



MILLBROOK
 Parade of
 Lights **A3**



SPORTS
 Millbrook
 tops
 Salisbury **B5**



Special, Inside



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Crowding the goal

Millbrook School hosted the Taft School at Bontecou Rink for the Girls Varsity season opener Wednesday, Dec. 4. Taft won the intense game 3-2. The first period of the game saw stellar play from Taft, racking up two points before the buzzer. Millbrook responded with two goals of their own in the second, but couldn't stay the winning Taft goal in the final period.

Amenia approves \$6.3 million bond issue for town garage

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

AMENIA — Formalizing the resolution to move ahead on a bond issue for construction of a new Town Garage, the Town Board at its regular meeting on Thursday, Dec. 5, voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

The bond issue in the amount of \$6,333,449, formalized by resolution, will fund the construction of the new town garage and salt storage shed. The new town garage will be located east of Route 22 between Sinpatch Road and Tower Hill Road.

In a separate action, the Town Board approved the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act funds in the amount of \$150,000 for engineering services to be paid to CPL Architects continuing the design phase for the town garage.

Water District Improvements

Following a presentation by representatives from Delaware Engineering of Albany assessing the condition and suggesting repairs to systems within the town's water district, the board voted unanimously to provide \$68,277

See **GARAGE, PAGE A6**

Webutuck releases 2024 standards assessment results

By **COLLEEN FLYNN**
 colleenf@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — At Webutuck's Board of Education meeting on Monday, Dec. 2, the discussion centered on the results of computer-based testing in the content areas of English language arts and mathematics as potential changes to the curriculum may be imminent, based on the scoring.

Webutuck Superintendent

Ray Castellani said the tests administered to the students are "grade-level standards," containing different material, based on each student's grade from third to eighth grade to identify challenge areas.

"What you're going to see is our proficiency rates from three to eight, English language arts and mathematics. We have them broken down at the administrative level to share with teachers,

building principals, obviously to break down and go over the data at a much more micro level," Castellani said. "Notice, as you want to go through this, percentages for us are very difficult because two or three students persuade percentages tremendously."

The New York State Education Department utilizes a scoring system of one through four,

See **ASSESSMENTS, PAGE A6**



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

The Cumberland Farms gas station in downtown Amenia sold regular unleaded for \$3.25 on Sunday, Dec. 8, similar to Cumberland Farm's in Millerton.

High Millerton gas prices outlier in the region

By **KRISTA A. BRIGGS**
 kristab@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — All across the country, inflation has taken hold and prices are on the rise for basic necessities — including gasoline.

According to AAA, as of Sunday, Dec. 8, the national average per gallon of regular unleaded was slightly over \$3.00, but at the Cumberland Farms station on Main Street in Millerton, a gallon sold for \$3.29, cash or credit, the lowest list price for regular unleaded gasoline at the station for users without a SmartPay

account. SmartPay lowers prices by ten cents per gallon to \$3.19.

Gasoline prices at Cumberland were listed at \$3.36 per gallon the previous week. While the price drop is undoubtedly welcome news to customers, local gas rates still remain high. Drivers in the village spend \$3.80 more on 20 gallons of gasoline than the national average. Other gas stations in the region, while also listing over the national average, are priced lower than Cumberland Farms and Gulf

See **GAS, PAGE A6**

Amenia's Aaron Howard Jr. Named 2024 Citizen of the Year

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

AMENIA — During a traditional event at Fountain Square that occurs just before the annual Parade of Lights, the Citizen of the Year award for 2024 was presented by Town Supervisor Leo Blackman on Sunday, Dec. 1, to Aaron Howard Jr.

While residents awaited the presentation and endured a frigid breeze, a contingent from the

Webutuck high School Band, led by Band Director Eric Weiner, performed a program of holiday-themed music. Freshtown volunteers were distributing hot beverages.

The new Silo Bakery, slated to open around mid-February, opened its doors to distribute freshly baked cookies to passers-by. By all accounts, the cookie effort was successful and the cookies received great reviews.

Key to the selection of former Fire Chief Aaron Howard was the breadth of his volunteerism detailed by Town Supervisor Leo Blackman who said that it was difficult to keep track of the myriad ways in which Howard has served his community as a lifelong resident. Upon graduation from Webutuck High School in 1999, Howard served in the U.S. Marines in

See **HOWARD, PAGE A6**



CONTACT

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OPINION

Welcome news,
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OBITUARIES

Stephen S. Myers

LAKEVILLE — Stephen S. Myers, 82, of Lakeville, (formerly of New York City, Almond, New York, Kane'ohe, Hawaii, and Fair Oaks, California) passed away peacefully at his home on Nov. 30, 2024. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth "Betsy" (Phelan), his two sons Matthew and Shepherd, two nephews and three nieces.



Stephen was born in Elmhurst, Illinois, on Oct. 29, 1942, the son of the late Elwood Mosman and Donnie Marguerite Myers. Growing up in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, Stephen struggled with dyslexia in multiple high schools, ultimately graduating

from Avon Old Farms High School in Avon, Connecticut.

Before attending Pratt Institute, he lived in a beach shack Shelter Island for a year and remembered this as a time when "you could walk the beach and eat the fish." At Pratt he met his wife, Betsy, and helped to establish photography as a major there with the assistance of his friend Robert Mapplethorpe. As one of the first wave of artists to move to the Cast Iron District in Lower Manhattan, he and Betsy renovated a 3,200 square-foot loft and became one of many artists illegally living in

the Soho loft spaces. They ran a photo studio for commercial clients, as well as doing street photography, including a role as the club photographer for the Alien Nomads' MC or Motorcycle Club (which later became the New York City Hells Angels Chapter). He was a major contributor to New Journalism in New York City with Milton Glaser and Clay Felker during the 1960's and 1970's. His investigative photojournalism was featured in major stories about media figures along with current events in New York City and upstate New York. He documented multiple artists, musicians and notable persons (including Jim Morrison and The Doors, Sly and The Family Stone, Eddie Egan, Russell Means, Dennis Banks, John Lee Hooker, and Count Basie) from the Sixties to the present.

In the late 1970's Stephen and Betsy relocated to Western New York where he continued

his photography work full time, including becoming a field tester for Eastman Kodak's pre-production professional films and papers, as well as photos in the ad campaigns to introduce the product to the marketplace. His North Coast Native American mask photography for the American Museum of Natural History was used extensively across dozens of publications. He was a runner-up for the 1998 Ellie National Magazine Award for his LIFE Magazine article about his plant photography in which he was featured.

In 1988 Stephen and his wife led a grassroots resistance campaign, with the help of physicist Theodore "Ted" Taylor and the local community, against the New York State government over a proposed low-level radioactive dump. Rallying everyone from hardscrabble farmers, the sheriff, political leaders, academics, media, and even the members of the

local Mennonite community, they were able to increase their ranks and bring many disparate groups together. At one point Stephen read the Declaration of Independence to an audience of over 5,000 at a county-wide meeting. He considered this day, and the fact that the entire campaign remained a form of nonviolent protest, to be among his greatest accomplishments. This activism led to a U.S. Supreme Court challenge, New York v. United States, 505 U.S. 144 (1992), which is the first enduring challenge of states' rights under the 10th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. They were able not only to stop construction of the dump, but also to change how the federal government would handle the disposal and containment of such waste for future generations.

His work was published in LIFE Magazine, New York Magazine, Esquire, Playboy, Fortune, A.D. Magazine, New Times Magazine, Harper's Magazine, Natural History Magazine, VIVA Magazine, Seventeen, Audience Magazine, Working Woman, Na-

tional Lampoon, The Saturday Review, and NOVA. Prints of his work can be found in the permanent collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum, Fenimore Art Museum, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, George Eastman House, the Robert L. Pfannebecker Collection, the Almond Historical Society Archives, American Museum of Natural History, Robert Sobieszek Collection, Center for Creative Photography at the University of Arizona, George Eastman House, the Sidney Clark Collection at Avon Old Farms, Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) Collection, and Kroch Library's Rare Manuscript Collections at Cornell University.

After raising his children in Western New York State, he and Betsy lived in various places before returning to the Northeast. Stephen had a lifelong passion and love for woodworking, painting (oil & watercolor), restoring antiques, attending estate sales and flea markets, listening to music, and riding his bicycle with his sons.

Ella L. Clark

WEST CORNWALL — Ella L. Clark, 83, a social worker, writer, and lover of nature and the Post Office, died Nov. 7, 2024 at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie, after an acute stroke. Her family was with her in her last week.



Ella was predeceased by her parents, Benjamin S. and Charlotte L. Clark, her brother, Benjamin Clark, and her sister Tib Clark. Ella is survived by her daughter, Cristina Mathews of Fort Bragg, California, and her husband Jason and son Milo, her son Alexander Mathews, of Newton, Massachusetts, and his wife Olivia and children Ariana, Damian, and Torey, her daughter Jessica Meyer, of Pacific Palisades, California, and her husband Tim and children Ione and Nikos; and her sister

Charlotte de Bresson of Paris.

Ella was born in New York City on Dec. 23, 1940. She was educated at Milton Academy and Radcliffe College. She married Richard Mathews in 1965; soon after, they traveled more than a thousand miles down the Yukon River. After building a house in Amentia, they moved, with their two children, Alexander and Cristina, then 2 and 3, onto a fishing boat, and fished commercially, first in southeast Alaska for salmon, and then up and down the West Coast for albacore.

In fall 1972, Ella moved on shore with the children, and her marriage ended. In Point Reyes Station, California, she found a close community of artists and carpenters and became involved in community

projects. With Jonathon Meyer she had her third child, Jessica.

Ella moved back East in 1983, landing in Sharon. She was an EMT on the Sharon volunteer ambulance crew, and worked at Oblong Books in Millerton.

Ella's real career began in 1988, when she began working for the town of Sharon as a social worker. For 31 years, she threw herself into the work, focusing especially on affordable housing, health services, and fuel assistance. Ella founded several organizations, including the Chore Service and the Sharon Community Foundation. She served on various boards and commissions, including the Sharon Hospital Board and the Cornwall Conservation Board. Ella was delighted to be named the Grange Citizen of the Year in 2007.

Ella was a prolific correspondent and writer. Ella enjoyed research, number

crunching, and analysis to support grant applications and reports. She was a frequent Cornwall Chronicle contributor, often writing about the natural world, always choosing interesting, non-obvious topics. She loved digging into archives, getting the facts and voices right, and winnowing down what she had learned to the compact size the Chronicle demanded.

Ella moved to West Cornwall in 1991. Firmly rooted on Town Street, she "loved bird watching, taking photos of bears, smoking cigarettes after dinner, fighting for equity for all people, and putting orange peels on top of the fireplace," as her granddaughter Ariana remembers.

A celebration of Ella's life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 19, 2025, at the Cornwall Village Meeting House, 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall, Connecticut.

More obituaries appear on page A4.

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Lately there has been strong public interest in Connecticut's new stormwater regulations and recommendations. These new regulations became effective in March 2024 and are intended to protect lakes and streams from any negative effects from post construction stormwater runoff. The State sets out recommendations and best practices for site planning, source control and stormwater management for proposed developments. For more information, please visit: portal.ct.gov/deep/water-regulating-and-discharges/stormwater/stormwater-manual.

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OUR TOWNS

Hundreds brave the cold for Millbrook's Parade of Lights



PHOTO BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

Lighting up the diamond

John Salazar, left, Chris Prior, and Jim Eitleman, right, prepare to install baseball lights at Eddie Collins Memorial Park in Millerton on Monday, Dec. 9.

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@lakevillejournal.com

MILLBROOK — Hundreds braved freezing temperatures and salt-covered sidewalks on Franklin Avenue in Millbrook Friday, Dec. 6, for the annual Parade of Lights.

Dozens more occupied the warm restaurants lining the strip, watching the parading lights through the windows.

Highlights of this year's parade were the "John Rein-Deere" tractor and Ruben's Landscaping's elaborate high-powered light beams.

Before the parade, a brass

ensemble from Millbrook High School played holiday tunes. The cold weather put the young musicians at a disadvantage, forcing them to take breaks between songs to warm up their mouthpieces and tend to their fingers. The trombonist had to take a long break between sets to tend to her frigid instrument.

After the parade the crowd quickly dispersed. A hot chocolate shortage at the festivities spurred some chilly parade-goers to go in search of warmth and sustenance. Some ducked into a restaurant or Stewart's for a quick bite before heading home.



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Hennessey Excavating's vintage wagon hauled an animatronic Santa down Franklin Avenue.

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OBITUARIES

David Graeme Townsend

SALISBURY — David Graeme Townsend was born July 23, 1930, in Mineola, New York, to Rachel Townsend (Maxtone-Graham) and Greenough Townsend. David and his older brother Antone grew up in New York City and Long Island. Some of his early life was spent in Scotland in his mother's family home, Cultoquhey, which is near Perth in the Highlands. Here he enjoyed summers with all his Maxtone-Graham cousins. Many of these cousins would remain close with David for his entire life. One cousin, Charles Smythe, even came to America to live with David and his family during the war where Charles became like a brother to David and Antone. David went to St. George's in Newport, Rhode Island for a while and then on to Lawrenceville in New Jersey. He finished high school at the Basil Patterson School in Edinburgh, Scotland. Immediately after high



school, David enrolled in the US Marine Corps and served two tours in the Korean War. He was always very proud of his military service. After his service David attended the Sorbonne University in Paris for two years and then the University of Madrid for one year. Even though David never finished his formal education, he always remained an avid student of history and language. In his travels his skill with foreign languages was sometimes a problem because he spoke with such a good accent that it was sometimes falsely assumed that he was fluent. David always believed that travel was important in life. One of his great trips was in the 1950s when he rode from England to Turkey on his motorcycle. Throughout his life travel with his friends and family created many fond memories. Eventually he returned to New York City, where he worked for various Wall Street firms

and H&R Block. There he became skilled as an investor, which would serve him well throughout his life. In 1958, at a party in Manhattan searching for a bathroom, David serendipitously found himself in the adjacent apartment. There he found the love of his life Helen Gaylord. David and Helen dated for a couple of years before getting married Nov. 12, 1960 in Rockford, Illinois. For the next 14 years they lived and worked in New York City. Sheila was born in 1963, and Lila followed in 1967. In 1963 they bought an old Connecticut farmhouse in Amesville, from David's aunt, who had owned the property for forty years. The home, fondly called River House due to its proximity to the Housatonic River, was used as a weekend and summer house until 1974 when the family moved to Connecticut permanently. Helen and David would live at River House for 54 years and became fixtures in the Amesville community. Over the years, David was involved in various ventures: owning a model train store, operating six vacation cottages by the Housatonic River, and buying and selling land. He also continued to work in the investment world well into his nineties. David loved country life and developed many life-

long passions. He learned to ski at 44, built and sailed ice-boats, fly fished, water skied on the local lakes, constructed an elaborate model railroad in his basement, and hiked with his dogs on the nearby Appalachian Trail. David and Helen always had at least two dogs and a few cats as well as guinea pigs and fish at one time! David always loved boats and trains. His first boat was called Moonraker and was kept on Long Island. Daystar was a small water ski boat he used on Twin Lakes and took on summer camping trips to Lake George and Thousand Islands, New York. He moved on to a Grand Banks Cabin Cruiser in the mid-1980s. He named the boat La Bayadere (a famous ballet) in tribute to Helen, who was a dancer. He would embark on many adventures in this boat up and down the East Coast from Mystic, Connecticut to Bar Harbor, Maine. His most ambitious trip took him to the northern end of Labrador, Canada in 1992. David enlisted many friends and family members to "crew the boat". He also helped a man on the West Coast captain his boat, Grocery Boy, from Seattle to Alaska, again including many friends and family members to assist with the journey. His final boat was a smaller one called Swallow that he

kept near his house in Bath, Maine. Trains were another passion of David's. He went on many trips by train and enjoyed driving around with his "train nut" friends simply to watch passing trains. His daughters remember being forced to picnic in a garbage dump on a western road trip just to catch a glimpse of an oncoming train! David and Helen continued to travel well into their eighties with France and Scotland being favorite destinations but also more exotic locations like Patagonia. They also loved spending time with their granddaughters Claire and Danika Nimlos and attended all their high school and college graduations as well as many soccer games and concerts. In 2017 David and Helen moved to Falmouth, Maine permanently to be near family. Helen preceded David in death December 24, 2022. In November 2023, David went on one final cruise up the East Coast to Nova Scotia at the age of 93 on the Serenade of the Seas with son-in-law (Mark Nimlos), close friends (Doug Saksa/Steve Ann and

Mark Corrigan), and his caregiver (Shelly). On November 17, 2024, David died peacefully at his home in Falmouth, Maine with family and his rescue cat Nala by his side. He is survived by daughters; Lila Portland, Maine and Sheila (Mark Nimlos), Golden, Colorado; granddaughters Claire Nimlos (Peter Nimlos), Arvada, Colorado and Danika Nimlos, Pasadena, California; brother Antone Townsend, Highlands Ranch, Colorado; niece Maggie Townsend, Highlands Ranch, Colorado, Goddaughter Elspeth Hilbert, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and California family; Joan, Hunt, Corie, Riette (Ralph Fallant), and Sean Burdick, Redwood City, California. A memorial will be held Oct. 11, 2025, in Falls Village, time and place to be announced. Donations in lieu of flowers can be sent to: Great Mountain Forest, 10 Station Place, P.O. Box 534 Norfolk, CT 06058 greatmountainforest.org Please visit www.lindquist-funeralhome.com to view David's tribute page and to sign his online guestbook.

Richard George Ralph

EAST CANAAN — Richard George Ralph, 84, a beloved father, grandfather, and friend, passed away peacefully on Dec. 4, 2024, at his home in East Canaan, surrounded by his family. Born on Sept. 23, 1940, in Cornwall, Connecticut, he was the son of the late Marie (Kennedy) Ralph Negri and George Yeaton Ralph Jr. Richard was the proud



owner and operator of Richard Ralph and Son Rubbish Removal for many years. Known for his strong work ethic and reliability, he built a trusted business that served the community. After his retirement, his son Richard took over the reins, continuing the family tradition. Richard's friendly demeanor meant that there weren't many in the area who

didn't know him, and all were met with warm greetings and hearty waves. Richard was known for his love of guitar playing and singing. From a young age, music was his lifelong passion. His vibrant presence could often be found at celebrations and events, where he would eagerly get up with the band and sing a song. Richard's enthusiasm for music brought joy to everyone around him. He leaves behind his children; daughter Leona Riley

and her husband William of Clayton, North Carolina, and son Richard Ralph and his wife Joel of East Canaan. Affectionately known as "Papa Richard," he is also survived by seven grandchildren; Holli (Riley) Dunlavy and her husband Jeff, Kristen (Riley) Ford and her husband Jon, Ashley (Riley) Riva and her husband Tyler, Ashley Chance, Jessica (Ralph) King and her husband Jordan, Justin Ralph and his fiancée Taylor Wheeler, and Lauren Ralph, as well as sixteen great-grandchildren. Richard is also survived by three siblings; Donna (Ralph) Roux of Canaan, Stanley Ralph of Lakeville, and David Ralph of Salisbury, along with many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his beloved wife of nearly 50 years, Cecelia (Tanner) Ralph, his brother Burton Veronesi, and his sisters Valerie (Ralph) Poley and Virginia (Ralph) Cables. Services will be private at the family's request. The Ralph family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to all who shared in Richard's life, and they invite all who knew him to celebrate his memory with a donation to the Canaan VFW Couch Pipa Post 6851, 104 South Canaan Road, Canaan, CT 06018.

Charles H. 'Chip' Collins

NORFOLK — Charles H. "Chip" Collins, 70, died peacefully on Nov. 29, 2024, after a long illness with dementia. He was a beloved husband, father, son, brother, and friend. Chip was a visionary leader whose life and work left a lasting impact in land and wildlife conservation. Chip was born Oct. 20, 1954, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to Francis H. Collins and Nancy C. Collins. He graduated from St. Mark's School in 1973, and went on to study history at Colorado College, earning his bachelor's degree in 1977. In 1992, Chip earned a master's degree in environmental studies from the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. Chip's job at the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy marked the start of a distinguished 40-year career dedicated to protecting the natural world. He served in several influential roles, including Colorado State Director for The Nature Conservancy and Vice President of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. In 1986, Chip was named the first Executive Director of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. After graduate school, Chip moved to Massachusetts to serve as Vice President of Winslow Management, an environmental investment management firm. In 1995, Chip co-founded The Forestland Group, LLC, a timberland investment management organization, where he served as Managing Director until his retirement in 2014.



Chip married Anne Childs in 1989, and together they raised three children, Teddy, Caroline, and Alice, in Watertown, Massachusetts. Being a dad was Chip's most cherished role in life. In addition to his professional work, Chip served on the Board of Directors for the Land Trust Alliance, the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, the Institute for Ecosystem Studies, Great Mountain Forest, the Student Conservation Association, the Quebec-Labrador Foundation, Shady Hill School, and the Jane Coffin Childs Fund for Cancer Research. Chip's dedication to the environment was matched only by his deep love for wild places and the species that inhabit them. An avid outdoorsman, Chip traveled widely on fishing and hunting

trips. He loved growing up on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, calling waterfowl with his dad and two brothers, and spending his summers on Lake Muskoka and Deer Lake in Ontario. He loved exploring the mountains of Colorado and the woods of Northwestern Connecticut. Chip received exceptional care from many compassionate caregivers as his health declined. He never lost his love for the outdoors. Chip is survived by his wife, three children, daughter-in-law, Tory Collins, his mother, and his siblings, Alice Collins, Francis "Pat" Collins, and Edison "Eddie" Collins, along with many loved family members. A service will be held at Story Chapel in Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Mass., at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 29, 2025. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the conservation organization of your choice.

and her husband William of Clayton, North Carolina, and son Richard Ralph and his wife Joel of East Canaan. Affectionately known as "Papa Richard," he is also survived by seven grandchildren; Holli (Riley) Dunlavy and her husband Jeff, Kristen (Riley) Ford and her husband Jon, Ashley (Riley) Riva and her husband Tyler, Ashley Chance, Jessica (Ralph) King and her husband Jordan, Justin Ralph and his fiancée Taylor Wheeler, and Lauren Ralph, as well as sixteen great-grandchildren. Richard is also survived by three siblings; Donna (Ralph) Roux of Canaan, Stanley Ralph of Lakeville, and David Ralph of Salisbury, along with many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his beloved wife of nearly 50 years, Cecelia (Tanner) Ralph, his brother Burton Veronesi, and his sisters Valerie (Ralph) Poley and Virginia (Ralph) Cables. Services will be private at the family's request. The Ralph family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to all who shared in Richard's life, and they invite all who knew him to celebrate his memory with a donation to the Canaan VFW Couch Pipa Post 6851, 104 South Canaan Road, Canaan, CT 06018.

More obituaries appear on page A2.

Worship Services

Week of December 15, 2024

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

<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. <i>Transitioning through prayer</i> All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>	<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) <i>In-Person and on You-Tube</i> www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville <i>Offering companionship along the Way</i> Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Liturgy School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org The Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC <i>Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people</i> 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT <i>Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons</i> Sunday, January 12 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoioi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>Chabad of Northwest CT <i>On the Green</i> 69 West St. Litchfield, CT 06759 chabadNW.org 860.567.3377 office@chabadNW.org Rabbi Joseph & Mina Eisenbach <i>A home away from home, a gathering place where unity is paramount.</i> We are here for you, welcome to the family!</p>
<p>Congregation Beth David <i>A Reform Jewish Synagogue</i> 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org</p>	<p>WINTER SCHEDULE Sunday 10:30 AM - Hebrew School Wednesday 8:00 PM - Parsha In My Life How The Weekly Portion Relates to ME! Thursday 11:30 AM - Women's Tea & Torah Saturday 9:30 AM - Shabbat Services Followed by a Congregational Kiddush</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 519 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p>Children's Camp Jewish Newspaper Smiles on Seniors CTeen YIP</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green <i>Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits</i> 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH <i>Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk</i> St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour <i>A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!</i> 860-824-0194</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL <i>Cornwall Village Meeting House</i> Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall in person and on zoom Warm fellowship following service All Are Welcome! www.allsaintscornwall.org Rev. Mary Gates!</p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com <i>We hope you will join us!</i></p>	<p>Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</p>
<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT <i>Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!</i> Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p>Millerton United Methodist Church 6 Dutches Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 5:00 P.M. 518-789-3138</p>
<p>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>	

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EDITORIAL



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Kim Choe (left) and Chris Choe shared their plans for a new supermarket with The Millerton News.



"Let's skip wrapping this year...you know, to save trees!"

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

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

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

Welcome news

The news that owners of Sharon Farm Market have purchased the Millerton Square Shopping Center with plans to develop a new supermarket to meet the needs of residents from Copake to Dover is welcome almost beyond words.

Kim and Chris Choe purchased the property from veteran grocer Joseph "Skip" Trotta in mid-November. According to the Choes, the 29,000 square foot market will offer a wide selection that will include "full-service meat, deli, seafood, sushi, bakery, and produce departments." In a Page One article by Christine Bates in the Dec. 4 edition of The Millerton News and online at www.millertonnews.com the Choes outline their ambitious plans.

North East Town Supervisor Chris Kennan was quoted saying, "We are all looking forward to have a food market back in Millerton," while also admiring the "vision" and "perseverance" of the Choes.

When the sale was announced, Skip Trotta noted: "This sale pleases us to know that this store will continue to operate as it was intended to operate back in 1971 when my father and I decided to leave our small market on Main Street and build the plaza. The residents in our area will no longer need to travel long distances to get good affordable and fresh groceries. We will all benefit from this sale. Thank you to the folks along the way who helped us finally get this done and for the patience shown by the people of the community."

Congratulations to everyone involved. The Millerton News welcomes the Choes, who operate the family owned Sharon Farm Market at the Sharon Shopping Center in Sharon, where since 2010 they have sold groceries sourced locally. In June 2022, Choe expanded with the purchase of a roadside farm on Route 44 in East Canaan, Connecticut, with vegetable fields and livestock.

The market envisioned by the Choes will end a long stretch with Millerton existing as a food desert. We applaud the efforts by many to achieve the goal of having a place to buy groceries in town.

Holiday buzz

As November came to a close, Millerton once again ushered in the holiday season with a spectacular Festival of Lights. Both sides of Main Street were lined by parade watchers. Music from The Salisbury Brass Band filled Veterans Park. The late November temperatures didn't dissuade anyone, and the fun included a free screening of "Prancer" at The Moviehouse, hot chocolate and snacks courtesy of NBT Bank and cookie decorating at the North East Community Center.

Praise is due to the Millerton Business Alliance for the big list of activities over the weekend. And it's not over. The MBA is hosting a Winter Walk in the Village on Friday, Dec. 13, when from 4 to 7 p.m. the community is invited to stroll Main Street to shop stores with extended hours, limited exclusive sales, giveaways, treats and soak in the holiday atmosphere.

Is this a palpable holiday buzz?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Crafts for Cause thanks

Thanks to the Millerton News for the excellent coverage of the Crafts for a Cause fundraiser and to everyone who came to support the sale. Our appreciation also goes to the Board of the Irondale Schoolhouse for the use of the building and to the Millerton Business Alliance for including the event on the Festival of Lights poster.

All money raised will go

to Grow Against Poverty's education programs in Busia County, Kenya, including "Pedal Power for Kenyan Education", "Green Fields" and "Prevent Period Poverty." These programs help hundreds of students get to school, learn, eat well and graduate.

John and Jean Roccanova

Ancramdale

4,500 men unemployed; student smoking privileges; Harold Warner, 'citizen of the year'

The following excerpts from The Millerton News were compiled by Kathleen Spahn and Rhiannon Leo-Jameson of the North East-Millerton Library.

December 14, 1933

'North East Roads Listed Under CWA — Work Started on One Project Already Approved by National Government'; Five road projects in the Town of North East have been approved by the county Board of Supervisors for reconstruction under the Civil Works Administration, it was disclosed early this week by Supervisor Frank L. Monor, one of which has already been approved by the national government. The latter project, known as Mt. Riga-Boston Corners project No. 29, a county road, is already under reconstruction. The other projects listed, for which approval by the CWA is awaited, are town roads.

It is the desire of the county CWA headquarters to spread the "work for wages" program as far as possible throughout Dutchess, the Civil Works Administration authorities have pointed out, and all townships have been urged to advance all worthy projects for consideration. There are 4,500 men on the unemployed lists of the county at present, and it has been pointed out that if the towns act promptly, it will be possible to have 3,000 working by Christmas.

December 12, 1974

'Fire Labeled Suspicious K & P Shopping Center'; The Dutchess County Sheriff's Department has been called in to investigate a fire described as suspicious last Thursday night at the K & P shopping center. Fire destroyed a small, mobile office trailer parked near Route 21 at the front of the shopping center parking lot. The K & P shopping center has been the object of a long and heated controversy in Amenia, with litigation in the New York state courts and local zoning restrictions causing delays.

'Webutuck Faculty Pickets; Students Back Teachers'; As the sun rose over Webutuck School last Friday, a spirited parade of 52 sign-carrying teachers was marching around the circular driveway in front of the junior-senior high school.

Picketing is the latest job action by the teachers who have been protesting delayed contract negotiations, the \$50

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Millerton News

an hour fee of the school negotiator, and in their opinions, low salaries, proposed by the School Board, as compared to other schools in the county.

The picketing ended Friday as the first buses of high school students arrived at school. Teachers said that they did not want to interfere with the school day.

Many students have shown their support for the teachers. They marched with pickets before the School Board meeting on Monday night, Dec. 9 and several student representatives spoke before the Board.

Mathew Adrian, student council president, presented a proposal to the Board to change the smoking regulations in school. At present all smoking by students is forbidden and violators are subject to being suspended for five days.

The council proposed smoking privileges for students, 18 years and older, and for other students in grades seven through 12 who had parental permission. The council asked that the students be allowed to smoke outside and said that a peer pressure campaign would be started to prevent violators of the privilege.

At present Mr. Adrian said, most students smoke in the bathroom which makes it unpleasant for non-smokers to use the facilities. Gasper Perrello, a teacher and advisor to the student council, said that there is almost no stand to be taken. He is on "bathroom patrol" and he said it was very difficult to catch students smoking in the bathroom. One teacher, also on bathroom patrol, said that one student will usually stand guard while others smoke and yell out "Hi, Mrs. Bartell" when she sees the teacher coming. The teacher said that recently she caught a student blowing smoke out of her mouth, so she couldn't yell out." Mrs Bartell explained, "The student said, 'I wasn't smoking, Mrs. Bartell. It's cold in here.'"

December 9, 1999

'Vandals Hit New Associated Lightning Rod Building'; MILLERTON — Vandals ransacked the new Associated Lightning Rod Co. building on Route 22 last weekend, leaving behind a scene of senseless destruction.

According to owner Rob-

ert Cooper, the unknown person or persons responsible for the vandalism ripped apart screens and tore down temporary lighting fixtures. Windows were damaged. The vandals also removed heaters, and placed them in the outside Porto-potty, which was then tipped over. Plumbing drains inside the new building were bent. Phone lines were severed.

Dutchess County Sheriff's deputies are investigating.

The incident was just one of many in the Millerton area this past year.

Denny Memorial Pool, Agway and Webutuck High School were also vandalized.

'Warner Receives Citizen of the Year Award'; MILLERTON — Harold Warner has been a fixture in this village for more than 50 years.

And so it was only fitting that the Millerton Lions Club gave him one of its highest honors during its annual Christmas party at the Hamilton Inn Saturday night.

"What a nice gesture," Mr. Warner said, referring to the Lions Club decision to honor him with its Citizen of the Year Award.

A native of East Canaan, Conn., Mr. Warner moved to Millerton in 1946 to be with his brother, the late Carl Warner, who owned the old Millerton Diner.

'Rail Trail Shirts Are on Sale Now'; MILLERTON —

Rail Trail sweat- and T-shirts are on sale. If you're willing to pick them up at a location in Hillsdale, Millerton, or Sharon/Lakeville, you can order until Dec. 13, and if you don't need it in time for Christmas, you can order until Dec. 31.

The sweatshirts are very good quality and in two styles. Prices, including tax, are \$25.75 and \$37.50.... For a \$25 donation, Rail Trail will send someone you designate a T-shirt and a greeting card and make them a member for 2000 (which means they get the seasonal newsletter).

Trail construction from Coleman Station to Millerton, a distance of 3.7 miles, is progressing, although this section (Section 3) will not be surfaced until the spring.

'Adopt-A-Family Aids 30 Families'; MILLERTON — Christmas 1999 is brightening for 30 families in our area, thanks to the generosity of the residents of North East and Millerton.

Six families have been "adopted" by other families as part of the Adopt-A-Family program. But gifts, clothing and cash donations are still needed to provide some Christmas joy to 100 children and their parents."The community has pulled together early this Christmas season. Usually, there is panic at the last minute to assure all the children receive a gift and clothing," said Stacey Moore, chairman of Adopt-A-Family.

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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ASSESSMENTS *Continued from Page A1*

with one representing a student scoring below standards. The highest possible grade students can score on both the English and mathematics assessments is a four. The exams are given annually to third through eighth graders during the spring.

The presenters provided statistics on proficiency across grade levels. A student is considered proficient if they score a three or four on the test. In English, 22% of third graders, 32% of fourth graders, 5% of fifth graders, 29% of sixth graders, 48% of seventh graders and 26% of eighth graders were ranked as proficient.

For mathematics, from 2023 to 2024, 30% of third graders, 59% of fourth graders, 16% of fifth graders, 29% of sixth graders, 80% of seventh graders, and 20% of eighth graders all received an exam score of three or four.

"Because we are such a small population per class size, we looked at our mobility reports and we broke down our mobility reports by demographic and also by grade level to see how many students left and entered that way," Marquis said. "So in the internal process of uncovering these scores, we really did look at several different factors here."

For the English exam in the school year 2021 to 2022, zero percent of sixth graders scored a three or four,

compared to 29% in 2024. However, 62% of seventh graders were proficient in 2022, meaning seventh grade proficiency dropped roughly 22.5% in 2024.

"There are definitely some areas where we will continue to make progress and to really examine and kind of put a microscope over what's going on in those grades," Marquis said.

"We also drill down this data to some groups," she said. "So we really are looking at the cohort for students with disabilities, English language learners. We're looking at general education. We are looking at students with lower socioeconomic status and then students who do not have any socioeconomic disadvantage. So we're really trying to look at all of the subgroups to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all of our students."

The board compared different Hudson Valley school districts with backgrounds and demographics similar to those of Webutuck's. This allowed the school to visualize where their students' placements were and how to adjust the curriculum if needed.

"We found District A and District B, and we compared them to ourselves to see how we were comparatively to districts with similar demographics and similar size and then we looked at the New York State percent position as

well," Marquis said. "So that's where we fell for overall three through eight RELA (Reading and Language Arts) comparison."

Marquis explained why the number is lower than it should be for the school's academic influence.

"One of the major contributors for the numbers ... is the number of students that did not take the assessment, opted out, and many times those students are coming from a higher functioning places in their curriculum and parents choose not to have them there," Castellani said. "So those scores not being added, that sways those percentages. Five students is a major number."

During the instructional council, department and data meetings, these concerns have been brought to the attention of faculty experts at different levels to hopefully get more students to trend upward this following year,

Marquis said.

"So there's lots that we have to dig down," Castellani said. "We know that scores need to be improved. It's not the easiest way to go on. It's really peeling back the layers and trying to do that."

Castellani has said Webutuck is offering after-school programs to aid students who were not able to score above a three while also helping students gain higher scores who did surpass that threshold. Webutuck also has a number of academic intervention services, including interventions during the school day. This is where groups of students are taken out of their classrooms to further their education with additional assistance.

"Last year, we had an after-school program ... to work on scores of those students," Castellani said. "We want to see if that program did, in fact, make a difference, and if it did, then we should probably duplicate it."

GARAGE *Continued from Page A1*

in funding for a preliminary engineering report to be prepared by Delaware.

In separate action, the board voted unanimously to appropriate the funds required for the engineering report from unexpended ARPA funds.

Under the agreement, Delaware Engineering will prepare plans to upgrade the existing Lavelle Road pump house by installing a pre-packaged pump house as recommended in their presentation. The project will also rehabilitate the existing water storage tank. Planning also includes upgrades to the existing well fields at Washington Court and Lavelle Road.

During the presentation, Delaware Engineering partner Mary Beth Bianconi spoke of the extremely competitive nature of grant funding for the construction phase with one program due to expire in 2025, as an example. Success in grant applications can de-

pend on how serious the situation is from a public health perspective, Bianconi said.

"If we start now, you would be looking at October of 2026 for the project," Bianconi said, adding that the well house replacement would be the first step.

Having prepared a draft of a new local law that would govern the creation of advisory boards or committees, the town board delayed voting on the matter until minor revisions to the local law are in place, planning to vote on the drafted law at the next meeting.

A few appointments to boards and committees were made as the board voted unanimously to appoint Jeff Barnett-Winsby to the soon to be created Ethics Board, reappointing John Stefanopoulos to the Planning Board, reappointing Judy Moran to the Recreation Commission, and George Bistransin to the Board of Assessment Review.

GAS *Continued from Page A1*

in Millerton.

The Millerton Gulf station, located a few doors down from Cumberland on Route 44, featured a price of \$3.24 per gallon for regular unleaded, a bit lower than Cumberland, but still higher than the national average. A little further away, the Shell station in Amenia on Route 44 sold regular unleaded for \$3.09 per gallon, Sunday afternoon, Dec. 8. Along similar pricing lines, the Gulf station in Hillsdale on Route 23 in Columbia County listed their lowest rate at \$3.17 per gallon. The Gulf station in Mabbettsville on Route 44 had the lowest rate in the region at \$3.05 per gallon.

What this means for area residents is that while lower pricing is to be found in northeast Dutchess, due to the distance between most stations drivers have to burn more gas to access lower prices.

For Lisa Cope, town clerk of Millerton, it's worth the trip. "I go to Hudson and gas up," Cope said. According to GasBuddy, prices in Hudson range between \$2.78 and \$3.29 per gallon.

Millerton mayor Jenn Najdek said she generally uses less gas and isn't as impacted as others. "It does seem we are a little higher than most," Najdek said. "But I mostly bounce around the village." Najdek did speculate that perhaps local prices are higher due to proximity to Connecticut, but a visit to the Shell station in nearby Sharon, Connecticut, revealed gas rates closer to the national average. Sunday, unleaded was \$2.98 per gallon, just under the national average. Last week, the price was listed at \$3.09.

For those who are able to gas up in southern Dutchess, pricing can be found below the national average at Citgo on Route 52 in Fishkill listing at \$2.81 a gallon, while the Gulf on Route 9 in Fishkill featured pricing along similar lines, give or take a few cents, according to GasBuddy. Further south in the affluent village of Cold Spring in Putnam County, pricing is also below the national average with Sunoco on Route 9 offering a rate of \$2.99 per gallon.

Robert Sinclair, senior manager of public affairs for AAA's northeast division, said a variety of factors, including the venue and the season, influence pricing. "Where demand is high and the competition scarce, like along highways, prices are always higher," Sinclair said. "At locations where there are lots of stations competing with each other, prices tend to be lower. In a phenomenon known as 'zone pricing,' gasoline of the same brand and same grade (regular, mid grade, premium) can cost 20 to 30 cents more or less at stations just a mile or so from each other."

Sinclair also said gasoline prices tend to be more expensive in wealthier areas, which may account for higher local prices in Millerton, Amenia and Millbrook. This doesn't, however, explain Sunoco station pricing at Cold Spring, the Gulf Station in Garrison, which is priced at \$3.09 a gallon, or even certain affluent areas on Long Island, such as New Hyde Park or Manhasset, which run on par with — or are lower — than the national average.

Proximity to a body of

water accounts for many of the downstate rates. "Most of the gasoline going there travels by barge and unloads at waterside terminals, one in Nassau County on Jamaica Bay, the other farther east on the south shore," Sinclair said. "From those terminals, tanker trucks travel a relatively short distance to local retailers."

Sinclair also said local taxes factor into final pricing, as well as the brand. "The major brands usually charge more," Sinclair said, while "off-brands" have lower prices because they sell on something called the spot market. The spot market is an open market

of tankers and storage facilities full of gasoline that's not destined for any particular gas station and purchased by independents. Big box stores that also sell gasoline generally buy their gas on the spot market.

While Millerton residents lack proximity to big box stores, with the aid of websites like GasBuddy and stations with more competitive price points, there are options at the pump. Some relief can be found seasonally, as fewer take to the road during winter. Regardless, gasoline remains a necessity for travel in northern Dutchess, an expenditure most residents can't get around.

HOWARD *Continued from Page A1*



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKIN

Presenting the annual Citizen of the Year award to Aaron Howard Jr., right, Town Supervisor Leo Blackman spoke of Howard's many contributions to the Amenia community. The traditional ceremony took place at Fountain Square on Sunday, Dec. 1, as part of the Parade of Lights holiday celebration.

the Middle East for seven years.

Since high school, Howard has been a member of the Amenia Fire Company, serving as Chief from 2017 to 2022. He presently serves as vice-president of the Fire Company Board and is a member of the Fire Advisory Board. He has also served in a variety of leadership roles within the Dutchess County Chiefs Council.

His memberships include the Lions' Club and both local VFW posts, and he remains

active in local and area youth activities, coaching youth soccer and baseball, along with teaching 6th grade catechism at Immaculate Conception Church.

At Webutuck High School Howard is a technology and career teacher, one of the programs that helps students to look ahead to their years after high school.

Howard and his wife, Kathleen, married soon after his service in the Marines and have two children, Nolan and Elaina.

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Falls Village Congregational Church

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Blue Christmas
 December 15 • 5:00 pm

Lessons & Carols
 December 18 • 10:30 am

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
 December 24 • 5:00 pm

Christmas Morning Service
 December 25 • 10:30 am

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Sharon Playhouse's YouthStage fundraiser spotlights talent with 'Young at Heart'

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

SHARON, Conn. — It's hard to imagine such a thing could be possible, but The Sharon Playhouse managed to underscore the "fun" in "fundraising" with its YouthStage event, one night only, on Friday, Dec. 6.

Guiding the evening held in the Bok theater space was YouthStage Associate Artistic Director Michael Baldwin, who serves a dual role as Education Director. He skillfully presented the fundraising theme while demonstrating the depth of the playhouse's education program by showcasing the young talent being trained in the performance arts.

Energetic performances were delivered by a talented company of YouthStage performers singing and dancing their way through three Broadway numbers, all three inviting the audience to draw closer to the Sharon Play-

house education program. The final piece from "Oliver" invited the audience to "consider yourself one of us."

Another highlight of the evening was a fun staged reading of a short play, "Young at Heart," written by Baldwin and performed by a talented cast of 14 supporting the story of four youngsters and four oldsters, the former enduring school detention and the latter being senior community inhabitants roped into assisting the visiting youngsters with a senior center activity. The outcome is heartwarming and uplifting.

Buoyed by a sell-out audience, the event became a celebration of the program, the impressive young talent, both combining to serve the regional community. That community sense united the audience of all ages, where the adults could appreciate the theater's education programming and what it contributes to the development of participating children, and the



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

A highlight of the "Young at Heart" fundraising event at The Sharon Playhouse on Friday, Dec. 6, was the talented YouthStage performance of Broadway show tunes.

children in the audience could see their own possibilities.

This was a community that anyone would want to be a member of, and that would welcome everyone warmly. The education program offers five programs for all ages, of which YouthStage is one.

Recounting his own history with Sharon Playhouse,

Baldwin said that he had first discovered the Sharon Playhouse at the young age of ten, a connection that has now lasted 30 years.

"It was the place where I could be myself; I could be me," Baldwin said. Judging from the audience enthusiasm at the event, the "me" that Baldwin has contributed has

meant the world to the development of the theater's education program.

Proceeds from the evening's fundraiser paid for the purchase of the new risers in use within the Bok theater space.

The playhouse began to grow the education program in 2020, and over the past four years it has grown, Baldwin

said. In 2024, the education program attracted 148 young people, and in 2025, programs are expected to attract 165.

"The heart of our community," was how Baldwin described the playhouse's place in Sharon.

Going on to a most entertaining presentation of budget numbers, Baldwin said that ticket sales cover one-third of the theater's operating costs. As an example, Baldwin said, the cost for electrical service currently totals \$33,126, and the year is not yet over.

New program in 2025

A new program being introduced in 2025 is LaunchPad, a pre-professional training program for youth 15 to 20 years of age, Baldwin said. Entrance will be by audition. There will be no fee to participate, and participants will receive a \$250 stipend. Participants will rehearse and perform in a "flashy" musical to be directed by Baldwin in August. The musical will be announced in January.

Traditional Christmas Concert and Tea heralded the season and the memory of Pine Plains organist Will Carter

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Long a tradition within the Smithfield Valley, the annual Smithfield Church Christmas Concert and Tea thrilled an overflow audience on Saturday, Dec. 7. In addition to offering a varied selection of music within its historically authentic sanctuary space, the concert was dedicated to the memory of celebrated organist Will Carter of Pine Plains.

Performing under the baton of conductor Milt Lee, the Smithfield Chamber Orchestra of 14 members played a varied program of seasonal holiday music, along with Brazilian jazz, folk, Broadway and as an encore, "Jingle Bell Rock." The audience got into the act with a sing-along portion that proved to be so successful it will likely become part of the annual tradition.

This year's concert carried additional importance with the dedication of a plaque to the memory of organist Will Carter who in 2008 was the first featured solo organist to perform at the Christmas Concert and Tea. He went on to become the church's regular organist for Sunday services. The plaque will be permanently affixed near the 1893 Johnson and Sons tracker organ that

Carter relished playing. Carter died in the spring of this year.

Matt Finley, Director of the Smithfield Chamber Orchestra and a Pine Plains resident, noted that he first met Carter in Pine Plains, having learned that Carter was the owner and proprietor of the Pine Plains Wine and Spirits Shop, just 200 feet from Finley's home. The musical connection was made.

Carter had served as church

organist at Riverside Church and St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. He was twice decorated by Queen Elizabeth II for his contributions to church music. His celebrated tenure at The Smithfield Church provided the concluding chapter in his professional performing life.

To view the concert video, go to www.thsmithfield-church.org.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

The Smithfield Church's traditional Christmas Concert and Tea drew a capacity audience on Saturday, Dec. 7, to hear a varied program performed by the Smithfield Chamber Orchestra, the final concert of the Bang Family Concert Series for 2024.

FOR TICKETS & MORE INFO WWW.saintjamesplace.net

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JIMMY AYOUB

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FRANK FITZMAURICE

"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

Please consider donating today. Visit lakevillejournal.com/donate or millertonnews.com/donate, or mail a check to The Lakeville Journal & The Millerton News, 64 Route 7 N, Falls Village, CT 06031.

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

OUR TOWNS

Partnership for Manageable Growth hits preservation milestone

By COLLEEN FLYNN
colleenf@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino announced the preservation of the 143 acre Obercreek Farm in the Town of Wappinger, bringing the

total land preserved by the county's Partnership for Manageable Growth to over 5,000 acres.

The County's Partnership for Manageable Growth is a program aimed at protecting agriculture and open space resources. It provides a local

fund for purchases of land for preservation, covering up to 50% of the total cost. So far, the program has helped protect 5,722 acres of both farmland and open space, including awaiting projects, in Dutchess County.

Obercreek Farm marked

the 29th farmland preservation that has been completed by the Partnership for Manageable Growth since 1999. However, through the program, the County has protected a total of 39 projects including both open space and farmland proposals, totaling over \$42 million. Dutchess County's Partnership for Manageable Growth program provided 25% of that funding, \$481,981, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets contributed \$1,442,378 and the Dutchess Land Conservancy gave \$6,000.

Alongside the environmental benefits, the preservation of land through Partnership for Manageable Growth allows support of the agricultural industry's economic viability. This allows farmers, who participate in the program, to protect their land and further benefit the community by farming for more generations to come.

Low ridership leads Dutchess County Transit to cut stops in Dover, Wassauc

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — Starting in early 2025, public transit ridership in Dutchess County will see modifications to routes throughout the county.

Northern Dutchess riders will see changes to Route D service, which currently runs between Poughkeepsie and Dover. Its easternmost stop will now be in the village of Millbrook. Due to low ridership, Dover and Wassauc stops on Route D will

be eliminated.

In addition to the route changes, Dutchess ridership will also see expanded service and greater exchanges of information with the public regarding improvements and updates coupled with web-based tracking and the creation of the new, enhanced SPOT app which replaced the DoubleMap app in October. Some of the features on SPOT include real-time updates and customization abilities.

According to county executive Sue Serino, the up-

coming revisions are the result of public input and subsequent government response. "Over the past year, we have listened to our community's concerns and input about bus service," Serino said. "The team at Dutchess County Public Transit has worked tirelessly to fine-tune fixed-route changes, addressing the various concerns and ensuring efficiency in the bus system to keep it sustainable for the future."

For more information, visit dutchessny.gov/public-transit or call (845) 473-8424.

Stanford postpones hearing on accessory dwelling unit law, pending rewrite

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@lakevillejournal.com

STANFORD — The Thursday, Dec. 12, public hearing on a proposed change to the town of Stanford's accessory dwelling unit law has been canceled pending a rewrite of the proposal.

Stanford town supervisor Wendy Burton announced the cancellation in an email Friday, Dec. 6.

Town officials canceled the public hearing after receiving comments on the revised law that prompted changes.

The revisions, which will now be heard at an as yet un-

scheduled public hearing in January, incorporate changes from the public and the planning board.

The latest version of the law will be made available at the Stanford Town Board meeting Thursday, Dec. 12, and published on the Town of Stanford's website.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Books for purchase at the Roeliff-Jansen Community Library, some of the items available at their annual sale.

Hot eats and good reads

By CAROL KNEELAND
Special to The Millerton News

HILLSDALE — The tempting aroma of "delicious treats and hearty soups prepared by library patrons" will fill the air as shoppers find "books and puzzles in excellent condition for holiday gift-giving" at the Roeliff Jansen Community Library's annual sale sponsored by the Friends Group, Communications Director Kate Shannon said. Some 40 supporters will contribute to

the sale which is organized by Celia Kahn, Joyce Craw, and Sharon Luchow. The edibles will be available in the Community Room on Friday, Dec. 13 and Saturday, Dec. 14 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. while the Friends Bookshop, located on the lower level of the library, will feature extensive offerings including children's books selling for one dollar. For more information on the library at 9091 Route 22, Hillsdale, call 518-325-4101 or visit roejanlibrary.org.

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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

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Pretty Little Closet, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/15/24. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Crystal Smith 124 Sharon Road, Millerton, NY 12546. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

12-12-24
12-19-24
12-26-24
01-02-25
01-09-25
01-16-25

Legal Notice

Reorganizational Meeting of the Town of Amenia, Town Board is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025 at 6:00pm, at 4988 Route 22, Amenia NY.

Dawn Marie Klingner
Town Clerk
12-12-24

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Amenia, Dutchess County, New York,

at a meeting held on the 5th day of December, 2024, duly adopted a resolution, which is published herewith subject to a permissive referendum.

Dated: Amenia, New York,
December 5, 2024.

/s/ Dawn Marie Klingner
Town Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 5, 2024.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HIGHWAY GARAGE AND SALT STORAGE SHED, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$6,333,449, IN AND FOR THE TOWN OF AMENIA, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$6,333,449 BONDS OF SAID TOWN TO PAY THE COST THEREOF.

WHEREAS, the capital project hereinafter described has been determined to be an Unlisted Action pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the implementation of which as proposed, the Town Board has determined will not result in any significant adverse environmental impact; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to authorize the financing of such capital project; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the total voting strength of the Town Board of the Town of

Amenia, Dutchess County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The construction of a New Highway Garage and Salt Storage Shed on a Town-owned parcel of land on the east side of Route 22 between South Sinpatch Road and Tower Hill Road, in and for the Town of Amenia, Dutchess County, New York, including original furnishings, machinery, equipment, apparatus, appurtenances, site improvements, site water supply, septic system and storm water drainage improvements, and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, is hereby authorized at a maximum estimated cost of \$6,333,449.

Section 2. The plan for the financing of the aforesaid maximum estimated cost is by the issuance of \$6,333,449 bonds of said Town, hereby authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is fifteen years, pursuant to subdivision 11(a) of paragraph of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law. It is hereby further determined that the maximum maturity of the bonds herein authorized will exceed five years.

Section 4. The faith and credit of said Town of Amenia, Dutchess County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable.

An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said Town, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Supervisor, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Supervisor, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds, including determining whether to issue such bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service and all matters related thereto, prescribing whether manual or facsimile signatures shall appear on said bonds, prescribing the method for the recording of ownership of said bonds, appointing the fiscal agent or agents for said bonds, providing for the printing and delivery of said bonds (and if said bonds are to be executed in the name of the Town by the facsimile signature of the Supervisor, providing for the manual countersignature of a fiscal agent or of a designated official of the Town), the

date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolidation with other issues, shall be determined by the Supervisor. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals in addition to those required by section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Supervisor shall determine.

Section 7. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 8. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said Town is not authorized to expend money, or

2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 9. Upon this resolution taking effect, the

same shall be published in summary form in the official newspaper of said Town for such purpose, together with a notice of the Town Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 10. THIS RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM.

12-12-24

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY GLOBAL SELF STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned self storage unit(s) will be sold at a public sale by competitive bidding, in their entirety to the highest bidder, on or after December 26, 2024, to satisfy the lien of Global Self Storage for rental and other charges due from the undersigned. The said property has been stored and generally described below is located at the respective address. Although, the auction will be held via www.StorageTreasures.com, the sale is made in person at the facility: 3814 Route 44, Millbrook, NY 12545.

Thursday, December 26, 2024

#235 Jordan Stoner

The terms of the sale will be cash only & must be paid for at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is. Global Self Storage reserves the right to withdraw any or all units from the sale at any time. All contents must be removed within 72 hours or sooner.

12-05-24
12-12-24

Millbrook Library kicks off 16th Holiday Silent Auction

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

MILLBROOK — Long a holiday tradition in Millbrook, the Friends of the Library opened their 16th Holiday Silent Auction with a festive wine and hors d'oeuvres reception on Friday, Dec. 6. Bidding will remain open until Saturday, Dec. 21, when the auction will end with another reception and opportunity for last-minute bids.

Auction chairman Sam Falk indicated that all proceeds will support the library's special projects that are not included in the normal operating budget.

Although 2024 marks 16

years of the Holiday Auction, the years have not been consecutive, Falk said, because of the hiatus necessitated by the pandemic.

The event coincided with the festive Parade of Lights in Millbrook, making the evening a true community event.

A core of about ten committee members lent their talents to the auction this year, Falk said, indicating how essential their efforts were. "Without them ..." Falk said with a shrug, not needing to finish her sentence.

"Everyone plays a part," Falk said, including the work of soliciting donations from businesses and others, as well as the detail work of organiz-

ing the auction display and the reception itself.

The list of more than 130 items being auctioned includes a one-night stay at Troutbeck, personal training sessions and exercise classes at Kyle's Functional Fitness, 150 gallons of heating oil from Taylor Oil, a weekend stay at a kennel (for a pet), dinner for two at Panacea in Amenia, fencing lessons with Robert Nilsen, numerous gift certificates from generous merchants, and much more.

A small table of "Buy It Now" items is adding to the fun, Falk noted.

A Closing Bidding Party is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 21, from 3:30 to 5 p.m.,

allowing bidders to submit final bids on their favorite items. As with the opening reception, the closing party will be open to residents free of charge.

In past years, the Friends organization has supported the library's pollinator garden on Franklin Street, added chairs to the Flagler Room, and refurbished library entrances and the gallery space. Among many contributions to the Millbrook community, the Friends also provide for the program that offers free museum passes for all residents.

For more information and a complete listing of auction items, visit www.millbrook-library.org.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

The Millbrook Library's Gallery area drew a sizable attendance to an opening reception on Friday, Dec. 6, to view the generous array of silent auctions items on display at the Holiday Silent Auction, getting the bidding off to a good start. Auction chairman Sam Falk paused for a photo to showcase just a few of the items on display.

Millerton Business Alliance Hosts Winter Walk

By **COLLEEN FLYNN**
colleenf@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — The Millerton Business Alliance is hosting a Winter Walk in the Village of Millerton on Friday, Dec. 13.

From 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, the community is invited to stroll through Main Street to enjoy stores with extended hours, limited exclusive sales, giveaways, treats and soak in the vibrantly decorated streets.

Some of the expected

festivities and deals are the Abode Home Goods raffle for a \$100 gift certificate, BES Shop will host a holiday party with drinks, snacks, music, and a pop-up shop. Designer Finds will feature sales between \$5 and \$20 off with festive cheer and a jewelry pop-up shop. Millerton Wine & Spirits will be having a wine tasting, karaoke at Hunter Bee, NBT Bank will be serving hot chocolate and giving out candy canes, gloves and hats on Main Street. Much more is expected to be

announced.

The MBA hopes to spread holiday cheer with the help of many local businesses that were willing to participate in the Winter Walk.

This year's participating stores are Country Gardeners Florist, Demitasse, Oblong Books, Abode Home Goods, The Elephants Tusk, Designer Finds, BES Shop, Harney Tea, Candy O's, Millerton Wine & Spirits, Montage Antiques, The Dutchess Trading Company, Hunter Bees, NBT Bank, Willa Restaurant, The

Millerton Inn, Taro Restaurant, The Oakhurst Diner, T-Shirt Farm and Millerton Antique Center.

Visit www.visitmillerton-ny.com for more information.

Email news and photos to editor@millertonnews.com

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.

Amenia Fire Co. breakfast Dec. 15

AMENIA — The Amenia Fire Co. invites the public to its monthly pancake breakfast at the fire house Sunday, Dec. 15, starting at 7:30 a.m.

This month a special holly jolly visitor will attend the breakfast, visiting all the way from the North Pole.

Breakfasts are all you can eat with a menu of pancakes, french toast, eggs and omelettes, home fries and much more all for just \$12 for adults, and \$11 for seniors and children under 12 years old.

The fire house is located at 36 Mechanic St. in Amenia. For more information call 845-373-8352.

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Advertising deadline including legal notices, for the Jan. 2nd issues will be **FRIDAY, DEC. 20th, at NOON**
Classified line deadline will be **MONDAY, DEC. 23rd, at NOON**

NO NEWSPAPERS PRINTED THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26th

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<p>559⁰⁰</p> <p>MAKITA 36V LXT® String Trimmer (18V X2) Brushless Couple Shaft Power Head Kit with String Trimmer Attachment (5.0Ah) XJX01M5PT</p>	<p>89⁰⁰</p> <p>THAW Rechargeable Heated Glove Liner NETHA-HND-00 (18,19,20,21)</p>	<p>299⁰⁰</p> <p>DEWALT 20V Max XR Hammer Drill and Impact Combo Kit DCK2100P2</p>	<p>129⁰⁰</p> <p>Milwaukee M18 Cordless Multi-Tool (Tool Only) 2626-20</p>	<p>199⁰⁰</p> <p>Milwaukee M18 Fuel Compact Router 2723-20</p>
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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

DECEMBER 13

Friends of Roeliff Jansen Community Library's Annual Baked Goods, Soup & Book Sale

Roeliff Jansen Library, 9091 Route 22, Copake, N.Y. roejanlibrary.org

The Friends of the Roeliff Jansen Community Library is holding its annual Baked Good, Soup and Book Sale on Friday, Dec. 13 and Saturday, Dec. 14 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Come to support the Library and enjoy delicious treats and hearty soups prepared by library patrons. The Friends Bookshop will be open with books and puzzles in excellent condition for holiday gift-giving. There will also be a special \$1.00 sale of children's books.

The sale will take place in the Library's Community Room. The Friends Bookshop is located in the lower level of the Library.

Roeliff Jansen Community Library, which is chartered to serve Ancram, Copake, and Hillsdale, is located at 9091 Route 22, approximately one mile south of the traffic light at the intersection of Routes 22 and 23.

Ani Jenkins: Visions

Kearcher-Monsell Gallery, Housatonic Valley Regional High School, 246 Warren Turnpike Road, Falls Village, Conn.

Artist Ani Jenkins will display her wood sculptures in a solo exhibition in the Kearcher-Monsell Gallery at HVRHS. There will be an opening reception on Dec. 13, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and the show will be up through January 7. Ani Jenkins uses a variety of wood types to create whimsical stories with interactive features. This is the gallery's first exhibition with exclusively 3-dimensional pieces. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit anijenkins.com, @hvrhsgallery on Instagram, or reach out to student Ellie Wolgemuth: ewolgemuth@hvrhs.org.

DECEMBER 14

Ornament Making and Tree Lighting

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

Swing by the library between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to make holiday ornaments for the town tree lighting ceremony during the Holiday Extravaganza or wrapping paper for all your holiday needs. All supplies are free and included.

Holiday Extravaganza

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

Get into the holiday spirit at the Falls Village Holiday Extravaganza at the Center on Main, hosted by the David M. Hunt Library, Falls Village Recreation Commission, and the Center on Main. Community holiday music and readings at 4 p.m. before experiencing the annual Tree Lighting at 5 p.m., with Santa coming down Main Street.

Holiday Puppet Show

Salisbury Congregational Church, Salisbury, Conn.

A holiday puppet show will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 1 p.m. at the Salisbury Congregational Church. Co-sponsored by the Salisbury Association and Friends of the Scoville Library, the talented Puppet People will stage a wonderful interpretation of "A Christmas Carol" to delight children of all ages. Free.

Colebrook Holiday Fair

Town Hall and Colebrook Senior & Community Center, 562 Colebrook Road, Colebrook, Conn.

On Saturday, Dec. 14, the town of Colebrook will be holding its traditional holiday fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a variety of unique vendors, breakfast with Santa, trees & wreaths, a raffle,

Cookie Land, gingerbread cookie decorating, fun gifts, arts and crafts, a children's shopping area, an auction with the Colebrook Historical Society, and a holiday café with delicious homemade offerings.

For more information visit: www.townofcolebrook.org/community-events

DECEMBER 15

Town of Amenia To Host a Celtic Holiday Concert

Amenia Town Hall Auditorium, Amenia, N.Y.

The Town of Amenia is planning to host a concert of Celtic holiday music in the Amenia Town Hall auditorium. The concert will take place on Sunday, Dec. 15 from 2 to 4 p.m. Admission and refreshments are free. The concert is a holiday gift from the Town of Amenia.

Holiday Centerpiece Workshop at Roe-Jan Library

Roeliff Jansen Library, 9091 Route 22, Copake, N.Y. roejanlibrary.org

On Sunday, Dec. 15, 1 to 2 p.m., add a personal touch to your decor by attending Roeliff Jansen Community Library's "Back to Nature" Holiday Centerpiece Workshop. Participants will create their own seasonal centerpiece using natural materials like evergreen branches, pinecones, and berries. Space is limited

to 15 participants, and registration is required. To sign up, email director@roejanlibrary.org.

Roeliff-Jansen Library, 9091 Route 22, approximately one mile south of the traffic light at the intersection of Routes 22 and 23.

DECEMBER 18

Mindfulness and Meditation with Ally Lyons

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

Take a moment for yourself this holiday season on Dec. 18 at 10 a.m. at the David M. Hunt Library! Join Ally Lyons for an introduction to mindfulness and meditation, perfect for beginners and experienced practitioners. The session includes discussions on the benefits of meditation, two short practices, and a Q&A. Ally Lyons, a seasoned yoga teacher, Reiki practitioner, and co-founder of isitclean.org, brings over 10 years of experience to this calming event.

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. T his 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

"Inside for the Winter"

Kenise Barnes Fine Art, 7 Fulling Lane, Kent, Conn.

"Inside for the Winter" - Paintings by Amanda Acker, Sally Maca, and Melanie Parke will be on view from Dec. 7 through Jan. 26, 2025.

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.

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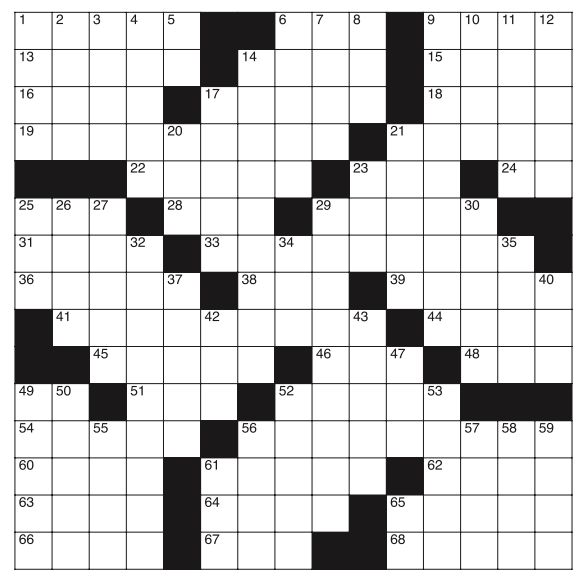
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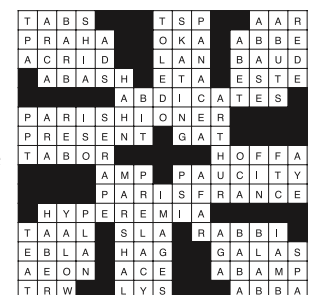
CLUES ACROSS

1. Thou ___ do it
6. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
9. Brainstem part
13. Town in New York state
14. Little (Spanish)
15. Continent
16. Retch
17. Short-billed rails
18. Small period of time (abbr.)
19. Confused
21. A team needs one
22. Woman in ancient times
23. Republican Party
24. Spanish be
25. "The Godfather" character Johnny
28. Not around
29. City in Zambia
31. A type of beginning
33. Numb
36. Gurus
38. Small, gray-headed crow
39. Vehicle type
41. Disorders
44. One point east of southeast
45. Indian soldier
46. Tree type
48. Midway between south and southeast
49. It cools your home
51. Corn comes on it
52. Ship's deck
54. A way to bake
56. Improvised
60. Butterfly genus
61. Baseball fields have them
62. Designated space
63. Discharge
64. Two of something
65. Once more
66. Part of your face
67. Tax collector
68. Cassia tree

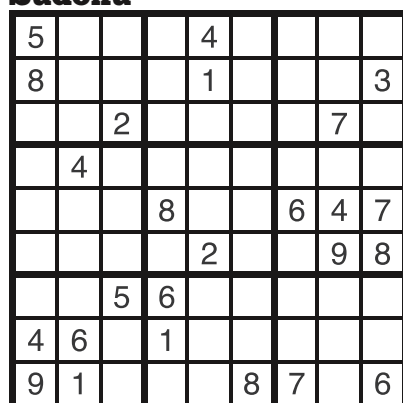


10. Mountain in NE Greece
11. A daughter or your brother or sister
12. German surname
14. Having more than one husband at a time
17. Romanian city
20. Energy
21. Makes less hot
23. Gas diffusion electrode
25. Former CIA
26. Set an example for others
27. Support of a particular person
29. One from the Big Apple
30. Mountain range
32. Violate the sanctity of something
34. Supervises flying
35. Talks
37. Persian male given name
40. Born of
42. Forcibly take one's possessions
43. Discounts
47. Knockouts
49. Posh Colorado destination
50. Form of therapy
52. British rock band
53. Type of virus (abbr.)
55. The U. of Miami mascot is one
56. Volcanic crater
57. Middle Eastern nation
58. Sinn ___, Irish organization
59. Ethiopian lake
61. Bits per inch (abbr.)
65. Equally

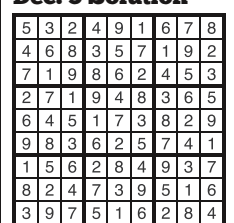
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OUR TOWNS

Millbrook tops Salisbury in basketball opener

By RILEY KLEIN
rileyk@lakevillejournal.com

SALISBURY — Salisbury School varsity basketball fell 71-43 to Millbrook School in the first game of the season Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Millbrook won through effective shooting and control in the paint. Senior center Zoumana Traore collected 20 points for the Mustangs and reeled in rebounds left and right.

Salisbury fell behind in the first half but battled back to within one point early in the second half. With score at 34-33, the Knights' momentum was stalled by a series of foul calls and turnovers. Millbrook proceeded to go on a 13-2 run and pull ahead down the stretch.

Millbrook's guard Joe Evangelista facilitated the offense successfully, scoring 12 points and creating opportunities for Traore.

Salisbury's offense was produced by the perimeter players. Senior guard Jonah Gilliam led the Knights in scoring with 15 points. Sophomore wing Jaden Schwenebraten scored 10 and junior guard Jermelle Cotton scored 9.

Millbrook's home opener was scheduled against Pomfret School Dec. 14. The Mustangs then play an extended stretch on the road before returning Jan. 11 to host Kingswood-Oxford School.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Top, Liam Gregory takes a jump shot during Salisbury School's 71-43 loss to Millbrook Dec. 4. Above, Salisbury's Paul Shyposh looks for an open teammate. Right, Millbrook's Joe Evangelista goes up for a shot.

Silo Ridge sale revenues exceed assessed value by 69% in October

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — October was a busy month for Amenia with ten transfers; three in Silo Ridge and seven outside the club. Town of Amenia prices remain modest with a median sale price of \$320,000. A comparison of property tax assessments versus sales prices in October is revealing while the courts, lawyers, town and owners continue to litigate the level of assessments in Silo Ridge. The total assessed value of all seven town properties transferred in October was \$2.7 million, 14% over their combined assessed value. In contrast the sales total of only three properties transferred in Silo Ridge totaled \$13.7 million — 69% over their assessed value. Resales are now happening in Silo Ridge with handsome returns over the previous price paid as noted below.

In early December there were 18 single family homes for sale in Amenia including seven over \$1 million and six under \$400,000.

Silo Ridge Transfers
307 Pheasant Run — 2 bedroom/2.5 bath townhouse sold in November 2020 for \$2,208,800 and resold in October 2024 for \$3.1 million.

24 Snowy Owl Court — 3 bedroom/3 full bath/2 half bath sold in March 2021 for \$2.29 million and resold in October for \$5.25 million.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

413 Pheasant Run, Unit 2C — 4 bedroom/4.5 bath town house sold in October 2019 for \$3,514,000 and resold in October 2024 for \$5.3 million.

Town of Amenia Transfers
35 Lower Powder Road — 1.43 acre vacant lot sold privately for \$105,000.

83 Cascade Road — 2 bedroom/1.5 bath saltbox home on .34 acres sold for \$285,000.

81 Kent Road — 3 bedroom/1.5 bath home sold for \$315,000.


50 Railroad Ave. — 2 bedroom/1.5 bath cottage sold for \$320,000, the median price for single family home transfers in the month of October.

34 Cascade Road — 18 acres of land sold for \$368,000.


42 Bog Hollow Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home sold for \$462,500.

25 Green Road — 3 bedroom/3 bath home on 2.67 acres sold for \$880,000.


Located in the Troutbeck community, 25 Green Road — built in 1985 — has 2,812 square feet on 2.67 acres and was sold for \$880,000 on Oct. 17, 2024.



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