



**MILLBROOK**  
Rotarians  
clean up **A7**



**MILLERTON**  
Exceptional  
teacher  
to remember  
**A2**

**COMPASS**  
Searching for  
Bigfoot, and  
More **B1-4**



**Special Banner, Page A8**



PHOTO BY COLLEEN FLYNN

Townpeople, local officials and retired veterans celebrated Veterans Day on Monday, Nov. 11 at Veterans Park in Millerton. More Veterans Day coverage on page A7.

## Millerton honors its local veterans

By COLLEEN FLYNN  
colleenf@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — American Legion Post 178 in Millerton held a ceremony honoring local veterans on Monday, Nov. 11.

Residents, elected officials, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office and retired veterans all came to pay respects at Veteran's Park downtown. The ceremony began at 11 a.m. and opened with a prayer read by an American Legion member.

"As we look back on those sacrifices, we know Lord that you were blessing us through each one of those people who sacrificed their life in defense of our nation," said Chaplain Julian Strauss, "We ask

you to bless the members of our armed forces, give them courage, hope and strength, and may they ever experience your firm support, gentle love, compassionate healing"

The prayer ended with the raising of a flag, lifted by Chaplain Strauss. After a moment of silence, three veterans from the community performed a three-volley salute. Once the shots were fired, a recording of the Star-Spangled Banner began to play in honor of those who served.

After the ceremony was completed, members of the local legion invited the community to attend a small lunch gathering at their American Legion building at 155 Route 44 in Millerton.

## Connecticut hears case for Northwell's merger with NuVance Health

By RILEY KLEIN  
rileyk@lakevillejournal.com

HARTFORD, Conn. — The Connecticut Office of Health Strategy held a Certificate of Need hearing on the proposed merger between Northwell Health and NuVance Health Wednesday, Nov. 6.

NuVance, parent company of Sharon Hospital, is seeking to merge with Northwell, the largest private health care system in New York state, primarily for financial stability. NuVance has

reported a deficit of \$99 million in 2024 and is in need of a partner to survive.

"The risks of trying to pull this off as a standalone system are simply too great," said NuVance CEO John Murphy.

Murphy said Northwell was chosen from an initial pool of 25 potential partners. Northwell has had success reviving struggling hospitals in the past and has never closed down a hospital.

He said Northwell "demonstrated a willingness to make a significant capital commitment"

to NuVance's seven hospitals in Western Connecticut and New York's Hudson Valley. Murphy praised Northwell's "distinguished history of turning hospitals around that were facing financial distress."

If the merger is approved, Northwell will become the parent company of NuVance Health. NuVance's board of directors would continue to oversee its hospitals, but six new board members would be added from Northwell's team. Northwell will oversee approval

See NUVANCE, PAGE A8

### 2024 Election

## Hinchey, Barrett reelected; Pulver edges out challenger

By JOHN COSTON  
johnc@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Democratic incumbents State Senator Michelle Hinchey and Assemblymember Didi Barrett won reelection on Tuesday, Nov. 5, according to unofficial results of the Dutchess County Board of Elections.

State Sen. Hinchey, D-41, outpaced Republican challenger Patrick Sheehan with 55% of the vote compared to Sheehan's 45%.

Assemblymember Barrett, D-106, defeated Republican challenger Stephan Krakower by 54% to 45%.

Dutchess County Comptroller A. Gregg Pulver, a Republican, edged out Democrat Dan Aymar-Blair in the race for County Comptroller with 50.13% of the vote, compared to Aymar-Blair's 49.79%, or a difference of 475 votes.

Municipal elections were held in North East, Amenia, Millbrook and Stanford.

In North East, Republican

Christopher L. Mayville, a current Town Board member, defeated Democrat Rachele Grieco Cole by a margin of 53% to 47%. The election was for an unexpired term on the Board.

In Amenia, Nicole Ahearn, a Republican, defeated Charlie Miller, a Democrat challenging her for her town board seat. Ahearn had 55% of the vote, compared to Miller's 45%

In Millbrook, Peter Doro was

See ELECTION, PAGE A8

## Eight fire departments battle Millbrook fire on Verbank Road

By NATHAN MILLER  
nathanm@lakevillejournal.com

MILLBROOK — Volunteers from eight nearby departments assisted Millbrook firefighters in fighting a four acre brush fire on Verbank Road in Millbrook Sunday afternoon, Nov. 10.

Volunteers representing Union

Vale, Pleasant Valley, Dover, East Clinton, LaGrange, Amenia, West Clinton and Beekman assisted Millbrook volunteers in battling the blaze at 348 Verbank Road.

Millbrook Fire Chief Dominic Boscardin said a homeowner igniting a fire started the blaze that grew to four acres at its largest. At 4 p.m. responders had managed to

get control of the fire and shrink it to under two acres.

Boscardin expected to be packed up by sundown.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation gave Dutchess County a high fire danger rating in late October. Towns

See FIRE, PAGE A8



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OUR TOWNS

# Habitat for Humanity forges ahead with North East home construction

By COLLEEN FLYNN  
colleenf@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Dutchess County Habitat for Humanity volunteers completed setting the new home in the Town of North East on its foundation Wednesday, Nov. 6.

“The house set on Wednesday was amazing and went very smoothly, taking only 5 hours,” said Todd Bowen, Habitat for Humanity’s Senior Project Director. “We are very grateful to all of our volunteers and subcontractors that made this day a success.”

Last month, the foundation was completed with the installation of sill plates, which was done with help from volunteers. The three-bedroom home will be approximately 1,400 square feet,



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

The walls and roof of the affordable home on Rudd Pond Road in North East went up on Wednesday, Nov. 6.

laying on a half-acre of land, and is expected to be ready for the family by the middle of December.

“We are also so grateful to everyone who stopped by during the house set, intro-

duced themselves and showed their support to Habitat,” Bowen said.

Habitat’s next steps will include weekly volunteer days scheduled to begin on Tuesday, Nov. 12, when people

can help with either interior or exterior work. The beginning of the week will begin with the porch and stair construction, then later moving to appliance installations and sealing the home.

“We will begin to build the back and side porches and there is opportunity to do some interior work if porches are not your thing,” Bowen said. “We have something for everyone!”

Habitat for Humanity is still looking for volunteers throughout the process of building the home in the Town of North East. To volunteer, go to [www.habitat-dutchess.org/volunteer/](http://www.habitat-dutchess.org/volunteer/) and look under “construction volunteer opportunities.” You must be 16 years old to participate.



PHOTO BY PUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

Violet Simmons, a teacher from Millerton and subject of an upcoming presentation by North East historians, shown in her home in July 1981.

## Historical Society to host talk about teacher Violet Simmons

MILLERTON — The North East Historical Society will host a special presentation about the life of an extraordinary teacher at its annual meeting in the annex of the NorthEast-Millerton Library on Saturday, November 16, at 2 p.m.

The public is invited, and the event is free.

There will be a brief business meeting at which Ralph Fedele will be honored for his long commitment to local history and to the Irondale Schoolhouse preservation project.

Then North East Town Historian Edward Downey will give a talk entitled, “Violet H. Simmons — A Remark-

able Teacher.” Miss Simmons grew up in Millerton and taught in its schools for 48 years. During the last half of that time she was legally blind.

After the presentation, the historical society will host a reception and tour of its special exhibit on the “History of Schools in North East” in the North East-Millerton Library. Refreshments will be served.

**Don't Miss This Week's Special Inserts! Sales and more!**

Check them out inside.

- Herrington's
- Oblong Books

# Pawling man arrested on fentanyl, meth charges near high school

By NATHAN MILLER  
nathanm@lakevillejournal.com

PAWLING — The Dutchess County District Attorney’s Drug Task Force arrested an individual accused of selling crystal meth and fentanyl out of his home near Pawling High School Wednesday, Nov. 6.

The District Attorney’s office said in a press release that officers arrested 59 year old William Frenza, of Pawling, after purchasing illegal substances from him and obtaining a search warrant for his residence.

Around 9 p.m. Wednesday,

Nov. 6, officers executed the search warrant and discovered “a significant quantity of fentanyl packaged for sale, methamphetamine, and other narcotic drugs,” according to the release. Authorities charged Frenza with one count of possession of a narcotic drug with the intent to sell, a class B felony; one count of possession of methamphetamine with intent to sell, a class D felony; and one count of possession of a narcotic drug.

Mr. Frenza was later arraigned in the Town of Pawling Court and remanded to Dutchess County Jail on

\$100,000 cash bail, \$200,000 secured bond or \$400,000 partially secured bond.

“The Drug Task Force is starting to see an increase in methamphetamine being sold in Dutchess County,” the

press release says. “The public is urged to contact the Drug Task Force with any information regarding the sale or manufacturing of methamphetamine or any dangerous drug in Dutchess County.”

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# HELP PROTECT OUR FARMLAND FOR FARMERS

**F**arming has always been at the heart of the Northwest Corner of Connecticut. But that way of life is more at risk than ever, thanks to rising land prices and aggressive residential development. Now, the agricultural conservation easements that were put in place to safeguard farmland for our farmers are coming under attack.

The Sharon Land Trust is working to hold the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) accountable for enforcing an agricultural easement that was supposed to protect fields once owned by local farmer Morris Paley. In 1984, Paley wanted to ensure that his family property would be used for agriculture for generations to come. The state used our tax dollars to pay for an easement restricting development, so that it could stay farmland forever. But today that protected land is being developed for a large private residence.

It's not the only one. DoAg has also approved the construction of a similar private residence on another historic Sharon farm with a similar easement from the 1980s. There are many others at risk across CT. **We believe that DoAg has a duty to enforce these easements. Otherwise, our local farmers will be priced out of the land that was meant for them, and we will fail to honor our commitments to the farmers who were on the vanguard of conservation 40 years ago.**

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

**Your support is crucial.**

There are many ways to take action together.

Sign and share our online petition. You can find it at:

[www.change.org/ProtectCTFarms](http://www.change.org/ProtectCTFarms)

Online petition:



Write, call or email DoAg.

Express your support for the preservation of the historic Paley Farm and urge it to uphold the agricultural easement on this property, as well as all the others.

**Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt**

Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 701  
Hartford, CT 06103

**PHONE: (860) 713-2501**

**EMAIL: Bryan.hurlburt@ct.gov**

Write, call or email Governor Ned Lamont, State Representative Maria Horn, and State Senator Stephen Harding.

Ask them to advocate for the protection of Paley Farm, and to press DoAg to retract its approval of the proposed construction.

**Governor Ned Lamont**

Office of the Governor  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

**PHONE: (860) 566-4840**

**CONTACT: portal.ct.gov/governor/contact/email-governor-lamont**

Contact Governor Lamont:



**State Representative Maria Horn**

Legislative Office Building, Rm 3704  
300 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

**PHONE: (860) 240-8585**

**EMAIL: Maria.Horn@cga.ct.gov**

**State Senator Stephen Harding**

Legislative Office Building, Rm 3400  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

**PHONE: (860) 240-8800**

**EMAIL: Stephen.Harding@cga.ct.gov**

Go to [Sharonlandtrust.org/protectfarms](http://Sharonlandtrust.org/protectfarms) to find letter templates, contact information, and more ways to help.

**Together, we can keep our corner of Connecticut farmer-friendly!**



860.364.5137  
info@sharonlandtrust.org  
sharonlandtrust.org



## THE MILLERTON NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE A5

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024

## Older adults and cyber security

From mobile devices to connected home devices, technology is embedded in our lives. Emerging technologies, like generative artificial intelligence, have many benefits for society, but with those innovations come new opportunities for bad actors to disrupt our online activities at home, school, and at work.

According to the latest Cybersecurity Attitudes and Behaviors Report from the National Cybersecurity Alliance, 84% prioritize online safety. Yet only 38% use unique passwords for their accounts, and only 36% always install software updates—many of which include important security features.

There are simple, effective ways to stay safe online: Update passwords often; use multi-factor authentication whenever possible; and never use the same password for all your accounts — especially for banking. Your banking credentials should always be unique from any other online account.

One more precaution is a good healthy dose of skepticism. Never share personal information with someone you don't know. Don't click on any links or attachments in emails or texts you don't recognize. Delete any suspicious emails or social media 'friend' invitations you receive.

But increasingly sophisticated scams — some using artificial intelligence — continue to target older adults. A recent article in Psychology Today showed that older adults' vulnerability to scams like these can be exacerbated by social, emotional and cognitive problems, and that limited social network size, loneliness and social isolation also increase risk.

One sinister development is the rise in sophisticated 'vishing' or 'voice phishing' scams,

## GUEST COLUMN

Terra Carnrike-Granata

in which fraudsters use voice messages or phone calls to trick people into sharing personal information. AI is now making it possible for bad actors to mimic people's voices and even respond to questions in real-time. Older adults are especially vulnerable to this scam.

If you receive an unexpected call, even from someone you know, always verify their identity through another method like texting or emailing them, and never give out personal information.

Having a conversation with your parents, grandparents or other older adults in your life about recognizing and avoiding cyber threats can be difficult — for you and for them — and even a little intimidating. But it's critically important, and there is easily accessible help online.

NBT Bank offers online resources for recognizing and avoiding online threats. Other organizations such as the cybersecurity alliance, the National Institute on Aging, the National Council on Aging, the federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the FBI, and the American Bar Association have increased their focus on cybersecurity for older adults.

Information is power and armed with resources like these, we can help older adults stay safe and protect them from fraud in an ever-complex digital world.

Terra Carnrike-Granata is Senior Vice President and Senior Director of Information Security at NBT Bank.



“Switched to decaf. I'm gonna at least try not to bite his head off.”

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## Local girl model; Area Code 914 split; lightning

September 9, 1933

“Local Girl Artist Model”; Marjorie Helen Baldwin daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Baldwin, of Boston Corners, was the artist's model for the illustrations of “Hired Hostess,” a story appearing in last week's Liberty Magazine.[sic] Miss Baldwin is a former Millerton High School student.

The illustrations were by Harold Denison, of Boston Corners, one of America's outstanding illustrators and etchers. Mr. Denison illustrates a number of stories for Liberty and other periodicals, and frequently employs residents of his community as models.

“Radio Star Dedicates Song to Betty Strong”; Clayton McMichen, leader of the Georgia Wildcats, popular radio stars who recently appeared at the Paramount Theatre here, sang a special number dedicated to little Betty Jane Strong way down in Millerton during his broadcast from WGY at 10 o'clock Monday morning.

“Absentee Voters Cast 219 Ballots, President And Mrs. Roosevelt Head List; 67 Applications Rejected”; President and Mrs. Roosevelt headed the list of 2019 Dutchess County residents who voted by absentee ballot Tuesday. In addition, several other absentee ballots were mailed to members of the President's staff by Commissioners of Election William E. Leak and John A. Flynn. There were absentee voters in practically every district in the country with the third district in the Town of Hyde Park, President Roosevelt's home district, leading the list with a total of sixteen. Fifteen absentee ballots were cast in the third district of the town of Amenia, and the second district in the town of Milan was third with eleven absentee voters.

September 11, 1974

“Webutuck Teachers Press for Rapid Settlement”; Close to 80 teachers, their families and friends turned out en masse Tuesday evening at the monthly meeting of the Webutuck Board of Education. The teachers called for the School Board to sit down with the Webutuck Teachers Association (WTA) to reach a contract settlement.

The demonstrators represented the WTA, and were supported by several members of the Pine Plains Teachers Association.

The teachers' attendance at the Board meeting is yet another move by the WTA in

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

## The Millerton News

pressing for a speedy contract settlement.

“Train Return Date Uncertain Says DOT”; Lettie Carson of Millerton, president of the Harlem Valley Transportation Association (HVTA), said this week she is “very pleased” with passage of the \$250-million rail bond issue by New York State voters in last week's general elections.

State officials however, would not say this week exactly when passenger service would be restored to Millerton.

November 11, 1999

“Bridge Delays Cause Headaches”; MILLERTON: For months, John and Jan Gilmor, who own and operate Gilmor Glassworks, have had to cope with lost business due to construction of the bridge over the Webatuck Creek on Route 44 in the village. Now they are fighting back, and it appears they are getting results.

“Our business has been directly affected,” said Jan Gilmor, whose business specializes in hand-blown glass. John Gilmor estimated the lost parking could have cost his business upwards of \$40,000.

“We thought it would be over in July,” he said. “Work started May 15, but it was supposed to start May 1. They had a skeleton crew here the whole time. There was no overtime and no work on weekends. And for three weeks in August, nothing happened.”

Mr. Gilmor's frustration continued even after repeated calls to Sen. Vincent Leibell's office. According to Jan Gilmor, retail business had been growing at a 30-percent clip annually until the bridge project slowed things down.

According to Purdy Halstead, the assistant to the regional director of the DOT in Poughkeepsie, the bridge work is in its last phase. New beams are ready to be placed under the bridge's superstructure. Concrete is being formed to allow beams to be placed on the abutment. New sidewalks are being constructed.

“We expect it will be completed by the end of the month,” he said.

The 1907 bridge is being renovated for the first time in its history. The 20-foot span will have a see-through parapet to observe the creek

below. Once the work is done, it should last at least 50 years, according to Mr. Halstead.

“Area Code 914 to Split, Is 518 Next?”; While Dutchess County residents learned last month that area code 914 will soon be split in two, the fate of neighboring 518 has remained largely a mystery — until now, that is.

“Area code 518 is scheduled to be exhausted by the third quarter of 2000,” said Rebecca Barnhart, a spokeswoman for the North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA), which assigns area codes.

As was the case with 914, the proliferation of fax machines, pagers, wireless phones and computer data lines has proliferated to the point where many area codes nationwide have needed what NANPA and other agencies call “relief.”

With the exception of Pine Plains, Millerton and North East, all of Dutchess County currently falls within 914. The sprawling 518 area code stretches from north-eastern Dutchess, westward to the Rome/Utica area and northward the Adirondacks, Plattsburg and the Canadian border.

Faced with the choice of a geographic split of 518 into 2 area codes and the so-called “overlay” method, the state Public Service Commission (PSC) chose the former.

The new code, which is not expected to take effect for several months, has not yet been determined. Because it con-

tains more numbers, Westchester County is expected to retain the 914 code, while Ulster, Orange, Rockland and Dutchess must change.

“Associated Lightning Rod Strikes a Move to Route 22”; NORTH EAST: With business booming, Associated Lightning Rod Company is moving its headquarters from Cooper Road to a convenient location on Route 22, just north of Flood's Sanitation and across the street from the village highway garage.

Passers-by can plainly see the construction of wood framing for the new building as it is being erected. Siding will be installed next week.

Associated Lightning Rod is a family-run business owned by Robert Cooper, his wife Mary, son Robert and daughter Liz Cooper-Wendover. The business specializes in lightning protection for both residential and commercial buildings. The company was formed in 1985.

Protecting valuable electronic equipment and personal belongings is always a good investment, but especially at a time of increasingly powerful weather systems.

Considering the fact that lightning causes more than one-third of all fire losses, the elder Mr. Cooper said in a previous interview that the installation of a protection system is a good investment because it can also save lives.

Lightning is responsible for more deaths and property loss than tornadoes, hurricanes and floods combined.

## The evil do-gooders do

Joseph Conrad always saw accurately into the heart of man, understood the real hidden danger was always in the well-meaning do-gooder, a person so myopic that they do not realize the dangers, the evils, they pose. And so it has proved, with well-meaning do-gooders (and some ringers) in Arizona, Missouri, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, New York, Colorado, and failed in Florida, Nebraska and South Dakota is nothing. Not a damn thing.

Federal law has Constitutional priority over state law. Even if every state “protected” women's rights, a federal ban — as promised in Project 2025, now re-labeled as Maga Playbook 180 (which clearly shows they mean to enforce Project 2025 measures in 180 days) — a federal abortion ban wipes out every state law, every single State Constitutional ballot measure. Poof, finito. And MAGA is already putting that before Congress.

So, in the end, these well-meaning women's rights groups have played into Maga's election hands. And with their do-gooderism, in this one election goes the future of our Constitution and, sadly, world peace.

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

And the farce does not stop there. What they achieved in

## A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Peter Riva

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## THE MILLERTON NEWS

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## OBITUARIES

### Hazel G. Trahan

NORTH CANAAN — Hazel G. (Bushey) Trahan, formerly of Barlow Street, Canaan, passed away Nov. 6, 2024, at the Geer Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in North Canaan. Born in Swanton, Vermont on March 4, 1927, she was the eighth of nine children of Royal and Cora (Raymond) Bushey. Hazel was the wife of the late Robert Napoleon "Nappy" Trahan, and worked for many years at Litchfield Bancorp where she rose to the position of Assistant Vice President before retiring in 1992. She was a communicant of St. Martin of Tours Parish St. Joseph Church in North Canaan, a member of the Daughters of Isabella and a member of the Berkshire Career Women's Club. Hazel enjoyed crocheting and cooking — her doughnuts were always in demand — but her greatest pleasure was spending time with her grandchildren.

Hazel is survived by her children; Cora Waldron of Cherry Valley, New York, Robert (Jr.) and Jean Trahan of Newport News, Virginia, Beatrice and Cricket Trotta of Salisbury, Kathryn Trahan, also of Salisbury, Tina and Donald White of Fairfield,

and her daughter-in-law, Cheryl Trahan of Torrington. Hazel was predeceased by her son, Charles and her son-in-law, Edward Waldron. She lovingly leaves behind eight grandchildren; Jennifer Waldron Martinez, Robert N. Trahan III, Cassandra Trahan Simoncelli, Joseph Trahan, C.J. Trotta, Phoebe Trotta Vernall, Catie White, and Ben White; as well as thirteen great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Nov. 21, 2024, at 10 a.m. in St. Martin of Tours Parish, St. Joseph Church, 4 Main St., North Canaan, Connecticut. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery. Calling hours will be held on Nov. 20, 2024, at the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main St., North Canaan, Connecticut from 4 to 6 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Daughters of Isabella Scholarship Fund, 4 Main St., North Canaan, CT 06018. Hazel's family would like to express their gratitude to the staff of Geer Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, especially those on Harmony Lane, for the care and compassion that was given to their mother.

### David H. Wheeler

CRARYVILLE — David H. Wheeler Jr., 66, of Craryville, passed away on Nov. 8, 2024 at Albany Medical Center. He was born in Sharon, Conn. on June 29, 1958, to the late David H. Wheeler Sr. and Lorraine (Greene) Wheeler. He spent most of his life in and around the Harlem Valley area where he attended trade school to become a carpenter and tradesman. He started out doing framing, roofing, and general repairs. Being a skilled craftsman led him to become caretaker for the Rheinstrom farm in Copake.

Which is known today as the Rheinstrom Hill Audubon Sanctuary and Center.

David was a hard worker who dedicated himself to the property. This coupled with his love for the outdoors and being an avid sportsman he enjoyed the wildlife and the ponds thoroughly. As a fisherman he enjoyed both casting a line and using a fly. A true conservationist, he also enjoyed hunting deer and turkey. He was also a loving father, brother and friend.

David is survived by his son, David Wheeler III, of Sharon,

NEW HARTFORD — Peter L. Hawley of New Hartford, died on "Kilobyte Day," Oct. 24, 2024. Even though he loved and understood how digital machines work, Peter would have cared little that his earthly life ended on 1024. He was practical and not sentimental. Peter cared deeply about others and lived for three things: To race, to ski, and most of all, to be helpful to others.

The meetings of the Hartford Track Club, of which he was president for over 20 years, and of the Hartford Marathon Foundation will be a little shorter, without Peter to remember the nuances of the myriad details of conducting a road race.

Peter served on the ski patrol of Ski Butternut for 44 years following college and three years in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. Since 1990, Peter had been a first aid and outdoor emergency care instructor. In 2014, he achieved a national ski patrol appointment. His patrol director said Peter was the first to report to work, every day that he was on duty with the patrol.

Peter began running at age 35, briefly following in the footsteps of his brother, Tim, and then soundly beating him for 37 years. Many are the runners who were out-kicked to the sound of Peter's size 12 Brooks Beasts coming out of

nowhere. Peter completed 49 marathons including several Bostons and every Hartford Marathon from the inaugural race in 1996 through 2022. He always helped set up the course, too. He "did" the Mt. Washington Road Race three times and ran probably more than a thousand other races.

We are thankful that he was not hit by a car while training for a marathon before dawn or when crossing the Founder's Bridge on his bicycle to certify the Hartford Marathon course. And that he fully recovered from the mild stroke he had a few years ago. We are thankful for the many years he was a friend, co-worker, mentor, and brother.

Peter graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1967. He became an FCC-licensed radio technician, then served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps (graduating first in his class at signal school), and graduated from Wabash College in Indiana. Together with his father and brother, Peter built a house where he lived for 35 years.

At Al's Seafood, he applied his listening and computer skills to improve processes.

As an astute IBM AS400 tech with business knowledge, Peter found a role at Hartford Technologies and worked there until he retired in 2019. Peter volunteered to help CFPA maintain CT Blue Trails.



Peter was the eldest son of Kathleen Lamphier Hawley and Samuel Seymour Hawley. He was predeceased by his parents, brother John, and sister Karen. He is survived by his brother Tim, nephews Sam and John, niece Kirsten, and many friends in the Butter-

nut Ski Patrol, Hartford Track Club, and Hartford Marathon Foundation.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday Nov. 16 at 11 a.m., Rocky Hill Congregational Church, 805 Old Main St., Rocky Hill, CT. Reception at the church to follow. Remote access at <https://bit.ly/4fCJe43>. In lieu of flowers, contributions to the Great Mountain Forest Foundation in Norfolk, CT or volunteering to help the Hartford Track Club conduct a race would be welcomed.

Kindly visit [www.thurstonrowfuneralhome.com](http://www.thurstonrowfuneralhome.com) to send the family an online condolence.

### Janet Lynn MacRitchie

KENT — Janet Lynn MacRitchie, age 67, died on Nov. 5, 2024, near her home in San Francisco, following a brief battle with cancer. Janet was born in Sharon, on Aug. 4, 1957, the daughter of the late Bruce Wellington MacRitchie, Sr. and Gladys Kopf MacRitchie. Janet grew up in Kent, and attended Kent Center School, Housatonic Valley Regional High School, and Western Connecticut Community College. In her 20's Janet and several close friends worked at Yellowstone National Park following which she moved to San Francisco working as a design specialist on commercial furnishings. Janet returned to Kent every year to visit with family and friends, and to spend time at the family cabin in Mount Tremper, New York.



Janet is survived by her brother, Joseph H. MacRitchie and his wife Dottie, sister, Penny L. MacRitchie, sister, Amy L. MacRitchie Aakjar and her

husband Ron, sister-in-law Carol Gordon MacRitchie;

nephews Joseph M. MacRitchie, Scott MacRitchie and his wife Sue, Steven D. Williams, Daniel W. Williams Jr, and nieces Cheryl L. MacRitchie Burke and her husband, Ed, Annette L. Williams Euell, Susan L.

Williams Fortier, and Amy M. Williams; great nieces Melanie Burke, Kelsey Burke, Melissa L. Euell, Holly Fortier, Hailey Fortier, Keisha Williams, Ann Marie Williams, Heidi Williams, Alexandria Williams, and great nephews Clinton Williams, Daniel Williams III, Jesse Williams, and Laurence Williams.

Janet was predeceased by her brother, Bruce Wellington MacRitchie Jr, sister Charlotte A. MacRitchie Williams, and nephew Mark C. Williams.

Janet was an animal advocate, avid reader, and enjoyed travel, her precious cats, and spending time with family and friends.

Services will be private.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

A meeting of the plot owners of the Amenia Island Cemetery Association will be held on Tuesday, November 19th at 5:00 p.m. at the Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22 Amenia, NY for the purpose of electing trustees and for such other matters that may properly come before the meeting.

The annual meeting of the trustees will immediately follow the meeting of the plot owners.

10-31-24  
11-07-24  
11-14-24

### Legal Notice

The Board of Trustees of the Evergreen Cemetery Inc. have scheduled a lot owners and general business meeting on November 23, 2024 at 10:00am. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Post #426 located at 9 North Main Street Pine Plains, NY 12567.

11-14-24  
11-21-24

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF AMENIA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Amenia will conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on the 5th day of December, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, Town of Amenia, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, New York 12501, at which time all parties in interest and citizens

shall have an opportunity to be heard as to whether the Town Board of the Town of Amenia shall adopt "Local Law No.   x   of the Year 2024, Creating a New Chapter   x   entitled 'Advisory Boards'."

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the purpose and intent of the proposed Local Law is to provide authority for the creation of advisory boards.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Proposed Action is a Type II Action as determined in 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(33) and, accordingly, the Town Board hereby expressly determines that this action is not an action that requires review pursuant to the provisions of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA).

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the proposed Local Law No.   x   of the Year 2024 is available for review and inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk during regular office hours, at the Town Hall, Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia New York and on the Town's website at [www.ameniany.gov](http://www.ameniany.gov).

Dated: Amenia, New York  
November 7, 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD  
DAWN MARIE KLINGNER,  
TOWN CLERK  
11-14-24

his brother and sister in law, Richard and Gail Wheeler, also of Connecticut and his nephew, Adam Wheeler, of Utah.

In addition to his parents, David was also predeceased by his brother Brad Wheeler.

A time for sharing memories and offering condolences will be on Monday, Nov. 18, 2024, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Peck

& Peck Funeral Homes, 8063 Route 22, Copake, New York. Donations in his memory may be made to the Lustgarten Pancreatic Cancer Research, 504 RXR Plaza, Uniondale, NY 11556

For directions or to leave a message of condolence for the family, please visit [www.peckandpeck.net](http://www.peckandpeck.net)

More obituaries appear on Page A4.

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More obituaries appear on Page A5.

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OUR TOWNS

# Webutuck Elementary honors local veterans with breakfast

By NATHAN MILLER  
nathanm@lakevillejournal.com

AMENIA — Veterans gathered with their children and grandchildren at Webutuck Elementary School Friday, Nov. 8, for a breakfast and short assembly in the gym.

Parent Teacher Association President Anna Kall organized the special Veterans' day breakfast that welcomed 13 veterans of the Army, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard to the school. Veterans ate a hot breakfast of eggs, sausage and toast and drew

for prizes like fresh pies to take home.

After the breakfast students, teachers and veterans gathered in the gym. After saying the pledge of allegiance the students were seated on the floor to watch a slideshow of community veterans' portraits and hear a presentation from Army veteran Peter Cipriano about the symbolism of the U.S. flag.

Cries of "red," "blue," "fifty," and "thirteen," sprung up from the excited kids as Cipriano asked them about the colors of the flag and the number of stars in the blue field.



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Webutuck Parent Teacher Association President Anna Kall organized the breakfast that brought 13 veterans to Webutuck Elementary School Friday, Nov. 8.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

The Rotary Club of Millbrook held a village clean-up day on Saturday, Nov. 9. Showing off his accomplished technique was organizer and proud Rotarian Tim Bucklin, who was encountered along lower Franklin Avenue.

## Millbrook Rotarians tidy up the Village and have fun, too

By LEILA HAWKEN  
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — The Rotary Club of Millbrook pitched in for a village clean-up day on Saturday, Nov. 9, leaving no candy wrapper behind as volunteers tidied the length of Franklin Avenue from the traffic light at Route 82 and east along Route 44.

"I'm not finding much," said Tim Bucklin, encountered along lower Franklin Avenue toward Route 82, armed with a trash pick-up wand, an official Rotary reflector vest, and a bright yellow trash collection bag. Careful scrutiny during the interview did identify a cigarette butt lying near the pavement that could be removed. Otherwise the area was clean.

The post-Halloween period usually produces candy wrappers, Bucklin said. Other common items include lots of scratch-off lottery tickets and an assortment of things that may fall from passing vehicles.

Three other Rotary members had volunteered to work on Saturday, Bucklin noted. All three were spotted along Route 44 eastbound, two together on one side and one on the other.

The local Rotary Club volunteers conduct Clean-up days four times each year, occasionally assisted by students from Millbrook High School's service based Interact Club.

"That's why things are so good around here," said Bucklin, praising the work of all volunteers for clean-up days.

## Amenia seeking volunteers for available board seats

By LEILA HAWKEN  
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — The Town of Amenia has issued a call for volunteers to fill openings on a variety of local boards and commissions. Any resident is invited to consider applying for any listed position.

Seats are available on the following boards: Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals (both a regular member

and an alternate), Board of Assessment, Ethics Committee, Recreation Commission, Water District and Wastewater Committee.

Interested town residents should send a letter of interest and a resume by email to dm-klingner@ameniany.gov or by mail to Town Clerk, Dawn Marie Klingner, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, NY 12501. The application deadline is Monday, Dec. 2, 2024, at noon.

# Amenia Veterans Day ceremony draws residents to Fountain Square

By LEILA HAWKEN  
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Assembling at Fountain Square on Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11, to honor veterans and their service to country, about 75 residents heard prayers, patriotic music, and fervent speeches before witnessing the laying of a memorial wreath.

Expressing "the nation's gratitude for the task fulfilled," VFW Post 5444 Commander Nick Woodard spoke movingly about the men and women who have served under the flag, "responding to the call of duty to achieve lasting peace and security."

"Let them know that they are not alone," was a prayer offered by VFW Chaplain Rick Butler on behalf of all

veterans and their families. VFW Women's Auxiliary President Charlene Mayville offered brief thanks for continued service by veterans.

Remembering the sacrifice of those who left town, home and family to serve somewhere far away and dangerous, Town Supervisor Leo Blackman honored their commitment to protect those who remained behind.

"The founders shaped our democracy to be the opposite of the monarchies they fled in Europe," Blackman said. "Democracy has been an example and a hope for people around the world," he added, indicating that the names memorialized on the monument wall built a great nation and fought to protect it.

"You who bravely fought

for democracy must continue to keep it alive and resist tyranny from outside or within. We will not forget your service or that of those who were lost," Blackman concluded.

The laying of the memorial wreath was accompanied by "Taps."

Local storyteller and musician Joseph Sobol sang "This Land is Your Land," inviting all to join in on the chorus.

Recognizing a debt of gratitude to all who have served, the Rev. R. Kent Wilson of Im-

maculate Conception Church in Amenia, asked for divine protection for all those who are serving now to protect freedom.

Offering a prayer of thanks "for American heroes, their courage and integrity," the Rev. Wilson spoke on behalf of a grateful nation.

A luncheon followed at VFW Post 5444, offering opportunity for those gathered to share remembrance of their own service and that of others.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Honoring all veterans during Amenia's observance of Veterans Day on Monday, Nov. 11, the traditional color guard from VFW Post 5444 and local fire companies gathered with residents and local officials at Fountain Square.

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OFFICE CLOSED NOVEMBER 28 & 29

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Classified Line Deadline is Noon on Friday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>

Letters to the Editor deadline is 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>

Ad deadline for the Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> issue is Noon on Wednesday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> for ALL Display Advertising

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**ELECTION** *Continued from Page A1*

ected Mayor with 95% of the vote in an uncontested race. In a race for two seats as Millbrook Village Trustees, Democrat Julia Bucklin received 27% of the vote and Republican Elizabeth Molella Socci won 24.95%. Democrat Shannon Mawson trailed with 24.75%. Republican Kay Vanderlyn Ulrich won 23% of the vote.

In Stanford, Adrienne Zetterberg, a Republican, won election for an unexpired term on the Town Board by 50% to 49%, defeating Democrat Theodore Eagleson Secor.

Amenia voters also approved a proposal on the ballot to increase the town's contribution to the operat-

ing budget of the Amenia Free Library by a 60% to 40% margin.

Similarly, voters in North East voted 72% to 28% to increase the level of support for the NorthEast-Millerton Library in Millerton.

A third proposition, which was before voters in the Town of Washington to increase the contribution of the town to the Millbrook Library, also passed by a 56% to 44% vote.

A New York State proposal, called Prop One, also passed by a 57% to 43% margin in Dutchess County. The proposal protects against unequal treatment based on ethnicity, national origin, age, disability and sex.

All results are unofficial.

**NUVANCE** *Continued from Page A1*

of capital and operating costs. Northwell CEO Michael Dowling explained his organization's values: "We want to be the best place to receive care and the best place to work."

Northwell described a model of assimilating cultures with the hospitals it takes over, focusing on engagement with the staff to attract new professionals and minimize turnover.

Dowling said Northwell's health care network serves more than two million individuals annually and offers medical care from birth to the end of life.

Northwell currently operates 23 hospitals and more than 900 care locations. More than 85,000 individuals are

employed by Northwell. "We are not a hub and spoke system," said Dowling. "We have a record of expanding care as needed in each local community. We believe in providing care as close to where people live as possible as long as it can be done safely and with the highest quality."

The community-driven group Save Sharon Hospital was granted intervenor status for the Nov. 6 hearing and expressed support for the merger between Nuvance and Northwell.

Sharon Hospital's Dr. Howard Mortmon, labor and delivery specialist since 1991, stated his trust in Northwell to "do what is right for Sharon Hospital and our community."

Northwell representatives have visited Sharon to meet

with the community group several times in the past year to discuss concerns and goals for the future of rural healthcare in the Northwest Corner.

"They do not plan to cut any services and instead plan to grow services at Sharon Hospital," said Mortmon. "[Northwell] has shown they greatly care about Sharon Hospital."

Dr. David Kurish of Sharon Hospital spoke in favor of Northwell's plans to increase intensive care services. In 2023, Nuvance applied for a certificate of need to replace the ICU with a progressive care unit.

Kurish said Northwell's pledge will "lead to fewer patients being transferred" from Sharon Hospital.

Overwhelmingly positive

remarks filled the public comment session of the hearing.

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) said, "This affiliation is in the best interest of my constituents." She felt Northwell demonstrated an "impressive record" of investing in community hospitals and praised its commitment to engaging with stakeholders.

Sharon Hospital board chair Richard Cantele said he supported the merger because "hospitals are the cornerstone of our communities" and Northwell will preserve "a long-term future for Nuvance Health and Sharon Hospital."

Following public comment the hearing was closed. The Office of Health Services will review the filings before making a ruling on the certificate of need.

# Perfect Pets Rescue hosts adoption event in Pine Plains

By **ROBIN RORABACK**  
*Special to the Millerton News*

**PINE PLAINS** — On Sunday, Nov. 10, Poughkeepsie-based Perfect Pets Rescue held an adoption event at the Pine Plains Lion's Club. Dogs who were available to adopt and their foster parents were there. Volunteers from Stissing Mountain High School's FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) were on hand to help out with the dogs.

The dogs available at the event were Bessie, a black lab mix, and two young mixed breed puppies named Buff and Amber. Besides these three, Perfect Pets has more dogs available on their website.

One person who stopped by was Dan Hubbard who came all the way from Maryland to adopt a dog. He had seen another dog from Perfect Pets on Petfinder, but that dog had been adopted and he then found Bessie. Why did he come all that way for a dog? "The Baltimore area has a lot

of dogs, but mostly pit bulls, about 98%," he guessed. "I'm more of a lab guy and they are hard to find." He didn't want a purebred saying, "I'm not a purebred kind of guy."

Perfect Pets does not have a shelter. Instead, it uses a network of foster homes to care for the adoption animals.

Leslie Gorden, who fosters dogs for the rescue, said she began fostering when she was looking for a second dog. She decided to foster dogs instead. "Fostering is very satisfying, knowing they are going to a good home and are off the euthanasia list," Gorden said. One of the things she enjoys when the dogs come to her house is "Watching them decompress and come out of their shell and become their true selves." Her dog enjoys it too and "another dog helps them adjust quicker."

Jen Blackburn, who also fosters, echoed Gorden. "I really enjoy it. I like helping the rescue and I am happy to see the dogs go to nice homes and to get new fosters" and start

the process again.

"Fostering is very important," said Debra Hirsch, a volunteer with Perfect Pets who handles application screening and helps wherever needed. "Our rescue (and every other rescue) needs fosters."

Potential fosters must fill out an application and be approved. Perfect Pets supplies food and takes care of veterinary bills for the dog being fostered.

They get most of the dogs and cats they foster from shelters in Georgia where euthanasia rates are very high.

What else can people do to help if they can't adopt or foster? Monetary donations or donations of supplies (dog food, collars, leashes, pet beds, crates) are welcomed. Perfect Pets also welcomes "help with paperwork, processing applications, dealing with the media, transportation, or helping at adoption events."

To find out more information about adoptable dogs and cats, fostering, volunteering, donating, adoption events, and for contact information, go to: [www.perfectpetsrescue.org](http://www.perfectpetsrescue.org).

**FIRE** *Continued from Page A1*



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

**Crews from eight neighboring communities battled a four acre brush fire that started at 348 Verbank Road in Millbrook Sunday, Nov. 10.**

and villages across the county, including Millbrook, have issued burn bans in response to the dangerously dry conditions. While these bans are in place it is forbidden to start a fire or do anything which could cause a fire to start. "All outdoor burning of yard waste, household paper products, bonfires, campfires, warming fires, outdoor fireplaces, chimneys, and cooking fires within said ju-

risdiction is prohibited," according to Millbrook's state of emergency declaration.

In addition to restricting outside burning, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino also issued a statement. Cigarette butts should be carefully extinguished. Fireplace and wood stove ashes should not be discarded on the ground or in receptacles near your house. It's also best to avoid parking over dry leaves and

monitor power equipment for sparks and hot mufflers.

Eastern Dutchess County Fire and Rescue announced Saturday, Nov. 9, that New York State Parks and Recreation Firefighter Daniel Vasquez died fighting a fire in Orange County, New York.

The Greenwood Lake fire has spread to over three square miles as firefighters struggle to contain the blaze.



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Alicia Dillinger visits with puppies Amber, left, and her brother Buff at the Perfect Pets Rescue Adoption Event at the Pine Plains Lions Club on Sunday, Nov. 10.

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

LIFESTYLE: NATHAN MILLER

## Searching for Bigfoot

A group of nearly 30 squatchers and skeptics gathered at David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village Thursday evening, Nov. 7, for a presentation from Bigfoot researcher Mike Familant.

Familant is the Bigfoot fanatic behind "In the Shadow of Big Red Eye," a weekly show he produces to document his hunt for Bigfoot in the Eastern U.S.

Familant said he began his Sasquatch hunting career basically on a whim. In 2011 he bought tickets to join fans on a Bigfoot research expedition at Torreya State Park in the Florida Panhandle, put on by the crew behind Animal Planet's "Finding Bigfoot."

That first trip was life changing for Familant. He and his friend Jimmy had set up their encampment away from the other guests on the trip, both to reduce the chances of bothering the other campers with late-night fireside chatter and to improve their chances of encountering the elusive Bigfoot. The woods were quiet until the last night of the trip. Early in the morning, as Familant and Jimmy were relaxing by the fire, they began hearing knocks on trees surrounding the tent. Frightened, Familant retreated to the car to avoid any wildlife that might want to hurt him. Undeterred, Jimmy coaxed him back to the campfire to experience the strange encounter. Shortly after returning, Familant said a series of fist-sized rocks flew through the trees and landed on the ground with solid thuds around their camp. Familant's friend then picked up one of the fist-sized rocks, and in an attempt to communicate with whatever might be throwing them, threw it back. "I knew it wasn't a person," Familant said. "Because at that exact moment a 15 pound, lap-top-sized boulder came crashing down and lands just five feet from us."

That night in the woods convinced Familant of the existence of Bigfoot, and he has been producing his show ever since. "I would still be sitting in an ambulance on the street corners of



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER

**Mike Familant of Sussex, New Jersey, has collected casts of suspected Bigfoot prints from dozens of sights since he began researching the cryptid in 2011.**

Tampa if that rock hadn't been thrown at me," Familant said.

Now, producing "In the Shadow of Big Red Eye" is Familant's full-time job. He spends over a hundred nights camping every year, collecting footprint casts, video and audio in his search for evidence of Bigfoot. Familant's travels have taken him across the Eastern U.S. into nearly every state east of Ohio.

Familant's mission in producing the show and touring the country for presentations is to "entice friends and families to get off the couch and into nature, to see something you wouldn't normally see."

"Growing up I was happiest in front of the TV playing a video game," Familant said. But now, he spends most nights in a tent or on the road, hiking or on his way to the next hike to find Bigfoot in the Appalachian wilderness. Whether or not Bigfoot really exists, Familant said what's important is discovery, curiosity and getting outside.



**Familant said during his talk that getting friends and families outside is his biggest inspiration.**

"Life with the possibility of Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster,"

Familant said, "is a hell of a lot better than life without it."



PHOTO PROVIDED

Rebecca Churt

LIFESTYLE: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

## Transforming collective healing

Rebecca Churt, a grief and death doula based in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts, got her MBA at The MIT Sloan School of Management during Covid and immediately joined a Buddhist monastery.

"I think getting my master's degree was an exercise in highlighting just how much of the current way of doing things isn't working, is not meant for what needs to be happening going forward," Churt explained.

Churt's own journey into grief work has been shaped by personal experience, including moving from Germany to the United States at a young age. "Grief has kind of been a lifelong companion to me in lots of different forms," she explained. This early experience introduced her to the nuanced ways grief can manifest. The pandemic deepened her commitment, highlighting the urgent need for collective grief spaces.

*Continued on next page*

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### BOOK TALK AND SIGNING



Tom Morrison is a retired attorney who now writes farcical novels - about lawyers! His last book, SEND IN THE TORT LAWYERS\$, was a semifinalist for the Mark Twain Award for Humor and Satire.

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<b>MY OLD ASS</b>	
<b>CONCLAVE</b>	Thu. Nov. 21 Advance Shows <b>WICKED</b>
<b>ANORA</b>	<b>GLADIATOR II</b> Tickets On Sale Now!

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COMPASS

LIFESTYLE: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

# Luminaries Series welcomes Dan Harris for conversation and meditation at Troutbeck

Troutbeck's Luminaries Series continues this fall with a special appearance by acclaimed journalist and meditation advocate Dan Harris on Sunday, Nov. 24, at 3 p.m. in the Manor House Ballroom. Harris, a former news anchor who famously chronicled his journey to mental well-being in the No. 1 New York Times bestseller "10% Happier," will explore the power of meditation, a practice he credits with fundamentally reshaping his life.

The event promises an engaging discussion between Harris and Sascha Lewis, Troutbeck's director of culture and commerce. They will discuss harnessing the mind's potential to improve overall well-being, blending the timeless

principles of meditation with insights from modern neuroscience. Harris's own journey to mindfulness began after a highly publicized on-air panic attack in 2004 as Former ABC news anchor, prompting him to confront his inner struggles and seek tools for mental clarity and resilience. His experiences ultimately led him to write "10% Happier," which offers an accessible approach to meditation and self-awareness. Harris also developed the popular podcast and meditation app of the same name.

In addition to the conversation, the event will feature a brief guided meditation led by Harris, followed by a Q&A, allowing attendees to gain a deeper understanding of his approach to

mindfulness. This event builds on the success of a previous Luminaries Series gathering, the recent talk by Ian Tattersall, Curator Emeritus at the American Museum of Natural History, who, in August, shared insights on human cognition and its evolution in conversation with Dr. Scott A. Small of Columbia University.

Tickets for Harris's appearance are priced at \$30-\$40 and can be purchased through the Troutbeck website. Guests booking a room at Troutbeck for the evening will receive complimentary tickets to the event, enhancing the immersive experience. Troutbeck, known for its historic role as a gathering place for thinkers and visionaries, provides the ideal setting for

**Dan Harris will join the Luminaries Series at Troutbeck in Amenia, New York, Sunday, Nov. 24, at 3 p.m. for an engaging discussion with Sascha Lewis on harnessing the mind's potential to improve overall well-being.**

Harris's exploration of meditation's benefits.

With the 2025 Luminaries Series calendar forthcoming, Troutbeck continues its tradition of hosting distinguished figures, drawing on its rich history as a hub for intellectual and cultural exchange.



PHOTO PROVIDED

## ...healing

Then, her time at the Upaya Zen Center in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and her exploration of the concept of "hospicing modernity" (a thought-provoking guide to facing global pandemics, climate change, and other modern crises as outlined in the book by Vanessa Machado de Oliveira), influenced her to embrace a model of grief work centered around presence, not answers. Her new company, The Grievory, was born.

The Grievory is a communal approach to grief, primarily a virtual space where people can navigate sorrow collectively rather than bearing the burden in isolation. Her philosophy and methods represent a rethinking of this work, aiming to transform individual pain into shared healing. "As a death doula or grief worker, I don't interject solutions, I don't interject a potential outcome. The idea is for a community to get there together," said Churt. "Whether you're experiencing the loss or you're in the process of dying, the reality is we don't do any of it alone. We can't do it alone."

The Grievory is mostly virtual to accommodate people's busy schedules and minimize financial barriers, but there's also a deeper purpose behind this very intentional choice. Churt spent years holding space at Kripalu Center for Yoga & Health in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, among other locations, and shared that "part of the idea behind The Grievory is that we want to remove

the sense of someone else having mastery over another person's experience. That's very common in traditional therapy sessions, which is really the only other place that people can have time to tend to their grief." Churt went on to describe a possible power imbalance in those traditional settings where "it's also more within a setting that tends to pathologize grief, where there's an intended goal or an objective to help a person get over something." At The Grievory, there is a set of community guidelines that are reviewed at the beginning of every session—there's no fixing, there's no saving, there's no implied approach to advice giving. "Most often, the way in which people respond

is either with a hand on heart or a 'thank you for sharing,' and then they go into sharing their own personal experience," said Churt.

In addition to communal gatherings, The Grievory also offers a specialized program called "The Grievory at Work," which provides grief support within professional environments. Recognizing the complex, often unacknowledged grief many healthcare workers face, Churt's team helps integrate grief literacy into workplaces, particularly in healthcare settings where grief training is often absent.

Upcoming offerings include an eight-week workshop exploring the "Gates of Grief," a framework inspired by Francis Weller's book, "The Wild





*Continued from previous page*

Edge of Sorrow." With five established gates—everything we love we will lose; the places that have not known love; the sorrows of the world; what we expected and did not receive; and ancestral grief—Churt adds a sixth gate, exploring the harms individuals and society have caused, inspired by the work of Rachael Rice.

Through The Grievory, Rebecca Churt not only offers solace to those grieving but is also actively contributing to reimagining grief care itself. Her mission is to build a future where grieving together is normalized, where grief itself becomes a gateway to belonging, wholeness, and communal strength.

For more information, visit <https://thegrievory.com>

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**WBSL FM 91.7**  
Serving North Canaan, CT, Sheffield and South County, MA



PHOTO PROVIDED

## Swing Dance at American Mural Project

Swing music and dance will take center stage on Saturday, Nov. 16 at the American Mural Project (AMP) in Winsted, Connecticut, as Eight to the Bar brings its energetic mix of 1940s jazz, 1950s jump blues, and Motown to the artsy club atmosphere. Founded in 1975, the band carries a legacy of family swing music, making every performance a lively celebration that's sure to have attendees on their feet.

Kicking off the night, Nate Evans of Hartford Ballroom will lead a swing dance lesson at 7 p.m., catering to both beginners and seasoned dancers. AMP's unique space, housed in a renovated mill and home to the world's largest indoor collaborative mural, offers three levels for dancing and mingling, along with a cash bar and food from The Colebrook Store. The mural itself, a five-story tribute to American workers, adds an inspiring backdrop to the event's lively atmosphere.

Founded in 2001, the American Mural Project (AMP) honors American workers through a massive, 3D mural—120 feet long and five stories high—depicting a century of work and dedication. Inspired by Boeing's 747 plant, artist Ellen Griesedieck created this unique artwork to inspire and involve young people, partnering with schools, nonprofits, and organizations like NASA and Habitat for Humanity. AMP has engaged over 15,000 students nationwide in creating the mural and offers year-round educational programs.

Tickets to Saturday's event include the dance lesson, and a limited number of balcony seats provide elevated views of the mural and the stage. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for an unforgettable evening of swing music in one of Connecticut's most unique art spaces.

Tickets: [www.americanmuralproject.org](http://www.americanmuralproject.org)

### FILM: MIKE COBB

## 'Covering Conflict' series continues at Norfolk Library

On Nov. 16 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. the Norfolk Library is hosting the second part of a series called "Covering Conflict – Journalists on the Ground" with the documentary film "No Ordinary Life: The Camerawomen Who Brought the Frontlines to the Headlines."

Directed by Heather O'Neill, "No Ordinary Life" tells the remarkable story of five camerawomen: Mary Rogers, Cynde Strand, Jane Evans, Maria Fleet and Margaret Moth, who made their mark by capturing some of the most iconic images from Tiananmen Square, conflicts in Sarajevo, Iraq, Somalia and the Arab Spring uprising. The film will be introduced by Cynde Strand, one of the featured journalists, who will answer questions following the screening. Mark Erder will be moderating the Q&A with Strand.

"We met in 1989 in Beijing while covering Tiananmen Square. She worked for CNN, and I worked for British TV. Our friendship continued over the years while she was based in Beijing, and I was based in Hong

Kong. We would cross paths covering various news stories across Asia," Erder said.

The preview of "No Ordinary Life," viewable on Apple TV and Amazon Prime, begins with a tense scene fraught with danger.

"The opening is in Cairo Egypt some years after the Arab Spring. My colleague, camerawoman Mary Rogers, is talking about how she was inspired as a young person by the National Geographic magazines her parents subscribed to. In the next scene she is caught in a firefight in Iraq," Strand said.

Beginning her career in journalism in 1981 as an entry level video journalist at CNN in Atlanta, today Strand is an award-winning journalist with 40 years of experience in international news gathering, including investigative and documentary work.

For more than 20 years, Strand traveled the world as a CNN cameraperson assigned to bureaus in Beirut, Beijing, Nicosia, London and Johannesburg. Strand covered major stories including the Tianan-

men Square protests and crackdown, the first Gulf War based in Baghdad, the first free and democratic election in South Africa, the siege of Sarajevo, the aftermath of genocide in Rwanda, and famine in Somalia. In 2004 Strand returned to Atlanta to join the team running international news coverage for CNN.

Strand retired from CNN in 2019 but returned temporarily as part of the team directing CNN's coverage of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and later the Israel-Hamas war. Strand has won many industry awards including seven Emmys.

Regarding the title of the documentary "No Ordinary Life" and the pursuit of her profession versus an "ordinary life," Strand commented, "All five of us cared deeply about journalism and our craft. Can we make images that will get people to pay attention, document an injustice, expose a possible war crime, show a need after a natural disaster, get people to care about the environment, or make people curious about this big beautiful but

often troubled world?"

Today, Strand teaches journalism at the university level and has developed a course on the history of women in journalism. This semester she is teaching at St. Michael's College in Vermont.

Though initially, some women were not quite sure how to interact with female journalists, ultimately their work won them respect, though it was not without challenges of equal pay.

"CNN was such a renegade operation in the beginning, I didn't feel sexism day to day and early on when a woman did a traditionally male job, the men didn't quite know how to deal with us: protect us, hit on us, or just let us get on with our jobs. There was however the issue of equal pay, and

we got tough about that. That battle continues for many women today. There were so many accomplished, incredible female photojournalists before us, and when we came along as camerawomen, most of our male counterparts, after some testing and teasing, welcomed us to the family," Strand said.

Strand believes there are new challenges in today's media landscape, including the quest for veracity.

"We have incredible news gathering tools today, to do research and to reach people. Nothing replaces going to a place, but today we can access eyewitness accounts and video, and we have ways to carefully vet and verify this content," Strand said.

"I think what is harder today is getting people

to pay attention to the truth. Newsmakers have gotten better at masking the truth and distracting by inventing false narratives. If a lie is repeated over and over again and amplified by social media, it takes on a life of its own and plays into an emotional experience. It is harder to keep people's attention on good solid reporting," she added.

Lastly, Strand's experience "covering conflict" has given her insights on human nature.

"I think there is a Pandora's box in all of us and given the right set circumstances it can open. We are all capable of doing horrible things, but I have also seen incredible moments of kindness and generosity. It is a big responsibility to tell other people's stories through pictures," Strand says.

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# COMPASS

## TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

### NOVEMBER 14

#### Book Talk - Jonathan Alter, New York Times Bestselling Author

The White Hart Inn, 15 Under Mountain Road Salisbury, Conn.  
Join us for an evening with bestselling author and historian Jonathan Alter, discussing his book *American Reckoning: Inside Trump's Trial - And My Own*. He'll share insights from covering Trump's criminal trial and reflections on U.S. democracy. Alter will be interviewed by John Hendrickson of *The Atlantic*. Copies of *American Reckoning* can be brought for signing. Free event, RSVP required.

### NOVEMBER 15

#### BINGO for Education

Lee H. Kellogg School, 47 Main St. Falls Village, Conn.  
The Falls Village Scholarship Association will host BINGO for Education on Friday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. at Lee H. Kellogg School. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Only 25 cents per play with great prizes, popcorn, hot dogs, sweet and savory snacks, and beverages available for purchase. Proceeds provide scholarships to Falls Village students.

#### Poetry Discussion Group with Mark Scarbrough

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org  
Join Mark Scarbrough on Friday, Nov. 15, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., to discuss Diane Seuss's poetry collection *Frank: Sonnets*. We'll talk about technique, form, and meaning. Come prepared to offer your thoughts, listen closely, and deepen your understanding of craft. To register and learn more, please visit scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/12862591

### NOVEMBER 16

#### Historical Society Talk - "Violet H. Simmons: A Remarkable Teacher"

NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex, Millerton, N.Y.  
On Saturday, Nov. 16, at 2 p.m. the NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex will host the annual meeting of the North East Historical Society with a talk by Town Historian Edward Downey about teacher Violet H. Simmons, followed by a reception and exhibit tour. Ralph Fedele will be honored for his contributions to local history. Free admission, refreshments provided.

#### Current Fiction Book Group with Claudia Cayne

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org  
Join us on Saturday, Nov. 16, 4 to 5 p.m., to discuss current fiction. Led by Claudia Cayne, this informal group meets monthly and is open to all. Claudia's November selection is *The Wren*, by Anne Enright. To register and learn more, please visit scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/13147864

#### Schaghticoke: Stories of Survival

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org  
On Saturday, Nov. 16, at 1 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library will present *Schaghticoke: Stories of Survival with the Institute for American Indian Studies*. In this presentation, led by Educational Outreach Ambassador Darlene Kascak, of the Schaghticoke Tribal Nation, participants will be immersed in the lifeways of the Schaghticoke People in the past and present day. This program is free and open to the public.

#### New England Reptiles

Washington Montessori School Auditorium, 240 Litchfield Turnpike, Washington, Conn.  
Join Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy and Riverside Reptiles on Nov. 16 at 10 a.m. for an exciting chance to meet New England's reptiles and amphibians. Get an up-close look at these fascinating creatures and learn about where and how they live within our region's habitats.

### NOVEMBER 17

#### Movable Architectural History Talk and Tour

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibrary.org  
Join the Hotchkiss Library on Sunday, Nov. 17 at 2 p.m. for a progressive architectural history tour to learn about the significance of the Gothic Revival St. Thomas Church. The program will begin at the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon for an introductory talk with Katherine Crumm, then stop just down the road to look at the interior of Christ Church before proceeding to St. Thomas, five miles south on Route 41. Pre-registration is requested at: hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/13421885.

#### Art Show Reception

Douglas Library, 108 Main St., North Canaan, Conn. douglaslibrarycanaan.org  
The Douglas Library of Canaan is featuring a retrospective of artwork by the late Mary Monnier. The show runs from Nov. 6 through Jan. 15. There will be a celebratory reception held on Sunday, Nov. 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Monnier was a local artist, with family roots dating back generations. Her artwork reflects her love of people, of nature, and the beauty of the Northwest Corner.

### NOVEMBER 20

#### Property Records 101: Researching Your Home's History

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org  
It can take some sleuthing to trace property history. Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., and learn how to research the history of your home's ownership and other property information. After an introduction at the library, Selectman Katherine Kiefer will take us to visit to the Town Hall's records room. To register and learn more, please visit www.scovillelibrary.org.

#### Book Talk and Signing

Noble Horizons, 17 Cobble Rd., Salisbury, Conn. www.noblehorizons.org  
Tom Morrison will discuss his latest comic novel about the legal profession, "Who Put the Bots in the Torts?" at Noble Horizons Wednesday, Nov. 20, 5 p.m. Light refreshments will be served, and copies of the book will be available for sale. Former Lakeville Journal executive editor Cynthia Hochswender will interview Morrison.

### NOVEMBER 21

#### Art Talk

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org  
Peter Steiner will give an art talk at Hunt Library on Thursday, Nov. 21 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Known primarily for his cartoons and his novels, Steiner's paintings and drawings can be comic, surrealist, romantic, and fantastic.

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### NOVEMBER 22

#### Salisbury Forum: "Following the Money: What Will Become of America"

Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Falls Village, Conn.  
The Salisbury Forum will present "Following the Money: What Will Become of America" on Friday, Nov. 22, at 7:30 p.m. at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. In a wide-ranging discussion after the historic 2024 election, authors Kurt Andersen and William D. Cohan will unpack its implications for American democracy and culture, the global economy, and world order. Admission is free.

#### Christmas Sale in Millbrook

St. Joseph School gym, 25 St. Joseph Drive, Millbrook, N.Y.  
Uncle Al's Thrift Shop will have its annual CHRISTMAS SALE! on Friday and Saturday, (Nov. 22 & 23) at St. Joseph School gym (lots of room to shop; ample parking), 25 St. Joseph Drive, Millbrook. The event will feature numerous Christmas and holiday items: decorations for your home (inside and outside), gift items, new and like-new toys, games and more. Hours for

the sale are Friday (Nov. 22) and Saturday (Nov. 23) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All proceeds from the Christmas Sale and from Uncle Al's Thrift Shop benefit St. Joseph-Immaculate Conception Church in Millbrook.

#### Hockey Community Day

South Kent School, 40 Bulls Bridge Rd. South Kent, Conn.  
All families are invited to South Kent School's Hockey Community Day on Nov. 22 for an exciting afternoon of hockey and fun! There will be two games in Stockdale Arena, starting at 3 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. Stick around afterward to meet the coaches, players and Cardinal mascot. Hot chocolate and cookies served.

#### SOAR and SCS are proud to present Matilda, Jr.

The Hotchkiss School, Black Box Theater, Lakeville, Conn.  
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Nov 22: 6:30 p.m. - SOLD OUT!  
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Nov 24: 11:00 a.m.  
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### NOVEMBER 24

#### Terra String Quartet and Oskar Espina Ruiz

The Wethersfield Carriage House, 257 Pugsley Hill Rd., Amenia, New York, 12501  
Wethersfield Estate & Garden in partnership with Music Mountain proudly present an afternoon of Mozart with the Terra String Quartet and Oskar Espina Ruiz. The event is from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m.

### DECEMBER 5

#### Meet Your Greens

Litchfield Distillery, 569 Bantam Rd., Conn.  
Come out to Meet Your Greens at Litchfield Distillery on Dec. 5 from 5 to 7 p.m. Co-hosted by Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy, Friends of Topsmead State Forest, Goshen Land Trust, Lake Waramaug Task Force, Litchfield Land Trust, Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy, Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, and White Memorial Conservation Center, this informal gathering is an excellent opportunity to get to know others working or volunteering in the conservation field. Open to the public, join us for a chance to exchange news and plant seeds for collaboration.

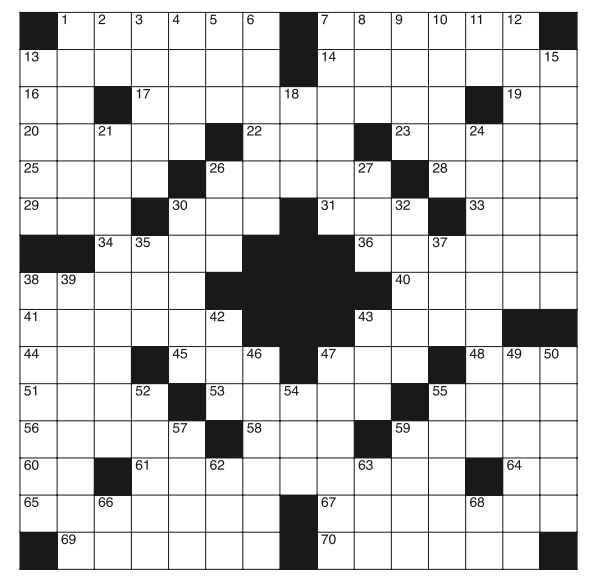
## Brain Teasers

### CLUES ACROSS

- Schoolhouse tool
- Martens
- Slags
- One who scrapes
- Centiliter
- White wine
- Of I
- Former Syracuse great Warrick
- Relating to the ear
- Sandwich shops
- Victories
- White (French)
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- Genus of parrots
- Unhappy
- Talk incessantly
- Type of Squad
- Unit of perceived loudness
- Violent seizure of property
- Agave
- Sound units
- Removes from record
- Partner to Mama
- Mythological bird
- Dash
- Hair product
- Two-year-old sheep
- Signs a deal
- Conifer
- Autonomous republic in NW Russia
- Wife of Muhammed
- British Air Aces
- Ears or ear-like appendages
- Not caps
- Deep-bodied sea dweller
- Rural delivery
- Feeling
- Study of relations of organisms to one another
- Room to argue
- Question

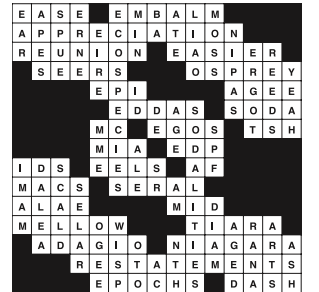
### CLUES DOWN

- Cream puff
- Road open
- Stressed syllable
- Thailand's former name
- Cologne
- Recounted
- Garment of cloth
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Reproduced
- Emits coherent radiation

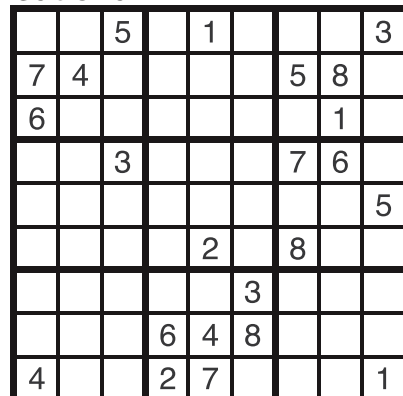


- "Westworld" actor Harris
- Smallest interval in Western music
- Unstressed central vowel
- Lives in
- When you expect to get somewhere
- Storage bags
- One who covers with plastic
- Cast out
- Automobile
- Repaired shoe
- Belonging to the bottom layer
- Possesses
- Soda
- Programs
- In an unexpected way
- A bag-like structure in a plant or animal
- For each
- Unbelief
- Seized or impaled

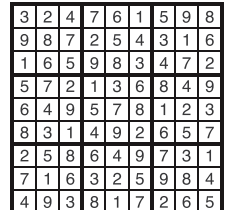
#### Nov. 7 Solution



#### Sudoku



#### Nov. 7 Solution



Level: Intermediate

## 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.


- Chosen discipline in college
- Routine duty or task
- Colorful cold-water fish
- First in line; foremost
- Winter dew



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