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PHOTO BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

The charred remains of the structure which resulted from the Feb. 3 fire at the Village Water and Highway building, located on Route 22 in Millerton.

Fire guts Water and Highway Building, destroys vehicles, tools

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — On Feb. 3, a fire broke out in the early hours of the morning at the Village Water and Highway building, located on Route 22. By 3:41 a.m., sirens went off in the village, alerting first responders to the blaze, the cause of which still remains under investigation.

The fire, which resulted in a state of emergency being declared

for the village around six o'clock in the morning, destroyed all but the building's cinder block walls. It decimated highway vehicles, equipment and tools.

In a phone call with the News on Feb. 9, Millerton police chief Joseph Olenik confirmed several highway vehicles were lost in the blaze, but did not have specifics on the exact number of damaged vehicles at press time.

According to mayor Jenn Najdek, there were no injuries. "We're

grateful for that," she said. "The rest is stuff which can be replaced."

While Najdek wades through the insurance claims process, she moves forward with experience, having lost her own home in a fire. She confirmed the structure will be rebuilt as the space is needed for both the highway department and the water building.

The village's wells are situated on the property, and Najdek was

See FIRE, PAGE A8

Water continues to flow safely after fire

By COLLEEN FLYNN
colleenf@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — In the early morning hours on Monday, Feb. 3, the home of the Village of Millerton's Water and Highway Department building experienced a fire that left nothing housed within its walls, only its cinder block structure. The cause of the fire has yet to be determined.

"There's nothing left. The whole building burnt with everything in it," Peter Dellaghelfa, the Village's Superintendent of Public Works, said. "Our highway department trucks, our park and rec trucks, our lawn-mowers, everything. Everything's gone."

The village's wells are housed on the site, so water operator VRI Environmental Services, located in Lagrangeville, moved quickly to assist with a plan on how to move forward. VRI took action before the blaze was extinguished to ensure water operations continued.

One well was impacted by the fire, but mayor Jenn Najdek confirmed to the News on Friday, Feb. 7, that the

village water system was continuously monitored throughout the fire — and in its aftermath.

To ensure safety and continuity, a provisional setup was implemented for the system, and water quality remained uncompromised. Additionally, water testing has been repeatedly conducted with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Board of Health approving its quality.

"Now they're having to treat it manually out front ... We can't use one of the wells," Dellaghelfa said. "All the wires, the whole computer, the guts melted to it. It's a [temporary system], almost the same as before, but it's just kind of tapped straight into the well instead of being in a nice holding tank, and now they keep having to change little jugs because they can't run it like that right now."

The Millerton Water District's temporary system has been reviewed and approved by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Dutchess County

See WATER, PAGE A8

A local love to last a lifetime

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
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MILLERTON — With Valentine's Day on the horizon, love is in the air. But for John and Diane Walters, married 61 years, love is their way of life — and they intend to keep it that way.

Born one month apart at Sharon Hospital in Connecticut, John and Diane, who lived separate lives during childhood, came together in their late teens as the result of a blind date at a dance. The blind date, however, was one Diane was on with a friend of John's, who fatefully introduced them to each other during the evening. Diane, the daughter of former village trustee



PHOTO SUBMITTED



PHOTO BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

Then and now: John and Diane Walters, pictured on their wedding day in 1963, left, and at home in Millerton a week before Valentine's Day 2025, right.

See LOVE, PAGE A8

Skaters delight in open rink at Silo Ridge

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — A new Amenia recreation program kicked off on Monday, Feb. 3, with an invitation to enjoy winter skating at Silo Ridge's outdoor rink on selected Mondays during February.

Skaters of all ages and varied experience on the ice came to the first session with more anticipated to participate as the word gets out. A warming fire was a popular feature.

The open skating community invitation will be repeated on Feb. 10 and 24. Each session will begin at 3:30 p.m. and continue until closing at 6 p.m. Advance registration is required. For more information, go to www.amenia.ny.gov, or to register, email the Recreation Department at pbogin@ameniany.gov.

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PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Sloane Oksenhendler, 4, of Clinton Corners, takes advantage of a skating assist as she ventures onto the ice at an open rink event sponsored by the Amenia Recreation Department in collaboration with Silo Ridge on Monday, Feb. 3.



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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

The old Millerton Village Hall at 21 Dutchess Ave.

Millerton Village Hall for sale 'as-is'

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

MILLERTON — Five years after the Village of Millerton offices moved out of the village hall on 21 Dutchess Ave., the building has been listed for sale by Arleen Shepley of Elyse Harney Realty with an attention-getting asking price of \$249,777 for the estimated 3,221 square feet of living space on .14 acres.

Built in 1904, the shingle-style building housed the E.H. Thompson Hose Company and is included in the Village Historic District.

After the fire company moved out, the structure was next to the village library, and later became the home of the Village offices and the meeting place of the Village Board of Trustees with the Police Department upstairs. At some later date a single-story addition was added which was used as a Senior Center. Due to a failed heating system, the Village Offices moved to their current rental location on Route 22, 5933 N. Elm Ave.

Village Trustees considered replacing the building's failing heating system, repairing the foundation, making the structure ADA-compliant and seeking government grants but the estimated cost was deemed too "burdensome."

In early 2022, the Board of Trustees commissioned an appraisal of the structure and then prepared a request for proposals to generate interest in purchasing the

Race and the Roosevelts: online lecture

COPAKE — The Columbia County Libraries Association began a history lecture series on Franklin D. and Eleanor Roosevelt.

The first installment in the series was offered on Zoom, and hosted by Roosevelt Presidential Museum and Library educator Jeff Urbin. "The Roosevelts, Race and Civil Rights," explored how Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1932 election reshaped America's political, economic, and racial landscapes.

Past program recordings are available online at columbiacountylibraries.org/programs/past-programs. A link to the webinar on YouTube will appear there shortly.

For more information, email columbiacountylibraries@gmail.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.

Remains of area WWII veteran recovered and returned home

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

WAPPINGERS FALLS — True to a promise to bring every hero home, the nation's Defense Department's Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Agency announced on Tuesday, Jan. 21, that the remains of U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Eugene J. Darrigan of Wappingers Falls, New York, would be returning home. Lost in a plane shot down over water in 1944, the bomber's wreckage was discovered in 2023 bearing the remains that were identified in 2024, 80 years after the WWII hero was killed in action.

Defense Department scientists used dental records, DNA analysis and other evidence bits including identification

tags to identify the bomber crew's remains that were unearthed from the crash site during a month of underwater excavation and recovery between March and April 2023.

In March of 1944, Darrigan had been assigned to the 320th Bombardment Squadron and deployed to New Guinea in the Pacific, serving as a radio operator aboard a bomber. On March 11, his crew undertook a bombing mission along the northern coast of New Guinea and were fired upon by the enemy's anti-aircraft weapons, causing an on-board bomb to burst into flame and the plane to fall into the sea.

The search for the crash site continued for four years until 1948 and in 1950 the military unit conducting the



PHOTO PROVIDED

Staff Sgt. Eugene J. Darrigan

search declared that Darrigan and his fellow crew members were non-recoverable and, therefore, lost.

In a four-year period beginning in 2013, however, the family of 2nd Lt. Kelly — the

bombardier on the lost plane — undertook to reopen the search, working with a researcher from the University of Illinois—Champaign-Urbana. Experts at "Project Recover," partnered with the Defense Department's Accounting Agency, located the plane's wreckage using modern sonar technology.

Darrigan's name is listed on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial, along with other WWII heroes whose names remain among the missing. To signify that Darrigan's remains have been located, a symbol will be added next to his name.

Staff Sgt. Darrigan will be buried in Calverton, New York. The burial date has not yet been determined.

Webutuck Board of Education seeking after-school activities

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

AMENIA — On Monday, Jan. 27, Webutuck's Board of Education held a meeting to discuss the possibility of partnering with the Amenia Lions Club to find new after-school programs for students.

The president of Amenia's Lions Club, Ann Sartori, attended the meeting to discuss potentially working with Webutuck District families through LionsSEE.

"We offer eye screening to children six months to six years," Sartori said. "It doesn't just do your vision. It goes deep into your eyes, your retinas, your cornea. It can pick up a lot more things than just your normal eye."

According to the New York LionsSEE website, eye screening decreases childhood blindness through early detection and treatment for common vision impairments which cause Amblyopia, commonly known as a lazy eye.

Sartori mentioned how a different Lions Club, located in Red Hook, with the same program detected cancer in a four-year-old's eye and was able to connect the child with an ophthalmologist to keep his eyesight.

"It's a free program offered to anybody in the school. We also offer glasses," Sartori said. "We have one child right now from Webutuck that is going to get his eyes screened, is getting glasses and our club pays for it, so it's awesome."

To have a child's eyes evaluated, the Lions Club sends out a flyer, available in Spanish and English, which is then returned after the parents have filled it out. The evaluation process usually lasts about ten seconds per child, and takes place in a dark room to hone in on potential issues.

"I believe we're interested," said Raymond Castellani, We-

butuck's superintendent. "We'll talk some more. I would like to get it down to the siblings that maybe aren't in school yet ... This is all good stuff. I've done this before, it's been nothing but a great partnership."

Webutuck gauged student interest in extracurricular activities with a free basketball clinic with limited registration slots.

"Today at 1 p.m. I put out a six-week after school [basketball] club, and by three o'clock, we were not only full, but we have a waiting list of at least five students," said Amanda Coppola, the elementary school principal. "So the interest is definitely there."

Webutuck is looking to find activities or hobbies that exist, not only in the school building, but within the surrounding community to get more enrichment for their students.

"We are going to pick other topics and work that in, someone was interested in gardening," Coppola said, explaining how she was connected to the Millerton Library regarding a Lego club. "I reached out to see if we could get bussing over to the library," Coppola said. "Anyone that has a skill that they want to share with our kids, just reach out to me."

With Governor Hochul's proposed budget, there will be a 2% standard increase, at a minimum, for all school districts. In Webutuck's foundation aid, they were prepared for this slight increase, "which is good news."

"Just as a reminder, the processes the governor presents for a budget proposal, and the legislative branch will then negotiate and eventually come to an agreed upon budget," said Robert Farrier, Webutuck's business administrator.

"We will continue to work the numbers, as we always do, in the next coming meeting we will do a public presentation

after we have a chance to meet with the Budget and Finance Committee as a board," he said.

The Board of Education accepted the retirement resignation of longtime teacher Michelle McLaughlin Smith.

"We thank her for her amazing service throughout the years, and she'll be around for sure," Castellani said, noting that Smith has interacted with almost every student that's walked Webutuck's halls in the past 30 years.

Webutuck recognized two students for their random acts of kindness throughout the school, showcasing what the school stands for.

"We celebrate our athletes. We celebrate people involved in arts and music, what about

random acts of kindness?" said Castellani. "What can we do when we see a student or a group of students that are doing something that is not asked of them, and we talked about the Wildcat recognition is what we need."

Intermediate student William Wessel, and senior Jake McGhee-Miller were honored at the board meeting for their notable acts of kindness. Wessel was unable to attend Monday night's meeting to be honored in person, however the audience was able to hear McGhee-Miller's story.

"Jake is a young man and I have always been impressed by this gentleman," Castellani said. "A guidance secretary was carrying some boxes through

the senior lounge and everyone was just sitting there, walking by and Jake went up there and said, 'Can I help you with this?' That is the type of people we want in our school district."

"In the spirit of having this beautiful award, I thank every one of you," McGhee-Miller said. Thanking his mother, he said "Every single one of you has made me the person I am, starting with her. I had the opportunity to utilize the district as one of my first paid job experiences, very much appreciated it, enjoyed it and hopefully in the future I can be a great asset to this district."

For more information on the Webutuck Central School District, visit: www.webutuckschools.org.

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Faculty and staff begin Spanish lessons at Webutuck

By COLLEEN FLYNN
colleenf@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Webutuck School District has completed the fourth week of its new program teaching faculty and staff Spanish lessons after school.

“According to the teachers, they find it extremely helpful. They’re already using it in the classrooms, you know, as minimal as they’ve learned in four weeks, six to eight ses-

sions,” said Webutuck’s Superintendent Raymond Castellani. “They are using words that they’re learning and phrases that they’re learning to work with our students.”

With the agenda being recently developed, there have been about 30 staff members consistently participating in the program. The classes are not mandatory and are being taught by the Webutuck’s Spanish teachers, implementing introductory based lessons.

According to Castellani, 28% to 30% of Webutuck’s student population are English language learners, which is a dense portion of students whose first language consists of Spanish. With the district’s wide and welcoming community, the staff have recognized the importance of embracing diversity for the benefit of the students.

Lessons began shortly after the district’s second quarter picked back up, which start-

ed in January. There are four classes a week staff are able to attend, with the options to attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. and the second session from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

“It’s not permanent,” Castellani said. “If we see success in how our teachers are communicating with our students that do not speak English, if we’re seeing success in it, we will continue to offer each year.”

Amenia Economic Development Committee agrees on initial goals

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Two weeks after its organizational meeting, the Economic Development Committee met on Monday, Feb. 3, to discuss what would be their major goals for 2025.

Following far-reaching discussion, three priorities were identified: cell tower, shortage of parking, and farmers’ market development.

“The nice thing about a farmers’ market is it draws people from all over,” chairman Ken Topolsky said.

“How do we build community? Who and what make up the community?” were initial discussion questions posed by Topolsky.

To explore answers, Topolsky suggested meeting with the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee and collabo-

rating in a series of meetings at various locations throughout the town to measure current demographics and gather residents’ opinions.

“No one in the town knows who we are,” Topolsky said.

Committee discussion focused on how to catalyze economic progress and the committee’s role and limitations the committee will face with fundraising efforts. To gain clarity on fundraising guidelines, the town attorney will be consulted.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

A love for Valentine’s crafting is in the air

With Valentine’s Day just around the corner, Ashlynn Price, 6, practiced her painting. She was joined by other youngsters at a Valentine’s Day Crafts event offered by the Amenia Recreation Department at their Town Hall offices on Saturday, Feb. 8. She was accompanied by her grandmother, Tammy Price of Amenia.

‘Dine Out for History’ continues

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
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MILLERTON — Dine Out for History continues at the following venues on the dates below. Reservations recommended.

The Oakhurst Diner at 19 Main St. on Sunday, Feb. 16.

Willa at 52 Main St. on Thursday, Feb. 27.

Round III at 5523 Route 22, on Monday, March 10.

Golden Wok at 2 Main St. Suite 5165, on Wednesday, March 19, takeout only.



PHOTO BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

The Oakhurst Diner on Main Street in Millerton will host the next “Dine Out for History” night on Sunday, Feb. 16.

Send news items and briefs to editor@millertonnews.com

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OBITUARIES

Robert S. Mellis

KENT — A retired journalist and former publisher, Robert S. Mellis, age 84, passed away Jan. 31, 2025.



Robert was known for his love of storytelling, both through writing and spoken stories. Born in Inverness, Scotland, to Mary and Alexander Mellis, he was educated at the Royal Scottish Academy in Edinburgh.

He began his long journalism career as a "copy boy" for The Scotsman, the national newspaper, and later worked for a group of weekly newspapers becoming a photographer, reporter and later an editor at age 19. He emigrated to the United States in 1961 to take a position as a copy editor at the Portsmouth Herald in New Hampshire.

Robert worked for a number of well-known newspapers in various capacities across the United States. He was the news features editor at The St. Petersburg Times in the 1970s and later became the graphic arts director at The Miami Herald. He served as the managing editor at the Al- lertown Morning Call.

He was especially proud of the work he did as Publisher and CEO of Housatonic Valley Publishing Co., in New Milford. Robert grew the five-weekly newspaper group to seven newspapers and the flagship paper, The New Milford Times, was chosen as the best weekly newspaper by New England Press Association in 1989. The group of papers acquired 282 awards under his leadership.

Deciding to retire early at age 60, he and his beloved wife, Jo, moved aboard a sailboat and spent seven years cruising the east coast of the US and the Bahamas. The two were great travelers and ultimately decided to move onto

land to a motor home and succeeded in visiting all 50 states. Robert put his extensive photographic skills to use and captured beautiful images throughout his travels.

Later in life, he discovered a love of teaching journalism in various parts of the world. He ultimately visited 21 countries. As a Visiting Knight Fellow, Robert went to Namibia, Africa, to assist journalists at The Namibian newspaper and they invited him back for a second stint. He also served as director of the Southeast Asia Media Center based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, where he lived with Jo for a year and taught young journalists from Cambodia, Vietnam and Myanmar how to write truthful stories and navigate authoritarian governments.

He is remembered for his humorous outlook on life and his staunch love of news and local journalism.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret "Jo" Mellis of Kent; daughters Lynn (John) Mellis Worthington of Kent and Stephanie (Alessandro) Berton of Colchester, Vermont; granddaughters Cassandra Worthington (Mark Patronella) of Maryland, Trisha Worthington (Derek Byrne) of Rhode Island, Isabella Berton of New York City; grandson Graham Berton of Los Angeles, California; brother William (Diedre) Mellis of England; and sister Rose Hogg of Ontario, Canada.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory may be made to the Kent Volunteer Fire Department, which was very helpful in the last year of his life, PO Box 355, Kent, CT 06757. A Celebration of his Life memorial service will be held at St. Andrew's Church in Kent, Feb. 15 at 1 p.m.

Martha Wendt Nesbitt

LAKEVILLE — Martha Nesbitt of Lakeville, Connecticut and New York City passed away on Jan. 26, 2025.



Martha, the daughter of Ruth and Henry Wendt, was born March 14, 1942, in New York City. She grew up in Sands Point and Tuxedo Park, New York.

As a child, she attended the Tuxedo Park Country Day school, and The Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, New York. Later she studied the classics at St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland, and at New York University. In New York City, she worked for the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus and later in computer program design at Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (TIAA).

Although she met her husband, Michael, in 1960 they were not married until 1972, each of them having a prior marriage. After her retirement, she and her husband of 52 years, spent most of their time in Lakeville, Connecticut. She was an active member of the Colonial Dames, the Cosmopolitan Club, the Millbrook Garden Club, the Berkshire Choral International, a mahjong group, and the Crescendo choral group. She was practicing for a Cres-

cendo concert at the time she fell ill.

She will be remembered by her family and friends as the most sweet, kind, loving and thoughtful wife, to Michael, mother to Ian, Christopher and Seth Nesbitt, sister to Nancy Evans, grandmother to Caelan, Cosmo, Esperanza, Harper, and Zephyr, and friend to all. She was especially close to her brother, Henry Wendt, and sister, Lindsay Serrell, both of whom predeceased her. A celebration of Martha's life will be held on Feb. 22, at 11 a.m. at the Trinity Church in Lime Rock, Connecticut. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Crescendo choral at: www.crescendomusic.org. Remembrances and photographs are welcomed at: marthawendtnesbitt@gmail.com The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

GOSHEN — Allan Dudley Walker, 91, of Allyn Road, died Friday morning, Jan. 31, 2025. Born Feb. 16, 1933, he was the son of Clifford R. and Irene M. (Wilson) Walker of Granby, Connecticut.

Allan was a 1951 graduate of Woodstock Academy in Woodstock, Connecticut earned a B.S. in geography at Dartmouth College in 1955, and a Doctorate degree in Education from The University of Connecticut. After serving 2 years in the Navy as 2nd Lieutenant, he settled in Woodstock in 1957, where he dedicated his life to educating young people by teaching for 3 years, and then as Headmaster at Woodstock Academy for

20 years (1960-1980). He was a long-time prominent figure in the leadership of the Connecticut Association of Schools starting in 1961 until his retirement. During this time, he was also active in the National Association of Secondary School Principals, serving as President from 1975-1976.



On Feb. 13, 1982, he and Joan Angelo were married and moved to Goshen, Connecticut, where they lovingly restored a 1780 Colonial and he continued his dedication to nurturing young minds as Principal of Litchfield High

School (1980-88), and subsequently Superintendent of Schools for the region (1988-92). Allan was an active community leader throughout his life. He was a member and officer of the Freemason Society and served in both the Muddy Brook Fire Department and the Woodstock Volunteer Fire Association as an officer and EMT. After he moved to Goshen, he served on the Board of Directors for the Connecticut Junior Republic. He was also a member of the Goshen Board of Finance from 2002 to 2025, serving as Chairman the last 21 years.

Allan loved the outdoors. He was most at home as a gentleman farmer tending his herd of Hereford beef animals, whom he treated as pets. He also enjoyed the solace and adventure of being off the grid in the northern Maine woods (T15-R9), having vacationed there since the 1960's and made many more visits there with his children and extended family. With his 2000 Porsche Boxster, he and Joan enjoyed events and tours as members of the CT Valley Region Porsche Club.

Allan is survived by his beloved wife Joan, his children,

Patricia Walker of Newport, Vermont, Allan (Carrie) Walker, Jr. of Woodstock, Connecticut, Suzanne (Ronald) Szymanski of Naples, Florida, Mary (Paul) Gallerani of Woodstock, Connecticut, Melissa (Chris) Cornell of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, his stepdaughter, Cassandra Angelo (Holly) of Glastonbury, Connecticut, his first wife, Lois Swenson and many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother, Donald N. Walker.

The family would like to share their gratitude for the care, kindness and dedication provided by his primary VNA caregiver, Robin Gallagher, Chris Seymour, Shantal Harvey, Goshen/Cornwall Senior Bus, Goshen Fire Company and Goshen Community Care.

There are no calling hours. A private celebration of life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Connecticut Junior Republic, 550 Goshen Road, Litchfield, CT 06759, The Goshen Good Neighbor Fund, Inc., PO Box 492, Goshen, CT 06756-0492, or the Woodstock Academy, 57 Academy Road, Woodstock, CT 06281.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kenny Funeral Homes, 41 Main Street, Sharon, CT.

Linda Lee Dodge

LAKEVILLE — Linda (Hart) Dodge of Lakeville passed away unexpectedly on 2/4 while vacationing in Largo, Florida. She was born in Great Barrington, MA, to the late Norman and Eva Hart on 1/28/1943. Linda married her late husband, Henry Dodge, and moved permanently to Salisbury/Lakeville in 1960, where she was a proud resident until her passing. She was known to most as Nana, the name her grandchildren gave her. Linda was retired from Bakers Choice Products in Beacon Falls, CT, where she was a longtime office manager. She was active in many community functions, including SWSA as a volunteer in the "food shack" at the ski jumps, the political polls, and the Lakeville food pantry. The things she loved to do most were hosting family get-

together, especially during the holiday season, attending her children's and grandchildren's many activities, spending time at the town grove, and the many get-togethers with her incredible circle of close friends. Nana is survived by her children Michael Dodge (Lisa) of North Haven, Stacey Dodge of North Canaan, and Donna Ryder (Ron) of Annapolis, Maryland. Her grandchildren Ryan Ryder (Jessica), Jonathan Ryder (Hannah), Brandon Ryder (Daphna), Thomas Dodge, Megan Baldessari, Nicholas Dodge, and Matthew Dodge, and her great-grandchildren Jett Ryder, Rex Ryder, and Ellie Ryder.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Lakeville Food Pantry. There will be a celebration of life in her remembrance in Lakeville at a date yet to be determined.

Albert Kenneth 'Bud' Kniffen

AMENIA — Albert Kenneth "Bud" Kniffen, Jr., 77, a lifelong area resident died peacefully at his home in Amenia, NY on Friday, Feb. 7, 2025. Mr. Kniffen was a retired black top plant foreman, having worked for Amenia Sand & Gravel in Amenia for more than 35 years.



Born Nov. 28, 1947 in Sharon he was the son of the late Albert K. and Katherine (Ward) Kniffen, Sr. Mr. Kniffen was a graduate of Webutuck High School in Amenia and furthered his education at Alfred University where he studied black top plant operations and advancements. He served his country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Air Medal. He was honorably discharged on Aug. 20, 1969. Mr. Kniffen was a life member of Amenia Fire Company and Rescue Squad, a life member and past president and past secretary of the Amenia Lions Club, a life member of Millerton American Legion Post 178 and V.F.W. Post 5444 in Dover Plains, he served on the Amenia Island Cemetery Board and was the past president of the Tri State Baseball

League. For many years he enjoyed bowling and playing softball in local leagues.

Mr. Kniffen is survived by his daughter, Jaimee Kniffen and her husband Bryan Kreps and his son, Michael Kniffen and his companion Lucinda Kalinowski; four grandchildren, Nate, Jazlynne, Elias and Saige Kniffen; his brother, Peter Kniffen; two sisters, Alberta Darnell and Linda Hamilton and several nieces and nephews and many friends. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Donna K. Whalen and her husband John and his brother-in-law Michael Darnell.

Calling will take place on Thursday, Feb. 13 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. The Amenia Fire Company will conduct services at 6:30 p.m. during visitation. A Funeral Service will be held on Friday, Feb. 14 at 10:30 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow with Standard Military Honors at Amenia Island Cemetery, Route 343, Amenia, NY. Memorial contributions may be made to Millerton Legion Post 178, VFW Post 5444, Amenia Fire Company or Amenia Island Cemetery. To send an online condolence please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Worship Services

Week of February 16, 2025



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

UCC in CORNWALL
Cornwall Village Meeting House
Worship Sunday, 10 am
Outstanding Church School (10 am)
Mission Opportunities
Warm Fellowship following Worship
860-672-6840
www.uccincornwall.org
Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister
Welcoming all - including the
LGBTQ Community

The 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

Canaan United Methodist Church
2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT
11 a.m. Worship Service
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"
Rev. Lee Gangaware
860-824-5534
canaanct-umc.com
canaanctumc@gmail.com
We hope you will join us!

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

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

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

Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT
Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons
Sunday, March 9 at 10:30 a.m.
For information, contact Jo Loi
at jokiauloi@gmail.com
All are Welcome

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 a.m. 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

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

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!

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
40 Leedsville Road
Amenia Union, NY
SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30
IN-PERSON AND ONLINE
Visit our website for links
Rev. AJ Stack
845-373-9161
www.stthomasamenia.com
A Community of Radical Hospitality

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

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

Local Matters

Your nonprofit community news source needs your ongoing support to flourish.

Please visit millertonnews.com/donate to give a donation of any size.

Thank you!

The Lakeville Journal - The Millerton News

More obituaries on Page A7

Honoring our centenarians

Every year, in the Summer issue of our quarterly THRIVE60+ newsletter, we honor Dutchess County's centenarians and couples married 70 years or more.

And it's getting crowded at the top. The number of centenarians and ultra-long-term married couples keeps growing. It's a trend we really like to see, and a testimony to all the things our older adults are doing to maximize their chances of long, happy, independent lives.

So what's their big secret? We ask this question of as many of our oldest adults as we can find. They've given us some diverse and intriguing answers as to how they've been able to stick around for so long, and how we might follow if we did this same. They've sworn by good nutrition, strong faith, nine golden raisins soaked in gin, regular exercise, a sense of purpose ... wait, can we go back to that third one, the one with the raisins?

It's a common European folk remedy, where the raisins are soaked, sometimes for weeks, in whatever the popular local spirit may be. There's no science that we're aware of to support the longevity claims, but we weren't about to get into an argument with a 107-year-old. As always, it's best to consult with a healthcare provider before attempting to treat yourself with any therapy that has not been prescribed for you.

We've been in touch with centenarians' families, some for several years. When their centenarian family member passes away, they've often said something we never expected:

GOLDEN LIVING

Todd N. Tancredi

we were surprised. How can that be?

The answer lies in a phenomenon that may be even more impressive than their long lives: How so many of them remained physically and mentally active, in many cases until they day they died. They were not only extending their lifespan; they extended their "healthspan," the amount of time living in good health, free from chronic disease and disabilities associated with aging. And so, their next of kin tell us things like "He just mowed the lawn three days ago" and "She came in from the garden, sat down in her favorite chair, and passed away."

The Office for the Aging is again looking for Dutchess County centenarians or 70+ year married couples. We honored 36 centenarians in 2024; and if current trends continue, we may honor 40 or more this year. If these unique examples of successful aging turn 100 or more, or celebrate their milestone anniversary at any point this year, we'd love to know about it and honor them in the Summer 2025 THRIVE60+ newsletter. Reach out to OFA at 845-486-2555 or ofa@dutchessny.gov to let us know.

Golden Living is prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging.



"Psst...meet me out back by the coop and I'll make ya a deal!"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Against building housing on Amenia farmland

Hudson River Housing is proposing to build 28 houses on farmland across from Freshtown Plaza. We should not be building housing on farmland in Amenia. Loss of farmland reduces wildlife habitat and air and water quality. Loss of farmland causes erosion, compaction, nutrient imbalance, pollution, acidification, water logging and loss of soil biodiversity. Loss of farmland challenges economic security, raises food prices, and moves us in the direction of being unable to

feed the world's populations, including our own. Since 2023 the United States has become a net importer of food, including foods that could be grown in New York State. (1) Worldwide a third of arable land has been lost in the last 40 years. (2) In the United States 11 million acres of farmland were lost between 2001 and 2016. 4.4 million acres being among the best agricultural land in the United States. (3) New York lost 9% of its farmland from 2012 to 2022, losing farmland faster than the U.S.

average. (4) Between 1974 and 2017, 25% of Dutchess county farmland has been lost. (5) The land chosen by Hudson River Housing to build on is prime bottom land, farmed for over 100 years, with 11.5 acres of the prized and relatively rare Wappinger Soil Type, a soil of recent alluvial deposits usually prone to winter flooding. (6)

The best place to build affordable housing is in metropolitan areas with bustling job markets, steady growth and existing infrastructure. Amenia is not a hub of in-

dustry and is losing population. However, the Taconic Developmental Disabilities School Campus has buildings that can be rehabbed, infrastructure, and is close to the commuter rail. That is where affordable housing should be built — not on farmland.

(1) (3) USDA, (2) Thomas Reuters Foundation, (4) New York Farm Bureau (5) US Census of Agriculture (6) "Soil Survey of Dutchess County, USDA

George Bistransin
Amenia

Appreciation for Auschwitz remembrance

Thank you to the Millerton News and to Natalia Zukerman for a profoundly moving article on the importance of remembering, honoring, and bearing witness at Auschwitz. In a time when historical memory is often challenged or diminished, this

piece served as a poignant and necessary reminder of our collective responsibility to preserve the truth.

Through eloquent storytelling and heartfelt reflection, Ms. Zukerman not only honored her family's legacy, the victims and survivors of

the Holocaust, she also underscored the moral duty we all share to confront history with honesty and vigilance. The emphasis on remembrance as a means of ensuring that such horrors are never repeated resonated deeply with me.

I hope that more pieces

like this will continue to be published, fostering awareness, education, and, most importantly compassion. Sincere gratitude to Natalia Zukerman for her thoughtful and beautifully written piece.

Nina Peek
Amenia

Nine-year-old girl passes Regents; losing rail access; Tupper Ware party

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

February 8, 1934
'Gas Explosion Causes Fire'; The Millerton Fire Department responded to an alarm early on Tuesday morning when a gas explosion caused a chimney fire at the home of Harry Silvernail. The flames were quenched within a few minutes, no damages resulting.

'Millerton Couple Wed at Amenia Sunday'; Miss Catherine Helen Flood, daughter of Mary Agnes Flood, of Millerton, and Thomas H. Burns, son of Mrs. Mary Burns, also of Millerton, were married Sunday in the Church of Immaculate Conception, Amenia, by the Rev. Frances E. Lavelle. The attendants were Miss Mary Burns, sister of the groom and Thomas Flood, brother of the bride.

Mr. and Mrs. Burns left immediately after the ceremony on a wedding trip. They plan to be away a week, and upon their return will reside on Barton Street. Mr. Burns attended Millerton High School.

The bride was honored last Wednesday evening with a miscellaneous shower given by Miss Helen Gormely at her home in Amenia. She received many beautiful gifts.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

'Nine-Year-Old Girl Passes 8th Grade Regents Test'; Margaret Malarchuk, nine-year-old student in the fourth grade at Winchell Mountain school, received a mark of eighty-one percent in the January Regents examination in spelling. This examination is designed for pupils who have studied spelling daily for seven and one-half years.

February 13, 1975
'Rail Abandonment Can Be Effectively Protested'; Effective procedures exist for individuals and communities to protest the possible loss of local rail service, according to Clifton Curtis of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Mr. Curtis, a representative of the Office of Public Counsel of the Rail Services Planning Office, spoke Monday before a core of New York and Connecticut citizens in the Community Room above the Millerton Free Library.

The meeting was arranged in anticipation of a United States Railway Association (USRA) preliminary plan to be released Feb. 26 which may call for abandonment of one or more sections on the Harlem Division branch of the Penn Central from Mount Kisco to Ghent.

'Millerton Personals'; Weekend Guest—Susan Lipschitz of Yonkers was a weekend guest at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kaplan and family.

Tupper Ware Party—Mrs. Lester Crawford was hostess to 10 at a Tupper Ware party at her home on Friday evening, Feb. 7.

Celebrate 25th—On Sunday, Feb. 9, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lind celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary at their home on Dutchess Avenue with a party for 50 given by their immediate family. Extending congratulations via long distance phone calls were received from their son, from Cleveland, Ohio; Rob from Cleveland, Ohio; Nora's brothers, Charles Barth, Cleveland, Ohio, Bud Barth, Seattle, Wash.; and Debble Hersh Messinger, Maryland.

'Free Library Assn. Meets'; The annual meeting of the Millerton Free Library Association was held Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 7:30 p.m. It was announced that the estate of Marion E. Hutzler has been settled on behalf of the library. As requested in Mrs. Hutzler's will, a plaque in memory of her father, William C Pulver, will be purchased and installed in the library.

In addition, over \$150 has been donated in memory of the late Betty Robinson.

Robert Trotta was elected for another five year term as trustee.

A meeting of the Board of

Trustees of the library followed during which the following officers were elected: president, Shirley Conklin; vice-president, June Davis; secretary, Shirley Sholfet; treasurer, Nina Campbell.

'Grange Held Cookie Contest'; The regular meeting of the Millerton Grange was held Monday, Feb. 3, in the Sunday School room of the Presbyterian Church with Worthy Master Wilma Brusie presiding. For the sugar cookie contest, three members of the Pine Plains Grange, Ruth Greene, Fannie Place, and Ruth Barthoff, were judges with the following results: first, Mrs. Gross; second, Mildred Cook; and third, Arline Pitcher.

Virginia Kleinhomer put on a very nice program which everyone enjoyed. The next meeting is the social meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brusie on Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m.

February 10, 2000
'Mattes on Dean's List'; MILLERTON — Dylan Mattes has been named to the dean's list for the fall semester at American University in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Mattes is a graduate of Indian Mountain School in Lakeville, Conn., and Berkshire School in Sheffield, Mass. He is the son of Bill and Gweno Mattes of Millerton.

'Nye Earns Honors'; WEBUTUCK - During the Uni-

versity of New Hampshire's '99 fall semester, Karen Susan Nye earned highest honors. Miss Nye is a graduate of Webutuck Junior-Senior High School.

'Historical Societies Embark on Schoolhouse Project'; AMENIA —The Amenia Historical Society and the Historical Society of North East are launching an in-

terview program to collect memories of the one-room schoolhouses that taught the children of the Webutuck School District and neighboring districts.

The historical societies plan to get in touch with former pupils and teachers of eight of Amenia's 12 "common schools" and those of North East's that were still open as late as 1940.

THE MILLERTON NEWS

(USPS 384600)

An Independent New York Newspaper

Official Newspaper of the Village of Millerton, Town of North East, Town of Washington, Town of Amenia, Town of Pine Plains, North East (Webutuck) Central School District and Millbrook Central School District
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Volume 94, Number 4

Thursday, February 13, 2025

Mission Statement

LJMN Media, Inc., Publishers of

The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News

Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, and to foster the free flow of information and opinion.

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Publisher & CEO
Thomas K. Carley
Chief Operating Officer

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Publisher Emeritus
A. Whitney Ellsworth
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Managing Partner
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1918-2011
Editor and
Publisher Emeritus

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CORRESPONDENTS: Christine Bates; Leila Hawken.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice INVITATION TO BID

A Sealed bid for the: EXTENSION OF THE ROUTE 44 SIDEWALK CONTRACT will be received at the following address: TOWN OF AMENIA 4988 NY-22 AMENIA, NY 12501 until 2:00 PM local time on March 10, 2025 and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud on March 11, 2025 at 9:00 AM.

This project includes the installation of approximately 864 feet of 5-foot-wide concrete sidewalk and curbing located along portions of Route 44 in the Town of Amenia. The project may include, but not be limited to, saw cutting; milling; concrete and asphalt removal and disposal; the installation of concrete curbing, sidewalk, and ADA accessible ramps; removal and disposal of existing drainage structures and pipe; the installation of pre-cast concrete drainage structures and pipe; the installation of wooden split rail fence; and paving as indicated in the contract documents.

This work will be awarded as one (1) single prime contract and the Bid will be received on a lump sum basis with alternates, if included on the Bid Form. The Bid should not include sales and compensating use taxes on materials incorporated into the work.

If the Bid is received by mail or by hand after the appointed time on the date specified it shall be rejected, notwithstanding that such Bid may have been placed in a mailbox or other mail receptacle regularly maintained by the United States Postal Service before such time, and ordinarily in sufficient time to have been delivered on time.

A Bid Security in the amount of 5% of the Bid must accompany the Bid in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders. The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond and a payment bond, each in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price. Bidders will also be required to furnish a Non-Collusive Affidavit.

The issuing office for the Bidding Documents is:

Town of Amenia
c/o Dawn Marie Klingner,
Town Clerk
4988 NY-22 Amenia, NY 12501
Phone: 845-373-8118 ext.125
E-mail: townclerk@ameniany.gov
Engineer E-mail: jfusillo@labellapc.com

Bidders may call to schedule a time to obtain a copy of the Bidding Documents at the number above.

The Bidding and Contract documents for this Project will be available electronically. Please contact the Town Clerk to obtain the Bidding and Contract Documents.

Note that only bidders who are registered with The Town Clerk will receive notification of Addenda.

The Contractor must use the higher of the prevailing federal, state, or applicable local wage rates further described in the Contract Documents. These rates apply to Subcontractors as well.

Attention of Bidders is particularly called to the requirements for ensuring that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against due to race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Town of Amenia, as

Owner, reserves the right to waive any informalities or irregularities in the Bid received, or to reject any Bid without explanation.

By Order of:
Town of Amenia
02-13-25

Legal Notice

Notice of formation of Timothy Capowski LLC.

Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on December 2, 2023. Office location: P.O. Box 785, 42 Maple Avenue, Millbrook, NY, 12545, Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to the LLC: P.O. Box 785, 42 Maple Avenue, Millbrook, NY, 12545. Purpose: law practice (appellate litigation and consulting).

01-09-25
01-16-25
01-23-25
01-30-25
02-06-25
02-13-25

Legal Notice

Notice of formation of limited liability company. Articles of Organization of BLACK BARN EVs LLC were filed on September 27, 2024 with the Secretary of State of New York. The LLC has an office in Dutchess County, NY. The NY Sec of State is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against LLC may be served. The SSNY shall mail process to: 17 South Quaker Hill Road, Pawling NY 12564. The LLC does not have a specific date of dissolution. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act.

01-09-25
01-16-25
01-23-25
01-30-25
02-06-25
02-13-25

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of 166 Albany Avenue LLC, Arts. of Org filed with SSNY on 12/12/24. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 21 Steamboat Dock Road, Barrytown, NY 12507. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

02-06-25
02-13-25
02-20-25
02-27-25
03-06-25
03-13-25

LEGAL NOTICE OF RESOLUTION ADOPTING LOCAL LAW SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Amenia, at a regular meeting held on February 6, 2025, duly adopted a resolution, subject to permissive referendum, that would enact Local Law No. 1 of 2025, which reads as follows:

Section I: LEGISLATIVE INTENT

It is the intent of this Local Law to repeal Local Law No. 1 of 2022, and opt-in to allow on-site cannabis retail dispensaries in the Town of Amenia under New York State Cannabis Law Article 4.

Section II: AUTHORITY

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to New York State Cannabis Law §131, which authorizes the Town Board to repeal a local law which prohibited establishment of cannabis retail dispensary licenses in the Town, subject to a permissive referendum under New York State Municipal Home Rule Law §24.

Section III: LOCAL OPT-IN

The Town Board repeals Local Law No. 1 of 2022, by which the Town Board opted-out of allowing cannabis retail dispensaries. By this new Local Law, the Town Board opts-in for allowing on-site cannabis retail dispensaries within the Town's jurisdiction.

Section IV: SEVERABILITY

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstances, shall be adjudicated by any court of the competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section V: PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM / REFERENDUM ON PETITION

This Local Law is subject to a referendum on petition in accordance with Cannabis Law §131 and the procedure outlined in Municipal Home Rule Law §24.

Section VI: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State, provided that such filing occurs no sooner than 45 days after the adoption of this Local Law by the Town Board. Pursuant to Cannabis Law §131, this Local Law is subject to a permissive referendum and may not be filed with the Secretary of State until the applicable time period has elapsed to file a petition, or a referendum has been conducted approving this Local Law.

Pursuant to NY Cannabis Law §131, this action by the Town Board is subject to permissive referendum governed by NYS Municipal Home Rule Law §24.

Dated: Amenia, New York February 6, 2025

By Order of the
Town Board of the
Town of Amenia
DAWN MARIE
KLINGNER
TOWN CLERK
02-13-25

Legal Notice

Self Destruct Sequence Tattoo LLC Art. Of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 1/14/2025. Off. Loc.: Dutchess Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to 21 Merry Hill Rd, Poughkeepsie NY 12603. Primary business location is 21 West Main Street, Pawling NY, 12564. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

02-13-25
02-20-25
02-27-25
03-06-25
03-13-25
03-20-25

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF AMENIA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Amenia will conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on the 6th day of March, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, Town of Amenia, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, New York 12501, at which time all parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard as to whether the Town Board of the Town of Amenia shall adopt Local Law No. ___ of the Year 2025, Extending Term of Office of Supervisor.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the purpose and intent of the proposed Local Law is to extend the term of office of the Town Supervisor, an elected position, from two years to four years, effective with the term of office commencing January 1, 2026.

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

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the proposed Local Law No. ___ of the Year 2025 is available for review and inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk during regular office hours, at the Town Hall, Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia New York and on the Towns website at www.ameniany.gov.

Dated: Amenia, New York February 6, 2025

BY ORDER OF THE
TOWN BOARD
DAWN MARIE
KLINGNER,
TOWN CLERK
02-13-25

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Amenia, Dutchess County, New York, will meet at Amenia Town Hall, located at 4988 NY-22, Amenia, NY 12501, on March 6, 2025 at 7:00 P.M., Prevailing Time, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing relating to the proposed improvements of the facilities of Water District #1 in said Town, consisting of:

Replacement of the Lavelle Road Pump House with a prepackaged pump house,

Rehabilitation of the existing 200,000-gallon water storage tank,

Upgrades to the Washington Court and Lavelle Road Well Fields, and

Replacement of approximately 1,260 linear feet of undersized water mains, together with all related and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of \$3,902,850, at which time and place said Town Board will hear all persons interested in the subject thereof concerning the same.

Such cost shall be divided among all parcels within the Water District by benefit points assigned according to land type.

The Map, Plan, and Report, including an estimate of cost, relating to this project is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk where it is available for public inspection during normal business hours.

02-13-25

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR EQUIPMENT & INSTALLATION TOWN OF AMENIA TOWN HALL LED SIGN & SURROUND

SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO:
Town of Amenia
Dawn Marie Klingner,
Town Clerk
4988 ROUTE 22
AMENIA, NY 12501
(845) 373-8118 ext.125
townclerk@ameniany.gov

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP-SIGN-021025 SCOPE OF WORK

The Town of Amenia located in Dutchess County, NY (the "Town") is seeking a vendor / contractor to

furnish and install an LED Sign at Amenia Town Hall located at 4988 Route 22, Amenia, NY 12501.

Double Sided Sign LED Display

1. Two (2) 63"W x 41"H (approximately) singled sided full color LED active displays reader—6-8mm full color.

2. Double sided LED cabinet to accommodate LED display (if applicable).

3. Wireless communication (the Town will consider displays that are only wired).

4. Cloud-based LED sign software (if there is any cost to the software, include that in your proposal) with a wide capability ranging from scheduling multiple messages, display timing, dim and brightness timing, etc.

5. 8-10-year parts guarantee / warrantee (the Town may consider displays with shorter guarantees / warrantees - provide specifics and corresponding prices).

Header

1. 63"W x 18" "H fully enclosed doubled sided LED internally illuminated header board.

2. Either V-carved and painted text, plus printed logo and ribbon or solely printed logo, type and ribbon.

3. Cabinet bottom, sides and top to be primed and painted with white acrylic polyurethane paint (if applicable).

4. Dimmer capability.

Post(s)

Option #1:

1. Two (2) approximately 5'x5' fabricated steel posts, primed and painted with white acrylic polyurethane paint. Double sided sign to be mounted between posts - see Drawing #1 and #2.

2. Side steel posts to be wrapped with ACM (or similar) post-wraps with mounting angles and flat caps, primed and painted with white acrylic polyurethane paint - see Drawing #2 and #3 Top Views.

3. Concrete footers - min depth of 3'

Option #2

1. Four (4) 5'x5' side posts (steel or PT lumber) with mounting angles and flat caps, primed and painted with white acrylic polyurethane paint.

2. Custom fabricated steel side posts, primed and painted with acrylic polyurethane paint. Double sided sign to be mounted between posts - see Drawing #1 and #2.

3. Concrete footers - min depth of 3'

Completion & Turnover

1. Contractor is to remove and dispense of all waste materials.

2. Contractor shall provide operation manuals and LED active display training.

Drawings

See included drawings.

Town Responsibility

The Town shall provide electrical service (20 amp / 240 volt) to a junction point at the sign location, obtain all necessary permits; and furnish an electrician for final hook-up.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Vendors interested in being considered shall demonstrate that they or their firm possesses the appropriate resources and experience necessary to perform the requirements of the RFP, adequate skills & facilities, and a satisfactory record of experience related to the tasks outlined in the RFP.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Vendor proposals

should at a minimum itemize pricing for (i) materials (double sided LED sign boards, cabinet/surround, posts, etc.), and (ii) installation labor. Prevailing wage may be required.

2. Proposals incorporating pricing from an LED sign vendor and an installer will be accepted.

3. This RFP is intended to provide interested vendors with an opportunity to demonstrate their qualifications.

4. Experience of firms with similar projects.

EVALUATION PROCESS

1. Proposals will be evaluated by the Town Board. The Town Board shall review and evaluate each of the proposals using the criteria described in this RFP.

2. The Town of Amenia reserves the right to seek clarification of information submitted in response to this RFP and/or request additional information during the evaluation process.

3. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or parts of proposals.

4. The Town may request a qualification interview with the highest ranked contractor(s) prior to making a decision.

AWARD

The Town Board reserves the right to accept or not accept any or all proposals received in response to this RFP, or to cancel in whole or in part this RFP, if determined by the Town Board to be in the Town's best interest.

The Town Board reserves the right to accept any submittal and/or parts thereof and/or to reject any and all submissions, or to waive any irregularities in the submissions if it is determined to be in the best interest of the Town. The issuance of this RFP does not bind the Town to award any contract, or to pay any costs incurred by prospective contractors in the preparation of proposals responding to this RFP. The award of a contract is contingent upon the successful execution of the formal contract agreement.

RFP SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Electronic submissions via e-mail are highly encouraged. Interested parties should submit an electronic copy of their proposals by 2:00 PM on February 24, 2025, to Dawn Marie Klingner at townclerk@ameniany.gov.

If you prefer to submit paper copies, please submit two (2) bound paper copies of your proposal by the time and date indicated in person or mailed to:

Town of Amenia
Dawn Marie Klingner,
Town Clerk
4988 Route 22
Amenia, NY 12501
(845) 373-8118 ext.125
townclerk@ameniany.gov
02-13-25

QUESTIONS

Submit questions pertaining to this RFP by email to Dawn Marie Klingner at townclerk@ameniany.gov no later than 1:00pm on February 17, 2025.

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of EMERY'S MINI MARKET LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 1/23/2025. Office: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail copy to: 9 David Rd, Millerton, NY 12546. Purpose: Any lawful.

02-06-25
02-13-25
02-20-25
02-27-25
03-06-25
03-13-25

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Harlem Valley area activity report Jan. 30 through Feb. 5.

Jan. 31 — Deputies arrested Walter G. Leverich Jr., 49, for Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the Third Degree subsequent to a traffic stop on State Route 22 in the Town of Dover. Leverich to appear in the Town of Dover Court at a later date.

Feb. 1 — Deputies responded to 2324 Route 83 in Pine Plains to investigate a reported domestic dispute. Matter resolved without further police intervention.

Feb. 1 — Deputies report the arrest of Neel K. Casimir, 38, for Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the Third Degree subsequent to a traffic stop on State Route 22 in the Town of Pawling. Subject to appear in the Town of Pawling Court at a later date.

Feb. 4 — Deputies report the arrest of Chaneen J. Reeves, 41, on an outstanding arrest warrant issued for her arrest by the Town of North East Court for Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle. Reeves to appear in the Town of North East Court at a later date.

Feb. 4 — Deputies along with New York State Troopers responded to 7 John St. in the Village of Millerton for a reported family disturbance. Upon Arrival, all parties were uncooperative.

Feb. 5 — Deputies responded to High Meadows Trailer Park, 160 Holsapple Road in the Town of Dover and located Fallon M. Swartz, 39, who was taken into custody on an outstanding bench warrant issued for her arrest by the Town of Union Vale Court for Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the Third Degree. Subject to appear in the Town of Union Vale court at a later date.

PLEASE NOTE: All subjects arrested and charged are alleged to have committed the crime and are presumed innocent until proven guilty and are to appear in local courts later.

If you have any information relative to the aforementioned criminal cases, or any other suspected criminal activity please contact the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office tip line at 845 605 CLUE (2583) or Email dc-sotips@gmail.com. All information will be kept confidential.

SHARON — Michael Richard Tesoro MD, FACOG, FACS

passed away peacefully on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 2024, in Sharon. He was 83 years old. Michael will be remembered for his love of and unwavering devotion to his family and his honorable and steadfast work as a medical doctor delivering over 3,000 healthy babies and women's healthcare. Born in Brooklyn, New York, on May 20, 1941, Michael was the son of Nicholas Daniel Tesoro and Lillie Della Vecchia Tesoro, whose parents emigrated from Southern Italy in the early 1900's.

Michael attended elementary school at Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church and School in Brooklyn, where his future wife, Maureen Lennon, also attended, and where they were later married in 1964. Michael graduated from James Madison High School in Brooklyn, in 1958. He received a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Biology and Chemistry from St. John's University in 1962. He then attended New York Medical College in New York, New York, performed his

Medical Internship at Greenwich Hospital in Greenwich, Connecticut, (1967-1968) and received his Doctor of Medicine (MD) in 1968. Michael performed his post-graduate Residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB-GYN) at St. Clare's Hospital in New York. (1968-1972). From 1972-1974, Michael served in the United States Air Force, Major, Chief of OB-GYN Services at USAF Hospital, Dover Air Force Base, Dover, Delaware. He became a member of The National Board of Medical Examiners in 1968; a Fellow of The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) in 1971, a board-certified Fellow of The American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (FACOG) in 1974, and a board-certified Fellow of The American College of Surgeons (FACS) in 1975.

In 1974, Michael moved his family to Sharon, a place he would call home for the next 50 years. Michael opened a private medical practice on The Green and later established satellite offices in Canaan and New Preston, and Dover Plains, New York. He became an Active Attending Staff at Sharon Hospital (1974), Chief of the OB-GYN Department (1980-1991), Chief of the Medical Staff (1988-1990), and he remained on the Consulting Staff of Sharon Hospital through 2001.

In 1991, Michael became an Associate Attending Staff in the OB-GYN Department at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford. He served as the Assistant Departmental Director (1991-1995), Associate Departmental Director (1995-2000), and Assistant Director of Gynecological Ultrasound from (1991-2000). He was also the Associate Director of The Residency Program for OB-GYN (1994-2000). He later served as a consultant to the CEOs of Westerly Hospital in West-

erly, Rhode Island (2001-2002), Mary Lane Hospital in Ware, Massachusetts (2003-2004), Nashoba Hospital in Ayer, Massachusetts (2004-2005).

He held various positions of leadership with American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Connecticut, Vice Chair (1991-1994) and Chair (1994-1997) and ACOG District I (Quebec, the Canadian Atlantic Provinces, all New England states, and Chile) among them, Vice Chair (2000-2003), Chair (2003-2006). He helped ACOG efforts to pass Connecticut's mandate that health insurance plans allow patients direct access to their OB-GYN and actively involved with the team that helped shepherd national "The Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act of 1996."

Michael loved to travel with his wife of 60 years, Maureen Lennon Tesoro. They travelled extensively and visited every continent but Antarctica. In 1983, they travelled to The People's Republic of China (PRC), on one of the first medical missions from the U.S., less than 5 years after PRC began Reform and Opening efforts.

Michael was a member of Saint Bernard Roman Catholic church in Sharon. In 1986, Mi-

chael was Chair, Archbishop Annual Appeal, of the Archdiocese of Hartford. Michael was also a member of The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. He led two medical missions to provide women's health services to remote villages in the Dominican Republic in 2000 and 2002. He volunteered at Malta House of Care, a mobile medical clinic in Waterbury that provides free quality health care to uninsured and those living below the poverty line (2010-2018).

He is survived by his wife, Maureen Lennon Tesoro, and passed away one day short of their 60th wedding anniversary. He is also survived by his sister, Barbara Tesoro Finegan of Little Silver, New Jersey, and his sister-in-law Eileen Lennon, and his three children Michael Richard Tesoro Jr. (Robin Herrick Tesoro) of Windsor, Massachusetts, Jennifer Tesoro Reese (Michael J. Reese) of Larkspur, California, and Todd Lennon Tesoro of Salisbury, and 5 grandchildren Aidan Reese, Eloise Reese, Lily Reese, Francesca Tesoro, and Nicholas Tesoro.

A memorial service will be held on May 17, 2025, at 1:30pm at the Trinity Lime Rock Church in Lakeville, CT.

OBITUARIES

Michael Richard Tesoro, MD



More obituaries on Page A4

OUR TOWNS

Warming to winter pruning

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Tips on prudent pruning and how to do it properly during the cold months were the order of the day at the Town Hall on Saturday, Feb. 8, as local expert gardener Maryanne Snow-Pitts, a Wassaic resident for 23 years, shared her extensive know-how.

The pruning workshop was sponsored by the Amenia Garden Club and attracted about 30 residents of mixed experience who sought to know more about proper techniques for winter pruning of trees and bushes. The Town Hall's grounds provided prime examples of bushes and trees needing some expert attention.

During an information session before the start of the snipping, clipping and sawing, Snow-Pitts shared advice on how to approach the work and bring about a good outcome.

"It's best to avoid hacking at plants badly," Snow-Pitts advised. "When your pruner is sharp — and clean — it's the best time to prune," she added.

Observing the optimal shape of the tree or bush and how the plant is growing, whether reaching horizontally toward sun, for example, are important considerations,

Snow-Pitts said. She focused also on how to prune prior mistakes, such as steady pruning of the branch tips, a debilitating action that will eventually deprive the core of the plant of sunlight.

"Don't prune more than one-third of live wood at a time," she cautioned, favoring diversity in cuts that will create branches of varying lengths. She advised identifying and removing dead wood first and taking out the larger old canes to promote new, healthier growth.

Library to host winter gardening talk Feb. 22

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — A winter gardening talk, co-sponsored by the Amenia Garden Club and the Amenia Free Library, will be held at the library on Saturday, Feb. 22, beginning at 2 p.m. The guest speaker will be environmental advocate Michelle Alfandari of Sharon, Connecticut, founder and developer of the "Homegrown National Park" program.

The Homegrown National Park program supports biodiversity and promotes the planting and nurturing of native species of plants while removing non-native invasive species from the garden.

The two-hour event is free. Advance registration is not required. Refreshments will be provided.



Tent.

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Treat yourself to a wonderful adventure for Valentine's weekend with a visit to Ripley's Waterfowl Conservancy in Litchfield. Ordinarily this is closed until the beginning of May, but to celebrate Valentine's, they are open with reservations to have tours of their grounds. They have 90 different species of waterfowl from around the world and all will be in their mating plumage, so it's a great time to experience this magical display of wildlife. For more information, please visit: www.ripleyconservancy.org/ducks-in-love-2025

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FIRE *Continued from Page A1*

quick to point out the safety and sufficiency of the village's water supply. Samples have been repeatedly taken for quality assurance purposes, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation as well as the Board of Health have greenlit the village's water supply.

Najdek also pointed out that, despite the devastation to the structure, the water system remained functional and properly chlorinated with the aid of a temporary system involving well #1, and drinking water was continuously fit for human consumption.

While the rebuilding pro-

cess will take time, Najdek is heartened by the response to the fire, not just from the Millerton community but also from the region.

"Every municipality has stepped up. The Town of North East did a great job of assisting with plowing," she said, explaining trucks from the township cleared snow from village streets in the early hours of the morning of the fire, lifting one burden. The Town of East Fishkill also assisted by providing an engineer that day to guide village water operators in creating solutions through a provisional system which enabled the water supply to run safely

and without interruption.

Najdek conveyed gratitude to the responders, thanking the Millerton Fire Company, the North East Fire District, and the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office. She remains grateful as well to the Dutchess County Department of Public Works who loaned two trucks — one with a plow and sander and another equipped only with a plow. Additional assistance in battling the blaze and aiding in its aftermath was provided by the fire departments of Amenia, Sharon, Pine Plains, Copake, Wassaic, Falls Village, the Dutchess County Emergency Response, the

Dutchess County Fire Investigation Division, and the New York State Police.

North East town supervisor Chris Kennan emphasized the importance of unity as the village regroups from the fire. He also credited the North East Fire District for their quick action.

"I'm glad we were able to help. We're so grateful to them for being on the scene ... They did a wonderful job," Kennan said. He noted that while the village and the township are separate entities, the common cause is what matters most. "We are two governments", said Kennan, "and one community."

WATER *Continued from Page A1*

Board of Health.

According to the 2023 annual drinking water report, the Village's water system has been serving approximately 2,000 residents, some being located in the town, through 600 service connections. Even with the Village losing one of its wells, according to Dellaghelfa, residents did not experience any water service gaps that day due to the fire. However, some may have seen a brief cut the following day which was caused by a water leak. "We're moving as fast as we can on it. We have to demo out the building. We have to make a temporary structure to house everything, and then we can go," Dellaghelfa said, explaining the New York State Department of Health had tested the well for safety purposes.

Located on Route 22, the Millerton Water Department has been housing two 10-inch diameter well shafts in an unconsolidated aquifer, filtering through 50 feet of sand and gravel. The water is then pumped into an elevated

storage tank, which is chlorinated at the pumping location before going out to residents. For now, the Village's water will be conditioned as required and pumped from well number one, the "doghouse," to a water tank.

"I lost my office, my computer. I lost everything. I had some of my own stuff in there ... It's a big change because we were pretty used to working out of there," Dellaghelfa said. "We did a lot of our own mechanical stuff for the equipment in there, and so now we're having to share with other people. It's different."

Shortly after the fire, the Village of Millerton declared a state of emergency, effective Monday, Feb. 3. It will be in effect for 30 days or until it is reversed by Najdek.

"Luckily, the town of North East has been helping us, and they just let us work in their new facility up here, which is beautiful," said Dellaghelfa. "If it wasn't for them, I don't know what we would have done."

SKATING *Continued from Page A1*

"This is a good opportunity for Amenia and Silo Ridge to collaborate and bring events to the town," said new Amenia Recreation Director Paul Bogin. "This will lead to more events for people to enjoy."

"It's been a long time coming," added Mark Hussey, Director of VIBE at Silo Ridge, responsible for setting the mood of the field club's atmosphere for its residents. He said he was pleased to see the town being able to use the ice.

Also attending to the details of the open skate day were Zachary Spencer, outdoor pursuits coordinator and outdoor pursuits attendant Maebel Spencer — no relation.

Their efforts kept the fire pit stoked with wood, and a variety of tasks to ensure the skating experience would be positive for all.

"The more the merrier," said Zachary Spencer, noting that the open rink idea was under consideration for a long time. "It's definitely

something I support."

He was pleasantly surprised, he said, to see the local visiting skaters had impressive skating talent, some even managing some figure skating moves.

"It's good to see the public enjoying it, the town coming together," Maebel Spencer observed.

"It's a good vibe," Hussey added, pleased by the evident sense of community brought about by the event.

Little Sloane Oksenhendler, 4, of Clinton Corners was fearlessly enthusiastic about the experience, not her first time on skates, nor her last.

Finding it fun, she managed to skate along and remain upright with the help of an ingenious "walker" box for use on ice.

"I'm going to invite all of my friends to come skating with me," Sloane said, adding that she particularly loved how they — the other skaters — do tricks on the ice.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

New Amenia Recreation Supervisor Paul Bogin was on hand on Monday, Feb. 3, for the first of three Open Rink community events sponsored by the Recreation Department in collaboration with Silo Ridge where the rink is located. The free community skating will be repeated on Monday, Feb. 24, inviting local and area skaters to enjoy using the expansive rink. Registration required.

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LOVE *Continued from Page A1*

and mayor William Bradley, was immediately attracted to John, originally from New York City, but who had relocated to the area as a ten-year-old. "I wanted to dance with him," she said, reflecting on their first meeting. They were both 19 at the time.

By 21 they were married. For reasons she can't explain, Diane felt very strongly about waiting until adulthood to marry. At one time, 21 was the legal age to wed in Connecticut. The law has since been amended to allow persons 18 and over to marry.

Diane, who describes herself as practical, is from a large family which includes seven siblings. While planning the wedding, which took place in 1963, she worried over expenses, so she recycled a dress which had belonged to one of her sisters. When her sister wore the dress ten years earlier, hoops were in style for brides of the times. But when it was Diane's turn, she swapped out the expansive skirt to reflect the clean-lined styles of the early 1960s. "I wore the dress without a hoop," she said, explaining that her mother, a skilled seamstress, assisted her with perfecting the headpiece.

Their wedding was held at St. John's Episcopal Church in Salisbury with the reception following at the Millerton Gun Club. In keeping with both Diane and John's penchant for modesty, the reception was not an overly

elaborate affair. There was no live band, and the venue was very practically adorned with bows being tied onto the antlers of the deer heads mounted on the wall. "We had soft drinks and sandwiches," the couple both recalled.

After the wedding, "it was like we became one," John said.

"We're very compatible," said Diane, who remains in sync with her husband after all these years. "Same foods, same personalities." The couple settled locally, ricocheting between Amenia, Millerton and Sharon before returning to Millerton. John, a natural salesman, served as a factory representative for Amana, KitchenAid and SpeedClean. He takes pride in his past working experience, saying, "I helped pioneer the microwave oven." Diane went full circle and landed back at Sharon Hospital where she worked as a medical transcriptionist.

In their 61 years together, the couple raised two children born three years apart — daughter, Deborah, now an IT professional employed by Dutchess County, and son, Eric, now a retired respiratory therapist living in Wyoming. Deborah, however, is not far from her parents, and lives a mere two doors down.

The couple credits the longevity of their union to familial influences. Diane's parents were married 68 years, and one of her brothers was married for 63 years.

They also possess a shared

sense of responsibility, both socially and fiscally, having once fallen into the trap of easy purchasing with a Sears credit card, a regret which was rectified in a timely fashion with hard work and common-sense.

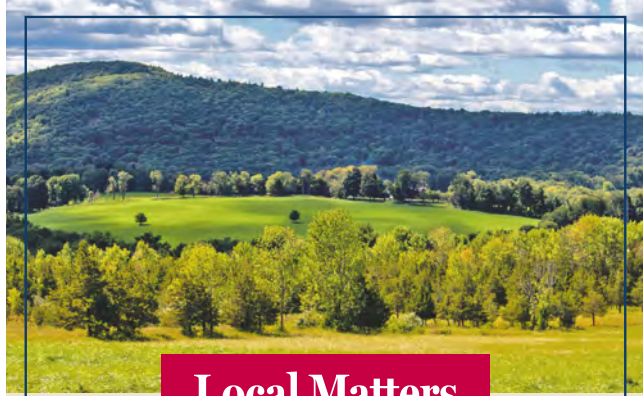
"We've lived below our means," said John. "That's so important." Diane agreed with her husband once again, saying, "Each contributed to the marriage financially and emotionally." John also noted avoiding mood-altering pitfalls has been instrumental. "No alcohol, no drugs," he stated.

One disagreement the couple did have centered around the possibility of relocating to North Carolina. While John supported a move down

south about ten years ago, Diane couldn't get onboard with the idea, saying it was probably one of the biggest differences the couple experienced in their relationship. John has since abandoned the idea, saying, "We're too old now."

Regardless of the march of time, the couple remains active. Diane often meets friends for bowling dates and spends time at the library. John enjoys walking, using the computer, and confesses he spends too much time watching TV. They're also dog parents to their German Shepherd, Kim, whom they both adore.

Despite their similarities and their differences, John is certain of one thing — "I'm proud to be married for over 60 years."



Local Matters

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

ART: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Joy Brown's retrospective celebrates 50 years of women at Hotchkiss

This year, The Hotchkiss School is marking 50 years of co-education with a series of special events, including an exhibition by renowned sculptor Joy Brown. "The Art of Joy Brown," opening Feb. 15 in the Tremaine Art Gallery, offers a rare retrospective of Brown's work, spanning five decades from her early pottery to her large-scale bronze sculptures.

"It's an honor to show my work in celebration of fifty years of women at Hotchkiss," Brown shared. "This exhibition traces my journey—from my roots in pottery to the figures and murals that have evolved over time."

Co-curated by Christine Owen, Hotchkiss ceramics instructor, and Joan Baldwin, curator of special collections, the scale and scope of the exhibition was inspired by a recent Ed Ruscha retrospective in Los Angeles. "I thought it would be incredible to showcase all these different aspects of Joy's work," said Owen, who has known Brown for over 30 years.

Brown's father, a Presbyterian missionary and medical doctor, opened a hospital in Japan where Brown grew up and cultivated her love of clay. Her first apprenticeship was in Tomba, a region in Hyogo Prefecture known for its ancient pottery kilns and Tambayaki pottery. "There are thousands of years of continuous history of clay there and I was working with a 13th generation potter," Brown recalled that as part of her early training, her teacher handed her a sake cup and said, "make these." With no extra instruction given, Brown proceeded to make thousands of copies of the cup. Never fired, she realized that the pieces were an exercise. She explained, "You're not really making something, you're participating in a process that these things emerge from." From there, she embarked on an apprenticeship with master potter Shigeyoshi Morioka. As part of the process she learned from Morioka, Brown has built a 30-foot-long wood-firing tunnel kiln



on her property in Kent, Connecticut, where she fires her work once a year in an intensive month-long process. The fire's natural interaction with the clay creates unique earth tones and ash patterns, highlighting the raw beauty of the material.

"I learned not just pottery but a whole way of life," she recalled. "The work is a continuous process—like practicing a signature until it evolves into something uniquely yours." Her figures, initially emerging as playful puppets, have since evolved into large-scale sculptures now found in public spaces from Shanghai to Broadway to Hotchkiss's own campus.

Brown's seven-foot "Sitter with Head in Hands" was installed near Ford Food Court in October, followed by "Recliner with Head in Hands" near Hotchkiss's Main Building in November. She welcomes interaction with her sculptures, encouraging visitors to touch them and even dress them with scarves or hats. "These figures transcend gender, age, and culture," Brown noted. "They're kind of like when you're 4 years old and you



PHOTOS BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Joy Brown installing work for her show at the Tremaine Art Gallery at Hotchkiss.

didn't know or care what you were, you know? All of us meet in that field and I think people resonate with that."

In conjunction with the exhibition, Hotchkiss will host a screening of "The Art of Joy Brown," a documentary by Eduardo Montes-Bradley, followed by a panel discussion with the artist and filmmaker on March 6 in Walker Auditorium. Brown will also serve as an artist-in-residence, collaborating with students on special projects.

On being part of the celebration of women at Hotchkiss Brown said, "Fifty years ago, I was deep in the mountains of Japan, immersed in clay." With a soft spoken and almost childlike quality, Brown spoke about and interacted

with her pieces with curiosity, reverence and wonder.

"The practice of working with clay for all these years is grounding and centering for me. It challenges me," she said. "The work forces me to put myself out there. It's not just the making of the pieces that make me

Continued on next page



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Yale professor Elihu Rubin led discussions before and after "The Brutalist" screening at Triplex Cinema on Feb. 2. He highlighted how the film brings architecture into focus, inviting the audience to explore Brutalism as both a style and a theme.

FILM: ROBIN RORABACK

Special screening of 'The Brutalist' at the Triplex Cinema

A special screening of "The Brutalist" was held on Feb. 2 at the Triplex Cinema in Great Barrington. Elihu Rubin, a Henry Hart Rice Associate Professor of Architecture and Urban Studies at Yale, led discussions both before and after the film.

"The Brutalist" stars Adrien Brody as fictional character, architect Laszlo Toth, a Hungarian-born Jewish architect. Toth trained at the Bauhaus and was interred at the concentration camp Buchenwald during World War II. The film tells of his struggle as an immigrant to gain back his standing and respect as an architect. Brody was winner of the Best Actor Golden Globe, while Bradley Corbet, director of the film, won best director and the film took home the Gold-

en Globe for Best Film Drama. They have been nominated again for Academy Awards.

Laszlo Toth goes to work in his cousin's furniture store when he arrives in New York, living in the storeroom and helping his cousin build up the business. When his cousin's wife falsely accuses him of making a pass at her, he ends up living in a homeless shelter.

A would-be patron tracks him down, finds him working construction—the only job he can get—and asks, "Tell me, why is an accomplished foreign architect shoveling coal here in Philadelphia?"

Eventually, Toth gains a commission but faces prejudice as a foreigner and Jew, even though

Continued on next page

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Local Matters

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Winter inspiration for meadow, garden and woods

Chances are you know or have heard of Jeb Breece. He is one of a handful of the Northwest Corner's "new guard" — young, talented and interesting people with can-do spirit — whose creative output makes life here even nicer than it already is.

Breece's outward low-key nature belies his achievements which would appear ambitious even for a person without a full-time job and a family. The third season of his "Bad Grass" speaker series is designed with the dual purpose of reviving us from winter doldrums and illuminating us on a topic of contemporary gardening — by which I mean gardening that does not sacrifice the environment for the sake of beauty nor vice versa. There are two upcoming talks taking place at the White Hart: Feb. 20 featuring Richard Hayden from New York City's High Line and March 6 where Christopher Koppel will riff on nativars. You won't want



to miss either.

An investment manager by trade, Breece and his wife Sabina rented a weekend house in Kent in 2011 just after they had their first child. Soon after he began to volunteer at a nearby farm and then started to cultivate a small cutting flower bed. Breece's insight — that it is a rare farmer who is great at both growing and selling — led him in 2020 to aggregate demand and supply for cutting flowers by creating a monthly flower market at Kent Barns in collaboration with RT Facts. Coinciding with Covid, the outdoor market became, in many ways, a respite during a challenging time.

Covid provoked Breece and Sabina to move full time to Salisbury. Soon after, he met Page Dickey who had



PHOTO BY JEB BREECE

Breece Meadow

just published her book "Uprooted." Had it not been for this book and his friendship with Dickey, Breece admits that his front yard would have been landscaped with a version of boxwood and liatris and the existing grass lawn would have been maintained at great expense. Dickey introduced him to organic landscaper Mike Nadeau and a meadow was born. Meadows. I have

written quite a bit about them in this column, in part because a meadow can be a wholesale solution to the lawn issue. It is by no means the only solution but, for a large expanse, it can be extraordinary to behold. The creation of a biodiverse native habitat where there was only a version of grass and weed is a sensation-filled wonder, but it does take a while to achieve this

graceful state unless you have the wisdom of Nadeau — and his machinery — behind you. Now going into its fourth year, the Breece meadow has evolved as new native perennials and grasses show up. "It is beautiful to look at from the house but is best experienced from its interior where you can see, hear and feel the life around you."

While his world view on gardening has changed, Breece doesn't think of himself as an advocate of native habitats. But he is. The proceeds from Bad Grass this year will go to its 2025 partner project, Steep Rock Preserve's "Holiday House" project to transform the space into a "ruin garden," preserving its historical significance while enhancing its natural beauty and restoring native vegetation.

The spongy moth infestation of 2021 and 2022 feels both a long time ago and like yesterday. Walking in the woods, as I did this morning, the effects of spongy moth are more visible than they were last year; the winter winds have blown off the dead limbs from trees that succumbed to the voracious moths' leaf-eating appetites. On our property we were

able to save many trees using BtK and trunk wraps. But most of the truly glorious giant oaks — some well over 70 feet tall and almost as wide — succumbed. Now, several years later, these limbs are taking down smaller trees as they fall to the ground. There is not much to do about it right now unless you can safely relocate a fallen branch that has landed on and distorted an otherwise living tree. Events like this are a reminder of how many young tree recruits we need to ensure the viability of a woodland. This spring there will be quite a bit more light reaching the woodland floor as a result of the dead trees. The open canopy means an opportunity for growth. It is up to us to decide what will grow in these spaces as, without our intervention, they will be overgrown with invasives, prohibiting native trees from growing and destroying a previously viable habitat. Look for these spaces and pull out the invasives as they grow in. For more on the topic go to www.theungardener.com/articles/the-over-under-a-bet-on-the-future-of-the-woods

Dee Salomon 'ungardens' in Litchfield County.

THEATER

Sharon Playhouse announces 2025 season line-up

The Sharon Playhouse has announced its 2025 MainStage and YouthStage lineups, featuring a vibrant mix of music, comedy, and thrilling drama from May through December.

The season kicks off with "Million Dollar Quartet" (June 20 through July 6), followed by the beloved family musical "Annie" (July 26 through Aug. 10). The fun continues with the comedy "Sylvia" (Aug. 29 through Sep. 7), and the season concludes with the suspenseful "The Mousetrap" (Sept. 26 through Oct. 5).

YouthStage performances include "Sharon Playhouse Stars," "Finding Nemo Jr.," "101 Dalmatians Kids," and an exciting new original play

"The Great Amusement Park Mystery." A pre-professional program, The Launchpad Company, will debut with "Once Upon a Mattress."

The season will kick off with the Spotlight Gala on May 31, honoring Sharon Playhouse Board President Emily Soell and feature special events like a staged reading of "Love Letters" (Feb. 15) and Charles Busch's "Die, Mommie, Die!" (Sept. 12).

"From our Spotlight Gala in May to our Holiday Youth Show in December, there's truly something for everyone this season," said Artistic Director Carl Andress.

Tickets range from \$25-\$55. For more information, visit www.SharonPlayhouse.org.

... 'The Brutalist' Continued from previous page

he and his wife, who he reunites with after she'd been in the concentration camp, Dachau, are both highly educated — she is an Oxford graduate and an established writer in their home country of Hungary.

Rubin began his discussion before the screening by saying, "I am thrilled this film has brought architecture to the forefront. There is something so fascinating and robust about the space Brutalist architecture creates."

Brutalism is known for using "raw materials," such as brick and concrete in ways that leave them visible. Rubin said that concrete is "incredibly expressive. It comes to the building site as

mud and becomes what it is poured out as."

"At first," said Rubin, "optimism was associated with Brutalism."

Brutalism came to the forefront of architecture in the 1950's when it was used to reconstruct housing in the United Kingdom after WWII.

Some prime examples of Brutalist architecture include Boston City Hall, Rudolph Hall at Yale University, and the Temple Street Parking Garage in New Haven.

Rubin commented, "Brutalist architecture became the de-facto language of government and institutional architecture."

Rubin said Brutalism began to fall out of favor in the 1970's when it be-

gan to be associated with urban decay and totalitarian governments, who used it extensively.

Rubin asked the audience to consider two questions as they watched the film: "Why is the main character an architect... what does it bring to the emotional core?" and, "Who or what is the Brutalist in the film?"

After the screening, Rubin commented that Brutalist architecture is about "Getting an object to, ultimately, stand by itself." Rubin explained that Brutalism "Throws off shadows of the past. No extraneous detail is left." Audience members discussed how this could

also be true of the character of Laszlo.

Rubin explained that architects face the challenge of "how to express themselves through someone else's commission." Discussion involved how Laszlo finds a way to achieve this.

The audience agreed that the film brought up some timely issues about immigration, class awareness, and acceptance, while asking them to consider how Brutalism applies to these subjects. The movie is at times, as rawly constructed as a brutalist building.

...Joy Brown

Continued from previous page

more whole, the pieces themselves become more present."

Brown reflected on the retrospective nature of the show and shared that putting it together has been like looking at a family album. "It's kind of like I'm seeing my whole life in front of me," she said. "It's humbling and makes me think about why I do what I do. It comes back to the

idea of those thousands of sake cups, you know? We're just here, being as present as we can be. We're not making things, we're participating in a process of being more present, and all that spirit is reflected in the work."

"The Art of Joy Brown" opens Feb. 15 and runs through April 6. For more information, visit www.hotchkiss.org.

2025 BOOK STUDY WITH KEITH MOON

Khrushchev
THE MAN AND HIS ERA
WILLIAM TAUBMAN

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize

We welcome back Keith Moon as he leads us through *Khrushchev: The Man and His Era* by William Taubman. This book is the first in-depth and comprehensive American biography of Nikita Khrushchev, and won a 2004 Pulitzer Prize as well as the National Book Critics Circle Award.

Register by going to noblehorizons.org/events-activities, or scan the QR code below.

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PHOTO BY PATRICK SULLIVAN

Jessi Chacho allowed children to gently pet a rescued kitten.

EDUCATION:
PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Kitten rescuer visits Hunt Library

Jenia Booth of Warren, Connecticut, runs a kitten rescue organization, Sophia L'Orange Kitten Rescue. She came to the David M. Hunt Library Saturday morning, Feb. 1, to tell an audience of mostly small children what the work entails.

From her website: "Our mission is to take in pregnant cats, nursing cats with kittens, and orphan kittens who are in need of a safe haven; foster them in a home environment, provide vet care, and adopt them out to loving families."

Accompanying Booth were two women who

have fostered cats, Laura Ledan of Litchfield and Jessi Chacho of New Fairfield. The latter had a black kitten handy for the youngsters to pet.

Booth emphasized several times how critical it is to be patient with rescued cats and kittens.

"You have to learn how to let the kitty get used to things.

"Start off slowly. Be gentle. Let the kitty come to you."

She said the hardest part of fostering cats is knowing when to let them move on.

"I can't have eight cats, but I can find eight loving families."



Jenia Booth explained how cat rescue works.

Valentine's Day preview

Looking for the perfect way to celebrate love this Valentine's Day? Whether it's music, food, or just some good old-fashioned romance, there's something for everyone—because let's be honest, we could all use a little more love!

Wednesday, Feb. 12
28th Annual Chocolate Fest. 3:30 p.m. at the Kent Center School Cafeteria (9 Judd Ave., Kent). Proceeds benefit the Kent Center School Scholarship Fund. Fill a plate for \$5 with delicious chocolate creations. Email for more info: info@kcssf.org.

Thursday, Feb. 13 & Saturday, Feb. 15
Fleece Pillow Making Workshop at David M. Hunt Library (63 Main St., Falls Village) The DM Hunt Library is making heart pillows to give to seniors for 'Random Acts of Kindness' Week! Workshops will be held Thursday, Feb. 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. or Saturday, Feb. 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Learn to make knot-tie, no-sew pillows for local seniors. Use donated fabric and patterns or bring your own.

Thursday, Feb. 13
Senior Sweetheart Supper at Sharon Hospital (50 Hospital Hill Rd., Sharon) 3:45-5:00 p.m. – buffet dinner. 5 to 5:30 p.m. – Guest speaker Sheri Harrison, MD. Dr. Harrison is a general cardiologist, board-certified in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular disease by the American Board of Internal Medicine. For reservations: contact Rebecca Moreira at Rebecca.Moreira@nuvancehealth.org or call (860)364-4237

Friday, Feb. 14
Friendship Bracelets at NorthEast-Millerton Library (75 Main St., Millerton) 3 to 4 p.m. It isn't too late to make a last-minute Valentine present for a friend! Make bracelets with beads and/or embroidery thread. No experience necessary. All are welcome.

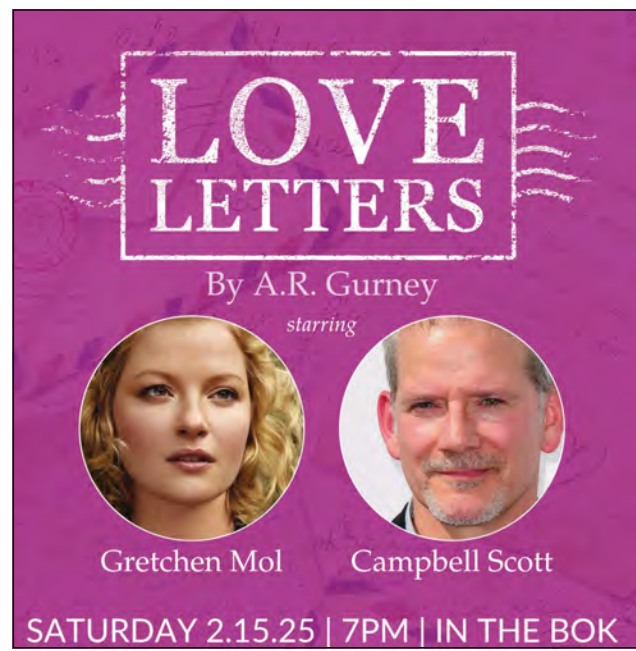
Friday, Feb. 14
Valentine's Day Screening of Classic Romantic Film, "Roman Holiday" at The Triplex Cinema (70 Railroad St., Great Barrington) at 5 p.m. Starring Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck, this beloved romantic comedy won three Academy Awards and was shot on location in Rome. Directed by William Wyler, the film is a timeless classic. Tickets at thetriplex.org.

Friday, Feb. 14
A Steamship Feast at Stissing House (7801 S. Main St., Pine Plains) Arrive between 6:30-7 pm; dinner starts at 7. No vegetarian, vegan, or pescatarian options. Note allergies in your reservation or email feasts@stissinghouse.com. Enjoy snacks and drinks in the upstairs bar, followed by a long-table feast in The Barn with cocktails, punch, wine, and dessert.

Tickets are for two; email feasts@stissinghouse.com for group seating requests.

Friday, Feb. 14
Valentine's Day Dinner Party at Ward's Nursery (600 Main St., Great Barrington) After Hours, a new aged, community-centric outfit is hosting a Valentine's Dinner at Ward's Nursery. There will be a cozy, 7-course vegetable-forward feast served family-style in the greenhouse. Enjoy a cocktail hour, live music by Glori Wilder, and a vibrant winter escape! Reservations: www.afterhoursgb.com

To advertise your event, call 860-435-9873 or email advertising@lakevillejournal.com



Friday, Feb. 14
Valentine's Day Dinner & Dance at Coe Park Civic Center (101 Litchfield St., Torrington) 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Located at the Coe Park Civic Center, the Recreation Department is hosting a fun night of music and food for couples or friends. A buffet style dinner from Jimmy's Store with desserts will be included in the price. Sequel, a fun jam band, will be playing music from all decades to get you in the right mood to sway your hips, clap your hands, and sing along. Reservations: (860)489-2274

Friday, Feb. 14
Jungle Love Dance Party at Stissing Center (2950 Church St., Pine Plains) at 7 p.m. Voted Best Band & Best Party Band in the Hudson Valley, Jungle Love is more than a band—it's an experience. Fronted by award-winning singer Cher, this powerhouse group features musicians who've played with legends like The Isley Brothers, Aretha Franklin, and Ben E. King. Get ready for a high-energy journey through the best of Classic Soul, R&B, Motown, Disco, and Funk. This event is FREE.

Saturday Feb. 15
Love Letters at Sharon Playhouse (49 Amenia Rd., Sharon) at 7 p.m. Sharon Playhouse presents a special benefit reading of Love Letters by A.R. Gurney, starring Gretchen Mol (Boardwalk Empire) and Campbell Scott (House of Cards), directed by Artistic Director Carl Andress. Experience this intimate, one-night-only event exploring love and connection. Proceeds support the Playhouse's arts and education programs. Tickets: sharonplayhouse.org/love-letters

Saturday, Feb. 15
A Midwinter's Night in the Village at David M. Hunt Library (63 Main St., Falls Village) from 6 to 8 p.m. Enjoy an evening of homemade breads, chocolate treats, poetry, and songs celebrating love. Live music by Galactic Overtones, plus wine, beer, and non-alcoholic drinks included. huntlibrary.org/midwinter | 860-824-7424

- In a world that could always use more love, here's your chance to spread it—whether through music, food, laughter, or sweet treats. Enjoy!

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

FEBRUARY 13

Random Acts of Kindness Week

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

Feb. 9 to 15 is Random of Kindness Week! Join us at the David M. Hunt Library as we work to spread kindness the whole week long.

(All Week) Food Drive for Fishes and Loaves - Non-perishable food donations will be accepted at the library to be donated to local pantry Fishes and Loaves, who serves the Falls Village - North Canaan - Norfolk community.

(2/13 and 2/15) Fleece Pillow-Making Workshops - Join us on Thursday, Feb. 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. or Saturday, Feb. 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. as we make knot-tie, no-sew pillows for local seniors.

(2/14) Kindness Cards Celebration - On Feb. 14 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., make kindness cards for a friend, family member, neighbor, or anyone you think needs some extra cheer. Afterwards, enjoy some hot chocolate and treats with friends at the library. This is a free drop-in program.

Senior Sweetheart Supper

Sharon Hospital Cafe, Sharon, Conn.

On Thursday, Feb. 13 there will be a Senior Sweetheart Supper at Sharon Hospital Cafe. From 3:45 to 5 p.m. there will be a buffet dinner and from 5 to 5:30 pm there will be a guest speaker: Sheri Harrison, MD, Cardiology. Dr. Harrison is a general cardiologist, board-certified in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

RSVP by Feb. 10. For reservations, please contact Rebecca Moreira at rebecca.moreira@nuvancehealth.com or (860) 364-4237.

Democracy Cup Award

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

For earning the highest voter turnout in the 2024 election, Secretary of State Stephanie Thomas will present the Democracy Cup to the

Last week's WotW

A	M	A	Z	E
M	O	I	S	T
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Town of Cornwall at Town Hall Thursday, Feb. 13 at 1 p.m. Poll workers will be recognized. The public is invited to attend.

FEBRUARY 14

Live Comedy

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

Laugh it up and help out a worthy cause when "Friends From Work: 10 Years of Comedy" presents "Live, Laugh, Love" at the Canaan Colonial Theatre Feb. 14. The evening of adult humor will be hosted by veteran home town comic Ronnie Reed who will be joined by headliner Jerrold Benford. The show will feature Ralph Anthony and opener Scott Bongiorno. An appearance by Vemilo will round out the evening. Donations will be accepted to help with Robert Pope's medical expenses. A cocktail hour (cash bar) runs from 6 to 7 p.m., and the show runs from 7 to 9 p.m. Tickets (\$40) are available online at canaancolonial.com.

Galentine's Day at the Library

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibrary.org

Celebrate Galentine's Day at Hotchkiss Library of Sharon Feb. 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. Gather your best gals for an evening of Valentine's Day trivia, make your own friendship bracelets and bath salts bar and a free lucky door raffle. Let's celebrate friendship, love, and all things amazing — just like YOU! People without significant others often feel left out during Valentine's Day, but everyone has someone they adore. To make people feel more included, a new holiday tradition emerged, known as Galentine's Day. Registration is required for this event: hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/13689370.

A Steamship Feast

Stissing House, 7801 S. Main St., Pine Plains, N.Y.

On Feb. 14, in addition to our usual service in the Tavern, we're hosting a feast upstairs. Sit side-by-side at long tables in our barn, eat plates of slow-cooked Steamship Round (google it), and music to sway to with dessert.

Tickets and full menu for the Feast are available here: resy.com/cities/pine-plains-ny/venues/stissing-house/events/steamship-feast-2025-02-14

To book for Valentine's for our usual fare on the 14th, book here: resy.com/cities/pine-plains-ny/venues/stissing-house

Jon Kopita: Read Between the Lines

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

The exhibit dates for Jon Kopita: Read Between the Lines will be from Feb. 14 to March 21. There will be a reception on Saturday, Feb. 22, 4 to 6 p.m. and an art talk on Thursday, Feb. 27, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The exhibition features Jon Kopita's framed drawings, exploring language, syntax, meaning, and identity. Includes "Untitled: Pandemic," marking the 5-year anniversary of the COVID lockdown.

Contact: (860) 824-7424 / huntlibrary.org

FEBRUARY 15

Birth, Death, and Alphabets: The Enduring Legacy of Schoolgirl Needleworks Before 1850

Salisbury Association Historical Society Academy Building, Salisbury, Conn.

The Salisbury Association's Historical Society is hosting an Opening Reception on Saturday, Feb. 15 from 4 to 6 p.m. for its new exhibit, "Birth, Death, and Alphabets: The Enduring Legacy of Schoolgirl Needleworks Before 1850." The exhibit will highlight samplers stitched by girls, mostly aged 5 to 16, between 1689 and 1850. Remarkable for their inventiveness and beauty, needlework samplers are historical documents written by girls on silk and linen with needles.

Late Night Classics: Mulholland Drive

The Moviehouse, Millerton, N.Y.

On Saturday, Feb. 15 at 9 p.m., there will be a screening of the film Mulholland Drive at the Millerton Moviehouse. Presented in memory & celebration of the work of David Lynch.

Director/Writer: David Lynch

Cast: Naomi Watts, Laura Harring, Justin Theroux, Jeanna Bates

A dark-haired woman is left amnesiac after a car crash. She wanders the streets of Los Angeles in a daze before taking refuge in an apartment. There she is discovered by Betty, a wholesome Midwestern blonde who has come to the City of Angels seeking fame as an actress.

Together, the two attempt to solve the mystery of Rita's true identity. The story is set in a dream-like Los Angeles, spoilt neither by traffic jams nor smog.

Chris Hayes, The Sirens' Call

Ulster Performing Arts Center, Kingston, N.Y.

On Saturday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m., Chris Hayes examines how attention capitalism has reshaped our society and politics.

\$47 (Includes a hardcover copy of the book)

www.ticketmaster.com/event/00006170C1675626

The Art of Joy Brown Exhibition

Tremaine Art Gallery, The Hotchkiss School, 11 Interlaken Road, Lakeville, Conn.

The Art of Joy Brown Exhibition will be on view from Feb. 15 – April 6 at the Tremaine Art Gallery.

This exhibit showcases the evolution of internationally renowned sculptor Joy Brown's work, from clay figures and wall tiles to her monumental bronze sculptures. Gallery hours are Tuesday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–4 p.m., and Sunday: noon–4 p.m. Closed Mondays. Free and open to the public.

A Midwinter's Night in the Village

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

The Friends of The David M. Hunt Library in Falls

Village will hold its annual winter fundraiser, A Midwinter's Night in the Village, at the library on Saturday, Feb. 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. (snow date Sunday, Feb. 16, 2 p.m.). The main feature is the library's famous 16-ft long bread board piled high with a variety of homemade baked goods ranging from sweet dessert loaves and hearty savory breads to delicious hors d'oeuvres and chocolate treats. For entertainment, a roster of local personalities will perform poems and songs focused on love with a dose of laughter thrown in for good measure. A special music performance by returning band, Galactic Overtones, will be a highlight of the evening. Wine, beer, and non-alcoholic refreshments are included in the ticket price. Tickets are \$20 (\$10 for children ages 3-17) and can be purchased by stopping by the library, visiting HUNTLIBRARY.ORG/MIDWINTER/ or by calling (860) 824-7424.

FEBRUARY 16

Introduction to Self-Publishing with Natalia Zukerman

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

Join writer and book publisher Natalia Zukerman on Sunday, Feb. 16, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., for an in-depth introduction

to self-publishing. Natalia will introduce platforms, outline the steps, and show examples. Learn how self-publishing can allow you take control of the process, produce handsome bound editions, and get your books into readers' hands. To register and learn more, please visit the event page, scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/13800261

FEBRUARY 17

Communicate Better

THRIVE, 96 Main St., North Canaan, Conn.

Join us at THRIVE from 7 to 8 p.m. for a one-hour workshop designed to help you communicate more effectively in your personal and professional lives. This event is facilitated by Rebecca Bloomfield, and it is open and welcoming to everyone. Rebecca employs a conversational approach toward connection and learning.

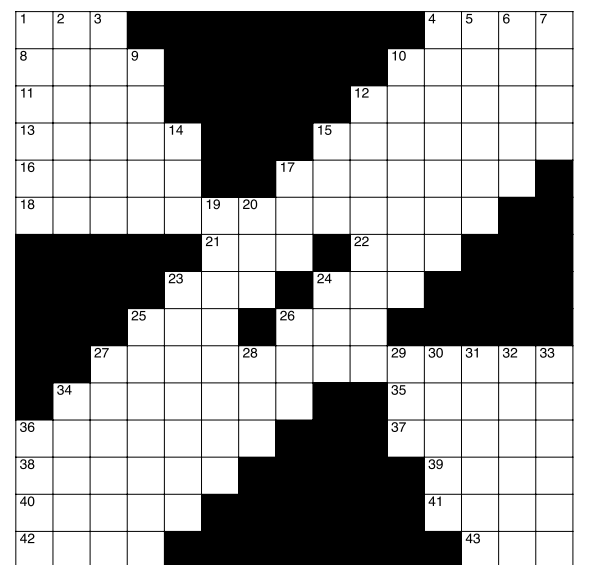
This event is free-of-charge. Pre-registration is not required. Participants may arrive as early as 6:30 pm for snacks and light refreshments.

Learn more about this event and other THRIVE offerings at aspacetothrive.org.

Brain Teasers

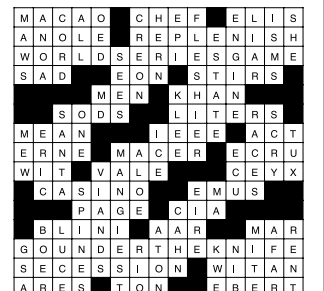
CLUES ACROSS

- Racquet sport group (abbr.)
- Norse god of thunder
- Russian industrial city
- What's good for the
- Round-ish shape
- Baltimore MLBer
- French modernist painter
- Burned with water
- Intestinal issue
- Take the lead
- Prove oneself worthy
- None
- Tax collector
- Swiss river
- Gymnast Raisman
- Baby's dining accessory
- Canadian beer distributor
- Iconic American tourist destination
- More expansive
- Alert
- Popular boots Doc
- Showings
- Conclusion
- Share a common boundary
- Shooting sport
- Popular side dish
- Global energy firm
- Chronicles (abbr.)

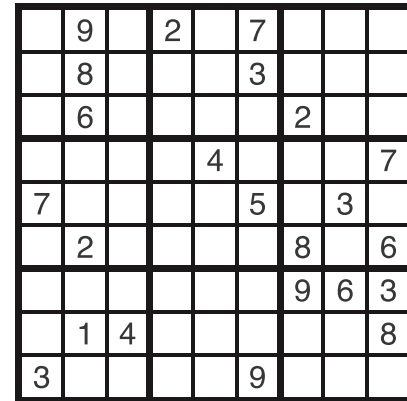


- Storehouse
- Scarlet-flowered desert shrub
- A pituitary hormone
- Female sibling
- Monetary unit of Afghanistan
- Empowering
- Space station
- Disorder
- State of fuss
- Footwear for babies
- Nuclear reactor (abbr.)
- Droves
- Affirmative
- Male parent
- Utter obscenities
- Type of verse
- Unpleasant person
- One who settles down
- Founder of source-based history
- A way to snarl

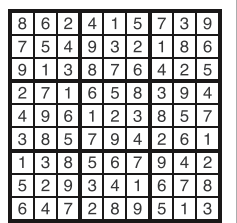
Feb. 6 Solution



Sudoku



Feb. 6 Solution



Level: Intermediate

Word of the Week

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

- Past tense of "love"
- To break into two parts
- Created from the ground up
- Sparks with tinder
- Valentine's Day sweet nothings



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OUR TOWNS

Korean food and culture visits NorthEast-Millerton Library

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

MILLERTON — Enticing aromas filled the Annex of the North East-Millerton Library when those lucky enough to have one of the thirty reservations for “A Taste of Korea: Full of Wisdom and Nature” began to arrive on Saturday, Feb. 8.

They were greeted by Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project members dressed in hanbok, the traditional Korean costume.

Presenter Younhee Shin began by explaining the culture promotion project is a worldwide non-profit organization run by volunteers who hold events such as cooking classes, cultural presentations and essay contests to promote Korean culture and history.

She said Korean food strives for “a harmony of taste, health and nature.” Typical meals, she continued, consist of bap — rice; guk — soup; a main dish of fish or meat; and banchan — usually many little dishes of various vegetables. “Kimchi is always on the table,” she noted, explaining kimchi is eaten in combination with other foods.

Shin praised the healthiness of Korean cuisine. She said Koreans are “first in the consumption of vegetables in the world.”

In addition, Koreans eat fermented foods. Two of the most important are jang — fermented sauces, usually soy sauce — and kimchi — fermented vegetables. She noted the importance of jang as foods “can’t be made without it.” Fermented foods contain probiotics which Shin explained “increase the microbiome in the gut.”

She said the fermentation of jang can take up to seventy days. Soybeans are first soaked in water, put in an iron pot, crushed, made into blocks, dried and left to ferment. The liquid left after fermentation is soy sauce, the rest is soybean paste.

“Kimchi” she went on is “one of the healthiest foods in the world. [It] can be made out of any vegetable,” said



PHOTO BY ROBIN RORABACK

Presenter Younhee Shin of Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project, explains how to cook vegetables at the presentation of “Taste of Korea” at the North-East-Millerton Library on Feb. 2. Audience members learned about Korean cooking, foods, and culture and were treated to a traditional Korean meal.

Shin. Some examples are cucumber, “very crunchy, refreshing” mustard and radish. She continued that “kimchi is healthier than yogurt.”

She commented that the kimchi sold in American supermarkets is “not kimchi. It is more like pickles.”

Shin extolled the virtues of probiotics saying they “make people’s organs at ease which helps the mind be at ease.”

Shin explained that the traditional bangjja or bronze-ware in which food is served is also beneficial to health. It enhances the taste of food, helps fight harmful bacteria and infection, and contributes healthy minerals of copper and zinc to the foods.

Younhee Shin demonstrated cooking vegetables. She diced a zucchini into small pieces, added a little sesame oil and a little salt.

She prefers bamboo salt — a salt that has been roasted nine times inside bamboo at a high temperature — but

said sea salt is acceptable. The zucchini was then lightly stir fried.

At the end of the presentation, she asked if anyone had any questions. Perhaps overwhelmed at this point by the delicious smells, an audience member asked, “When do we eat?”

Shin laughed and pointed out the menu: kimchi salad; bibimbap — rice with mixed vegetables; bulgog — soy sauce and honey marinated beef; seafood pancakes; japchae — sweet potato noodles with mixed vegetables; kimchi; honey glazed walnuts; sesame cookies; rice cakes and sikkhye — sweet rice punch.

Participants then lined up to receive food from Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project members in traditional Korean dress. The food was served in traditional bangjja bronzeware. The appreciative audience dug in.

For more information go to: www.kscpp.net



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

This mixed-use commercial residential property in the heart of Stanfordville has a four bedroom house built in 1830 and two large building in the rear of the one acre property. It sold for \$650,000.

New record home price in Stanford

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

STANFORD — Twelve properties were recorded as sold in Stanford in the month of December. Of the 10 homes sold, seven were evenly distributed at \$600,000 and below, while three were recorded above a million. One estate on Bangall Amenia Road sold for \$11.85 million, the highest sale in the town in the last ten years. Median prices remain below \$600,000 in Stanford, but every indication is pointing to increased prices.

There are currently 13 single family homes listed for sale in Stanford with six of them over a million dollars and only four for less than \$700,000 with few price reductions.

89 Charwill Drive — 3 bedroom/3 bath home on 3.1 acres sold for \$600,000.

58 Trestle Lane — 3 bedroom/2 bath house on .32 acres sold for \$465,000.

5892 Route 82 — 3 bedroom/3 bath house on .32 acres in need of renovation sold for \$140,000.

411 Cold Spring Road — 2 bedroom/1 bath house on 4.6 acres sold for \$320,000.

38 Bangall Amenia Road — 4 bedroom/3.5 bath homes on 8.55 acres sold for \$1,608,865.

110-126 Top of the Hill Lane — 4 bedroom/6.5 bath house on 28.08 acres sold for \$2.06 million.

730 Bangall Amenia Road — Box Turtle Farm 6 bedrooms/5 full bathrooms/2 half bathrooms on 4 parcels sold for \$11.85 million.

272 Hobbs Lane — 2 bedroom/1.5 bath home on 3 acres sold for \$230,000.

285-287 Willow Brook Road — 5 bedroom/2 bath home on 10.3 acres sold for \$500,000.

70-74 Fancor Road — 4 bedroom/3 bath home sold for \$581,000.

25 Fancor Road — 1.47 vacant lot sold for \$45,000.

6112-6114 Route 82 — 4 bedroom/2 bath home with additional buildings classified as “motor vehicle services” sold for \$650,000.

*Town of Stanford real estate sales recorded between Dec. 1, 2024, and Dec. 31, 2024, sourced from Dutchess County Real Property Tax Service Agency. Information on active listings taken from First Key MLS which may understate available properties. Parcel details may be accessed on Dutchess Parcel Access. Only transfers with consideration are included. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby’s International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.

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