

See ad on page A7

OUR TOWNS

Amenia weighs allowing two-family homes in suburban residential zone

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Having heard some comment from residents uncomfortable with a change in zoning regulations to allow more than one family to occupy a home in a Suburban Residential (SR) zone, the Town Board continued discussion at its regular meeting on Thursday, May 16.

The Town Board had received a Housing Board request to forward the zone change proposal to the Planning Board for review.

Councilwoman Rosanna Hamm commented that the Planning Board has had many items on its agenda in recent months.

Housing Board chairman Charlie Miller reported that instances of more than one family in a home within SR zones already exist. As a result, those properties would fall into a category of being non-conforming to the zoning regulations.

Miller added that what is being considered is the possibility of allowing an apartment to be located within an existing home. He noted that residents' concern about high-rise apartment structures is answered by an existing restriction limiting dwellings to two stories in height.

"It's a really easy thing," Miller said, adding that the comprehensive plan calls for creation of affordable housing.

"SR is the only district

that does not allow for two-family homes," Miller said.

Town Supervisor Leo Blackman favored the zoning change, indicating that SR zoning surrounds the hamlet.

Councilwoman Hamm commented that on any property adding occupants, water and septic need to be a consideration. She added her concern about expansion before the town has received the water engineers' study results.

Councilman Paul Winters stressed the need for affordable housing, feeling that the zone change might provide housing opportunities for young workers and families.

"We have to decide to fix this problem," Blackman said. "There are already homes broken into two units, and people don't know it. The issue is not going away."

"We need more people; we need more kids," Winters agreed, adding about the change, "This will help us develop more housing closer to the center of town."

Part-time building inspector

Answering a workload need for a part-time building inspector, the Town Board voted unanimously to direct the Town Clerk to advertise to fill the position.

Planning board

Two vacancies on the Amenia Planning Board were filled by action of the Town Board. To fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Matt Deister, resident Ken

Topolsky was unanimously appointed to the term that will expire on Dec. 31, 2027.

The appointment of Jamie Vitiello to fill the unexpired term of Neil Kusnetz drew more debate and a divided vote. That term will expire Dec. 31, 2026. Vitiello's candidacy was brought forward for a vote after another resident received negative votes from councilmembers Brad Rebillard, Winters, and Nicole Ahearn, with scant discussion.

The votes to appoint Vitiello were cast by the same three council members, following discussion. Blackman and Hamm, in the minority, expressed concern about potential conflict of interest issues due to Vitiello's association with Silo Ridge interests and the Silo Ridge development projects currently before the Planning Board.

Hamm noted that the timing of the appointment might not be the best, mindful of the multiple applications currently being considered by the Planning Board.

"It's important to include Silo Ridge," Winters said of openings in local government. "Jamie is the best choice."

In a statement provided in the days following the meeting, Winters explained that his vote to seat Vitiello stems from a campaign promise where Winters said that he would assist in the effort to involve more residents in local government.



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

From left, on Saturday, May 18, at Bulk Trash Day, Kathleen Spahn, Kathy Chow, Henry Smedley, Supervisor Chris Kennan, Andrew Stayman, Chris Virtuoso. Not pictured are Deborah Maier, Matt Hartzog and Highway Superintendent Bob Stevens.

North East holds 'Bulk Trash Day'

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — Bulk Trash Day and a swap shop were held at the old town highway garage on South Center on Saturday, May 18, bringing in tires, refrigerators, mattresses and air-conditioning units.

The swap shop will be continued in the future.

Highway Supt. Bob Stevens operated a big front end loader for heavy stuff — like a large water heater — into separate containers for "landfill" and "metal recycling." Stevens smashed it down and topped it with the mattresses for transport to Welsh Sanitation Services in Wingdale.

Last year, Bulk Trash day collected \$1,430 in fees and was billed from Welsh \$1,315. In 2022, fee collections totaled \$454 and, pending current charges, billing was \$1,250.

Numbers for this year weren't available. Organizers reported collecting 11 tires and six items with Freon (fridges and A/Cs that need to be de-gassed).



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Kathy Chow with mattresses and an old water heater.

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OUR TOWNS

Amenia Comprehensive Plan update underway

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — An intensive review of the town’s Comprehensive Plan, last updated in 2007, began with discussion of procedure at a meeting of the town’s eight-member review committee on Tuesday, May 14. Seven committee members attended. Committee members agreed to focus on more than

cosmetic editorial changes by digging more deeply to consider town goals with a view toward sustainability. As a next step, each town board and committee will be asked to advise on goals, progress made toward those goals, and how they are working to achieve those goals. The Comprehensive Plan functions as a policy planning document that is eventually to be adopted by vote of the

Town Board. “What do we as a community hope to be,” will be a guiding question for the review committee. Each town board and committee will be asked to report on ongoing priorities to achieve their goals. A few residents attended the meeting and were invited to comment. Resident George Bistransin discussed agricultural easements and

the importance of reducing assessments for farmers, as a means of protecting farm acreage. “We need those farms and open land,” agreed committee member Paula Pelosi. Seeing a conflict between local and state assessment procedures, committee member Nina Peek said that the town should look at farm-friendly policies. “I don’t want to see any

more farms lost,” Bistransin said, the committee noting a dwindling number of farms operating actively in the region. “Who are we? Who do we want to be in four generations,” were questions posed by committee member Ken Topolsky. “How do we keep the character of the town,” he asked. While the Comprehensive Plan cannot change the zoning laws, the committee agreed, no proposal can be approved by a town board that is contrary to the plan. “We need to talk about farms, open space and people who need affordable housing,” Pelosi said, including

attracting and supporting small business, and she added that the committee needs to talk about the commercial center. Topolsky cautioned that the committee cannot add things that are terribly new. Peek observed that the goal of the document is to address the needs of a diversified population. Satisfied that a working philosophy in regard to the document had been established, the committee launched into editing the Introductory paragraphs and completed that section, scheduling its next meeting for Tuesday, June 11, to begin at 6:30 p.m.

Amenia Town Board considers presentation by water engineers

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Seeking to assess the current status of the district water system that serves the town and to look to the future, the Town Board heard a presentation from a civil engineering firm at its regular meeting on Thursday, May 16.

Representing Delaware Engineering, based in Red Hook, was Mary Beth Bianconi from the Albany office, specializing in water and wastewater systems. She noted that her specialty is in infrastructure planning, including community water systems.

Following review of the various levels of governmental regulations, she said that project financing is an important part of her company’s service to municipalities. She reported a recently passed state Water Infrastructure Improvement Act that the town could benefit from, in addition to the federally available programs.

Reporting preliminarily on the configuration of the local water system, Bianconi said that the town is served by four ground water wells located on two sites. Two wells on Lavelle Road produce 40 gallons a minute, pumped to a 20,000-gallon storage tank. But the wells are located in proximity to a lake. Up to 18,000 feet of pipe of a variety of materials and age serve the water district, Bianconi reported, with pressure averaging 28 psi (pounds per square inch), lower in some locations. Immediate needs, Bianconi said, include the testing of the Lavelle Road wells for ground water quality and any possible impact from surface water seeping into the system.



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Reporting preliminarily on the configuration of the local water system, Bianconi said that the town is served by four ground water wells located on two sites. Two wells on Lavelle Road produce 40 gallons a minute, pumped to a 20,000-gallon storage tank. But the wells are located in proximity to a lake. Up to 18,000 feet of pipe of a variety of materials and age serve the water district, Bianconi reported, with pressure averaging 28 psi (pounds per square inch), lower in some locations. Immediate needs, Bianconi said, include the testing of the Lavelle Road wells for ground water quality and any possible impact from surface water seeping into the system.

In past action, the Town Board has agreed to create a plan for water testing, examining it for microbial particulate that could be present in surface water. In addition, local surface piping would need to be tested for lead, given the age of some of the pipes.

Ice cream sundaes at Irondale Schoolhouse opening May 25

MILLERTON — The Irondale Schoolhouse will celebrate its season opening on Saturday, May 25 with free ice cream sundaes. The event begins at noon. The Irondale Schoolhouse dates to the 1850s as one of

more than a dozen one-room schools serving North East. In 2008 a group of residents saved the building from demolition. It was moved to its current Village location to serve as a visitor and information center.



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King Matt.	\$4,995	\$1,995

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\$1,895

QUEEN MATT.
Was \$4,775

	Sugg. Retail	Special Sale
Twin Matt.	\$3,775	\$1,495
Twin XL Matt.	\$3,995	\$1,595
Full Matt.	\$4,475	\$1,795
King Matt.	\$5,985	\$2,395

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\$3,299

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Was \$6,775

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OBITUARIES

R. Thomas Riley

SHARON/KENT — R. Thomas Riley, 85, of Kent Cornwall Rd, passed away on May 14, 2024, at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford. He was the devoted and loving husband of Louise Ryan Riley who survives him. He was born March 25, 1939, in Sharon, the son of the late William R. and Violet Kinsman Riley.



Tom graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School and began working in the furniture business while raising seven children with his first wife, eventually purchasing the business in 1985. He ran Riley’s Furniture as a successful family business for more than 35 years. During the years he was raising his family, he was an active member of the church and community. He served on the vestry of the Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon, the Sharon Center School Parent Teacher Association, the Sharon Volunteer Fire Department and the Lion’s Club. Tom truly lived life to the fullest and was beloved by so many. He had a most warm and welcoming smile and the uncanny ability to bring many people into his family, becoming a great friend and often a second father to ones too numerous to list. Tom was a very active person equally at home tending his garden, playing golf or traveling abroad with his beloved Louise, her sisters and friends. Tom was especially known for his generosity and his kind and loving nature. He never missed a chance to visit loved ones near and far, especially those in the hospital. He was proud of all of his children and grandchildren who each experienced his unconditional love. By joining in the weekly rotation driving to Torrington to pick up food from the Big Y, he encouraged, supported and appreciated his wife’s efforts at the Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry. He will always be remembered for the legendary large family dinners that he hosted with effortless grace. He is survived by all seven children, Pamela Moore (Patrick), Brian Riley (Cathy), Cynthia Dunleavy (David), Lisa Gravallese (John), Jennifer Riley (Kelly), Jeffrey Riley (Lori) and Gregory Riley; sixteen grandchildren: Brandon Moore, Chad Moore, Alyssa Harper (Jeffrey), Alexander Dunleavy (Melina), Jordan Dunleavy (Jennifer), Carly Previte (Joseph), Matthew Gravallese, Morgan Riley, Connor Riley, Cady Bloodgood (Eugene), Megan Riley (Taylor), Mackenzie Riley (Kyle), Miranda Riley, Hunter Riley, Logan Riley, Parker Riley, eleven great-grandchildren: Colin, Noelle, Brady, Emma, Wyatt, Kimberly, Sage, Ada, Elena, Aidan, and Colby. Of Tom’s eleven siblings, Barbara, David, Gerald, Judith and Donna survive him while Donald, Richard, Jack, Lawrence and William predeceased him. A wake was held at Kenny Funeral Home on Tuesday, May 21, from 4 to 7 p.m. A funeral service was held at St. Bridget’s Church in Sharon on Wednesday May 22, at 11 a.m. Reception to follow. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Sharon, Cornwall or Kent (Volunteer) Fire and Ambulance. P.O. Box 357, Sharon, CT 06069. The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Mary Cecilia (Harz) Grusauski

KENT — Mary Cecilia (Harz) Grusauski of Kent, passed away on Jan. 10, 2024, after a short illness. Mary was born on Jan. 24, 1937, to Henry and Angelina (Raino) Harz in New Milford. Mary grew up in New Milford, attending Saint Francis elementary school and New Milford High School. Mary married John Grusauski in 1959 and they raised their family in Kent. Mary and John had three children, Karen Elaine, Mark Joseph, and David John. Mary was an avid quilter and enjoyed spending time in her flower garden and taking care of her beloved pets. She attended flight attendant school in NYC but did not pursue that career. She was a teacher’s aide at Kent Center School for several years and was proud of the help she was able to provide. She also hosted a radio show at WGSK; “Country Morning with Mary G,” spinning her beloved country and bluegrass music. Mary was predeceased by

James Edward Hurley

NORTH CANAAN — James Edward Hurley, 87, fondly known as Jim, died on Dec. 23, 2023, after suffering a stroke in Staunton, Virginia. Before moving to Virginia in 2004, Jim was a resident of North Canaan. James was born on Dec. 19, 1936, to Charles and Helen Hurley in Bridgeport. After graduating from Housatonic Valley Regional High School, he went on to study Political Science at Syracuse University. As a graduate of Syracuse

University, Jim was an avid SU football fan and rarely missed a game. He was also a passionate lover of classical music and spent many evenings at Tanglewood in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. James is survived by his two children; Greg Hurley and Christine Hurley Mills; his granddaughter, Kaitlin Mills and his sister Sabina Hurley Campbell. He is predeceased by his wife, Marilyn May Hurley.

SALISBURY — Doris Schmoll Alexander left us many years Doris taught middle school language arts at Salisbury Central School in Salisbury, retiring in 1986.



Doris was an assertive and direct teacher, much loved for encouraging and inspiring her middle schoolers. She is fondly remembered for her legendary sterling silver wrist bangles, forewarning all in the halls of her approach. Sadly she had to abandon the bangles in later years when they began to cause imbalance problems, worsening her osteoporosis. With her husband Dick, she ran the Yesterday’s Yankee B&B in Salisbury and developed a cooperative B&B Booking Service for the area. Always an accomplished cook, during the B&B years she became a gourmet. One of her favorite dishes from those days was her Magic Dragon Puff, a breakfast soufflé. From her teens Doris enjoyed playing card games and up until the her last few years, she diligently worked on mastering competitive bridge. Doris married Richard William Alexander in 1950, and bore three children; Rick, Mark, and Megan. When her children were young she spent her summers with friends in beach chairs at the Lakeville Town Grove, watching the children grow. Doris earned her Bachelors degree from New Jersey State Teacher’s College, Glassboro, New Jersey, and her Masters degree from Western Connecticut State University, Danbury. For

Harvey Hayden, VMD

SHARON — Cherished veterinarian, loving husband of Kathryn Heacox Hayden, and valued community member for over 60 years, Harvey Hayden, VMD, passed peacefully May 10, 2024, surrounded by his devoted family. Dr. Hayden was born Dec. 16, 1932, in Windsor, Connecticut, to Frances Harvey and Haskell Hayden. His amazing memory of his experiences and knowledge will be sorely missed. His genealogy traced his grandparents going back some 10+ generations, the family’s arrival in Massachusetts in 1630, and their prior lineage in England. He was a descendant of William Hayden of the Pequot War and founder of Hayden Station, Connecticut, who was, in turn, a descendant of the order of the knights who settled Heydon in Norfolk, also known as Stinton, England. A graduate of Suffield High, he attended three years at the School of Agriculture, University of Connecticut. He then attended and graduated from the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, earning his Veterinariae Medicinae Doctoris. After graduation, he entered the U.S. Air Force as rank of Second Lieutenant, discharged two years later as Captain. Upon marrying Myrtle Maddox Hayden, they moved to Sharon where he opened the Sharon Veterinary Clinic and actively cared for any and all pets (especially cows), at all hours, for 62 years. He never turned away an animal in need. He was a member of the Sharon Fire Department and served as the department’s Lieutenant for many years; was a member of Taghannuck Grange #100; an esteemed member of Sharon Inland Wetlands & Watercourse Commission; and an active member of the Sharon Congregational Church. On Feb. 25, 2017, Dr. Hayden married Kathryn Heacox, and her children joyfully welcomed Harvey as their new father, “Pops.” Dr. Hayden is survived by his wife, Kathryn; stepchildren Edward Heacox, Jr. (Lynn), Karen Heacox (Arthur), Mary Heacox Ryan (Peter); Joseph (Marjorie); David; Christopher (Josie); step-grandchildren Benjamin Heacox, Ryan Heacox (Mary), Tyler Heacox, and Kathryn Heacox; step-great-grandson Thomas Heacox; nephews Richard, Daniel (Sue), Robert Carter; and the Maddox family. His first wife, Myrtle Maddox Hayden, predeceased him on May 21, 2013, and his younger sister, Alice G. Hayden, on Sept. 16, 2023. Calling hours were May 18, 2024, 3 pm to 6 pm. Burial will be private. A memorial service date will be shared. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sharon Fire Department or Sharon Ambulance, both P.O. Box 357, Sharon, CT 06069. The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.



For more obituaries, see page A7

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The Connecticut Forest and Park Association was founded in 1895 as the first private, non-profit conservation organization in the state. Their mission is simple: connecting people to the land, which will then help in protecting our state's natural resources. The CFPA manages 825 miles of trails across the state, all marked in blue. They can be found at: ctwoodlands.org/trails/. Every year, the CFPA sponsors the CT Trails Day on June 1st and 2nd and there are over 100 opportunities across the state to experience the wonder of our great outdoors. For example, in Sharon there will be a walk on the Mary Moore Preserve and in Cornwall, the walk will be exploring the Furnace Brook Preserve. On some events, there is a requirement to register, others are open; to find out more about this celebration of nature, please visit: trailsday.org

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Doris Schmoll Alexander

Doris and Dick loved to travel, with memorable trips to Costa Rica, Turkey, Greece, France, England, and Thailand, often traveling with close friends Mary and Mac Rogers. After retiring from teaching, Doris spent winters in Florida and summers at Pine Grove in Falls Village, where she became known as a hostess of many dinner parties and holding annual open houses to which she insisted everyone was invited. She also served a term on the Pine Grove board of directors. In the early 2000s, as their advanced years made travel more difficult, Doris and Dick remained in Florida full time. While struggling with dementia, communications and visits from her family, friends, and many of her students, helped her to get through the difficult last five years. The hundreds of cards and Facebook messages, always read aloud to her, helped her recall countless memories and so many good people, otherwise difficult for her to access. Doris is survived by her son, Rick Alexander, of Fort Pierce, Florida; granddaughters, Carrie Alexander of Chico, California, and Laura Alexander of Sheffield, Massachusetts, and great granddaughter Pyper Alexander of Sheffield. Doris is also survived by her son, Mark Alexander, of Falls Village, and grandson, Matthew Alexander of Austin, Texas. Doris was predeceased by her husband, Dick, and daughter Megan Alexander, both of Stuart, Florida, and her grandson, James Alexander of Rockport, Massachusetts. The family is grateful for the two and a half years of kind care provided by the Palm City Nursing and Rehab nurses and staff. Neptune Society of Fort Lauderdale handled final arrangements. No memorial service is planned at this time. Donations in memory of Doris Alexander can be made to Treasure Coast Hospice of Stuart, Florida, treasurehealth.org.

Worship Services

Week of May 26, 2023

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

Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org	The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442
St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on You-Tube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290	Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd, Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org Misa en español al mediodía (12 pm) el último sábado de mes The Revs. Heidi Truax & Felix Rivera trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627
North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232 FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org	Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons The next meeting will be Sunday, June 9 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com All are Welcome
Congregation Beth David A reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org	Chabad of Northwest CT On the Green 69 West St. Litchfield, CT 06759 chabadNW.org 860.567.3377 office@chabadNW.org Rabbi Joseph & Mina Eisenbach A home away from home, a gathering place where unity is paramount. We are here for you, welcome to the family! WINTER SCHEDULE Sunday 10:30 AM - Hebrew School Wednesday 8:00 PM - Parsa In My Life How The Weekly Portion Relates to ME! Thursday 11:30 AM - Women's Tea & Torah Saturday 9:30 AM - Shabbat Services Followed by a Congregational Kiddush Children's Camp Jewish Newspaper Smiles on Seniors CTeen YJP
The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net	ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078
The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Steet, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net	UCC in CORNWALL Cornwall Village Meeting House Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community
Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194	The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall
The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building	Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org
Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!	All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us
Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org	



PHOTO BY LISA HERMANN

Townscape of Millerton and North East – 25 years strong

If you love the spring flowers at Veterans Memorial Park and on the bridge coming into town; appreciate the many splendid tree plantings everywhere; are cheered by the holiday lights on Main Street during the winter; and enjoy sitting at the benches and tables in Veterans Park — did you know Townscape of Millerton and North East was behind it all for the last 25 years?

Visit our redesigned website to see a visual history of the many projects Townscape has initiated and an acknowledgement of the many volunteer board members who have brought them to fruition. If you would like to get involved, our contact page is townscapemillerton.org/contact.

Townscape was originally founded as an outreach committee in 1998 by Catherine Fenn, Renee Vollen, and Jan Gilmor. It brought together many folks for fun, family-friendly beautification activities, galas, and events. In 2006, Townscape was incorporated as a nonprofit 501(c)3. Its mission is to enhance the aesthetic, natural, and historic environment of our town and village.

Townscape not only beautifies our streets and parks, but also acts as a social and financial conduit in support of other local community initiatives. Some of Townscape’s most recent projects include a guide to Accessible Millerton and an online historic walking tour. Both can be found at townscapemillerton.org/explore-millerton.

In 2023, Jeanne Vanecko stepped down after seven

GUEST COMMENTARY

Claire Goodman

years as president. Her contributions to Townscape’s projects are deeply appreciated, especially her oversight of the annual holiday lighting project, and her tireless advocacy for the Accessible Millerton initiative and the wastewater infrastructure plan.

Townscape welcomes Village Board member Lisa Hermann (nee Erdner) as the new president, with the following board of directors: Jeanne Vanecko (vice president), Edie Greenwood (treasurer), Teri Goetz (secretary), Catherine Fenn (founding president), Charlotte Cooper, Claire Goodman, Mitra Walter, Elizabeth Barrett (new member), and Sarah O’Connell (new member). We say goodbye to Pete Hathaway and Karen Pitcher and thank them for their valuable service.

“I look forward to increasing Townscape’s visibility through our website, organizing community events, and finding creative ways to raise funds so we can keep up the good work!” says Lisa Hermann.

If you would like to donate a tree or a bench in memory of a loved one, please contact us. Or perhaps consider making a tax-deductible donation to help continue our work: Send checks to Townscape, PO Box 835, Millerton, NY 12546, or visit our website www.townscapemillerton.org/donate.

After a Cricket

Hope holds despair as much as despair holds hope. Despair has to keep hope out of mind somewhere, like that fine-tooth strumming I heard over lunch from what couldn’t have been a cricket. It was too cold in the fall, too sunny in the day. Hope—hard hope—doesn’t tune out but listens through despair for sounds of life.

For the foreseeable century, the climate will gleam on us, with a fixed gleam that breaks down anywhere at once, as any expression will if it’s held too long. Over lunch the next day I heard the same sound. So I went outdoors and followed the strumming to what, sure enough, was a cricket, running one forewing down the other, somewhere in the noonday shade of the braided wisteria vine in pod. I felt his strumming deepened the shade he basked in. But I knew he wasn’t playing for me or only to please himself.

The next day, nothing. So I went out and I listened to a silence in the shape of a strum. The strummer, I like to think, hadn’t given out but met up with an admirer. His hope would have held. He played like it would never have occurred to him to stop before he was done.

John Shoptaw

From a new collection, *Near-Earth Object*, published by Unbound Edition Press (Atlanta, Georgia)



The

MILLERTON NEWS

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The Great Outdoors

Remembering the fallen on Memorial Day

‘Lest we forget those all so many dreams buried forever — THANK YOU!’ Happy Memorial Day readers. I wish you a great Memorial Day weekend with favorable weather enjoyed with family and friends.

Enjoy your festivities, gatherings and BBQs to the

VETERAN’S CORNER

Larry Conklin

fullest. Please take a moment to say a little prayer of thanks for those brave warriors who have given up their lives to

insure your happiness this day.

They didn’t care about race, religion or political affiliation. Their jobs were to protect all of us and our freedoms and they gave all.

Fly an American flag if you can but please do take a brief moment to say a sincere ‘thank you’. We veterans thank

all of you for doing so and wish you and your families well. God Bless.

Town of North East resident Larry Conklin is a Vietnam veteran and a member of both the Millerton American Legion Post 178 and the VFW Post 6851 in North Canaan, Conn.

Women ‘Smarter’ on literacy tests; Webutuck band plays for Pataki and a past Memorial Day

May 25, 1933

‘Voting Tests Show Women Are Smarter. But, If So, Why Can’t They Learn Not to Lose Gloves?’: The men will doubtless be surprised, but the women know all along that they were the smarter, and now they have the proof in figures of the Education Department dealing with the results of literacy tests prerequisite to voting for the first time in the absence of a school certificate. These show that last fall only 4.94 per cent [sic] of the women who took the test failed, compared to 9.46 per cent [sic] of the men.[...]

‘Children’s Day Plans Changed by Epidemic’: Despite the fact that attendance is somewhat hurt by the measles epidemic, the Millerton Presbyterian Sunday School bustles with activity and plans for the immediate future. The measles have caused a change in plans for Children’s day, but the committee in charge chopes to put on an interesting and enjoyable entertainment. [...]

May 23, 1974

‘Women Make Top Scores; But Not On Rescue [sic] Squad’: This year, the three highest scores in the Sharon Hospital Care Course were obtained by women, making it the third year in a row that women have achieved the highest scores in the classes. Yet no matter how well she may do in the course, a woman cannot become a member of the Millerton Rescue Squad.

Millerton’s Rescue Squad is part of its Fire Department; to join the former, a woman has to become a member of the latter.

There is little chance of a woman joining the Fire Department in the near future. [...] there are from 6 to 10 men on the waiting list now, and

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

the length of time they will wait for an opening can run from 2 to 4 years.

Many other towns in the area do have women on their rescue squads. In Amenia, for example, the women on the squad have every privilege which the male members enjoy [...]

Amenia has three women in its rescue squad-Barbara Murphy, Anna Dahoney, and Margaret Cunningham. [...]

According to Amenia’s Fire Chief James Murphy, the women are “very efficient” and the men are “indifferent” to having women work with them. Murphy can foresee the day when women will also be in the Fire Department. “Maybe I’m all wet,” he said, “but eventually you’re going to see women at the end of a hose.”

“Millerton Personals, Perotti Honored”: Charles A. Perotti, son of Mr and Mrs. Frank Perotti, Millerton, received the Red Cross Appreciation Certificate at the recent Awards Convocation at the State University of New York, Agricultural and Technical College at Cobleskill.

May 27, 1999

‘After Albany Concert, Webutuck Band Returns With Stellar Program’: The annual spring concert at Webutuck High School May 19 was the first opportunity for the band to perform in front of a home crowd. And they did not disappoint.

The senior high chorus also put on an outstanding show that night, including a moving rendition of “Dust in The Wind.”

The accolades continued at the home concert for the band

which caught gubernatorial attention.

“We were invited by the New York State School Music Association to perform at the Empire State Plaza as part of the ‘Music in Our Schools’ month back in March,” band director Nancy Gagne recalled. Webutuck was one of only 30 bands throughout the state to be selected for the honor.

They played so well, the director of the convention center on the Grand Concourse at the Empire State Plaza in Albany, Heather Flynn, invited them back based on what she had heard.

Ms. Flynn arranged to have the band perform at Gov. George Pataki’s fifth annual prayer breakfast on May 11.

All the state’s top brass were on hand at the prayer breakfast, including a total of 1,500 people. Gov. Pataki and his wife Libby waved to the band, and thanked them for their efforts. ...

“It was a great experience for the kids to go some place, and perform,” Ms. Gagne said. “And to perform in front of people they don’t know was a wonderful experience.”

THE MILLERTON NEWS

(USPS 384600)

An Independent New York Newspaper

Official Newspaper of the Village of Millerton, Town of North East, Town of Washington, Town of Amenia, Town of Pine Plains, North East (Webutuck) Central School District and Millbrook Central School District
Published Weekly by LJMN Media, Inc.
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; Noreen Doyle, Chair
P.O. Box 625, Millerton, NY 12546
(860) 435-9873 ext. 608 • millertonnews.com • editor@millertonnews.com

Volume 93, Number 18 Thursday, May 23, 2024

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LJMN Media, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Subscription Rates - One Year:

\$120.00 in Dutchess and Columbia Counties, \$147.00 Outside Counties
Known Office of Publication: Lakeville, CT 06039-1688. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Millerton, NY 12546. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to LJMN Media, Inc., PO Box 1688, Lakeville, Connecticut 06039-1688.

OUR TOWNS

Spring real-estate sales in Amenia

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to The Millerton News

Even without Silo Ridge sales included, Amenia real estate activity in March and April demonstrates the wide separation between the affordable and luxury home market. There were two sales of homes under 1,300 square feet on small parcels for \$320,000 and \$351,000 and another larger home for \$512,500. The luxury home market begins with the three properties sold for over a million dollars up to almost \$4 million. Currently there are five actively listed homes for sale under \$500,000 in Amenia and two over \$500,000 with 14 parcels of vacant land to build your own home. 3 Prospect Avenue, a 2 bedroom/1.5 bath home sold on



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

This Amenia home at 44 Cascade Mountain Road with 2,592 square feet on 1.1 acre sold for \$512,500 on April 18. It is one of three houses which sold for less than a million dollars in March and April.

March 22 for \$320,000. 3364 Route 22, a 3 bedroom/2 bath house with a Dover Plains post office sold on April 15 for \$351,000. 44 Cascade Mountain

Road, a 3 bedroom/ 2.5 bath house sold on April 18 for \$512,500. 26 Jerry Lane, a 4 bedroom/4.5 bath home with 6 acres sold for \$1,145,000.

355 Popular Hill Road, a 5 bedroom/3 bath home built in 1752 with 182.8 acres sold on April 3 for \$2,150,000. 173 Kennel Road, a 4 bedroom/4 bath home on 173 acres sold on March 4 for \$3,888,000.

*Town of Amenia real estate sales for March and April are closing date sales as presented in Multiple Listing Services and do not include private transactions, like those at Silo Ridge, that are not publicly listed. All property sales are recorded by Dutchess County but will only be published starting in July. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.



Bob Logan



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Julian Müller

Roe Jan library free summer concert May 26

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to The Millerton News

with nationally recognized groups. A multi-prize winner, Chatham resident and teacher Logan has also performed throughout Europe. Recognized by USA Today as “haunting and mesmerizing,” Müller is the Artist Associate in Cello at Williams College. For information on the library at 9091 Route 22, Hillsdale, call 518-325-4101 or visit roejanlibrary.org.

COPAKE — The season opener for the Roeliff Jansen Community Library’s free summer music program will be on Sunday, May 26 at 3 p.m. in the Library’s community room. It will feature classical music from two series newcomers, pianist Bob Logan and cellist Julian Müller, both of whom have appeared

SHERIFF’S REPORT

Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office Harlem Valley Area activity report 5/10 through 5/15. All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. 5/08 Deputies responded to the area of 111 Rudd Pond Road in North East for a reported two car personal injury automobile accident. Operator of one vehicle was transported to MidHudson Regional Hospital for a serious injury to his hand. Matter investigated without further incident. 5/10 Deputies responded to 19 Stirrup Trail in Pawling for a reports of a stolen vehicle. Involved vehicle is a 2015 Mercedes Benz 550GL color black. Matter currently under investigation. 5/11 Deputies responded to the area of 3105 Pleasant Ridge Road to investigate a minor

personal injury automobile accident at that location. Matter investigated without further incident. 5/12 Deputies responded to 50 Charles Colman Blvd. (Danias restaurant) in Pawling for a reported Disturbance involving an aggressive customer. Matter resolved without further incident. 5/12 Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the area of 262 Cooper Road in the Town of North East which resulted in the arrest of Michael Miller (age 18) for DWI. Miller to appear in the Town of North East Court at a later date. 5/13 Deputies responded to 208 Leedsville Road in the Town of Amenia for a Mother vs Son domestic Dispute. Matter resolved without further incident.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Brace Mountain rescue

Two hikers, a man and a woman, were rescued on Brace Mountain in the Town of North East on Monday, May 13 after a fall was reported by the 28-year old woman, who said her boyfriend fell and was still on the trail and unable to move. Brace Mountain, at 2,311 feet, is the highest point in Dutchess County. The terrain is rugged. Albany Med air ambulance was on the scene for a reported broken arm and a head injury. More than a dozen fire and rescue departments from New York and Connecticut responded, including Sheriff’s deputies.

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Legal Notice soYork Photography, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/15/2024. Office Loc: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 3055 Church St. Pine Plains, NY 12567. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 05-09-24 05-16-24 05-23-24 05-30-24 06-06-24 06-13-24

NOTICE TO BIDDERS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Town of Pine Plains is accepting proposals from qualified engineering/architect firms for building programming services, design, construction administration services and construction inspection services for a new Town Hall Facility located on a pair of contiguous vacant parcels located at 8 and 12 North Main Street, in the Town of Pine Plains, NY (Tax Parcels #6872-18-412223 and 6872-18-412231). Proposers must be licensed to practice professional engineering and architecture in the State of New York. Proposals must be received no later than 1:00 pm Friday June 14, 2024 at the following address: Brian Walsh, Town of Pine Plains Supervisor Town of Pine Plains PO Box 955 3284 Route 199 Pine Plains, NY 12567 (518) 398-8600 A total of six copies of the proposal as well as an electronic copy shall be submitted. Proposals may be mailed, but Town of Pine Plains gives no guarantee that said proposal will be received in the Office of the Town Supervisor by the designated time. Envelopes must be marked: “Proposal for Professional Services, New Town Hall Facility”. RFP Documents and Instructions can be viewed on the Town of Pine Plains Govt. website- www.pineplains-ny.gov by following the link to the “New Town Hall Facility”. Those who

wish to download the RFP and wish to be placed on a list to receive information for this proposal as it is released must register with the Town of Pine Plains Town Clerk by sending an email to townclerk@pineplains-ny.gov. A return email acknowledging this registration will be transmitted. All bids shall contain the non-collision certificate in a form meeting the requirements of GML 103-d. The Town Board reserves the right, in its discretion, to waive technical noncompliance or irregularities that are not material or substantial, and to reject all bids and to rebid the project. By order of the Town Board 05-23-24 TOWN OF PINE PLAINS DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Town of Pine Plains Planning Board on the 12th day of June 2024 at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York, for the purpose of hearing all persons for or against the site plan and special use permit application submitted by Matthew Cichetti for a slaughterhouse at the property located at 424 Prospect Hill Road, Town of Pine Plains, Dutchess County, Tax Map ID #134200-6972-00-790173-0000. Any resident of the Town of Pine Plains shall be entitled to be heard regarding said application. The application is available for review during regular business hours at the Pine Plains Town Hall. By order of: Town of Pine Plains Planning Board 05-23-24

The deadline for legal notices is Friday at 4 p.m. for publication the following Thursday. Notices can be emailed to legal@lakevillejournal.com or mailed to The Lakeville Journal, ATTN: Legal Notices, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039 Go to millertonnews.com/legalnotices to view current and past legal notices.



PHOTOS BY JOHN COSTON

Tristan Landry, 5, of Southington, Conn., managed to keep his line untangled –mostly.

Catching memories at derby by the pond

By JOHN COSTON
johnc@millertonnews.com

NORTH CANAAN, Conn. — “I heard somebody caught a turtle.”

That was the mood on Sunday, May 19 at the annual fishing derby held by the Connecticut Rod and Gun Club.

Holly Hunt, who ran the event with many club volunteers who were busy cooking burgers and dogs, hauling ice and taking measurements of the day’s catch of bass, trout and bluegill.

Hunt said 65 anglers signed up for this year’s event, which she has personally run for almost 20 years at the club’s pond off Route 7 South.

Parents, grandparents and uncles and aunts all show up with newbie anglers who range in age up to 15.

James Martindale, 6, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, reeled in a 10-inch bluegill, and held his beaming smile for as long as it took Eleiana Morel to dash over to measure his prize.

Families drove from all over the Northwest Corner and beyond to enjoy a pond-side morning with worms and minnows provided by Jim’s Bait & Tackle in East Canaan.

The water’s edge was lined with small-fry competitors outfitted with rods, reels, bobbers, nets and tackle boxes and families parked in folding chairs right behind them.

A significant contingent spent energy on catching frogs and on running around.

Tristan Landry, 5, of Southington, received guidance from his grandmother. An even younger Benjamin Walley, 4, of North Canaan, was comfortably seated in a



Above, James Martindale, 6, of Pittsfield, Mass., lands a 10-inch bluegill.

pint-sized lawn chair, eyes fixed on the water for any sign of movement.

Seven-year old Holden Belmonte of Milton and his sister, Sawyer, 4, cast their lines in sequence as their father watched, while holding a babe in arms.

Emmett Lozier, 11, of Bristol, looked like a pro as he surgically added weights to his line with a pair of needle-nose pliers.

“Yeah,” was his answer for any question posed about how it was going.

Harper Nivolo, 5, of North Canaan, landed a 14 1/2 inch largemouth bass with one minute to go before all lines had to be pulled from the pond under derby rules.

Everyone got a prize in the end, but six competitors who caught the biggest fish in their age group won a bicycle. All others chose prizes as their tickets were drawn from a bucket by Hunter.

The six who went home with bicycles were: Harper Nivolo, Finn Lyon, Ava Cole, Jaxon Romanchick, Emma



Dominic Romanchick, 4, of North Haven, Conn. with a 14 3/4 inch large mouth bass caught on a minnow.

Sprague and Mason Torrent.

It was a ‘catch and release’ event. So all the fish returned to the pond, after dining all morning on worms and minnows.

Dominik Romanchick, 4, of North Haven, caught four fish Saturday. As his grandfather helped him undo the hook, Dominik thoughtfully inserted the minnow back into the gaping mouth of the 14 3/4 inch bass.

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All donations to LJMN Media, Inc., a 501(c)(3), are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

OBITUARIES

Memorial Service

Patricia Omalyev

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 25 at 99 King Hill Rd., Sharon at 2 p.m in honor of Patricia Omalyev.

Memorial Service

Judith Schwerin

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 25 at Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon.

Instead of flowers, please send donations to the Little Guild of St. Francis in Cornwall, Conn.

For more obituaries, see page A4

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LIBRARY *Continued from Page A1*

“It’s a good opportunity to highlight the good work these organizations do,” said Library Director Courtney Tsahalís, pleased with both events as they unfolded.

Chinchillas, young and very young, were shown off by My Hope’s in You Small

Animal Rescue of LaGrangeville. Also showing pets up for adoption were Compassionate Animal Rescue of Dutchess County, Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary of Poughkeepsie, and the Stray Cat Network of Red Hook.

“We’re here to check out the kittens,” one young couple was overheard saying as they headed for the display by the Stray Cat Network. Camryn Lauffer, president of that organization, said that the Millbrook Library event was her first-ever adoption event,

since she began her tenure in 2020. While no one could go home on Saturday with a pet, there were inquiries about the necessary application process and lots of bonding with potential pets loaded with charm.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Chinchillas were a favorite at the pet adoption event held at the Millbrook Library on Saturday, May 18. This as yet unnamed youngster is held by Deana Matero of “My Hope’s in You” Small Animal Rescue of LaGrangeville, one of the participating nonprofit rescue organizations.



Bashful young chinchillas drew admiring gazes from kids and parents at the pet adoption event at the Millbrook Library on Saturday, May 18. Freya Hersey, 9, and her sister, Akicita, 6 (almost 7), paused to have a look at the popular display of My Hope’s in You Small Animal Rescue of LaGrangeville.



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

Participating in the second of a series of community teas hosted by the Millbrook Library on Saturday, May 18, was Village Mayor Tim Collopy who began by greeting residents on the porch and later moved inside to be near the indoor action for the library’s pet adoption event.

LAW *Continued from Page A1*



PHOTO PROVIDED

State Senator Michelle Hinchey speaks about Melanie’s Law, which would close a loophole for orders of protection for victims of domestic violence and insure that all members of a victim’s family are protected. Behind her on the right are Cheryl Chiannese, Melanie’s mother and Sue Serino, Dutchess County Executive.

portance, both to her and the Chianese family, and decided to sponsor the bill,” explained Senator Hinchey.

Serino now serves as Dutchess County Executive and remains a supporter of the bill.

Of Melanie’s mother Senator Hinchey said, “I thank Cheryl Chianese, Melanie’s mom for her tireless advocacy in the face of such unimaginable tragedy.”

At the time of her murder

Melanie was about to graduate from Dutchess Community College with a degree in substance abuse counseling. She also was a devoted mother to a three-year-old son who has autism.

At his sentencing Senecal said he killed Melanie because he wanted revenge for being rejected by her mother. He was sentenced to life without parole and is also under restricted communication with the outside world because of

writing, calling, and emailing Cheryl Chianese while in prison.

Cheryl Chianese was granted a 99-year restraining order against Senecal.

Since the murder of her daughter, Chianese has advocated for better protection for all involved in domestic violence.

She said, “If Melanie’s Law passes and if Melanie’s Law saves just one life, our mission has been fulfilled.”

Troutbeck Symposium comes to Salisbury Association

By PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

patricksl@lakevillejournal.com

SALISBURY, Conn. — Student projects from the recent Troutbeck Symposium were on display at the Salisbury Association’s Academy Building for a couple of weeks after the main event.

The Troutbeck Symposium focused on aspects of local history often overlooked, particularly as they relate to indigenous communities and communities of color.

The schools involved were Salisbury Central School, Salisbury School, Housatonic Valley Regional High School, and North Canaan Elementary School.

The latter’s efforts were described as such:

“The eighth-grade students at North Canaan Elementary School created these tiles to depict, through art, the tools, costumes and cultural traditions of Connecticut’s Indigenous tribes. Their goal is to tribute to and raise awareness of the rich history of the Indigenous peoples who have inhabited and protected this land for generations.”

Other exhibits included

original poetry from Salisbury Central School students. Entries from HVRHS included a look at the civil rights movement in popular culture, a discussion of the participants in the 1916 Amenia Conference, held at Troutbeck by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and a discussion of how race was treated by authors such as James Fenimore Cooper and Harriet Beecher

Stowe.

One of the HVRHS projects was on Dolores Branch James Johnson, a 1952 graduate of HVRHS and longtime employee of Salisbury Central School who became active in the Civil Rights Movement. She marched with Martin Luther King Jr. King to Washington, in the Selma-Montgomery March in 1965, and was highly active in Concern, a local Civil Rights organization.

TOWN HALL *Continued from Page A1*

at approximately \$390,000. The town plans to pay for the work with budgeted and surplus funds and also plans for reimbursement from a New York State Local Community

Assistance Program Grant.

Kennan said with the single bid beyond expectations, the Board will go back and again look at the plans.

The town purchased the

Route 22 property last July as a future location for town offices to replace the two-story building on North Maple Avenue that no longer meets the needs of the community.

Correcting Errors

We are happy to correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention. We are also happy to correct factual and/or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning. Notice of such error must be given to us after the first run of the advertisement.

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

LIFESTYLE: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Quellas host Hotchkiss Library of Sharon gala

The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon held its annual spring gala and auction on Saturday, May 18, at the Sharon home of James and Linda Quella, best known in the area for their family-run poultry farm, Q Farms, where they humanely raise chickens in their pastures.

The spring gala is a major event each year for the library to raise funds for its annual budgeting cost, explained Hotchkiss Library Director Gretchen Hachmeister. “We raise about 65% of our annual operating budget just through fundraising events. We get about 25% from the town and the rest, some grants, and then the rest

is fundraising. The general budget supports just opening the doors and helping us do everything we do.”

Silent auction items at the gala included a hand-crafted dinnerware set by DBO Home in Sharon — which has provided dining wear to restaurants like ABC Kitchen and Blue Hill at Stone Barns in New York, and Troutbeck in Amenia — as well as art by Patty Mullins and the late Cleve Gray, and a dahlia subscription provided by English Garden Grown in Salisbury. Also notable was a throw woven with wool collected from Hachmeister’s own Shetland sheep she raises.

“We are passionate about community and

community is about people and bringing people together,” James Quella said on hosting this year’s library gala. “Mission-driven is a way a community can be brought together. The mission here is that Hotchkiss Library is a community center. It’s a place where the community can gather, learn, educate themselves, educate others, and provide a way station for people who don’t have internet connectivity. A place to reach out to members of the community who may not feel welcome, and we want everyone in our community to feel welcome. [My wife,] Linda is on the library’s

Continued on page B3

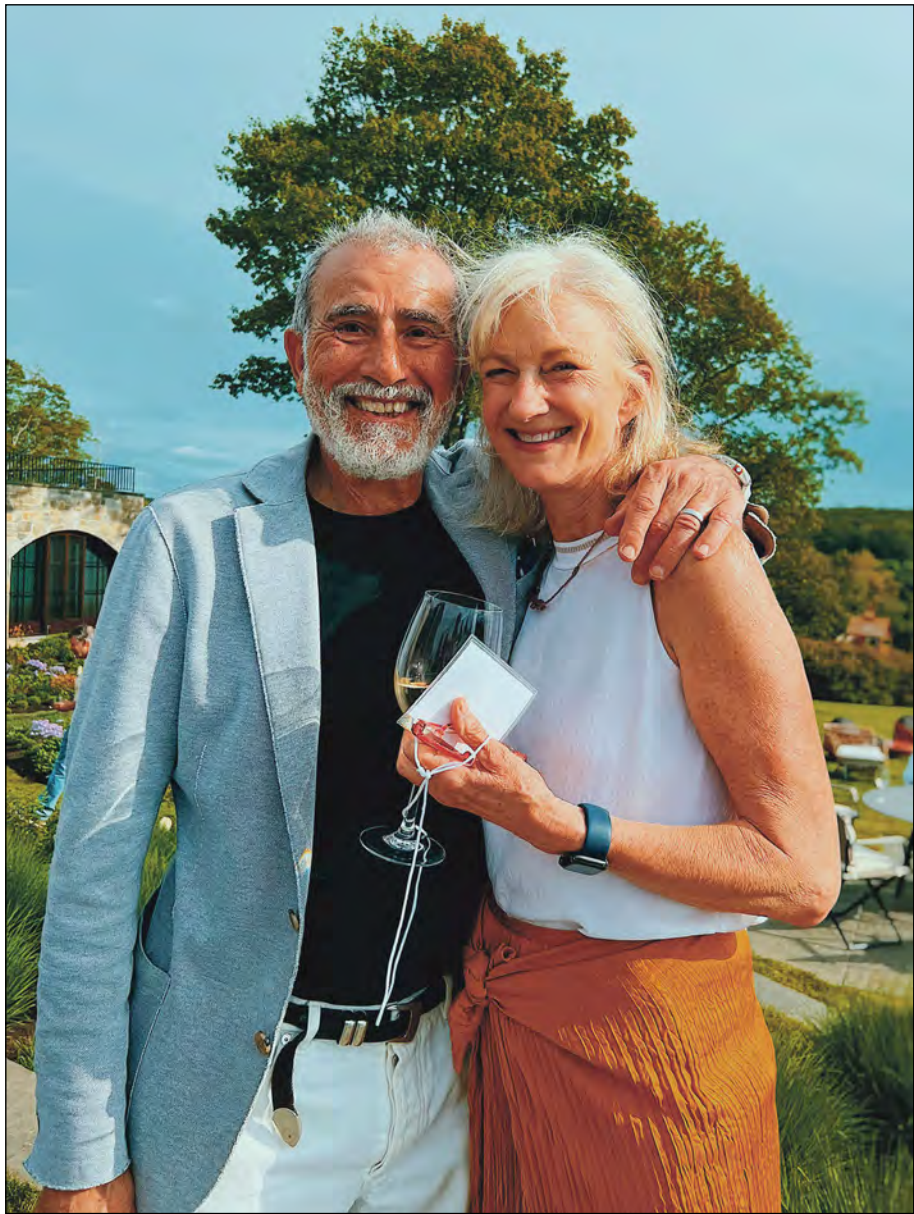


PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

James and Linda Quella hosted the spring gala at their estate in Sharon.

GARDENING: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Trade Secrets still ‘a success’ in year 24

Landscape enthusiasts traveled from far and wide for garden tours and rare

finds at Project SAGE’s annual Trade Secrets event May 18 and 19.

The origin of the rare

plant and antiques fundraiser traces back to a serendipitous moment in the winter of 2001, when interior designer and author Bunny Williams found her greenhouse overflowing with seedlings, thanks to her then-gardener Naomi Blumenthal’s successful propagation of rare primroses.

What started as a simple idea to clear space evolved into an extraordinary event that has become the primary fundraiser for Project SAGE, a non-profit domestic violence agency serving Northwest Connecticut and the surrounding areas.



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Bunny Williams opened her garden for Trade Secrets tour visitors.

The first Trade Secrets event was held on May 19, 2001, on Bunny Williams’ and John Rosselli’s stunning fifteen-acre property in Falls Village. The event drew over 450

attendees with vendors chosen by Williams who would “wow” the attendees.

Williams recalled, “We didn’t think it would be a success. And it was such a success. What I’m so proud of is that it really funded Project SAGE to become what it is.” She added, “Proj-

ect Sage, which was called Women’s Support Services back then, was only a hotline. They had no facility. And I said, ‘Why don’t we make this a charity? We’ll sell some plants.’ Naomi was on the hotline for Women’s Support Services, and she said, ‘Let’s give it to them.’ And it was just like, why not?”

Since its inception, Trade Secrets has grown exponentially, moving from Williams’ private home to various larger venues, including Wake Robin Inn in Lakeville, LionRock Farm in Sharon, and now in its third year at Lime Rock Park in Lakeville. Despite the changes in location, the core mission remains intact: to raise funds for Project SAGE. Over the years, the event has evolved to include garden tours, guest speak-

Continued on page B3

Colors Cornacopia Art Opening May 24 • 4-6pm • Learning Center



Join us on Friday May 24 from 4-6 in the Learning Center for the opening reception of “Colors Cornacopia” by artist Janet Newman. Meet the artist behind these colorful works while enjoying wine, light snacks, and great conversation. All are welcome to attend. Janet believes the wow factor of brilliant colors often ignites a happy, joyous feeling of emotions and her goal is to inspire others to include more color in their lives and have fun with it.

Exhibit will stay open for viewing on Saturdays and Sundays from 11-4 until June 16th.



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GARDENING: RILEY KLEIN

North Canaan in bloom for Spring Fest

The inaugural North Canaan Spring Fest filled the town center with festive fun Saturday, May 18.

Turning in any direction led to something worth discovering with local vendors and businesses going all out for the day. From Litchfield Art Festival at Lawrence Field to the craft market in the municipal parking lot and nearly all the shops in between, North Canaan was on full display.

“We worked really hard to get the whole town involved,” said North Canaan Events Committee’s Director of Public Relations Jessie Lawrence.

About 55 vendors from the tri-state area set up booths to take part in municipal parking lot market. Fine woodwork, clothing, pottery, plants, tarot card readings and custom-made pens were available. Tony Bouceri, pen maker, said patrons of his products would be in good company. He has sold to Oprah, the Pope, “and even James Bond girls.”

Douglas Library’s front lawn was buzzing for the plant sale featuring a wide assortment of greenery, mostly donated by Freund’s Farm in East Canaan. Library Direc-

tor Norma May said the plant sale is one of the library’s largest fundraisers of the year and she was thankful to both Freund’s Farm and the customers. Items were moving fast with about half the inventory sold by 10:20 a.m.

Nerdy Visions Tattoo hosted a “flash tat” event with discount ink. For as low as \$75, customers could select from a wall of images to add to their body. Owner Joe Atherton said his parlor was pleased to take part in Spring Fest and get some new ink in North Canaan. At night, the shop transformed into an arcade for the community.

Dozens of artisans set up shop in Lawrence Field for North Canaan’s first installation of the Litchfield Art Festival (LAF). Expanding beyond Litchfield and into the County, Litchfield Art Festival brought unique creations to town. LAF was organized by The Voice of Art, a nonprofit visual art organization founded in 2017. Director Hannah Jung said, “Canaan provides what we need, so we’re very happy to be here.”

Canaan History Center’s Kathryn Boughton led a guided walking tour in the afternoon. Throughout the day, live

music filled the air courtesy of Paul Ramunni at New England Accordion Museum. Tours of the Canaan Union Depot Station railroad museum went on as the polka played.

Businesses took part in the fun too with piggy bank decorating at NBT Bank, smoothie specials at Homegrown Cafe, dog treats at Husky Hound Handlers, furniture painting at Old Soul Vintage, free one-hour demos at Covered Bridge Electric Bike, and candle making at Hither Lane inside Colonial Theatre. The theater put on a screening of “Field of Dreams” for some air-conditioned relief in the afternoon.

DANCE: JAMES H. CLARK

Spring recital in Falls Village

Students, ages 4 to adult, of Blue Studio Dance in Lakeville presented their Spring concert to a standing room only crowd at HVRHS on Saturday, May 11. Among the performances was a dance set to “Alligator Stroll”, which had children snapping their arms like alligator jaws. A contemporary/hip hop dance set to a modern rendition of “Que Sera, Sera” was a



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

crowd favorite.

Blue Studio offers a summer camp for ages

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For more information, go to www.bluestudiodance.com.

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...Trade Secrets Continued from previous page

ers, book signings, and a wider array of vendors, enhancing its appeal and reach.

Kaitlyn Robitaille, director of appeals and fundraising events at Project SAGE shared, "It's our only fundraiser that we host yearly, and it raises approximately a quarter of our annual operating budget," which is reported at \$1.5 million.

"But this year we've exceeded every fundraising goal we've set, which is a first," said Robitaille.

Asked what she thought this might be attributed to, Robitaille shared, "I think that being at Lime Rock in 2022, the first year, it was such a stark contrast to LionRock farm. It was very different. And I think people either liked it or they didn't. So, last year we made a lot of changes, having been here once before, and it was so much better. So, I think a lot of people probably heard that it's better here now. And now they're coming back."

Now in its 24th year,

...library gala Continued from previous page

board, and her mission to join the board was to create that kind of sense of community. To have everyone here at our house, to get connected, and to believe in the mission of The Hotchkiss Library, it's ecstasy. It makes us happy. It's not even a job."

Hotchkiss Library Board of Directors member Linda Quella cited the sponsorship of Tri-Corner F.E.E.D. (Food, Equity, Education, and Distribution) as a major opportunity in partnering with the library. Founded by James and Linda Quella, Tri-Corner F.E.E.D. connects with farmers in communities experi-

encing food scarcity and provides resources, as well as allows farms to receive advance payments for their produce in order to secure a reliable flow of income. "Tri-Corner F.E.E.D. is about providing food security and food access for all members of our community. By sponsoring this event we wanted to raise awareness of our farming and agricultural community and make sure that all the food here at the gala is provided by the farmers that are in our community. We want people to understand and start having an awareness of the level of food security in the area. It's one of the things that we hope to bring to some of the library programs"

For those unable to attend the spring gala but with interest in supporting The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, Hachmeister said, "We welcome support of all kinds. We'll be marching in Sharon's Memorial Day parade, for example, to raise the profile of the library. If anyone would like to participate, they are welcome. Our annual appeal is also ongoing until Sunday, June 30. We welcome everybody at the library. We provide our services free of charge, but it costs us something to do that."

the two-day event began May 18, when attendees had the opportunity to explore six exceptional gardens. Alongside Bunny Williams and John Rosselli's home, other notable gardens included Maywood Estate Gardens in Bridgewater, three estates in Millbrook including Sharpstone Farm Gardens, and Wethersfield in Amenia.

Tricia Van Oers, a classically trained Dutch musician and Bunny Williams' master gardener (along with her husband Robert Reimer) for the last six years shared, "It's exciting. It's always nice to see so many people excited about gardens and about vegetables also. It's nice to see how Bunny is always excited because she likes to share her property."

On May 19, Lime Rock Park transformed into a paradise for plant lovers and garden aficionados. With 45 vendors, the rare plant and garden antiques sale provided a unique shopping experi-



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Guests of the rare plant and antique sale took in the sights and smells Sunday, May 19.

ence for customers.

The planning and execution of Trade Secrets requires months of preparation and the efforts of more than 200 volunteers. These volunteers assist with everything from marketing to vendor coordination, ensuring the event runs smoothly. Robitaille said, "We have a planning committee comprised of volunteers that help all year with planning and aesthetics, everything down to reaching out to the vendors to see if they're interested. And, we have a part time staff member, Brenna Doyle, who works on planning all year at the agency too."

Trade Secrets has

enabled Project SAGE to expand its services and facilities. From its humble beginnings in a small, rented space, Project SAGE now operates from a larger home in Lakeville, and offers a range of services including a 24-hour confidential hotline, emergency shelter, counseling, and education programs.

As Trade Secrets continues to flourish, it remains a cherished annual tradition fueled by passion and generosity. What began as a simple effort to clear space has blossomed into a significant force for good, profoundly impacting the lives of many through the work of Project SAGE.

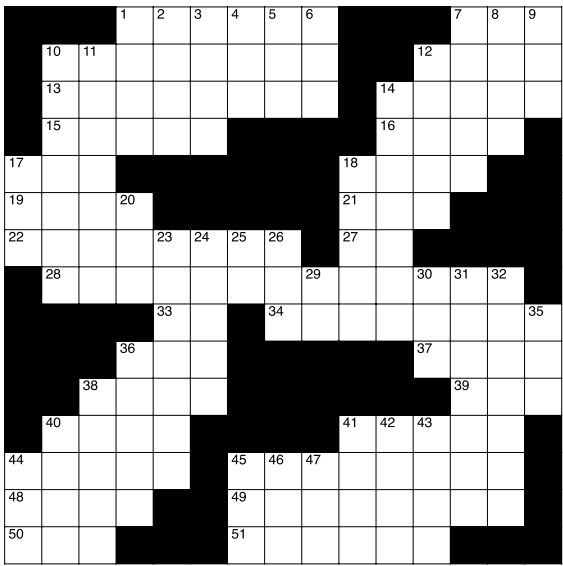
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Lunatic
- 7. Doctor of Education
- 10. Able to make amends
- 12. Tight-knit group
- 13. Gland
- 14. Intestinal pouches
- 15. Fungal spores
- 16. Erstwhile
- 17. Engine additive
- 18. Nasal mucus
- 19. Fit a horse with footwear
- 21. Consumed
- 22. Settle
- 27. Larry and Curly's pal
- 28. Basketball's GOAT
- 33. Exclamation of surprise
- 34. Made tight
- 36. Before
- 37. Actor Nicolas
- 38. Not hot
- 39. Talk
- 40. Pledge
- 41. Abandon a mission
- 44. Trims by cutting
- 45. Aspects of one's character
- 48. Boxing GOAT's former surname
- 49. Holy places
- 50. Body art (slang)
- 51. Attributes

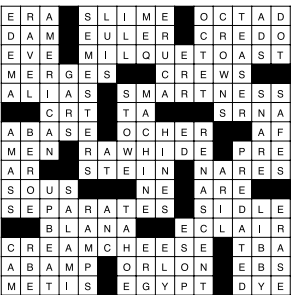
CLUES DOWN

- 1. How one feels
- 2. American Nat'l Standards Institute
- 3. Information
- 4. Licensed for Wall Street
- 5. Keyboard key
- 6. Born of
- 7. Choose to represent
- 8. Small European freshwater fish
- 9. Everyone has their own
- 10. Line from the center of a polygon

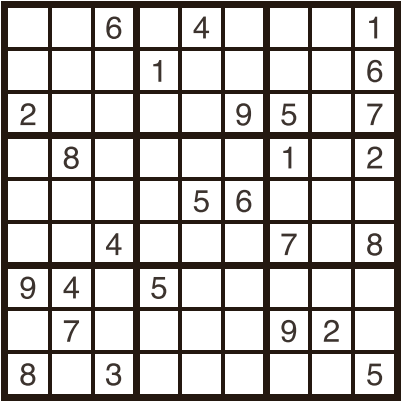


- 11. Lebanese city
- 12. Type of watercraft
- 14. A way to twist
- 17. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 18. Greek island
- 20. Medical practitioner
- 23. ___ DeGaulle, French President
- 24. Partner to "oohed"
- 25. Atomic #52
- 26. Santa's helper
- 29. Rapper ___ Rule
- 30. Month
- 31. Word formed by rearranging letters
- 32. Nullifies
- 35. Young woman ready to enter society
- 36. Unemployment
- 38. Weight unit
- 40. Formal party
- 41. Computer language
- 42. Residue formula in math
- 43. Duty or responsibility
- 44. Part of (abbr.)
- 45. Time zone
- 46. Body part
- 47. Nucleic acid

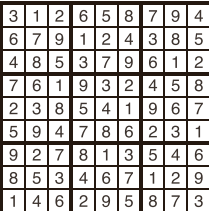
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Sudoku



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COMPASS

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Items are printed as space permits. Send calendar items to editor@lakevillejournal.com

MAY 23

Extreme Entomology!
Researching the Wekiu Bug with Shepherd Myers

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

On Thursday, May 23, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., join entomologist Shepherd Myers for a slide show about his experience researching the unique Wekiu bug, found only in the alpine desert atop Mauna Kea in Hawai'i. Amidst complex conflicting interests and stakeholders, Shepherd's research uncovered a deeper understanding of a rare insect's range, behavior, population, and life cycle.

To register, visit www.scovillelibrary.org.

MAY 24

Stephen Bennett

The Art Bar, 75 Main St., North Canaan, Conn.

From 7 to 10 p.m. on May 24, Stephen Bennett will be playing his great-grandfather's harp guitar, his 1930 National Steel or a standard 6-string. Stephen Bennett is a musician to hear. His playing has won awards and critical praise. In live performance and on record, his diverse musical influences and interests are joined with a lifelong love affair with the sound of guitar strings.

MAY 25

Season Opening of The Irondale Schoolhouse

Irondale Schoolhouse, Millerton, N.Y.

Enjoy a FREE ICE CREAM SUNDAE. Starting at Noon. Bring the whole family.

Imperiled Species in Our Community

Academy Building, 24 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

A new exhibit, "Imperiled Species in Our Community," will be on view starting May 25 at the Academy Building, 24 Main St., Salisbury. Sponsored by the Salisbury Association Land Trust, the exhibit will include photos of these species and others. Learn about their preferred habitats, the roles they play in our environment, and what we can do to help them. Also included in the exhibit is a short film, Follow the Forest (part 2), produced by the Housatonic Valley Association. The Salisbury Association will hold a reception celebrating the exhibit on

Saturday, June 1 from 4 to 6 p.m. The show will run through the end of July.

Artist Reception

The Souterrain Gallery of The Wish House, 413 Sharon Goshen Tpk, West Cornwall, Conn.

The Souterrain Gallery will be hosting an Artist Reception on May 25, from 3 to 6 p.m., for Joseph Clarke's exhibit titled INCIPIENCE. The exhibit will be running through July 31. Open Thursday to Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Joseph Clarke is a Connecticut based artist living in Litchfield County and working from his Kent studio.

MAY 26

Open Creative Studio

The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.

Start or continue a creative project in the company of others who are doing the same! Local art therapist Jaimie Sadeh will be there if you have questions or are looking for some creative guidance. All ages welcome; kids under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. BYOP (project), or use the provided art materials (suggested donation: \$5). 10 a.m. to noon.

Craft Beer Grand Prix

Lime Rock Park, 60 White Hollow Rd, Lakeville, Conn.

May 26 from noon to 4 p.m. Connecticut Craft Beer Grand Prix presented by Great Falls Brewing Co. at Lime Rock Park is set to be even bigger than previous years with more breweries vying for the Best Craft Beer in Connecticut for the third consecutive year. Curated by Great Falls Brewing Co. and Lime Rock Park to support the popular Trans Am Memorial Day Classic weekend.

MAY 28

QPR Training

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

On Tuesday, May 28 at 5:30 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library will partner with McCall Behavioral Health Network to host a QPR Suicide Prevention Training followed by a Naloxone administration training at 6:30 p.m.

QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer — three simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. The Naloxone administration training will include overdose prevention strategies, signs and symptoms of

an overdose, and local resources and support. Participants may attend one or both training sessions, email Donna Bielefield at donna.bielefield@mccallbhn.org to register.

MAY 29

Watercolor Sketching on Location with Artist Peter Cusack

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

Each Wednesday, May 29 to June 19, from 10 a.m. to noon, join West Cornwall artist and art teacher Peter Cusack for pencil and watercolor sketching en plein air in Salisbury. Each week we'll gather at a new location near the library and practice on different techniques. Enjoy the outdoors, the comradeship of other sketchers, and the pleasure of learning new skills. Materials provided. To register, visit www.scovillelibrary.org.

Coworking on Main

The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.

Calling all freelancers, entrepreneurs, creatives, retirees, and anyone else seeking a change of scenery from your home office or studio! Enjoy the camaraderie of a shared working space while tapping into your individual workflow; wifi and coffee provided. Drop in anytime, but if goal setting and accountability is helpful to you, arrive at 9 a.m. to join a brief go-around where we'll share what we're each working on. The event continues until 1 p.m.

MAY 30

Book Discussion with Project SAGE: Demon Copperhead, by Barbara Kingsolver

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

On Thursday, May 30, 5:30 to 7 p.m., join the staff of Project SAGE for a book-club-style discussion of Demon Copperhead, by Barbara Kingsolver. This 2023 Pulitzer Prize winner and NY Times best-seller transports Dickens's David Copperfield to current-day rural American, weaving a story of poverty, opioid addiction, and fierce perseverance through the voice an indomitable, engaging main character. To register, visit www.scovillelibrary.org.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Allison Brown will headline Infinity Hall Norfolk on Thursday, June 6.

MUSIC: MIKE COBB

Banjo Business in Norfolk

Bridging the banjo spectrum from Harvard to Hazard, Grammy-winning musician Allison Brown will headline Infinity Hall Norfolk June 6.

Brown grew up in North Stamford, Conn., and started playing guitar when she was eight. She soon discovered another stringed sound that piqued her interest.

"I was taking guitar lessons from Paul Guernsey. He brought a copy of Flatt and Scruggs' "Foggy Mountain" album. That was my introduction to the banjo, and I just loved the sound. Paul gave me a few banjo lessons, and when my family relocated to La Jolla, California in the mid 1970s, I discovered the San Diego Bluegrass Club. My focus shifted to banjo after that," Brown says.

She learned to play Scruggs-style 5 string banjo (with 2 finger picks and a thumb pick on her right hand). Though her music veers into other styles (jazz, Latin, Celtic), she primarily uses Scruggs's technique.

Her path to success has been unusual. After completing undergraduate studies at Harvard and receiving an MBA from UCLA, Brown

worked in investment banking. But she missed bluegrass so much that when Alison Krauss called looking for a banjo player, she dropped her Wall Street career to pursue music. She toured with Alison Krauss and Union Station, and Michelle Shocked before forming her own group, The Alison Brown Quartet, in 1993.

"The lure of the banjo was just too much to resist. And I just couldn't muster that much passion for tax exempt bonds. But I've put my MBA to work as co-founder of Compass Records, which will celebrate its 30th anniversary next year," Brown says. Since then, she has

performed at festivals throughout the USA and Europe. Her band traveled to Latin America and to Japan as Friendship Ambassadors on behalf of the Nashville Mayor's office to celebrate a new sister city relationship between Kamakura, Japan and Music City.

Brown has played with many of the greats, including Allison Krauss and Steve Martin.

For her show at Infinity Hall Norfolk, Brown will perform with John Ragusa (flute), Mason Embry (piano), Garry West (bass) and Bryan Brock (drums). She also has family onboard.

Full story at www.lakevillejournal.com

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ART: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Rediscovering Jenny Simont Ireland

Curated by her son Sumner Ireland, the upcoming show “Jenny Simont Ireland: A Painter’s View,” opens Saturday, May 25 (and runs through July 6) at The Cornwall Library, offering viewers a glimpse into the treasure trove of work that the artist created over her long life.

Ireland was born in Paris in 1919 to Catalan parents. Guided by her father, José Simont Guillen, an esteemed illustrator and recipient of the French Legion of Honor, Ireland honed her craft at the renowned Académie Julian and Studio Bornet

in Paris. Her talent was recognized early on, with an exhibition at Galerie Charpentier at the tender age of 18.

Living interchangeably in Paris, Barcelona, and New York, Ireland’s artistic pursuits intertwined with her diverse experiences. While she rarely exhibited publicly, her paintings found homes among family and friends, spanning continents and cultures. Notable exceptions include showcases at the Friends of Rose Algrant Show in Cornwall and a memorable exhibition at The Cornwall Library in 2013.

Sumner Ireland fondly remembers his mother’s artistic milestones, from celebratory Italian dinners to exhilarating go-karting adventures in Torrington. “I have taken around 30 plus painting down to the art show and they’re ready to be hung...I don’t have that many left, actually,” said Sumner from his home in Sharon. While he shared that he has mixed feelings about parting with his mother’s work, he added, “My idea is that these things have been following me and my mother around for many years. They’re on people’s walls and the rest are in

the basement. We have dehumidifiers going all the time but even so, I’d much rather have them on people’s walls than in my basement.”

Ireland’s passion for painting remained unwavering throughout her life. She died peacefully in 2014 after a short stay at Noble Horizons in Salisbury.

All paintings displayed are available for sale, ensuring her artistic legacy endures for generations to come. An opening reception will be held May 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. Registration is requested for the reception on www.cornwalllibrary.org.



PHOTO PROVIDED

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TAG SALES

FALLS VILLAGE, CT

TIQUES-TOOLS AND TOYS: Estate sale-some primitives, some reproductions. Early stoneware, dishes, and pewter. Solid cherry bedroom set. Mechanics and farm tools. Some new toys, most used. Saturday June 1, 9am-4pm. 180 Johnson Rd. Falls Village, CT. Cash or Venmo. Please no early birds or pets.

HELP WANTED

HOUSEKEEPING POSITION: Berkshire School has a full-time opening for a housekeeping shift. This position requires some heavy lifting, initiative, and the ability to work as an effective member of a team. Some weekend and holiday hours are mandatory. This year-round position has excellent benefits. Interested parties should contact Carlos Taborda at ctaborda@berkshireschool.org or 413-229-1336.

SUMMER CAMP COUNSELOR: The Village of Millerton is currently seeking enthusiastic and dedicated individuals to join our team as Summer Camp Counselors. Must be over the age of 16. Responsibilities include supervising and engaging campers in various activities and attending weekly off site camp trips. To apply please contact the Village Clerk at 518-789-4489 or stop by for an application at 5933 N. Elm Ave, Millerton, NY 12546.

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