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## Pharmacists look to Congress to loosen 'middleman' squeeze

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

Local pharmacies are historically central to American community life and have been for generations. If they offered a soda fountain counter with round swivel stools, so much the better.

Today's family pharmacists throughout the area, however, are struggling under an oppressive pharmaceutical insurance middleman system that strips away profit from their prescription counter.

Beginning in the 1960s, Pharmacy Benefits Managers (PBMs) came upon the scene to process drug claims for insurance companies. By the 1970s, they were serving as middlemen between manufacturers, insurance companies and pharmacies, adjudicating prices.

Today, PBMs not only adjudicate claims, they also develop and manage pharmacy networks, determine the list of drugs to be covered by insurance, set co-pay amounts and serve to channel the patient to a particular pharmacy or pharmacy system.

According to the Pharmacists Society of the State of New York (PSSNY), PBMs can own their own

**Pharmacist Nasir Mahmood, Pine Plains Pharmacy, is advocating for independent community pharmacies so that businesses like his can continue serving their communities.**

pharmacies, retail and mail order, and profit from sales and services. The work of the PSSNY is to propagate and protect community pharmacies.

The effect of this progression as PBMs have become "invisible middlemen" has been devastating to local family-owned pharmacies in area towns in New York and Connecticut, endangering their existence and the invaluable service they provide to their patients and the communities they serve.

Today, the three largest PBMs control nearly 80% of the prescription benefits market share in the U.S., according to the PSSNY.

"We are so lucky to have this pharmacy. It's a blessing," said Pine Plains resident Ann Noone, a regular customer of the Pine Plains

See **PBM**, PAGE **A8**



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

## County challenges even-year voting

By **MAUD DOYLE**  
 maudd@millertonnews.com

**POUGHKEEPSIE** — The Dutchess County Legislature passed a resolution authorizing the use of \$100,000 of taxpayer funds to challenge a state Senate bill designed to increase voter turnout and save money in local elections by moving some local elections to even-numbered years.

On Tuesday, April 9, the county legislature voted for the resolution 14-7, along party lines, with the Republican majority voting for the appropriation. Proponents of the appropriation claim that the state's action is a violation of home rule.

**The law in question**

Governor Kathy Hochul signed senate bill S3505B, which moves certain local elections to even

See **BILL**, PAGE **A8**

## Letter from the farm: Is it harvest time yet?

By **JANNA SILLER**  
 Special to The Millerton News

**FALLS VILLAGE, Conn.** — Early spring on a New England produce farm is like watching a pot come to a boil — flower buds adorning tree limbs swell ever so slightly each day; overwintered spinach leaves expand almost imperceptibly over the course of a week; fall-planted garlic cloves sprout small green shoots up through mulched beds.

No matter how intently you watch, the pot does eventually boil and spring does reliably arrive. Unlike a pot on a hot stove though, you can't simply turn the dial to max when impatience gets the better of you, and the signs of progress often come in fits and starts rather than a steady increase.

Seeds won't sprout in chilly soil. If you plant seedlings on a warm day, they won't survive the cold

See **HARVEST**, PAGE **A8**



PHOTO BY JANNA SILLER

**Lia Oren and Talia Schechet seed onions in the greenhouse at Adamah Farm in Falls Village, Conn., extending our region's short growing season by producing seedlings ready to plant as the soil warms.**



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

### Breakfast with the Sheriff

The pancake breakfast at American Legion Post 178 in Millerton on Sunday, April 14, a fundraiser for Sheriff Kirk Imperati, who is running for reelection, was packed with people and politicians from all over Dutchess County. It was organized by Bruce Flynn of Millerton. Left to right, Sheriff Imperati, Flynn and Undersheriff Jason Mark.



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## OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

### American Legion Grill-iant

American Legion Post 178 in Millerton held a chicken BBQ on Saturday, April 13 and sold out with 170 orders to-go. The BBQ was a benefit for Sons of the American Legion. Above, Walter Bates, left, and Mike Ormsby place a rack of seasoned chickens on the grill.

## Millerton adopts budget, approves Eddie Collins Park revitalization component

By MAUD DOYLE  
maudd@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — The Millerton Village board voted unanimously to adopt the proposed 2024-2025 budget of \$780,152 on Monday, April 15, at a regular session.

The budget increased by \$60,420, or 8.4%, over last year. This was due largely to payments for the bonds bought for the project of replacing Millerton's streetlights with LED lights, and the change of the village treasurer position from part time to full time, said Village clerk Lisa Cope.

Nevertheless, noted Trustee Dave Sherman and Village Mayor Jenn Najdek in a brief discussion, tax rates will go down, because the village's property assessment rule went up.

The only items discussed in detail were in regards to the latest developments taking place at Eddie Collins Park: namely, the design and initial engineering for the bathhouse, and a question of night-lighting for the Little League field.

Jeanne Vanecko, Eddie Collins Park project manager, presented an agreement with LaBella Associates for the design and the initial engineering of the bathhouse, part of the second phase of the Eddie

Collins Park Revitalization Project.

She noted that an estimated budget of \$116,000 had been raised in its entirety by the Eddie Collins Memorial Park Revitalization Committee.

The board approved of the agreement unanimously, enabling the Committee to put a package out for bids.

The lighting of the Little League field will be donated by a group of private citizens. It is a turn-key gift, noted Vanecko, meaning that said citizens will handle the installation of the lights from start to finish, then donate them to the Village.

The labor will be donated by Berlinghoff Electric of Pine Plains.

According to the current plan, the lights will be LED lights and very inexpensive to run — more or less \$200 per season, Vanecko said.

In response to questions from the board, she noted that the lights would not be on not every night, but only when in use. The lights will create less ambient light than traditional models, she said, "as close to dark sky as you can get," though the field itself will reflect the light upwards, so "100% dark sky isn't possible."

Stephen Waite, chairman of the Eddie Collins Memorial

Park Revitalization Committee, noted that the lights could easily be put on timers.

"It's a nice piece to add to the park because it adds versatility," he said.

The motion to approve the lighting plan passed unanimously.

At about 6:30 p.m., Najdek said, "I'm 99% sure we've concluded our business for the month. Motion to cancel our scheduled meeting on the 22nd?"

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed unanimously.

## NorthEast-Millerton library board approves measure aimed at digitizing newspapers

By CAROL KNEELAND  
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — As the town gets set to honor its 150th anniversary, the NorthEast-Millerton Library is fusing an old project with a state-of-the-art idea to be certain its history as chronicled by The Millerton News and its predecessors will be available for years to come.

A vehicle for the project is the annual Millerton Community Calendar, a town mainstay since the Lion's Club began the tradition 65 years ago. It is now being readied for publication by the Library, which inherited the program when the club disbanded locally in 2021.

Funds raised by the calendar have been used in the past primarily to cover cost of the publication, according to head librarian Rhiannon Leo-Jameson. But on Wednesday, April 10, the Library Board of Trustees approved a measure that will allow any funds beyond those needed for that purpose to be applied to a new program to digitize the Library's collection of copies of The Millerton News and its predecessors which are now available at the library only on microfilm and in bound volumes.

While Leo-Jameson says final plans for the project are not yet in place, it is likely that the process will allow those papers to be accessed online.

Leo-Jameson, in consultation with Ed Downey, president of the North East Historical Society, said the project will be a joint undertaking



PHOTO BY RHIANNON LEO-JAMESON

NorthEast-Millerton Library houses copies of The Millerton News and its predecessors only on microfilm and in bound volumes.

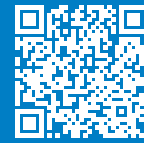
with that group which has been sponsoring digitization efforts for a number of years, partly through the Dine Out for History sessions at local restaurants which was revived this year after having been shut down due to COVID 19.

This year's version of the calendar, in addition to noting birthdays and anniversaries of local residents and families, will honor of the town's 150th year by inviting merchants and others to mark the founding and other notable dates of local businesses and

organizations. The cost of printing and distributing the black and white calendar is supported with payment of \$6 for the calendar and \$.75 each for listing. Further funding comes from small ads for local business which cost \$55.

To donate, purchase ads, or place significant dates in the calendar call 518-789-3340 or visit the Library at 75 Main St. Submissions are due by July 31. Distribution, which will take place at the library, is set for October.

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## Millerton-Amenia Earth Day April 20

The Amenia and Millerton will celebrate Earth Day jointly at the Amenia Town Hall Gym on Saturday, April 20 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Art displays by Webutuck students, native-plant seed giveaways, a seed swap hosted by Amenia Library and a display of the newest high-efficiency vehicles and bicycles will entertain the adults, while games and a Creation Station with arts and crafts presented by the Webutuck Student Council and zine making with Millerton artist Deborah Maier entertain the youth. Live music and food from Four Brothers Pizza and Blackbird Cafe can be enjoyed by all.

Over 20 organizations, including Trout Unlimited, Dutchess Land Conservancy, the Housatonic Valley Association, Cary Institute and American Farmland Trust will be on site to answer questions

and talk about the latest innovations in electric vehicles, home efficiency, composting environmental conservation and more.

Empire Solar will demonstrate their home solar panels and provide information about potential savings; Amenia Garden Club, Homegrown National Park and NoMoreInvasivePlants will share information about invasive species eradication and the benefits of growing native plants; NYSERDA will have information about state incentives for decreasing carbon footprints; and the Amenia CAC will have a raffle for a free home composter donated by HG Page (see page B3).

The effort is being hosted jointly by volunteers from Millerton's Climate Smart Community Task Force and Amenia's Climate Smart Task Force/CAC





PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

## Seniors' next step?

Looking toward future possibilities, Webutuck High School students took advantage of an opportunity to speak with admissions representatives from 45 colleges, universities and the military, at a College Fair event held at the school on Tuesday, April 9. Above, students talk to University of Connecticut representatives.

# Millbrook approves budget, \$5.10 mill rate

By LEILA HAWKEN  
leilah@lakevillejournal.com

MILLBROOK — The proposed town budget for 2024-25 was approved by unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees at its regular meeting on Wednesday, April 10, following public hearing.

No comments on the budget were offered by residents at the hearing, although a letter was read into the record urging continued attention to wages paid to town employees.

The budget has been the subject of numerous meetings. As approved, expenditures will total \$2,238,291, an increase of \$118,813 over the current year. For the coming year, the water and sewer budgets are separated from

the overall budget as they rely upon their own revenues to balance expenditures.

Village Mayor Tom Collopy had distributed a newsletter summarizing and clarifying the budget for residents in advance of the hearing. The budget and the newsletter are posted on the town website.

The budget will require a 2% increase in the tax levy (\$23,901) to total \$1.1 million, just under the tax cap. Millbrook Village received \$1.1 million from property owners in the form of taxes paid, and the remaining \$1.1 million comes from other sources.

Residents can expect a 1.4% increase in the current mill rate of \$5.03 to create a new mill rate of \$5.10 for each \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Salaries will see a general increase of 3%, excepting any employees who received an increase during the past year.

Two major street resurfacing projects are anticipated during the summer. Washington Avenue will be repaved and Maple Avenue will receive a treatment of oil and stone.

Following the budget approval vote, the Village Board voted in favor of increasing the sewer use rate from \$9 to \$9.90 per 1,000 gallons. The rate increase anticipated critically-needed repairs to the processing systems in upcoming years.

The next regular meeting of the Village Board is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8, at the firehouse, beginning at 6 p.m.

# Leon Nesis show at The Fountains in Millbrook

By LEILA HAWKEN  
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MILLBROOK — Art was in the air as the Millbrook Library opened a new exhibit of the paintings of Dr. Leon Nesis of Millbrook, on Thursday, April 11, showcasing a selection of the artist's works while celebrating the public role of arts in the community. This is the second exhibit of works by Nesis at the library.

Nesis signs each of his works "Loncho," a childhood nickname in Argentina, where he was born. A significant part of his career was spent in the General Surgery Department at New York University Hospital. He and his wife, Bobbie, now reside in a cottage at The Fountains in Millbrook.

"Everyone who comes through the library has commented on how beautiful these paintings are and the variety of the subject matter," said Gabrielle Esposito, adult programming director at the library. For the viewer, each painting has a story to tell.

"We are super lucky in our association with The Fountains," Esposito added.

Nesis has pursued painting as a hobby for decades. The subject matter of this exhibit depicts scenes inspired by his travels throughout Mexico and Argentina, a few grazing cows and a group of abstracts,

using a variety of mediums including water-based and oil-based oils and watercolors.

"When Leon retired, he started painting and had a successful studio in the Berkshires," said Ellen O'Shea, Arts Coordinator at The Fountains.

"I just think he's a natural, excellent with color," said O'Shea, adding that Nesis likes the cadmiums, red and yellow.

"It's a hobby I've always enjoyed," Nesis said. "The colors make you feel warm," he added.

"The exhibit is intended to celebrate Leon's talent," said Lisa Rieckermann, Community Life Director at The Fountains, "and to have it be exposed for the community's benefit."

It's good to get it out into the community," Rieckermann added.

The exhibit at The Millbrook Library will continue until May 20.

## Amenia Fire's final pancake breakfast for season on April 21

The Amenia Fire Company will be holding its final monthly Pancake Breakfast of the season at the Firehouse on Sunday, April 21 from 7:30 to 11 a.m. It is all you can eat with a menu of pancakes, French toast, eggs and omelettes,



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

**Celebrating art in the community, the Millbrook Library held an opening on Thursday, April 11, of a new exhibit featuring the paintings of Dr. Leon Nesis, left, a resident at The Fountains. A bouquet was presented by Ellen O'Shea, Arts Coordinator at The Fountains. The exhibit will continue until May 20.**

home fries, bacon, sausage and beverages. You can eat in or take out.

The firehouse is located at 36 Mechanic Street, Amenia. Adults are \$12.00, Seniors/Under 12 are \$11.00. For information call 845-373-8352.

# Introducing a new newsletter

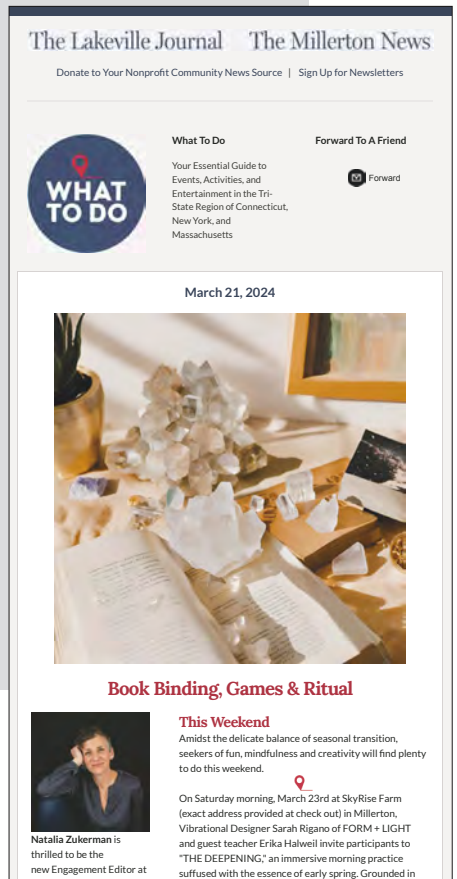
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Each week, discover the activities unique to our special region:

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Curated by  
**Natalia Zukerman**  
Engagement Editor



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# OBITUARIES

## Hobart Clark Terhune

SALISBURY — Hobart Clark Terhune peacefully passed away on April 2, 2024. He was born the only son of Elizabeth Hobby and Sidney Terhune.



Noble was a kind and thoughtful friend who lived life to the fullest. He enjoyed growing up in the Twin Lakes area in the town of Salisbury. Hobie was a graduate of Indian Mountain School in Lakeville where he started his love of skiing. He and his dad had many enjoyable skiing adventures together in several New England locations. Hobie won the Junior CT ski jumping championship twice and also won the slalom, downhill and cross-country state championships. Hobie enjoyed participating in the sports of football, skiing and golf. He was a true Giants fan, a lover of fast cars and he enjoyed having fun with friends.

Upon high school graduation from HVRHS, he joined the Navy and served in Newfoundland as a Petty Officer Second Class. He made his parents extremely proud by being named "Navy Man of the Year" in his division. Upon getting out of the service Hobie attended McPherson College in Kansas.

Hobie relocated to Vermont as a young man to join the ski scene. He married Doss and together they had a son, Shephard. Eventually he started his Mountain Exca-

vation Inc. business in West Dover, Vermont. Hobie can be credited for the installation of many sewer lines in the area and later he became a general contractor for several homes. He also enjoyed completing the golf course design and turf management course at UMASS.

Hobie served his community on the North Branch Fire District Prudential Committee for 23 years and he also played a very active role in the Dover Manor Road Association. Hobie was a generous and proud supporter of the VFW, American Legion, Special Olympics, the Jimmy Fund, Salvation Army, USO and Boy's Town.

Upon retirement, he found great enjoyment in golfing in Florida and Vermont. Later in life he reconnected with Betty Ann Patchen Poll, a friend from high school. They enjoyed relaxing and spending time together.

Hobie was predeceased by his son, Shephard Terhune, his parents and his sister Suzette Terhune Dakin. Hobie will be greatly missed by all and he will be remembered for his kindness, honesty and willingness to help others in need.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date in Hobie's hometown of Salisbury. Memorial donations may be made to the Special Olympics in Hobie and Shep's memories.

## Lynn Louise Rhoades

MILLERTON — Lynn Louise (Brunese) Rhoades of Naples, Florida passed away on Sunday, March 24, 2024.



Lynn was born in Sharon, on May 10, 1955. She was a graduate of Webutuck Central School and Krissler Business School.

Lynn grew up in Millerton and married Martin Rhoades of Lakeville.

In 1977 she and her family moved to Naples, Florida, where she continued her postal career until retirement in 2015.

She enjoyed spending time with her family, friends, going to the beach, gardening, decorating for the holidays,

cooking, traveling and being in nature. In her younger years she had a passion for ice skating.

Lynn had an immense love for dachshunds and anything that sparkled, as it was a reflection of her bright personality.

She is survived by her husband, Martin Rhoades,

two daughters, Crystal and Ashley, stepson Aaron Rhoades, brother John Brunese, sister Lori Brunese of Millerton, along with nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Memorial services will be announced at a future date.

Donations can be made to Avow Hospice Services, 1095 Whippoorwill Lane, Naples, Florida 34105.

## Memorial Service

**Doris Palmer**



A memorial service for Doris Palmer will be held Saturday, April 20 at 11 a.m. St. Andrews Church, Kent, CT

## Celebration of Life

**Evelyn Boge Tompkins**



Celebration of Life for Evelyn Boge Tompkins Saturday April 27 at 11 a.m. Sharon United Methodist Church, Sharon, CT

## George Arthur Mortenson

SALISBURY — George Arthur Mortenson of Leominster, Massachusetts, passed away on April 1, 2024, at the age of 91.



George was born on Nov. 26, 1932, in Great Barrington to Arthur and Bertha Mortenson. He was raised in Amesville in the town of Salisbury. He grew up the eldest of five children. George graduated from Indian Mountain School and Hotchkiss. He left RPI to join the Marines, later transferring to the Navy to become a pilot and flight instructor. Following his military service, George became a computer programmer and systems analyst.

George met his first wife, Mary, in Connecticut and they married in 1959. They lived in Florida and Virginia before settling in Lexington, Massachusetts, where they raised their three children. Later in life, George married

Mary Anne Williams and they enjoyed many years together and settled in Leominster, Massachusetts.

George was a student of history, an avid reader and a stamp collector. He loved the Red Sox and Patriots. George was a very kind and loyal man.

The world was a better place with him in it, and he is deeply missed.

George is survived by his wife, Mary Anne and his extended Williams family; his three children James, Peggy (and her husband Frank), and Evelyn; his siblings Bee Ann (Ward), Peter (Barbara) and Suzy (Michael); his sister-in-law Sandy, extended Carney family, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He is predeceased by his brother Robert.

A service will be held at noon on Monday, April 22, 2024, at the Trinity Lime Rock Episcopal Church in Lakeville, CT.

## John Walter Preston

WEST CORNWALL — John Walter Preston ("Jack"), 84, of 294 West Cornwall Road, passed peacefully at his home. He was the husband of the late Patricia Ann (White) Preston. Jack was born Nov. 4, 1939, at Sharon Hospital. He was the son of the late Walter A. and Josephine (Cochrane) Preston.



Jack worked for the Connecticut Department of Transportation for 34 years. He began his career as a snowplow driver for the state and retired as the Manager of the Connecticut DOT. Jack served his community in many ways, most notably as an active member of the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department for 63 years. He also enjoyed spending time at his home in East Falmouth on Cape Cod. But Jack's true passion was providing for his wife, Patty, and their three daughters. A close second was the meticulous care he gave

to his property, especially his lawn.

Jack is survived by his three daughters; Robin Preston of Ashford, Connecticut, Debra Preston of West Cornwall and Kim Preston Dube and her husband Norm of Charlottesville, Virginia. He is also survived by his grandchildren; Kyle Strong and his wife Taylor, Katherine Strong, Ryan Dube and his wife Margaret. Jack is also survived by his two great-grandsons; Bryson and John.

A graveside service was held on Tuesday April 16, 2024, at the Cornwall Cemetery Cornwall, CT. Memorial donations may be sent to the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department 289 Sharon-Goshen Turnpike, West Cornwall, CT 06796 or charity of your choosing. Arrangements were under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. Canaan, CT 06018.

# Construction starts on Rt. 44 in Norfolk

By JENNIFER ALMQUIST  
Special to The Millerton News

NORFOLK, Conn. — For the next five years, travel on Route 44 will be reduced to one lane in Norfolk, also known as Greenwood Road West, for the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) to replace existing retaining walls and stabilize the slope along the north side of the road for the safety of the highway.

Last week, DOT Project 97-95, as the extensive undertaking is called, was green lit to begin. Over time the stone retaining walls along the roadway have bulged from the pressure exerted by the angle of the slope and years of heavy rains. In 2010 a mudslide occurred in the affected section of highway which extends from just west of Memorial Green to east of Old Colony Road. In 2019 DOT installed temporary concrete bin blocks, or Mafia barriers (so-called because cement production of them used to be controlled by the mob), along the base of the existing walls due to their movement. Amy Hare, head engineer for Project 97-95, emphasized the level of preliminary work

necessary. Already one family has had to relocate, and their hillside home was just razed. Currently, the town's water company, Aquarion, is analyzing and relocation of underground water pipes from that section of highway.

While many adjacent areas will be affected by the construction, DOT is exercising caution to avoid disrupting the cemetery on Old Colony Road. Established in 1757, Norfolk's historic Center Cemetery is located on the ridge above the unstable slope. Care has been taken to ensure that the integrity of the sacred space will not be violated.

Traffic flow on Route 44 is already feeling the impact of the work. One lane will always be kept open wide enough for trucks to pass. An alternate 45-minute detour truck route was devised to move traffic south on 272 (near the Norfolk Library), to Route 4 to Goshen, to Route 63, then looping back up Route 7 to Canaan. Large interstate truckers can either use the suggested detour or go north to use the Mass Pike. Temporary illumination will be in place for night traffic.

The improved highway will have 12-foot-wide lanes.

## In Remembrance

## Mary Graf

We were devastated to learn of Mary Graf's sudden passing.

Shortly after Mary, a proud descendant of Sharon's Hotchkiss family, and her husband Jack moved into the area some five years ago, she threw herself into the library. She volunteered at the Book Signing and at other events — never without a smile on her face. She underwrote holiday greenery for the library. She enthusiastically participated in any number of our programs and activities. Symbolic of her support is the wheelchair lift she donated. Thanks to Mary, the library, for which she had such affection, is now accessible to everyone.

The library wasn't the only beneficiary of her time and energy. As House Manager, she was in charge of all vol-

unteers at the Sharon Playhouse during the summer. She was an enthusiastic "Hillside Stoner," cleaning grave-stones at the Hillside Burying Ground where several of her family members are buried. She was also a benefactor of the Hotchkiss School and endowed the "Mary Graf Barn" at Hotchkiss' Fairfield Farm.

She probably also gave of herself elsewhere, but we like to think that the library was first in her heart. Mary loved the library, and everyone at the library loved her right back.

We are so very saddened by Mary's loss and will miss this warm, surpassingly generous and ever cheerful lady terribly.

**The Board of Directors and Staff  
The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon.**

Send obituaries to  
johnc@lakevillejournal.com



## Worship Services

Week of April 21, 2023

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

<p><b>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon</b> 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. <i>Transitioning through prayer</i> All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>	<p><b>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.</b> 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! 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><b>St. John's Episcopal Church</b> 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) <i>In-Person and on YouTube</i> www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p><b>Trinity Episcopal Church</b> 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville <i>Offering companionship along the Way</i> 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 &amp; Felix Rivera trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p><b>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC</b> <i>Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people</i> 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232</p>	<p><b>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT</b> <i>Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons</i> The next meeting will be Sunday, May 12 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoui@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p><b>Fishes &amp; Loaves Food Pantry, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH</b> is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm &amp; Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p><b>Chabad of Northwest CT</b> On the Green 69 West St., Litchfield, CT 06759 chabadNW.org 860.567.3377   office@chabadNW.org Rabbi Joseph &amp; Mina Eisenbach <i>A home away from home, a gathering place where unity is paramount.</i> We are here for you, welcome to the family!</p>
<p><b>Congregation Beth David</b> <i>A reform Jewish Synagogue</i> 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><b>WINTER SCHEDULE</b> Sunday 10:30 AM - Hebrew School Wednesday 8:00 PM - Parsha In My Life How The Weekly Portion Relates to Me! Thursday 11:30 AM - Women's Tea &amp; Torah Saturday 9:30 AM - Shabbat Services Followed by a Congregational Kiddush <i>Children's Camp   Jewish Newspaper Smiles on Seniors   CTeen   YJP</i></p>
<p><b>The Lakeville United Methodist Church</b> 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p><b>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH</b> <i>Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk</i> St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville <b>MASS SCHEDULE</b> Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 a.m., Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church <b>DAILY MASS SCHEDULE</b> Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church <b>Thursday 8am</b> Immaculate Conception Church <b>Friday 8am</b> Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p><b>The Sharon United Methodist Church</b> 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon <i>Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits</i> 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5654 sharonumc5654@att.net</p>	<p><b>UCC in CORNWALL</b> <i>Cornwall Village Meeting House</i> 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 <i>Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</i></p>
<p><b>Falls Village Congregational Church</b> 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour <i>A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!!</i> 860-824-0194</p>	<p><b>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall</b> Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. <i>Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall</i></p>
<p><b>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church</b> 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p><b>Sharon Congregational</b> 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><b>Canaan United Methodist Church</b> 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com <i>We hope you will join us!</i></p>	<p><b>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church</b> 513 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><b>Promised Land Baptist Church</b> 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT <i>Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!</i> Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p><b>Millerton United Methodist Church</b> 6 Dutches Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st &amp; 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:00 P.M. 518-789-3138</p>

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# THE MILLERTON NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE A5

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

## Daytrip to Totality

Last week my friend Madison and I drove from Lee, Massachusetts, to far northern Vermont, pursuing the path of totality: We would watch an eclipse.

Our working plan for the day was that everything would go terribly, terribly wrong, and the beautiful mundanity of it was that some things did and many did not, leaving us, at the end of our adventure, awed and contented, wending our way back south through seven hours of traffic in the hardening dark.

The evening before, talking to the friends we thought we might meet up with if we could all decide where we wanted to go in time to get there, Madison wailed that she felt shamefully under-prepared.

In fairness, we had decided to “do the eclipse” just two days before. Also, Madison is a lawyer. I personally thought we were plenty prepared. We had eclipse glasses, leftover Indian (in case of culinary emergency), several bottles of water and a brown paper bag full of stale candy. The plan was to leave around six, bundle into my Forester (her car was overdue for an oil change) and drive north.

A hard frost came in that night. In the morning we discovered that, due to forces beyond my comprehension, a small crack had appeared in my windshield, zagging up from the passenger seat dash.

We chanced it. We were speeding east on I-90 when Madison cried, “the crack is growing!”

Indeed, the crack was growing. It was not subtle. It was growing across the windshield at about the rate that mercury rises in a thermometer plunged into boiling water. The crack was, we decided, during our mad dash back to safety, giving Final Destination. Despite the blinking oil light, Madison’s car now appeared relatively harmless.

The drive was beautiful and much faster than anticipated (apart from the bathroom lines, which, once experienced, prompted us to turn to roadside woods for the remainder of our journey): I-90 to 91 and then straight on til morning, which in this metaphor is Jay Peak, a ski mountain in Vermont, just south of the Canadian border.

By 1:30, at the base of the mountain, some 150 people and their children had spread themselves over the snow outside the lodges and restaurants; it wasn’t crowded but felt lively, one of those situations in which strangers are excitedly telling strangers where they’re from while lending them a sun-deflecting lens for their iPhone camera.

An array of lawn chairs and makeshift blankets and



PHOTO BY MADISON LANG

### REPORTER’S NOTEBOOK

Maud Doyle

camera tripods faced the mountain. People in sunglasses and shorts drank beer from golden cans, and ski coats glowed neon against the bright snow. It might have leaned fratty except that most viewers were middle aged and/or dressed like arborists. Above the peaks, the sun was doing its usual sun thing, screaming light down from a wild blue sky.

At 2:20 a cheer went up. Not far from the Waffle Cabin, a cover band — the Pink Talking Phish — began playing Dark Side of the Moon. From behind my glasses, it looked as if the glowing disc of sun was being slightly compressed at the bottom right — a glitch in the matrix, a tiny fold at the corner of a page.

At 2:30 we were all calling out to each other — “it’s starting, it’s starting!” — as if we were not all tuned to the same channel, as if this moment had not been put into motion several billion years before any of us had learned to speak.

Now the disc had a small bite taken out of it, like the cookie you gave a mouse. I was lying on my coat (and Madison’s), staring at the sun. Kids frolicked in the snow banks. The band played Money.

A cool breeze came up. A man was letting strangers look through his telescope: a fat orange crescent, blunted on both ends, like a slice of cantaloupe.

The light took on a curious gray quality — it was not like evening light, because it was still falling from above; it was not the light of a gray day, because it was not dispersed; it was different, somehow, from other dusks — “eerie,” I thought, feeling dissatisfied with language.

People were putting on sweaters and coats, and the night wind picked up flecks

of snow and swirled them around in the dimming light. It became possible to see the eclipse when — against medical advice — one glanced directly at the sun.

From behind the glasses, there was only a fingernail of light.

But people were taking their glasses off now, and the dusk deepening rapidly. There was a final flash and suddenly a black hole glowed in an evening sky, a great disc of nothing at all.

Planets glinted in the violet gloom, and an orange glow encircled the horizon, as if the sun were setting everywhere at once. But that void with its pale aureole — my heart seemed to rise slightly, pressing up against my skin like a child with her face to a windowpane, pulled upwards by the black, terrible nothing at the heart of the sun.

We were all so small and fragile, standing there with our tears and our beating hearts and our brief mortal coils. We were also all together, watching the accordion folds of deep time falling open across the silence, shoulder to shoulder in our wonderment.

Three and a half minutes was an age, then suddenly — the flip of a switch — no time at all; there was another flash, and the void vanished, swallowed by the overwhelming brightness of our star.

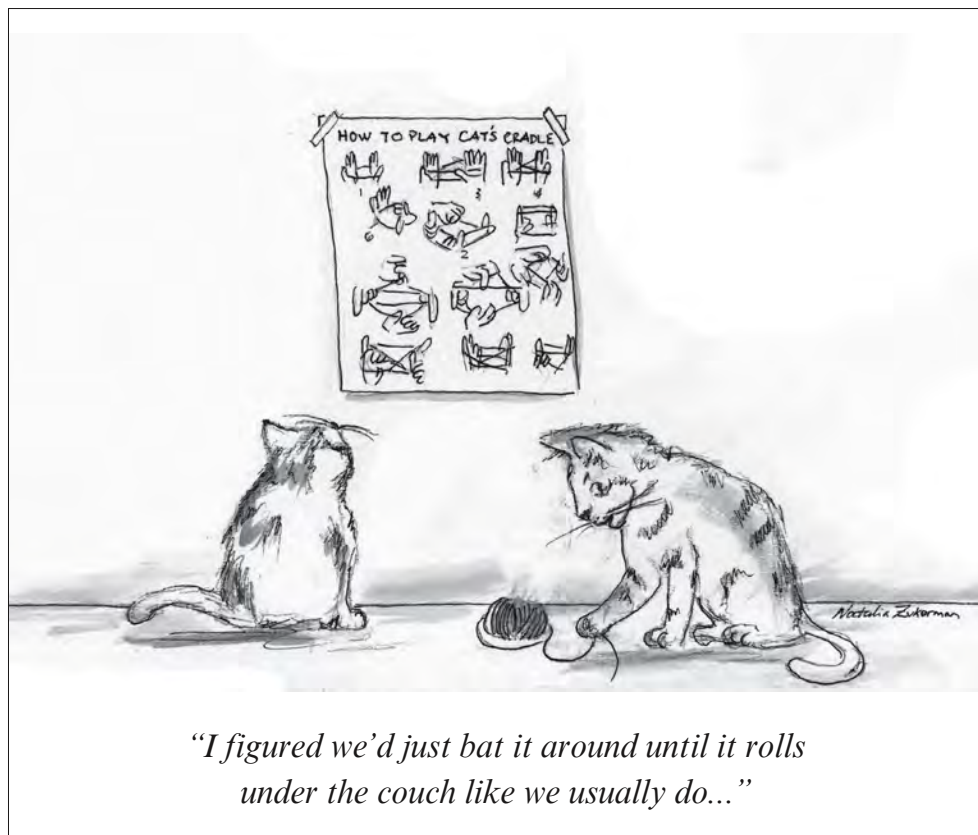
Quietened, blinking at one another in the strange gray light, we were surprised to find ourselves once again standing on the side of a mountain in the middle of our lives.

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Letters to the editor deadline is 10 a.m. Monday for that week’s publication. No more than 500 words. Send to editor@millertonnews.com. Please include a phone number for confirmation.



## Plant walks, ‘tree talks’ and a raging forest fire

91 years ago: April 20, 1933

New Minister has had Wide Experience: The Rev. K.M. Reynolds, who replaces the Rev. Raymond Ward as pastor of the M.E. Church at Millerton, comes to his new charge with a record of thirty years’ service in the ministry. Ordained by Bishop Wilso at Metropolitan Temple, he has preached at churches at Cook’s Falls, Jeffersonville, Greenville, Bloomingling, and for five years at the Gardner-town M.E. Church in Newburgh. His last pastorate before coming to Millerton was at Bangall.

Mr. Reynolds, a former railroad man, has two sons, Thomas I Reynolds, of Toledo, O., [sic] and Cocil J Reynolds, of New Symrna [sic], Fla.

Ad: The Paramount Millerton, N.Y. Saturday, 2:30; 8:00 “FRISCO JENNY” Ruth Chatterton The Screen’s foremost Star in one of her best pictures. Wednesday, 8:00 “CHRISTOPHER STRONG” Katherine Hepburn Billie Burke Colin Cline Picture founded on the novel of the same name.

FOR RENT: Tenement 6 rooms, improvements; Center St.; \$17 per month. Fred Adams. 2t-4-26p.

50 years ago, April 18, 1974:

Goals Determined Only By Citizens: After the good response to the questionnaire distributed in the Town of North East on the Comprehensive Plan, it is of great importance that citizens attend the public meeting in Millerton next Wednesday, April 23. The Dutchess County Department of Planning and the North East Planning Board have completed one third of the 18-month study of all aspects of community life. It is now time for the residents to decide on the plans goals and objectives.

Tree Talk: Arbor Day was first observed in 1872 with the planting of more than a million trees[...] Today, says Robert A. Bartlett, president of The F. A. Bartlett Tree Expert Co., Arbor Day should be a day of significance, a revival of this custom. As living space diminishes with a growing population, there is more need than ever for more trees. Trees help to purify our polluted air, and the more trees there are, the more carbon dioxide can be absorbed, and the more oxygen returned to reduce pollution.

### FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

25 years ago: April 15, 1999

Harlem Valley Rail Trail To Sponsor Earth Day Walks: The Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association will host two walks along the rail trail on Earth Day, Thursday, April 22, at 6 p.m.

One walk will begin at the Coleman Station parking lot five miles north of Amenia. The second walk will begin at the parking lot on Undermountain Road, eight miles north of Millerton.

Plants, animals, railroads, and the history of the rail trail will be some of the topics discussed. Each walk will last about an hour.

Webutuck Students To Plant Trees On Earth Day: Webutuck Junior-Senior High School students will plant about 20 white pines along the Harlem Valley Rail Trail on Earth Day, Thursday, April 22.

The students are members of the technology and ecology clubs at the high school. John Rocanova, a teacher at Webutuck, leads the clubs and will oversee the planting.

Brush Fire Threatens Homes in NE, 16 Departments Respond: A major wildfire on Gun Club Hill last week prompted a quick response from 16 fire departments and many area firefighters.

Although there were no injuries and no major structural damage to homes in the area, high winds and rough terrain at an elevation of up to 850 feet kept firemen at bay all day.

The fire whistle sounded at about 3:15 p.m., prompted by a large tree falling on a 69,000-volt high-tension power line. Smoke reached the outskirts of the village, and could be seen for miles around.

Dave McGhee, the fire warden in Millerton, said 200 fire personnel were on the scene, along with 30 pieces of equipment[...]

Pulver Trucking Co. of Pine Plains, a milk company, brought in one of its tankers to hold water [...] Dutchess Oil was also at the scene to refuel equipment [...] Several members of women’s auxiliaries in surrounding departments made and distributed enough food to feed an army. Village merchant Irving Saperstein paid for all the food, which cost hundreds of dollars[...]

In all, 18 acres of woods burned, leaving an oval scar on the mountain face.

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### LED lights in Millerton

Millerton is well know for its rural character of welcoming shops and interesting eateries. LED signs are contrary to that ambience that welcomes citizens of our community as well as the many tourists that come to enjoy the benefits of our town. LED lights create an atmosphere of a strip mall and are distracting when driving

into town. They are not necessary to attract business or to notify of events. The library, NECC and many of the Main street business, hotels and restaurants use simple letter and graphic signs which are very adequate. I urge the Village Board to vote, again, to ban LED lights use in Millerton.

Barbara Graham  
Millerton



VIEWPOINT

# Love and romance — and swiping left or right

Johnny Lee recorded "Looking for Love in all the Wrong Places" for "Urban Cowboy" and that seems like the perfect metaphor for dating at this stage of life.

When most of us first entered the dating world several decades ago, we met each other at parties, college, where we lived, the gym, bars, or while shopping. I met my first husband at a small menswear store on the Upper West Side, although for the life of me I have no idea what I was doing there, and I recall one fellow I met in line waiting to vote — he worked for the FBI and I remember every time he came into my apartment he took off his gun and my biggest fear was that the cat would somehow get to it!

I met my late husband at the gym — that was really the ideal place to meet although I joined it simply because it was nearest to my office — it was in the World Trade Center, where all of us Wall Street crazies arrived when it opened at 6:00 a.m. We found ourselves on adjoining treadmills (along with then Mayor Ed Koch), progressed to running across the Brooklyn Bridge together, and what ultimately ensued was a glorious 37 years! Not surprisingly, that pushed many of my girlfriends to join a gym; as a bonus, I also met some women who have become my dearest friends over the years.

Dating was easy, frequent, often casual, challenging, and sometimes led to heartbreak,

## RETIREMENT — WHAT NOW? Gwen Greene

but for most of us, it was part of the process of finding a spouse, of meeting THE person we thought we could spend the rest of our life with. We had very definite rules, and tended to judge each other critically — would our friends like the person, would our parents, did we agree on everything, were we similar in every way imaginable, and could we finally STOP dating and get married.

Fast forward to 2020 after my husband's passing and I realized I could have a wonderful life flying solo, but I wanted to try dating again. I was still living in the City, and anticipated meeting someone "organically" at dinner parties or at the gym (again), at benefits or at the bookstore, through business or volunteering. I assumed it would be as simple as it had been 40 years before, but I was SO wrong. For starters, I didn't have the energy to go out all the time, let alone "flirt" as I used to, and I wasn't even sure what that would look like at this stage of life. A friend once complained to me that men no longer looked at her on the street, and I pointed out that men still looked at me, but they were just much older than I remembered!

There was always the pos-

sibility of being "fixed up," but in a world where single older women far outnumber single older men, the likelihood of that declined with each passing year. A friend mentioned a man she knew in Boston who was recently widowed and she felt confident we would really hit it off. He suggested we Face Time, and when we did I thought he was delightful — attractive, intelligent, charming — he told me after about a half hour that we weren't suitable for each other and ended the call rather abruptly. I was stunned, and deeply offended, but it was a fast preview of what dating life could become. I no longer had the energy to look my best every day, to sign up for classes where I might meet someone, to be the extra person at a dinner party of married couples, to travel alone, and to check on whether or not a man was wearing a wedding ring (which I realize that many of us who are widowed, often still do for some period of time after our spouse passes away).

I needed a new way to meet men, and in coming columns will discuss online dating — the ugly, the bad, the good and sometimes you just hit the jackpot!

*Please reach out to Gwen with your thoughts or questions at [GwenG@millertonnews.com](mailto:GwenG@millertonnews.com)*

*Gwen lives in Pine Plains with her partner Dennis, her puppy Charlie, and two Angus cows (who are also retired!).*

# Spotting a military ramp up

Sometimes, it's the little things, the smallest of news announcements, which can tip off where industry and nations are headed. Destabilization, across the globe, is ramping up, in large part due to Russia trying to reclaim the Soviet Union territories, the expansionist aims of

China to control (but not rule) foreign governments, and, never least, religiously and ethically-provoked conflicts boiling up on two continents.

Here are a few of the items ticking along in non-public news outlets, all way below the main news media threshold of printable "news," that surely indicate a general preparedness desire by many, many, nations.

The U.S. is selling Poland 800 Lockheed Martin air-launched cruise missiles as "a small part of the nation's buildup of weapons' stocks." Note that quote, "a small part."

The Lockheed Martin F-35 production line has switched to full-rate production after having already made over 990 aircraft. And this announcement came as both the USAF and the US

Navy claimed they were reducing their "planned F-35 buys for the 2025 budget."

## A VIEW FROM THE EDGE Peter Riva

Turkey's Tusas Engine Industries has successfully made its first turbofan engine for its own fighter. 100% made in Turkey, available especially across all Muslim countries without U.S. or Russian control for the fighters they sell.

India, meanwhile, has successfully launched, tested, a multiple reentry capability (meaning multiple warhead delivery) intercontinental ballistic missile.

Russia, on the other hand, has started using ballistic intercontinental missiles to attack Ukraine; non-nuclear but lethal. Why? Because they are clearing older types by using them while they build their newest designs and refill stockpiles.

France has ramped up military sales, becoming the second largest military arms exporter after the USA. France makes very sophisticated missiles and planes.

Stratolaunch, in Mojave CA, successfully launched a Talon TA- test vehicle setting the stage for that hypersonic flight coming soon. Hyper-

sonic flight is hard for defeat in battle.

Many countries, having deferred purchases of military hardware are all scrambling to fill orders as soon as possible. For example, the UK re-upped its order for 14 MG-47G Block II Chinook heavy-lift helicopters — an order negotiated three years ago.

Korea Aerospace has finally proved and tested its air-to-air refueling tanker, so it can remain in the sky, ready without the need to land if N. Korea starts an offensive action.

DARPA is upping funding for a reusable hypersonic prototype. They only do that after they have passed early tests in a non-reusable type (probably already in production). Hypersonic, in this case, means "Mach 5+."

And one last item as reported: The USAF classified missile procurement for 2025 will be increased by 6%, and in 2026 by 20%, and in 2027 by 37%. So 2024, for just this one program, now spending over \$500,000,000 will go to 530,000,000+ in 2025, 636,000,000+ in 2026, and 871,320,000+ in 2027. Missiles are more of an offensive than a defensive weapon.

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

OUR TOWNS



PHOTOS BY JOHN COSTON

## Farmers Market April Dates

The Millerton Farmers Market at the Methodist Church on Dutchess Avenue saw a steady stream of customers on Saturday, April 13. The market, sponsored by the Northeast Community Center, will be open Saturday, April 20 (Earth Day) and on April 27. Above, produce from the Moon in the Pond farm in Sheffield, Mass. Below, Kamini Oppenheimer from Love Feast served up her popular Indian takeout.



# NYC man faces sex charges involving Dutchess County minor

An investigation by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office has led to the arrest of a 19-year old New York City man on charges involving sex acts performed by a minor over the internet.

Daniel N. Montesdeoca was taken into custody on Thursday, April 11 following a detective bureau investigation.

Montesdeoca is accused of

inducing a child less than 17 years old to perform sexual acts over the internet. Mr. Montesdeoca has been charged with the use of a child in a sexual performance (felony), promoting an obscene sexual performance by a child (felony), and criminal contempt in the 2nd degree (misd).

Montesdeoca was arraigned before the Town of

Amenia Court and remanded to the Dutchess County Justice and Transition Center in lieu of \$20,000 cash or \$40,000 bond.

If anyone has any information about this case or similar incidents involving Montesdeoca they are urged to contact Detective Cohen at 845-486-3827 or [jcohen@dutchessny.gov](mailto:jcohen@dutchessny.gov).

## Stanford Road to be closed for bridge project on May 1

The Stanford Road bridge over the east branch of the Wappinger Creek in Millbrook will be replaced by a new wider bridge, necessitating closure of Stanford Road for the summer months. The Dutchess County Department of Public Works is in charge of the

project.

Work is scheduled to begin around the week of May 1. Stanford Road will be closed to through traffic during construction and a detour posted that will begin near Dineen Road. Completion of construction is expected by this fall.

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

### Remember

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Salisbury's Conservation Commission this year is continuing to identify and catalog the numerous vernal pools across our township. The point is to be aware of these sites in order to protect them from development pressures. The research shows that the pools as well as the land surrounding them are critical to the amphibians who use them to breed. These amphibians, such as peepers, wood frogs and salamanders, use the pool for a short time in the spring but spend the rest of the year in the forest or wetlands that are surrounding and if either habitat is disturbed, the consequences are dire for their populations. A wonderful primer to become more aware of this issue is published by Maine Audubon, entitled *Best Practices - Pool Breeding Amphibians in Residential and Commercial Developments in the Northeastern United States*.

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# Spring Cleanup

Spring has arrived and that means it's time to tackle some of the many projects we've added to our lists throughout the winter. Whether you need landscaping, gardening, remodeling, building, general spring cleanup or ongoing maintenance, you can count on each of the businesses on this page to assist from start to finish. And when you call, let them know you saw their ad in *your* community weekly newspapers, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News.

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**BILL** *Continued from Page A1*

numbered years, into law last December. It was the latest version of a bill that has been in the works since January 2023; earlier versions have been brought in nearly every session since at least 2013.

"Aligning local elections with general elections has been proven to be one of the single most effective ways to not only reduce the turnout gaps by race and age, but also to improve governance outcomes so that local governments are better reflective of the will of their constituents," said Harvard Law School's Election Law Clinic in a statement applauding the measure.

At the signing, Hochul noted that the statewide turnout in the 2020 election was 64% of registered voters, compared to 25% for local elections in 2021.

2020 was a presidential election, so a comparison to the state, local and gubernatorial elections of 2022, which had a 43% turnout, is also worth noting — as is the 18% percent statewide voter turnout in 2023 local elections.

"When elections are held in odd-numbered years, away from the traditional election cycle that voters are most familiar with, the cost of participating in the democratic process is increased, particularly for voters who may have a difficult time arranging for time off of work and traveling to their polling site," explained the Governor's office in a statement. "By consolidating more elections in even-numbered years when most voters are already planning to participate in an election, this change will increase voter participation in important lo-

cal races."

In Dutchess County, voter turnout was 78% in 2020, but fell to 34% for elections held in 2021 and 2023. In addition to dramatically increasing voter turnout for municipal and local elections, it would also save local taxpayers money, proponents have noted.

At the signing, Gov. Hochul underscored the point, saying, "Every eligible New Yorker deserves the right to participate in the democratic process without unnecessary barriers. By signing this legislation, we are taking a significant step towards expanding access to the ballot box and promoting a more inclusive democracy."

The law consolidates all elections into even years, though legislators are working on an amendment to the state constitution that would make that possible. Until then, all local elections in New York City and all elections for city and village positions, school board seats, judges, county sheriffs, clerks and district attorneys will continue to take place on odd-numbered years.

**Dutchess County's challenge**

By moving certain elections to even-numbered years, the new law amended the town law, the village law, the county law, and the municipal home rule law of several constituencies, including the Dutchess County charter, which specifically states that local elections must take place during odd-numbered years.

"The charter, which was enacted by the residents of the county, specifically states that elections for county offices are

to be held in odd-numbered years," said Majority Leader Deirdre Houston (R-District 25), who represents Amenia, Millbrook, Washington and Pleasant Valley. "New York State decided to unilaterally change the mode of our elections without so much as consulting the voters of Dutchess County."

"I made it clear the day I became chairman that we would fight this unconstitutional power grab with any available measure," said Dutchess County Legislature Chairman Will Truitt (R-Hyde Park). "Every member of the legislature swore an oath at our Organizational Meeting in January to uphold the county charter. We simply cannot sit idly by as the state attempts to circumvent the very charter that we all swore to uphold."

Other proponents of the lawsuit have said that the new law would actually cost more money, requiring the hiring of more election staff on even-numbered years, rather than saving money longterm by decreasing staffing and other needs on odd-numbered years. They have also voiced concerns that if local elections are held in even-numbered years, national issues and national partisanship will overshadow local concerns. In general, however, statements explaining the suit have mostly adhered to concerns about "home rule."

Describing the changes as "monumental," Houston said, "in my view, [the new law] represents a blatant disregard for the people of Dutchess County and their desire for local control."

continued advocacy strategies to promote passage of the bipartisan PBM legislation.

One bill would bring transparency to Medicaid drug pricing with annual savings of \$1 billion. Another would remove PBMs from negotiating CMS services, and the third would provide for greater transparency, oversight and enforcement through the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Independent pharmacies throughout the area have expressed their concern about the issue and joined in the hope that the current efforts toward passing legislation will be successful.

Meanwhile, local and area pharmacists remain in the balance, squeezed by the PBM system and locked out of the price negotiation process. During an interview, Mahmood noted that there is not one independent community pharmacy left open in Columbia County.

"It's not fair," he said.

Proponents of the law have accused the county's Republican legislators of being politically motivated, and say that they are acting to protect the party's edge in local elections, which could be at risk if voter turnout increased.

"This is a waste of money. The County budget is extremely tight due to years of budget mismanagement, and there are more important needs in our community that must be addressed first," said Chris Drago (D - District 19), who represents North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan and Red Hook.

"We need to be investing in vital needs for our communi-

ty: EMS, transportation, mental health and keeping Cornell Cooperative Extension's door open so they can continue to support agriculture, and environmental and Youth Services for our community."

He continued: "This is the first major issue that this legislative body has taken up since we took office, and it's about limiting voter turnout." He added, "It's embarrassing."

Onondaga and Nassau Counties have also filed challenges, listing similar concerns; the Oneida County legislature has also authorized a potential lawsuit. All three legislatures have a Republican majority.

Dutchess County's budget appropriation of \$100,000 is expected to be enacted by County Executive Sue Serino.

If the law survives challenges by Dutchess and other counties, which it is expected to do, officials elected after Jan. 1, 2025 will serve shortened terms.

Dutchess County legislators, who typically serve two-year terms and were last elected in November, will run for re-election in 2025, but serve terms concluding in 2026. The next election for Dutchess County executive, normally a four-year position, would take place in 2027, then again in 2030.

**HARVEST** *Continued from Page A1*

one that follows. Farmers get to know the preferences of our crops well, and we look for signs that the ground is ready for each one's unique needs — when dandelions bloom, it usually means the soil is warm enough to plant potatoes; pea seeds can go in when daffodils and forsythia are in full display; the warmer season crops will go in when there is not longer a single frost in sight on the forecast.

On warm sunny days, customers ask us whether we're harvesting yet and I don't blame them — there is so much vibrance in the seventy-degree spring air. But the season keeps whipping around to days of rain with temperatures hovering around freezing, and we all try to find solace in the few crocuses adapted to these fickle conditions. Growing produce in a climate as seasonal as ours requires farmers to stay poised like a cat leaning into its haunches — ready for the moment when spring really gains momentum.

At Adamah Farm in Falls Village, Conn., we've been heating a greenhouse since March to start seedlings. Having big, healthy transplants to put in the ground when the weather settles is an important season extension method. It is a bit like time travel to go in there and see pepper plants putting on leaves and tomato seeds sprouting. The endeavor of coaxing them through this season's volatility has required an unwavering belief that the pot will, eventually, boil.

We germinate seeds on heat mats while days of gray skies prevent the passive solar warmth that otherwise makes a greenhouse so valuable. When the power went out on Johnson Road two weeks ago, the crew spent a very exciting hour shuttling plants from the greenhouse into an onsite building with a generator through a starless evening of sleet and high wind. When our CSA members, who sign up for regular boxes of pro-



PHOTO BY JANNA SILLER

**Members of the winter crew at Adamah Farm, Imogen Lubin, Miki Benson, and Denean Ritchie, enjoy some signs of resilience through this season's volatile weather — a leek that managed to survive the winter and a six-leaf clover!**

duce this season, are grilling eggplant for a July barbecue with coleslaw and fresh herbs, it will be thanks to our winter crew who cared so doggedly for the young plants.

Farmers in our region are bringing this spirit of resilience and nimble adaptation in responding to a changing climate. Here at Adamah, that means watching with curiosity as our fields emerge from winter a bit differently than most springs after a milder than average winter — ponds that area residents have skated on for generations remained unfrozen and there were some balmy February days that had us all in t-shirts.

Records from Cornell University's Northeast Regional Climate Center echo what we've been experiencing in real time — the region had a warmer than average winter again, with average temperatures ranging up to 8 degrees warmer depending on location.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently updated its "Hardiness Zone Map," the guidance growers use to understand which plants are well adapted to their climate. Our region shifted one zone warmer, and we are seeing the

effects on our vegetable fields here in Falls Village.

Every fall, we plant cover crops at Adamah — plants that regenerate the soil over winter. We plant some that are meant to survive the winter and keep growing in spring to hold the soil in place, build life-giving biomass in the soil, and provide habitat for beneficial organisms on the farm. Others are plants not adapted to survive sustained cold, so they contribute their benefits in the early winter and then die back and become mulch for spring crops. This winter, many of those cover crops that were meant to "winter-kill" survived, and we've been recalibrating our field plans to adapt.

Staying agile enough to work within the constraints and opportunities provided by the seasons is part of what keeps farming exciting year to year. Whether they are milking cows, planting trees, or growing salad greens, your local farmers generally could do with a few less curve balls than we've had of late.

To learn more about Adamah Farm or join the vegetable CSA, a subscription program for fresh, organic produce, go to [fvcsa.adamah.org](http://fvcsa.adamah.org).

**PBM** *Continued from Page A1*

Pharmacy, commenting on Monday, April 8 about the local business and its pharmacist. "He's done a lot for this town," she said.

Pharmacist at the Pine Plains Pharmacy since 1989, and owner of the historic corner drug store since 2006, Nasir Mahmood has witnessed the financial squeeze on area pharmacies as some have been forced to close their doors, victims of the PBM system.

It is the PBMs that pre-determine how much each drug covered under the plan should cost, and this is the amount it reimburses all pharmacies except the large-chain ones they own. Often the reimbursement rates are well below the cost of the drug, putting pharmacies in the position of having to fill a prescription at a loss.

"We cannot wait for PBM reform," said Mahmood on Wednesday, March 27, describing the current tenuous status of bipartisan federal legislation awaiting vote in Washington, D.C.

Having served as president of the PSSNY for two years in 2008-09 and having finished a two-year term as chairman of the PSSNY Board in March, Mahmood now continues as a member of that board. He also serves on the National Legislative Committee within the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) working with other pharmacists' professional organizations to promote new legislation to place limits on PBMs and create an equitable structure of reform and accountability.

**Legislating reform**

Bipartisan bills, which have passed out of committee and are awaiting a floor vote, would provide strict regulation and transparency to the work of the PBMs, improve patient access and lower costs,

Mahmood said. The NCPA has achieved some recent success in the long process of bringing bills to the floor for a vote.

A series of Senate and House bills received bipartisan support and convincing vote margins as they emerged from committees. With passage, the various pieces of legislation would bring lower drug costs, greater transparency in the process, require the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to define their contract terms and require PBMs to operate with greater transparency.

The legislation was attached to the government funding package that was passed in late March to avoid a government shutdown, but Mahmood said that at the last minute the PBM bills were stripped out of the package.

Continuing their commitment to PBM reform, however, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Ranking Member Mike Crapo (R-ID) pledged to press on with efforts to enact the legislation before the end of this congressional year.

The NCPA further reported that on Friday, March 22, a bipartisan group of 21 senators and 51 house representatives signed a letter to their respective leadership, asking for immediate action on PBM reform measures.

Advocacy groups are actively pursuing passage of the legislation, and a conference drawing pharmacists from across the U.S. to the national headquarters of the NCPA in Alexandria, Virginia, will include meetings on the subject.

"We've come a long way with continued advocacy year after year," Mahmood said, contemplating his participation in the upcoming meeting. Senators and representatives will be reporting to the conference and encouraging

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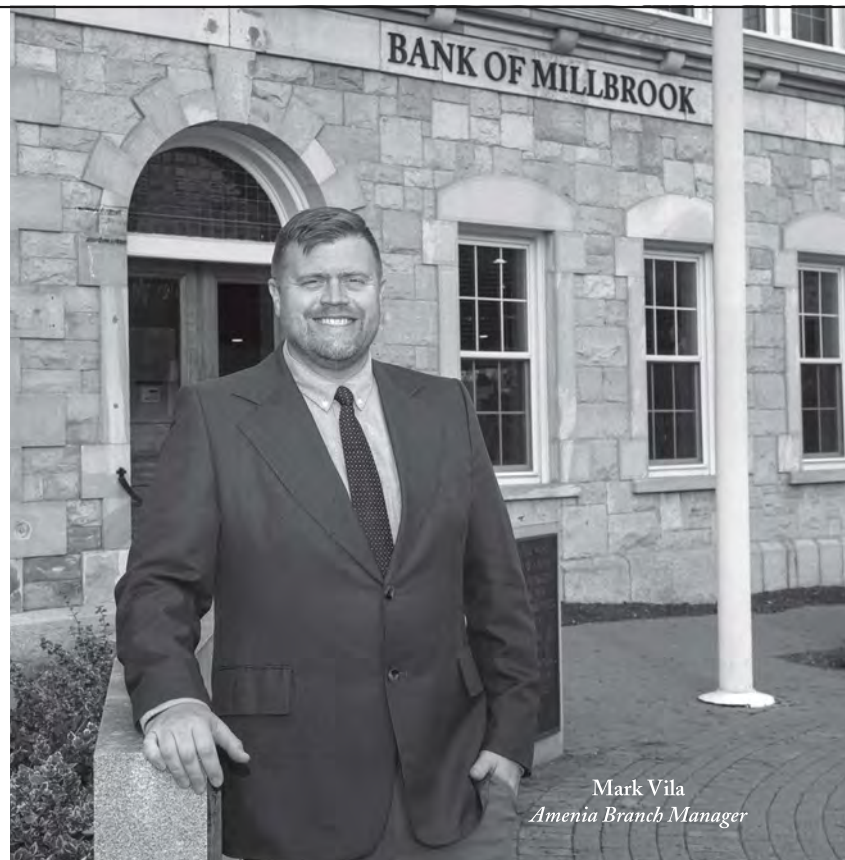
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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment



PHOTO COURTESY OF CORNWALL LIBRARY

Above, "Flowers," and below, "Cow," both by the late artist and writer Joelle Sander.

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN

## The artistic life of Joelle Sander

The Cornwall Library unveiled its latest art exhibition, "Live It Up!," showcasing the work of the late West Cornwall resident Joelle Sander on Saturday, April 13. The twenty works on canvas on display were curated in partnership with the library with the help of her son, Jason Sander, from the collection of paintings she left behind to him. Clearly enamored with nature in all its seasons, Sander, who split time between her home in New York City and her country house in Litchfield County, took inspiration from the distinctive white bark trunks of the area's many birch trees, the swirling snow of Connecticut's wintery woods, and even the scenic view of the Audubon in Sharon. The sole painting to depict fauna is a melancholy near-abstract outline of a cow, rootless in a miasma haze of plum and

Persian blue paint. Her most prominently displayed painting, "Flowers," effectively builds up layers of paint so that her flurry of petals takes on a three-dimensional texture in their rough application, reminiscent of another Cornwall artist, Don Bracken.

Sander's first book, "The Family: The Evolution of Our Oldest Human Institution," was published in 1978 while she worked as an instructor with the Institute of Children's Literature. She described the history book, which took young readers on a journey of the evolving family unit from the Ice Age to the 1970s, as a kind of anthropological tour. "Kids are exposed to so many families in this culture," she told The Lakeville Journal at the time. "I felt the book would give them a perspective on families in other cultures, both historical and contempo-



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

rary. In 1992, The Lakeville Journal reviewed another of her published works, "Before Their Time: Four Generations of Teenage Mothers," which Sander wrote as a faculty member at Sarah Lawrence in Westchester County, N.Y., where she served as the associate director of The Center for Continuing Education and taught modern American poetry. She was also a volunteer at a New York YMCA. At this YMCA, she met a young single mother named Leticia, whose trauma,

struggles and hopes for the future inspired Sander to share Leticia's story as told through the personal histories of the women who had come before her. Lakeville Journal writer Richard O'Connor called the book's psychological exploration of cyclical poverty both "wonderful and disturbing."

Her first slim volume of poetry, "Margins of Light" was available for attendees of the show to read while they examined Sanders' paintings, a dual experience to take in the twin passions of her lengthy artistic career.

"Live It Up!" will be on view at The Cornwall Library through Saturday, May 18.



PHOTO PROVIDED



PHOTO BY ZIVAR AMRAMI

Lala Tamar, left, and Rabbi Zach Fredman.

LIFESTYLE: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

## A Seder to savor in Sheffield

On April 23, Race Brook Lodge in Sheffield will host "Feast of Mystics," a Passover Seder that promises to provide ecstasy for the senses.

"The Feast of Mystics" was a title we used for events back when I was running The New Shul," said Rabbi Zach Fredman of his time at the independent creative community in the West Village in New York City.

He has since relocated with his family to Germantown and founded Temenos, "a home for ritual and creativity that honors the wild humanity of all people," as the website explains (temenosnyc.com). At these feasts, Fredman and his brother, a chef, would create a menu to highlight the symbolism and mythology of certain Jewish holidays.

"People loved it," explained Fredman. "It's kind of a two-pronged approach, a way to engage and digest symbolism through the belly." The Seder (which means "order" in Hebrew) at Race Brook will be such an immersive experience: a four-course meal conducted in four parts, echoing the four cups of wine consumed during the ceremony.

Alex Harvey, arts programmer at Race Brook, and his wife, Sophia Akilova, have known Rabbi Fredman through various communities and music circles for many years. After moving to the Hudson Valley from Brooklyn, Akilova was "looking everywhere


for some kind of Jewish community that was dynamic. There's plenty of progressive Jewish communities," Harvey continued, "but she was looking for something way more particular, a community that is rediscovering active prayer, actually somatic spirituality."

Fredman spoke of Passover as an opportunity to reconnect with tradition while investigating present day reality through the core liberatory framework of the holiday. He said, "One of the major successes in Judaism is that the tradition was conceived as living. There's the written material that's passed on, that's unchanging, but it's always accompanied by oral teachings, teacher to student, teacher to student. And so there is a sense that tradition is alive and dependent on people making it fresh, making it new."

The tradition will be made new once again with the addition of music at Race Brook by the powerful and virtuosic Duo Andalus with vocalist Lala Tamar. Tamar and Fredman, who is an incredibly accomplished musician as well, have been collaborating through Fredman's group Epichorus for many years. Fredman will join Duo Andalus throughout the evening and the following evening (April 24), Epichorus featuring Tamar and Yacouba Sissoko, who plays the African Kora, will perform.

There are four questions that are asked during a Passover Seder, traditionally by the youngest person at the table. One of those questions is: "Why is this night different from all other nights?" Much of the rest of the Seder is in response to this question. When asked this particular question, Rabbi Fredman offered, "It's been so overwhelming to watch the news cycle. It's been a year where Judaism, Jewish identity, Jewish ethics, all of these

Continued on next page



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**COMPASS**



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Andy Dobos led a group on a successful search for edible wild plants at Great Mountain Forest.

LIFESTYLE: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

# Foraging around in Falls Village

Andy Dobos of Forest Wolf Programs led a group around the perimeter of Great Mountain Forest's chestnut orchard on Undermountain Road in Falls Village on a chilly Saturday morning, April 13, in search of edible plants. He started with Queen Anne's Lace, also known as wild carrot. This was a good plant to start with because it's common and relatively easy to identify, he said. "Relatively" easy.

Dobos said when he was first learning about plant identification it took him a year to learn how to identify Queen Anne's Lace in all four seasons. "It took another year to be confident about it." Throughout the presentation, Dobos stressed caution in ingesting wild plants. He said most plants that are toxic to humans will be easy to identify by the taste. "Most toxic plants

taste really bad," he said cheerfully. "You're going to know." Except for mushrooms, where toxic varieties are harder to differentiate from edible varieties by taste. The rule of thumb: "Know what it is before you swallow." Walking with the group of about a dozen people, Dobos spotted and delivered impromptu lectures on mustard garlic and trout lily, passing samples around and

encouraging the participants to examine them closely without actually eating them. He had some advice for the group on sources of information about plants. He said he uses Peterson Field Guides, saying they are good for identifying plants, but the information on edibility is sparse. He also recommended Samuel Thayer's "Forager's Harvest" and "Nature's Garden."

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN

# Art scholarship now honors HVRHS teacher Warren Prindle

Legendary American artist Jasper Johns, perhaps best known for his encaustic depictions of the U.S. flag, formed the Foundation for Contemporary Arts in 1963, operating the volunteer-run foundation in his New York City artist studio with the help of his co-founder, the late American composer and music theorist John Cage. Although Johns stepped down from his chair position in 2015, today the Foundation for Community Arts continues its pledge to sponsor emerging artists, with one of its exemplary honors being an \$80 thousand dollar scholarship given to a graduating senior from Housatonic Valley Regional High School who is continuing his or her visual arts education on a college level. The award, first established in 2004, is distributed in annual amounts of \$20,000 for four years of university education.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Warren Prindle

In 2024, the Contemporary Visual Arts Scholarship was renamed the Warren Prindle Arts Scholarship. A longtime art educator and mentor to young artists at HVRHS, Prindle announced that he will be retiring from teaching at the end of the 2023-24 school year. Recently in 2022, Prindle helped establish the school's new Kearcher-Monsell Gallery in the library and recruited a team of student interns to help curate and exhibit shows of both student and community-based professional artists. One of Kearcher-Monsell's early exhibitions featured the work of Theda Galvin, who was later announced as the 2023 winner of the founda-

tion's \$80,000 scholarship. Prindle has also championed the continuation of the annual Blue and Gold juried student art show, which invites the public to both view and purchase student work in multiple mediums, including painting, photography, and sculpture. HVRHS students who have received the scholarship from the Foundation for Community Arts have continued their education at notable institutions like Pratt Institute, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Parsons School of Design at The New School, Florence Academy of Art in Rome, The Fashion Institute of Technology, San Francisco Art Institute, Tisch School of the Arts at New York University, The Rhode Island School of Design, and The Savannah College of Art and Design. HVRHS students can receive application forms for the scholarship from their teachers or counselors and the winner will be announced shortly before the end of the school year. The deadline for the scholarship application process has been extended to April 24.



PHOTO BY MAUD DOYLE

## Songs for Smiles

Musicians from The Hotchkiss School raised \$1,000 for Corner Food Pantry of Lakeville April 14. Bluenotes, who introduced themselves as Hotchkiss's "best-looking, best-sounding and only all-male a cappella group," opened the program at the Salisbury Town Grove with "Life Could Be a Dream." Left to right: Gunn Pongsivapai, Hayden Scott, Anthony St. Clair, Alejandro Zheng, Tyler Rosenblum, Ethan Choi, Philip Lee.

## ...Seder

Continued from previous page

things are completely different from what we thought they were even a year ago." Fredman went on to speak about the fracturing that is occurring within the Jewish community and offered, "One of the functions of ritual, especially a ritual like this one, is to create space for people to have the conversations that we need to have." Creating a safe container for difference and for questioning is a tall order and one that Fredman meets with humility and curiosity. Of the Passover Seder he shared, "I'm hoping that in addition to the elements of food, and music, and teachings that there's also space for people to be vulnerable and sift through some other profound experiences, painful experiences of the last six months and then, you know,

investigate, turn things over and find something about themselves that helps us make sense of a disorienting moment." Reservations for Feast of Mystics, and The Epichorus featuring Yacouba Sissoko and Lala Tamar can be made at rblodge.com.

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Donald Polk III has been selling his art for two years, and he's only in seventh grade.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

ART: RILEY KLEIN

## Young painter presents works

At just 13 years old, Donald Polk III has compiled a series of paintings for his first solo show at National Iron Bank in Cornwall Bridge.

Polk, a seventh grade Cornwall Consolidated School student, finds inspiration in nature, often depicting bright and captivating landscapes in his work. Some of his paintings were made at the Region One ArtGarage while others were done in his West Cornwall home.

Polk said he began selling art "two years ago at the farmer's market" and was excited to present his work in the bank. Polk also sells lemonade and iced tea at the

Cornwall Co-op Farmer's Market and plans to add baked goods to the menu this season.

Several of Polk's classmates attended the April 12 opening reception at National Iron Bank. His lemonade and iced tea was served, along with a sample of baked goods.

In no time, "sold" stickers began appearing beneath several paintings. When asked how it felt to see his art being sold, Polk simply responded "it's fun." By the end of the opening reception, nine pieces had sold.

Polk's art ranges in price from \$25 to \$75 and will be on display at the bank through the end of April.

## Crescendo presents "Trial by Jury" one-act operetta

Crescendo concludes its 20th anniversary season with two semi-staged performances of light opera compositions by the famous English librettist/composer duo: Sir W.S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan.

Their works feature intentionally absurd plots in which authority and the rigid norms of society are cleverly made fun of, as the music combines elements of the parlor ballad, Victorian church music, and the operas of Donizetti, Bellini, and Verdi.

The program showcases some of their most beloved choral numbers, and a few of the most famous solo roles from several of their fourteen operettas, loosely tied together by brief narration, and the complete one-act operetta Trial by Jury.

The Crescendo chamber chorus of 18 amateur and 12 professional singers is joined by soloists and actors from New York City to Europe who specialize in this genre.

The production is co-directed by John-Arthur Miller, an experi-

enced Gilbert & Sullivan performer and long-time soloist and section leader at Crescendo, together with Crescendo's founding artistic director, Christine Gevert.

These concerts have been made possible in part with support from funding provided by the Connecticut State Department of Economic and Community Development/Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) from the Connecticut State Legislature.

There will only be two performances: on Saturday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m. at Trinity Church, 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lakeville, CT, and on Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 p.m. at Saint James Place, 352 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA. Tickets are \$40 (general seating), \$75 (preferred seating), and \$10 (youth under 18 years).

Purchase your tickets online at [www.crescendomusic.org](http://www.crescendomusic.org). A limited number of tickets will be available to be sold at the door, starting 45 minutes before each performance.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Alexis Fedorjaczenco

POETRY: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

## Verses and visions

The David M. Hunt Library celebrated National Poetry Month Saturday, April 13 with a program of readings.

Participants read their own work or that of others.

Alexis Fedorjaczenco did a little of both, using the "cut-up" method of parsing other writers' words, literally cutting the material up, and then reassembling it, with often surprising results.

On this occasion she used a little Emily Dickinson, an Audubon book about Massachusetts, and New York Times articles about fires in

Holyoke, Mass.

She said she found a surprisingly large number of Times pieces about Holyoke conflagrations, going back to the mid-19th century and petering out in the 1970s.

David Capellero of Millerton, who has been published by CAPS (Calling All Poets), read his pithy original pieces.

Sarah Tames opened the proceedings with three of her own works, including the wry "Sympathy of Woe."

Other participants included Barbara Deinhardt, Jerry Stanton, Fedora Maier, Robert Cronin, Betsy Sprague and Lonnie Carter.



PHOTO COURTESY NE-MILLERTON CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY

The Was-Eckstrom family from Wassaic won the 2023 Earth Day poster raffle at the Millerton-North East Earth Day celebration. Another composer will be awarded to the winner of this year's raffle at the Amenia Town Hall on April 20, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

## 2024 Earth Day activities set for Norfolk

The Norfolk Earth Forum is a collaborative initiative designed to enlighten and inspire participants toward improved care of our planet. The Earth Forum is convened by Church of Christ, Congregational (UCC), Norfolk, and co-hosted with Aton Forest, Botelle School, Great Mountain Forest, the Norfolk Conservation Commission, the Norfolk Land Trust, and the Norfolk Library. Through the generosity of the hosts, all events are free and open to the public.

Events  
April 20, 10 a.m. - "Books and Boots" Hike and Talk - Hike the Billings Trail while discussing Ben Goldfarb's book, Crossings. Meet at the trailhead (0.4 miles east of the intersection of Grantville and Winchester roads).

April 20, 2 p.m. - "Connecting Community and Nature" Lecture - Rebecca Henson of the Rachel Carson Springsong

Museum in MD describes Rachel Carson's influence on the modern environmental movement. Meet in Battell Chapel on the Green, 12 Litchfield Rd.

April 21, 11 a.m. - Children's Event: "Help the Pollinators" - Children of all ages may learn about pollinator pathways, start seedlings to bring home, and craft a garden steppingstone.

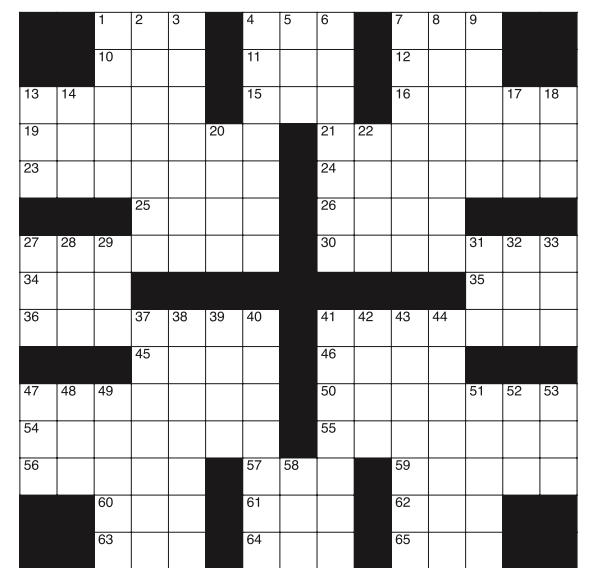
Meet in Battell Chapel, 12 Litchfield Rd.

April 21, 2 p.m. - "A Sense of Wonder" - Stage, film, and television actress Kaiulani Lee presents a one-person play (with a PG-13 rating and parental guidance advised) based on the life and writings of Rachel Carson. Donations will be received. Meet at Botelle School, 128 Greenwood Road East.

## Brain Teasers

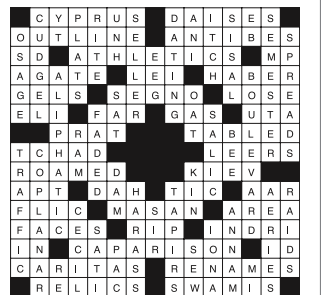
### CLUES ACROSS

- Midway between south and southeast
- For each
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Photographs
- They \_\_\_
- It's important in respiration (abbr.)
- Monetary unit
- Cool!
- A son of Jacob
- Cut off
- Devour
- Agent of one's downfall
- Best
- Network of nerves
- Partner to "oohs"
- Origins
- Sewing utensil
- Alias
- Swiss river
- Greek mythological figure
- Type of whiskey
- Lay to rest
- "Rule, Britannia" composer
- Select jury
- Feeling
- Action regarded as morally wrong
- Makes angry
- Act incorrectly
- Defensive nuclear weapon
- Class of escort aircraft carrier
- To what degree
- Buzzing insect
- The human foot
- "The Leftovers" actress Dowd
- A place to stay
- Sun up in New York

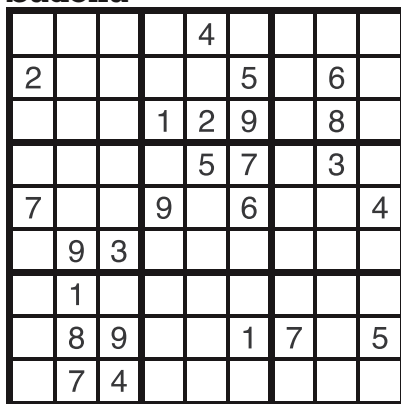


- Hebrew prophet
- Supporter
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Liberty Mutual mascot
- Georgia rockers
- A place where building is done
- Large, deep-bodied fish
- Clothing retailer
- Supplement with difficulty
- Annoy constantly
- Founder of Babism
- Indigenous person in parts of Asia
- Sea eagle
- Leave behind
- Time of day
- Colorless crystalline compound
- They lay out course requirements
- A diamond has three
- Algerian coastal city
- Remove cover
- Rechristened
- Distinctive practice
- Defunct phone company
- Turkish officer of high rank
- Eliminate from the body
- Witness
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Founding Father

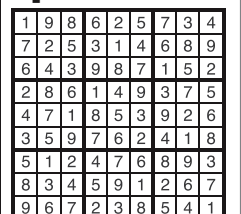
### April 11 Solution



### Sudoku



### April 11 Solution



Level: Intermediate



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# COMPASS 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

## APRIL 19

### Poetry Workshop with Sally Van Doren

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

On April 19, 2 to 4 p.m., join Sally Van Doren from for this intensive, immersive workshop designed to give writers the time they need to generate new work and hone in on whatever it is that begs to be brought to the page. Guided by prompts, we will dive deep and emerge transformed. Sally Van Doren is the author of four books of poetry and a winner of the Walt Whitman prize. Registration is required. Please visit www.scovillelibrary.org.

## APRIL 20

### Dutchess County Spring Sheep and Wool Farm Tour

Dutchess County, N.Y.

On April 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Dutchess County Sheep & Wool Growers Association presents its spring farm tour, which is the perfect chance to see the animals, shop the farm stores and see the beautiful countryside of the Hudson Valley. Please leave your pets at home and remember to wear farm-friendly shoes to explore these beautiful farms across Dutchess County including Point of View Farm at 41 Ludlow Woods Road in Standfordville, N.Y. and Black Sheep Hill Farm at 1891 Route 83 in Pine Plains, N.Y.

Free and open to the public.

To learn more, contact dcswgmembership@gmail.com

### All Things Trinity Art/Craft/Book Sale

Walker Hall, 484 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville, Conn.

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of Trinity Episcopal Church Lime Rock there will be an art/craft/book sale held on April 20 and April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day and April 27 and April 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. Trinity parishioners will be selling original art, photographs, prints, cards, wood working, jewelry and books by Trinity authors and more will be for sale. The sale will take place in Walker Hall at the church 484 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville, Conn.

## Film Screening

Triplex Cinema, 70 Railroad St., Great Barrington, Mass. thetriplex.org

Noted Berkshire County actor David Rasche will visit the Triplex Cinema April 20 to screen and discuss the satirical black comedy "In the Loop." Written and directed by Armando Iannucci ("Veep") "In the Loop" is a wicked satire of British-American politics and the Iraq Invasion. The film was nominated for Best Adapted Screenplay at the 82nd Academy Awards in 2009.

## Chicken Casserole Dinner

Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordsville, N.Y.

On Saturday, April 20 at 5 p.m. Stanford Grange #808 will be offering a take-out dinner of Chicken/Rice/Broccoli/Cheese Casserole, Carrot Salad, and Lemon Poke Cake for dessert. Donation is \$17 per dinner. The dinner will be take out only. Drive up to the Grange Hall back door, pay for your dinner, get your dinner through your car window, and take it home to enjoy! For reservations, contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

## The Amazing World of Local Wild Mushrooms with David Paton

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

On Saturday, April 20, 4 to 5:30 p.m., join Lakeville resident and legendary forager David Paton for a talk on the amazing world of wild fungi, featuring a wide variety of mushrooms that reside locally, including species that are beautiful, edible, medicinal, and even deadly. Learn why the "foolproof five" edible fungi are far from foolproof. Registration is required. Please visit www.scovillelibrary.org.

## APRIL 21

### Design in Focus

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

Free Sunday events at Hotchkiss Library of Sharon continue April 21 at 4 p.m. with Design in Focus, a lecture series about design. Design historian Abbey Nova will delve into the fascinating world of 19th-century America, a time when a burgeoning middle class began to acquire and display silver objects as symbols of wealth and status.

Nova will explore how an increased demand for silver led to one of the most productive and innovative periods of American silver production. Please register at: hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/12148766.

## Film Screening

Triplex Cinema, 70 Railroad St., Great Barrington, Mass. thetriplex.org

Berkshire-based actress Karen Allen will join the Triplex for a screening of the award-winning film "A Stage of Twilight," a love story set in the final chapter of the lives of a married couple. Allen stars along with veteran actor William Sadler. Tickets for this special event are available at the Triplex website (thetripex.org) or at the Triplex box office.

## APRIL 22

### Foil Fencing

Cornwall Consolidated School, 5 Cream Hill Road, West Cornwall, Conn.

Cornwall Park and Recreation invites children and adults to learn the most beautiful and complicated weapon in Olympic fencing called the Foil. One hour classes are available at CCS starting Monday, April 22. The cost is \$125 for four sessions. Register on www.cornwallparkrec.org

## APRIL 26

### Choreography on the Edge at the Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts

Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts, 957 NY Route 82, Ancram N.Y.

Choreography on the Edge will be performed on Friday and Saturday, April 26 and 27 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 28 at 3 p.m. at the Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts, 957 NY Route 82, Ancram NY.

For more information, contact Zack Jacobs at (845) 453 - 8673,

ChoreographyontheEdge@gmail.com or zjlights@gmail.com.

## MAY 2

### National Day of Prayer

Salisbury Veterans Monument, 27 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

Since 1952, all U.S. presidents have proclaimed the first Thursday of May to be a National Day of Prayer. All are invited to the 73rd celebration of the National Day of Prayer

at 6 p.m. on May 2 next to the war memorials at the Salisbury Town Hall. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held across the street in the Congregational Church. Members of the town will offer prayers for government, schools, businesses, arts/media, churches, families, military/veterans, as well as fire, police, and emergency responders.

## MAY 11

### Art Show

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

On Saturday, May 11 from 4 to 6 p.m., the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village (CT) will host an opening reception for A Star Danced: The Paintings of Mary Anne Carley and Theresa Kenny. The exhibition features the work of two Sharon-based painters who happen to be mother and daughter. Mary Anne Carley uses a multitude of media in her abstract and impressionist paintings and monoprints including acrylic, watercolor, and ink. The exhibition will be on display at the library during operating hours through June 7.

## JUNE 2

### The 2024 4-H A-Fair To Remember

Wilcox Memorial Park, Rt. 199, Stanfordsville, N.Y.

A 4-H Fair will be held on June 2, 2024 at Wilcox Memorial Park in Stanfordsville, N.Y. from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

## JUNE 29

### Real People, Real Stories by Ancram Center for the Arts

The Hilltop Barn at Roeliff Jansen Park, 9140 NY Route 22, Hillsdale N.Y.

Everyone has a story to tell. With each edition of Real People, local residents recount captivating tales that celebrate community and personal connection.

It's an audience favorite and mainstay in Ancram Center's seasonal programming. The RPRS approach involves a series of storytelling workshops. In these workshops, local residents develop and

shape their monologues with guidance from program director Paul Ricciardi. The results are an array of poignant, humorous, and captivating tales that celebrate community and personal connection.

Contact Paul Ricciardi at paul@ancramoperahouse.org. No prior storytelling experience needed; each storyteller receives 5-6 hours of individual training and rehearsal time to craft a compelling narrative and to hone the telling of their story.

This event will take place at 7:30 pm on June 29.

## ONGOING

### Art Show

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

"Spring Forth," an art show of paintings by Lynn Lena Curtis and works in mixed media by Lisa Keskinen, is on view at the Parish House of the United Church of Christ in Cornwall.

### Live It Up!

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

Cornwall Library presents "Live It Up!," a selection of bold, vivid landscape and abstract works by artist Joelle Sander (1942-2023) that fully justify the name of the show. Her joyful use of color was last on view at the library in February 2018, in her aptly named exhibit Comfort Me with Color. The exhibit will be on view through May 18.

### Art by Deborah Hanson Greene

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

Watercolors by Deborah Hanson Greene will be on display at the library during the month of April. A resident of the Berkshires, Greene paints primarily still-life studies, and to a lesser extent, landscapes à plein air. Her paintings have been accepted into juried exhibitions at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, VA, and the Maryland Art League in Annapolis. Work was featured in two Annapolis galleries and

various coffeehouses and cafés in Annapolis and Baltimore. Since returning to her childhood home in rural western Massachusetts, where she lives and works, she has exhibited at the Berkshire Co-op Market, The Marketplace Café, The Sheffield Collection, and Real Gustavian.

## Art Exhibition

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

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.

## Parent and Child Book Group

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

Join a Parent and Child Book Group at the Scoville Memorial Library for children in the third, fourth and fifth grades and their caregivers, hosted by Miss Rita. The group meets the first Friday of every month for reading and discussion. Register in advance to receive your own free copy of the book being read.

## Sunday Meditation

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

Begin your Sundays with a peaceful meditation session from 9 to 10 a.m., led by Kathy Voldstad on Zoom. For more information, visit scovillelibrary.org and click on the Events tab.

## Play Bridge!

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

On Wednesdays from 2 to 4 p.m., learn the basics or join in a game with more seasoned players. Play Bridge meets every weekly under the guidance of local Bridge guru John Dippel. For more information, visit scovillelibrary.org and click on the Events tab.

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# Elevating eco-conscious tourism in Litchfield

By **MIKE COBB**  
Special to The Millerton News

NORFOLK, Conn. — Manor House Inn has been awarded a Connecticut Green Lodging Certification, and will re-open just in time for Earth Day.

When Rachel Roth and her husband bought the 125+ year-old inn in February 2022, the property was in need of considerable repairs. They spent the first seven months balancing accommodating guests and updating the property. Roth's son worked hard restoring much of the interior space, patching walls, painting, and serving as property manager.

Roth's initial vision was to develop the property as a wedding venue, but resistance was met by neighbors who were concerned about how that business model would impact Norfolk's quiet ambiance.

"We received candid feed-

back from neighbors who expressed concern about the level of activity and traffic. Although I believe we could have executed a venue well with minimal disruption to the neighborhood, I want to build a business that is welcomed by the community," Roth said.

Other unforeseen events challenged her business. On Nov. 5, 2022, the biggest gas spill in Connecticut history happened right outside. A truck capsized on Route 44, spilling 8,200 gallons of gasoline into the earth and storm sewers, some of which converged on Roth's property.

Guests were evacuated, power was turned off and no one could tell when it would be safe to reopen. They were forced to close indefinitely with heavy excavation and drilling expected for months.

"Since purchasing the property in Feb of 2022, we've been

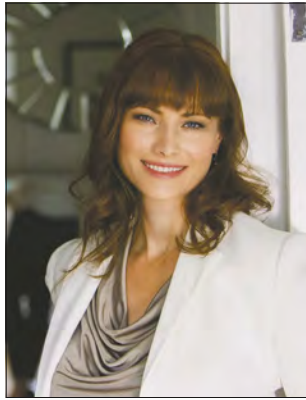


PHOTO BY KRISTEN JENSON

**Rachel Roth**

closed for more months than we've been open," said Roth.

Manor House reopened primarily on weekends, ensuring guests were aware of the situation. Roth closed again this past winter to address fire code updates. With Maple Avenue torn up in front of their property for environmental remediation, it has been a challenging journey for Roth that

has forced her to rethink her initial vision.

"We purchased the Manor House with the desire to restore it to a condition worthy of its history while building a business that contributes to the local economy and community life," said Roth.

She explained that before buying the inn, her initial business plan was based on the goals outlined in Norfolk's 2019 Plan for Conservation & Economic Development; specifically, to bring more young people into town by offering a wedding venue.

She aimed to support economic development (e.g. an upscale hospitality property brings guests who spend money in local shops and restaurants), and to maintain and enhance community assets (e.g. the Manor House is an architectural treasure; one that needs to be financially viable to

be well-maintained).

Now, Manor House has rebranded itself as an eco-friendly luxury boutique hotel with a commitment to sustainable hospitality practices. It has been awarded the Connecticut Green Lodging Certification by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP CT) and the Connecticut Office of Tourism, which offers a certification program for hotels.

"Regarding the Green Lodging Certification, it is a self-certification program set up by DEEP CT and based on accumulating points associated with environmental practices," said Roth.

Her new management company, Ray Hospitality Inc., prioritizes environmental stewardship efforts with green initiatives including energy-efficient technologies, eco-friendly amenities, green

cleaning products, water conservation measures, waste reduction programs, and locally sourced seasonal culinary offerings.

Energy-efficient LED lighting, low-flow water fixtures, and optional linen/room refreshes allow visitors to indulge in premium amenities while conserving precious resources. The inn has also embraced a "reduce, reuse, recycle and upcycle" culture, minimizing single-use plastics.

Sustainably sourced foods complement the eco-friendly accommodations. Guest chefs and food educators are welcomed onsite to offer specialized cooking classes, including an upcoming class on May 11 with Terry Walters from Clean Food, whose focus is on crafting nourishing, seasonal, plant-centric recipes.

For more, go to: [www.manorhouse-norfolk.com](http://www.manorhouse-norfolk.com)

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**Remember**

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*With thanks to those who serve.*

# Real Estate

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## REAL ESTATE

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## WANTED BOAT LAUNCH MONITORS

The Twin Lakes Association in partnership with the Town of Salisbury is hiring eight to ten individuals to monitor vessels entering and leaving the Twin Lakes at O'Hara's Marina. These are new positions. No experience is required. Candidates should be at least 18 years old, outgoing, confident, and comfortable conversing with strangers.

Job duties include greeting boaters and explaining and distributing educational materials related to the spread of invasive plants threatening the lakes. You would collect data and inspect boats and trailers for potential invasive weeds before they enter the water. Training will be provided.

The positions pay \$30/hour. Duty hours are Friday through Sunday and on holidays from May 24 through Sept. 2. Within that time frame, hours will be as flexible as possible. We expect to staff a morning shift 5:00 am - 12:00 noon and an evening shift 12:00 noon - 7:00 pm each workday. At times, you would be working alongside local volunteers.

For more information, or to apply, please email Adam Mayer at [adam@mayer@gmail.com](mailto:adam@mayer@gmail.com).

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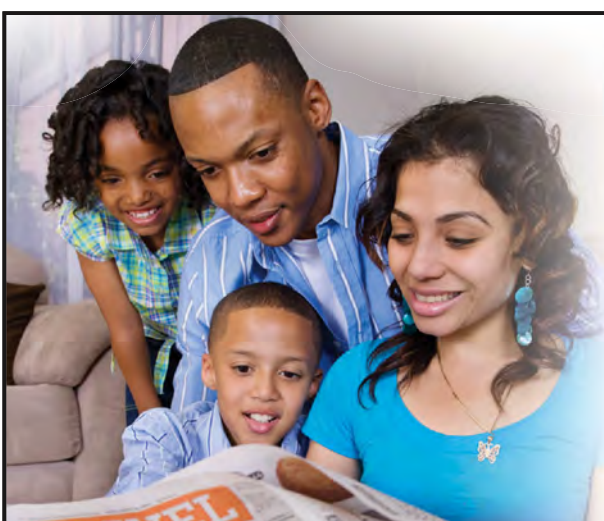
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