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Median
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COMPASS
'A Complete
Unknown';
And More **B1-3**

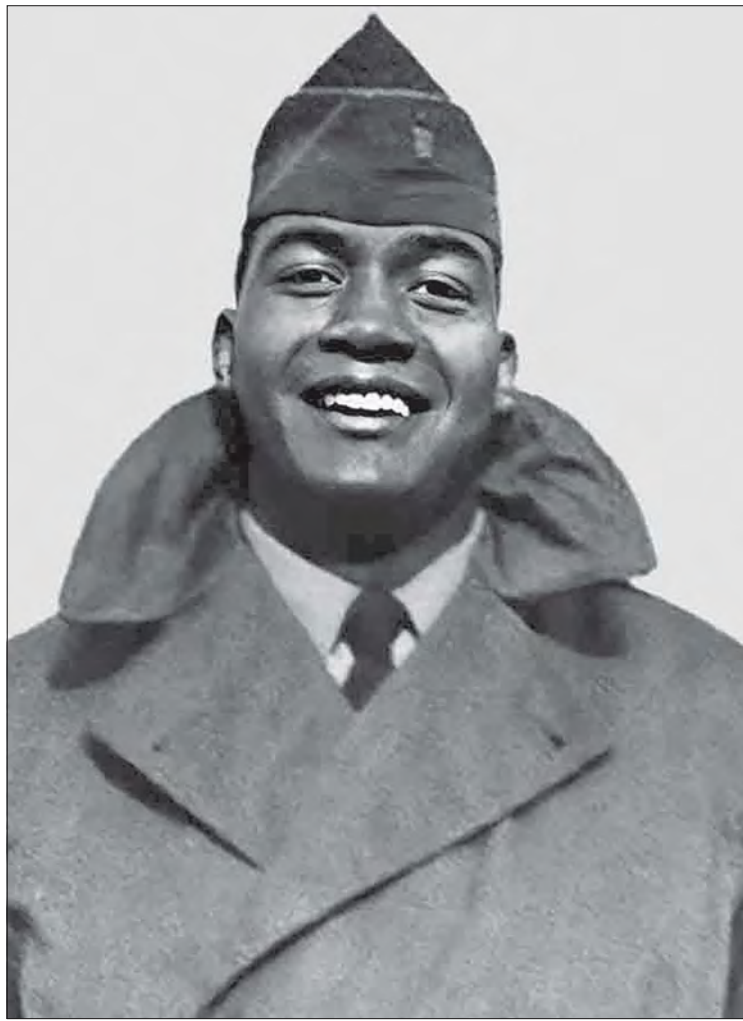


PHOTO PROVIDED

Charles R. Johnson, a Korean war veteran who died in combat in 1953, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on Friday, Jan. 3.

Millbrook war hero gets Medal of Honor from President Biden at White House event

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

MILLBROOK — Following years of local and regional efforts, Pfc. Charles R. Johnson of Millbrook was posthumously recognized for valor, receiving the Medal of Honor at a White House ceremony on Friday, Jan. 3. The medal was one of seven presented by President Joseph Biden.

Of the seven medals awarded, five were posthumously awarded to Korean War casualties and the remaining two honored Vietnam veterans, one of whom had perished in battle.

The third of six children, Johnson was born Aug. 11, 1932, in Millbrook to Robert and Pearl Johnson. He excelled in athletics and was a gifted musician. He attended

Millbrook High School for three years before transferring to Arlington High School in Poughkeepsie, where he was co-captain of the football team and won election as class vice-president.

Johnson attended Howard University briefly before being drafted in 1952 into the U.S. Army, assigned to Company B, 3rd Infantry. He was killed in June, 1953 demonstrating extraordinary bravery, although mortally wounded himself, to save the lives of ten of his fellow infantrymen.

More than 70 years later, and efforts in recent years to upgrade Johnson's Silver Star to the Medal of Honor, Johnson's valor was officially recognized at The White House, where the medal was accepted by

See **HONOR**, PAGE A6

After tight race, Aymar-Blair takes oath as comptroller for Dutchess County

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

LAGRANGEVILLE — At a ceremony to cement his win as Dutchess County comptroller, Democrat Dan Aymar-Blair was officially sworn into office on Saturday, Jan. 4, by New York State comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli as family, friends and supporters enthusiastically cheered him on.

The ceremony marked both a new beginning for Aymar-Blair and the end of a challenging chapter which pitted him in a very tight race against incumbent Republican Gregg Pulver, who was appointed to the position approximately two years ago by former county executive William F.X. O'Neil.

The well-attended event was hosted by former county comptroller Robin Lois, who stepped down from the role in 2023 prior to Pulver's appointment to accept a position with the state as deputy comptroller. Political notables such

See **COMPTROLLER**, PAGE A6



PHOTO BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

Sen. Michelle Hinchey, D-41, left, New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, second from left, and Assemblymember Didi Barrett, D-106, right, flank incoming Dutchess County comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair, second from right, at his oath-taking ceremony on Saturday, Jan. 4, in LaGrangeville, New York.

Hecate Energy reapplies to build 42MW solar project in Copake

By **JOHN COSTON**
johnc@millertonnews.com

COPAKE — Hecate Energy LLC has filed its intent to construct a major solar energy facility after months have passed since the Chicago-based company last June stated it would reenter the application process.

The filing of intent by Hecate, made on Dec. 19 with the New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission, was followed three days later by filing of its application.

The timing — two days before Christmas — was criticized by the Town of Copake in a motion it immediately filed requesting the state reject Hecate's filing.

The Shepherd's Run project has a years-long history. Last spring, following the state's rejection of

The timing — two days before Christmas — was criticized by the Town of Copake in a motion it immediately filed requesting the state reject Hecate's filing.

Hecate's application for the Shepherd's Run project, the company said it would refile its application "on or about June 3." In the months have which passed, town officials and residents have been anxiously awaiting any development. The suspense in the intervening months was chronicled in a monthly newsletter written by Richard Wolf, Copake's Town Supervisor.

In December, he wrote "...It's been seven months and counting since Hecate Energy announced its intention to file a new application to construct a 42-megawatt facility on more than 200 acres of prime farmland in Craryville. Rumor has

it that Hecate intends to file a new application before the end of the year, although they haven't told us about their plans."

Shepherd's Run is a proposed solar project near the intersection of Routes 23 and 7. It originally was designed as a 60-megawatt facility but was scaled down after the company lost control of a parcel of land that was integral to the original design.

In its motion filed with the state, the town wrote: "The Town of Copake hopes that Hecate's surprise announcement to file its applica-

See **HECATE**, PAGE A6



CONTACT

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OPINION

Local matters,
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OUR TOWNS

New state minimum wage, prenatal leave laws in effect

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
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With the start of 2025, some new policies have gone into effect for New Yorkers, as recently announced by Gov. Kathy Hochul.

Wages have been impacted. Workers in New York State earning the minimum wage will now see a jump in their paychecks of \$0.50 per hour, bringing the hourly total to \$15.50. The only exceptions are residents of New York

City, Long Island and Westchester County, who continue to earn a dollar more per hour than their counterparts in the rest of the state. Their minimum wage is jumping to \$16.50 per hour.

The paid prenatal leave law is now in effect. The law, which is the first in the nation, enables any privately employed pregnant New York resident to take up to 20 hours of paid leave for prenatal care for a range of services including but not limited to physical ex-

aminations, fertility treatment, medical procedures and end of pregnancy care. The paid prenatal leave law is in addition to the New York State Paid Family Leave, existing employer-paid leaves and existing sick leave requirements. The law is applicable to both part-time and full-time employees, and applies to all private employers in the state.

Diabetics in New York may see some financial relief with an initiative which eliminates insulin co-pays on state-regu-

lated health insurance plans. This plan is estimated to come with an annual savings of up to \$1,200 for those who qualify.

With rising costs impacting New Yorkers on multiple levels, the governor is seeking to address some everyday fiscal concerns with the new legislation in place. "The cost of living is just too damn high so I'm doing everything in my power to make New York more affordable for families," Hochul said.

Dover resident arrested after New Year's Day standoff

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

DOVER PLAINS — On Wednesday, Jan. 1, Richard P. Danko was arrested in the Town of Dover following an hours-long standoff with law enforcement after a complaint was lodged against him for allegedly threatening another party with a shotgun.

At approximately 6:10 a.m.,

deputies arrived at 16 Old State Route 22 in Dover Plains to investigate the report and Danko was subsequently identified as the suspect in the case. But when addressed by authorities, Danko refused to cooperate and fled into a home. Over the next five hours, members of multiple law enforcement units unsuccessfully attempted to convince Danko to surrender.

Finally, authorities gained access to the premises and the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office's Emergency Services Unit took him into custody without further incident.

Following his arrest, Danko was charged with third degree criminal possession of a weapon, a felony, and three second degree misdemeanors including criminal contempt, menac-

ing and resisting arrest as well as bail jumping, also a misdemeanor. Unrelated to this incident, Danko was also sought on a warrant for reckless endangerment. He was charged in connection with both the preexisting warrant and this most recent incident. Danko was arraigned at the Town of Dover Court, and was remanded to the Dutchess County Justice and Transition Center where he remains in lieu of \$10,000 cash bail.

When reached for comment, Captain John Watterson at the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office confirmed the incident is still under investigation and no motive has yet been established. Watterson was unable to confirm at press time whether Danko is being represented by an attorney.



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Bombers showed dominance in the paint, crashing the boards and winning most of the rebounds at the varsity match Friday, Jan. 3, at Stissing Mountain High School.

Bombers, Taconic Hills girls play non-league winter break game

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@lakevillejournal.com

PINE PLAINS — Pine Plains hosted Taconic Hills High School for a winter break girls' varsity basketball game at Stissing Mountain High School Friday, Jan. 3.

The Pine Plains Bombers beat the visiting challengers 69-33.

The Bombers took an early lead in the first quarter. Michelle Blackburn scored nine points in the quarter, leading scoring across both

teams and setting up her team for an 18-11 lead after the eighth minute.

Neveah Rennie took the reins for the rest of the game, showing up steadily in every quarter to push the Bombers' lead further and further and leading her team in points by the end of the night.

Taconic Hills played a steady ball game, but they were outpaced by the Bombers' scoring early and often. All but the final quarter ended with a scoring deficit greater than seven points.

Amenia Town Board finishes year with busy final meeting

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — The Town Board considered and approved 14 resolutions during its final meeting of the year, held on Thursday, Dec. 19. All votes were unanimous. Councilperson Nicole Ahearn was absent from the meeting.

After lengthy negotiation among officials of the towns of Amenia, North East and Dover, an agreement with Northern Dutchess Paramedics was reached to continue providing ambulance service to the three towns. Under the agreement, the town of Amenia will pay \$480,762 for service through 2025, that annual amount to increase to \$639,900 for 2026 and to \$689,900 for service in 2027. The town of North East will pay \$511,558 for ambulance service in 2025, and the town of Dover will pay \$401,563 for the coming year, according to the agreement.

Taking a step ahead in a project that will bring improvement to the town Water District, the Town Board approved a resolution to authorize Delaware Engineering of Albany to prepare a map, plan and report — known as an MPR — for the project. The MPR is needed to complete applications for significant grant funding to support the project. The cost for the MPR and the subsequent funding applications, approved by the town board, is \$15,000. Grant applications must be submitted by May 30, 2025.

Recommended improvements within the Water District include a replacement of the existing Lavelle Road pump house with a pre-packaged new pump house, rehabilitation of the existing water storage tank, upgrades to the well fields and water main replacement in sections where necessary.

If construction occurs in 2026, the estimated cost for the capital project would be \$3.9 million. The anticipated grant funding applications

are steps toward funding the water district improvement project.

In other actions the Town Board supported a resolution to prepare bid specifications for a new LED public announcement sign at the Town Hall. Once the bid specifications are determined, vendors will be invited to submit bids on the project.

Agreeing that the town itself could be aided attention to its "brand," and having reviewed bid proposals, the town board agreed to hire the graphic design services of Giorgio Baravalle of de.MO of Millbrook. To be included will be design work on a new town logo and branding system at a cost of \$3,850.

Feeling that the old town seal should be reimagined, the town board voted to open the redesign to residents, inviting submission of ideas to help create a new seal design.

Submission guidelines are posted on the town website. Welcome are rough drawings or just ideas. The deadline for submission is Wednesday, Jan. 29, at noon.

The website for the Town of Amenia will be redesigned by the successful bidder, TownWeb at a cost of \$10,770. TownWeb software is designed to support the needs of local governments.

The town's Water District operator, VRI of LaGrangeville, received town board approval to conduct a survey to locate all of the district's water valves and provide assessment of their condition and need for repair. The estimated cost for this survey will be \$10,000.

The water valve testing is scheduled to occur between Monday, Jan. 6, and Friday, Jan. 10. Water discoloration and air pockets in the line may occur as a result of the testing process. Residents should run cold tap water for a few minutes until the flow clears up and refrain from doing laundry for 24 hours after the discoloration appears. For more information, call VRI at

845-677-3839.

Cannabis dispensary

After a year of discussion and drafting of a local law to govern the location and operation of a retail cannabis dispensary, the town board moved forward on the issue, clearing the way to schedule a public hearing to gather residents' comments on whether to adopt the new local law.

The public hearing was formally scheduled by the town board for Thursday, Jan. 16, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Because the Planning Board will need to meet and comment on adoption of the local law, Town Clerk Dawn Klingner pointed out that the public hearing will open on Jan. 16 and hear comments. It will, however, need to be continued until the following town board meeting giving opportunity for more comment. The reason for the continuation is that the Planning Board has no meeting scheduled before Jan. 16. The continuation allows time for the Planning Board to meet and provide its comments.

Economic Development Committee

The town board voted to create an Economic Development Committee as an advisory group and named its first five members, each to serve a two-year term. Appointed to the new committee are Ken Topolsky, James Ohliger, Tom Buttacavoli, Richard Fields, and Damian Gutierrez.

Large documents scanner

Filling a long-standing need, the town board agreed to purchase a Canon large format scanner and printer for the Town Hall. Both the Building and Planning Departments will benefit from the new equipment, expected to cost around \$9,380. In addition to scanning and copying, the new machine will print large signage.

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ALEXANDRA PETERS

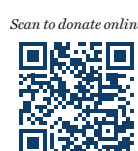
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OBITUARIES

Barbara M. McEnroe

AMENIA — Barbara M. McEnroe, 84, a lifelong area resident, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family at home on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024. Mrs. McEnroe was a licensed beautician and worked at Fanny's Beauty Salon in Amenia and later worked at Wassaic Developmental Center in Wassaic, retiring in 2003.



Born on July 25, 1940 in Sharon, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Lena (Clum) Carberry. She was a 1958 graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional School in Falls Village. On Sept. 29, 1962 in Sharon, she married Joseph F. McEnroe, who survives at home.

Mrs. McEnroe was an active parishioner of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia, a volunteer at the Church's Thrift Shop and with the Vine and Branches Program.

In addition to her loving husband, she is survived by three daughters; Maureen Willig and her husband, Peter, of Stanfordsville, New York, Jamie McEnroe and her partner, Jason Nolan of Lee, Massachusetts and Joann Potter and her husband, Barrie, of Marcellus, New York. She is also survived by three grandchildren; Emmylou Potter, Barrie Lucas Potter and his wife, Marguerite, and Christopher Willig; a great granddaughter, Wyvette Pot-

ter; her brothers-in-laws, Jerry Wilcox of Amenia and James McEnroe and his wife, Abigail, of Burlington Flats, New York; her sister-in-law, Dorothy Casey of Kent, and several nieces and nephews.

Besides her parents, she was predeceased by brothers, Vincent, Robert, Joseph, Paul, Donald, Francis and Thomas Carberry, and sisters, Virginia Kendall, Dorothy Frasier, Helen Passante, Mary Lango and Emma Paley.

Calling hours will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 10, 2025 at Hufcut Funeral Home, 3159 Route 22, Dover Plains, New York. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 12 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025 at Immaculate Conception Church, 4 Lavelle Rd., Amenia with Rev. R. Kent Wilson officiating. Burial will follow at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Amenia. Memorial contributions may be made to Immaculate Conception Church, 4 Lavelle Rd., Amenia, NY 12501 or Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 or online at www.hvhospice.org/.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Hufcut Funeral Home, 3159 Route 22, Dover Plains, NY. For directions or to send a condolence, visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.

Stephen Brindisi Darnell

AMENIA — Stephen Brindisi Darnell, 73, a lifelong area resident died peacefully at his home in Amenia, on Monday, Nov. 25, 2024.



A Celebration of Steve's Life will take place on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, from 1 to 4 p.m. at The Lantern Inn, 10 Main Street, Wassaic, NY.

Steve's family and friends are invited to attend. Burial at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Amenia will take place privately in the Spring

of 2025. Rev. Robert K. Wilson will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made to Immaculate Conception Church, 4 Lavelle Road, Amenia, NY 12501.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family or to plant a tree in Steve's memory please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Aldo Louis Pecco Jr.

LAKEVILLE — Aldo Louis Pecco, Jr., 81, of Southfield, Massachusetts, formerly of Lakeville, passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024, at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. Mr. Pecco was the Director of Maintenance at Camp Sloane in Lakeville for 15 years and later worked in the maintenance department at Lone Oaks Campsites in Canaan, for 10 years.



Born on Oct. 28, 1943, in Waterbury, he was the son of the late Aldo L. Pecco, Sr. and Florence (Murano) Pecco. On June 23, 1962 in Thomaston, he married Patricia Hock who survives at home after 62 years of marriage. Mr. Pecco loved the outdoors and camping. He was an avid ice fisherman.

In addition to his loving wife, Mr. Pecco is survived by a daughter, Gina A. Gates

and her husband, Samuel, of Canaan, and a sister, Gloria Pecco of Florida.

He is also survived by four grandchildren; Giavonna and Aaron Pecco, Gregory and Zachary Labshere; and a great granddaughter, Willow Pecco. Besides his parents, Mr. Pecco was predeceased by two sons, Ronald Aldo Pecco and Steven Louis Pecco and four sisters.

Graveside services and burial will take place at 1 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 10, 2025, at Mountain View Cemetery, 80 Sand Road, Canaan, CT. Contributions in memory of Mr. Pecco should be made to: Baystate Health Foundation, 280 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01199.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main Street, North Canaan, CT 06018.

For more obituaries, see page A4

OUR TOWNS

Amenia Town Board starts year with reorganizational meeting

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — At its first meeting of the New Year and in accordance with the results of the November election, the Town Board convened its traditional reorganizational meeting on Thursday, Jan. 2, administering the oath of office to a continuing council member and passing a significant number of resolutions necessary for the functioning of the town government.

The oath was administered to Nicole Ahearn who is continuing her service on the Town Board having been elected to a full-term seat. She had been completing the unexpired term of Leo Blackman when he was elected to serve as Town Supervisor.

Numerous organizational resolutions and motions were read aloud and passed by unanimous vote.

Briefly summarizing the town's major goals for the coming year, Blackman included continued progress on infrastructure improve-

ments such as the sidewalk construction project leading to Beekman Park, and improvements within the water district, as well as continued attention to the wastewater project proposal.

A focus will be on improving the appearance of the town's Fountain Square, a project of the Enhancement Committee in cooperation with The Millbrook Bank's landscape planning. Blackman reported the town's responsibilities will be to improve the electrical and plumbing aspects of the central square.

Pedestrian safety in the town center along Routes 22 and 343 will also be a focus in partnership with the state Department of Transportation, Blackman reported, particularly near crosswalks where new signage could help.

Councilmember Rosanna Hamm mentioned the crosswalk at the corner of Mechanic Street and Route 343 as a significant pedestrian safety hazard in need of bet-

ter lighting.

The Town Hall will be expecting some painting and electrical work, including exterior lighting, along with a new outdoor sign. A Community Kitchen will be restarted at the Town Hall and the farmer's market will reopen in the parking lot this summer, Blackman said. And, there will be added emphasis on offering new programming through the Recreation Department.

Councilmember Paul Winters mentioned the need for "keeping local people local," stressing the need for affordable housing, supporting the Hudson River Housing proposal to build 28 owner-occupied affordable homes

on property near the Fresh-town shopping center.

Blackman pointed to an additional need for affordable rental opportunities for the town.

Councilmember Brad Rebillard noted he would like to see the end of the Kent Hollow lawsuit in the coming year. In 1978, town zoning officials had designated the 83-acre mining property on South Amenia Road and its operations as a nonconforming use, a permit which expired in 1989. In 2019, the mine had sought to expand their acreage, an application which was denied by the Zoning Board of Appeals, giving rise to the current unresolved lawsuit.

Millbrook offers curbside pickup of holiday trees

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — As in past years, Village Highway Department crews will offer curbside pick-up of discarded live holiday trees throughout the month of January until Friday, Jan. 31. The pick-up program began on Thursday, Jan. 2.

Residents are cautioned to place the trees on the curb, not in the street, and the pick-up service is for live trees only, not artificial. Trees must be free of all decorations includ-

ing lights, tinsel or ornaments, and the stand must have been removed and kept for use another year.

If a snowstorm is forecast the tree must be moved from the curb back out of the way of plows. When road clean-up is complete, the tree can be placed at the curb once again.

The pick-up crew will not dig down into the snow to dislodge the tree.

There is no set schedule for the January tree pick-up. For more information, residents may call the highway department at 845-677-3022.

Edward R. George

NORFOLK — Edward R. George, 86, of Norfolk, and Key West, Florida, passed peacefully away, Dec. 20, 2024, at Wolcott Hall with his wife Mary by his side. He was the beloved husband of Mary (Welch) George. Ed was born on Sept. 17, 1938, in Torrington during the Hurricane of '38.



He was the youngest of six born to Richard and Sophie (Swyden) George. He proudly served 17 years as a Torrington firefighter, retiring after being injured in a house fire.

Ed owned and operated Merit Quality Pools, a business he started with his son as a service company and built it into a construction, retail store and full-service company for over 45 years.

He was very proud of his Lebanese heritage. Ed was an avid gardener and fisherman. Ed and Mary spent a good part of each year in Key West where they had a wonderful group of friends.

There were picnics at the beach every Sunday and holidays. Ed was always ready for a good time or a road trip.

In addition to his wife, Mary, he is survived by his

son; Michael R. George (Mary), his daughter, Lynn Colangelo (Peter) and his stepdaughter, Shannon Santoro (Gaetano) of Harwinton; one brother, Fredrick George (Joan) of Torrington; three grandchildren, Michael E. George (Maria) of Torrington, Lauren Santoro and Nicolas Santoro of Harwinton; three great grandsons, Gabriel, Nikolas, and Zachary George of Torrington as well as many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by three brothers, Ernest, Louis and Marshall and one sister, Jeanette King.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, at noon at Cook Funeral Home, 82 Litchfield St, Torrington, CT. Burial was private. Relatives and friends called from 10 a.m. until noon at Cook Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Norfolk Lions Ambulance PO Box 399, Norfolk CT 06058.

Condolences may be sent to the George family by visiting www.cookfuneralhome.com



PHOTO PROVIDED

First baby of 2025

Sharon Hospital's first newborn of the year arrived Jan. 2 at 4 a.m. Jackie Hamish Fichera was born to parents Amelia and Jeff Fichera of Copake, N.Y. Her older sister, Frankie, 2, was also born at Sharon Hospital.

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With the leaves down for the winter, it is a perfect time to gain a better understanding of our woodlands. When we were young, this was relatively easy as we learned from walking with local foresters like George Kiefer who would explain the different habitats and landscapes. Today I would recommend getting to know the wisdom of Tom Wessels, a terrestrial ecologist specializing in the New England's landscape. This can be done by either reviewing his book entitled Reading the Forested Landscape or by viewing his educational videos on YouTube. One will start to view walking through our woodlands in a completely new way. For example, examining how a stone wall is constructed will reveal its original purpose for either cropland, pasture or a woodlot. My caution is that this new insight will absolutely slow your pace down as you begin to observe all the signs that surround you in the forest that will disclose its past!

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OBITUARIES

Eileen M. Mulligan

SALISBURY — Eileen M. Mulligan, 77, of Salisbury, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2024, due to complications from Parkinson's disease.



She was born in Bridgeport to Edward and Margaret Mulligan. Eileen graduated from St. Ann's School and Notre Dame

High School. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Health Services Administration from Quinnipiac College and dedicated 45 years to serving the elderly as the Administrator at Noble Horizons in Salisbury. Known for her kindness, generosity, and impeccable taste, Eileen was an avid traveler and reader. She had a great appreciation for fine jewelry and was a fan of Tom Selleck. Eileen resided at the Mozaic Jewish Home in Bridgeport and previously lived in Salisbury and Naples, Florida.

She is survived by her siblings; Margaret M. Mulligan of Mora, New Mexico, Joseph L. Mulligan of Salisbury, Christine M. Mulligan Firella of Bridgeport, and Edward M. Mulligan of Bridgeport. She

is also survived by Catherine M. Trichka and Scott Trichka of Bridgeport, numerous nieces and nephews, and her beloved dog, Teddy.

Eileen was preceded in death by her parents, Edward and Margaret Mulligan.

A Funeral Mass for Eileen was held on Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. at Saint Mary's Church, located at 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville, Connecticut. The burial followed immediately afterward at Saint Mary's Cemetery in Salisbury, Connecticut. For travel directions or to sign Eileen's online guest register, please visit www.LeskoFuneralHome.com.

The family expresses their deep gratitude for the staff of the Katie Grace House at Mozaic Jewish Home for the love and care they showed Eileen over the past 4 years. In lieu of flowers, donations in honor of Eileen can be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research www.michaeljfox.org or the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service www.salisburyambulance.org/gifts.

SALISBURY — It is with heartfelt sorrow that we announce the passing of Alice Schwab Combes, beloved mother, grandmother, friend, educator, leader, and protector of mountains. Alice passed away on Dec. 21, 2024, surrounded by the love of her daughter, Andrea, son-in-law, Eric, and her grandchildren, Mary August, Axel and Berit.

Born on Oct. 26, 1946, to Gustav and Josephine Schwab, Alice grew up in Garrison, New York where she attended primary and middle schools and later was a proud graduate of the Emma Willard School in Troy, New York. In 1966, Alice gave birth to her daughter, Andrea, and spent the next two decades living in the Boston area before moving to Danbury in 1988. Ultimately, she found her way to spend time in East Greenwich, Rhode Island, to be close to her family. Her last years were spent snuggled in her cozy Vermont home in Rochester.

Alice's academic accomplishments were nothing short of impressive because if Alice was going to do something, she was going to do it right: a BA from UMass Boston, two master's degrees, and multiple post-graduate certificates in Reading, Special Education, School Psychology, and Neuropsychology. The crown jewel of her education was her Doctorate of Education from Nova Southeastern University.

Her career as an educator spanned over 35 years, with her first years working with students struggling with learning and emotional difficulties in Quincy, Massachusetts. She then moved to Danbury, where she worked as a School Counselor and School Psychologist in neighboring Ridgefield for another twenty years. Alice acted as an unparalleled advocate for her students; throughout her career, she never allowed her students to simply meet expectations, she encouraged them to find meaningful challenges, and explore every educational opportunity available to them. Her boundless dedication to assist her students to find scholarships, jobs, training programs and travel opportunities is reflected by how often her former students have returned to share their successes and appreciation. After retiring from Ridgefield, Alice couldn't stay away from her true calling and re-

turned to work in Seekonk, Massachusetts for five more years as a school psychologist. At every school she worked, Alice was valued by her colleagues not only for her expertise and experience as an educator but for her wicked sense of humor, boundless energy, slight irreverence for the rules, crazy earrings and her exemplary skills and work ethic.

Beyond the classroom, Alice's leadership as Director and President of Mount Riga, Inc. in Salisbury, was legendary. As MRI President, Alice boldly led multiple initiatives to provide environmental safeguards to protect the forest and lakes as well as fostering community engagement and connection. She fiercely protected and nurtured "her" beloved mountain, ensuring that its beauty and peace would be passed down for generations. At any given moment, Alice could be seen yanking dreaded invasives from the side of the road, planting daylilies along fences, or leading a rambunctious crowd of children with lawn games. You were sure not to miss her as she came speeding up the mountain road, usually with a pack of dogs and a grandchild or three in the back of her pickup truck. There wasn't a community event or party that she didn't attend with joyful exuberance. Her cabin was her beloved sanctuary, and Alice enthusiastically invited friends, colleagues, and the occasional hunky hiker from the Appalachian Trail to visit (and work on) her beloved Shack.

Alice wore many hats throughout her life— educator, travel guide, corporate president and ski ambassador among others. She co-founded the educational travel company Geo-Vista and spent 15 summers teaching reading skills at Salisbury Summer School. But, her most meaningful role was as mother and grandmother. Alice loved her daughter with a strong and unconditional loyalty, only to be equaled (sometimes surpassed) by her love for her grandchildren. Alice and Andrea were each other's strongest supporters, cheerleaders, and absolute best friends.

Her grandkids, Mary August, Axel, and Berit, were the light of her life. Alice adored

them fiercely, teaching them to ski moguls, jump somersaults, appreciate the fine art of pancake-making, and slow down with a little bite of chocolate. Her cabin, her mountain, and her life were always open for adventure. Sometimes a little too much adventure, as in the time their mother learned Alice let them ride the roof of her Astro Van. She gifted them with a childhood of unforgettable experiences like visits to the American Girl Doll Store in New York City, snow sledding with huskies, and even a trip to Paris. That was Alice—a generous spirit, full of joy and spontaneous fun.

Filled with curiosity about the world around her, Alice explored the world both solo and with friends, often seeking out the most delicious food and interesting people. She was never shy about offering her opinions, especially if the subject was current events or how the world should be run (which, in Alice's mind, was always better with more tea and use-less things from TJ Maxx). If you find yourself in need of a life-sized ceramic dalmatian sculpture or a three-foot-tall painted Humpty Dumpty, please call her daughter.

Alice is survived by her daughter, Andrea W. Combes and her son-in-law, L. Eric Olsson, and her grandchildren, Mary August, Axel and Berit Olsson. Over the years, she gathered a devoted pack of beloved dogs, including Benjamin, Coalie, Otis, Max and Samantha with whom she is now most likely sitting, reading her New York Times Sunday Edition, opining about the state of the world and how much better she would make it if she were in charge. And let's not forget her many wonderful friends, who will always remember Alice for her laughter, her loyalty, and her zest for life.

A private burial service will be held by the family. However, in full Alice fashion, there will be a celebration of Alice's extraordinary life at the mountain she loved so much, where we will raise a cup of tea (or something stronger) in her honor. In lieu of flowers, Alice would have preferred you share a laugh, taste something delicious, go on an adventure, wear a bold pair of earrings, and, if you can't resist, definitely buy something outrageous from TJ Maxx.

Alice's spirit will live on in the mountains, in the many lives she has touched, and in every laugh, swim in the lake, and ski slope we conquer from here on out.

In Appreciation:

Eileen Mulligan

With great respect and admiration, the staff and Board of Directors at Noble Horizons recognizes the passing of Eileen Mulligan. Eileen served as Noble Horizons' first Administrator, from its founding in 1972 until her retirement in 2017. Over a truly extraordinary career spanning more than four decades, she came to personify Church Homes, Inc.'s mission of supporting its residents with dignity, care, and compassion. Eileen forged close bonds with the countless residents she cared for and whose lives she

touched; with her coworkers and employees at Noble Horizons; and with many in the Salisbury community of which she was a part. She will be remembered for her caring and professionalism, her great sense of humor, and for her dedication to Noble Horizons and those who live and work there. The Board of Directors and management of Church Homes wish to extend our sincere condolences to Eileen's family, former co-workers, and friends at this time.

— The Board of Directors of Church Homes

Donna Rae Filous

CANAAN — Donna Rae Filous, 79, of Torrington, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024. Donna worked in retail her entire career and was store manager at several local businesses. She retired from the human resources department at Walmart in Torrington.



Born on Jan. 13, 1945 in New Milford, she was the daughter of the late Frederick R. and Ruth E. (Miller) Erickson. She was married to Ottmar Konrad Filous who predeceased her on Dec. 29, 2009. Donna was a member of the Canaan Northwest Lions Club, Daughters of Isabella in Canaan, and a parishioner of St. Martin of Tours Church of St. Joseph, also in Canaan.

Donna is survived by three brothers, Richard L. "Rick" Erickson of Torrington, Frederick R. "Rudy" Erickson of Chicopee, Massachusetts, and Charles Erickson of Danbury, and a sister, Eileen Corr of Coventry, Rhode Island. She is also survived by six nephews; Bob, Bill, Fred, Michael, Kevin and Charles Erickson, Jr; three nieces Stacy Frome, Christine Pen-

ney and Jennifer Colangelo. Above all, Donna was known for her kindness and generosity.

Calling hours will take place from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 13, 2025 at the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main Street, North Canaan, CT. A Funeral Mass will follow at 12 noon at St Martin of Tours Church of St Joseph, 4 Main St, Canaan, CT 06018. In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Mrs. Filous should be made to: Torrington Area Parkinson's Support Group, 88 East Albert Street, Torrington, CT 06790. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main Street, North Canaan, CT.

LAKEVILLE — George Varriale, 76, of Lakeville, passed away peacefully at The Sharon Health Care on Dec. 14, 2024. He was the loving husband of Cozette Roulin.

George was born May 29, 1948, in Hartford, the son of the late George and Anna (Solomon) Varriale. He graduated from Bloomfield High School. He then began working for his father in the carpentry business. He was a long time mem-

ber of St. Mary's Church.

He is survived by his wife, Cozette, and his two brothers, Ken, of Enfield, Connecticut, and Timothy of Florida. George is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance, 8 Under Mountain Rd, Salisbury, CT 06068.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

George Varriale

Robert James Habacker

SALISBURY — Robert James Habacker, 84, of Hemlock Lane, passed away peacefully at home on Dec. 21, 2024. He was the loving husband of Ola Harden Habacker.

Robert was born March 15, 1940, in Brooklyn, New York, the son of the late James and Muriel (Holz) Habacker. He attended the Berkshire School and later graduated from the Southside High School in Rockville Center,

New York. After graduation he attended college at Nicholas College. He was an avid tennis player, golf player and bowler. In 1959 he began working for the Habacker family business which was started in 1902.

In 1959 Robert met his loving wife and later wed in 1960. They had two sons together, Richard and James.

Besides his wife and sons, Richard is survived by his loving grandchildren, Jonathan,

Joseph, Ryan and Lauren. He is also survived by two great granddaughters whom he cherished so much, Rose and Gracelyn.


Besides his parents he was predeceased by his sister Vivian, and a grandson, James.

All services are private. Memorial contributions may be made to an animal shelter/rescue of the donors choice.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Alice Schwab Combes





Worship Services

Week of January 12, 2025

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. Transitioning through prayer 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 a.m., 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) In-Person and on YouTube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd, Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org The Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons Sunday, January 12 at 10:30 a.m. JUSTICE AMIDST INJUSTICE For information, contact Jo Loi at joiauloi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>Congregation Beth David A Reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Cornwall Village Meeting House Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</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>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</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>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>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanumc-umc.com canaanumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!</p>	

For more obituaries, see page A3

EDITORIAL

Local matters

Later this month a landmark building in Hartford will be up for auction. It is the former home of The Hartford Courant and was built in 1928 at 285 Broad Street across from the State Armory. More than a century and a half ago, in 1764 — when we were a colony — The Hartford Courant was founded as the weekly Connecticut Courant.

In recent years, The Courant became part of Tribune Publishing and then Alden Global Capital, a New York-based hedge fund. In 2020, Tribune Publishing announced it would be closing the Broad Street newsroom. Staff was told they would continue to work — remotely as they had been working during the pandemic.

As 2024 was coming to a close, another newspaper in our region announced it was in talks to change hands. The Waterbury Republican-American said it was negotiating to be acquired by the Hearst Connecticut Media Group. The Waterbury paper's roots date back to 1844. Its iconic Meadow Street building with a landmark clock tower is being considered as an apartment complex with a restaurant.

Hearst Connecticut Media Group employs approximately 170 journalists across Connecticut at eight daily newspapers and 13 weekly papers, plus Connecticut Magazine and websites. Three decades ago, in 1994, the Hartford Courant's newsroom peaked at almost 400, but in a little over a decade it began to offer early retirement and buyout packages as the national trend to digital from print in the early 2000s carved away at circulation across the country.

In Connecticut, we are steeped in our own history, and these two newspaper histories nod to pre-Revolutionary times as well as a mid-19th century boom that saw Waterbury rise as an industrial power.

The story of local news in 2024 across America is hallmarked by changing ownership and consolidation. According to the Medill Local News Initiative at Northwestern University, last year 258 newspapers changed ownership compared to 180 in 2023. Medill reports that 10 companies control one in four of all U.S. newspapers and more than half of all dailies. Four of those ten companies are majority owned by private equity or hedge funds.

The Poughkeepsie Journal, the oldest paper in New York state, is owned by Gannett Co., which is America's largest newspaper group.

Our own story is one of local ownership. Local matters. The Millerton News was founded 93 years ago in 1932. The Lakeville Journal has been a community staple since 1897.

Today, The Millerton News and The Lakeville Journal are published by LJMN Media, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that was formed in 2021. Our two publications have survived and they continue to grow because of community, donor and advertiser support. This support has made it possible to strengthen our commitment to local news.

Across America, from 2022 to 2023, newsroom jobs decreased by almost 2,000 positions. Considering overall newspaper employment changes, the shrinkage in our industry is one of the "most significant declines in employment across any sector over the past two decades," according to Medill researchers.

Yet Medill found "bright spots" in the local news landscape in 2024 and noted that, among other factors, there was one common thread: "they're locally controlled."

Yes, local matters.



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.

CWA payroll at 3,000; first baby 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.

January 11, 1934

'3,000 Now at Work Under CWA'; Approximately 3,000 are now listed on the Civil Works Administration payroll in Dutchess County, it was announced last Thursday by T.A. Corby, executive officer of the county CWA organization. Only a slim margin of 100 are to be added under the present quota, but it is hoped that the quota may be increased.

'At the White House Party'; Russell B. Hosier, son of Mr and Mrs. Charles Hoslier, of Millerton, an officer at the White House in Washington, D. C., with Mrs. Hosier and their two children, Richard and Warren, attended the Christmas reception given by President Roosevelt for the officers and their families.

'Telephone Operator Suffers Broken Ankle in Fall'; Miss Claire Diegnan, telephone operator on the Millerton exchange, suffered a broken ankle Saturday night when she slipped and fell on the icy street in front of

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Millerton News

Bloch's store. Miss Diegnan was taken to Sharon Hospital where a cast was placed on the injured ankle. Miss Diegnan is under the care of Dr. H. A. Richardson.

January 9, 1975

'Millerton Couple Have 1st Baby Of New Year'; Mr. and Mrs. John Sawchuck of Millerton are the parents of the first baby born in 1975 in Sharon Hospital.

Their daughter, Michaelene, made her debut at 8:55 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 3. The baby, who weighed 4 lbs. 4 oz. at birth, is the couple's first child.

'Police Guard Leads Parade'; The New York State Police Honor Guard under Troop-Commander Major P.G. Emden will lead off the Millerton Centennial Parade, according to Dick Valentine, a member of the celebration committee.

Mr. Valentine said that the July 27 parade will feature a number of other groups to be announced as soon as plans

are final. The "Century Celebration" will take place on July 25, 26, and 27.

'North East Historical Society Promotes Millerton Growth'; The North East Historical Society greets 1975 as Millerton's Centennial year. The celebration of Millerton's incorporation (1875-1975) is being ushered in with the new year. We take great pride in all our members who have contributed their efforts in the public study of their community in the past year, said Eileen Banks of the Historical Society.

The Historical Society is making plans for the town, with the help of Millertonian Richard Valentine. The time bomb [sic], complete with artificats, will be buried on the Green in August. The Block Dance and the renaming of Parking Street also will take place this summer. "So ladies," said Eileen Banks, "start making your colonial gowns. And gentlemen, how about the sideburns?"

The Society would like to publicly thank the Millerton Diner for making the lights available for the Christmas tree.

January 13, 2000

'Tour of MES Reveals Substandard Conditions'; MILLERTON — As a reminder to the public about the deteriorating conditions in some of its buildings, the Webutuck School Board led audience members on a tour of Millerton Elementary School (MES) this week.

If the board was looking for a venue to showcase the

need for facilities improvement, it found it in MES — a mildewed, Depression-era grotto with rusting pipes and dangling tiles.

Former MES Principal Gene Brooks came out of retirement to lead the tour. Just outside the auditorium where the Monday night School Board meeting took place, Mr. Brooks pointed out none of the fire alarm boxes were currently working.

'Webutuck H.S. Computer Lab Open to Public'; AMENIA — The Webutuck Central School District has announced the availability of the high school computer lab to the community. The facility will be open beginning Tuesday, Jan. 25, until March 7. Technicians will be available to ensure everything is working well and to provide technical help.

Microsoft Office 97 and a high-speed Internet connection will be available.

Registration is required. Contact Barbara Bagomolny at the district office of Webutuck High School by Jan. 19.

'Letter To Editor — Food Pantry Says Many Thanks for Holiday Generosity'; On behalf of 75 families in the Millerton/North East area who received a Holiday Food Basket, The Millerton Food Pantry would like to thank all the individuals, merchants, adult and youth civic groups for their generous donations of money, food, vehicles, time and hard work.

Mariley S. Najdek
Beverly H. Gordon
Millerton Food Pantry

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Habitat for Humanity on Jimmy Carter's death

Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County joins the world in mourning the death of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and joins observances around the world to remember his life of service. He and Rosalynn Carter have served as Habitat for Humanity's most famous volunteers over the 35 years they helped to build affordable housing with the organization.

Maureen Brennan Lashlee, CEO states, "The local affiliate was incorporated at about the same time President and Mrs. Carter began their life-long commitment to Habitat homeownership. As we remember President Carter's servant leadership, we give thanks he chose to put God's love into action advocating for policies and resources to assure an opportunity for everyone to become a homeowner. He gave of his time, talent and treasure unselfishly and unceasingly."

"We are deeply saddened by President Carter's passing, and our prayers are with the rest of the Carter family," said Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat for Humanity Inter-

national. "President and Mrs. Carter began volunteering with Habitat for Humanity near their home in southwest Georgia, soon bringing worldwide attention to the need for decent and affordable housing. We are grateful for the incredible impact the Carters have had on Habitat and on the families who have benefited from their shining example. The Carters put Habitat for Humanity on the map, and their legacy will live on in every family we serve around the world."

After leaving the White House, the Carters sought out meaningful ways to continue their commitment to social justice and basic human rights. They first volunteered with Habitat for Humanity in Americus, Georgia, near their home of Plains, in March 1984. Later that same year, the Carters joined Habitat volunteers in New York City's Lower East Side to renovate an abandoned building in partnership with families in need of affordable housing. That trip marked Habitat for Humanity's first Jimmy Carter

Work Project (later renamed the Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project). Each year since then until 2019, the Carters volunteered with Habitat to build or improve houses alongside homeowners in communities across the United States and around the world. President Carter also served as a member of the organization's board of directors from 1984-1987.

"I think every human being has within himself or herself a desire to reach out to others and to share some of our blessings with those who are in need," President Carter has said. "What's opened up that avenue for me and my wife and hundreds and thousands of others is Habitat for Humanity. It makes it easy for us to reach out and work side by side with the homeowner who's never had a decent house, perhaps. I haven't been on a Habitat project that

I wasn't thrilled and inspired, and wept."

Over the last three decades, the Carter Work Project has touched lives around the world by inspiring more than 108,000 volunteers across the U.S. and in 14 countries to build, renovate and repair 4,447 Habitat homes. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has served more than 62 million people around the world.

In 2016, Habitat named President and Mrs. Carter as the inaugural Habitat Humanitarians for their extraordinary dedication to service in alignment with Habitat's vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Habitat for Humanity will be celebrating President Carter's life of service with local observances. To learn more or to share a tribute, visit habitat.org.

Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County

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HECATE *Continued from Page A1*

tion on December 23 is not intended to deprive the public of meaningful opportunities for participation in this proceeding.”

Two local groups opposed to the project joined in opposition to the latest Hecate filing. Sensible Solar of New York noted in a letter that the “lengthy delay, followed by filing two days before Christmas, is yet another example of Hecate’s bad corporate character and ongoing disregard for public involvement in the siting process.”

The Birch Hill Road Neighbors Association in Craryville wrote: “Applicant’s decision to file its application including 247 documents on December 23, 2024, during the busy holiday season, further reduces the already limited window of time for residents to consider funding requests and organize representation.”

Attempts to reach Hecate



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Farmland vista where the proposed 42 megawatt Shepherd’s Run Solar Farm is planned along Route 23 at the entryway to the rural hamlet of Copake.

for comment were unsuccessful.

An associate counsel at the state Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission noted that

Hecate had filed a 60-day notice of intent on March 28, 2024. Referencing Hecate’s latest three-day notice, and asking that the town’s motion be denied, the coun-

sel wrote: “It has not been the practice of the Office to require Applicants to refile a 60-Day Notice if the 60 days has elapsed before the application has been filed.”

Jimmy Carter and the White House solar panels: The Norfolk connection

By **JENNIFER ALMQUIST**
Special to The Millerton News

In 1979, at the height of a national energy crisis when OPEC countries limited the flow of oil to the West, U.S. President Jimmy Carter began a federal initiative to jumpstart the development and use of alternative energy. The goal of “Solar America” was that 20% of America’s energy would be renewable by the year 2000. Carter had solar panels installed on the roof of the White House to heat the water used in the West Wing.

Norfolk’s Tom Strumolo was on the original team that installed the 32 solar panels. He was part of a band of young, long-haired New England solar energy mavericks who made history.

As a recent Yale graduate, Strumolo was working in the new Energy Department in Hartford where he met Gordon Priess from Mystic, CT. He was “a heat transfer guy who designed water heaters, and became chief engineer of the White House project,” according to Strumolo. They learned the White House was taking bids for a big solar installation, and their \$50,000 bid was accepted.

Ed Butler, a Connecticut native, joined the crew. Butler and his partner Rick Schwolsky founded Sunrise Solar Services in Vermont in 1976. They gathered friends with skills necessary for the project. Students from a Groton, Connecticut, technical school welded the steel framework. They transported it to DC on a flatbed truck. The General Services Agency (GSA) installed 1” plywood to protect the entire White House lawn. A massive crane rolled in to lift the entire structure to the roof of the West Wing.

Strumolo laughed, recalling that security was very tight. “Our Secret Service detail told us ‘We shoot to kill,’ so we did not mess around.” They had sniffer dogs checking them out each day. When

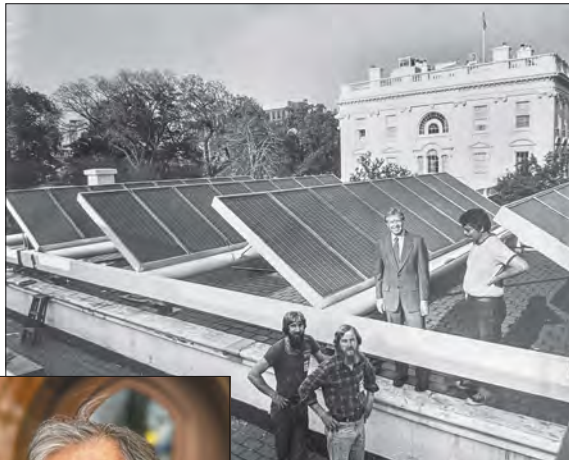


PHOTO PROVIDED BY ED BUTLER

1979: President Jimmy Carter standing next to chief engineer Gordon Priess, Rick Schwolsky on the left foreground, and Ed Butler on the right, checking out the newly installed solar panels on the roof of the White House.

jobs in New England.”

Strumolo remains committed to “creating adequate and equitable responses to our changing climate.” He wrote “Decentralizing Energy Production” (Yale Press, 1983) and was a driving force behind the recently installed 14-acre solar array at the town’s transfer station. His energy audits have been used in thousands of buildings. After fifty years Strumolo is “still working, still on the path Carter inspired me to follow. There is so much work left to be done.” In 2008, artists from the Kunsthaus in Zurich created a film, “The Story of the Jimmy Carter White House Solar Installation”, which will be shown at the Norfolk Library in February.

In the words of the late President Jimmy Carter, “Pessimism did not build America, it was built with vision, faith, and hard work. It is time to pull ourselves out of our national doldrums, to recognize our great untapped potential and resources, to build a more prosperous, self-reliant future.” Had the original solar panels remained in use on the White House they could have saved 20,000 gallons of heating oil.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Tom Strumolo of Norfolk, Conn., founder Energy General LLC, was on the crew that installed solar panels on the roof of the White House for President Jimmy Carter in 1979.

President and First Lady Rosalynn Carter climbed to the roof for an official photograph, Strumolo warned the President the paint was still wet on the metal. Carter said, “I am not going to mess up your paintjob!” Strumolo was more concerned about the President’s suit.

President Ronald Reagan had the solar panels removed from the White House in 1981. The parts were stored for years in a warehouse. The Reagan Administration reduced Carter’s renewable energy program by 90%. Half of the White House solar panels were moved to Unity College in Maine where they heated the water in the dining hall for twelve years. Some of the original solar panels reside in the Carter Museum and the National Museum of American History.

Jody Bronson, forester emeritus of Norfolk’s Great

HONOR *Continued from Page A1*

Johnson’s sister, Juanita.

Commentary provided after the ceremony by U.S. Rep. Pat Ryan described the process that resulted in the awarding of the Medal of Honor to Johnson.

In May of 2024, Congressman Ryan continued ongoing regional efforts to upgrade the Silver Star which had been awarded in 2011 to the Medal of Honor by calling on President Biden to approve the change.

Ryan’s action capped 20 years of efforts by Johnson’s family, friends, Arlington High School administrators and schoolmates, along with the men whose lives he saved to honor his bravery and sacrifice.

Among the wide-reaching

efforts was an exhaustive study of Johnson and his story conducted by Arlington Middle School students who presented their research at Memorial Day ceremonies in Poughkeepsie in 2001.

In 2010, Arlington High School dedicated Johnson Hall and the Wall of Remembrance, honoring former students who perished while serving in the military. During this dedication ceremony, a statue was presented depicting Johnson’s bravery in battle, citing seven traits of character which helped to define Johnson: loyalty, selflessness, courage, compassion, responsibility, patriotism and integrity.

Johnson is buried in Millbrook at Nine Partners Cemetery on Church Street.

COMPTROLLER *Continued from Page A1*

as Sen. Michelle Hinchey, D-41, Assemblymember Didi Barrett, D-106, County Legislator Chris Drago, D-19, and Republican county executive Sue Serino joined Aymar-Blair and his family for the ceremony which emphasized integrity, accountability and bipartisan goodwill with a mindset toward the needs of Dutchess County residents.

The ceremony began with a display by the color guard as the U.S., state, and county flags were carried forth for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the singing of the national anthem and an invocation. Robin Lois provided the opening remarks, reminding the audience of what the position entails. “The comptroller is the watchdog,” Lois said. “Dan will do a fantastic job.” The following speaker, Rebecca Edwards, the town supervisor of Poughkeepsie, agreed, listing the traits which she believes distinguishes Aymar-Blair. “Dan is the perfect person,” Edwards said. “He’s experienced, qualified ... dedicated.”

Sen. Michelle Hinchey, D-41, also praised Aymar-Blair in her remarks while acknowledging the audience for making his victory possible. “Government, politics

and running for office is a team sport,” said Hinchey, who conveyed her gratitude to guests at the nearly full Large Hall at Tymor Park in LaGrangeville while explaining the under-the-radar role of the comptroller who is tasked with office responsibilities, constituent outreach, oversight and operating in fair-minded, nonpartisan fashion, regardless of the obstacles ahead. “You need a comptroller with the courage to stand up to both sides of the aisle,” Hinchey said. “That is Dan Aymar-Blair.” State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli agreed with Hinchey, citing the comptroller’s need to serve as a beacon, emphatically stating “The most essential qualification is being independent.”

While independence and fearlessness are assets for the position, cohesiveness and collaboration is equally critical. Aymar-Blair feels strongly about serving all county residents in a positive, productive manner, especially when his intervention is clearly needed. “I’m motivated by the belief that government can — and must — help out,” the incoming comptroller said. “People are hurting. People are struggling ... The prescription is good management.”

Email news and photos to editor@millertonnews.com

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

FILM: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

'A Complete Unknown' — a talkback at The Triplex

When Seth Rogovoy, acclaimed author, critic, and cultural commentator of "The Rogovoy Report" on WAMC Northeast Public Radio, was asked to lead a talkback at The Triplex in Great Barrington following a screening of the Bob Dylan biopic "A Complete Unknown," he took on the task with a thoughtful and measured approach.

"I really try to foster a conversation and keep my opinions about the film to myself," said Rogovoy before the event on Sunday, Jan. 5. "I want to let people talk about how they felt about it and then I ask follow-up questions, or people ask me questions. I don't reveal a lot about my feelings until the end."

The film, directed by James Mangold and starring Timothée Chalamet as Bob Dylan, portrays young Dylan's arrival in Greenwich Village during the early 1960s. The film depicts his interactions with key figures like Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, and Suze Rotolo (called



Seth Rogovoy at the screening of "A Complete Unknown" at The Triplex.

Sylvie Russo in the film), while also exploring Dylan's evolution from performing traditional folk songs to writing his own, including iconic tracks like "Blowin' in the Wind." The narrative touches on his struggles with fame, identity, and the pressure to conform, culminating in his controversial electric performance at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival.

"I went into seeing the film with an open mind," said Rogovoy, "recognizing that this film is not for me. It's not

for 'Dylanologists,' for experts. It's a Hollywood film. I don't think it does harm, but I think it doesn't do a lot of what it could have done."

The film presents a sentimental narrative with many historical inaccuracies. "According to Elijah Wald, whose book the film is based on, he said he likes the film but that it's entirely fictional," said Rogovoy.

The talkback itself was lively, with audience members sharing their thoughts on the film's nostalgic appeal and

its historical inaccuracies. Several attendees mentioned how the film helped them relive the cultural transformation of the era.

"It brings to mind the first time I heard that music, and the change it had on our culture," shared one audience member.

Another attendee, who was just a baby during the time period depicted in the film, said, "I loved how much of his music they did

Continued on next page



PHOTO COURTESY IMDB.COM

A scene from "Extremities of the Year 3000"

FILM: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Schlock and Awful: winter edition

The Lakeville Journal's Bad Cinema desk sincerely hopes everyone had something better to do last summer than sit inside and watch appallingly bad movies. Anything would do. Hiking. Antiquing. Going for coffee.

Even — and we realize this is strong stuff — writing poetry.

But now, winter is here. For those looking to while away the hours during the hibernation period, here are five more of the most spectacularly bad flicks currently available on streaming services such as Tubi, Freevee, and Sickee, not to mention Plex, Yecch and Blecch.

"Silent Madness" (1984): This '80s slasher was originally in 3D. Nobody cares but there it is. The best film ever shot in Nyack, New York, the cast includes some names regular people may have seen in normal movies. Loony bin in New Jersey lets psycho killer out by mistake, and psycho killer starts picking off sorority girls. Starts off nicely with death by vise grip, but then a whole lot of plot intervenes. Really bad mise-en-scene. As Jean-Luc Godard once said, "Le pfui."

"Deliria" aka "Stage Fright" (1987): Italian

slasher, in which the cast and crew of a play about a serial killer called the Night Owl are locked into the theater by the tyrannical director until they get the darn thing right. Well, the joke's on Mr. Big Shot Director because local psycho Wallace is also in the theater, and he starts killing everybody. And he does this while dressed as a big owl. With plucky heroine and ambiguous ending.

"Truck Turner" (1974): Isaac Hayes is Truck Turner, bail bondsman and smooth lover, forced by circumstances beyond his control to clean up the streets and get his jailbird girlfriend a kitten. With gratuitous nekkidity and unironic fried chicken. The terrific soundtrack by Hayes adds a great deal, with toe-tapping, car-crashing numbers such as "Pursuit of the Pimpmobile," "Hospital Shootout," and "Drinking."

"Extremities of the Year 3000" (1983): Aka "Mildly Miffed Max," this Road Warrior rip-off was made in Italy and Spain for about \$11.87 (that's \$37.62 in today's dollars). The big difference between this and the Mad Max films, besides

Continued on B3

EDUCATION: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Joy-filled Bunny Story Hour at the David M. Hunt Library

On Thursday, Jan. 2, the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, Conn., hosted a joy-filled "Bunny Story Hour with Piper and Otis the Rabbit." Otis is the 8-year-old beloved pet rabbit of Piper and Walter Peterson, who live in Falls Village. "I guess she's about 50 in bunny years," said Piper.

Brittany Spear-Baron, the library's assistant director and youth programming coordinator, curates the twice-a-week (Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.) themed story-time for children. "We usually get kids aged 1 to 4 years old, but it's a wider range right now because of the holiday."

Once the children were seated, Piper explained how to care for Otis— from feeding, to cleaning, to his sleeping needs. "Otis is nocturnal," Piper explained. Piper then read several books to the group that she had selected about rabbits.

Spear-Baron said, "It's a fun way for kids to meet each other and have some community time."

For more information about ongoing programs and special events at the library, visit: huntlibrary.org

Piper Peterson reading to the group.



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

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Fire & Ice event at Stissing Center kicks off 2025 season

On Saturday, Jan. 18, the Stissing Center in Pine Plains will host its Fire & Ice event, a celebratory kickoff and unveiling of its 2025 season. The evening fundraiser will consist of a cocktail party and a performance and will also serve as also the introduction of the season's theme, "Find Your Center."

After a cocktail hour complete with a signature Winter Margarita and delicious food, there will be a 90-minute show demonstrating the variety of arts entertainment ticket holders can expect this season. Musical artists include Will Lawrence from the Felice Brothers, Alec Sisco, The Stissing Climbers

(a bluegrass band), and Sophia Zhou, the Stissing Center's director of chamber music, playing Gershwin. The evening will feature two brief dance pieces curated by Catherine Tharin, along with the premiere of "Mr. Marty Pants," a short comedy written and directed by the Stissing Center's new executive director, Patrick Trettenero, filmed in Pine Plains. Comedian and Pine Plains resident Rachel Lenihan will emcee the event.

"I'm thrilled to have a fun, festive way to show off the promise of the amazing new season at Stissing Center," said Trettenero.

For tickets, visit thesissingcenter.org

... The Triplex

Continued from previous page

play. It wasn't just one verse and then cut away. I really got a renewed appreciation for his genius. I'm going full Dylan when I get home."

While Rogovoy's approach during the talkback was to facilitate discussion, audience members were eager to hear his analysis. His 2009 book, "Bob Dylan: Prophet Mystic Poet" explores Dyan's connection to Jewish liturgy. In contrast to "A Complete Unknown," Rogovoy offered a reminder of "I'm Not There," the 2007 experimental musical drama co-written and directed by Todd Haynes where six actors portrayed different facets of Dylan's persona. He described the film's nonlinear narrative as offering what he called "a Dylanesque portrayal" of the artist, capturing more of the complexity of Dylan's identity. Rogovoy characterized Chalamet's portrayal as "one note."

"And how do we know about the essence of Bob Dylan at that time?" asked Rogovoy. "Well, because there are a number of documentary films with footage of that time, which I'm sure that they (the filmmakers and cast) all viewed again

and again. My understanding of Chalamet's preparation was that he really immersed himself in everything to be a credible Bob Dylan. But in the end, I just found him to be entirely monochromatic."

The screening and talkback provided a nuanced platform for discussing "A Complete Unknown"—a film that, while not without flaws, ignited a conversation about Bob Dylan's influence and his enigmatic role in shaping American music and culture.

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48 MAIN STREET, MILLERTON, NY

NATURE: FRITZ MUELLER

On planting a Yellowwood tree

As an inveterate collector of all possibly winter hardy East coast native shrubs and trees, I take a rather expansive view of the term "native"; anything goes as long as it grows along the East coast. After I killed those impenetrable thickets of Asiatic invasive shrubs and vines which surrounded our property, I suddenly found myself with plenty of open planting space.

That's when, a few years ago, I also planted a Yellowwood tree, (*Cladastris kentukea*). It is a rare, medium-sized tree in the legume family—spectacular when in bloom and golden yellow in fall. In the wild, it has a very disjointed distribution in southeastern states, yet a large specimen, obviously once part of a long-gone garden, has now become part of the woods bordering Route 4 on its highest point between Sharon and Cornwall.

It has always intrigued me that so many species, whose native ranges today are much further south, grow so well here. Besides Yellowwood, that includes, for example, the Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) of southern swamps whose natural range reaches into southern New Jersey. However, it also grows in Litchfield hills gardens and, incongruously, even as a street tree in New York. Among others are PawPaw (*Asimia triloba*), Carolina silverbell (*Halesia carolina*), American snowbell (*Styrax americanus*), Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), and Sourwood (*Oxydendron arboreum*), a good-sized tree with white flowering racemes and outstanding brilliant, deep red fall foliage. Besides our local swamp and Pinxter azaleas, others that are very hardy here include the early-flowering Pinkshell azalea (*Rhododendron vaseyi*) of the North Carolina mountains and



PHOTO BY FRITZ MUELLER

The author planted this Yellowwood tree a few years ago on some of his open space.

from the mountains of Georgia, the rare-in-the-wild, July-flowering Plumleaf azalea, (*R. prunifolium*). Robust and larger in habit and most stunning of all is the Flame azalea (*R. calendulaceum*), which historically grew as far north as southeast New York, where it is now extirpated.

After some research, I learned that *Cladastris kentukea* might have grown over a much wider and more northern area, but during the last glaciation episode, it survived in the wild only in those isolated southern locations. That it survived at all so close to the glaciers edge is in itself an indication of cold hardiness. It is estimated, based on fossil plant and pollen records, that with the retreat of the icecap around 16,000 years ago, trees migrated again northward at a rate of approximately 50 km per century. This may apply to prolific sprouters such as maples, ashes and oaks, but it could be much slower, I suspect, for the many rarer plants which don't get around by wind, squirrels, and birds, or are—unlike our common trees—finicky to sprout

from seeds. I can also imagine how many of the rarer trees and shrubs, for example Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*), became collateral damage during the 19th century clearcutting for charcoal and farming. In any case, Yellowwood didn't manage to recolonize its former range, and a similar scenario may apply to those other woody plants with a more southerly distribution today but that are perfectly hardy up here.

Climate change, which used to occur over millennia, now seems to happen within half a century. Birds, like the Carolina wren, can adapt quickly and become abundant after just a few warm winters—but plants are stuck. They need help to keep up with such rapid change. In the case of trees and shrubs, human gardeners can assist them in expanding their ranges into areas that are now warm enough for them to live thrive again.

I bought a sapling Water tupelo (*Nyssa aquatica*), native to southern swamps, from a Missouri nursery. It has survived two winters so far—albeit quite mild ones—in a woody swamp here at

1100ft elevation. One hundred years from now, who knows—ugar maples, which thrive in cold, snowy winters, might be replaced with sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), a more southern hardwood.

I found space for trees by clearing thickets of invasives. The modern trend of transforming excessively large lawns into natural meadows also provides an opportunity to plant native trees with an understory of shrubs and ferns, whether as a stand-alone copse or a forest edge. This is not meant to replace flowers and grasses but to complement them, based on the understanding that, in our region, the primary ecosystem is forest—an exceptionally species-rich one to boot, with over a half dozen oaks alone.

Compared to watching grass grow, watching a tree—any tree—grow is almost exciting, given a bit of patience. Early on, protection against deer is necessary, but later, maintenance is relatively minimal; the leaves can simply fall and stay where they may.

Fritz Mueller lives in Sharon.



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OUR TOWNS

Median prices rise in Washington

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

WASHINGTON — The Town of Washington and Village of Millbrook continued to be active with seven properties transferred in the month of November. Transfers below \$500,000 accounted for four of the sales while there was only one sale over a million. The median price for a single-family residence rose again to \$712,000 for November although still below Covid frenzy levels when median prices almost reached \$800,000.

Demand for million-dollar properties continues to be weak with 14 listed for sale for an average of 245 days; however, four over a million-dollar properties are pending sale and an additional two have already closed in December. Just before the beginning of 2025 there are still 32 residential properties listed for sale — similar to last month with 14 houses reducing their listing price.

November Transfers

- 27 Merritt Ave. — 3 bedroom/1 bath house built in 1930 on .23 acre lot in Village of Millbrook sold for \$429,000.
- 16-18 Alden Place — an investment property with residential units plus a restaurant and a parking lot was sold privately for \$937,300.
- 23 Oak Summit Road — 2 bedroom/2 bath ranch on 5.33 acres sold for \$585,000.
- 24 Maple Hill Drive — 4 bedroom/1.5 bath ranch sold



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Front Victorian house apartment building with a restaurant in back, 16-18 Alden Place was formerly the site of the Millbrook Carriage House and Maura's Kitchen in the heart of the village. The sale was recorded in November after the village approved a new restaurant, the Millerton Continental, with certain restrictions on operating hours and use of the outdoor patio for \$937,300.

for \$394,000.

117 County House Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath ranch on .48 acres sold for \$461,000.

91 Tower Hill Road — 3 bedroom/5 bath house built in 1985 on 5.83 acres sold for \$1.75 million.

Ter Bar Court — a 0.2-acre triangular lot sold for \$400,000.

* Town of Washington real estate sales recorded between November 1, 2024, and November 30, 2024, sourced from Dutchess County Real Property Tax Service Agency. Information on active listings taken from First Key MLS which may understate avail-

able properties. Parcel numbers refer to parcel designation by Dutchess County and may be accessed on Dutchess Parcel Access.

Only transfers with con-

sideration are included. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate

Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

Winters announces run for Amenia town supervisor

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Accepting a request from the Amenia Town Republican Committee, councilmember Paul Winters announced on Friday, Jan. 3, his candidacy for the position of town supervisor. The election will be held in November.

Winters has served several town committees and other local volunteer endeavors. Since January of 2024, Winters has been serving as a councilmember on the Town Board.

Volunteer service positions include ten years, beginning in 2010, of coaching youngsters playing with the Amenia Minors team. Winters has been an active member of the Amenia Lions Club since 2014.

Between 2021 and 2024



PHOTO PROVIDED

Paul Winters announced his candidacy for Amenia Town Supervisor on Friday, Jan. 3.

Winters concurrently served on two town committees, the Recreation Commission and the Wastewater Committee, before his election to the

DUTCHESS COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Harlem Valley area activity report Dec. 19 through Jan. 1.

Dec. 19 — Deputies responded to 62 Lake Ellis Road in the Town of Dover to investigate a reported domestic dispute occurring in a vehicle. Matter resolved without further police intervention.

Dec. 19 — Deputy Sheriffs along with the Millerton Police Department to 14 Morse Hill Road in the Town of North East to investigate a reported domestic dispute. Matter resolved.

Dec. 20 — Deputies responded to Route 22 in the Town of North East for a reported larceny. The complainant reported forgetting her purse at the FreshTown Supermarket in the Town of Amenia and upon returning being unable to locate it.

Dec. 22 — Deputies reported the arrest of Eric M McCormick, 42, for aggravated unlicensed operation

of a motor vehicle in the 2nd degree subsequent to a traffic stop in the area of 17 Old State Route 22 in the Town of Dover. Subject to appear in the Town of Dover Court at a later date.

Dec. 25 — Deputies responded to Cooperstown Road in the Town of Dover for husband/wife physical domestic dispute. Investigation resulted in the arrest of Timothy Fay (36) was arrested for criminal obstruction of breathing and unlawful imprisonment. Subject to appear in the Town of Dover Court at a later date.

Dec. 26 — A Deputy from the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office was involved in a property damage crash after his vehicle was struck from behind by another vehicle. This occurred in the parking lot of 3226 Route 22 in the Town of Dover. Investigation resulted in the arrest of one Leonard Roman for driving while impaired — combined drugs and alcohol. Subject to appear in the Town of Dover Court at a later date.

Dec. 30 — Deputies responded to the Berkshire Apartments, 214 Sinpatch Road in the Town of Amenia for a mother/daughter verbal domestic dispute. Matter resolved without further police intervention.

Dec. 30 — Deputies reports the arrest of Kevin Dever (age 60) for aggravated unlicensed operation 3rd subsequent to a traffic stop on Route 22 in the Town of Amenia. Subject to appear in the Town of Dover Court at a later date.

Dec. 30 — Deputies responded to Mallard Way in Dover for a sister/sister domestic disturbance. Matter resolved without further police intervention.

Dec. 31 — Deputies responded to the area of 418 Halls Corners Road in the Town of Dover for a reported vehicle off the roadway. Investigation resulted in the arrest of Frank A. Fortuna, 67, was arrested for driving while intoxicated. Subject to appear in the Town of Dover Court at a later date.

Moviehouse hosts 40th anniversary screening of 'The Goonies' film

MILLERTON — The Moviehouse in Millerton plans on hosting a special viewing of "The Goonies" in honor of its 40th anniversary.

The 1985 classic film is about a group of kids who find an old pirate map in an attic and seek the pirate's treasure in order to save their neighborhood from greedy developers. After following

the map's directions to an underground cave as part of their quest, they come face-to-face with many dangers.

There will be two different showings, one on Sunday, Jan. 19, at 4 p.m. and the last on Monday, Jan. 20, at 7 p.m.

Tickets for these showings are \$16 for adults, \$13 for kids under 11 years old and Moviehouse member discounts available.

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