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Thursday, July 25, 2024Volume 93 Number 2726 Pages in 3 Sections\$3.00



### North East Community Center

# NECC Chef and Farmer Brunch raises \$500K-plus at annual event

By COLLEEN FLYNN colleenf@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — North East Community Center (NECC) hosted its 13th annual Chef and Farmer Brunch on Sunday, July 21 at Mountain View in Pine Plains. An NECC spokesperson said

the organization raised more than \$500,000 through the fundraiser.

The annual event raises money for NECC so the organization can serve the community's needs, including food accessibility, housing, childcare, transportation and mental health.

This year's brunch offered a variety of options for people to bid on to show their generosity, whether that included a silent auction, an online auction, or a live auction. Some of the highly rated donations were a week-long trip to Rio,

See NECC BRUNCH, A8



The NECC's 13th annual fundraising Chef and Farmer Brunch supports the organization's mission to serve community needs. A sign on the lawn noted how many meals it has provided.

# **Millerton Police seek funding for firearms**

By COLLEEN FLYNN colleenf@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Millerton's Police Department has requested more funding for its firearm budget. "The county is switching over "I think the department purchasing the weapons is essential. No one should use their own personal





Utility granted a 7.85% rate hike.

Electric bills to go up next week

> By CHRISTINE BATES Special to The Millerton News

After a year of public comments, formal complaints, reports, motions, reviews, billing snafus and legal decisions the New York State Public Service Commission granted a 7.85% rate increase in electric delivery rates to Central Hudson for the period starting July 1, 2024, and ending June 30,2025.

The utility initially requested a 16.4% increase from the commission, which regulates utility companies.

"It's not what Hudson Valley residents deserve after years of suffering financial hardship and distress from Central Hudson's corporate mismanagement."

State Sen. Michelle Hinchey

to different firearms, and we could possibly piggyback onto that as well, without any cost to the village of Millerton," said Joseph Olenik, Chief of Police.

Millerton's police department is currently staffed by seven officers, including Olenik, who have to provide their own firearms and equipment. They get paid \$26 or \$26.50 an hour, and Olenik said that purchasing a firearm and a gun belt can cost around \$1,200.

When a personal weapon is being used by an active officer, it becomes more difficult to manage than a provided weapon.

"It is better when it is a townissued weapon, and we have more control over it," Olenik said. "So I asked the district attorney if there are any funds possible or some

### weapons."

### Joseph Olenik, Chief of Police

type of grant to get the weapons purchased through the town... and he is working on it."

Personal guns have to be authorized by the chief and the firearms officer, checked twice a year, and qualified twice a year. All guns must be approved to be carried and used while on duty, and if they do not pass, the officer is not allowed to carry them. The chief hopes to receive \$8,000 or \$9,000 to help aid officers with firearms and avoid potential future issues.

"I think the department purchasing the weapons is essential," Olenik said. "No one should use their own personal weapons."

### PHOTO BY COLLEEN FLYNN Woman networked at The Locust Grove Estate in Pough-

### Woman networked at The Locust Grove Estate in Pough keepsie on Wednesday, July 17.

# Women's networking event hosts over 1,000 attendees

By COLLEEN FLYNN colleenf@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and other community members hosted the annual women's networking event at The Locust Grove Estate in Poughkeepsie on Wednesday, July 17.

"One of the best parts of running for office is getting the chance to meet women who are on the ground making a difference in our community," Sue Serino said in her opening remarks.

The first women's networking event was launched in 2018, and it now hosts over 1,000 local women. This event aims to bring local women together to develop a strong and united source of professional networks.

See NETWORKING, A8

Central Hudson calculates this will mean an average monthly increase to customers of \$12.65 and does not reflect the cost of energy supply which varies monthly depending on fuel costs.

The "Rate" game is played nationally with all regulated utility companies, which ask for more money and agree to less while remaining profitable.

State Senator Michelle Hinchey (D-41) is sponsoring legislation to turn Central Hudson into a government owned utility. Commenting on the rate increase she said, "This is not the outcome we wanted, and it's not what Hudson Valley residents deserve after years of suffering financial hardship and distress from Central Hudson's corporate

### See ELECTRIC RATES, A8



### CONTACT

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THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL • THE MILLERTON NEWS **STREET FAIR** 

# SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024

Academy Street, Salisbury • 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Also enjoy the Salisbury Tent Sale from 10am to 5pm!



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# **OUR TOWNS Amenia Town Board awards contract** to refurbish Town Hall gym floor

By LEILA HAWKEN leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA – Following months of study and discussion, the Town Board voted unanimously at its regular meeting on Thursday, July 18, to select a contractor who will refurbish the deteriorated Town Hall gym floor that supports recreational programs for several local groups.

Receiving proposals from four contractors, the Town Board chose Gugliotti Associates of Plantsville, Conn., to complete the project.

The town has determined that an original maple floor underlies the top layers of flooring. If that hard maple floor can be sanded and refinished, the project cost will be \$17,308. If it turns out that the old maple flooring is deteriorated beyond repair, then the cost of installing a new Herculan membrane floor will total \$41,500.

In preparation for what would be a capital improvement to the town's water district, the Town Board considered seven proposals from engineering firms qualified



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

The gym floor in the Amenia Town Hall that is used for recreational programs has warped and broken tiles and will be refurbished. Pickleball players report that uneven buckling of tiles affects ball bounces.

to prepare a preliminary engineering services plan. Together with the town's water district operator, VRI, the Town Board selected Delaware Engineering of Red Hook to prepare the plan for a total cost of \$36,000.

The plan will include an engineer's assessment of the town's water sources and a review of storage and dis-

tribution systems. Delaware will also engage in a limited analysis of the area served by the water district and finances, as well as make recommendations for a prioritized improvements plan with general cost estimates for each phase. Under the contract, Delaware Engineering will also identify sources of grant funding and avenues for lowcost financing.

In other action, the Town Board agreed that the Climate Smart Task Force can proceed with a grant application through the state Climate Smart Communities program. A required match amount of \$5,000 will be taken from the Climate Smart budget line in support of an application for a state grant of \$25,000 to be used in updating the town's Comprehensive Plan. The updates will include elements ensuring sustainability. Resident Christina Gast of the town's conservation advisory council was appointed to represent the town in submitting the grant application.

Initiating planning for the drafting of a local law to guide cannabis distribution within the town, the Town Board discussed responses to preliminary questions posed by a planning consultant.

One question to be determined by the town is the distance that a dispensary would need to stand from sensitive locations including schools, parks, recreational fields and churches.

Councilwoman Rosanna

# Amenia recorded May real estate sales

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

Across all the real estate markets covered by our newspaper monthly recorded real estate transactions tend to range between three and six per month. Amenia's six recorded sales in May are typical for our region at this time of year.

In May all of Amenia's recorded real transfers were \$500,000 and below with no activity recorded at Silo Ridge Club since February.

Amenia May Recorded The distinctive, historic building with a Mansard roof 74 Lake Amenia Road — 3



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

at 4964-4966 Route 22 in Amenia built as a home in 1865 and later converted to a compact office building was sold

9.76 acres sold for \$875,000 in April

Photo

The distinctive, historic building with a Mansard roof at 4964-4966 Route 22 in Amenia

built as a home in 1865 and later converted to a compact office building was sold on May 14 th for \$225,000.

Photo by Christine Bates

\* Town of Amenia real estate sales recorded as sold between May 1, 2024, and May 31, 2024, and March and April recorded sales not previously published sourced from Dutchess County Real

Hamm suggested increasing the distance from 200 feet to 500 feet from parks and houses of worship, for example.

Town Supervisor Leo Blackman indicated that he would like to see mapping of the effects of the different proposed radii.

Councilman Paul Winters said that if the radii were expanded to 500 feet, that would exclude all locations in the Amenia downtown area. He felt that the only two remaining possible locations would be Freshtown Plaza to the north or the Fudgy's Plaza to the south.

"The people who will purchase marijuana," Winters said, "would not be remaining nearby. They would take it home."

Adequate parking and tasteful signage were also seen as issues needing resolution.

"Historically," Hamm said, "bars were away from the center, partly because of parking."

"Now we don't have any," Blackman observed.

The planner is also seeking information about decommissioning a dispensary, an aspect of the law to be written. Councilman Brad Rebillard asked for clarification from town attorney Ian Lindars.

Lindars explained that decommissioning must be included to define what would become of the leftover inventory.

# **LEGAL NOTICES**

### Legal Notice

ATTENTION: Are you holding Hylton Hundt Salon gift certificates pre-dating 2017? We invite you to use them before September 1, 2024, after which time they will be remitted into the custody of NYS as abandoned property. Please call 518-789-9390 for an appointment.

> 07-18-24 07-25-24

### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS** NOTICE IS HEREBY

GIVEN that The Town of Pine Plains is looking for a contractor to perform various landscaping services including edging, weeding, and pruning at the Town of Pine Plains Community Center Building located at 7775 South Main Street, Pine Plains, NY. Landscape services should be bid in accordance specified in the Scope of Services and in the Bid Schedule Price Form). The contractor shall provide the necessary staff, tools, and any related equipment to effectively maintain the surrounding landscapes at the site. Qualified landscape maintenance contractors who demonstrate their success in providing similar services at comparable facilities are invited to submit bids on or before August 9th at 12pm. GENERALCONTRACT INFORMATION: The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to establish, through a competitive bidding process, a contractor to perform landscape maintenance at the Community Center Building location within the Town of Pine Plains. A non-exclusive contract is to be awarded as a result of this request. TERM OF CONTRACT: Work under this contract may start as soon as the contract is executed but all work will be completed by December 31, 2025. Specific tasks in the scope of work must be performed within the indicated timelines. SUBMITTALS: In order to qualify for this project, bidders must submit all information requested in this RFP. All submittals must be received by the Town of Pine Plains Town Clerk by hand or electronically by 12:00 PM on August 9, 2024. Bidders shall submit their proposal to townclerk@pineplains-ny. gov. Contractors accept all risk of late delivery, regardless of fault. Any

submittal received after the due date and time shall be deemed non-responsive.

PROJECT TOURS: Contractors are required to visit the site located at 7775 South Main Street, Pine Plains, NY at their discretion prior to submitting their bid. By order of the Town Board 07-25-24

### **TOWN OF AMENIA** PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARING**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that pursuant to NYS Town Law § 277 and Chapter 105 of the Town of Amenia Code, the Planning Board of the Town of Amenia will hold a public hearing on the application by David Marshall (the "Applicant") for a lot line adjustment (the "Application") between lands located at 10 May Knoll and 12 May Knoll in the Town of Amenia that are designated Parcel Grid Identification ## 7064-19-685201 and 7064-19-702182 (the "Project Site"). The Project Site is located in the Suburban Residential zoning district. PLEASE ТАКЕ FURTHER NOTICE that the Planning Board will hold the public hearing on the Application on August 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, New York 12501. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the Application is on file in the Amenia Planning & Zoning Office for public viewing and inspection by appointment only Monday - Thursday 9am - 4pm. The Application can also be viewed and downloaded from the Town's official website at www.ameniany. PLEASE ТАКЕ FURTHER NOTICE that the Planning Board will hear all persons interested in the Application at the public hearing noticed herein. All persons may appear at the hearing in person or by agent and may also submit written comments to the Planning Board at or prior to such hearing by emailing comments to Planning Board Secretary Judy Westfall at jwestfall@ ameniany.gov. Dated: July 19, 2024. Robert Boyles, Jr., Chairman Town of Amenia Planning Board 07-25-24

bedroom/1.5 bath home on 3.9 acres sold for \$200,000

Sales

56 Bog Hollow Road -4bedroom/2 bath home sold for \$320,000

4925 Route 22 — an investment property with apartments sold for \$295,000

Route 22 (Parcel 113637) Rural vacant land of 15.86 on May 14 or \$225,000.

acres sold for \$190,000

Cascade Mountain Road acres of vacant land sold for \$500,000

4964-4966 Route 22 – a converted residence in the center of Amenia sold for \$225.000

March and April Amenia Sales not previously reported 23 Yellow City Road -3bedroom/2 bath home sold for \$248,070 in March

69 Yellow City Road - 3 bedroom/4 bath home on

### 'Battle of the Books' library golf tourney July 27

Time to register is running out for the hotly contested NorthEast-Millerton v. Amenia Free Libraries' Fourth Annual Battle of the Books set for Saturday, July 27 at 4 p.m. at the Undermountain Golf Course at 274 Undermountain Rd., Copake.

Golfers my register until Wednesday, July 24 at the course or at undermountaingolf.com. The \$70 fee includes a two person, nine hole scramble

with prizes and a dinner of hamburgers and hotdogs. Limited carts are an additional \$5 per person. Profits will be divided between the two libraries. Check to see if registration

still is open.

Property Tax Service Agency. Information on active listings taken from First Key MLS. Parcel numbers refer to parcel designation by Dutchess County and may be accessed on Dutchess Parcel Access. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

### Correction

issue of The Millerton News about the new Dutchess Trading Co., Phil Terni's name was misspelled.

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

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

Stop by, say hi to Beth and tell her what financial services she can help you with. She's a great listener!



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In an article in the July 18

(Parcel 930290) - 32.3

# **OUR TOWNS**

# Webutuck High graduates plan Labor Day reunion

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

AMENIA - Webutuck High School graduates of are working hard to put together a Labor Day reunion that will be "a weekend to remember" for all according to Michelle Wiedemann Geffer, class of 1980, chairman of the event which will take place on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 30 and 31.

Noting that although the event marks her class's 40th graduation, the event is not limited at any class in particular saying, "All are welcome. It's a class reunion, a school reunion and a family reunion. It's a coming home for those of us who don't live there any longer."

A group of about 40, some with individual class pages, has been working on the event since the beginning of the year, primarily through Classmates.com and Facebook where 344 graduates have joined the private group Webutuck Reunion Labor Day Weekend.

She says while they've had some difficulty reaching local residents, "A number of outof-towners have already made reservations for themselves and their families."

Photos have been posted on the sites, and the North-East-Millerton Library at 75 Main St., Millerton, has a collection of old yearbooks available for browsing with photo copies available of a particularly significant page.

The weekend will kick off with a drop in meet up for "Eats and Drinks" at The Lantern Inn at 10 Main Street in Wassaic starting at 5 p.m. On Friday, Aug. 30.

Grads may sign up for golfing at the Undermountain Golf Course at 274 Undermountain Rd., Copake, at undermountaingolf.com or call 518-329-4444 . Competition will begin at 9 a.m on



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Webutuck High School Class of 1984 is celebrating its 40th reunion and has invited graduates frm 1979 to 1989 to share in the Labor Day weekend event.

Rd, Dover Plains. What is posted as a private indoor/outdoor venue will feature a "fire pit, lawn games, dinner, cocktails,

DJ, dancing" and a slide show with speeches and a memorial to late classmates. Reservations for the \$84 per person

ticket are due by Wednesday, July 31. Contact Kelley Aashman Wolcott at Webutuckreunion2024@gmail.com.

## **OBITUARIES**

Juan Vanicky

# CORNWALL – Juan

Vanicky aka Julius, 22, of

Ballyhack Road, passed away on July 17, 2024, at his family home. He was the beloved son of James and Patricia, and brother of Samihr, Efraim and Jenna. Juan was born

Nov. 22, 2001, in Belém, Brazil.

Juan graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 2020.

He loved nature, philosophy, science, and finances, and was incredibly studious when it came to the things he was interested in. He was passionate about archery and his bow and arrow, video games, anime, and Dungeons and Dragons. He loved to bodybuild and greatly enjoyed his workout routine, and liked using his voice for singing and recording voice overs. His favorite book was "Meditations", by Emperor Marcus Aurelius, and he was a devout believer in the word of God.

### and Manuel.

and professionally. He lived for 90 seasons.

father, James and Patricia, his siblings Samihr, Efraim and Jenna, his grandmother Margaret,

A memorial service will be

held at the Canaan Seventhday Adventist Church on Saturday, July 27, at 3 p.m. All other services are private. Memorial contributions

may be made to the Canaan Seventh-day Adventist Church, 7 Sand Rd., Canaan, CT 06018

May he rest in peace. The Kenny Funeral Home

# **Democrats select** North East Town **Board candidate**

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

MILLERTON - At a caucus of the North East Democratic Committee on July 20, two candidates appeared seeking the party's endorsement for the remaining one-year term for the seat vacated by Griffin Cooper.

Rachele Grieco Cole, a newcomer to town politics, was selected over Chris Mayville, a Republican, by a vote of 21 to 8.

Regardless of party affiliation any town resident can seek the Democratic endorsement. By the petition process Mayville was picked to appear on the Republican ticket in April. Consequently, Mayville and Grieco Cole will face off again in the November elections vying for the one-year seat. Currently Mayville is completing his first one-year term on the town board.

At the caucus Grieco Cole introduced herself to the caucus attendees. She is currently employed as a grants administrator for New York Law School and volunteers for Project Sage, formerly Women's Support Services, a Salisbury, Conn., based nonprofit that assists victims of domestic violence. Her goals, according to a press release issued by the Democratic Party are, "Finding new grant opportunities, increasing community safety, particularly reducing speeding, renewing the ambulance contract at a reasonable cost, increasing government transparency and better protecting our environment."

Early voting starts on October 26 this year.

## YOUR **NEWS**

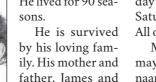
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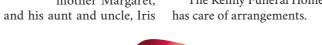
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one who had the pleasure of knowing him both personally





Kent Sidewalk Sale

Saturday, Aug. 31. Brian Furey posts, "Brian McEnroe will do five pushups for every player with a lower score."

Other grads will gather at The Millbrook Vineyards and Winery at 26 Wing Road, in Millbrook at noon and at Four Brothers at 4957 NY RT 22 in Amenia beginning at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

"The Main Event," is set for Saturday, from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Preston Barn at Old Drovers Inn, 196 East Duncan Hill

He will be remembered by his beautiful smile and the positive effect it had on every-

> More obituaries on page A4.

### Thursday, August 1 - Sunday, August 4 10:00 am to 6:00 pm • Rain Or Shine!

Catch more than just one good bargain during the Kent Sidewalk Sale Days.

Shoppers will delight in fabulous sales at merchants. The long weekend will also feature the St. Andrews Annual Tag Sale. The Kent Memorial Library will continue its Outdoor Book Sale Thursday through Sunday, and other family

friendly events. PLUS the Library will have raffle tickets for purchase to win a 2021 Jeep Compass Limited!

There will be food & drinks available at the many eateries in Kent.

The Golden Falcon Lot (on North Main Street) will feature non-profits with information about their organizations. Discover

more about these dedicated volunteer groups including the Kent Historical Society, Kent Land Trust, Kent Affordable Housing, Northwest CT Land Conservancy, Project SAGE and the Kent Quilters.

Stop by the Kent Volunteer Fire Department booth on the Golden Falcon Lot for a Hot Dog or Sesame Noodles with a side of Asian Slaw. Learn how you can get involved with KVFD.

Parking is available throughout town. The Kent Welcome Center (directly behind the Kent Station Pharmacy) has public bathrooms.

For more information contact the Kent Chamber of Commerce at 860-592-0061 or info@kentct.com.

# Music Mountain Weekend



SAT., AUG. 3 | 7:00 PM The Curtis Brothers Trio A "Rising Star" (Downbeat Magazine) on the boundaries

of Latin Jazz

### SUN., AUG. 4 | 3:00 PM

**Erinys Quartet** & Victoria Schwartzman, Piano Formed at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, graduates of the Escuela

Superior de Música Reina Sofía in Madrid, and currently at Curtis in Philadelphia, will play Saariaho, Bartok, Mozart, & Dvořák's Great Piano Quintet



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On Sat. 8/3 at 10:30 AM, Dow Integrative Institute will have a "Stress Buster" yoga class featuring a unique blend of Yoga Nidra and Jin Shin Jyustu Self Help. Cost is \$15, which will be donated to the Kent Food Bank. On the website, go to the Events page to register for Tranquil Haven: Stress Buster Pop Up!

Dow Integrative Institute | Holistic Health for People & Animals Pre/Post Surgery • Women's Health • Fertility • Pain Management • Depression Insomnia • Self-Care • Yoga/Meditation • Dog/Cat/Horse Wellness www.juliannedow.com | 23 Maple St., Kent, CT | 203-561-8125





### **OBITUARIES**

### **Oscar Theodore Fischer**

LAKEVILLE – Oscar and partner Peter Martinson, Theodore "Bud" Fischer, Jr., and Charlene Fischer of Tor-

98, passed away Saturday, July 13, 2024, at home in Lakeville. He was the beloved husband of Tru (Carver) Fischer with whom he was married for 73 years.

Bud was born in Poughkeepsie, on March 9, 1926, son

of the late Oscar T. Fischer, Sr., and Clara Augusta (Ferguson) Fischer, and had been an area resident for most of his life before retiring to the Myrtle Beach, South Carolina area in 1989.

Bud graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School, a WWII U.S. Navy Veteran. In addition to working for over 30 years at Harlem Valley State Hospital in Wingdale, New York, he was a skilled electrician and provided independent services to many in the area. He was an avid golfer and celebrated bowler who loved the great outdoors, especially deep-sea fishing.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, Tru, include three children; Harold Fischer and his wife, Shirley, of Plainville, Virginia Hayes of Lakeville

rington. His brother, Glenn Fischer, and two sisters, Audrev Powers. and Joyce Graves; four grandchildren, Lana Holly, Troy Dean, Kyp Mitchell, and Marcus Haves; eight great-grandchildren, Ryan "RJ" Doty, Myles Doty,

Briana Mitchell, Kypp Mitchell, Kai Mitchell, Ariyanna Hayes, Markez Hayes, and Aysa Perez; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Bud was predeceased by siblings, Jane Smith, Patricia Wilson, Gwendolyn Jones, and Robert Fischer.

Services will be private. Ryan Funeral Home, Lakeville, is in care of arrangements.

The family would like to thank The Sharon Hospital Staff, Dr. Kurish, Dr. Harvey of The Smilow Cancer Center. Marcia Brown, APRN, and The VA staff at Castlepoint, New York for their kindness, and support which extended well beyond their professional responsibilities.

To offer an online condolence, please visit ryanfhct. com

### John Addison Berkey III

COREA, Me – John Adwith heart-stopping views dison Berkey III, who was born of the busy fishing harbor.

in Santa Barbara, California, raised in Lake Forest, Illinois, and chose to spend his retirement years in Corea, Maine, died May 6 at home surrounded by his loving family. He was 78.

Although many obituaries refer to

a peaceful passing, Berkey, according to his widow, Lori Berkey, left this world "kicking and screaming. He didn't want to go."

That same zest for living was evident throughout his Their neighbors, fishermen and community members, became fast friends.

was highly sought

after - and was often seen bicycling around the Schoodic Peninsula, a pursuit he continued until just a few years before he passed.

He cherished his wife, his family, his friends, and his cat, the late Walter. He often said his favorite pastime was sitting on the deck overlooking the harbor with a martini in hand. Berkey was the son of the late John Addison Berkey II and Martha Rachel Fleming. He leaves a son, John Addison Berkey IV (Larson Campbell), of Charlotte, Vermont, and, a daughter, Perrin Berkey, of Millbrook, New York; three surviving brothers, Thomas Berkey (Michelene) of Colorado, Charles Berkey of Colorado and Maine, and David Berkey (Lucinda) of Washington state, and sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Patti and Mark Kaiser of Hyde Park, New York. He was predeceased by a brother, DeGraff Berkey (Debra), of Arizona. He also leaves two granddaughters, Kitter and Piper Martin, and two grandsons, Hartley and Henry Berkey, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. There will be no memorial service. His remains will be buried in Corea Cemetery. For those wishing to make a donation in his memory, please consider the Schoodic Food Pantry, P.O. Box 173, Corea, ME 04624, and/or Pals, 7110 Republic Airport St., No. 202, Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735.

KENT - Always with a ready smile, Leslie Guy Connery loved to meet, work with, and help people from all walks of life, especially those in need. This was her focus as a wife, mother, grandmother, teacher, and volunteer. Communityoriented and pragmatic, with seemingly boundless energy even into her 90's, she thrived on serving others.

Born on Dec. 23, 1928, Leslie grew up in Binghamton, New York, in a strongly knit community of family and friends. From this deeply rooted childhood, she looked forward to adventures in the wider world. While studying at Radcliffe College, she majored in international relations with the goal of becoming a diplomat. This was excellent preparation for the life she would soon begin to lead after meeting, and then marrying, her college sweetheart and aspiring journalist, Donald S. Connery.

Just seven years later, in 1957, Don became a foreign correspondent for Time and Life magazines, and thus they began twelve whirlwind years of extensive travel and extraordinary experiences, with four children in tow, including New Delhi (1957 to 1960), Tokyo (1960 to 1962), Moscow (briefly in 1962), and London (1962 to 1968). Leslie experienced India coming into its own after centuries of colonial rule; Japan recovering from the devastation of World War II; Moscow during the Cuban Missile Crisis; and Great Britain during the time of The Beatles and swinging London. Leslie managed the household and assisted Don in his work, serving as his sounding board, advisor, and editor, making it possible for him to focus on his career and travel widely and constantly. In 1965, with all her children in school, she began three years of volunteer work with autistic children as part of a British National Health Service pilot project.

In 1968, Leslie and Don (now a freelance writer and author) settled permanently in a historic farmhouse in the small rural town of Kent,

### Peter L. Jones

### Leslie Connery

Connecticut. Leslie earned an M.A. in Special Education

at Southern Connecticut College and became a statecertified teacher and the family's primary breadwinner in 1971, when she began her 40+ year career as a special education teacher. She taught for 26 years

in local public schools, helping students ages four to 16 with physical, mental, or psychological learning challenges. After retiring in 1997, she continued as a substitute teacher and then took a job as a learning skills teacher at a nearby private boarding school in 2001. She tried retiring again in 2009 but couldn't resist signing up as a volunteer teacher in the Kent Center School's new program for autistic children in 2010.

Wanting to do more and inspired by the remarkable Kent volunteer firefighters who saved the Connery home from destruction in a Jan. 1969 fire, Leslie decided to join the newly formed Kent ambulance squad in 1974. She became a certified emergency medical technician; however, the all-male fire department was reluctant to accept females and insisted that she first attend fire school and become a certified firefighter. Always inspired by a challenge, Leslie soon went on to become the Kent Fire Department's first female firefighter and EMT. Thus began her 36 years of volunteer work in emergency services. As a certified EMT, she responded at any time of the day or night to as many calls as she could manage, coming to the aid of hundreds of people and helping save numerous lives. In addition, she served as chair of the regional board responsible for EMT education and training and, from 1996 to 1999, as ambulance chief. In 1999, she received a Distinguished Achievement Award from the Connecticut **Emergency Medical Services** Councils. Leslie finally retired as an EMT in 2010 at the age of 82, likely as the oldest EMT in Connecticut at the time.

D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37

Park Avenue, Millerton, New

lence to the family, flowers to

the service or to plant a tree

in Pete's memory, please visit

www.conklinfuneralhome.

To send an online condo-

York. 12546.

Leslie was also a member, volunteer, and choir singer in

> the Kent Congregational Church for over four decades. On the personal front, she loved horseback riding on local trails; knitting and sewing to create gifts for family and friends; watching Red Sox games and

tennis matches; and, into her late 80s, international vacation travel with Don. Always enthusiastic and gracious hosts and devoted parents and grandparents, Leslie and Don welcomed many guests and enjoyed frequent visits from their children, grandchildren, and great-grandson, who loved spending time at the Kent family home. Leslie's passion for EMT work inspired several of her children and grandchildren, who volunteer or work in emergency services and related fields. Almost to the end, thanks to grandson, Justin, Leslie had a scanner nearby so she could stay abreast of ongoing emergency activities in Con-

necticut.

Leslie passed away peacefully in her sleep on July 11 at 95 years. She is survived by her four children (Jan Connery, Eric Connery, Julie Connery-Smith, and Carol Connery), eight grandchildren (Marc, Jacob, Tyffany, Sean, Lucas, Justin, Kyle, Stuart), great-grandson (Brayden), brother (Peter Guy), sister-inlaw (Barbara Guy), daughterin-law (Jane Connery), and son-in-law (Keith Smith).

The Connery family is deeply grateful for the compassionate care and support that BrightStar Care staff and VITAS staff provided to Leslie during her final year.

A memorial service, followed by a reception, will be held on Sept. 21, at 11:00 a.m. at the First Congregational Church of Kent, 97 North Main Street, Kent CT.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Kent Volunteer Fire Department Inc., 28 Maple St, Kent, CT 06757.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.





In retirement,

Berkey became very skilled at gardening and cooking – a dinner party invitation

lifetime. After college he entered the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and was discharged honorably five years later with the rank of sergeant.

Berkey published art books in Wilmot, New Hampshire, under the name, "Addison House." And, although he was not trained as an architect or interior designer, he was commissioned to design 32 homes, mostly in the Millbrook, New York, area. He also was hired to design and furnish the interiors.

He then took a weary apartment house he owned in Hudson Valley, New York, and transformed it in six months into Bullis Hall Accommodations, which contained five suites. Relais & Chateaux soon came knocking at the door of the Bangall, New York, property and added it to their collection of the most exclusive hotels and restaurants in the world

Nine years later, Addison and Lori moved to their beloved home overlooking Corea Harbor. It was a serendipitous find. Addison was familiar with the area, saw the house, noticed a cardboard sign turned over facing the ground, and discovered it was for sale.

The couple gutted the home and turned it into something elegant yet homey WASSAIC – Peter L. from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Scott

"Pete" Jones, Sr., 82, a lifelong area resident, died Monday, July 15, 2024. Beloved husband of the late Susana Jones and loving father of Peter L. Jones, Jr. and Su-Lin Jones of Wassaic.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday, July 28, 2024,

### More obituaries on page A3.

com.



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### 33 Year Memory of Michael Lamay July 23, 1991

So today is a day I would think, What if you were still here, How different life would be, If you were living near. I wish that I could lean on you, They make us question why. I have to say I got past that As I let the tears run dry. I truly don't know who you'd be, I can only guess, But history, it makes me think That you would suggest, Input that would make me know This is where we're meant to be

I'm sorry, sometimes, for the life That is reality You were only 16, We all loved you so much. But heaven knows in those short years You left a lasting touch. So much time has passed, And the fact that vou still touch our souls. Michael, you had so much love, More power than you'll ever know.

We love and miss you Michael, Your Aunt Ruth Your cousins Bobbie-Jo and Ruthanne 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

### 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

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

**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 Smithfield Presbyterian Church** 656 Smithfield Valley Rd.

Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building

#### **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!

#### **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

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 - Parsha In My Life How The Weekly Portion Relates to ME! Fhursday 11:30 AM - Women's Tea & Toral Saturday 9:30 AM - Shabbat Services Followed by a Congregational Kiddush

Children's Camp | Jewish Newspaper Smiles on Seniors | Cteen | YJP

### **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

### **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

### The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall

Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall

#### Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, Cl

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services

Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org

### 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

### YOUR NEWS

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Grab your helping hand, Listen to your input As I took a forceful stand. So many things in life,

# THE MILLERTON NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE A5

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2024

# This is not a game

ur nation is teetering on collapse and with that, the balance of life across the whole planet is in jeopardy. The consequence of these next few months to come means that even the environment and possible sustainable human life is at risk. Wars will quickly boil up as the weakening of America's position globally will allow factions, terrorists, and enemies to see a clear path for mayhem and destruction. And many of them will gain access to atomic weapons according to the UN.

The isolationist policies of the Heritage Foundation, which even President Reagan rejected (or avoided), when coupled with the MAGA desire for retribution and fascist policies subverting the rule of law as the nation once accepted them are on open display now. Leading the way are the corrupt Supreme Court members who defied the most common tenet of our Constitution that no one is above the law. Anything done by the President is now lawful by definition, unpunishable, sanctioned by Scotus. And with their ruling, "dictator on day one" is entirely possible.

The television, online pundits, radio presenters are treating these threats or promises (depending on which side broadcasters are on) like entertainment. There are smiles even when a news reader talks about Project 2025's frightening claims and desires. In private they may be as frightened as you or me, but on air everyone seems to be terribly keen with sparkling eyes, earnest in their endeavor to share thoughts and worries to entertain.

The truth is, we're at war. A war to save the America we grew up in, a war to preserve the very facts and laws of the Constitution. It is not funny or amusing at all. Not for a moment, every day relentlessly eating away at our stamina to prevail, to oppose fascism,

### **A VIEW FROM THE EDGE** *Peter Riva*

"protect" you and yours.

Look, if anyone who is reading this doesn't understand the risk to every part of your life is on the line with these proto-fascists, read their Project 2025, see that the people who generated those rules are part of the MAGA elite and have already written the GOP Platform. Be a Missouri person, believe it when you see it. So, get off your behind and read what they have written, what they have promised. Know what is coming unless fight back now and try to you win the war.

Here are the Project 2025's "pillars":

"Pillar I... puts in one place a consensus view of how major federal agencies must be governed and where disagreement exists brackets out these differences for the next President to choose a path." "Brackets out" means edit, change, subvert.

"Pillar II is a personnel database that allows candidates to build their own professional profiles and our coalition members to review and voice their recommendations." Translation? Profiles must meet Project 2025's designs.

"Pillar III is the Presidential Administration Academy, an online educational system taught by experts from our coalition. For the newcomer, this will explain how the government functions and how to function in government." They're running an indoctrination program already to tell people how to behave in their new government.

"Pillar IV—the Playbook we are forming agency teams and drafting transition plans to move out upon the President's utterance of "so help me God." And 920 pages

# "There's gotta be a better way to find out if she loves me."

# **OPINION**

The views expressed here are not necessarily those of The Millerton News and the News does not support or oppose candidates for public office.

We accept gifts, grants and sponsorships from individuals and organizations for the general support of our activities, but our news judgments are made independently and not on the basis of donor support.

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.

# NYC exhausts credit; Millerton marriage mart; water limits imposed for lawns, car washing

### July 27, 1933

'Governor Calls Extra Session of Legislature'; New York city calls on State for Help— Has Exhausted Credit

At the importunity of the mayor and other officials of New York City, Governor Lehman has called a special session of the Legislature, officially known as an "extraordinary" session. The city has no more funds to care for the unemployed, and there are threats of grave disorder if that is not done. The bankers will not loan it any more money, because its expenditures last year were \$163,000,000 more than its income...

'The Fame of Millerton as a Marriage Mart'; Why is Millerton known as the Gretna Green of New York and New England? Why is it that in a village of less than one thousand inhabitants between five and six hundred marriages are performed every year? Why is that, when a young man and a young woman are sitting on the shores of a moonlit lake and suddenly decide that they can't go back to the humdrum life of the city without each other, their thoughts immediately turn to Millerton?...Vari-

### **FROM THE ARCHIVES** *The Millerton News*

ous answers are given locally to these questions. The most common is that the laws of neighboring Connecticut require a five-day wait between the issuance of a marriage license and the performance of a ceremony so that purple who wish to get married in a hurry hop over the line to Millerton... But this is far from being the whole answer because, if the state law was the only question involved, why would Millerton's marriage trade not be shared by all the other New York towns along the Connecticut border...

### July 25, 1974

'POW!'; ...a Pine Plains first baseman inadvertently hit a Millerton player as the runner tried to make it to first base before the ball. The baseball dropped next to the base instead of in the baseman's glove. The stricken Babe Ruth player recovered. Millerton won last Thursday's game 3-0.

from Styrofoam have also been

made by organizations such

as the Department of Envi-

ronmental Conservation and

'Army Invades Millerton Days'; The United States Army recruiters from Poughkeepsie are offering a cavalcade of Army vehicles to be presented on Millerton Days...On the athletic field at Eddie Collins Memorial Park, there will be a "chopper" helicopter combat type; a combat ambulance known as "crackerbox;" a large Howitzer 109 mm, a combat tank with mounted guns; and two 10-ton low-boy truck trailer transport units....

### July 22, 1999

'Amenia Sets Water Limits, Millerton Supply Adequate'; Joining a host of other municipalities in the Hudson Valley, Amenia has imposed watering restrictions in response to prolonged dry weather conditions.

At last Thursday's Town Board meeting, water treatment operator Gary Bonds asked the board to impose restrictions on lawn watering, Town Board currently does not have the authority to impose the sanctions.

In Millerton, water Superintendent Larry Merwin said the village's water supply is still in relatively good shape.

"The wells are down some, but there's no emergency," said Mr. Merwin. "I just ask that people use their hSmall Changes in Business Scene: Millerton – The business scene in the village continues to be dynamic, as evidenced by some recent changes that have taken place.eads and not waste water."

The village has two relatively shallow wells of 42 and 55 feet at the water department building near Eddie Collins Field. They are "being monitored daily," according to Mr. Merwin.

'Village Water Tower To Get Paint Job'; Millerton — The Village Board approved a bid in the amount of \$2,050 to film the inside of the water tower to prepare for painting

to preserve the country.

Some people may want to take a position on abortion and concentrate on that. The fascists want you to be monofocused, so you're missing the totalitarian state that's coming, easily assuaged if they claim it will never happen nationally (only statewide).

Some people may want to take a position on inflation and tax breaks and concentrate on that. The fascists want you to be mono-focused, you're missing the totalitarian state that's coming, easily assuaged if they claim tax breaks are good for the economy and will lower inflation.

Some people may want to take a position on the environment and concentrate on that. The fascists want you to be mono-focused, once again you're missing the totalitarian state that's coming, easily assuaged if they claim they will build more renewable energy windmills and solar farms, all the while they claim your very financial well-being needs the US to drill for more oil.

Some people may want to take a position on corruption of those judges and the Supreme Court and concentrate on that. But again the fascists want you to be mono-focused, so you'll miss the totalitarian state that's coming, easily assuaged if they claim the MAGA factions love the real law and want to enforce the law against criminals and rioters (never mind they'll get to define who's a criminal without due process). Next will be a promise to double the police forces to

follows telling the reader exactly what is in store in the dictatorship.

When your enemy says he wants to take over, you should listen and fight. This is now war for true Americans, whether you want it or not.

# Mitigating the risk of Styrofoam

Dear EarthTalk: Styrofoam is terrible for the environment and hard to recycle but still prevalent across the U.S. What's being done to phase it out? —Michael Brophy, Boston, Mass.

Plastic foam, better known under its brand name of Styrofoam, has been used for insulation, packaging and foodware (cups, takeout containers, etc.) for decades. Also known as expanded polystyrene, the foam is made from a carcinogenic chemical called styrene. The material remains prevalent today, especially in the food industry, as countless foodware products are still distributed globally.

The light weight and superior insulating ability of plastic foam makes it a convenient resource for the transportation of goods, but it is also a serious threat to many natural habitats. It can break apart and get picked up by the wind very easily, causing it to disperse rapidly across all kinds of landscapes. In 2022, the International Coastal Cleanup program picked up over 8.7 million plastic foam food containers globally, making it the seventh

### EARTHTALK Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss

most common item collected that year. Seals, seabirds and fish tend to mistake the foam for food and eat it, often poisoning them due to the toxic chemicals in the foam. Styrofoam also cannot be properly recycled, though many people recycle it by mistake. As a result, it contaminates recycling efforts, making it more expensive to salvage than to simply manufacture new. The toxic chemicals that are coated on many foams may even harm people, and especially children.

Many governments around the world have taken measures to mitigate the risks. At present, 15 countries, 12 U.S. states and dozens of U.S. cities have banned the sale or distribution of plastic foam in food service establishments.

Many citizens have also led successful anti-Styrofoam campaigns by contacting elected officials and educating the public about the benefits of alternatives. Major U.S. efforts to support a transition away car washing, and swimming pool filling.

"Not only are we down, but we are using more water than usual," said Mr. Bonds.

But for now, there will be no penalties levied against those who violate the watering restrictions because the the inside and outside of the structure. Both the town and the village have community development block grants for the paint job.

"I am very grateful to both the Briggses and Windy Milton and very glad I live in Millerton," she said.

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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
folume 93, Number 27 Thursday, July 25, 2024

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	N Media, Inc., Publishers of					
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and to foster the free flow of information and opinion.						
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### 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.

Environment America. These efforts include enforcement of bans and education to assist food providers in finding new, affordable alfoam ternatives. Some exceptions are allowed for the use of plastic foam with mutual aid organizations and nonprofits who need cheap materials, but these communities have otherwise proven that we can run ycling communities without using xpenimply To assist in efforts to ban

plastic foam, start by researching the status of plastic foam laws in your city, state or local community. Effective ways to implement Styrofoam bans include promoting alternative food containers, and bringing your own reusable containers to restaurants for your leftovers. Also, visit the Ocean Conservancy's website to find out if there are any volunteer Coastal Cleanups near you.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at www.emagazine. com.

# **OUR TOWNS**

# Artists and visitors gather for Millbrook's Arts and **Open Studios weekend**

**By JOSIE DUGGAN** AND GAVIN MAR Special to The Millerton News

MILLBROOK - Millbrook held its third annual Millbrook Arts and Open Studios weekend on Saturday, July 20 and Sunday, July 21.

Millbrook's festivities were part of the Upstate Art Weekend, an annual celebration of local artists in communities throughout the Hudson valley.

Artists opened their studios to the public, welcoming visitors into inconspicuous garages, loft apartments, revamped basements, and makeshift bedroom studios. Guests could see and learn about their creative processes and inspirations.

Paul Miyamoto uses his surroundings and life experiences as inspiration for his art. "You need to face the artwork square on to understand what it is you see and feel," Miyamoto said. "As well as what the artist was thinking and trying to convey." Explaining his creative process, he joked, "I just walk around and stare at things." Currently, he is working on a series of paintings of trees that he has encountered around town on walks with his dog, Moxie. He intends to "reflect feelings and a sense of something familiar in his art."

Miyamoto's family is originally from Japan and he feels like he owes it to his



PHOTO BY GAVIN MARR

Paul Miyamoto explaining his artistic process at his home studio in Millbrook.

ancestors to tell their stories through art. "Everyone has roots somewhere else," Miyamoto said. "It's a big world, and yet we're all looking for the same thing." Whether that be community or creative inspiration it is a good reminder that we are all human, especially during such divisive times.

Miyamoto and his wife, Sharon Bates, also a talented artist, have lived in Millbrook for eight years. They have helped cultivate the creative community in Millbrook and support local artists. Sharon curated the On the Map exhibition in the Thorne building as well as the Millbrook Library. Sharon has years of curating experience, acting as the former director of the art and culture program at Albany International Airport.

New York DEC offers online exams

Mari DePedro explained how grateful she was for all of the resources in Millbrook, especially the library. The weekend allowed the Millbrook community to come together and appreciate the creativity of those who live among us. Whether you attended the open studios, exhibitions, concert, or public reception, the weekend was a great success and reflected the best of Millbrook.

The artists that participated in the weekend included Sharon Bates, Mari DePedro, Peggy Flaum, June Glasson, Cannon Hersey, Dan Lenchner, Paul Miyamoto, and David Tumblety. Each artist used different mediums and a unique style to create art. Art on display included paintings, photography, sculptures and ceramics.

# for falconry, wildlife rehab and tracking dlers must also score above 80%

The exam is free, but first time applicants must pay a \$25 licensing fee. Leashed dog tracking licenses are good for five years and cost \$50.

# A longtime volunteer priced out of Kent housing market

VIEWPOINT

ouis Dingee spends a lot of time on the road. He regularly drives two hours round-trip from his home in Torrington to Kent, where he volunteers with the Kent Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD).

Louis has been with KVFD since age 14, when he participated in the junior members program after school. By the time he was 19, Louis was a full member, and he's been with the Department for more than two decades since.

"Getting early exposure to the Department is what drove me to continue," he says. "They've grown to be a family to me. I do it for the Kent community – I love giving back to where I used to live."

Louis used to live in Kent. In recent years, the local housing market has completely priced him out. Due to his two hour commute, sometimes Louis is unable to respond to emergency dispatches. "In many cases, by the time I'd arrive, I'd basically be meeting them at the hospital," he explains.

Louis's dream home is modest. He just needs a garage where he can keep his electrician equipment, and a zip code close enough to Kent so that he can respond to emergency calls. But for now, Torrington is the only financially feasible option.

In fact, Louis's situation is not unique. KVFD has lost multiple members over the past few years due to the high cost of housing in Kent. One former volunteer

# **GUEST COMMENTARY** Hannah Pouler

found housing in Sharon, and now volunteers at the Sharon Fire Department. A few members moved to New Milford, where they struggle to balance the commute to Kent with work and family commitments.

In some cases, the relationship between affordable housing and volunteerism is less obvious than forced moves, but still impactful. Alan Gawel, Kent's Fire Chief, has seen more people working two jobs in order to afford housing in Kent. In Gawel's words, "if you're working two jobs, where do you find the time to commit to the Fire Department?'

### **KVFD** has lost multiple members over the past few years due to the high cost of housing in Kent.

John Russell, the President of KVFD, explains that KVFD's recruitment and retention issues are especially worrisome because of the Department's broad remit. KVFD covers not just fire protection services, but also first response, life support, and rescue services.

Four years ago, KVFD could rely entirely on volunteers for 24-hour Emergency Medical Services (EMS) coverage. But in recent years, dwindling volunteer numbers has created uncertainty.

"An ambulance call would come in and we would hope that a member could respond,' Russell recalls. "You can't provide an emergency service on hope. So we had to outsource EMS coverage to the tune of \$320,000 a year.

fighters support creating more affordable housing. More budget-friendly options would help the Department recruit new volunteers, namely younger residents who could afford to move to Kent.

It would also help retain existing volunteers, who wouldn't need to move away or take on additional paid work to afford rent.

And of course, there's a direct budgetary benefit as well. If the KVFD team could return to pre-pandemic volunteer numbers, they could reduce the amount of taxpayer dollars spent on staffing 24-hour EMS shifts.

For these reasons, KVFD is collaborating with Kent Affordable Housing, which secured a grant from the Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity to explore the feasibility of developing housing for volunteers.

The collaboration committee has met monthly since January, and an architect has begun conceptual plans for a few units in a small portion of the warehouse space behind the firehouse.

"Our goal is to make it possible for volunteers to live in Kent," Chief Gawel says of the collaboration.

"I want people to have the ability to respond to emergency calls, go through training, and help with regular duties like fundraising without needing to work a second job or move away."

Gawel is one year away from his 40th anniversary with the Department. Like Louis, he joined when he was a teenager. And like Louis, his love for the community has kept him volunteering for so long.

"People have a calling for this," he told me. "I did, my uncle did, and my great-uncle did. I hope other young people will get the chance to live here, so that they can

nathanm@lakevilleiournal.com Those interested in signing up for an exam must register AMENIA – The New by Wednesday, Aug. 7.

mals

Apprentice falconers are limited to owning one bird:

ing falconry birds. A five-year falconry license costs \$40.

Applicants for the volunteer wildlife rehab license must score at least 80% on the exam, be at least 16 years

on the exam and possess a valid New York hunting license.

vironmental Conservation is conducting free, online license examinations on Friday, Aug. 9.

York State Department of En-

**By NATHAN MILLER** 

Exams are available for licenses in falconry, volunteer wildlife rehabilitation and to use leashed tracking dogs to find wounded big game anieither an American kestrel or a red-tailed hawk. Applicants must score at least 80% on the exam, be above the age of 14, possess a valid state hunting license and maintain DECapproved facilities for hous-

of age and sit for an interview with DEC Regional wildlife staff. Falconers and wildlife rehabilitators must live in New York. The wildlife rehabilitation license is free.

Leashed tracking dog han-

Those with questions or who need further assistance can contact the DEC Special Licenses unit by phone at 518-402-8985 or email at SpecialLicenses@dec.ny.gov

From this testimony, it's easy to see why Kent's fire-

experience 'the calling' for themselves.

"Everyone should get the chance to give back to their community."

Hannah Pouler is a resident of Salisbury.

# A different breed of dog lover

**By MIA BARNES** Special to The Millerton News

SHARON, Conn. Whether volunteering at schools, visiting prisons, or at her home in Kent, Lee Sohl can almost always be found with a dog.

For the past 32 years Sohl has served as animal control officer in Kent. She has since added on three other towns serving as the ACO in Sharon for 10 years, Salisbury for seven, and most recently Cornwall.

Her and her husband, Jim Sohl, who is also ACO certified, live with 14 dogs of their own

Originally from Westchester County, New York, Sohl fostered her love of animals from a young age. Dogs became the subject of her artwork and she said, "By age 12 I had read every dog book in the Chappaqua Public Library.

As she gained more experience, the number of animals in her care grew. She revealed that at one point there were 50 animals in her house, ranging from llamas and pigs to ferrets and chinchillas.

Sohl was asked by the First Selectman in 1991 to take over as the town dog warden, and



PHOTO BY MIA BARNES Lee Sohl and therapy dog Freddie.

having had experience working at the Kent pound, she agreed. For the past three decades she has been fielding calls, answering questions, and searching for dogs while also balancing her full-time job as a reading interventionist and assistant principal at Kent Center School.

The work of an ACO, though seemingly animal centered, involves a significant amount of human interaction. Aside from dogs that Sohl herself finds roaming, the majority of the reports come from community members.

Most cases fall under one of two categories, nuisance (biting or barking) and roaming. The ways in which Sohl

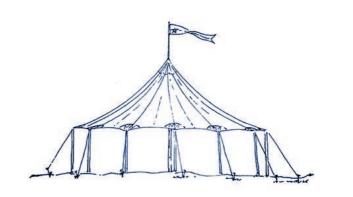
responds vary from case to case.

Above all her goal is to educate the owners, whether that be through a reminder of the licensing mandates or tips on how to handle disobedient behavior. "The people here are animal lovers," emphasized Sohl after stating that she tries to limit her ticketing to "frequent flyers" and formal complaints.

"Social media has made a big difference," said Sohl when asked about how reports are generated. When Sohl started the job, she had 60 dogs in the pound in one year just for Kent; last year there were 20 dogs across all four towns.

When a dog is reported as roaming, all efforts are focused on identification and reunification. If an animal is licensed or is microchipped, they are almost always guaranteed to return home. In other cases, Sohl takes to the newspaper and various social media platforms. During that time, the dog will stay in the pound in which town they were found for a week before being able to be placed in a new home.

"The pound can be a traumatizing place for most dogs."



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### **ENJOY THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL COMMUNITY** STREET FAIR AND SOME GREAT SALES!

# From Pleasant Valley dance school to a national title

By SAVA MARINKOVIC Special to The Millerton News

SALISBURY, Conn. — Earlier this month, a rising talent cemented her place in the firmament of competitive dance when Addison Aylward-Vreeland placed first at the national level of the Beyond The Stars Dance Competition.

Aylward-Vreeland, who will this fall be entering fourth grade at Salisbury Central school, secured top marks among a field of twenty-four regional winners in the solo jazz dance category.

Her routine, "Sugar Pie, Honey Bunch," was the first that she had ever performed solo at the national competition level since she began dancing at age three. Iit took her and her coach, Maile Pikul of Cherilyn's School of Dance in Pleasant Valley, N.Y., nearly seven months of diligent work to perfect.

"Solos have to be two min-



Addison Aylward-Vreeland with her trophy from the national Beyond The Stars Dance Competition.

utes or less," says Aylward-Vreeland, who is already working on her solo routine for the 2025 season, "but I have so many ideas I can't fit them all in."

Those ideas range from song choices, to costumes and

choreography — all selected to be perfectly complementary and to express the sounds, rhythms, and syncopations of jazz music. It's a tall order made by an exacting discipline, but Aylward-Vreeland does it all while staying, in her own words, "cool as a cucumber."

"She's so excited to try new things," says the dancer's mother, Larissa Vreeland, "and every year she challenges herself a bit more."

True to this form, Aylward-Vreeland isn't content only to take home the biggest prizes in her preferred jazz style, but also practices tap, hip-hop, ballet, and large group dance at her team's studio in Pleasant Valley, New York. Her teammates, "the Pearls," are a tightly-knit group that Aylward-Vreeland has been performing with at the competition level since 2021.

Asked to name her dance heroes, Aylward-Vreeland answered, "my friends Lorelei and K.K. They do cool moves and they teach them to me."

On Tuesday, July 9, at the Kalahari Convention Center in Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania, it came time for Aylward-Vreeland to show off those cool moves on Beyond the Stars' national stage.

Three judges, a live audience of five hundred, and numerous far-flung livestream viewers had eyes on Aylward-Vreeland as she took the stage, tracked by spotlights so bright that she was "blinded" to the crowd of onlookers. None of it was enough to faze, however.

"I asked her to let me hold her butterflies," said Vreeland, to which her daughter replied, "I don't have any!"

It was meant to be the capstone performance of a meticulously-crafted routine that had already won Ayl-ward-Vreeland a regional title and first place in four of five seasonal competitions — and the young dancer delivered.

"I wasn't expecting it," said Aylward-Vreeland, recalling how she waited on stage as the judges ranked the performances in ascending order. But as more placements were called without Aylward-Vreeland hearing her name, she began to get excited. "I started to see it coming," she said, beaming from behind her array of trophies, "it felt really good to win."

Following the solo competition, "the local support has been overwhelming," says Larissa Vreeland, citing Addison's incredible teammates, coaches, and supporters as reasons for her success.

For her upcoming endeavor, Aylward-Vreeland will have this support a bit closer at hand. Her team will be competing together in hip-hop, large group, and jazz dance at the World Dance Championship in Secaucus, New Jersey on July 24, 28 and 29, respectively. For the fans who wish to follow the Pearls' next steps, twists, and jumps, a livestream of the event will be available at www. worlddancechampionship. com/live-stream.

# Esther Cohen to read from new 'Route 17' book

By CAROL KNEELAND Special to The Millerton News

COPAKE — Esther Cohen, a self-described lover of pens, will have plenty on hand for the audience to use as she combines readings from her latest book with an opportunity for them to create their own writings at the Roeliff Jansen Library, 9091 Route 22, Hillsdale at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 1.

An energetic communicator, Cohen, who notes keyboards are also welcome, says she especially likes to work with others and enjoys the feedback that classes and in-person events such as the RoeJan presentation allow.

That evening's "All of Us: Stories and Poems Along Route 17" features portraits of individuals such as might be found in Cohen's daily life in either her small New York City rent-controlled apartment or her home in Greene County's Cornwallville, which she shares with her husband of 40 years, Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Peter Odabashian.

Her writing throughout the years runs the gamut from humorous and heartwarming to insightful and thought provoking.

Some of her works are presented as prose and some as poetry. Defining the latter, Cohen notes, "The author is the decision maker... If you, the writer, say it's a poem, I believe it's a poem." With eight books to her credit and five star ratings on Amazon and Good Reads, Cohen's days are crammed as she writes and posts a daily poem where she "tells the story of what happens every day," a practice she began ten years ago simply because, "No one else had done it, so I thought I'd try."

She conducts numerous readings and Zoom writing classes mainly sponsored by the venerable New York Society Library. In a new serial mystery on Kindle Vella, she shares the continuing adventures of a 93 year old sleuth in "There's a Body in My Lobby."

Although she has worked with traditional publishers in the past, Cohen is particularly enthusiastic about venues such as her poetry site at overheardec@substack.com "where writers have a voice" because "I hear from readers every single day. I'm crazy about that. People write me and they say all sorts of things."

Cohen says she was basically "raised in a library," and that her love of writing began at an early age. When she was in seventh grade she and her best friend Gabby began a neighborhood newspaper together. Since then Cohen has been a faithful observer and recorder of life around her.

In general, the work she produces has a light touch as she believes, "It's such a difficult time. I'm in the fun camp. The world is so crazy. Politics are so crazy. Wars are



PHOTO SUBMITTED Esther Cohen will read from her latest book at the Roeliff Jansen Library in Hillsdale at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 1.

so horrible. There's so much sickness. I think we have to remember to enjoy ourselves." Beyond being an author,

Cohen has contributed her

efforts to multiple causes over the years. A political activist, she was the long-time director of Bread and Roses, an organization which aims to improve the lives of marginalized individuals through music.

She founded Unseen America, where "we gave cameras and 12 week classes with professional photographers to migrant workers and nannies and health care workers, fast food workers, and hundreds of groups of people to tell the stories of their lives from their prospective of what they see." Cohen has taught writing classes centering on journaling to many including previously incarcerated women and has worked with labor unions and other nonprofits.



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### **Danbury Hospital**

### **NECC BRUNCH** Continued from Page A1

a three-night and four-day trip to Maine, private tastings and a champagne and sunset cruise for two.

When NECC's brunch started at the Millerton Inn it welcomed 50 people. It has since expanded to different venues and hosts around 1,000 people. With the help from events like these, NECC has provided the community with 240,000 meals.

Meals for the event were provided by Stonewood Farm, Willa, The Farmer's Wife, Campetre, The Baker's Wife, and a cake donated by Troutbeck. The brunch started with cocktails and appetizers consisting of sweet pea canapes, tomato tartlets with whipped farmer's cheese and basil, and candied bacon. The main course of the evening was grilled chicken breast with fresh peach and corn salsa; quinoa with cherry tomatoes, cucumbers and olives; fresh cheese and arugula wrapped in thin-sliced grilled zucchini and focaccia with rosemary and sea salt.

According to Cheri Johnson, marketing and outreach coordinator for NECC, the chefs had to accommodate according to what produce grew in time, with plenty of supply. Since the program relies heavily on local farms' produce and food, the meals had to be slightly changed to fit the supply they were using.

Preparation for the Chef and Farmer Brunch begins around February when



beck, the estate hotel in Amenia, and was designed by Emma Isakoff.

NECC is looking for sponsors and donations and setting up logistics for the event. Between March and April, the program tries to solidify most of its details.

"This is the biggest event we host every year," Johnson said. "I like to call it our wedding ... it takes a long time to plan everything out."

This year's brunch fundraising surpassed last year which totaled more than \$450,000.



This year's auction included vacations, cruises and private tastings.

of their sponsors for making the event possible, including Associated Lightning Rod, Black Sheep Hill Farm, Bank of Millbrook, Ed Herrington Inc., Elyse Harney Real Estate, Galvan Housing Resource NECC gives thanks to all Inc., Habitat for Humanity

Dutchess County, Hammertown Barn, Harney & Sons Fine Teas, Oblong Books, Molly Gochman, Michael Armilio, & Alicia Walter, Tamarack Preserve, Inn at Pine Plains, Watson Livery, Riga Holdings and Diana King.

**NETWORKING** Continued from Page A1



Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and other community members hosted the networking event.

"I came here for the first time last year, and it was so motivational that it inspired me to start working again since Covid," said Rita Longo, a retired veteran and profes-

Speakers for this year's event were Malia Du Mont, Samantha Brittain, and CaraMia Bacchiochi, who all shared parts of their struggles. Du Mont is a Chief of Staff at Bard College and an Army Reserve Officer who "found happiness" while deployed to Afghanistan. Brittain, a Green Teen program manager at Cornell Cooperative, shared her struggles with mental health and addiction. Lastly, Bacchiochi, executive director of Hope on a Mission, talked about her addictions and homelessness, which led her to create her non-profit, which now serves 500 meals a week in Poughkeepsie.

"I hope that tonight all of you feel that sense of empowerment and support from the other women here, and I hope you feel empowered to tackle the challenges you are facing," Serino said.

The guest speakers were asked to stay on the "Vision Beyond Challenges" theme, sharing how they have grown and overcome different obstacles. The Women's Networking Event not only gives women a chance to connect with one another and to grow professionally, but it also allows women to relate and make personal connections.

"Always remember that one door opens when another door closes, but it is up to us to find another one to open," said Serino, "In the face of adversity, women don't get to run and hide."

# From Connecticut woods to East African grasslands

### **By MIA BARNES** Special to The Millerton News

Dr. Daniel Peppe, a North Canaan Elementary School and Hotchkiss alum, is a professor of Geosciences at Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

When he is not teaching both intro and graduate level courses, he can be found conducting research



### **ELECTRIC RATES** Continued from Page A1

mismanagement."

In a public statement Central Hudson maintains that the rate increase will allow the utility to upgrade equipment and technology, respond to severe weather, and address inflationary pressures and employee turnover.

rate request in 2023 for a final termination notices to

the Public Service Commission Central Hudson agreed to complete monthly reading of meters by Oct. 31, 2024, rather than bi-monthly or face a \$2 million additional penalty.

As monthly meter reading began in April Central Central Hudson's initial Hudson has begun issuing

across the globe. In short, his work focuses on the evolutionary processes of plants and animals in response to climate change. Having conducted fieldwork in the U.S. Midwest, Australia and Abu Dhabi, Peppe has settled for Eastern Africa.

While in graduate school at Yale University, Peppe lived in the forests of Uganda with his wife, who at the time was researching chimpanzee behavior. It was there that he was put in contact with a geologist in Kenya who was looking for an extra set of hands at a fossil site.

Over the past 20 years, he has continued his work in East Africa, collaborating with both local and international geologists. Each trip lasts about a month and involves moving from site to site

"The work I do is like building a puzzle, I have all these pieces that need to be put together," Peppe said.

To build the puzzle of what the landscape looked like in Africa 15-20 million years ago, his team uses paleobotany and ecological methods. The "pieces of the puzzle" range from climate patterns to plant and animal communities. Once put together they provide the team with a reconstructed version of the ancient ecosystem. From there, Peppe can estimate how the ecosystem impacted the natural life that once inhabited it.

A recent focus of Peppe's work has been on C4 plants,

Dan Peppe holds the end of a partial femur of an 18 million year old elephant ancestor.

which refer to warm-season grasses.

With his team, he set out to answer the question "when did C4 plants evolve in Kenya and why?'

Unbeknownst to him, the data he would later find would completely shift the timeline of African geology. Peppe's team found that these plants, which are imperative to interpreting the evolution of mammals, including humans, could be dated back 10 million years earlier than previously documented.

This finding then led to their second breakthrough. It was previously claimed that traits and characteristics of apes had developed through their reliance on dense forest as habitat.

However, coupled with the earlier dating of warm-season grasses, Peppe's team was able to connect apes' evolution to both types of vegetation.

Peppe's passion for nature

started long before his academic career. Growing up in the Northwest Corner "really had an impact," he reflected. As a kid he worked his way from Cub Scout to Eagle Scout. His Eagle Scout project was making trail signs for the North Canaan Greenway.

Despite far flung adventures, Peppe still reveres the Northwest Corner. "I think a lot of people overthink where we live," Peppe said. "It is full of interesting geology."

When at Yale, his class went on a field trip to the Falls Village Falls, a place that he associated with childhood memories, not coursework, like fishing in the Blackberry River and hiking Mt. Riga.

"I love what I do," Peppe said. "I get to be outdoors, working with people, discovering new things."



16.5% increase was damaged by cascading billing errors which, according to a New York State Department of Public Service report, resulted in 5,000 customers never receiving bills, 8,000 households overcharged and 30,000 customers on auto pay being billed incorrectly.

By a separate \$64.6 million agreement on June 20 with

customers more than two months behind on their bills.

Central Hudson provides electric delivery to over 300,000 customers from Westchester to Albany. Since 2013 it has been owned by Fortis, a publicly traded Canadian company, which owns 10 utilities in Canada, the United States and the Caribbean.

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The NW Corner is under threat of yet another infestation impacting our forests, that being the Beech Leaf Disease. This is relatively new, which has quickly spread throughout New England. Beech trees primarily are impacted by a tiny nematode that loves both their buds and leaves, resulting in weakening and killing of these beech trees over a number of vears. Great Mountain Forest (greatmountainforest.org) in Norfolk is one of the sites in the state studying the effects of this disease. The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station has put out an informative publication of both what this disease is and how to manage it, please visit: portal.ct.gov/-/media/ caes/documents/publications/ fact\_sheets/valley\_laboratory/ beech-leaf-disease-managementoptions.pdf



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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

### **ART: MIA BARNES**

# **Upstate Art Weekend** brightens Wassaic and beyond

rt enthusiasts from all over the Lountry flocked to the Catskill Mountains and Hudson Valley to participate in Upstate Art Weekend, which ran from July 18 to July 21.

The event, which "celebrates the cultural vibrancy of Upstate New York", included 145 different locations where visitors could enjoy and interact with art.

On Saturday, July 20, The Wassaic Project hosted numerous community events. Will Hutnick, the director of artistic programming, said "We've been a part of it since the beginning, this is the fifth year of UPAW."

Most of the action was based at Maxon Mills, the seven-floor grain





Abstract art display in Wassaic for Upstate Arts Weekend, July 18-21.

mill located in the heart of Wassaic. On exhibit was work from 30 artists, 18 of whom were past residents of The Wassaic Project. "Artists can come and do a residen-

Movies

cy here, meaning they live and work with one another for a couple months at a time," Hutnick stated.

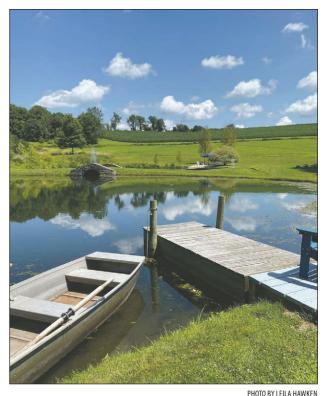
The first floor held work by Petra Szilagyi, who uses dirt and linseed oil to construct images of paranormal concepts, most of which include bats. They reflected that a recent trip to a fifth sense competition in Vietnam was the influence behind the exhibit.

Across the floor was Tiffany Smith's interactive installation which incorporated plants and wicker chairs, all of which were objects associated with her Carribean upbringing. "The room being filled with plants is symbolic of hurricane prep which often included bringing the plants from outside into the house," Smith

said.

As visitors made their way up the narrow wooden stairs, music could be heard from behind the walls. The echoing music was Daniel Shieh's installation, entitled Mother's Anthem, which played a recording of the American Anthem in 30 languages. The languages ranged from Spanish and Italian to Navajo and Bengali.

Each floor was filled with artwork of all mediums, including painting, fibers, collage and photography. Rachel Bussières, who switched



Serene scene from the Garden Tour in Amenia. **GARDEN: LEILA HAWKEN** Green thumbs drawn to Garden Tour

he much-anticipated annual Amenia Garden Tour drew a steady stream of visitors to admire five local gardens on Saturday, July 13, each one demonstrative of what a green thumb can do. An added advantage was the sense of community as neighbors and friends met along the way.

Each garden selected for the tour presented a different garden vibe. Phantom's Rock, the garden of Wendy Goidel, offered a rocky terrain and a deep rock pool offering peaceful seclusion and anytime swims. Goidel graciously welcomed visitors and answered questions about the breathtaking setting.

**Amenia Finance** Director Charlie Miller welcomed visitors to his Bog Hollow Road garden

Maitri Farm was next, a lesson in coordinating agriculture with natural balance. The farm stand and a walk among the greenhouses brought visitors together.

Near the center of Amenia was the garden of Polly Pitts-Garvin, offering a chance to visit a robust vegetable garden with raised beds to be envious of and a remarkable absence of any insects or usual vegetable garden problems.

At Chez Cheese, the vast garden acreage surrounding the 1850s historic home of Joan Feeney and Bruce Phillips in Millerton, visitors could begin at refreshment stations where walking tour maps of the 15-acre property were available. There were streams and ponds with docks, and a dozen bridges arranged around

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her concentration after watching the 2017 solar eclipse, uses varying light sources to produce lumen prints. During the wildfires, she recounted that she "made a new exposure each day to

*Continued on next page* 

in Wassaic, a manicured expansive yard with well-placed garden beds framing a far-reaching view. He said he plans carefully each winter for the next spring's improvement.

The organic, environmentally responsible

the landscape. In the 19th-century, the property had been the home of the Wilson Cheese Factory, inspiring the name of the estate.

The Amenia Garden Tour was supported this year by Paley's Garden Center in Sharon.



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# **Casting into depths at dawn**

RATTSVILLE, N.Y. The Schoharie Creek, a fabled Catskill trout stream, has suffered mightily in recent decades.

Between pressure from human development around the busy and popular Hunter Mountain ski area, serious flooding, and the fact that the stream's east-west configuration means it gets the maximum amount of sunlight, the cool water required for trout habitat is simply not as available as in the old days.

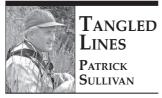
This is not a new phenomenon. It does seem to be getting worse, though.

Gary Dodson and I convened where the creek makes its final run into the Schoharie reservoir, part of the New York City water supply



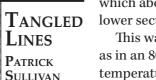
PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Gary Dodson working a tricky pool on the Schoharie Creek, hoping to lure something other than a rock bass from the depths.

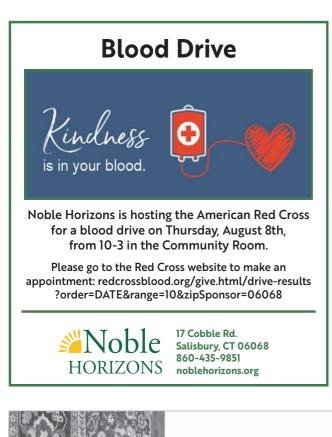


system, on a semi-broiling Thursday afternoon, July 11.

Catch smallmouth bass,



The goal was simple.



which abound in the lower section of the river. This was hot stuff -

as in an 80-degree water temperature. The air temperature

was actually slightly less at 77.

After negotiating the intensely slippery rocks, festooned with treacherous algae, the first major pool presented several difficulties, with a back eddy competing with a main flow and several large trees draped about the whole thing.

I hit on the simplest strategy, which was to flip a weighted attractor fly called a Tequilley into the start of the eddy so it would proceed slowly but steadily into the maelstrom, sinking all the while.

This worked. A proper adult smallmouth, with bronze coloring and vertical stripes, took the thing.

The point-and-shoot camera finally died, however, and I was not

going to try to fumble my phone out for a nice but routine fish photo. Why not?

Because I guarantee the fish would have made a sudden, last-moment bolt for freedom, causing me to drop the device into the drink.

Gary moved downstream while I continued trying to annoy the residents of the pool, succeeding a couple of times with different colored Wooly Buggers.

Then we all got bored and I moved off, where Gary was catching rock bass and cussing them out for not being something else.

I have to admit, they are not the most compelling critters. Something about the red eyes.

This latest trip was dominated by extremely tedious and distasteful Harry Homeowner activities, but on both Wednesday and Thursday mornings I prowled Woodland Valley Creek. By "morning" I mean "dawn," because that was when the water temps were down to a barely acceptable 64.

I made the acquaintance of several stocked browns and of a handful of their wild cousins. The wild fish are smaller and nimbler.

The successful ploy was an Adams wet fly, size 16, drifted behind something big, like a Parachute Adams or Stimulator.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Mona Lisa Palmer and Deke Muyskens of Falls Village danced at Robertson Plaza in Norfolk on Saturday, July 20.

### **MUSIC: JOHN COSTON**

### Norfolk rocks as storm rolls in

lose to 70 music lovers gathered 🖊 at Robertson Plaza on Saturday, July 20 as the Joint Chiefs, an Americana band, played a free concert sponsored by the Friends of Robertson Plaza.

An hour into the concert, the western sky began to show threatening signs of bad weather, but the band persevered and the crowd just pulled out umbrellas and rain gear, checking cellphones for weather updates.

With the backdrop

# ... Upstate Art

### Continued from previous page

capture the changing air quality".

Luciana Abait also incorporates the natural world into her pieces, instead using maps. An environmental activist



of Haystack Mountain, the musicians filled the air in Norfolk's historic downtown with rich country, folk and blues tunes.

One Falls Village couple kicked off some dancing. People lingered in their parked cars, or sat in circles around the band's setup.

As 4:30 p.m. approached, the cloud unleashed a downpour, ending the show.

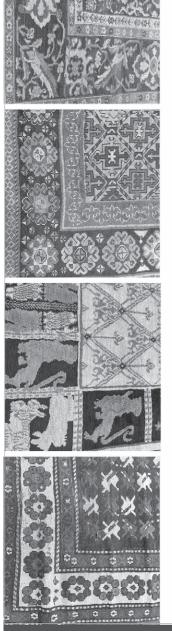
The Friends of Robertson Plaza is planning a fall festival on Sept. 28.

originally from Argentina, Abait's work highlights "environmental fragility, specifically the impacts it has on immigrants." Her installation that is currently on display at Maxon Mills, takes the form of a mountain range built solely from maps of the US and Argentina.

Throughout the day, visitors could "Arm







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Wrestle 4 A Popsicle". Winners had the choice of 3 playfully flavored trout-inspired popsicles - Nightcrawler, Power Bait, and Salmon Roe. Artist Katie Peck, who spent the day in costume as a rainbow trout, encouraged guests to step up and try their hand at an arm wrestle.

Shibori Indigo dyeing, group meditation, and dance workshops were open for community members of all ages as well.

While the daytime activities fostered appreciation of fixed art, a dance party until midnight at The Lantern Inn offered guests a space for performative art.

When describing the environment of The Wassaic Project, Smith emphasized, "It's all community, it's all love."

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# **COMPASS**

# **LIFESTYLE: KAYLA JACQUIER & RILEY KLEIN** Canaan Railroad Days delivers in year 60

ach July since 1964, Railroad Days has pulled into North Canaan to promote all the town has to offer.

Year 60 of the summertime tradition brought two weeks of activities for locals and visitors to enjoy. From railroad tours to carnival games, North Canaan **Events Committee put** forth a calendar full to the brim with fun.

The Canaan Country Club Car Show opened the festivities on July 7. Vintage vehicles shined in the afternoon and then attendees cooled off with trivia at Great Falls Brewing Co.

Throughout the two weeks, downtown businesses put on special promotions for the occasion. NBT Bank gave out free popcorn and Olde School Deli's Railroad Burger was a hit with a free bag of chips.

The Railroad Days Vendor Market was held at Lawrence Field on Saturday, July 13. A total of 67 merchandisers signed up to market their products.

Before the COVID-19 shutdown, this Railroad Days market was known as the 'Craft Fair'. With the name change, the market expanded from crafts to all types of marketed goods.

Customers discovered handmade jewelry, refurbished home decor, antique products, art pieces, thrift clothing, baked goods and farm stand goods to purchase. Throughout the shopping experience, visitors could stop by the food trucks to enjoy some fresh lemonade and snacks from the Blazin' Poppers and Food 4 Friends. Vendors from across the region attended and the selection drew big crowds. The broadened category of products contributed to NCEC's main priority to indulge in "family-friendly activities," as committee chair Jenn Crane described them.



PHOTO BY KAYLA JACQUIER

From left, Ayrslea Chritinat Odell, Maralisia Camardi, Jenn Crane, and Pat Graff tend the staff booth at the Vendor Market.

businesses." All volunteers worked tirelessly to make the wide variety of events possible.

The annual Bed Race was held outside North **Canaan Elementary** School July 13. A tradition of Railroad Days from decades past, the race was reinstated last year and now features any homemade, fourwheeled, man-powered racing machine.

The carts are pushed by four runners with a fifth teammate sitting on the vehicle. The course begins on Pease Street, turns into the drop-off circle at the school's entrance, then turns back down Pease Street to cross the finish line.

Perotti Plumbing's team completed the lap in 31.02 seconds and won for the second straight year. The fan-favorite "Royal Flush" cart, fit with a pipe wrench for a fender and a toilet for a seat, held up well through the sharp turn back onto Pease. Firefighters operated the only competing vehicle and finished the course



piece of your own. With snacks, drinks, and other materials needed for the arrangements offered to the customers.

Canaan Carnival took over Lawrence Field beginning Thursday, July 18. Games of chance, thrilling rides and fried delicacies enamored the crowds.

The grand finale of the 60th anniversary of Railroad Days on July 20 came to a close with a bang.

It was a jam-packed day full of memorable events, starting with the 2nd annual Triumph field fly-in, the boot

PHOTO BY KAYLA JACQUIER The team at Freund's Farm made colorful bouquets at Sip & Clip.



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Above, the firework show lit up the sky after the conclusion of the drone show (below), July 20.



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW



Volunteer Alicia Whiting explained that she was drawn to the Railroad Days events to "help support the community and local

in 37.41 seconds.

The team at Freund's Farm hosted Sip & Clip on July 17 and 18. Guests were invited to the farm to create flower arrangements from homegrown blooms.

Flowers were pre-cut before the rain on day one of the event, so the visitors could choose from them while keeping dry in the greenhouse. **Rachel Freund informed** everyone about the types of flowers available, their Latin names, and how they work best in each arrangement.

From there, it was time to choose a vase and create a master-

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drive fundraiser, and the carnival.

The firefighter's parade marched down Main Street as the evening approached. Departments from across the region joined in the bright occasion.

The day continued as crowds filled the town with cheer and communal enthusiasm, awaiting the arrival of the drone and fireworks shows.

LED-lit drones created spectacular displays in the sky such as a smiley face, fire truck, American flag, railroad crossing sign, and a symbol of unity for the community.

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Perotti Plumbing won the bed race for the second straight year.





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# COMPASS **TRI-CORNER CALENDAR**

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

### JULY 27

### The Cornwall Village **Vegetable Garden Tour**

Cornwall Village Green, Cornwall, Conn

On Saturday, July 27, from 10 a.m. to noon, there will be a selfguided tour through six interconnected village gardens. Meet the gardener at each location and learn their gardening secrets. Registration table on Cornwall Village Green with illustrated map. No RSVP required.

### **Summer Concert Series:** Vance Cannon

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

The David M. Hunt Library and the Falls Village Recreation Committee are excited to offer a summer concert series on the lawn of the David M. Hunt Library. On July 27 at 6 p.m. the library will host Vance Cannon. The final event on Saturday, Aug. 24 at 6 p.m. will be a community talent show/open mic night. Pack a picnic, bring chairs or a blanket, and join us on the library lawn for music this summer! These events are free and open to the public.

### **Free Outdoor Pilates Mat** Classes

Near the flagpole at Community Field, Lakeville, Conn.

Discover the Essentials of Pilates! On July 27, at 8 a.m., join Suzanne Oliver, owner of Lakeville Pilates at 350 Main St., for an energizing Pilates mat class in the great outdoors. Perfect for beginners and experienced practitioners, this class will cover the foundational exercises of Pilates.

Pilates improves core strength, flexibility and posture while

### **JULY 28**

### **Summer Picnic at Copake** Grange

Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Road, Copake, N.Y.

There will be a Summer Picnic at Copake Grange on Sunday, July 28, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. The picnic will be potluck, indoors or outdoors (depending on the weather). Bring your friends and family and a favorite summer dish (serving 6-10 people)

Water, lemonade, plates, napkins, flatware and cups/glasses will be provided.

### **Paper Marbling with** Christina di Marco

38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

### **AUGUST 1**

### **The Choc-Ice Woman** by Mary Costello

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

On Thursday, Aug. 1 at 4 p.m., the David M. Hunt Library will host a discussion of Mary Costello's short story "The Choc-Ice Woman" with Dathalinn O'Dea. Costello's second book and first novel, Academy Street, won the Irish Novel of the Year award.

### **AUGUST 3**

### **Mt. Washington Church** Fair

Church of Christ Mt. Washington, 428 East St., Mount Washington, Mass.

Offering more prizewinning possibilities, shopping opportunities, and family fun than ever before, the Mt. Washington Church Fair kicks off its 91st consecutive year, as always on the first Saturday in August. Admission is free and includes a ticket for the door-prize drawings, including some for kids only this year. The Fair will take place on August 3, rain or shine, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the intersection of Plantain

### Pond Rd. and East St. in Mt. Washington, MA. Pets are not permitted.

### **Scenic Sips Fest**

Roeliff Jansen Park, NY-22, Hilltop Barn, Hillsdale, N.Y.

Scenic Sips Fest is coming to Hillsdale, N.Y. on Saturday, Aug. 3, from 4 to 8 p.m. (Rain date: Sunday, Aug. 4), showcasing local craft beverages, specialty food, and crafts. Over 15 Columbia County producers of beer, wine, spirits, and cider will be present, with live music from Curt Buchan, Rounders Revival, and more. Diverse food options include: Ukrainian, Italian, soul food, and sweet treats

### **Artist Reception**

The Wish House, 413 Sharon Goshen Tnpk, West Cornwall,

The Souterrain Gallery of The Wish House will be hosting an Artist **Reception Saturday Aug.** 3 from 3 to 6 p.m. for Suzan Scott, Nature is a State of Mind. The exhibit runs through Sept. 29.

### **Open Mic at A Weekend** in Norfolk

Robertson Plaza, Norfolk, Conn

Calling all musicians! Come play the Open Mic at A Weekend in Norfolk from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3 at Robertson Plaza in lovely downtown Norfolk, Conn. Each musical act gets 15 minutes. Full PA provided. Musicians must bring their own instruments.

### **AUGUST 4**

### **Music by Mozart**

Christ Church Episcopal, 9 South Main St., Sharon, Conn. Violinists Marla Rathbun and Rachel Evans, with organist Jon Lafleur will perform four Mozart Church/Epistle Sonatas at Christ Church Episcopal, 9 South Main St., Sharon, Sunday, Aug. 4 at the 9 a.m. Service. The young Mozart composed 17 church sonatas when employed by the Archbishop of Salzburg in the 1770s. The public is invited to enjoy the service whose theme is "When In Our Music God is Glorified."

### **AUGUST 9**

### **Rose Algrant Show**

Cornwall Consolidated School, 5 Cream Hill Road, West Cornwall, Conn. The 65th Annual Rose Algrant Art Show, a beloved tradition in Cornwall, is set to enchant art enthusiasts from August 9th to 11th at the Cornwall Consolidated School.

This esteemed exhibition will feature a diverse collection of artworks from talented artists residing in Cornwall. Attendees will enjoy an array of media, including paintings, photography, drawings, ceramics, handmade shoes, textiles, prints, furniture, and sculptures.

### 

### **Art Show**

Douglas Library, 108 Main St., North Canaan, Conn douglaslibrarycanaan.org

Raymond Kwiatkoski's nature poems. soulful photographs will be on exhibit at Douglas Library through Aug. 30.

His theme for the show is "Rural Wealth," which captures the spirit of the places he has seen and photographed on long drives through some of Connecticut's small towns.

### **Adult Pick-up Basketball**

Stanford Recreation Park, Stanford, N.Y

Mondays at 7 p.m. Free and open to all levels of play.

### Watercolor on Location with Peter Cusack

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

On 2nd & 4th Wednesdays from July to August, 10 a.m. to noon, sketch outdoors or indoors with guidance from Peter Cusack.

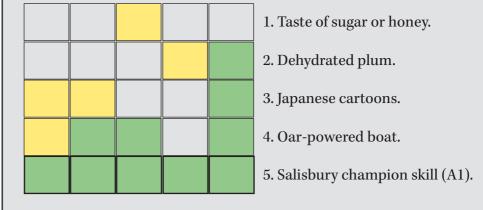
Register at www. scovillelibrary.org

### Last week's WotW.

G V Е L А Е Х Т R А В R Α Κ Е D В Е А R R В Е А S

# Word of the Week

Hints relate to adjacent five-letter words. Solve to reveal correct letters. Green tiles indicate correctly placed letters in the Word of the Week. Yellow tiles indicate a correct letter in the wrong place. Uncolored tiles indicate letters that do not appear in the WotW.



15. A way to ooze

21. American firm

23. Popular sandwich

27. Comedian Cook

30. Political action

committee

Michaels

(abbr.)

warm

pieces

42. Morning

45. Widen

Sudoku 9 6

8

5 7

3 8 1

3

2

22. Jewish calendar month

29. The NFL's big game (abbr.)

31. Make a low, steady sound

32. Legendary sportscaster

33. One thousand cubic feet

34. Designed to keep ears

36. Tear into two or more

38. Flying arm of the U.S.

41. One died leaving a will

44. The world of the dead

8

7

3

4 6 9

1

9

8 6

6

7 8 3

35. One who scrapes

37. Supervises flying

military (abbr.)

40. District in Peru

20. Publicity

### WORD OF THE WEEK ©THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

### **CLUES ACROSS** 1. Average damage per system (abbr.)

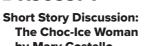
- 5. Lustful woodland gods
- (Greek mythology) 11. Colombian Town
- 12. Sour
- 16. A way to stuff
- 17. Former AL MVP
- Vaughn
- 18. Carried or transported 19. Cannot even fathom
- 24. Hammer is one 25. A way to separate
- 26. Not moving
- 27. Women's service



Scoville Memorial Library, scovillelibrary.org

There will be a handson paper marbling workshop at the Scoville Memorial Library on July 28 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Register at www. scovillelibrary.org



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organization (abbr.) 28. German river 29. Quantitative fact

- 30. A person's head 31. Process that produces
- ammonia 33. French modernist
- painter
- 34. Too much noise 38. Agree to a demand
- 39. One a line at right
- angles to a ship's length 40. Employees
- 43. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- 44. Component of hemoglobin
- 45. Quick and skillful in movement
- 49. Passing trend 50. Part of the eye
- 51. One who acclaims
- 53. Deadly amount (abbr.)
- 54. Taste property
- 56. Genus of mosquitoes 58. Blood type
- 59. A group of countries in special alliance 60. Institute legal proceedings against 63. Shade of a color
- 64. Spoke 65. Work units

### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Charge with a crime 2. Mended with yarn 3. North Atlantic flatfish 4. Boil at low temperature
- 5. Lapps of northern
- Scandinavia 6. Poisonous plant
- 7. Atomic #22
- 8.36 inches 9. Monetary unit of Russia
- 10. Type of gin

HORIZONS

- 13. An alternative 14. Alone

5 2



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**July 18 Solution** 



54. Monetary unit
55. Resigned to one's
sleeping chamber
57. Execute or perform
51. "The Golden State"
52. "The Beehive State"

46. Drink containing

48. Secret encounters

medicine

47. Celebrating

50. A type of tag

52. Modern tech

51. Halfback

(abbr.)

Ju	July 18 Solution													
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# **OUR TOWNS**

# Labrador maimed in bear attack

### **By RILEY KLEIN** rileyk@lakevillejournal.com

CORNWALL, Conn. — An eight-year-old black labrador retriever named Charlie was mauled by a bear in his yard the evening of Wednesday, July 17.

Phyllis Nauts, his owner, said she did not hear or see the fight and only realized what had happened when Charlie came inside for mealtime.

"When it was time for dinner he came into the house and didn't seem interested. which, if you know anything about labs, is unusual," she said. "He collapsed on the kitchen floor. As I petted him I realized there was blood on his flank."

Nauts said the bite marks were deep and roughly the width of a dime. Charlie could not make it upstairs to sleep, so Nauts arranged dog beds in the kitchen and slept with him on the floor.

The next morning she took Charlie to Millertonbased veterinarian Caroline Cannon, who put him on a combination of antibiotics, pain killers, rabies boosters, and tender love and care. She also condemned Charlie to a cone collar while he healed.

As of Friday, July 19, Nauts reported her beloved lab is on the mend. "He's chipper and up and about."

Nauts said she has seen bears on her property for many years but has never experienced an incident like this.

"I'm concerned there may be a rogue bear out there," she said.

Nauts reported the attack to Cornwall Town Hall, who will forward the information to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.





PHOTOS BY PHYLLIS NAUTS

Charlie the black lab was bitten by a bear July 17. Bite marks on both flanks left deep wounds in the dog.



PHOTO PROVIDED

# Topic: Brain health

Katja Schultz, resident Speech Language Pathologist at Sharon Hospital, hosted a brain health seminar on Wednesday, July 17.



PHOTO BY JEN MARKOV

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status, physical or mental

disability or an intention to

make any such preference,

limitation or discrimination.

# **Estabrook Intern Award**

Lakeville Journal Intern Simon Markow, left, receives the 2024 Bob Estabrook Award from Salisbury Rotary Club Tuesday, July 16. Managing Editor Riley Klein praised Markow's dedication and hard work.

# Land conservancy members fall ill after Barn Dance event in Millbrook

**By JOSIE DUGGAN** Special to The Millerton News

MILLBROOK – The Dutchess Land Conservancy hosted their Barn Dance at the historic Thorndale Estate Sheep barn on Saturday, June 15.

Following the event, a mysterious illness struck many attendees, causing severe GI issues. Guests experienced symptoms including vomiting, diarrhea, and severe fatigue - with some lucky attendees not getting sick at all.

The cause of the illness is still a mystery. The health department continues to investigate causes but has cited cyclospora as the culprit.

Cyclospora is a parasite that is typically found in tropical areas and can contaminate water and food.

Whether it was the food that caused the sickness remains unclear. However, if attendees have not already displayed symptoms, is it highly unlikely that they will begin to. Guests reported symptoms lasting for one to two weeks, with most feeling well enough to attend other

recent gatherings.

This mission of the **Dutchess Land Conservancey** is to preserve the scenic, agricultural, and environmental resources of Dutchess County.

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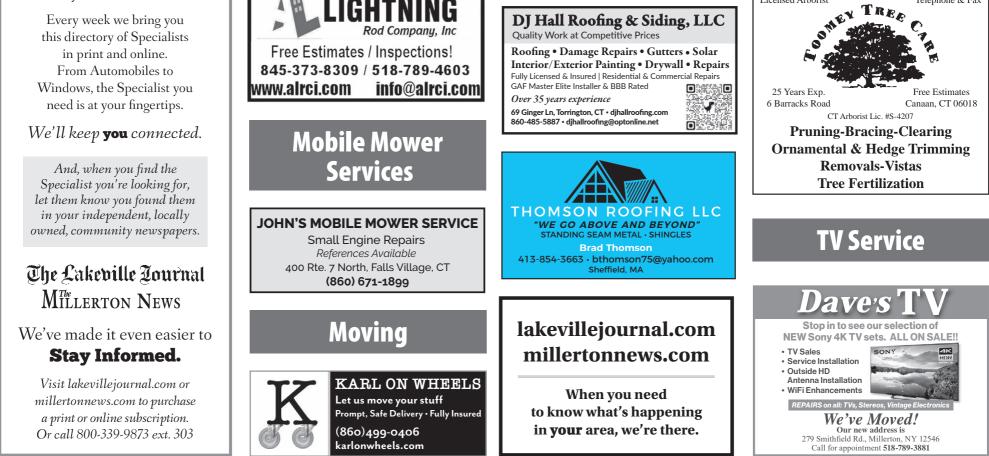
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