



REGION'S SCHOOLS
Through the ages **A6**



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COMPASS
Refillery, Tangled Lines, and More **B1-4**



Holiday Gift Guide
Inside



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Posting up

Millbrook's starting five brought a strong game to Hotchkiss for a girl's varsity scrimmage Friday night, Nov. 22, in Lakeville, Connecticut. Hotchkiss won the scrimmage 50-42.

Millbrook voters reject Central School capital improvements

By **LEILA HAWKEN**
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Residents voted to reject Capital Project plans for repairs and upgrades throughout the Central School District's buildings at a special referendum vote held on Tuesday, Nov. 19.

Plans developed over the past three years by local officials in conjunction with BBS Architects of Patchogue, New York, were de-

scribed in public forums, mailings, and available for viewing on the district's website. Three separate but contingent propositions were developed, designed to be a clear and effective description of the district's need for repair and code compliance while upgrading for the future.

"The results of our recent Capital Project vote are truly dis-

See **SCHOOL**, PAGE **A8**

Bringing Hollywood dancing to a studio in Hillsdale

By **NATHAN MILLER**
nathanm@lakevillejournal.com

HILLSDALE — Across Route 22 and just south from the old Roeliff-Jansen Central School campus in Hillsdale is an unassuming brown building with a sign out front bearing the name "Roe-Jan Plaza." Two poles sticking out of the ground in the east shoulder proudly proclaim "hair salon," and "yoga," ushering

drivers in for a shave and a sun salutation.

The yoga studio, Mandala Yoga & Arts, is run by Hillsdale resident Gina White, a dancer and actor who has worked since the late '90s with dance companies, touring shows, professional cheerleaders and in film and television.

At her studio in Hillsdale, she shares her professional experience with dancers of all disciplines and

skill levels.

"I've been teaching since I was 15," White said. "It's something I've always done. I love getting people excited about things, especially dance."

On Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m., the yoga studio transforms into a ragtime playground. A small group of "adult beginner" tap dancers

See **DANCE**, PAGE **A8**



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Elizabeth Trotta, owner of Elizabeth's Jewelry and Fine Gifts, (right) and Taylor Turner, the store's manager, (left) in the store's bright new space at 138 Route 44E in Millerton.

Annual holiday Festival of Lights

MILLERTON — The Millerton Business Alliance began planning its annual Festival of Lights and holiday weekend starting Friday, Nov. 29.

Throughout the weekend, the community members can participate in many festive events and activities for all ages.

The holiday light committee chairs, Mitra Walter and Claire Goodman, organized the two-day process of setting up lights around the Village of Millerton. Alongside Walter and Goodman, volunteer board members and the tree company, Stafford, all worked together to hang lights from the North East-Millerton Library to the corner of

Routes 22 and 44.

Friday's festivities end with a decorative parade that is organized by the fire department and marked by the lighting of a tree.

Friday, Nov. 29

9:30 a.m. — Free screening of Prancer at The Moviehouse. Seats are first come, first served. The movie will begin at 10 a.m.

Noon to 12:30 p.m. — Children's raffle at Veteran's Park. Tickets can be collected at The Moviehouse, and you must be present to win.

Noon to 5 p.m. — Hot cocoa and cookies at Veterans Park, courtesy of NBT Bank.

12:30 to 2:30 p.m. — Cookie decorating at the North East Com-

munity Center.

12:30 to 3:30 p.m. — Free hayrides with pickup locations at Veterans Park and Dutchess Avenue.

3 to 5 p.m. — Salisbury Brass Band performs in Veterans Park

5 p.m. — Festival of Lights parade and tree lighting.

Saturday, Nov. 30

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. — "Thankful for Reading" annual book giveaway and crafts at NorthEast-Millerton Library.

All Weekend

Woodworking Expo at the Irondale Schoolhouse.

Festive Tastings and Treats, seasonal sales and discounts in participating shops.

Elizabeth's Fine Jewelry opens for business in new Route 44 location

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

AMENIA — Elizabeth's Jewelry and Fine Gifts is celebrating its 20th anniversary in a new location on Route 44 next to The Talk of the Town Deli.

The move from their former location in what will become a new Bank of Millbrook branch was executed in only one week.

"We closed on Oct. 8 and reopened here on Oct. 15," said

Elizabeth Trotta, the store's owner. Trotta was helped by over 30 local tradespeople in transforming the space that used to be Trotta's Liquor Store including painting, electric, plumbing and merchandizing. A team of five movers relocated the 2,500 pound safe to the new space.

"Customers didn't mind that renovations were not yet completed," Trotta said. "They were

See **ELIZABETH'S**, PAGE **A8**



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OUR TOWNS

Village Board of Trustees discuss changes to pool project, request for new highway equipment

By COLLEEN FLYNN
colleenf@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — The Village of Millerton's Board of Trustees met on Monday, Nov. 18 to discuss two items — changes to the pool project at Eddie Collins Memorial Park and requests for new equipment for the highway department.

According to Kevin Hasselwander, an architect at Labella Associates, an amendment was needed regarding the pool and pool house.

"All we're doing is adding the DOH (Department of Health) and Army Corps to the list of involved agencies," Hasselwander said. "And we are going to change the numbers, like the disturbed acreage, just a little bit."

Hasselwander asserted the amendment will not cause significant delays to the project, saying, "We don't have to go through the 30-day approval process. What we'll do is we'll set a date, and you and I can talk about it... as to when it'll get the negative declaration. That way, if there are any comments from the

agencies, they'll know when to see it by."

He went on to say the biggest challenge for the project will be the septic system in the park. A small section in the corner of Eddie Collins Memorial Park caught the contractors' attention, prompting them to take action sooner rather than later.

"Right now, it [the wetlands] would be considered Army Corps regulated, but come January, all wetlands will be DC [Delineation Concurrence]," said Hasselwander. "It will no longer be Army Corps. We may not have to do anything with it, but in the case that we do because of the septic system, there needs to be separation. If we do need to permit and have it filled in, it'll be much easier if we go through Army Corps."

Despite the concern for wetlands within the park, the Village of Millerton and Labella are working with many different agencies to ensure the safety of the community. "The Dutchess County Department of Health will ensure that we have the proper

separation of background water to the high groundwater market," Hasselwander said. "We've done so much soil testing within the park from all different times of the year."

The second item on the evening's agenda centered on equipment needs for the highway department. According to Peter Dellaghelfa, the Superintendent of Public Works, new trucks to plow and clear snow for the upcoming winter season are very much a necessity.

"Right now one of the front pistons is leaking, so that is losing pressure," Dellaghelfa said. "Now the other pistons, I'm just waiting for that to start leaking because I'm putting more strain on it. It's going to keep getting worse and worse."

The department is considering the option of trading in their old trucks or keeping them to use for less intensive purposes. "I think it would be worth it to keep it [old trucks]," said Dellaghelfa. "It's good to put one of the guys in who has no experience. You don't want to put them in the

brand-new truck and have it break. I think it can be used as a training tool." Dellaghelfa is in possession of price estimates from John Deere and Caterpillar, but would like to look into Batco or alternate options.

Getting new equipment could take weeks for a truck and up to six months for a Batco. According to Jenn Najdek, mayor of the village, she would need to put together a spreadsheet to figure out the rates and loan payments and have more information set out to have this plan working if they choose before winter comes.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Top Dogs 4H

Twelve young dog owners in Amenia meet twice a month as the Top Dogs 4H club training their canines in agility, grooming and handling, rally and obedience for competition at the annual Dutchess County Fair. Shown above at their fifth annual fundraiser this month are Natalie Kenny, Santa, Ace Cayea, Maddie Sartori, Juliette Gerstle and Lauren Kenny. The club has been in existence for 10 years and has 12 members.

Dutchess County releases latest round of funding in youth wellness grant program

By COLLEEN FLYNN
colleenf@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino announced the newest grants from the County's 2024 Youth Wellness Supports Microgrants program, totaling over \$45,000.

These grants support important programs that reinforce positive behaviors in children and keep them from harmful activities. The money will be going to four local organizations that already build up young members of the community will avert them from developing substance abuse or other destructive habits.

The four projects being funded through the 2024 Youth Wellness program include \$5,000 for the Red

Hook Public Library, \$5,000 for the Millbrook Library, \$19,000 for Mental Health America of Dutchess County, and \$18,761 for James's Warriors in East Fishkill.

Red Hook intends to use the funding to train local librarians in Youth Mental Health First aid and develop an action plan for youth mental health crisis intervention. Millbrook plans to create an additional children's book section focusing on mental health and substance use prevention. In addition, they are implementing a six-month kids' yoga course, consisting of 24 classes, to enhance mindfulness and help children develop healthy coping skills.

Mental Health America of Dutchess County is designing a custom landscape for the El-

len's Place outdoor classroom, which will allow children to have a creative space for their imaginations. James's Warriors will purchase items to create coping kits to give out to schools after the organization's presentations on mental health awareness and suicide prevention.

The wellness program focuses on many factors, including prevention, public awareness, social media awareness and safe use. The proposals for the grants should include one or more of the focus areas.

County executive Sue Serino said, "Every child deserves a promising future. In Dutchess County, we're lucky to have numerous community partners who help guide them toward success. These grants will support crucial programs that encourage positive behaviors in our kids, keeping them away from risky activities that might derail their success."

Individual recipients can receive grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$19,000. The Youth Wellness Support Microgrant program has been funded with \$200,000 in opioid settlement funds gained from litigation against the pharmaceutical industry. So far, \$95,060 has been awarded.

Decorate sweet treats at NECC

MILLERTON — Everyone is invited to come decorate a cookie at North East Community Center, 51 S Center St., on Friday, Nov. 29, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

North East Community Center is hosting this event as part of the village's Festival of Lights celebration. Create a fun and festive sugar cookie, drink hot chocolate, and enjoy seasonal music. This event offers one cookie per person

while supplies last.

North East Community Center is a nonprofit organization that advances the well-being of all people in our rural region by responding to their diverse needs through services, programs, and partnerships. For more information, visit www.necmillerton.org.

Correcting Errors

We are happy to correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention. We are also happy to correct factual and/or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning.

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

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Now that things are finally cooling off, the question might be sourcing firewood for the winter months. Here are a few options of outfits that may still have inventory: Morey Brothers Firewood and Triple J Logging in North Canaan, their phone number is 860-307-4332, Undermountain Logging and Firewood in Falls Village, phone is 860-824-4708 and MBR Firewood also in Falls Village and their phone is 860-671-3175. Good luck and enjoy your winter fires!



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Millerton holds Holiday House decorating contest

MILLERTON — The Village of Millerton and the Town of North East will host a Holiday House Decorating Contest for residents.

Registration opened Wednesday, Nov. 20. By registering for the contest, all addresses will be placed on the Village of Millerton website for voters to drive around and see. Registration closes Wednesday, Dec. 11, and all houses must be completely decorated by Friday, Dec. 13, when the list of houses will go live.

The contest has four categories for participants to choose from: best lights, most creative, best overall and com-

mercial. Each category will be awarded a winner, including gift cards from various local businesses in the Village of Millerton.

All four categories will be judged based on creativity, appearance and effort put into decorating. Votes must be in and submitted by Monday, Dec. 23, and the winners will be announced Friday, Dec. 27.

To be a judge, a registration form must be completed and returned to the Village

Hall by noon on Friday, Dec. 20. Judges are required to view each registered home or business while filling out comment forms.

Participants will be judged on the house's curbside appeal, which is anything seen from the street or sidewalk; judges cannot enter properties to view backyards or side views.

For questions or to register, visit villageofmillerton-ny.gov or contact recreation@villageofmillerton-ny.gov

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Amenia supports survey of small Wassaic village park

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.copm

AMENIA — Engaging in a variety of discussion topics, the Amenia Town Board at its regular meeting on Thursday, Nov. 21, agreed to hire a surveyor to define the boundaries of the small park in the center of Wassaic village.

The vote was unanimous to have surveyor Kirk Horton conduct the survey of the spot known locally as “Wassaic Pocket Park” for a fee of \$900.

Town Supervisor Leo Blackman noted that the surveyor’s fee is low because he indicated that he has done considerable surveying in the immediate area of the little park, so would have numerous existing points to measure from.

Water District

Reporting on discussion heard at the Wednesday, Nov. 20, meeting of the Water Committee concerning inaccessible meters, chairman Bill Flood sought Town Board approval for imposing a fine on property owners who have failed to allow access to repair non-functioning water meters.

The Town Board agreed that the Water District will make one more contact with the property owners, asking for access and notifying them of a pending fine. If no response is received, a fine of \$500 will be levied, in accordance with water district policy.

Flood reported that an initial effort to access and repair non-working meters identified about 30 such meters within the water district. An initial mailing was successful in reducing the number to its current level of 19 meters, as homeowners responded and

provided access.

“It’s much better if the meters are reading,” Nancy Nowak had said at the Water Committee meeting the previous night, commenting on her office’s responsibility for usage billing.

Flood reported that daily water usage within the district averages 225,000 to 250,000 gallons, although it fluctuates.

Cannabis Dispensary

Discussion continued about the drafting of a local law to regulate any retail cannabis establishment.

Distances from schools, houses of worship, cemeteries, parks, and other public places where young people

might frequent were again discussed, along with where the measurements are taken from, whether property line or doorway.

Town Board member Paul Winters indicated that state law dictates that measurements be taken doorway to doorway.

“The state law is pretty detailed,” Town Attorney Ian Lindars commented.

The town’s planning consultant has been reviewing the state law, comparing the town’s views on restrictions to the state’s statutes, seeking to clarify relationships between the two. The consultant has found that most area towns with retail can-

nabis establishments require a special permit in order to operate.

Resident Walter Dietrich spoke during the public comment portion of the meeting, indicating that the town can impose stricter guidelines than those of the state, if the town wishes to.

“The whole idea of a dispensary should be put to a town vote,” Dietrich said, “rather than be decided by the Town Board.”

Before the close of the meeting, Winters responded to Dietrich’s comment, indicating that town residents have already given the authority to the Town Board to act on their behalf.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Prep for the season

Residents took advantage of a chance to get a jump on the holiday season by attending a card-making session at the Amenia Free Library on Tuesday, Nov. 19. Program assistant Megan Marshall, who led the creative session, put the finishing touches on a happy snowman decoration to be hung in the library.

Dinner and study sessions courtesy of the Lyall’s Community Church

MILLBROOK — Millbrook student Lindsay McMorris is working alongside Lyall’s Community Church to serve free dinner and study sessions.

Beginning Thursday, Nov. 7, Lyall Church started hosting study sessions from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. each week. The program aims to help Millbrook students from Kindergarten through twelfth grade with homework or studying while providing dinner at the same time.

“I am working towards my Girl Scout Gold Award, which is a big project,” said McMorris, “The two women I am working with, Lynn Grange and Kristen Reed, ran a very similar program, and it kind of fizzled out after COVID. So while looking for ideas for my Gold Award, I was like, ‘Oh, I can bring this back.’”

According to McMorris, she is hoping to reach

as many students as possible through the study dinners program to assist with schoolwork but also with food insecurities many face. The program’s first week only saw two students, yet it is progressively growing. Approximately ten students had registered for the session on Thursday, Nov. 21.

“I’m just really hoping to have a program out there for kids who need study help because grades are very important to me. I know they’re very important to a lot of people,” McMorris said, “So having something out there that they can use to help them improve grades or just understand topics better, as well as we also address local food insecurity because we do provide a free meal at every meeting.”

To RSVP or for questions, email: lyallchurchstudydinner@gmail.com

Pine Plains fire district to elect new commissioner

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Voters in Pine Plains will be heading to the polls next month to determine the town’s new fire commissioner.

The position, which is uncompensated, is a five-year term, starting on Jan. 1, 2025. It has been described by town supervisor Brian Walsh as “basically a thankless job”, but a duty which Walsh emphasizes is crucial to the community’s wellbeing.

The commissioner is responsible for handling district finances, ensuring fire equipment is properly maintained, and determining buildings in the town meet the fire codes. Additionally, the commissioner pays bills, approves new purchases, resolves any related issues, and meets once a month with the fire board to ensure all is operating smoothly within the district.

Competition for the commissioner’s race is not exactly tight. According to Walsh, only one contender

has emerged: Robert Koch, the proprietor of Koch Masonry, who is running unopposed. Efforts to reach Koch for commentary were unsuccessful at press time.

While Walsh remains optimistic about overall support for the fire district and is quick to point out its many benefits to the community, he is also realistic about the expected turnout for the vote, explaining the number of ballots cast is generally less than twenty.

Interested members of the community wishing to participate in the process may do so on Tuesday, Dec. 10, by stopping by the Pine Plains Fire House, located at 7 Lake Road, Pine Plains, New York. The polls will be open from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. To be eligible to vote, residents must have registered with the Dutchess County Board of Elections on or before Nov. 18, 2024, and must have resided in the Pine Plains Fire District for at least thirty days prior to the election.

The commissioner’s term ends on Dec. 31, 2029.

Millbrook hearing airs House of Stefan request to add small generator

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — A brief public hearing on a request by the owners of a new restaurant under construction along Franklin Avenue was held at the regular meeting of the Planning Board on Monday, Nov. 18.

The House of Stefan is nearing completion of its construction phase and is due to open around January. Essential to the business is a small generator that has been added to the site plan drawings, owner John Stefanopoulos noted for the board.

The small Generac unit, measuring 3 by 5 feet, will provide emergency power in

the event of a power outage, Stefanopoulos explained, any noise from the small unit to be mitigated by sound baffling materials. The small residential-sized unit will be installed behind the building, providing power mainly for refrigeration.

Neighboring business owner Jeffrey Zwirn of the Millbrook Antiques Center spoke in praise of the new restaurant being built next door, calling it “a heartbeat for the village.”

“You can’t run a business without a generator,” Zwirn said.

“Since they will be storing food, they returned for permission to install a generator,” explained planning board chairman Frank Redl. Other aspects of the site plan were the subject of an earlier

public hearing process that occurred before the project was approved, he explained. Residents asked questions about parking, hours of operation, and noise, questions that were not relevant to the generator.

Stefanopoulos indicated his intention that the restaurant will be a good neighbor, that any resident with a concern about the restaurant operation will be welcome to contact him.

Applications for accessory apartments are increasing in number, Redl observed. Two new applications and their site plans will be the subject of public hearings at the Monday, Dec. 16, planning board meeting. One is planned at 3308 Franklin Ave. and the other at 24 North Ave.



LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

Notice of a formation of a NY Limited Liability Company, Galanos and Galanos, LLC. Articles of organization filing date with Secretary of State (SSNY) was 07/29/2024. Service of process and agent shall mail to; Suzanne Galanos, 43 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Purpose: General

- 11-21-24
- 11-28-24
- 12-05-24
- 12-12-24
- 12-19-24
- 12-26-24

Special Town Board Meeting

There will be a Special Town Board meeting at the Town Hall, 3284 Rt.199 Pine Plains N.Y. December 11, 2024, at 5:00pm for the purpose of contractual matters with La Bella Associates and any other matters.

By Order of the
Town Board
Madelin Dafoe
Town Clerk
11-28-24

TOWN OF AMENIA PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Chapter 121 of the Code of the Town of Amenia and NYS Town Law Article 16, a public

hearing will be convened by the Town of Amenia Planning Board at 7:00 p.m. on December 11, 2024 to consider an application submitted by Davinci Holdings, LLC for Site Plan Review approval for the addition of a monument sign on Tax Parcel ## 132000-7167-00488581 located at 3430 Route 343, Town of Amenia, Dutchess County.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the Application is on file in the Amenia Planning / Zoning Office for public viewing and inspection during normal business hours. The Application can also be viewed and downloaded from the Town’s official website at www.ameniany.gov.

PLEASE TAKE 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 PlanningBoardSecretaryJudithWestfall@ameniany.gov.

Robert Boyles, Jr.,
Chairman
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EDITORIAL
Thanksgiving

As autumn comes to a close and the holiday season rushes in with all its appeal, people in our communities begin to exhibit a communal spirit that shows off the best in all of us. Thanksgiving marks the start of the holiday season. There are parades on Main Streets, bringing neighbors together to stand in the cold and wave at passing fire trucks and floats.

Volunteers come out to string lights on trees in our villages. In Millerton, the annual Festival of Lights (see list of activities on Page One) starts on Friday, Nov. 29 and runs through the weekend. There will be free movie screenings, a children's raffle and hot cocoa in Veterans Park and cookie decorating at the North East Community Center. Hayrides and a brass band will follow with a parade and a tree lighting.

Family get-togethers that often include friends and those alone during the holiday become celebrations of much more than roast turkey and pumpkin pie. The same is true of community-sponsored Thanksgiving dinners. The holiday unites us as families, neighbors and as members of a community. We embrace those close to us and reach out to those in need.

In 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving to be a national holiday to encourage people to unite in gratitude the nation was engaged in the Civil War. Lincoln wished to "heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it...to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union."

As we come together this Thanksgiving, let us be grateful for all that we have, and that includes living in community that can come together and care about everyone, one that shares its bounty with the less fortunate and the lonely.

We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

With gratitude

We are grateful, too, to our many readers, advertisers, supporters and donors. Without you, we would not be able to continue our mission of helping members of our communities make more informed and inspired decisions through our comprehensive news and arts coverage. Enclosed in this week's edition is a pre-addressed envelope and appeal letter. With your continued support, we will be able to serve our communities for years to come. Please give generously.

We the people and our Constitution

For the 47th GOP President to have won the U.S. Presidential election with a popular vote count of just 2.6 million more than his Democratic competitor is eerily reminiscent of his electoral win in 2016 when he lost the popular vote to Clinton by 3 million popular votes. Elections this century have been tight, underscoring a closely divided nation. In 2024, 2016, 2004 and 2000 the popular vote count difference between GOP and Democratic candidates was but 2% or less—within the margin of error. Washington, Monroe, Lincoln, FDR, Nixon, Reagan and Johnson scored uncontested election landslides — garnishing dominate popular (60%+) and electoral votes. Trump's 49.9 to 48.2 vote win over Harris, 2.6 million votes in a nation of 120 million voters, doth not deem landslide — it's not a majority, it's a plurality.

The 2024 Presidential election outcome seems more of a backlash than landslide. Yes the Senate and the House also went Republican wavelessly—both with skinny wins. A win is a win but a landslide is not a 1.5% vote difference — within the margin of error. Policies and directions, leadership voices and preferences come with a four-year term of office regardless of the count. Yet, a skinny win does not justify upheaval, intentional overturn of governmental, 248-years-of foundations/principles.

Reviewing the election results is apt as the incoming administration's actions are proposed and overturns initiated. At ready to consider are the nominations of Gaetz, Gabard, Hegseth and Kennedy along with a Trump proposition that the Senate forfeit its Article I constitutional duty, its salient role of providing Advice and Consent:

"[The president] shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the

OPEN SPACE

Kathy Herald-Marlowe

Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States." "the president "shall have Powers, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur."

These early Trump calls lead to stern questioning of the appropriateness, legality of the incoming President's interpretation of voters giving him a "mandate" to uproot the Constitution and any laws that block unfettered powers of his executive office. Advice and Consent is a much intended safeguard to our democracy as are all elements of the Constitution. The Legislative Branch is Article 1 of the Constitution — Congress is solely empowered to enact legislation, set laws that the Executive Branch — led by the President — carries out — executes. The U.S. military is specified to protect/guard against external threats, it is not domestic enforcement — the U.S. armed forces are not the President's personal Generals, Colonels, Master Sergeants, Privates.

U.S. citizens may differ on their opinions about the direction of the country, may be staunchly favorable or unfavorable regarding candidates, may consider themselves better off or not now vs. in 2020. Poignant voter testimonies of preferences for one candidate or the other related to the candidates' stated beliefs/policies or their behaviors/language/gestures: dark, bereaved of fairness or joyfully aspirational. Vast footage of rallies, rally attendees, men and



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

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.

CWA puts 3,000 to work; layoffs at Taconic Products; town crew fixes water problem

November 23, 1933 'Expect Million Dollar Appropriation for Park Work in Three Counties'; Dutchess, Columbia and Putnam Will Benefit; to Employ 3,000

A \$1,000,000 appropriation which would provide employment for 3,000 men for a period of three months is expected for Dutchess, Columbia and Putnam Counties from the emergency funds of the new Civil Works Administration, it was disclosed Monday by Paul T. Winslow, executive secretary of the Taconic State Park Commission. It is anticipated that the huge appropriation

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Millerton News

will be made some time this week, and that work will be provided for 1,500 Dutchess County Men. The majority of the workers, it is expected, will be recruited from Poughkeepsie's unemployed.

'One Woman in State Assembly'; Albany, Nov. 22—The Assembly Chamber, after a trail of a year, is no longer to be an Eveless Eden. Miss Doris I. Byrne has been elected to that body from the second district in the Bronx, New York City. Being a Democrat, she will sit with the other members of that party on the left side of the chamber. The last woman member, Mrs. Rhonda Fox Graves, sat on the other side, being a Republican from rock-ribbed St. Lawrence, of which she represented the first district for seven years ending with 1932.

'About Millerton'; It is reported that John Brizzie and Frank Silvernail fell in Rudd Pond last Friday while fishing.

November, 28, 1974 'It's a tough Time for Harry Wheeler'; It's the toughest time of year for Harry Wheeler. It's deer season and as a New York State Conservation Officer he is on call 24 hours a day to enforce the innumerable hunting laws and protect wildlife as well as hunters and private citizens.

Covering an area of about 300 square miles in the Towns of North East, Pine Plains, Milan, Armenia, Rhinebeck and Red Hook, Officer Wheeler is authorized with full police powers. Before the Department of Environmental Conservation was formed in the state, officers like Wheeler were just game wardens. Now they can enforce all laws but direct their efforts to protecting the environment and wildlife as well as fighting against air, water, and noise pollution...

'Layoffs Due Monday at Taconic Products'; The general slowdown in American industry finally made itself felt in the Tri-State area this week. Taconic Products of Millerton announced it would lay off "slightly more than 10 per cent" of its 120-member workforce, effective next Monday, Dec. 2.

Victor Smith, manager of Taconic Products, declined to say exactly how many people would be laid off in Millerton. He did say that employees

with the least seniority were those who have been given their notices. They will be paid for the Thanksgiving holidays, Thursday and Friday of this week, Smith added...

'PHOTO CAPTION: Be My Guest'; Millerton crossing guard Polly Collier shows a group of school children her new digs last week. Ms. Collier, who has been the crossing guard for 20 years, said the shelter appeared about a week and a half ago, but she did not know who put it up. A spokesman for E. Daskell Construction, the firm that is repairing the Webatuck Creek bridge, said the shelter had been donated by Flood Sanitation and Herrington's Hardware.

'One Year Later, Round Tuit on the Rebound'; NORTH EAST: Dale Culver, owner of the Round Tuit Restaurant on Route 22, had a strange feeling late in the afternoon on Nov. 11. It was the one-year anniversary of a fire that nearly destroyed his business.

"I feel like it's been five years," Mr. Culver said as he and his daughter Sarah Della went about afternoon chores with his cows in back of the Round Tuit recently.

Mr. Culver lost all his clothes and personal items in the fire. The family cat, "Purry," perished in the smoky blaze, which still makes young Sarah Della really sad.

The community rallied behind Mr. Culver and, miraculously, the Round Tuit was reborn in a matter of weeks.

It is a popular eatery offering breakfast 24 hours a day. But it is also a place where people can discuss current events with friends in a pleasant environment.

November 25, 1999 'Goodman reflects on 20 years of photos'; MILLERTON: When Mark Goodman first came to Millerton in 1971, he was given an assignment by his instructor, who taught at the former Apeiron Photography Workshop school on Silver Mountain.

"Our first assignment was to go into the village and look around," recalled Mr. Goodman, a noted photographer who returned to Millerton Friday and Saturday to promote his new collection of Millerton photographs, entitled "A Kind of History."

The book contains almost 200 halftone photographs of the young people who inhabited the village from 1971 to 1991.

'NE Crew Fixes Water Problem'; NORTH EAST: The town highway department recently completed a project which restored water pressure to a house on North Center Street. And the crew earned high praise from the residents.

"I'm really happy with the town guys," said North Center Street resident Michelle Lull. "They worked hard the whole time, and they are working clean. It's terrific."

"They did an excellent job," Supervisor David Sherman said.

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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OUR TOWNS

NE Historical society exhibits schools through the ages

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to The Millerton News

MILLERTON — Patrons at the NorthEast-Millerton Library got a lesson in education history in the area thanks to the November exhibit created by Ed and Meg Downey of the North East Historical Society. Ed's work focused on the years following the creation of the Webutuck School District while Meg's concentrated on earlier history.

Meg designed the exhibit to take advantage of the library's entire space.

The display contained dozens of images including photos of the area's multiple schools through the ages, maps describing districts' boundaries, an extensive history of education dating back to the Pilgrims, hundreds of faces of local educators and their students and even a teacher's contract from nearly a century ago. All were accompanied by extensive explanations researched and written by the Downeys.



The Millerton girls basketball team of 1926-27 wearing traditional middy blouses with ties.



Interior of the Winchell Mountain Schoolhouse in district no. 5 with a central pot belly stove, desks made of wood and wrought iron, and blackboards at the front of the room behind the teacher's desk. All of this was typical of a one room school. One element that stands out that was different was the organ at the back left.

Below, the Millerton School with students on the lawn and in the windows.



Coleman Station school around 1920 "shows the diversity of the student body."



The students in this 1904 photo of the Mount Riga School looked serious but were led by a teacher who smiled for the camera, despite the practice of the time.



"The Webutuck Student Council members who participated in a car wash on Oct. 24, 1987, to raise money for the school. Front row from the left: Megan Willis, Nathan Perotti, Don Miller, Gerry Colkin, Matt Lloyd, Joe Barney, Chad Dean. Second row: Jason Thomas, Amy Recchia, Beth Caddell, Dawn Odell, Lisa Miller, Dawn Myers, Jenny Calabrese. Third row: Theresa Zoro, Paula Bagomolny, Jenny Conlin, Pete Bavis, Melissa Goodacre, Nancy Colkin, Renee Murphy, and Gary Pearson, council advisor."

Dutchess County Real Time Crime Center to debut at year's end

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — The Real Time Crime Center, announced earlier this month as part of county executive Sue Serino's 2025 proposed spending plan, will kick off at the end of this year.

The \$200,000 initiative, whose financing will originate from the Community Benefit Fund, is designed to combat crime through collective oversight and rapid response by law enforcement. The proposal was unanimously approved by the county legislature on Nov. 14.

Serino signaled her support for the measure with her belief that its formation is necessary as an expedient and collective crime reduction measure. "The RTCC will be a true game-changer for speed of response and police safety," Serino said. "This cutting-edge initiative lever-

ages technology for faster, more effective law enforcement response to protect our communities."

While the real time crime center may be new to Dutchess, it is not the first one in New York. The concept originated with the New York City Police Department in 2005 with cities in other parts of the country following suit. These centers function by sharing information gleaned from audio, video, license plate readers and other sources into a singular cloud-based view. Additionally, Real Time Crime Centers foster greater communication between law enforcement, community agencies and emergency services. The intended end result is greater uniform awareness of criminal activity in progress and across-the-board access to case-building details.

Staffing needs will be filled by the sheriff's special operations bureau and a crime

analyst from the district attorney's office. District attorney Anthony Parisi, an advocate for the real time crime center's formation, believes it to be a worthy expenditure.

"A Real Time Crime Center is not just an investment in technology," Parisi said. "It's an investment in the safety and security of our community."

Thanksgiving dinner in Copake

COPAKE — A free Thanksgiving dinner is set for the Copake Park Community Center at 305 Mountain View Road in Copake from 2 to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 28.

All are welcome for the

first come first served sit down or take out meals. No reservations are needed.

The event is hosted by area churches in cooperation with the West Copake Reformed Church.

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Since becoming a nonprofit, what's kept The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News going are the thousands of loyal readers and advertisers who value both publications as the most reliable sources of information in our area, and the generous donations from people like you and your neighbors.

Here's what your neighbors are saying about why they value The Lakeville Journal & The Millerton News

"I read The Millerton News to help stay connected to the community because that is the role of local journalism to make people aware of resources and wonderful things in their neck of the woods. That's the number one thing that a newspaper should be doing. I think it's important that people have a stake in where they live and have a passion for it. And to build that you need to have someone exploring for them because we can't go out individually and interview everyone that a newspaper can."

DICK HERMANS



"I've lived here for 50 years and I've seen many iterations of the paper and thank God for its survival. Every town needs a paper. The Journal is covering local issues that I would never necessarily know about and they are covering them in depth. It's a critically important form of community knowledge but also creating a community and helping it to thrive."

BARBARA MALTBY

"I love the fact the paper is covering Amenia and you are well on your way to being a great newspaper."

CHRIS KENNAN



"I love The Lakeville Journal because it tells me what is going on in the community and it's an independent newspaper."

KATY KINSOLVING

"I like The Millerton News as a way to find out local news and they publish pictures of my children. There's so much that people can do in our community but only if they have a local news source."

MEGAN MUSGROVE



"I love The Lakeville Journal because it holds our whole community together."

ALEXANDRA PETERS

"I really like The Lakeville Journal because it brings people together and there a lot of good topics that you don't learn anywhere else."

JACKSON MAGYER

"I love The Lakeville Journal because it tells you what happened in town last week and all the wonderful things going on."

PAT JENNY



"I grew up in northwest Connecticut and The Lakeville Journal has always been part of my life and part of my family's life. It has everything you need to know. It's the voice of the community and it is so important to support independent journalism; something that is dying in the United States. That requires people to step up to the plate and support it."

ROBERTA WILLIS

"I read The Lakeville Journal because it keeps me informed about what's going on in our community. It does so without a point of view, one way or another."

MARY TAYLOR

"I love The Lakeville Journal because it's authentic and community oriented."

KRISTY FOSS

"I like the editorial page. I'm thrilled with Natalia Zuckerman's new events newsletter. She's really opening our eyes to what's happening all over our area."

BOBBIE OLSEN

"It's a way to understand how the community works. I've been a devoted Millerton News subscriber and I almost always read it cover to cover. You need to have a source for the facts in age with so many different platforms, so a local newspaper is important."

EDIE GREENWOOD

"I love The Lakeville Journal because it tells you all the news that no one else will tell you."

HELEN ROSS



"I love The Lakeville Journal for telling me what is going on in my community, giving me very factual news and also news about cultural events."

MIKE ABRAM

"I love the police blotter and hearing about all the events happening in our community, and letters to the editor."

CAROL KALIKOW

"I've been reading The Millerton News since we moved here 60 years ago. I check all the latest school board news and other local government meetings. The paper is important for accountability of government and how they spend our money."

JULIE SCHROEDER



"I particularly love the police blotter and I love the letters to the editor. I've written a few myself and it's a way to appreciate the diversity of opinion in our towns."

FRED PETERS

"I've been reading it for 48 years. Great news coverage, great editorials."

DICK CASSIN

"We get it every week. It keeps me in the loop about what is going on up here. I would never not have it."

JIMMY AYOUB

"I love The Lakeville Journal because I am a newspaper junkie. It's local and it's a wonderful way of connecting with the community."

JAY JOLLY

"I like The Millerton News and The Lakeville Journal because I'm a great supporter of non-profit news and that's the way to go from here on out. I read everything in the paper."

FRANK FITZMAURICE

"We've lived here for 60 years and the Journal is what you go to for all sorts of information. It's always been a wonderful thing to read each week."

MIMI ESTES

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DANCE *Continued from Page A1*

gather every week to practice slaps, flaps, brushes, hops and jumps.

White's teaching style is encouraging and energetic. When a first-timer (a reporter who lacked the proper footwear) struggled to grasp the slap-leap-slap-leap pattern at the Tuesday, Nov. 12, lesson, White looked at him in the mirror and cheered his efforts, even though she and her regular students had moved on to the next maneuver.

White grew up in Bristol, Connecticut, and knew she was going to be an actor and dancer from a young age.

"When it came time to start talking to the counselor about college plans I already knew I wasn't going to be doing any of that," White said. "Right after high school I went to New York City."

In 1997, after White graduated, she moved to the city and started auditioning. After a short time, and missing the audition the first time, White and her sister, Lindsey, landed spots on "Rugrats: A Live Adventure." The tour took the 18-year-old across the United States, to the United Kingdom, Australia, Mexico

and Ireland.

White took advantage of touring at such a young age to experience nightlife and culture across the country in unexpected places. "Morgantown, West Virginia — dropped in the middle of nowhere — I did not expect that there was going to be streets and streets of people lighting couches on fire because their football team won," White said. "Morgantown is hot. It's a lot of fun there."

When the "Rugrats" show ended in 2000, White went back home to spend time with her family in Bristol before moving to Boston to study theater and dance at the University of Massachusetts. She danced with the Boston Blazers cheerleaders for a few years before transferring to South Connecticut State University to be closer to home while her dad battled illness.

"Boston in the 2000s was a great place to be," White said. "I loved it."

After graduating, White decided it was time to join Hollywood as a screen actor. She joined SAG-AFTRA and started working, securing background acting and



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER

Gina White led a smaller-than-usual group in tap warm-ups in her studio, Mandala Yoga & Arts, in Hillsdale, New York, Tuesday, Nov. 15. The group lesson started when Mary Givens asked for tap lessons and quickly grew into a regular affair.

stand-in work on shows like "The Deuce," starring James Franco, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," and "Saturday Night Live (SNL)."

"SNL is like a relationship with a bad boyfriend," White said. "I get a call on Monday

like 'Hey, whatcha doing this weekend? I maybe wanna see you,' and I, of course, say I'm available, and then I wait until Thursday to get a call like 'hey I need you to come tomorrow, can you be here?' and I'd rush to the city as fast as I could."

In 2022 and 2023, White worked on every episode for season 48 of SNL, but the SAG-AFTRA strike killed that momentum and she's only returned to the studios a handful of times since the strike was lifted on Nov. 19, 2023.

It was the strike that led White to open Mandala, her second yoga studio since moving upstate before the pandemic.

"It's never been about the business for me," White said. She operates the studio as an open space for creativity, seeking to share her love of dance and yoga with as many people as will come. "My lessons are \$20 if you can afford it."

She's also open to sharing the space with other groups and teachers that need a good studio. White said she's gotten lots of requests from locals to start a line-dancing class, but she needs a qualified teacher to run it.

White teaches acrobatics, tap and jazz to beginner children in addition to the adult beginner tap dance lessons. Her schedule is flexible, she said, so students in search of a teacher need only reach out to set up lessons. Teachers in need of space are also encouraged to reach out if they'd like to lead a group class at the studio.

White can be reached by email at mandalayogaandarts@gmail.com.

Mountainside scholarships empower students impacted by substance abuse

By **DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS**
Special to The Millerton News

NORTH CANAAN, Conn. — For the fourth year in a row, Mountainside Treatment Center is providing \$10,000 worth of academic scholarships to 10 high school juniors and seniors living in Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The substance abuse treatment provider created the Mountainside Brighter Future College Scholarships to support students who have been impacted by substance use disorders in sharing their stories and raising awareness of addiction's impact on families.

Since the program's inception in 2021, nearly 350 scholarship applications were received, according to Mountainside spokesman Kevin Doyle.

"These stories carry a lot of weight and emotions. It's amazing to see children and teens overcome trauma and struggles," said Doyle, who noted that more than 200 applications for the scholarships were received in 2023.

Sobering statistics

Studies show that 21 million children in the United States live with a parent who misuses substances and more than 2 million live with a parent who struggles with a substance use disorder.

Young people also grapple with substance misuse firsthand due to factors such as peer pressure or the belief that substances will help them improve their grades or athletic ability.

According to the National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics, 62% of adolescents have abused alcohol by their senior year of high school and 46% have tried illicit drugs.

These substance use habits can have fatal consequences, with more than 11% of total overdose deaths impacting those aged 15 to 24, according to NCDAS.

In their words: winning essays

One scholarship winner's essay, titled "Papa, the Glass Cleaner," began: "The world feels small from 1,100 feet off the ground — small and light. My papa worked a job where he defied death every day in order to provide for my family. I am eight at the time and my Papa is my hero."

But by age 10, the student wrote, "for the first time, on Christmas Eve, I realize my father is not perfect. Every hero has their weakness. My father's kryptonite was a green bottle of Heineken."

Another winning essayist observed how the world seemed "perfect" as a youngster, but as the years passed, "I realized the world was never even good in the first place. My dad started his relationship with alcohol when I was born, so in a way I never got to meet the man my mom married."

"I grew up with him brewing his own beer in the basement and watching him stumble around in the evenings, but my mom always put me to bed before anything happened."

The Mountainside scholarship, the student wrote in her essay, "will allow me to pursue my dreams in criminal psychology and assist me in helping the people that need it most. I can ensure that they get it instead of being separated from society unjustly."

Another winning essayist wrote of her mother's addiction.

"The thing about addiction that people may not realize, is it can be a camouflaged agent of poison: unnoticeable and kills slowly."

"Growing up, my mom would enjoy a glass of wine once a night. However, as

we have gotten older and she is by herself at the end of the night, that glass of wine slowly turned into a bottle. My mother's addiction to alcohol is apparent by all her family members, but not to herself."

The student noted how that addiction impacted not only her mother, but also those around her.

"My brother who still lives with my mom, gets the full effects of it ... When I found out that my mom would sometimes try to pick up my brother from work after having some wine, I immediately became concerned, and almost angered with her that she would put my brother at risk. I offered to pick my brother up from work whenever needed, and this continues today."

Mission to educate and empower

For Mountainside, the Brighter Future College Scholarship is just one step in a series of community efforts to educate and empower those struggling to reach out for help.

Joskar Yanes, who earned the scholarship last year and is currently a freshman at Tufts University in Massachusetts, said in a telephone interview last week that it represents more than just a monetary value.

"It helped me become more confident in embracing my past. You find a part of

yourself," by completing the process.

Yanes recalled the "ripple effect" addiction had on his family.

"It also leaves invisible scars which are hard to see," Yanes said. "I felt like I had to hide it. It was a subconscious choice."

The college student, who is studying cognitive and brain sciences and social psychology, recommended that other high school students facing addiction challenges consider the application process.

"Regardless of the outcome of the scholarship, you may find and embrace a part of yourself."

Interested applicants are invited to submit a short essay explaining how they have been impacted by their own or a loved one's substance use disorder and how it has shaped their understanding of the disease.

Through the scholarships, Mountainside strives to assist individuals affected by addiction in the pursuit of their academic and life ambitions emphasizing that this illness should not be a defining characteristic for anyone.

The \$10,000 in scholarship funds will be provided to students as \$1,000 awards to 10 scholarship applicants.

The deadline to apply for the scholarship is May 1, 2025, and winners will be announced later that month.

SCHOOL *Continued from Page A1*

appointing," said district superintendent Caroline Hernandez Pidala, commenting on the referendum on Thursday, Nov. 21.

"This administration is committed to improving the conditions of the buildings in order to maintain the health, safety and security of our learning environment. We will regroup and design a new path forward as doing nothing is not an option; our facilities remain in dire need of repair," Hernandez Pidala said.

Proposition 1, with a vote count of 242 Yes and 287 No, came the closest to success, addressing repairs to Elm

Drive School and the Middle School. All three propositions involved improvements to the heating and ventilation systems throughout the district with the Middle School to gain roof and window replacement. ADA-compliant elevator assistance for the handicapped was also included in the Middle School planning toward code compliance.

The margin for Proposition 2 (Alden Place School repair) was greater with 222 voting Yes and 308 voting No. Similarly Proposition 3 (High School repair) was defeated by a margin of 219 voting Yes and 310 voting No.

ELIZABETH'S *Continued from Page A1*

just glad we continued to be open. Customer feedback on the space has been very positive, not to mention the ease of parking which is why we didn't relocate to Main Street. The 1,500 square foot store is a bit smaller than the old space but still large for jewelry retail which averages around 1,000 square feet nationally. And I love the natural light streaming through the large windows. The one thing I miss is my office with a door."

For Trotta the move was a chance to reinvent and declutter the store with some lines shrinking and new items like clothing, purses and English backpacks added. "We are still offering the same services, including repairs, handling estate jewelry, and buying gold and silver," Trotta said. "We are now open five days a week Monday through Friday from 10 to 4:30 and during the holidays, on Saturdays as well."

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

THEATER: JENNIFER KRONHOLM CLARK

SOAR presents Matilda Jr.

The Black Box Theater at The Hotchkiss School is a small venue by any measurement, with only around 100 seats. It feels like some sort of miracle when 39 elementary school students manage to not only occupy the living-room sized stage, but execute both choreography and harmony.

The cast and crew of SOAR's production of "Matilda Jr." pulled off such a miracle not once but four times between Nov. 22 and 24. They weathered missing costume pieces, unruly hair, and even the brief illness of the lead actor to deliver an uplifting and fun story of a little girl in an abusive situation who not only finds the strength — and telekinetic powers — to stand up for herself, but also inspires her classmates and teacher to do the same.

SOAR is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to providing enrichment programs to the students of Salisbury Central School. Founded in 2000 by Zena Block, SOAR offers after-school classes, in-school programs, community events and teacher grants. "Matilda Jr." is the third full-scale musical production put on by SOAR, following "Fiddler on the Roof Jr." in 2023 and "Annie Jr." in 2022.

Each year, the number of students signing up for the musical has grown, presenting some logistical challenges. Previous productions included third through eighth graders, but this year the minimum age was raised to fourth grade due to overwhelming interest.

"I'm just thrilled that 39 kids want to do musical theater," said Darcy Boynton, one of the directors of the play and Program Liaison of the Board of Directors. "They don't all fit on the [Salisbury Central School] cafeteria stage, but we squish them in."

Boynton's co-director is Stephanie Hahn, a member of SOAR's Program & Event Committee. The two have worked together on all three productions.

"We didn't even know each other," Hahn said. "But we both said 'yes!'"

Boynton and Hahn are volunteers who have dedicated too many hours to count. They



PHOTOS BY ALY MORRISSEY

both praised Lauren Brown, SOAR's Executive Director and only paid employee, for her support and dedication. And when asked why they said "yes" to such a venture, their answers were similar.

"I've always been a theater person, I love it so much," said Hahn. "To be able to give these kids this experience is just so rewarding."

"I believe so strongly in theater education," Boynton added. "Theater is an essential part of education but it's thought of as extracurricular. It helps with physical skills, emotional skills, and it creates empathetic people. It's a team sport without the competition."

On the subject of teamwork, it's worth mentioning the sheer number of adult and teenage volunteers who jumped in to help. More than 20 individuals are listed in the program, along with a half dozen sponsors and organizations. The families of the performers also committed to a robust rehearsal schedule.

Choosing a play with a large ensemble is key to the program's success.

"Matilda" allowed some of the younger actors to be highlighted as the title character's

Above, Lola Francoline, Elsie Carr, Eloise Vaughn, Sawyer Rose Turner and Alex Philipp face the first day of school at Crunchem Hall in SOAR's production of "Matilda Jr." Below, Maris Jenter performed the title role in SOAR's production of "Matilda Jr."



rebellious classmates. Maris Jenter, a sixth grader, led the way as Matilda, capturing both the humor and the pathos of the role. Jackson Magyar, another sixth grader, stole every scene he was in as the terrifying Agatha Trunchbull. And Mollie Sosin, an eighth grade veteran of all three productions, shined as Miss Honey, using her quite grown up voice to captivate the audience.

"This is a wonderful group of kids who are so supportive of each other," Boynton said. "Their enthusiasm is what pulled it together. They really cared about it."

SOAR is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Learn more about how to support them at soarkids.org.



PHOTO BY COLLEEN FLYNN

Rural Center Refillery in Pine Plains, N.Y., offers locally sourced products for the home.

LIFESTYLE: COLLEEN FLYNN

Pouring life into sustainability

Rural Center Refillery strives to cut the community's plastic consumption while supporting local businesses.

"Our products cut back on waste, we return the containers to our suppliers, people bring in refillable containers for their own consumption, support local," said Nicole Clanahan, co-founder of Rural Center Refillery, "Over half of our products are made/cultivated here in the Hudson Valley, and overall, they're clean-no dyes, chemicals or synthetics."

Nicole Clanahan and her husband, Corey Clanahan, who are the

co-founders of Rural Center Refillery, founded the company in 2022. The doors to the store located in Pine Plains later opened in February 2023.

"Our mission was to introduce and provide opportunity to our community for sustainable swaps for everyday items," said Clanahan, "Like coffee beans and dish soap."

The refillery focuses on three core values: community, sustainability, and having access to quality products that align with its mission.

They offer small ways to

Continued on next page

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COMPASS

Lost in the mail: Tackling the big questions

Let us open the Tangled Lines mailbag and see what the populi is vox-ing about.

Agnes Day of Spore City, Ohio writes: *You keep talking about wet flies. Aren't all flies wet once you cast them into the water?*

I could go into a detailed explanation of how the wet fly imitates a transitional stage in an aquatic insects life cycle but I won't, because this is a family newspaper.

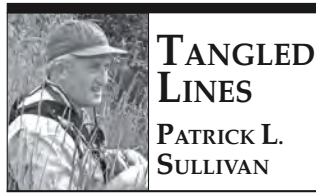
I will offer this anecdote:

I was about 14 and fishing Woodland Valley Creek, a tributary of the Esopus in the Catskills. Dries only. I was having some success but occasionally my fly got waterlogged and provoked strikes, especially when I was trying to retrieve it when it was submerged downstream.

I was working a pool right by a cabin. The building was so close to the stream you could fish from the porch. As I puzzled over how to get that fish that was hanging out by the lower part of the pool, the old-timer on the porch was watching me. I didn't realize it.

He scared me out of a year's growth when he spoke up. He asked what fly I was using. "Royal Coachman," I said. He asked if I had a wet version. I replied, Agnes-like, "A what?"

He came off the porch and made his way to



TANGLED LINES
PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

where I was perched at the top of the pool. He borrowed my fingernail clippers and cut off most of the hackle on the Royal and left the white wing.

Then he advised adding a couple of feet of finer tippet, waiting 10 minutes for things to settle down, and flopping the thing into the current, allowing it to swing through the tail out.

I did this and after a couple of false starts caught the fish that had been tormenting me.

Afterwards the old-timer said I should try fishing wet flies upstream just like dries. When I objected that I wouldn't be able to see the fly he said "Yeah but they'll see it, and if they see it they'll let you know soon enough."

Fester Karbunkle of Potzrebie, New Jersey wants to know:

Do you ice fish?

No I do not. Ice fishing involves walking gingerly out on a frozen pond or lake, cutting a hole in the ice, and staring at it for indefinite periods of time.

I want no part of it. Especially the cutting the ice part. The ice is all that is between me and a cold, watery grave AND WOULD YOU PLEASE



PHOTO BY GARY DODSON

A steelhead, one could argue, is a rainbow trout on steroids.

STOP CUTTING THE %\$@# ICE!

Linus J. Scrimshaw of West Cornwall inquires: *What was your best trout in 2024?*

This was a difficult year, with way too much rain at some points and none to speak of at others.

So the most satisfying catch was on the East Branch of the Delaware around Margaretville, New York. The stream was very low and I had to hoof it a couple hundred yards through inhospitable terrain until I found a pool deep enough to justify the term.

I could see the trout, and they could see me. So it just turned into a grim battle. Who would give up first?

After considerable time, and several "look but don't eat" moments, I finally got a fat brown on a Bread and Butter nymph fished naked and

alone. (The fly, that is. Not me.)

Then I had to go a couple hundred yards through inhospitable terrain back to where I started. My buddy Gary had wisely stayed put and was yanking a fish in when I fetched up. His fish was better than mine.

Honolulu Jones of East Drizzle, Wyoming objects:

Wait a minute. Didn't you catch a steelhead back in April?

Yes, and you could argue that a steelhead is a rainbow trout on steroids.

But that trip to Pulasaki and the Salmon River was so completely out of the usual run of events that I think of it the way other people think of significant milestones, like marriage, or the first arrest.

I forgot half my gear, sprained my wrist turning the knob in the shower, and almost lost an earlobe when a gust of wind blew a size 4 black Woolly Bugger (with rubber legs) back into my personal face.

And after fruitlessly flogging the water for two days, I absently flipped the Bugger into a deep hole, just trying to get some line out, when the steelie loomed up and chowed down.

So no, my first and only steelhead wasn't the best fish of 2024. It was a happy accident and nothing else.

...Refillery

Continued from previous page

reduce waste by offering candy, dish soap, toothpaste and other day to day items.

"We recently started a local farm CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). We work with over a dozen farms in the area to provide low-cost produce, dairy, baked goods and more. That's probably my favorite product range right now."

The company also offers a variety of gift baskets a customer can create, ranging from \$25 to \$50. The \$25 gift basket includes two treat options, a paper bag to fill, and a jar. These options can range from shower steamers, lip balm, chocolate-covered espresso beans to dried pineapple.

"I also love our selection of locally roasted coffee beans, concentrated laundry detergents and body care products—we carry some amazing local tallow products by Maggie's Delivery Service [Located in Millbrook] which is all the rage right now."

Visit the store located at 2881 Church Street Pine Plains, or visit www.ruralcenterrefillery.com.



PHOTO BY COLLEEN FLYNN

Jarred goods available at Rural Center Refillery.

Hunt Library's holiday market

The David M. Hunt Library will host its annual Holiday Pop Up Market from late November until early January 2025.

Local artisans include Under Mountain Botanicals, Beading by Molly, handmade spoons from Andy Jack, ornaments and cats made by Nunwell Glass, Bosco's Best Jams, Saw Mill Maple Syrup, textiles by Meg Musgrove, candles and cards from Rika Laser, pottery by Diane Schapira, and ornaments, toys and textiles made by Gail Allyn. A portion of the proceeds benefit the library.

The library's book sale is available for shopping whenever the library is open.



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COMEDY: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Tangent Theater Company comes to Moviehouse

Tivoli's Tangent Theatre Company teams up with The Moviehouse in Millerton for a special year-end reading of Yasmina Reza's Tony Award-winning play "God of Carnage." This sharp, comedic satire, examining human behavior and parental conflicts, will be presented on Saturday, December 7 at 7 p.m. in Theater

3. Doors open at 6 p.m., with wine, beer, and snacks available in the theater's upstairs lounge.

Featuring a cast of seasoned performers—Jeffrey Doornbos, Molly McClarnon, Audrey Rapoport, and Artistic Director Michael Rhodes—this reading promises a night of thought-provoking laughter. Directed by

Tracy Carney and produced by Andrea Rhodes, the event continues Tangent's tradition of intimate and impactful play readings.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at www.themoviehouse.net

Don't miss this unique collaboration bringing live theater to the heart of Millerton.

PHOTO PROVIDED

BOOKS: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Tom Morrison speaks at Noble Horizons



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Author Tom Morrison, left, and former Lakeville Journal executive editor Cynthia Hochswender discussed Morrison's newest novel, "Who Put the Bots in the Tort\$?" at Noble Horizons Wednesday, Nov. 20.

Author Tom Morrison provided some insight into the creative process behind his series of legal farces at a talk and book signing at Noble Horizons Wednesday, Nov. 20.

Morrison was interviewed by former Lakeville Journal executive editor Cynthia Hochswender about his latest novel, "Who Put the Bots in the Tort\$?" and his interest in writing fiction after a 50-year legal career.

Morrison said he wrote a "spy novel" (his emphasis) when he was in the Air Force after law school.

He didn't know anything about espionage and the manuscript "never saw the light of day."

Many years later, as he contemplated his retirement, the idea of

writing fiction became appealing again.

Only this time he decided to write about something he knew about — lawyers.

Hochswender asked if he had to train himself "not to write a lawyer."

Morrison said he took some pride in developing a clear and concise writing style during his legal career.

"Tell a story that the judge and jury can understand."

He said most of his colleagues appreciated his legal writing style, except one "curmudgeon" who referred to it as "Morrison Newsweek style."

"I took that as a compliment."

Asked if he uses an editor for his fiction, Morrison said no.

He writes the first draft in pencil on legal pads, and then edits

once the manuscript is typed into a computer.

He does have someone who performs copy editing tasks for him.

Hochswender asked about finding an agent and publisher.

Morrison said after he finished the first of the four legal novels, he spent a year sending out inquiries to agents, with no luck.

He then took it to a small publisher he once represented, and they agreed to publish it.

Asked about writers he finds inspiring, Morrison said Joseph Heller's "Catch 22" made a deep impression on him.

He was amazed by the book's energy. "Every page was dripping with parody and satire."

"I'm trying to do to the legal profession what Heller did to the Army Air Corps."

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COMPASS

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

NOVEMBER 29

Artist Reception

Souterrain Gallery of The Wish House, 413 Sharon Goshen TnPk., West Cornwall, Conn., www.souterraingallery.net

An artist reception for Lori Barker's new exhibit "Spirit of Nature" will take place Friday Nov. 29, from 3 to 6 p.m. to kick off the holiday season in style. "Spirits of Nature" showcases a series of bold and ethereal pieces which holds the presence of nature. The exhibit will be open for viewing through Dec. 31.

NOVEMBER 30

A Night of Art and Banter

Macaire + Kristoph, 406 Sharon Goshen TnPk., West Cornwall, Conn.

Macaire + Kristoph studio in West Cornwall will host A Night of Art and Banter Nov. 30 from 5 to 8 p.m. Join local artists for a Q&A session and an evening of creativity.

Holiday Market

The Wish House, 413 Sharon Goshen TnPk., West Cornwall, Conn.

Visit The Wish House Saturday Nov. 30 from 1 to 5 p.m. on the Wish House Lawn in West Cornwall for an Outdoor Holiday Market. For vendors there will be Lynnette's precocious preserves, Pebbles, Michele the plant lady making wreaths, Matt and Marybeth Maybreck (awesome garden sculptures), Mother Tree Remedies, Phil and Cathleen West (woodwork), Ashley Parson crochet, Casaba soaps, and jewelry.

Breakfast with Santa and the Grinch

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

The Cornwall Consolidated School eighth grade class and Cornwall Park and Recreation invites the community to Town Hall Nov. 30 from 8 to 10 a.m. for Breakfast with Santa and the Grinch. There will be food, a photo op and a raffle. Donations benefit the eighth grade trip to Washington D.C.

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.

DECEMBER 6

Young at Heart

Sharon Playhouse, 49 Amenia Rd., Sharon, Conn.

Join us on Friday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. for a one-night-only celebration of the Sharon Playhouse Education Department's boundless creativity and impact. Headlining the evening is "Young at Heart," a brand-new play written by Education & Associate Artistic Director Michael Kevin Baldwin and inspired by the imaginative voices of local elementary school students. The program will run approximately one hour. All seats are \$30 General Admission.

Holiday Party Fundraiser

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

The Douglas Library in North Canaan will hold its annual Holiday Party Fundraiser on Friday, Dec. 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person and \$25 a couple. All proceeds benefit the library. There will be a generous buffet of hors d'oeuvres, beverages, wine and desserts. Call (860) 824-7863 for further info.

DECEMBER 7

Copake Grange Holiday Open House

Copake Grange, Copake, N.Y.

3 to 5 p.m. The event promises hot chocolate, cider, holiday treats, music, and tree decoration at the historic Grange Hall. There'll be a CookieFest: bake or bring two dozen of your favorite cookies, sample others at the Open House and take some home with you. Get more information by emailing copakegrange@gmail.com or visit copakegrange.org/events

12X12 Art Show

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

On Saturday Dec. 7 from 5 to 7 p.m., the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village will host the thirteenth edition of 12X12, its annual art exhibition and sale which features over 50 artists this year.

Open Mic

Twelve Moons, Center on Main, 102 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.

Twelve Moons Coffee House builds community through live music, poetry readings and storytelling on the first Saturday of each month. Doors open at 6 p.m. with open mic performances beginning at 6:30 p.m. Featured Professional Artists play from 8 to 9 p.m. Guests are welcome to bring their own dinner and beverage or enjoy the venue's light refreshments. Saturday, Dec. 7, will feature the duo of George Potts and Gordon Titcomb performing Americana and original tunes.

Monthly Book Sale

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

The Friends of the David M. Hunt Library will host their monthly book sale on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the library. This sale takes place on the first Saturday of each month. New inventory is added each month, including new and used books, cds, dvds, current fiction and mysteries, coffee table books, and more. All of the proceeds from the sale benefit the library. From 10 a.m. to noon the 8th grade of Lee H. Kellogg School will host a bake sale to support a trip to Washington D.C.

IMS Book Fair

The Morehead Athletic Center, 211 Indian Mountain Rd., Lakeville, Conn.

Indian Mountain School's upcoming book fair on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. will be open to the public with readings, book signings, bagels and of course books (great for holiday gifts as well). Book readings and signings will take place at 10 a.m. with Randall De Seve and 11 a.m. with Mieke Ten Have.

DECEMBER 8

Free Movie: Elf

Canaan Colonial Theater, 27 Railroad St., Canaan, Conn.

Bring family for a free matinee at Canaan Colonial Theater, Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. Tickets to the free screening can be reserved at www.canaancolonial.com

B	A	Y	O	U
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H	U	R	R	Y

Christmas Concert and Movie

Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC, 30 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

The Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC hosts its annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. The program, which is suitable for all ages, includes a selection of familiar and new holiday favorites as well as opportunities for audience participation. A special screening of "A Charlie Brown Christmas" will follow, accompanied by a live jazz trio performing the iconic Vince Guaraldi score, featuring a dance performed by the children in our Sunday School class. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free, though donations to support the music ministries of Salisbury UCC are warmly appreciated. A reception of seasonal treats will follow in the parish hall.

A Celtic Christmas by A Taste of Ireland

Warner Theatre, 68 Main St., Torrington, Conn.

On Sunday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m., see A Celtic Christmas by A Taste of Ireland at the Warner Theatre. Featuring stars from Riverdance and Lord of the Dance, this festive show blends world-class Irish dance, music, and storytelling. Tickets: \$45-\$75. Visit ATasteofIrelandShow.com for details.

DECEMBER 18

A Christmas Carol

Sharon Playhouse, 49 Amenia Rd., Sharon, Conn.

The Sharon Playhouse is thrilled to present its fourth annual Holiday YouthStage production: an inventive twist on "A Christmas Carol," adapted by Doris Baizley and co-directed by Andrus Nichols and Drew Ledbetter. This one-hour production brings the magic of Dickens' classic to life

in an engaging, family-friendly format. "A Christmas Carol" runs in The Bok at the Sharon Playhouse on Wednesday, Dec. 18 through Sunday, Dec. 22, with evening and matinee showtimes. Tickets range from \$20 to \$35.

ONGOING

Art Show

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. 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.

Photography Exhibit

UCC Cornwall Parish House, 8 Bolton Hill Rd. Cornwall, Conn.

Photography by Steve O'Neil will be on display at the Parish House in Cornwall Nov. 10 to Nov. 30. The tribute show called "Thugs and Mugs" contains images taken over ten years at the Cornwall dump.

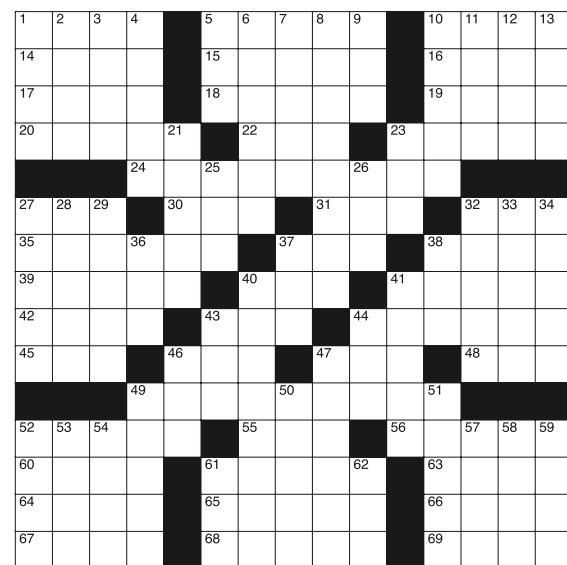
Sandy Hook Vigil

A candlelight vigil to remember the victims of Sandy Hook and all victims of gun violence will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, from 5 to 6 p.m. in front of The White Hart Inn. The vigil will mark 12 years since the tragedy in Newtown. Please bring your own candle

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

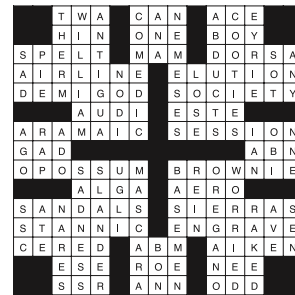
- 1. Long piece of squared timber
- 5. Emaciation
- 10. "Bewitched" boss Larry
- 14. Combining form meaning "different"
- 15. Current unit equal to 10 amperes
- 16. Older
- 17. Large, stocky lizard
- 18. Ringworm
- 19. Actor Pitt
- 20. Indian hand clash cymbals
- 22. Data at rest
- 23. Jeweled headdress
- 24. Indicators of when stories were written
- 27. Check
- 30. Cigarette (slang)
- 31. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
- 32. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 35. Delivered a speech
- 37. A place to bathe
- 38. Postmen deliver it
- 39. Surface in geometry
- 40. More (Spanish)
- 41. ___ and Venzetti
- 42. Exclamation at the end of a prayer
- 43. Hawaiian dish
- 44. Aggressively proud men
- 45. Fellow
- 46. Mark Wahlberg comedy
- 47. Mock
- 48. When you expect to get somewhere
- 49. Songs
- 52. Pair of small hand drums
- 55. Play
- 56. Sword
- 60. Evergreens and shrubs genus
- 61. Filmed
- 63. Italian Seaport
- 64. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 65. Pores in a leaf
- 66. U. of Miami mascot is one
- 67. Snake-like fishes
- 68. Pretended to be
- 69. Body part



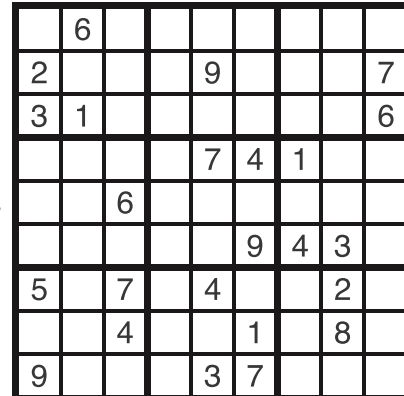
- 9. Relaxing space
- 10. Japanese socks
- 11. Indian city
- 12. Rip
- 13. Icelandic book
- 21. Satisfies
- 23. Where golfers begin
- 25. Small amount
- 26. Snag
- 27. Determine the sum of
- 28. A distinctive smell
- 29. Exposed to view
- 32. Stain or blemish
- 33. Small loop in embroidery
- 34. River herring genus
- 36. Large beer
- 37. Deep, red-brown sea bream
- 38. Partner to cheese
- 40. At a deliberate pace
- 41. Gurus
- 43. Of each
- 44. Angry
- 46. Popular beverage
- 47. Flower cluster
- 49. Blocks
- 50. Those who benefitted from efforts of relatives (slang)

- 51. Polio vaccine developer
- 52. A (usually) large and scholarly book
- 53. Popular soap ingredient
- 54. NBAer Bradley
- 57. Popular movie about a pig
- 58. Musician Clapton
- 59. Not a sure thing
- 61. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
- 62. Father

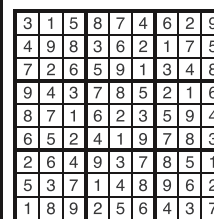
Nov. 21 Solution



Sudoku



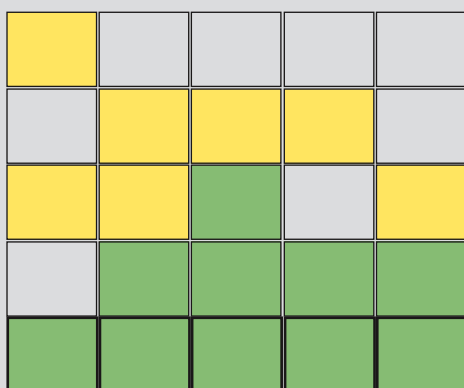
Nov. 21 Solution



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.



- 1. Popular pairing for gin
- 2. Penne, linguine, etc.
- 3. Wooden vampire deterrent
- 4. YouTube star Mr. _____
- 5. Happy Thanksgiving



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Durst Lists 1,946 Acres for Sale in Pine Plains and Milan

By **PATRICK GREGO**
The New Pine Plains Herald

This story was originally published in *The New Pine Plains Herald*.

In a move that could reshape the future of Pine Plains and its surrounding communities, The Durst Organization has listed its expansive property for \$36 million. Put on the market on Oct. 14, the former Carvel estate spans 1,490 acres in Pine Plains and 456 acres in Milan, and has long been at the center of debates over land use and preservation.

"We have decided to list the property for sale as we are currently focused on our New York City portfolio, specifically the development of Halletts Point in Astoria, Queens," Alexander Durst, principal and chief development officer at The Durst Organization, told the Herald. "Another property owner may be able to realize the full potential of this remarkable property. The Durst family has a longstanding appreciation for the Hudson Valley and we will continue to be a part of the community."

The Durst Organization is one of the oldest family-run commercial and residential real estate companies in New York state. Established in 1915, its portfolio includes the New York City properties of One World Trade Center and The Bank of America Tower.

The company owns approximately 2,633 acres of land in Pine Plains, representing about 13% of the town's total acreage, according to Dutchess County tax records.

The Dursts initially purchased the 1,900-acre core of the listed property from the estate of the late ice cream magnate Thomas Carvel, in 2002 for \$7.78 million.

After the initial acquisition, The Durst Organization expanded its holdings in Pine Plains, purchasing an additional 711 acres between 2015 and 2019 for nearly \$6 million. The property is owned by two limited liability companies:

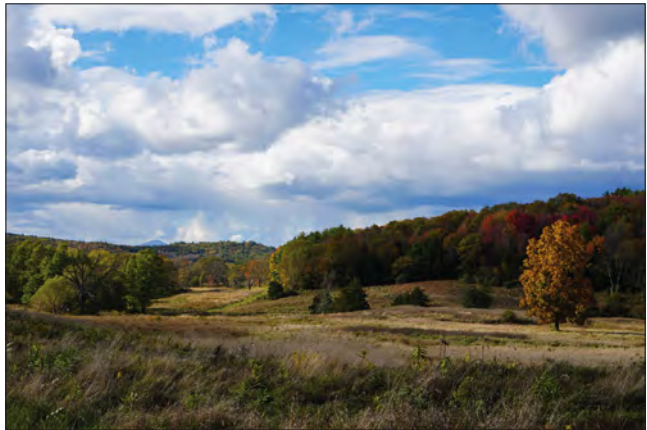


PHOTO BY PATRICK GREGO/NEW PINE PLAINS HERALD

Once part of Thomas Carvel's ill-fated Sports City development, the property has been the subject of debates for decades.

1133 Taconic LLC and Stissing Mountain Properties LLC.

In the late 1960s, Thomas Carvel launched an ambitious development known as the All-American Sports City after acquiring several parcels of farmland in Pine Plains. His vision included a golf course, clubhouse, lake and 500 homes. While the lake, golf course, clubhouse and 16 homes were built, the broader project stalled and remained incomplete at the time of Carvel's death in 1990. In the decades that followed, the property's infrastructure — including roads, water, and wastewater systems — fell into disrepair due to neglect, ultimately leaving it in a deteriorated state by the time it was sold.

While the listed property encompasses the original Carvel property, it does not include 685 additional acres in Pine Plains that remain under Durst ownership. Separately, in early October, the company listed another property, featuring a historic 19th-century farmhouse on 65 acres at 115-133 Mount Ross Road, for \$599,000.

The company touts the Carvel property as a "sanctuary offering endless possibilities," with potential uses including a family compound, corporate retreat, or winery. The listing highlights the property's views of the Catskills and Stissing Mountain, as well as its remaining structures — fol-

lowing the demolition of several houses and barns over the years — which include four single-family homes, a two-family residence, and an office and warehouse facility.

Over the past two decades, The Durst Organization has put forward three development proposals for the Carvel property and its expanded holdings. While each plan was scaled back in response to public concerns, the company worked to incorporate community feedback and adjust its vision accordingly. The final plan, submitted in 2020, envisioned a 2,700-acre "eco resort" including open space, farmland, outdoor recreation areas, and 237 residential lots in Pine Plains, along with 51 lots in Milan. While the project received preliminary approval from the Pine Plains Zoning Board, it went no further.

The first proposal, in 2003 was for a 951-unit residential development centered around Lake Carvel and prompted Pine Plains to impose a moratorium on development and, eventually, to implement zoning laws for the first time.

The new zoning code, passed in October 2009, included some of the strictest regulations in Dutchess County, limiting building sizes and preventing large-scale commercial projects. The Dursts returned in 2011 with a revised plan for 591 units, in compliance with the new zoning code, but in the face

of public opposition, and the stock market collapse of 2011, that proposal lay dormant for nearly seven years.

In the first half of 2018, The Durst Organization tried to revive the project, hosting two public meetings at the Pine Plains Community Center to receive feedback from residents. In June 2018, the company presented a new proposal, a "conservation subdivision," that included plans to restore the golf course Carvel had built in the 1960s and construct 281 homes, placed in small clusters, around a central "recreation-oriented resort."

In April 2020, The Durst Organization submitted pre-sketch plans for the conservation subdivision to the Planning Board. This stage focused on determining the maximum number of residential lots permitted under Pine Plains zoning laws, with the Dursts proposing 223 lots.

By June 2020, the Planning Board had unanimously endorsed the pre-sketch plan, which designated more than 50% of the land — about 1,397 acres — as open space. The designated areas included wetlands, steep slopes and buffer zones around water bodies. This approval allowed The Durst Organization to proceed with developing a formal subdivision plan, which would undergo a full environmental review before any final decisions were made.

However, after the property was listed Monday afternoon, Oct. 14, it seems as though the back and forth has come to an end — for now.

"The Pine Plains countryside is an oasis in the Hudson Valley," Durst said. "With 1,946 acres of land in an ideal location and unmatched natural beauty, the property offers the opportunity to create something special."

As for what kind of buyer would purchase a property of this size? "It's going to range," said listing agent Larry Havens. "I don't want to set any limitations on that."



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

The home at 45 Hunns Lake Road is a renovated Second Empire style home on .66 acres with a distinctive mansard roof which sold for \$600,000.

September transfers in Stanford fall below \$1 million mark

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

STANFORD — There may be 21 single family homes on the market as of Nov. 8 in Stanford with 8 of them over a million dollars but all six of September real estate transfers were recorded under \$1 million. September's median 12-month value was \$540,000, just under the all-time high in August of \$640,000. The historic results show that Stanford median home sales between 2013 and 2020 stayed between \$300,000 to \$400,000 and then zoomed up in 2021 to \$400,000 to \$500,000 and in the past year seem to have settled over \$500,000.

287 Hunns Lake Road — 3 bedroom/1.5 bath house on 2.97 acres was sold for \$350,000.

30 Tick Tock Way — 3 bedroom/2 bath ranch on 2.5 acres sold for \$400,000.

6056 Route 82 — 4 bedroom/1.5 bath house built

in 1860 on .79 acres sold for \$415,000.

5808 Route 82 — 3 bedroom/3 bath home assessed at \$813,000 was purchased in a bank foreclosure for \$530,000.

45 Hunns Lake Road — 3 bedroom/1bath house on .66 acres sold for \$600,000.

207-209 Creamery Road — 6 bedroom/4 bath two family home on 15.74 acres sold for \$999,999.

* Town of Stanford real estate sales recorded between September 1, 2024, and

September 30, 2024, sourced from Dutchess County Real Property Tax Service Agency. Information on active listings taken from First Key MLS which may understate available properties. Parcel details may be accessed on Dutchess Parcel Access. Only transfers with consideration are included. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

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