while acknowledging that some of the original drafts of regulations had been changed, said the price of a permit alone was far too high. She told the board that when COVID-19 was at its worst, people were flocking to the area because there was no where else they could go; but now borders are open, and travel agencies and destinations are serving vacations at low prices to get business back, and Millbrook and other similar destinations are not high on the list of where people want to go.

She mentioned taxes, laundry, property upkeep, advertising, fees and maintenance, saying that last year, she took in \$11,000 for her STR property, which was not even enough to pay her bills. She said that many STR owners consider giving up on their STRs because of low rentals and the high permit fee.

Then the public hearing was closed, a motion was made to amend Chapter 230 of the Village Code titled "Zoning" to add "Sub-Section 230-30(C) Containing Rules and Regulations for Short-Term Rentals," and the board passed it unanimously.

The Town of Washington passed STR regulation earlier this year.

Other actions

The board passed a resolution to amend Article X of Chapter 230 of the Village

Code that had to do with creating regulations for outdoor dining on village sidewalks. This started during COVID and was designed to help village eateries safely serve the public. It allows food establishments to utilize outdoor space on village sidewalks with an outdoor dining permit. Obtaining a permit requires proof of the proper insurance coverage.

They passed a resolution authorizing the issuance of \$121,000 in serial bonds to pay for the cost of the new highway dump truck/sander and accessories. A letter from the Bank of Millbrook was introduced and after reviewing the village's request, offered a bid of 50% for this social impact bond (SIB) request.

They passed an amendment to the local law having to do with announcing public hearings for land use applications (via the Zoning Board) to be advertised and posted on the property.

The board approved the annual LOSAP Service Credit List for 2023 (fire department retirement funds).

They approved the Use of Force Policy for the Millbrook Police Department.

The full contents of the resolutions, other information and the agenda can be found on the Village website, villageofmillbrookny.com

The next regular board meeting will be held Wednesday, March 13, at 6 p.m. at the Millbrook Firehouse, 20 Front St.

Amenia to host public cannabis hearing March 7; coyote hunt canceled by group

BY LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — To measure residents' opinions on whether to reverse the 2022 decision to opt out of the state regulations that would allow for the distribution of cannabis locally, the Amenia Town Board voted to hold a public hearing at its next meeting Thursday, March 7.

The hearing at the Town Hall will begin at 7 p.m. The hearing is in response to residents who have asked that

the town opt in to be guided by state regulations governing the establishing of a local dispensary. The hearing will help to determine the extent of public interest in engaging in the process that would allow retail distribution.

Coyote hunt

Several residents spoke during public comment in strong opposition to plans for a local coyote hunting contest. The event has since been canceled.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Cold mornings, hot breakfast at the Amenia Firehouse

Olivia Durrer, 4, and Nicole Darling of Millerton joined roughly 200 others for breakfast at the Amenia Firehouse Sunday, Feb. 18. The breakfast, which includes three varieties of pancakes, French toast, eggs, sausage, bacon, homefries, toast and a choice of beverages, occurs every third Sunday from September through April from 7:30 to 11 a.m. at the Amenia Fire Company, 36 Mechanic St.

Support local journalism in your community.

Please donate to The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News at LakevilleJournalFoundation.org/donate or by mail PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039

Amenia Rec Commission reschedules park plans hearing

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — The public hearing when landscape architect Jane Didona of Didona Associates will present plans for two public parks has been rescheduled to a new date of Tuesday, Feb. 27, at the Town Hall, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Originally scheduled by the Amenia Recreation Commission for Tuesday, Feb. 13, the public hearing was postponed due to inclement weather.

During the public hearing, Didona will review plans for both the Amenia Green project proposed for land surrounding the Town Hall, and the Wassaic Park project to be developed in the village of Wassaic.

Both projects are seen as a means of enhancing recreational opportunities within the town of Amenia. The public is encouraged to attend to hear the plans and to offer comments.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Twelve Volt Holdings, LLC Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/26/2024. Office Location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 32 Griffith Way, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

02-08-24
02-15-24
02-22-24
02-29-24
03-07-24
03-14-24

filing for ALL Real Property Tax Exemptions, is March 1st of each year.

Forms or additional information are available by contacting the Assessor's Office, Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, NY. (845)-373-8860 ex. 104

Donna M. DiPippo
Sole Assessor
02-22-24

Notice of Formation of Pine Place LLC

Pine Place LLC (the "LLC") filed Articles of Organization with SSNY on 12/25/24. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served and is directed to mail process to 16 Meusel Road, Pine Plains, NY 12567. Purpose: any lawful activity.

02-01-24
02-08-24
02-15-24
02-22-24
02-29-24
03-07-24

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the Planning Board of the Town of North East on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at the North East Town Hall, 19 N. Maple Ave., Millerton, NY at 7:35 PM or as soon thereafter as possible on the application of Marilyn M. Barrett for a Minor Subdivision on Tax Parcel #7270-00-405067 located at 330-344 Indian Lake Road, Millerton, NY in the A5A Zoning District of the Town of North East.

The above application is open for inspection at the Town Hall or via email. Please request a copy by emailing

the Planning Board office at pb@townofnortheastny.gov or calling 518-789-3300, Ext. 608.

Persons wishing to appear at such hearing may do so in person or by attorney or other representative. Communications in writing relating thereto may be filed with the Board at such hearing. Dated: February 15, 2024.

Dale Culver
Chairman
Planning Board
02-22-24

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF AMENIA

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Public Hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Amenia on March 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia New York, at which time all parties and interested citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard as to whether the Town Board of the Town of Amenia shall amend Local Law No. 1 of 2022 Opting Out of the Licensing and Establishment of Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and On-Site Consumption Sites within the Town of Amenia. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the purpose of the proposed amendment to Local Law No. 1 of 2022 is to allow the licensing and establishment of Cannabis Retail Dispensaries within the Town of Amenia. Dated: February 15, 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
DAWN MARIE KLINGNER,
TOWN CLERK
02-22-24

Upcoming Events

WEEKLY THURSDAY CHAIR YOGA
10:30am in the Community Room

WEEKLY FRIDAY CHAIR ZUMBA
10:30am in the Community Room

JANET NEWMAN ART EXHIBIT OPENING
February 23rd from 4pm-6pm in the Learning Center
Wine and light snacks will be served

ORGANIZE YOUR FINANCES WITH THE WEALTH GROUP FROM UNION SAVINGS BANK
February 28th at 2pm in the Learning Center

For more information or to register for programs visit our website at www.noblehorizons.org

17 Cobble Rd. Salisbury, CT 06068
860-435-9851 • noblehorizons.org

North East Dutchess Immigration Service: A new nonprofit, a long-standing service

SHERIFF'S REPORT

By JUDITH O'HARA BALFE
judithb@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Grace Episcopal Church began its Grace Latino Outreach (GLO) program in 2005 under the auspices of Rev. Dr. Douglas J. Fisher and members of the church, who undertook to start the program in response to an access problem: many people in the immigrant community did not know what resources were available to them or how to access what was available.

Lack of transportation and a language barrier added to the feelings of isolation that came from being in a new country, far from home and family.

GLO began by offering two programs: English as a Second Language (ESL), and instruction in basic banking, such as opening checking accounts and obtaining and using debit cards.

By 2008, Evelyn Garzetta was named coordinator of GLO; in 2011, she was named executive director.

The program became an important interface with the local immigrant population. GLO coordinated with other area programs such as Community Action Partnership, MESA Episcopal Mission in Dover, and especially with St. Thomas Church in Amenia Union, which has a food pantry and community garden among other services. They've also partnered with Literacy Connection, Somos la Llave del Futuro, Eastern Dutchess Rural Health Network, Hudson/Sun River Health, Northeast Community Center, and Cornell Cooperative Extension.



Ben York, operational coordinator, and Mark Clizbe, program director, of NEDIS discussing the program at the Millbrook Library Volunteer Day Oct. 14, 2023.

In a region that is underserved in health, transportation and other critical services, the partnerships have been invaluable.

But often the brunt of the coordination and work fell on GLO and Garzetta. In 2018, GLO became Grace Immigrant Outreach (GIO), with the intention of broadening their support beyond the Latino immigrant community.

As services expanded, so did the need for grants and manpower; in 2022, Garzetta initiated the transformation of the church's outreach program into a 501(c)(3), Northeast Dutchess Immigrant Service (NEDIS).

Among its charges was getting together a panel of board members. Chosen were people who were known in the community for helping others; for being committed to community; for expertise in areas of medicine, law and education; those who can and will help clientele to navigate the often complicated aspects of starting life over again in a new

environment, a new language and a new culture.

The first meeting of the board of directors, required for a 501(c)(3), took place Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, at the Millerton Inn.

Present were Garzetta, and staff members Mark Clizbe, program director, and Freddie Gonzalez, and seven board members. Each of them is clear in their belief that this population deserves full membership in the community, a sense of ownership and belonging. What they give back to the community deserves no less.

Some of the areas people need help in are actually what other populations need assistance with as well, such as affordable housing and transportation. NEDIS distributes food bags from Food of Life Pantry to Mision Episcopal Santiago Apostol in Dover Plains; provides evening ESL classes in Dover, Millbrook and Pawling, and materials for students in tutoring programs; a social worker is

available to help clients obtain physical and mental health services; and consultants are available to help navigate the legal system, particularly with regards to status change and asylum papers, visas, applications and other paperwork, and referrals to immigration attorneys; offers transportation to appointments at immigration court.

NEDIS' Academic Mentoring Program provides academic instruction and educational advocacy, as well as teaching clients, among other skills, to organize their work and finances, communicate with school systems in which children are enrolled, and supports school-age clients in planning for the future, for example by making career goals or in applying to college.

NEDIS, which operates out of two offices — 12 Rymer Street in Dover, and at Grace Church, 3328 Franklin Ave., Millbrook — has been fortunate in acquiring generous donations from the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Episcopal Charities, the Northeast Dutchess Fund and many others. But becoming a 501(c)(3) allows it to operate without being under the auspices of a religious order, and enables the group to apply for government grants and funding.

What will remain constant, from the first days of its start in 2008, is the caring and respect that is given, along with the expertise, to enable an immigrant population to become independent members of the community, working in partnership with a long-term population, to make this part of Dutchess County vibrant, alive, and prosperous.

The following information was provided by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office as the Harlem Valley area activity report for Feb. 8-14, 2024.

Feb. 8 — Deputies investigated a domestic dispute at 317 Skunks Misery Road in the Town of Pine Plains. Matter resolved without further police intervention.

Feb. 9 — Deputies responded to 5924 North Elm Ave. in Millerton for a property damage automobile accident with one vehicle reportedly leaving the scene. The operator who left the scene was located and refused to exit his residence. Oscar Tiul Tec, 33, was eventually arrested for DWI offenses, traffic offenses and obstructing governmental administration. Subject to appear in the Town of North East Court at

a later date.

Feb. 13 — Deputies responded to 3610 Route 343 in Amenia for a boyfriend/girlfriend physical domestic dispute. Investigation resulted in the arrest of Kurt Lattrell, 43, for assault in the third degree. Subject to appear in the Town of Amenia Court at a later date.

If you have any information relative to the aforementioned cases or any other suspected criminal activity, please contact the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office tip line at 845-605-CLUE (2583) or email dcsotips@gmail.com. All information will be kept confidential.

All persons arrested and charged are alleged to have committed the crime and are presumed innocent until proven guilty and are to appear in local courts later.

Sharon man charged with second-degree rape

By JOHN COSTON
johnc@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — An investigation of inappropriate sexual contact with a juvenile in Dutchess County resulted in the arrest of a 19-year-old Sharon, Connecticut, man Wednesday, Feb. 14, the Dutchess County Sheriff said.

Antonio K. Scott remained in the Dutchess County Jail as of Tuesday, Feb. 20. He is charged with rape in the second degree, a Class D felony.


According to the Sheriff's Department, the investigation began in the summer of 2023 after the Sheriff's Office was alerted to a possible sexual

offense involving Scott and the juvenile.

The Sheriff's Department is withholding any further information to protect the victim's privacy and future court proceedings.

The Department said that if anyone has information about this case or similar incidents involving Scott, they are urged to contact Detective Sistarenik at 845-486-3820 or bsistarenik@dutchessny.gov


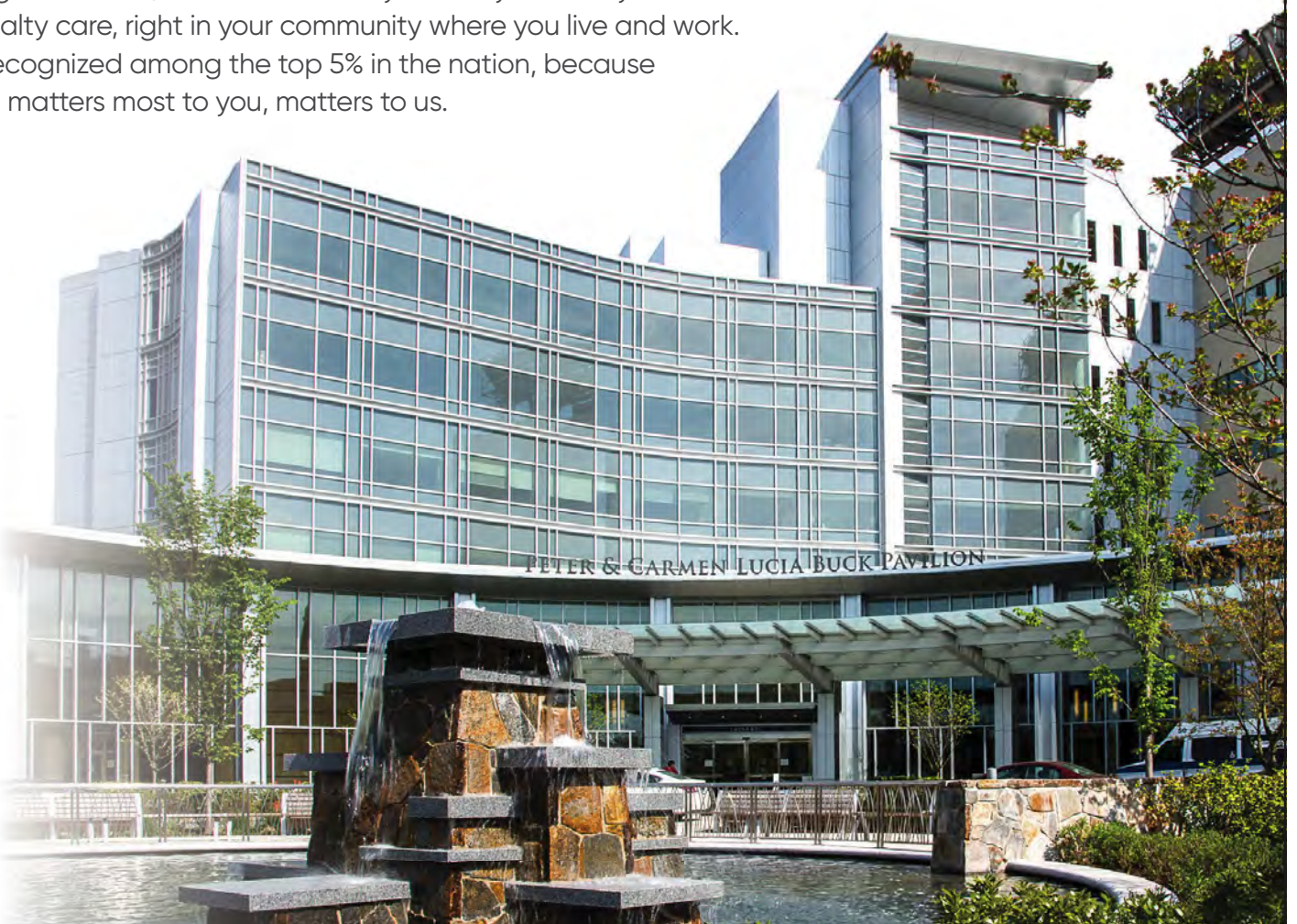
The Sheriff's Office can also be contacted via the tipline at 845-605-CLUE (2583) or dcsotips@gmail.com, and all information will be kept confidential.



Danbury Hospital

Recognized among the top 5% in the nation

Danbury Hospital, part of Nuvance Health, is proud to be the recipient of the America's Top 250 Best Hospitals award from Healthgrades. Danbury Hospital delivers top quality care, and is now also recognized as among the top 10% of hospitals in the nation for stroke, cardiac and surgical care (Healthgrades 2024). This means that you and your family have access to nationally-ranked specialty care, right in your community where you live and work. Danbury Hospital is proud to be recognized among the top 5% in the nation, because quality of care matters. And, what matters most to you, matters to us.

OBITUARIES

Alex L. Taylor III

LAKEVILLE — Alex L. Taylor III, a longtime reporter with Time and Fortune magazine who covered the auto industry with understated and unsurpassed flair for nearly three decades, died on Feb. 8, 2024, in Lakeville, where he lived. The cause was complications from Parkinson's disease.



lumbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, in 2000, he was selected one of 100 Notable Business Journalists of the 20th Century. He was a member of the International Motor Press Association and was on the jury for the North America Car of the Year Awards. Alex was the author of "Sixty to Zero: An Inside Look at the Collapse of General Motors — and the Detroit Auto Industry." Drawing on more than thirty years of experience and insight as an automotive industry reporter, the book was released to positive reviews in 2010.

Beyond his work, Alex is remembered for his love of his family and friends, tennis, nonfiction books, and Brooks Brothers. He was admired for his wit and all-around generosity, as well as his good cheer and courage living with Parkinson's.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Mary; son, Alex, daughter, Madeleine; sisters Holly and Faith along with nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and his brothers, John and David.

Please consider donating in Alex's honor to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

A memorial service will be held June 15 at the Congregational Church of Salisbury.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

MILLBROOK — Jack Nugent passed away quietly at the age of 90 at his home in Ft. Lauderdale on Feb. 9, 2024. If you knew him even a little, you loved him. Intelligent, humorous, compassionate, talented, athletic and (sometimes) cantankerous — how could you not?



Jack is survived by Maureen (his "Mo"), his wife of 56 ½ years and best friend.

Jack is also survived by his sister Frannie and her daughters and grandchildren, his nephews in New York and North Carolina, additional nieces and nephews in the northeast and especially his seven Texas nieces and nephews, who previously lived near Jack and Mo in the Northeast and were privileged to spend many happy times with Jack. Their 24 Texas grand nieces and nephews also treasured him.

Background: Jack was born and raised in New York City. He grew up — mostly — in Jackson Heights, Queens, New York — as one of five children of hardworking parents, John Nugent and Henrietta Johnson Nugent. He remained close to his family into adulthood. After graduating with distinction from Queens College, Jack entered the U.S. Army and did his service in Germany. Always athletic, Jack learned to play soccer in Germany before it became cool in the U.S.

After the army, Jack worked in advertising in Manhattan (think "Mad Men"). With the young crowd of advertising and creative people in New York, Jack met Maureen, who

worked with radio stations purchasing ad time. Coincidentally both had grown up around Jackson Heights and both were Christened within months of each other at neighboring parishes in Rockaway, New York. Instantly compatible and fun

loving with their group, they spent winter weekends skiing in Vermont and continued skiing in winter, including in Switzerland and Colorado. Summers meant tennis, tennis, tennis, where they made some wonderful friends, especially in Florida.

Cool: Jack had a true ear for music. With his guitar and lilting voice, he entertained friends and family. He introduced his nieces and nephews to ballads that they will always associate with love and safe and happy times — the Kingston Trio, the Clancy Brothers, all the Irish classics.

Jack and Mo made a leap early on — left advertising and the city and moved to Millbrook, New York, in the Hudson Valley, where they opened "Jamo's," an ice cream parlor, coffee shop and lunch restaurant that became an institution in the village. For seventeen years, Jack was the cook, Mo scooped the ice cream and they made many close friends — some famous, some not, didn't matter — around town and at the daily coffee klatch at Jamo's. They happily shared their lives with Maureen's parents, Molly and Curly, who had also retired to Millbrook after selling their restaurant in Rockaway.

Maureen and Jack sold Jamo's and started pursuing

other interests in the village. Maureen had an antique shop space and Jack pursued small carpentry and painting work and both became avid gardeners. Jack kept up with technology, learned to use a computer and cellphone and was a lifelong learner. There was always a crossword puzzle nearby.

Each winter Maureen and Jack visited Ft. Lauderdale and stayed for a few months at the apartment they had purchased in Coral Ridge Tower over forty years ago. When they decided to move for good to Florida, they purchased a larger apartment in the same building, where they have lived for the past 20 years. Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter were spent with their dear friends, John and Maryanne Stevens, whom they met in the elevator with tennis rackets in hand.

A Man for Others: Throughout all, Jack helped people. Jack and Mo were al-

ways the cool aunt and uncle, providing a haven, listening ears, good food and sweet visits to their family. In Millbrook, Jack helped with civic matters and elections, worked in literacy programs, supported job training programs and helped elderly friends. In Ft. Lauderdale, for ten years, Jack was a volunteer driver taking people to their treatments and appointments for cancer. For the past several years, Jack was the chief cook and caregiver of Maureen. He successfully kept her healthy and despite his own health challenges, he kept up with Maureen's medications and appointments. Jack and Mo's helpers in recent years, especially Yvonne Joseph, took good care of this good man. Jack's quick mind and good memory stayed with him until the end.

Jack is already — dearly missed. Arrangements are still being finalized. A private burial will be held in Millbrook in the spring.

For more obituaries, see page A8



Worship Services

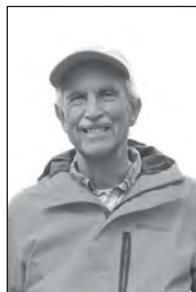
Week of February 25, 2023

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

<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>	<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on You-Tube www.stjohnsalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org Misa en español al mediodía (12 pm) el último sábado de mes The Revs. Heidi Truax & Felix Rivera trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232 FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons The next meeting will be Sunday, March 10 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>Congregation Beth David A Reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org</p>	<p>Chabad of Northwest CT On The Green 69 West St. Litchfield, CT 06759 Childrens Camp Shabbat Services Hebrew School CTeen YTP Judaism With A Smile! chabadNW.org 860.567.3377 office@chabadNW.org</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE 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>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Cornwall Village Meeting House Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>	<p>Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 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! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!</p>	<p>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>
<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall</p>	

Robert Lincoln Rumsey

LITCHFIELD — Robert (Bob) Lincoln Rumsey, born Feb. 4, 1938, passed away on Feb. 10, 2024, surrounded by loved ones at the hospital where he was born 86 years prior in New York City.



Born in New York City and raised for much of his childhood in Scarsdale, New York, Bob spent most of his life raising a family and living happily thereafter through his remaining years in Connecticut. He was passionate about art, history, writing/reading, constantly learning, and connecting with others until his last days. He founded Norfolk Construction Company and took pride in his work designing and building homes for people throughout the Connecticut area. He constantly sought education and the perspective of others whether loved ones or strangers, obtaining his master's in History later in life and teaching at the Taconic Learning Center until the end of his life.

Bob loved nothing more than a good intellectual conversation or debate and was always willing to be challenged and open to changing his mind. He'd often sit quietly and ponder, then share his findings and thoughts with us. He enjoyed spending time at Mt. Tom State Park in Litchfield, where he'd take his chair and sit by the pond, drinking his coffee and people (or duck) watching.

He was an active member at St. Michael's Church. He found joy and community in being part of the vestry board, leading morning prayer services (including over Zoom in recent years), participating in bible study, and being a regular Sunday service speaker.

His gentle ways, compassion, curiosity, and interest in others made a lasting impres-

sion on many, from family and loved ones, to friends, his church community, and his peers and students.

All those who knew him will miss him dearly. He had a rare ability to connect with those in his circles and strangers in passing, something that he did, not to be self-serving, but to improve their existence, if only for a passing moment.

He is survived by his children, Alissa, (Peter Knocke) and Benjamin (Amy) Rumsey; Benjamin and Amy's children; Isla Rae and Riley Lincoln; his brother David (Abby); the mother of his children and wife for much of his life, Beth (and David) Ciarca, as well as countless nieces and nephews that loved him dearly.

There will be a memorial service at his beloved St. Michael's Church in Litchfield, Connecticut, on April 6, 2024, at 2 p.m.

His children wish that any memorial contributions made by those who knew him be made to the Taconic Learning Center (taconiclearningcenter.org/donatenew.php) and/or St. Michael's Church (stmichaelslitchfield.org/product/memorial-gift/)

To share memories or condolences, please visit bit.ly/BobRumsey

Theresa Marie Murtagh

MILLERTON — Theresa Marie Murtagh, 74, a thirty year resident of Poughkeepsie, and most recently a twenty year resident of Millerton, died unexpectedly on Feb. 13, 2024, at Sharon Hospital. Mrs. Murtagh was a retired secretary, having worked for Marine Midland Bank in Wappingers Falls. She also worked as a secretary for a medical laboratory in Poughkeepsie for many years.



Born Nov. 12, 1949, in Sharon, she was the daughter of the late James O. and Mary F. (Canevari) Hoysradt. She graduated with the class of 1967 from Our Lady of Lourdes High School in Poughkeepsie. She then studied business at Dutchess Community College. On Nov. 8, 1969, at St. Patrick's Church in Millerton, she married Joseph P. Murtagh. Mr. Murtagh survives at home in Millerton.

Mrs. Murtagh enjoyed gardening, crocheting and crafts. She was an avid reader and traveled extensively with her husband. She was a parishioner of St. Patrick's Church for many years and was a former volunteer and auxiliary member at Noble Horizons in Salisbury. She will be dearly missed by her loving family and many friends.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Murtagh is survived by two children; Kristian J. Murtagh of Canaan, and Gianna M. Murtagh of Millerton; her grandson, Joey Murtagh-Robert of Millerton; her sister, Madalyn Hoysradt of Millerton; three brothers, James Hoysradt of Millerton, Charles Hoysradt of Pine Plains and Michael Hoysradt and his wife Mary of Highland, New York; her uncle and aunt, John and Mary Canevari of Florida and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brother, William Albert Hoysradt in 1977.

Private family visitation was held Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024, at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Ave., Millerton, NY 12546. A private funeral service followed the visitation. Private burial also followed in the Graveyard at St. Patrick's Church in Millerton.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Millerton Fire Company, P.O. Box 733, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family or to plant a tree in Theresa's honor please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Marion Ellen Morris

in Oxford, Ohio.

Marion moved to Connecticut in 1985, living in Falls Village and later Salisbury. While in Connecticut, Marion was very involved in the arts, especially the Tri-Arts Theatre in Sharon.

Upon retiring from a successful career in finance at Harris Upham, Solomon Brothers and First Boston, Marion moved to her pres-

ent home in Ireland where she enjoyed the companionship of her beloved cats and dogs.

She is survived by her brothers, Michael and Richard of Seabrook Island, South Carolina as well as many nieces and nephews.

Plans for a memorial service will be forthcoming at a later date.

EDITORIAL

'Stay Informed'

The mid-1990s were witness to big change. It was the post-Cold War era. The Soviet Union dissolved. It was a decade marked by significant advances in technology, including gene-therapy advances and the improvement of the World Wide Web. A generation of millennials was about to be replaced by Generation Z, which was born into a world increasingly online.

Email made its debut in our everyday lives in the end of the 1990s, emerging from its roots in business, government and other industrial and institutional organizations. By the time the smartphone entered the picture in the early 2010s, the baby boomer group was entering middle age and/or about to turn 65.

The first iPhone gave us desktop-like email and a web browser. Its impact as a smartphone — combining “phone, internet and email,” as Steve Jobs put it back then — became obvious overnight, and its evolution continues to propel change in our lives.

The iPhone was launched in the summer of 2007. Back then, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News were carrying ads in their pages, noting that these newspapers were “your best source of weekly news and information about towns, people, schools, sports and organizations in the tri-corner region.” The big heading on the advertisement read “Stay Informed.”

How things change.

Today, about nine in 10 adults get some of their news online, whether it’s from a mobile phone or tablet or desktop. Traditional newspapers, adapting to change, have adopted a digital presence — and there also are new digital-only sources of news that never existed as a print product. Some print publications have been reborn as web “papers.”

Last fall, The Pew Research Center published a study showing that a smaller and smaller share of America’s adult population is following the news closely. It also found that the old media — local TV, newspapers and radio — are losing the war for readers, watchers and listeners to new kinds of platforms such as podcasts. Out of 136 newspapers included in the Pew analysis, 120 reported declines in circulation in 2022. Overall, daily newspaper circulation nationwide continues to decline — including digital subscriptions and print circulation.

We are grateful for our readers and advertisers and supporters of our 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Because of you, we are still here 92 years later. Every week!

Our mission is to deliver high-quality coverage of your community. And for years, The Millerton News and The Lakeville Journal have published news and information online. In December, the papers' online presence got a major upgrade with the launch of two new, modern websites. In updating our web presence, we geared the look and feel to work well on mobile phones. Our sites are not behind a paywall. Anyone can go to www.millertonnews.com or www.lakevillejournal.com — for free.

In 17 years there have been 34 iterations of the iPhone. But our appeal to you is still the same: we invite all generations to 'Stay Informed' by visiting www.millertonnews.com and www.lakevillejournal.com

\$5 in gold, 'Hawaii 5-O' and the start of McEnroe Farm's compost program

The following excerpts from The Millerton News were compiled by Kathleen Spahn, Vivian Sukenik, Nancy Vialpando and Rhiannon Leo-Jameson of the North East-Millerton Library.

91 years ago: Feb. 23, 1933

Virginia Elen Cornelius, daughter of Eugene S Cornelius and Helen Wheeler Cornelius, has won the prizes (Baby Derby) for the Village of Millerton. These are: Bournedale Farm, 24 quarts of milk; Millerton Chamber of Commerce, \$5.00 in gold.

Mr. and Mrs F.B. Keller, with Mr. Worthy Pulver, drove to New York City to bid bon voyage to Mr. and Mrs. G.W.F. Keller, who, with their daughter, Isabelle, sailed to France.

First Sale at Block's Department Store. Aside from the great values being offered, the sale is also the first held by Mr. Block since coming to Millerton.

50 years ago: Feb. 28, 1974

'Railroad Lines Imperiled; Public Hearings Are Set': Pro-Rail action groups in the Northeast are gearing up to

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Millerton News

appear in early March before public hearings conducted by the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) on the government's plan to reorganize the nation's railroads in the northeast.

A delightful color film entitled "Williamsburg - the story of a patriot" will be presented by the North East Historical Society at the Millerton Methodist Church on March 11. The film features Jack Lord of "Hawaii 5 O" fame.

Irene Duxbury of Millerton celebrated her 90th Birthday last week. In honor of the occasion, she treated herself to a vacation in Florida. What may be surprising to those who do not know her is that she drove to Florida in her own car.

The offices of the North East Town Clerk, Town Assessor, Planning Board, Zon-

ing Board of Appeals and the Conservation Commission have been moved to the new Town Hall on the corner of Maple Avenue and Parking Street.

25 years ago: Feb. 25, 1999

'Door is Still Open for McEnroe in Moody Hill Composting Plan': The North East Town Board met in special session to discuss the composting operation at McEnroe Organic Farm. [...] The Town has denied Mr McEnroe's building permit, and is considering 'meaningful controls' on composting locally. "The permit was denied," Supervisor David Sherman said. "It's a procedural turn-down. It could be approved once legislation is in place." Local farmer John Perotti indicated he was "quite concerned" about the town's motives. "You should be careful about regulating agriculture. We sell manure every day," Mr Perotti said. "We bring a lot of waste to McEnroe's. And we use compost." He said organic farming was the way of the future, and Mr. McEnroe would [...] implement the latest technology.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concerns about approach to Amenia's affordable housing

The Amenia Town Board will be voting on the rezoning of the HRH development of lower income homes on the steep hill across from Town Hall. These homes will be awarded based on a housing lottery or another mechanism that the Town or HRH has not shared. The Housing Board states this as the solution to the lack of affordable housing in our town. However, HRH, the Amenia Housing Board and the Town Board have not fully explained to Amenia who is eligible for these homes and how much they will ultimately cost our town.

Amenia residents need to understand that under federal and state laws, HRH must

open up the applications to all of New York State. Additionally, per NYS's 2022 RFP for an online application system, "Owners may receive hundreds or a thousand more Applications than they have units available." Housing then touted as for Amenia can not exclusively be reserved for Ameniens UNLESS OUR TOWN BREAKS THE FEDERAL and STATE LAW. Residents of Poughkeepsie, Pine Plains, Dover, and even NYC can apply and earn the right to purchase a home in Amenia.

The Town board may try to tell you that units may be reserved for locals but a recent lawsuit in NYC has set

precedent that that may no longer be allowed. If the town follows the terms of that lawsuit, 10-20% of the units may be offered to Ameniens. How does that solve our housing problem?

HRH has limited funds. The Housing Board or the Town Board has never stated how much money they will need to contribute to the project. Yet, they have spoke about adding sidewalks and a traffic light. In fact, Charlie Miller and Leo Blackman also spoke about making a road parallel to Route 22 though private property at the Jan. 31 Town Board meeting (Feb. 1, starting at minute 50 onwards). Other Town Board

members are saying privately it would run through FOUR BROTHERS and that it is allowed based on the 2005/7 Comprehensive Plan.

The Town never stated how they would obtain that private land or how will it be paid for and maintained. They have not stated who will maintain the HRH road in winter. We must ask ourselves why should Amenia spend money on a new road, sidewalks, traffic lights and plowing as well as MANY other costs that have not been delineated for homes for families outside of Amenia.

Caroline Greene Amenia

Amenia Fire Co. thank-you

On Sunday, February 18, the Amenia Fire Company sponsored its monthly Pancake Breakfast. We were pleased to have a nice crowd of 137 people in attendance for our monthly meal. We rely on the breakfasts to raise needed money for general operations and we always appreciate the support of the community. We thank everyone who attended our meal, and we will return again on March 17.

Andy Murphy, on behalf of the Breakfast Committee Amenia Fire Co. and Auxiliary



"...And if we wait long enough, we might even see Elon Musk."

Consumer society politics

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE Peter Riva

at meetings and debates. Yes, many politicians who told you what to think — like McCarthy — were dangerous for a while, or did actual harm, but the public wasn't fooled for long.

Politics back then reminded me of the adage: You can fool all the people some of the time, you can fool some of the people all of the time, but you cannot fool all the people all of the time.

Participation in politics was a personal matter. Yes, if you wanted to proclaim your preference you could wear an "I Like Ike" badge or the simple "Kennedy for President" button. But something happened as America turned to relying on television's ability to convince you to consume product. Some early TV commercials simply informed the values of a product like "Our Repairmen are the loneliest guys in town" or that dishwashing liquid that made your hands softer, or "See the USA in your Chevrolet."

That TV set, sitting in your living room, had become part of your family, a trusted member.

Political parties and politicians suddenly could speak to you in your own home. They could preach at you, they could tell you what was right and what was wrong. It did not take long for media expert candidates like Reagan to employ message writers to convince you what was wrong. This new breed of politician rarely offered a solution, but what they did, in their messaging, was sell you into agreeing with their assessment of what should be bothering you, what they proclaimed was wrong. No debate, no editorial discussion in competing newspapers

or radio stations. You were — and still are — presented with absolute statements as if those were facts. "The immigrant crisis..." What crisis? Today there are fewer illegal crossings than for the past 10 years. The word "crisis" cannot be confused with "issue" or "problem." Crisis is an absolutism. It is not true. And that's just one example. Other absolutisms are "Right to Life" (anti-abortion might be accurate) or "Pro-Abortion" (woman's right to choose) or "Critical Race Theory" (hypothesis might be acceptable) or "Gun Control" (which means nothing physically since guns can't control themselves — so perhaps gun owners' control).

If you were to become a participant, involved in your local and national politics, you could work at finding the truth, the facts. You would easily and quickly discount

people who profess to be absolutists, you would look for consensus, you would want to evaluate, not merely accept someone's word. Participants evaluate, consumers swallow what is fed to them. Consuming politics like it is entertainment, advertising seen in your home, can only lead to fake perspectives, McCarthy-like idolatry, and cult scare tactics. And why do you want to fall for that?

Admittedly, as a consumer, you may have learned to trust the TV set in your own home or that smartphone you stare at for hours each day. Remember, these "free" messages someone wants you to buy are a mistake in trust that you and everyone ought to correct before it is too late.

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

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

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OUR TOWNS

'Well, that's Eleanor': The Roosevelts and the fight for Black civil rights

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

MILLBROOK — Jeff Urbin arrived at the Millbrook Library on Thursday, Feb. 15, sporting a tie bedecked with pictures of FDR and several of his campaign buttons.

Urbin, education specialist at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, was there at the invitation of the Millbrook Historical Society, to speak about the roles played by the Roosevelts in the development of Black American civil rights. The presentation was based on the exhibit "Black Americans, Civil Rights and the Roosevelts, 1932-1962" at the FDR Library.

Urbin began by announcing that initially, the attitude of the Roosevelts, both personally and administratively, was one of "benign neglect."

But he since has become interested in how they educated themselves about how government policies impacted the lives of the African American community.

Black politics under FDR

The Black American vote was largely Republican in the Roosevelt era: they tended to support the party of Lincoln, the great emancipator, over the Democrats, who had supported the Confederacy and held the support of white southerners.

That changed under FDR, and his talk of a "new deal": in 1936, running for his second term, Roosevelt won 71% of the Black vote.

At the time of Roosevelt's inauguration in 1933, America was deep in the Great Depression.

In one early iteration of the New Deal, the Public Works Administration (PWA) was engaged in building public buildings and facilities. The money went to private con-

tractors who hired white workers almost exclusively.

Roosevelt then started the Works Progress Administration, which the government ran, hiring over 350,000 Black workers, 15% of their work force.

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, meanwhile, had become friends with Mary Bethune, a leader in Black education and the Black civil rights movement.

Bethune, along with Robert Vann and 100 other Black federal employees, formed an unofficial Federal Council on Negro Affairs, which became known as the Black Cabinet.

They lobbied the administration for equal rights and other opportunities for Black people. The Black Cabinet was the first movement to confront racial discrimination from inside the government, said Urbin, though it was never officially recognized as a government entity by Roosevelt.

Some members of Roosevelt's administration made a point of hiring Black people to fill federal jobs, and several African Americans gained prominence in the government during his tenure.

Bethune was the first Black woman in charge of a federal program: she was appointed director of the Division of Negro Affairs in the National Youth Administration (NYA) in 1935.

Vann, a publisher and lawyer, was assistant to FDR's attorney general. William Hastie served as assistant solicitor in the interior department, and Eugene K. Jones was advisor for Negro Affairs to the Commerce Department.

There were some things the president would or could not do — he needed the Southern Democratic vote to win reelection, and by embracing certain policies, he'd lose that vote.

When an anti-lynching bill was proposed, he refused to endorse it. Although lynch-

ing was a problem throughout the country, it was identified most closely with the South. Instead, Roosevelt said that lynching was murder, and murder could be handled at the local level, where lynchings often went unpunished.

He also did not condemn poll taxes, although he did make it known that he was against them, as a form of racial oppression.

Unofficially, FDR sent Eleanor out on fact-finding missions, telling her to ask the train conductor to let her know five minutes before getting to their destination, so that she could study the living conditions of those on the margins out the windows. Officially she'd be shown only the better side of things; he asked her to study what people on the outskirts were experiencing, what their dwellings looked like, what their children were playing with, how they were dressed.

The Tuskegee Airmen

By the end of 1941, Roosevelt was in his third term, and America was embroiled in a two-front war, with Germany and Japan.

Though Black people were always among the first to sign up to defend the country, they were always given lowly jobs that didn't take training or skill because it was believed that they weren't smart enough to learn.

But some enlisted Black men were able to successfully lobby to be trained to fly: They were sent to Tuskegee and trained as a segregated unit.

Eleanor Roosevelt visited the facility, and took a flight with one of the Tuskegee pilots. She came back to Earth beaming for photographers and the world.

A close friend of Amelia Earhart and a seasoned flyer, she told the world that the Tuskegee pilots flew as well as anyone.

She also made sure that their living quarters and equipment were upgraded and they got the respect they deserved. The Tuskegee Airmen had a 93% success rate at the end of the war.

Throughout Urbin's talk, it was evident that FDR relied on his wife to do the work he thought would hurt his own credibility.

Said Urbin: "He had a catch phrase that he used often. If something he sent Eleanor to do went well, he'd boast, 'Oh, well, that's Eleanor.' Something others looked askance at, he'd shake his head and say, 'Oh, well, that's Eleanor.'"

Urbin had several photographs, including some of political cartoons, that were passed to the audience, including one of Eleanor Roosevelt with some members of the Black Cabinet.

Her interest in Black civil rights continued after her husband's death in 1945; she worked with presidents Truman through Kennedy and others to further the cause.

"Black Americans, Civil Rights and the Roosevelts, 1932-1962" will be on display at the library in Hyde Park through Dec. 31. The FDR Library is located at 4079 Albany Post Road in Hyde Park, NY.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Catcher Benjamin Coon takes a big drink during an in-ning break on Saturday, May 13, 2023, at Eddie Collins Park in Millerton in a Minors game.

Webutuck Little League sets Opening Day for April 6

By **JOHN COSTON**
johnc@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — The Webutuck Little League is planning the 2024 season and set Opening Day for Saturday, April 6, at Eddie Collins Park in Millerton. Registration for all divisions continues until Friday, March 1.

The League board met Monday, Feb. 19, at American Legion Post 178 to discuss preparation for a season of games in Millerton and at Beekman Park in Amenia. Both fields were the scene of games last season.

To date, 52 players have signed up: 38 for baseball and 14 for softball. League Treasurer Amiee Duncan noted that this is on par with registration last year, and this year the League offers a new softball division.

At the Legion meeting, the dozen volunteers, whose dedication provides players from age 4 to 16 with the traditional American Little League experience, discussed plans for sponsorships, prepping for tryouts, safety training for coaches and coach clinics as well as other events planned for the spring.

President DJ Reilly updated on plans for a future concession stand at Beekman Park, and Duncan stressed that parents and volunteers are needed as coaches and to help at games and in the community.

The divisions include Tee Ball, Minors, Majors and Seniors. Some scholarships are available, Duncan said.

For more information, contact webutucklittleleague@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page.

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As we approach celebrating the resurrection on Easter this March, it might be of interest to know that nature also has been doing this for millions of years. One example is the humble wood frog, who we will soon hear croaking in the spring vernal pools. With the first cold temperatures of winter, the wood frog simply goes under the leaf litter and freezes solid until spring. No breathing, no heart pumping, absolutely frozen solid. Somehow in the spring the heart is the first to thaw and start pumping to bring its body back to life. The wood frog's trick is to create enough antifreeze to keep its cells safe. For more information on this, please visit www.shakerlakes.org/frozen-frogs. Also in this link is a video prepared by the Smithsonian that is fascinating to watch. Wood frogs are the first to enter the vernal pools, so when you hear their croaking calls, it may be good to reflect upon how special they are and why it is so important to protect them and their habitats.

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From left to right: Kevin Cantele, Jessica Elliott, Adam Higgins, John Trott, Michael Hogan, Aidan Gilligan

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PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

This brick and concrete commercial structure at 2700 Route 199 on .72 acres sold for \$220,000, the same price as its previous sale in 2015. It is currently assessed at \$233,400.

Recent property sales in the Town of Pine Plains

The Millerton News will periodically publish a listing of residential real estate sales in eastern Dutchess County and adjacent towns.

The Town of Pine Plains may border on Washington/Millbrook, but its real estate activity is comparatively slow-paced and more affordable.

In the month of December 2023 alone, the Town of Washington, including the Village of Millbrook, recorded eight sales for a total value of \$6.7 million. By contrast, in October, November and December, Pine Plains recorded only seven sales with a combined value of \$2.3 million. There's a reason that the storefronts of Church Street, Pine Plain's main thoroughfare, are not dominated by real estate brokers' offices, which may contribute to the authentic, rural charm of Pine Plains.

Of the total seven sales, four were single-family homes ranging from \$71,183 to \$751,000 on the shores of Twin Island Lake. Two commercial properties and one building lot made up the remainder. Currently there are 10 single-family homes for sale, with seven over \$500,000 and six vacant land parcels ranging from \$75,000 for 5 acres to \$5.5 million for

Dutch Schultz's secret distillery on 343 acres.

October 2023

2809 Church St., 2-bedroom, 2-bath home on .6 acres, sold for \$71,183

November 2023

35 Pine St., 4-bedroom, 2-bath home, sold for \$347,000

6695-7797 South Main St., a restaurant with additional buildings, sold for \$489,900

December 2023

53 Britton St., 3-bedroom, 1-bath house, sold for \$375,000

43 Lake Shore Drive, 1 bedroom, 1.5 baths, 936-square-foot house, sold for \$751,000

21 Britton St., a .46-acre vacant lot, sold for \$68,150

2700 Route 199, a 2,744-square-foot commercial garage, sold for \$220,000

Town of Pine Plains real estate sales recorded as sold between Oct. 1, 2023, and Dec. 31, 2023, sourced from Dutchess County Real Property Tax Service Agency. Information on active listings is from Mid-Hudson MLS.

Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

Students share research on hidden Black history

By PATRICK L. SULLIVAN
patrick@lakevillejournal.com

SALISBURY — Three teams of students from Salisbury School made the initial presentations of their local history projects at the Scoville Memorial Library Thursday, Feb. 15. The presentations were also streamed online.

Salisbury School is an independent boarding school for boys in grades nine to 12.

Teacher Rhonan Mikriski opened the presentations, noting it would be the first run-through; The final presentations will be included at the Troutbeck Symposium on May 1-3 in Amenia.

Mikriski said the students are delving into forgotten corners of local history, particularly when it concerns marginalized groups.

The first group — Jasper Nadal, Derrick Dellea and Will Mumby — took a look at the treatment of mental health in Northwest Connecticut and the Hudson Valley.

The students made the point that institutions varied greatly in the quality of the care they provided, and in their philosophies. Were the institutions there to cure patients, or to simply house them?

The students touched on the Lakeville Home for Imbeciles, on the sprawling Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center in Dutchess County, and on the methods used to treat mental illness.

The latter category reads like a horror movie script. The techniques used included prefrontal lobotomies, insulin shock, hydrotherapy (immersion for long periods of time in cold or hot water, sometimes in sequence), and electroshock treatment.

The next group — Jack Kennedy, Judd Phillips, DJ Duntz and Parker Reynolds — took as their starting point the painting "The Last Moments of John Brown" by Thomas Havendon.

The painting shows Brown being escorted to the gallows for his actions in the infamous

raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859. He is pausing to kiss a Black infant.

The local connection is this: The painting was commissioned by the Battell family of Norfolk. The students believed the painting to be a conscious attempt to rehabilitate the image of Brown, who was considered a terrorist for his anti-slavery activities.

Brown was also a native of Torrington.

The group also included a clip from D.W. Griffith's 1915 film "The Birth of a Nation," noting the film is famous for its technical sophistication and infamous for its racism. The clip showed Black legislators during Reconstruction drinking alcohol and otherwise clowning around while on the floor of a legislative chamber.

The final group focused on William Grimes, a slave who escaped and made his way to

Connecticut in 1814.

He became a successful businessman with barber-shops in Litchfield, New Haven and Bridgeport. He married and had a large family.

Grimes was subsequently tracked down after nine years of freedom. He wound up turning his businesses over to secure his continued freedom.

He also wrote a book about his experiences, "Life of William Grimes, the Runaway Slave," published in 1825.

The group noted that when Grimes was tracked down, slavery had not yet been abolished in Connecticut.

The students also suggested that the choice of barber-shops as a business was in part a way to get around laws that prohibited large gatherings of African Americans.

And they touched on the cultural and social significance of African American hairstyles.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Salisbury School students Tino Harper, Zach Walsh and Duke Gentzler presented on local Black history at Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury on Thursday, Feb. 15.

MCSD to hold info session on capital project

MILLBROOK — The Millbrook Central School District Board of Education and Superintendent Caroline Hernandez Pidala invite residents to an information session Wednesday, March 6, at 5:30 p.m. at the Union Vale Fire Department's Station 1, 3373 Route 82 in Verbank.

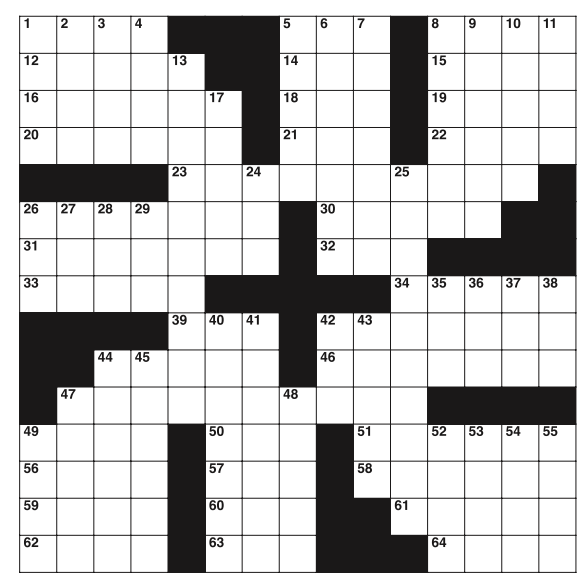
The meeting will be in regards to the capital project, due to come up for a vote in May and slated to cost \$4,650,861 or 14% of the 2024 budget. The project will include HVAC system renovations at Alden Place and Elm Drive elementary schools and Millbrook Middle School (MMS); roof replacement at MMS; and a greenhouse as well as securing the vestibule at Elm Drive.

Other items can be seen by viewing the video of the Oct. 24, 2023, board of education meeting, which can be found at www.youtube.com/@millbrookcsd-media3292/streams

Brain Teasers

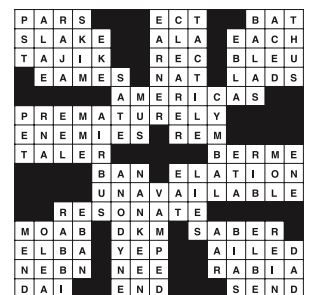
CLUES ACROSS

- Home of Iowa State University
- ___-fi (slang)
- Mottled green and yellow fruit
- Capable of thinking and expressing oneself clearly
- Sports broadcaster Eagle
- Midday
- Kinsmen
- Cable network
- Simpleton
- Brunch beverage
- Fed
- European capital
- Native inhabitants
- Mechanical device
- Rare geese native to Hawaii
- Bedroom furnishing
- The products of human creativity
- Mass transit option
- Made a mistake
- Sacred sound symbol
- Large N. American reindeer
- Dull and flat
- Partner to huffing
- Written works
- Monetary unit of Serbia
- Midway between east and southeast
- Peninsula of southwestern Asia
- Widely used multiuser OS
- Aggressive dog
- Varnished
- Hindu queen
- Time units, abbr.
- Farm animals
- Capital of Latvia
- Where golfers begin
- Takes to civil court

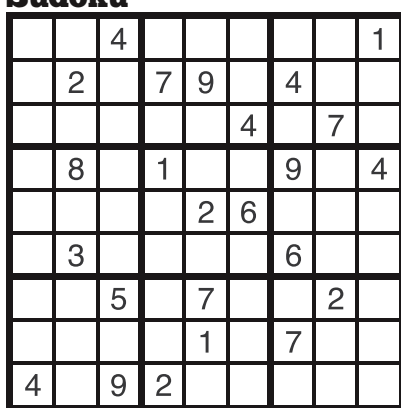


- Gives a boost
- Lounges about
- Interested in
- Remove salt
- Type of sword
- Naturally occurring solid material
- Gets involved without being invited
- Feline
- Bobby ___, NHL champ
- "Kill Bill" actress Thurman
- Hawaiian dish
- Moroccan coastal region
- Baseball statistic
- Long period of time
- Moved earth
- Central Netherlands city
- Take stock of
- Central processing unit
- Distinctive qualities one generates
- Getting stuck
- Loss of bodily movements
- Veranda
- Abrupt
- What cats do
- Expresses pleasure
- Type of cheese
- Professional STEM organization
- Automatic data processing systems

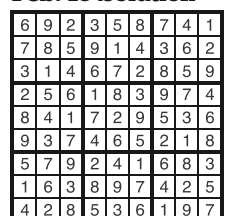
Feb. 15 Solution



Sudoku



Feb. 15 Solution



Level: Intermediate

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CSA *Continued from Page A1*

come doesn't start to trickle in until the blooming of narcissus and tulips in April, followed by a small seedling sale in early May. Then there is a gap during heavy planting season until around mid-June, when my annual and perennial flowers start to bloom.

Come July, August and September, I'm hustling, harvesting for retail and wholesale outlets, designing flowers for weddings and special events. Money is coming in and I feel buoyed, but come mid-October, reminders of frost are just around the corner.

When the frost hits, so does the financial crash: the flowers burned and browned, and the cyclical crunch season begins again.

A little economic boost comes around the holidays with wreath sales and the like, but so do the holiday expenses, so it just about evens out. The bank account that I felt accomplished and proud of in November starts to look less shiny come January, after three months of — hopefully — paying myself a wage, without income.

Come January and February, I'm ordering seeds and supplies for the next growing season, I'm making expensive improvements on any number of things — to date: building a walk-in cooler (\$5,000 plus operation costs); a germination chamber (\$1,000 plus operation costs); a farm storage (\$7,000); a farm stand (\$2,000); and a growing

tunnel (\$23,000).

In March and April, self-employment taxes are due. I'm starting seeds and experiencing financial security-induced panic attacks.

The breakdown

A Foxtrot bouquet might cost \$30. To break that down, let's borrow Lennie Larkin's "The Flower Dollar" framework and apply it to a bouquet from Foxtrot:

— \$3.50 into infrastructure and machinery (money to reinvest in machinery).

— \$4.50 into land costs (mortgages, taxes and rents).

— \$4.50 into farm supplies (seeds, plants, bulbs, compost, fertilizer, irrigation).

— \$4.50 into administrative costs (insurance, permits, bookkeeping, accounting and utilities).

— \$6 into employee payroll — fair, living wages for farm workers. A quick note on wages: many farms struggle to keep up with the ever increasing living wage in the area. Most local farms are able to offer their employees between \$18-\$22/hour, while the true living wage in the Hudson Valley is now \$24.75/hour.

— \$7 into profit — a hopefully living wage for me, and reinvestment in capital expenses.

Most farmers hope to make a profit, but often we just about break even.

I've worked in agriculture for the last 11 years, as a crew member, a manager and as a farm owner. I've had second jobs and third jobs to stay afloat.

Only this year as a business owner — going into year three at Foxtrot — have I started to be able to pay myself a year-round wage and that is largely due to the CSA model that I've built Foxtrot around.

The money that my CSA members invest in Foxtrot from November through April enable me to keep the business afloat. In return, once the flowers are blooming, I share them generously with my members.

There is good value in a CSA for its members — most farms position their CSA pricing between wholesale and retail value in gratitude for the upfront investment on the part of their CSA mem-

bers (a \$30 Foxtrot CSA bouquet might be valued at \$40 elsewhere).

Let's just say, a farmer remembers these customers.

A labor of love

Farming is a labor of love, and that's no body's burden but our own. But ultimately, most career farmers must work with a bottom line, and operate without another means of income or a large security net.

If we value small farms as a community, we must ask: How could the task be made easier?

The CSA as an economic model is an answer to this financial dilemma. It creates a small but critical seasonal security net for working farms and farmers, and a built-in, community-driven customer base for a farmer's harvest.

Joining a CSA isn't a donation. It is a subscription model similar to so many that we rather passively participate in these days — Amazon Prime, Netflix, Spotify, and Blue Apron, to name a few. The difference is that a CSA is a subscription to your neighbors, your community, your local economy, your landscape in exchange for something that is tangible, important and life-giving in return.

I have had the pleasure of being a part of the leadership committee for the Hudson Valley CSA Coalition, a network of over 120 farms whose aim it is to advocate for the CSA model.

Visit Farm Search as a part of the Hudson Valley CSA Coalition's website, hudsonvalleycsa.org, to explore the CSAs that are available in your community.

A few other local farms' CSAs include:

— Rock Steady Farm, Millerton: produce, with partner farm add-ons available.

— Chaseholm Farm, Pine Plains: beef, pork, dairy and cheese.

— Foliage Botanicals, Pine Plains: a seasonal apothecary of plant medicine.

— Sisters Hill Farm, Stanfordsville: produce, with pick-your-own add-ons available.

Kate Farrar is the farmer and florist at Foxtrot Farm & Flowers, 6862 Route 82, Stanfordsville. For more information email foxtrotfarmflowers@gmail.com.

HOUSING *Continued from Page A1*

ban housing challenges, discussion among panelists and legislators turned briefly to the issues of infrastructure costs such as water, sewer and transportation associated with smaller towns seeking to create affordable housing opportunities.

"Local governments don't want sticks; they want carrots," one legislator said.

"We are willing to work with all communities to help them get certified," Viskauskas said of the pro-housing certification program.

At the Town Board meeting on Thursday, Amenia Councilwoman Rosanna Hamm said, "We recognize that we need affordable housing and that we support the idea of affordable housing."

She added that no particular location for potential projects is implied by participating in the pro-housing program.

"It's a commitment to affordable housing opportunities," Councilman Brad Rebillard agreed.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, residents repeated their concerns about an affordable housing project being proposed by Hudson River Housing (HRH) of Poughkeepsie, the owner of

property on Spruce Hill. A request for a change in zoning to permit multifamily apartment buildings as part of the planning for the project has alarmed neighboring residents.

Building upon comments offered at earlier Town Board meetings, resident Salvatore LaRosa detailed continued concern about the HRH request for a zone change that would extend the existing Hamlet Residential (HR) zone to include the HRH project. He voiced concern about safety hazards represented by the cliff and steep drop-off to the former ore bed adjacent to the property, where there has been a death.

"We have heard the residents' concerns," said Mary Linge, vice president for real estate development, representing HRH at the meeting. "All concerns will be addressed through the Planning Board process," she added.

"We will listen and address all concerns to the best of our abilities. We want to work together," Linge said. She added that the site plan being developed for the Planning Board application process is only a starting point that can be revised to accommodate residents' concerns.

WEBUTUCK *Continued from Page A1*

School (WEB), air conditioning will be installed in some of the classrooms used for summer programs.

An age-appropriate playground at Eugene Brooks Intermediate School (EBIS) for fourth through eighth grade students, who currently have no playground of their own, will also be built.

The Capital Improvement Project will also prioritize an emergency generator to provide protection of the security system, technology and mechanical operations throughout the school district.

At all three schools, the roofs will be replaced and unit ventilation systems that enable fresh air exchange will be installed.

At the intermediate and high schools, there will be milling/repaving of the parking lots and sidewalks as well as installation of a standby generator to protect technology in case of loss of power.

Castellani shared the winning bids after the Feb. 12 meeting. General construction went to Ferrari and Sons, Poughkeepsie, at \$84,000; mechanical construction to Tancillott at \$990,000; and electric construction to Foremost Electric at \$514,900.

Sitework construction went to Land V Scape, Carmel, at \$1.54 million, and state mechanicals for the elementary school went to TRANE at \$540,918.

Roofing went to Garland Roofing at \$5,918,000 million; and Field Turf USA will resurface the multicourt and tennis court for \$108,674.

The work will most likely start as soon as school gets out, and Castellani hopes that it will largely be completed by the time school begins again in September.

The original capital plan from December 2022 can be found on the district website at webutuckcsd.org

OBITUARIES

Timothy Michael Haymann Snyder

MILLERTON — Timothy Michael Haymann Snyder, 37, of Millerton, passed away on Feb. 13, 2024, at Hudson Valley Hospice House in Hyde Park, New York. Timothy was a Mechanical Foreman with Metro North Railroad in Poughkeepsie.



Born on May 15, 1986, in Poughkeepsie, he was the son of Dorothy Jean Delaney Snyder of Dover Plains, and the late Michael Paul Snyder. Tim was a graduate of Dover High School Class of 2004. He went on to study Electrical Construction and Maintenance at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, New York, graduating in 2010. He had great pride for his career at Metro North Railroad and above all sharing that passion with his two young sons.

Tim is survived by two

sons, Benjamin Haymann Snyder and Nathaniel Haymann Snyder and their mother, Cornelia Haymann Snyder of Millerton; his mother, Dorothy Delaney Snyder; three sisters, Renee Harris and her husband Robert of Staatsburg, New York, Stephanie

Sutherland and her husband, Kenneth, of Wappingers Falls, New York and Erin Todriff and her husband, Timothy of Dover Plains, New York, and several nieces and nephews.

Timothy loved spending time with his two boys, his friends and the outdoors. He was an avid NY Rangers and NY Mets fan and loved the time he spent on the ice playing hockey.

Funeral services will be private. To send the family a condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com

Nancy Lynne Briggs

MILLERTON — Nancy Lynne Briggs, 69, of Millerton, passed away on Jan. 15, 2024, at her home in Millerton with family, including cats, next to a hot woodstove.



Born on Nov. 28, 1954, in Poughkeepsie, Nancy was the daughter of the late Vincent and Cora (Tobin) Hynes.

After marrying Daniel Briggs in 1973, she joined the US Peace Corps and moved to the Philippines, where she worked on programs that focused on family health. Returning to the US in 1975, she enrolled at Dutchess Community College and began a long career in nursing starting at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Hudson. She moved on to Sharon Hospital, where she started working in Labor and Delivery, then earning a Bachelor of Science from Empire College. The second half of her nursing career was spent at Danbury Hospital, where she became a manager and mentor.

Nancy enjoyed traveling. With Dan, she traveled across southeast Asia in her formative years and never stopped exploring. The outdoors, live music, books, knitting and quilting were priorities throughout her life. This did not slow down during her illness. At her core was a life in service to others, be it

her family, new lives brought into the world, her staff at Danbury Hospital, or numerous cats at The Little Guild who needed a kind word and a gentle pet.

In addition to Dan, Nancy is survived by three sons; Jeff Briggs and his wife, Katherine Kimbrell, of Boston, Massachusetts, Matthew Briggs and his fiancée, Taylor Larsen, of Saugerties, New York and Kevin Briggs of Great Barrington, Massachusetts. She is also survived by a brother, Vincent Hynes of Poughquag, New York, a sister, Carol Robbin of Poughquag, New York and five grandchildren; Owen Briggs, Zoe Briggs, Lila Jane Larsen Jones, Tobin Kimbrell and Alexander Larsen Briggs.

Calling hours will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, at Hufcut Funeral Home, 3159 Route 22, Dover Plains, NY. A memorial service will take place at 11 a.m. Friday, March 1, 2024, at Christ Church Episcopal, 9 South Main St., Sharon, CT.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Little Guild Animal Shelter, 285 Sharon-Goshen Turnpike, West Cornwall, CT 06796 or online at www.littleguild.org. For directions or to send the family a condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com

DOLLAR GENERAL *Continued from Page A1*

might undercut the future plans for development."

Recently, Culver explained to The Millerton News his reason for making the comment: "This was the elephant in the room. Everyone felt the same way but no one wanted to say anything."

The Town Board met Sept. 14, 2023, and rejected the idea

of a six-month moratorium requested by the Zoning Review Committee (ZRC) for accepting new applications for development on Route 44.

Town Supervisor Christopher Kennan said at the time: "The difficulty that I have with this is that there is an application in front of the Planning Board for which a

fee has already been received, and it is the only application in front of the Planning Board on the boulevard for this, so this strikes me as being very much targeted at one particular application."

Warren Replansky, town attorney, has commented, "It may not be right to issue a moratorium [...] until we

know more about where the committee is in the process."

Since September last year, no moratorium has been enacted. Trotta has not come back to the board with any modifications for the proposed Dollar General Store, and the ZRC has not drafted final commercial zoning regulations.

When it comes to finances, it matters who has your back.

Meet Beth Coon, branch manager of our Pine Plains branch. If you ask her what she likes most about her job, she will say it's all about the customers — from helping high school grads open their first bank accounts, to assisting older customers maneuver new banking services like Online Banking. With over 30 years of local banking experience, Beth says "it's great to be part of a bank where family and community are so important."

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Beth Coon
Pine Plains Branch Manager

For more obituaries, see page A4

Email news & photos to editor@millertonnews.com

COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

BOOKS: ALEXANDER WILBURN

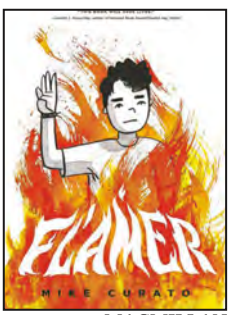
Banned Book Awards champions children's right to read

There can be no question that democratic freedoms are currently being attacked and restricted in the United States, and somehow, children and the information they have access to have been the ongoing targets of attack.

As AP News reported in 2023: "More than 1,200 challenges were compiled in 2022, nearly double the then-record total from 2021 and by far the most since the American Library Association began keeping data 20 years ago." Conservative groups across the country have become well-organized machines harassing individual public and school librarians with threats of legal and violent action. The message from these groups, often supported by government leaders, is that children should not have access to books — books meant for young readers — that engage

erary accomplishments and for championing stories full of independent thought, compassion and important social messages.

The award ceremony was hosted by Anna Eleanor Fierst, Roosevelt's great-granddaughter and chair of the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill. Fierst was joined on the stage by speakers Emily Drabinski, the president of the American Library Association; George McCalman, author of "Illustrated Black History: Honoring the Iconic and Unseen"; Matt Nosanchuck, the deputy assistant secretary for operations and outreach in the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education; Lee Rowland, policy director at the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU); and Cameron Samuels, a student at Brandeis University and the executive director of SEAT, a youth civic organization. Last year, at age 18, Samuels testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee addressing book bans.



MACMILLAN

The recipients of the Eleanor Roosevelt Awards for Bravery in Literature were the following, in alphabetical order:

— Laurie Halse Anderson for "Shout: The True Story of a Survivor Who Refused to be Silenced" from Viking Books. Anderson is the author of the 1999 young adult novel "Speak," adapted into a

for Bravery in Literature were the following, in alphabetical order:

— Laurie Halse Anderson for "Shout: The True Story of a Survivor Who Refused to be Silenced" from Viking Books. Anderson is the author of the 1999 young adult novel "Speak," adapted into a



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

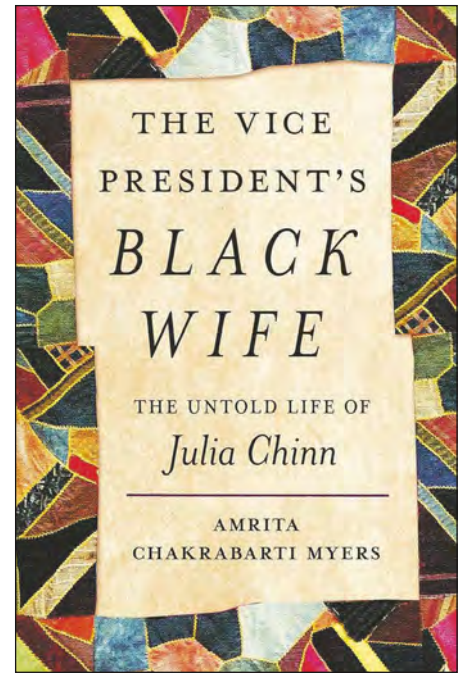
Judy Blume connected digitally at the ceremony and was honored with a lifetime achievement award.

Sundance Festival film in 2004 starring Kristen Stewart. "Speak" tells the story of a 14-year-old girl who is raped at a party the summer before her first year of high school and finds herself ostracized by her fellow students as she finds the strength to name her assailant. Twenty years later, Anderson wrote "Shout," a companion memoir about her own adolescence. "Speak" was a National Book Award finalist, but in 2020, was also named the fourth most banned and challenged book in the United States.

— Mike Curato for "Flamer" from Macmillan. A semi-autobiographical graphic novel written and illustrated by Curato, set in 1995, it details a summer at a sleepaway Boy Scouts camp where a 14-year-old Filipino boy navigates changes in his male friend group — which include bullying and homophobic slurs — leaving him isolated,

hating himself and contemplating suicide. PEN America reported that "Flamer" was banned in schools in at least six states during the 2021-22 school year, and in Utah's Alpine School District, was filed as "pornographic."

— Alex Gino for "Melissa" (previously published as "George") from Scholastic. "Melissa" has appeared on the American Library Association's Top Ten Most Challenged Books list every year since its publication. The children's novel follows a 10-year-old transgender girl named Melissa, known as "George" to her family, whose one wish is to play the role of the talking spider Charlotte in her fourth-grade class's production of "Charlotte's Web." The novel was at the center of the 2018-19 Oregon Battle of the Books controversy, a school reading challenge that two school districts refused to participate in because of the inclusion of "Melissa" on the read-



FERRIS AND FERRIS, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS

BOOKS: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Never a secret The Black wife of a vice president

In a new American biography, Amrita Chakrabarti Myers, a multi-award-winning author and director of the graduate studies history department at Indiana University Bloomington, uncovers the hidden story of the wife of Richard Mentor Johnson, the ninth vice president of the United States, serving under President Martin Van Buren.

"The Vice President's Black Wife: The Untold Life of Julia Chinn" from Ferris and Ferris explores the lost account of Chinn — a woman with no official portrait, no legal record of her marriage and no surviving letters or diary to expose her own thoughts or feelings. What we do know: Chinn was a Black woman born into slavery in Scott County, Kentucky; trained as a household domestic worker from a young age; and taken as Johnson's common-law wife as a teenager when Johnson was 15 years her senior. Chinn was never legally freed from slavery, but she would also come to wield significant authority over the management of Johnson's property, overseeing the slave labor she was born into, now from a position of power.

On Sunday, Feb. 25, at 2 p.m., staff from Martin Van Buren Park will lead a talk on Chakrabarti Myers' book at the Kinderhook Library in person and over Zoom. "Sex across the color

line began [in America] the moment various ethnic groups came into contact with one another on this side of the Atlantic. Those interactions were varied and complex, ranging from one night of mutual pleasure to intricate business transactions, from violent assaults to more compliant relationships," Chakrabarti Myers said at a talk held recently at the Filson Historical Society in Kentucky. "What my work seeks to do is illuminate how some Black women were able to use sexual alliances with white men to acquire a modicum of power in the Old South while simultaneously revealing the limits of that power. How much autonomy did Black women in these unions really have? What were the societal limits of their privilege? Did Black women have any choice when it came to participating in these relationships?"


In a conversation held through the University of North Carolina Press with Randal Maurice Jelks, author of "Letters to Martin: Meditations on Democracy in Black America," Chakrabarti Myers discussed the purposeful erasure of Chinn's life following her and Johnson's death by the vice president's surviving brothers. The brothers conspired with a probate judge in Scott County to declare that Johnson had no living will, had never wed and had no children or grandchildren — despite his mixed-race descendants being present at the hearing.

Johnson was hardly an outlier at the time for having an intimate, long-standing interracial relationship, so why was the legacy of Chinn perceived as so threatening in the eyes of the family? As Chakrabarti Myers said to Jelks: when we look to historical examples like President Thomas Jefferson or

Continued on next page

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Continued on next page

COMPASS

MUSIC: MATTHEW KRETA

String quartet dazzles Hotchkiss Library

The Guild at Hotchkiss Library presented the Ivalas String Quartet in collaboration with Music Mountain Sunday, Feb. 18.

It was immediately apparent that the members of the quartet have a perfect understanding of each other as performers. Comprised of Reuben Kebede and Tiani Butts playing

violin, Pedro Sánchez playing cello and Marcus Stevenson playing viola, the quartet would make constant movements, eye contact and audible breathing to guide and communicate with each other. This made their complex program sound effortless, even though their selections certainly sounded difficult to navigate.

The four made use of

a wide variety of techniques unique to string instruments such as harmonics, a bright and high-pitched whistling sound explained to the audience by Butts before the second piece and pizzicato, where performers deftly pluck the strings of their instruments rather than glide over them with a bow. Helping this virtuosity were the surprisingly good acoustics

of the Hotchkiss Library, with the sound bouncing along and off of the wide lobby and plethora of books.

The first selection was one of Haydn's final string quartets, String Quartet in F Major, Op. 77 No. 2. Consisting of four movements, this piece quickly engaged listeners with the familiarity of a prolific composer.

Much of this quartet sectioned the performers in pairs, playing small duets together. Ivalas brought great expression to the composition, leaning heavily into well executed ritardandos and accelerandos.

A highlight of this piece was its third movement, the andante. Containing a much slower tempo than the rest of the piece, it allowed the performers to truly explore its beautiful melodies and let them linger in the room.

The second piece was introduced by Butts as a composition by a friend of the Ivalas Quartet, Carlos Simon. The piece, titled "Warmth from Other Suns," has three movements and was composed in 2020. It was based off of a book of the same name by Isabel Wilkerson, which details the story of three African Americans migrating north from the American South.

The first movement, "Rays of Light," had beautiful use of the



PHOTO BY MATTHEW KRETA

Ivalas String Quartet

harmonics technique, as well as long sliding notes that captured the image of light peeking through the cracks. The second movement, aptly named "Flight," depicted a dangerous and thrilling chase with its extremely quick tempo and flurry of notes across every instrument.

The performers slowly traded volume across themselves through this movement, shifting the sound from the left to right side of the room meticulously and precisely. The final movement, "Settle," slowed the pace significantly and marked the end of the journey, yet still contained a few clashing harmonies that left the future hopeful but

uncertain.

The final piece performed was String Quartet No. 2 by Eleanor Alberga, a Jamaican composer currently residing in the UK. This piece was also composed recently, in 1994. It was defined by its constant shifting in tone and feeling, intense and charged one moment before calming and exploring slow, wide harmony.

One section of this piece showcased all four members of the quartet plucking their strings in pizzicato for an extended period. Ultimately, this piece's constant changing captured just how talented the Ivalas Quartet is, and was an excellent capstone to the afternoon program.

...banned books

Continued from previous page

ing list.

— George M. Johnson for "All Boys Aren't Blue" from Farrar, Straus and Giroux. A coming-of-age memoir, Johnson details their '90s youth in Plainfield, New Jersey, with a focus on coming to terms with their Black and queer identity while also addressing Black, queer male readers today as they search for role models and representation in their own lives. In 2021, a Flagler County school board member and a retired teacher filed a criminal complaint against the Florida school's superintendent for carrying the book.



gkin. "I am a transgender man. Do you really think that the girls in my high school would feel comfortable sharing a restroom with me?"

— Jelani Memory for "A Kids Book About Racism" from Penguin Random House. The young reader's book for ages 3-6 was initially written for Memory's own children — his four white step-children and two Black biological children — before he submitted the book for publication. The introduction tells children, "This is a book about racism. For reals! And yes, it really is for kids. It's a good book to read with a grownup. Because you'll have lots to talk about afterward."

The ceremony's Lifetime Achievement Award was presented by NYCLU's Lee Rowland to the incomparable author of beloved young adult books, Judy Blume, who joined the audience digitally from her home in Key West, Florida.

Since the publication of "Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret" in 1970, the name Judy Blume has been synonymous with the inner heart of girlhood. The author of classics like "Blubber," "Tiger Eyes," and "Forev-



er..." Blume has not only captured the complexity of puberty as childhood innocence slips away and the shadow of adulthood looms, but taken the emotions and plights of young girls seriously. Tackling stories centering on faith, death, virginity and love, Blume's novels continue to be a lifeline to readers grappling with understanding a world that often deliberately hides uncomfortable truths, even when it comes to a girl's own body and mind.

"As someone who argued with [former White House communications director] Pat Buchanan over masturbation, I'm sorry to say I've heard a lot [when it comes to challenging books]," Blume said at the ceremony. "It is different today. It is scarier because it is coming from the government more and more, and from state legislatures. It is very political now. We just have to keep going.

We just have to keep working together."

Her advice to her fellow authors, as well as to young aspiring novelists, was clear: "You've got to knock the critic off one shoulder, and you've got to knock the censor off the other shoulder. When you're locked up in your little room writing, you cannot think of what will happen. You just have to go for it."

...vice president

Continued from previous page

Kentucky U.S. Senate Representative Henry Clay, "The men who were having 'outside relationships' and children with enslaved women didn't publicly flaunt it. Most of them were married to white women. Jefferson did not begin his relationship with Sally Hemings until after his wife had passed away — and even so, he did not flaunt her as his wife. She did not entertain guests as the mistress of Monticello. It was gossip, but he never said, 'Yes, this is my family.' But

Julia was Richard's only wife. Adaline and Imogene [Johnson's mixed-race daughters] were his only children. They lived together, he educated his daughters, and his wife was standing by his side when he was visited by former presidents."

Chinn was head of the household, the mistress of the parlor, the overseer of the labor force, and the manager of Johnson's Choctaw Academy, an American Indian boarding school located on Johnson's Blue Spring Farm. "She

carried the keys to the farm," Chakrabarti Myers said, both metaphorically and literally. In her new life, one a woman of her birth was never meant to ascend to, riding through town in a carriage, Chinn wore the status and position of a vice president's wife with great public spectacle. As we have more presently witnessed in the media treatment of Meghan Markle, a Black woman usurping marital power supposedly "meant" for a white woman is a dangerous love story to live.

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ART: LEILA HAWKEN

Artists leap into ‘Let’s Dance’

The broad local constituency of residents who appreciate art and those who create it mingled at the highly anticipated opening of “Let’s Dance.” The now traditional annual exhibit and sale invites local artists to show their works at the Sharon Historical Society Gallery. The festive opening was held Saturday, Feb. 17.

Historical society President Chris Robinson reported that 53 artists are participating in this year’s juried show that he recalled is now in its 10th year. Local artist Thomas Gibb served as judge, choosing top winners from among a variety of works using media

ranging from the traditional oils, watercolors, photography, sculpture and quilting to the more contemporary works exploring digital photographic techniques. About this year’s theme, “Let’s Dance,” board member Robert Lindgren said that artists were free to interpret the theme literally or expressively.

“I’m so excited. I did not expect it,” said Kent-based artist Mary Terrizzi, who arrived to find that her digital photographic work, “Isitshikitsha,” had earned the top prize. She noted that her immediate family are all involved in the arts, with daughter Naya Bricher excelling as both a painter and dancer,

and husband Scott as a painter.

“I do experimental things,” Terrizzi said, with “Isitshikitsha” serving as an example. She works in printmaking and digital collage using Photoshop, collating many different images into one piece, layered on board.

“Digital collage has given me freedom to explore,” Terrizzi explained.

“When I heard the theme, I knew which one to submit,” said artist Scott Bricher, as he pointed out his work “Anti-Gravity,” depicting joyful dancers who seem to be suspended in air. The piece that began as a sketchbook doodle had earned an honorable mention. Bricher said

that this work had been included in past showings at the New Britain Museum of Art and at the Silvermine Art Center in Norwalk.

“I like the fluidity of it,” Bricher said.

The exhibit in the historical society’s impressive gallery space coincides with the society’s exhibition of the curated collection of dance photographs by Frances Morehouse Kelsey. The present exhibit, the first in a series, captures the Sharon Dance School in the 1950s and 1960s.

The “Let’s Dance” gallery exhibit will continue through Friday, March 29. All exhibits are free and open to the public during historical society hours.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Local artist Paul Neuman displayed two of his sculptural works at the juried exhibit at the Sharon Historical Society Gallery that opened with a reception Saturday, Feb. 17. The theme this year is “Let’s Dance.” The exhibit will continue until Friday, March 29.

GARDENING: JANNA SILLER

At The Bad Grass series: new science about old trees

The Bad Grass lecture series taking place at Salisbury’s White Hart Inn this winter is highlighting land care methods that increase biodiversity.

During the Thursday, Feb. 15, installment, speaker Christopher Roddick introduced upward of 60 attendees to conservation arboriculture, an approach to tree care as a form of ecosystem management.

Roddick’s career as the Brooklyn Botanic Garden’s head of arboriculture and lead foreman has sent him up into trees’ canopies and down into their root systems, teaching him the difference between vigor and vitality.

“Vigor is a plant’s ability to grow,” said Roddick. “If it’s growing really fast, we assume it is healthy. Actually, what health is vitality, the amount of stored energy in the plant. The more energy a tree has in reserves, the more it can adjust and respond to stressors while increasing habitat for wildlife.”

He gave some practical tips for how to support tree vitality: increase soil health with compost or natural materials rather than synthetic fertilizers; allow leaves to fall and decompose in place; group trees together; avoid pesticides and fungicides; avoid clearing branches from older trees unless necessary for safety;

if canopy reduction is necessary, prune from the tips; start trees from seed if possible or buy saplings that are not root bound in their container; keep young trees well watered; and prune trees for the first five to 15 years if they start off root-bound.

Roddick called trees holobiont (super-organisms) and described how almost every part contains fungi and other microorganisms essential to healthy function. The tree care techniques he recommends should therefore all be in service of maintaining those symbiotic relationships.

He noted that the trees we enjoy in our yards and landscapes are the same species that relied on being part of a system when they evolved in diverse and crowded forest environments. Their health hinges on our ability to provide them a system they can thrive in. Emerging forest ecology science is shedding light on how important relationships are to tree health—relationships with microbes, with the surrounding fauna, and with other trees in different life-cycle stages.

When you’re rooted in place, you’re an easy target, so trees have evolved to react, adapt and share resources among themselves. They economize by optimizing growth, getting rid of parts that are no longer needed, and compartmentalizing.

Rather than healing from injury like humans do, trees grow new cells in new positions and shed or wall off dead cells.

Imagine a bristlecone pine that sprouted 5,000 years ago. While you can touch parts of the trunk that were growing vibrantly in the Bronze Age, the oldest part of the tree that is still actively growing is only 50 years old, and the needles are only a few years old. “The great duality of being a tree is that it is both young and old at the same time,” said Roddick.

For Roddick, trees’ ecosystem services — like providing nectar to pollinators, habitat for wildlife, clean air, and carbon sequestration — are as important as their beauty and recreational value.

When asked the best way to increase biodiversity and ecosystem health on a property, he extolled the benefits of veteran trees that are embarking on the long process of dying, creating hollows for wildlife and nooks and crannies where fungi thrive. He also recommended planting keystone species like oak, maple, birch and willow that can host thousands of other species.

Of all the sunlight that hits the Earth, less than 1% gets caught by organisms that can use the energy. Roddick reminded the assembled gardeners that the vast majority



PHOTO BY JANNA SILLER

Christopher Roddick spoke at The White Hart Inn on Thursday, Feb. 15.

of those are trees. He emphasized the importance of preserving trees into their later years as a means of increasing earth’s photosynthetic capacity.

The Bad Grass series is organized by local residents Page Dickey, Amy Cox Hall and Jeb Breece, whose goal is to “promote conversation and highlight the national thought leaders and practitioners we have in the region.”

The final lecture for this year’s series will take place at the White Hart Thursday, Feb. 29, at 5:30 p.m., and will be a panel discussion with Leslie Needham, Dee Salomon and Matt Sheehan on our human role in creating

and maintaining natural landscapes. More information and tickets are available at www.silvaetpratium.com

Proceeds from the

series’ ticket sales will be directed toward extending Falls Village’s pollinator-friendly roadside beds to the steps of the David M. Hunt Library.

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Free trees for children

MILLBROOK — Millbrook Library is once again partnering with Neighborhood Forest to distribute free trees to children in time for Monday, April 22, which is Earth Day. Parents and guardians can sign children up by Friday, March 15, by filling out a short form at www.neighborhoodforest.org/parent-registration. Millbrook Library will make contact with registrants when the trees are ready to be picked up.

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Items are printed as space permits. All entries can be found at millertonnews.com/events-calendar. To submit calendar items, email editor@lakevillejournal.com

FEBRUARY 22

Lunch & Learn: Copyright and Trademark Talk with Matthew Myers

The Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main Street, Salisbury, CT 06068, www.scovillelibrary.org

Thursday, February 22, 12:00 - 12:50 PM. During this lunch-break overview of the complete trademark and copyright processes, you'll learn how to protect your brands and intellectual property including songs, illustrations, artwork, photographs, manuscripts, video, movies, podcasts, apps, and more. Enjoy Q&A and a light lunch provided by the library. Matthew L. Myers holds an MB from the University of Hawai'i and a BS with Honors in Economics from Cornell University. He is a frequent speaker at technology trade shows. Registration is required. To register, please visit scovillelibrary.libcal.com.

FEBRUARY 23

Live Guitar

Art Bar & Gallery, 75 E. Main St., North Canaan, Conn.

Stephen Bennett will play live music at the Art Bar on Feb. 23 from 8 to 10 p.m. Bennett is well known for his finger-style guitar playing. Whether he's playing his great-grandfather's harp guitar or a standard 6-string, he is one of the most well-regarded guitarists of his generation. Sit back and enjoy delicious drinks and unforgettable music in the Art Bar & Gallery. Upstairs Great Falls Brewing Co.

Oscar-Nominated Millerton Director Q&A

The Moviehouse, Millerton NY

Friday, Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m. Millerton-based director John Hoffman will join Moviehouse audiences live and in-person for a talk on his documentary short, "The Barber of Little Rock," nominated this year for Best Short Film at The Academy Awards, which will screen along with the other nominated shorts. "The Barber of Little Rock" explores America's widening racial wealth gap through the story of Arlo Washington, a local barber whose visionary approach to a just economy could reshape the future of banking. Tickets at www.themoviehouse.org

FEBRUARY 24

Art Show Reception

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

The Cornwall Library will present artist Bela Selendy's latest images, "Complexity and Emergence," a photographic rumination on what he calls the "momentary and highly improbable confluence of events that is the reason we are all here at this indefinable moment." Using a photographic technique called light painting, Selendy initiates dozens of long-exposure photographs of sculptures from a fixed camera, while all the time dancing around the sculpture with a modified flashlight, creating a different lighting effect

for each exposure. The resulting images are striking and unique. Registration requested for artist's reception at: cornwalllibrary.org/events

FEBRUARY 25

Live Reading

The Norfolk Library, 9 Greenwood Road East, Norfolk, Conn. norfolklibrary.org

A reading of "Alabama Story" by Kenneth Jones, inspired by true events in 1959 Montgomery, Alabama, will be performed at Norfolk Library at 3 p.m. Cast members include Deron Bayer, Darcy Boynton, Troy Hanshe, Marinell Madden-Crippen, James Mead, Gloria Miller, and Ronnie Reid. After the reading there will be a discussion led by Miller. Admission is free, but a donation is requested. To reserve seats, use the following link: norfolklibrary.org/events/a-reading-of-alabama-story

FEBRUARY 26

The North East Historical Society Dine Out for History

Millerton, N.Y.

The North East Historical Society's popular Dine Out for History series returns this month. This year two more dining establishments will participate, bringing the total to five.

On select dates through March 11, participating Millerton restaurants will host their own Dine Out for History nights, where 10% of the proceeds from all patrons that night will be donated to the historical society to support its research, digitize its collection and make historic content more available to the public, particularly educators.

Monday, Feb. 26, Round III, 5523 NY-22, 5-9 p.m., 518-592-1240

Monday, March 11, Golden Wok, Railroad Plaza, 2 Main St., 5-10 p.m., 518-789-9236. Takeout only.

FEBRUARY 28

Workshop: Dough Talk with Richard Bourdon and Sarah Reynolds North

Online. secure.givelively.org/event/dewey-memorial-hall-inc/dough-talk-with-richard-bourdon-and-sarah-reynolds-north

A virtual sourdough bread workshop with live Q&A will take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Join a virtual demonstration of sourdough bread making with Richard Bourdon, founder/owner of the renowned Berkshire Mountain Bakery. Besides being a local legend, Bourdon has quietly influenced generations of would-be artisan bakers (including Chad Robertson, co-owner of Tartine in San Francisco). He was also featured in the four-part Netflix documentary "Cooked." Bourdon will be joined by Sarah Reynolds North of Found Bread in her kitchen in New Marlborough.

This pre-filmed 60-minute workshop will show how to mix the dough by hand.

Attendance is free with donation requested.

MARCH 2

Old Time Community Dance

Cornwall Town Hall, 24 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn.

Squares, circles, and contras taught and called by Bob Livingston to the lively music of Relatively Sound Band from 7 to 9 p.m. Beginners welcome. No partners necessary. Suggested donations to pay the caller and tip the band: \$15/adult, \$5/child, or \$25/family. For more information, contact Debra@Motherhouse.us or 860-671-7945.

Litchfield County and the Civil War

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main Street Falls Village, CT

Local author and Housatonic Valley Regional High School history teacher Peter Vermilyea will discuss his new book "Litchfield County and the Civil War" at the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village on Saturday, March 2nd at 2 pm. Told with first-hand accounts, the book relates the impact of President Abraham Lincoln's request for 600,000 troops in the summer of 1862 and shows how the process of preparing for war created a lasting bond between the community and its soldiers. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

MARCH 10

Book Talk and Signing

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

The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon will host a book talk and signing with James Traub, author of "True Believer: Hubert Humphrey's Quest for a More Just America" on Sunday, March 10, at 4 p.m. Traub reintroduces the largely forgotten but highly significant vice president and U.S. senator, Hubert Humphrey, whose shattering defeat in the 1968 presidential election cast a shadow over his achievements. In 1948 Humphrey defied segregationists and forced the Democratic party to commit itself to civil rights and as a senator in 1964, he made good on that commitment by shepherding the Civil Rights Act through Congress. Books will be available for purchase. This program is free, but registration is required at: hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/12044393

The Peace Of Wild Things

The Kent Singers, St. Andrew's Church, Kent 3 p.m.

The Kent Singers will present The Peace of Wild Things on Sunday, March 10, 2023 at 3:00 pm at St. Andrew's Church in Kent, CT. The concert features Benjamin Britten's Rejoice in the Lamb, Randall Thompson's Frostiana, and two pieces by the young American



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Ceramics at Hotchkiss

On exhibit now at The Hotchkiss School's Tremaine Gallery is "Between the motion and the act," a joint ceramics show featuring work by Tony Bright of Lakeville and Jon Riedeman of Norfolk. The work will remain on display through Saturday, March 2.

composer, Jake Runestad: The Hope of Loving and The Peace of Wild Things. The concert will be conducted by James Knox Sutterfield. Frostiana is a beautiful setting of seven of poet Robert Frost's most beloved poems, in honor of his 150th birthday. Rejoice in the Lamb is an unusual and creative musical setting of equally exotic text by the English poet and mystic Christopher Smart. Scottish poet Wendell Berry's brief poem, The Peace of Wild Things, is set to music perfectly by Jake Runestad, along with six sacred poems in his collection, The Hope of Loving. Tickets are \$20 at www.kentsingers.com/category/tickets or at the door.

MARCH 16

Audubon Bake Sale

Sharon Audubon Center, 325 Cornwall Bridge Road, Sharon, Conn.

Sharon Audubon Center will hold its annual MapleFest and Maple Bake Sale on Saturday, March 16, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. On-going guided 45-minute to 1-hour tours will lead visitors through the Center's sugaring operation, including

a working sugarhouse and a re-creation of Native American and early colonial sugaring methods. Participants can watch as pure sugar maple sap is collected from the trees and turned into delicious maple syrup. Admission for the event is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (free for ages 2 and under). Wear warm clothes and boots, as the entire tour is outdoors and trails are often muddy or snow covered. Tours go out approximately every 15-20 minutes.

Art Exhibition

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org

From March 16 through May 3, the David M. Hunt Library will host an exhibition of early 20th century photography from the Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society. "From the Great Falls to the Hilltops" allows a vivid peek into the past of Falls Village's people and places. There will be a reception with refreshments on Saturday, March 16, from 4 to 6 p.m. It will be preceded by a talk at 3 p.m. on the progress of photographic technology by Daniel Karp, a

professor of photography at Bard College at Simon's Rock.

ONGOING

Art Exhibition

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org

David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village hosts WINTER WONDERLAND, an exhibition of painted winter scenes by art students at Lee H. Kellogg School. The exhibition will remain on display during operating hours through Friday, Feb. 23.

"The Art of the Stitch and Needle": A Group Show of Fiber Arts

Cornwall UCC Parish House, 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall Village, Conn.

"The Art of the Stitch and Needle," a group show of fiber arts, is on view at the UCC Parish House in Cornwall Village. The show will continue until Thursday, Feb. 29. Artisans exhibiting their work will be Beth Dinneen, Eileen Gargan, Susan Hellmann, Jen Markow, Dana Saccardi and Susan Saccardi. A wide variety of crafts will be represented; some will be for sale.



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OPEN POSITIONS: TOWN OF AMENIA is seeking applications for a PT-Seasonal Groundskeeper. Letter of Interest and Resume may be submitted via email to townclerk@ameniany.gov or via mail to Town Clerk, Dawn Marie Klingner, 4988 Route 22 Amenia NY 12501. Application Deadline: Noon, March 7, 2024.

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