



MILLERTON
Return on housing renovation
B5



AMENIA
Gilded Age — of scandal
A3



COMPASS
Community engagement; and more
B1-4



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Clued in

The first play in four years returned to the Webutuck Auditorium Friday, March 28. The production of *Clue* was put on entirely by students from the Webutuck Middle School and starred an ensemble cast of, from left to right, Jacob Dean as Mr. Green, Caroline Eschbach as Mrs. White, Brooke Bozydaj as Yvette, Liam Diaz as Wadsworth, Nolan Howard as Colonel Mustard, Mariah Bradley as Miss Scarlett and Lois Musgrave as Mrs. Peacock who is pictured on the floor of the stage.

Isabela, an American bistro, opens to buzz in Amenia

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — The newest restaurant in Amenia, Isabela opened to patrons on Wednesday, March 26, quickly attracting notice and local enthusiasm.

The local buzz had anticipated the opening, so much so, that patrons were eager to try out the new restaurant on its first night.

Menu choices reflect a seasonal American bistro setting, guided by chef/owner Jose Ramirez-Ruiz who terms the cuisine “vegetable forward,” celebrating the bounty of the Hudson Valley. Entrees include choices of fish, beef and chicken accompanied by fruit and vegetable-based culinary creativity.

Months of renovation preceded the opening, bringing improvements to the kitchen and dining areas.

Located at the corner of Mechanic Street and Route 343, the new dining spot will be open Wednesdays through Sundays.



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

Above, already serving Isabela bar patrons during the first moments following the new restaurant's opening, bartenders Adam and Liz were kept busy on Wednesday, March 26. Left, ready to welcome customers, Jose Ramirez-Ruiz, owner and chef at Isabela, agreed to a photo as he opened his new restaurant. Isabela brings an American bistro dining option to Amenia's commercial center.

The bar will be open 5 to 10 p.m., and the kitchen will be serving 5:30 to 9 p.m.

For information, email hello@isabela-amenia.com, or phone 845-789-1007.

County closes book on ARPA funding

By JOHN COSTON
johnc@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — Dutchess County Comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair has issued a final report on the \$57.1 million distributed to the county under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, concluding that the funding made a positive impact despite shortcomings in planning for the way money was spent.

The federal ARPA funding was a COVID-19 relief initiative, allocat-

ing \$1.9 trillion for pandemic relief that included \$350 billion for state and local governments.

Dutchess County began receiving the funds in 2021 and 2022. All \$57.1 million needed to be obligated by Dec. 31, 2024, and expended by Dec. 31, 2026.

Aymar-Blair's report, released March 24, is the final of 12 that have been issued since March 2022. The Comptroller noted that there were three different County Executives

See ARPA, PAGE A6

Lynch-VandeBogard tapped for Planning Board chair

By JOHN COSTON
Johnc@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Village trustees on Monday, March 24, voted to appoint Patti Lynch-VandeBogard to serve as chair of the Planning Board, filling a vacancy created by the recent resignation of Lance Middlebrook.

Lynch-VandeBogard was elected to the Planning Board in July 2023 for a five-year term that ends in 2028.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Patti Lynch-VandeBogard

See BOARD CHAIR, PAGE A6

Shaping history: students step up as documentarians

By PATRICK L. SULLIVAN
patrick@lakevillejournal.com

MILLERTON — High school history teachers Rhonan Mokriski and Peter Vermilyea demonstrated how they “let students lead” in studying history at The Moviehouse in Millerton Thursday, March 27.

The demonstration took the form of two documentary films made by students at Salisbury School and Housatonic Valley Re-

gional High School, plus one from Yale University's Beinecke Library.

“Coloring Our Past” from Salisbury School follows the story of the Cesar family, Black residents of Salisbury and Sharon. It also shows how the students conducted research, including field trips to the places the family lived and worked, and an interview with a descendant.

“Faces of Adversity” from

See HISTORIANS, PAGE A6



CONTACT

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OPINION

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OUR TOWNS

New Millerton eatery sets April 26 opening

By JOHN COSTON
johnc@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — A new restaurant was granted site approval by the Town of North East Planning Board on Wednesday, March 27.

Austin Cornell, a co-founder of the new eatery, has been before the Board, detailing plans for the restaurant, which will be located at the site of the former McDonald's on Route 44.

The site has been vacant for more than eight years.

At Planning Board meetings, Tallow has fielded questions from members that ranged from sewage arrangements to soffit lighting intensity, as well as lighting and landscaping treatments.

On Wednesday, after submitting a final set of site plans and answering questions about signage light, dimmers, parking-lot lighting and tree-island width, Cornell's application was unanimously approved.

"Please come," he said to the Board. "We're having an opening on April 26."

Grocery application

A public hearing that commenced on March 19 for an application to develop a supermarket in an existing site in the Millerton Square Plaza was reopened.

Ray Nelson, of Earthwise Architecture in Millerton, who represents Kim and Chris Choe, owners of the Sharon Farm Market, informed Planning Board members that the printouts of updated site plans that he planned to present to the panel were still coming out of his printer.

Nelson briefed Board members on the changes to



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Tallow, a new restaurant, will be located in the former McDonald's site on Route 44 in Millerton.

the site plan that were incorporated following the last presentation, including sign-lighting details.

The new market will offer meat and produce, a deli, a bakery and outside dining and an EV charger.

Chair Dale Culver noted that the Board couldn't take any action without a final, printed site plan. The public hearing was closed, and Nelson agreed to return — possibly later in the evening — if the printed output was ready.

Otherwise, he would await the next meeting of the Planning Board on April 9.

Nelson didn't return before the meeting was adjourned.

Public hearing

Rob Cooper, president of Associated Lightning Rod Company Inc., appeared before the Planning Board with an application for a minor subdivision and lot-line adjustment for property at 6020-6024 and 6044 Route 22.

Cooper plans to erect two commercial buildings on the land.

A public hearing was held,

yielding no comment, and the Board unanimously approved the application with little discussion.

Cell tower discussion

Sandra Oberhollenzer, of White House Crossing Road in North East, spoke during the public comment portion of the meeting about a planned 150-foot cellphone tower to be located on the east side of Route 22 just north of the intersection with Catalino Road in Ancram.

Oberhollenzer said she understood that the project is outside the confines of North East, but noted that the tower, in Ancram's Scenic Corridor Overlay Zone, is expected to be visible by North East residents.

Oberhollenzer commented on what she described as a lack of need assessment, issues related to the coverage map and a lack of a technology assessment.

A balloon test to provide visibility data has been postponed more than once due to adverse weather conditions.

The Planning Board thanked Oberhollenzer for her comments.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Play Ball!

The Webutuck Little League is getting ready for its 2025 season, with games starting later in April. The annual Opening Day Picnic will be held on Sunday, April 27, at Beekman Park in Amenia from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be provided, along with bouncy rides. Players should come dressed in uniform for the Opening Day picture. If there are any questions please email WebutuckLittleLeague@gmail.com. Above, players exchange game-over handshakes following a game on May 4, 2024, at Eddie Collins Memorial Park in Millerton.

Housing plan amendments aired

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — The nonprofit Hudson River Housing Inc. described amendments to their plans for the Cascade Creek subdivision at the regular meeting of the Planning Board on Wednesday, March 26.

The company is continuing to gather input and develop the conservation plan for the subdivision.

Planning Board engineer John Andrews clarified the parcel's acreage, indicating a final determination of 24.13 acres.

Senior Planner Peter Sander of Renna Engineering reviewed changes to the

parcel plans in response to comments from residents. Preliminary sketched lot lines have been moved to avoid the existing stream corridor, Sander said.

Traffic concerns voiced by residents led to eliminating a planned subdivision entrance on Cascade Road, instead envisioning two entrances along Route 22. Also added is a community garden feature within the stream corridor.

Andrews noted that town code allows common utilities within a conservation easement such as water and sewer so long as they do not impose on the conservation area's intent.

"This represents a positive step forward," Andrews said

of the amended conservation plan.

Board member James Walsh asked about the firmness of the plan for 28 single family homes.

"To accomplish affordable housing, you need that number to make it financially viable," replied Mary Linge, Hudson River Housing vice president for Real Estate Development.

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

Check them out inside.

• Herrington's

The Lustre Kings rock at The Millbrook Library

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — Celebrating and preserving the hard-driving rhythmic roots of rock and roll, The Lustre Kings rocked the stacks at The Millbrook Library on Saturday, March 29, as part of the Winter Concert Series, sponsored by the library and the Millbrook Arts Group.

Tracing the evolution of music and performers from the mid-1950s with Sun Records in Memphis and how those hits influenced the music of the Beatles in the early 1960s, lead singer and guitarist Mark Gamsjager and the Lustre Kings quartet allowed the audience to embrace memories of their youthful pop music cultural roots. Toes tapped and heads bobbed

"Where did rock and roll come from, anyway," was the question posed and answered by Gamsjager.

Elvis recorded "That's All Right," at Sun Records in Memphis in 1954, having paid the \$2.50 fee for the recording session, Gamsjager said, progressing through a deep repertoire of hit favorites of



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Rocking the Millbrook Library with landmark hits from the early years of rock and roll, The Lustre Kings entertained a large audience on Saturday, March 29. From left, Marcus Benoit on sax, lead singer Mark Gamsjager on guitar, Mike Lomaestro on drums, and Butch Amiot on bass.

the era including "Blue Suede Shoes," and "Blue Moon of Kentucky," originally a waltz, but "rocked up" by Presley.

"The Lustre Kings evolved to keep the music of the era alive," Gamsjager said. "It's the

music I can relate to."

The audience related to it also, calling for a double encore.

For more information on The Lustre Kings go to www.lustreking.com.

Grace Church rummage sale this weekend

MILLBROOK — Grace Church will host the "Great Whale of a Weekend Rummage Sale" starting Friday, April 4.

Shoppers can browse the large collection of items between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Friday, April 4, and Saturday,

April 5, and on Sunday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Items for sale will include clothing, children's toys, books, puzzles, games, household items, glassware, sports gear, furniture, jewelry, linens, bedding and collectibles. Everything

must go.

The Grace Church Parish Hall is located at 3328 Franklin Street in Millbrook, opposite of the Millbrook Bandshell.

The office can be reached for more information at 845-677-3064.

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PACE
People's Action for Clean Energy

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OUR TOWNS

Steamy behavior during the Gilded Age detailed at Amenia Free Library talk

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Rampant unseemly escapades, the norm among members of the social set during the Gilded Age, were detailed during a colorful talk at the Amenia Free Library on Thursday, March 27. The Gilded Age extended from about 1865 to 1914.

The featured speaker was Don Fraser of the Staatsburgh Estate, a state historic site with a stately summer mansion overlooking the Hudson River. His presentation included a selection of images which illustrated the historic narrative of the life and home of Ruth Livingston Mills, her capitalist husband, Ogden, and the wealthy socialites and aristocrats who

kept themselves amused by seamy society events and sordid sleepovers at homes such as Staatsburgh.

Fraser emphasized, however, that Ruth Mills herself modeled impeccable morals, unlike many of her houseguests.

Staatsburgh had been the 25-room childhood home of Ruth Livingston, which was expanded to 79 rooms in 1895, designed by noted architect Stanford White, in keeping with similar homes overlooking the Hudson River. The Mills' son, also Ogden — Secretary of State under Herbert Hoover — donated the home to the state in 1938.

Fraser noted that it was Mark Twain who coined the descriptive phrase, The Gilded Age, to indicate that

the lifestyles “looked good from the outside in the face of squalor and corruption.”

“All that glitters is not gold,” Fraser reminded his audience. The stories of sexual adventures and dalliances he recounted during his talk that named names drew audible gasps from his modern-day local listeners. His concluding contrast with the lives of tene-

ment dwellers during those years brought home his point.

The Staatsburgh Historic Site offers a series of themed tours, including one devoted to the scandals, along with other themes such as Titanic connections, or lives of the servants, Fraser said, inviting listeners to plan a visit to tour the mansion that is open year-round.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Regaling his listeners with scandalous tales of the Gilded Age, Don Fraser, educator at the Staatsburgh Estate, spoke at the Amenia Free Library on Thursday, March 27.

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Local Matters

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

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

Amenia Drugs NY LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/12/2025. Office: Dutchess County. Hema Patel, designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Hema Patel at 5094 Route 22 #48, Amenia, NY, US, 12501. Purpose: Retail Pharmacy.

03-27-25
04-03-25
04-10-25
04-17-25
04-24-25
05-01-25

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET, ANNUAL MEETING, SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION AND VOTE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the North East Central School District, Dutchess and Columbia Counties, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on the Budget in the High School Library at the Webutuck High School Building, 194 Haight Road, Amenia, New York, on Monday, May 6, 2025 at 6:30 P.M., for the purpose of presenting the budget document for the 2025-2026 School Year.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the budget for the 2025-2026 school year, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained by any resident of the District during business hours, between 9:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M., prevailing time, at the Webutuck Elementary School, Eugene Brooks Intermediate School, Webutuck High School and at the District Administrative Office between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., prevailing time, effective April 29, 2025, except Saturday, Sunday or holidays. Copies of the Budget will also be available at the Northeast-Millerton Library and the Amenia Free Library. A report of tax exemptions, showing how much of the total assessed value of the final assessment roll or rolls used in that budgetary process is exempt from taxation, shall be annexed to the budget document.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Annual Meeting, Election of Members of the Board of Education and Vote on the Budget of the qualified

voters of the Northeast Central School District, will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at the Webutuck High School gym, 194 Haight Road, Amenia, New York, between the hours of 12:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, when the polls will be open for the purpose of voting by voting machine:

A. To elect two (2) members to the Board of Education: Both seats are for three-year terms commencing July 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2028 to fill the vacant seats of incumbent Board Member Nichole Reyes, and incumbent Board Member Anthony Robustelli.

B. Proposition I: 2025-2026 North East (Webutuck) CSD Budget

To adopt the annual budget of the North East (Webutuck) Central School District for the fiscal year 2025-2026 and to authorize the requisite portion therefore to be raised by taxation on the taxable property on the District.

C. Proposition II: 2025-2026 Transportation Vehicle Purchase

SHALL the Board of Education of the North East (Webutuck) Central School District be authorized to: (1) acquire one (1) 2025 65-passenger school bus and two (2) Chrysler Voyager LX transportation vehicles, at a cost not to exceed \$249,190, which is estimated to be the maximum cost thereof; (2) expend such sum for such purpose; (3) levy the necessary tax therefor, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the District and/or enter into installment purchase agreements at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$249,190, and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

D. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting pursuant to the Education Law of the State of New York.

The election and budget vote shall be by machine, early voting or absentee ballot. The hours during which the poll shall be kept open shall be from 12:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, or for as

long thereafter as necessary to enable qualified voters who are in the polling place at 9:00 P.M. to cast their ballots.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that petitions for the nomination of candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education must be filed with Clerk of the District no later than Monday, April 21, 2025, by 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, in the form and manner prescribed by Section 2018 of the Education Law. Vacancies on the Board of Education are not considered separate, specific offices; candidates run at-large for the vacant seats. Such petitions must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the School District, shall state the residence address of each signer and the name and residence address of the candidate. The petition shall also describe the length of the term of the office and contain the name of the last incumbent. Petition forms may be picked up on any school day at the Office of the District Clerk, at the Webutuck High School building, 194 Haight Road, Amenia, New York between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. or on the district's website at www.webutuckschools.org beginning March 1, 2025.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the qualified voters of the School District shall be entitled to vote in said annual vote and election. A qualified voter is one who is (1) a citizen of the United States of America, (2) eighteen (18) years of age or older, and (3) resident within the School District for a period of thirty (30) days preceding the annual vote and election. The School District may require all persons offering to vote at the budget vote and election to provide one form of proof of residency pursuant to Education Law section 2018-c. Such form may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a utility bill, or a voter registration card. Upon offer of proof of residency, the School District may also require all persons offering to vote to provide their signature, printed name and address.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that early mail ballots and absentee ballots will be available for this Election and Vote.

Applications for early mail and absentee ballots for the School District Election and Vote may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk at the Webutuck High School building, Haight Road, Amenia, New York on school days during school hours, or on the district's website at www.webutuckschools.org beginning March 1, 2025 but may not be returned to the District clerk any earlier than April 21, 2025, and must be returned to the District Clerk by May 13, 2025 if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, May 19, 2025, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Early mail and absentee ballots must be received at the Office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, on the day of the Election and Vote, May 20, 2025.

The Education Law makes special provisions for absentee voting by “permanently disabled” voters of the District and any questions regarding these should be directed to the District Clerk.

A list of all persons to whom early mail ballots and absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District at the said District Administrative Offices during regular office hours, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., prevailing time, including the day of the Election and Vote. Any qualified voter may file a written challenge the acceptance of the ballot of any person on such list, by making his/her challenge and reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls. A challenge to an early mail voter may not be made on the basis that the voter should have applied for an absentee ballot.

The Education Law also makes special provisions for absentee voting for “military” voters of the District. Specifically, the law provides a unique procedure for “military ballots” in school district votes. Whereas absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots must be received by the voter by mail, a military voter may elect to receive his/her absentee ballot application and absentee ballot by mail, email or facsimile. The military voter must, however, return his/her original military ballot application and military

ballot by mail or in person. The Clerk of the Board shall transmit the military voter's military ballot in accord with the military voter's preferred method of transmission, or if no preferred method is identified by mail, not later than twenty-five (25) days before the vote, April 25, 2025. The Clerk of the Board must then receive the military voter's military ballot by mail or in person not later than 5:00 P.M. on the day of the vote.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a rule adopted by the Board of Education in accordance with Education Law §§ 2035, 2008, any referenda or propositions to amend the budget, or otherwise to be submitted for voting at said election, must be filed with and directed to the District Clerk at the District Office, on or before April 21, 2025; must be typed or printed in the English language; must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District; and must state the name and residence of the candidate, and the name and residence of each signer. However, the Board of Education will not entertain or place before the voters any petition or any proposition if its purpose is beyond the power of the voters or is illegal, or any proposition requiring the expenditure of monies which fails to include specific appropriations for all such expenditures required by the proposition.

Therese M. Trotter
Clerk of the Board
Northeast (Webutuck)
Central School District
194 Haight Road,
P.O. Box 405
Amenia, NY 12501

PINE PLAINS FIRE DISTRICT Town of Pine Plains County of Dutchess State of New York Notice to Bidders Sale of Surplus Equipment

Please Take Notice that the Pine Plains Fire District Board of Commissioners, at a regularly scheduled meeting held on March 18, 2025, adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to Town Law §176, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Pine Plains Fire District does hereby declare the following item of equipment as surplus and no longer necessary for

the purposes of the Pine Plains Fire District:

2004 E-450 Ambulance (55-72)

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, to advertise such surplus equipment for sale and to be sold as surplus equipment, in its present condition, to the highest bidder following publication of Notice to Bidders Sale of Surplus Equipment.

Therefore, Please Take Notice that the Pine Plains Fire District will receive sealed bids for the purchase of the aforesaid surplus equipment at the Pine Plains Fire District Fire House, 7 Lake Road, Town of Pine Plains, New York, until 7:00 pm on April 15, 2025 at which time the bids will be opened and the aforesaid surplus equipment will be sold to the highest bidder. The surplus equipment may be inspected at Pine Plains Fire District Fire House, 7 Lake Road, Town of Pine Plains, New York, by appointment, by calling 518-488-2750.

The surplus equipment is being sold strictly “AS IS” with no warranties or representation on the part of the Pine Plains Fire District.

The Pine Plains Fire District Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids at its sole discretion and to re-advertise for the sale of the aforesaid surplus equipment.

The successful bidder shall be required to tender the said amount in full, by cash or immediately available funds upon the awarding of the successful bid. March 19, 2025

Board of Fire Commissioners
Pine Plains Fire District
Heather Lamont,
Secretary
03-27-25
04-03-25
04-10-25

The deadline for legal notices is Friday at 4 p.m. for publication the following Thursday.

Notices can be emailed to legals@lakevillejournal.com or mailed to

The Lakeville Journal,
ATTN: Legal Notices,
PO Box 1688,
Lakeville, CT 06039

Go to millertonnews.com/legalnotices to view current and past legal notices.

REGIONAL

Neighbors pull woman from burning car with seconds to spare

By KATHRYN BOUGHTON Kent Dispatch

CORNWALL, Conn. — Cornwall residents living near the scene of a roll-over car accident Saturday afternoon pulled a driver from a burning vehicle with only seconds to spare.



PHOTO BY ALAN GAWEL, KVFD FIRE CHIEF

"Due to the heroic efforts — and I do mean heroic efforts — of the neighbors, the woman was pulled from the car with, by my estimate, 90 seconds to spare before the flames would have reached her," said Kent Volunteer Fire Department Chief Alan Gawel. "I was the first to arrive on the scene from the fire side and when I got there, the vehicle was rolled over on its side and on fire. The driver was still trapped, and the citizens were using every ounce of energy to get her out."

He explained that he had been on Carter Road in Kent, not far from the scene of the 3 p.m. accident at 257 Kent Road South (Route 7), near Kugeman Village in Cornwall Bridge. "The Cornwall assistant chief arrived seconds after I did."

He said the car struck a utility pole and was surrounded by live wires. He reiterated the bravery of the citizen rescuers.

"There were live wires in the area, there was the car with gas and fluids around it and the fire itself. They used rocks to try to smash the glass to get in to her. One [rescuer] got a sledgehammer and was able to smash the back window and one went inside and had to break the seat to get her into the back and out through the window. As I got closer to the vehicle, they were able to carry her out from rear of the car."

Cornwall First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, who is also a firefighter, said rescuers came from all directions. "There was very little time to spare in what could have been a real tragedy," he said. "What is remarkable is that the rescuers all were civilians and were making quick decisions as they worked together. It was a remarkable rescue. We've had other situations where things didn't work out so well, but it was one those things where stars aligned just right."

Once they had the woman out of the car, the rescuers carried her farther away from the burning vehicle. "They were moving her under my direction to minimize any further injuries but to get her to a safe location,"

A one-car accident on Route 7 near Kugeman Village in Cornwall sent a motorist to Danbury Hospital Saturday, March 29.

said Gawel. "I am so proud of the Cornwall community for their heroic efforts. This is where small towns can be so proud of their citizens, not only the volunteers for ambulance services, but neighbors helping neighbors."

Ridgway said emergency responders were on the scene within minutes "but the neighbors were faster." He said he wants to honor the rescuers, all of whose names he did not know as of Saturday night, at the upcoming selectmen's meeting on Tuesday, April 1. "We will find out who they are and honor them," he said. "I've never done that before, but this is extraordinary."

The victim was transported by Kent ambulance and Northern Dutchess Paramedic to Danbury Hospital. She had non-life-threatening injuries. LifeStar was summoned, with the plan to land at Kent Falls State Park, but was cancelled after the victim was evaluated.

Some of the citizen rescuers suffered minor injuries and one was transported to the hospital.

Cornwall, Kent, Warren and Goshen responded to the scene as well as officers from Troop B in Canaan. Gawel said Litchfield County Dispatch was helpful in providing information on the call.

Emergency responders were on the scene for about four hours. Once Eversource made sure the power was shut down, the fire was extinguished. The scene was handed over to Connecticut Department of Transportation around 7 p.m. for continued traffic control and cleanup efforts.

Emergency responders were on the scene for about four hours. Once Eversource made sure the power was shut down, the fire was extinguished. The scene was handed over to Connecticut Department of Transportation around 7 p.m. for continued traffic control and cleanup efforts.

Kathryn Boughton is the editor of Kent Dispatch.



PHOTO BY ALAN GAWEL, KVFD FIRE CHIEF

Little was left of the vehicle Saturday afternoon after it struck a utility pole, turned over and burst into flames. Neighbors rescued the driver at peril to themselves.

OBITUARIES

Michael Tyler

ASHLEY FALLS, Mass. — It is with profound sadness

loving family. Mike and Ellen built a life together in Ashley Falls full of love and support from their family and friends. Their most enjoyable times were spent relaxing on the deck with their beloved dogs and enjoying the beauty of their surroundings, namely the perennial gardens Ellen created over many years.



that we announce the passing of Michael Tyler, 67, at his home in Ashley Falls, on March 6, 2025. Michael sadly lost his battle with severe depression and anxiety. We will remember him with love and compassion, hoping to raise awareness for mental health support.

Michael was born on March 5, 1958, to Douglas William Tyler and Mary Colli Tyler of Canaan, where he grew up and attended Housatonic Valley Regional High School. He graduated in 1976 and briefly worked in the family business, Tyler Carpet, before going on to become a highly skilled carpenter and tile setter who was always known for his perfectionism, integrity, and the high quality of his work.

In his earlier years he built up quite a reputation for being one the best pool players in many circles and was an avid NASCAR fan. He passionately shared many hobbies with his son, Josh, including archery, ping pong, model rockets and remote control airplanes among others. Always a motorcycle enthusiast, Mike was especially proud of his Honda V65 Magna which he bought off the showroom floor in 1983 and lovingly maintained ever since; the fastest motorcycle in production at the time. His first long road trip, among many, was riding it across the country to California and back to the East coast making many friends along the way.

Michael met Ellen Morando in 1996, and the two were married in 1999, sharing many wonderful years together. With him, Michael brought into her life an extraordinary son, Joshua Tyler, his younger sister, Courtney Schutz, who Mike lovingly embraced as his daughter, and their mother, Tina Schutz, who has always been and remains part of this

loving family. Mike and Ellen built a life together in Ashley Falls full of love and support from their family and friends. Their most enjoyable times were spent relaxing on the deck with their beloved dogs and enjoying the beauty of their surroundings, namely the perennial gardens Ellen created over many years.

Michael was predeceased by his parents, Douglas and Mary Tyler, and his brothers, Anthony Tyler and Larry Tyler.

Michael is survived by his wife, Ellen, his son, Joshua and his wife, Amanda, and their beautiful baby girl, Amelia Rose, who will have many pictures and stories of how dearly her grandpa loved her; his daughter Courtney Parker and her husband Shane, a brother Stephen Tyler, and many nieces, nephews, cousins and aunts.

He also leaves behind his very dear friend of over 50 years, Walter Allen, who has been with Mike throughout all of his good times and bad times over the years with his love and support. Also Cynthia, Walter's wife, who came into Mike and Ellen's lives with the same love and support which continues to this day and beyond.

The family will have a private service in the future.

In lieu of flowers, his wife Ellen, has asked that any memorial donations be made to Mike's granddaughter, Amelia Rose Tyler's 529 college savings plan. He can no longer be part of her present but in this way he can be part of her future. To donate please go to ugift529.com, enter code W39-XIY, where 100% of any donation will go directly to the account or make checks payable to Joshua Tyler to be deposited into the plan, care of Kenny Funeral Home, PO BOX 12, Sharon, CT 06069.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Phillip R. Larkin

SHARON — Phillip R. Larkin, 72, of 84 Upper Main Street, passed away on March 21, 2025, at Vassar Brothers Medical Center.

Phil was born July 20, 1952, in Sharon, the son of the late Herbert Nelson Larkin and Alice Lillian O'Neill Larkin.

Phil graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1972 to 1974. Once returning he was a skilled carpenter, working on many of the homes in Sharon and the surrounding towns.

He is survived by two sisters; Linda Larkin of Clinton, Connecticut, Laurie Harding of Center Sandwich, New

Hampshire, and brother, David Larkin of Cheltenham, England, and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brother, Michael Larkin, and sisters, Elaine Angele Larkin and Kathleen Ann Larkin.

Calling hours will be held at Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon, on April, 25, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., with reception to follow at Sharon Firehouse. All other services are private.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sharon Volunteer Ambulance, P.O. Box 357, Sharon, CT. 06069.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Judith Luella Green

EAST CANAAN — Judith Luella "Judy" (Blass) Green, 85, of 7 Locust Hill Road, died Tuesday morning, March 25, 2025, at her home surrounded by her loving family, after a courageous battle with cancer. She was the wife of the late Joseph A. Green. Judy was born in North Canaan, on Nov. 20, 1939, a daughter of the late William Smith and Luella Frances (Cudney) Blass.

She is survived by her son, Joseph W. Green of Colebrook, and her daughter Lisa Allyn of Norfolk; five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren with a third on the way, along with many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her six siblings; William Blass, Larry Blass,

Robert Blass, Eleanor Day, Priscilla Stanton, and John Blass.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday April 5, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. in St. Martin of Tours Immaculate Conception Church 4 North St. Norfolk, CT 06058. A collation will be held immediately following the mass in Klauer Hall located in the rear of the church. There are no calling hours.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Barkhamsted Senior Center 109 W River Road, Pleasant Valley, CT 06063.

Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. Canaan, CT 06018.

Celebration of Life

Ella Clark

CORNWALL — Please join us to celebrate the life of Ella Clark Saturday, April 19, 2025, at 1 p.m. at the United Church of Christ located at 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall, Connecticut.

Reception on Town Street to follow. All are welcome.



Worship Services
Week of April 6, 2025

<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>	<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 a.m., in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>
<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org The Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>	<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on YouTube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons Sunday, April 13 at 10:30 a.m. Can Chaos Have a Silver Lining? For information, contact Jo Loi at jokiauloi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Congregation Beth David A reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Cornwall Village Meeting House Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall in person and on zoom Warm fellowship following service All Are Welcome! www.allsaintscornwall.org Rev. Mary Gates!</p>
<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>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. During Lent, Presanctified Liturgy Wednesdays at 6:30 PM and Akathist to the Virgin Mary Fridays at 6:30 PM Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>
<p>Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</p>	<p>Millerton United Methodist Church 6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:00 P.M. 518-789-3138</p>

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Affordable housing has been a priority for many of our towns here in NW CT as the State has mandated that at least 10 percent of the housing stock in each town be affordable. All of our towns are woefully short of this goal and we are trying to find new ways of creating housing that would be affordable. One tool would be Section 830-g of the CT General Statutes which allows developers leeway to build new affordable units which otherwise would be restricted by Planning and Zoning Regulations. For example, the Salisbury Housing Trust is in the process of accepting as a gift a parcel of land that would be difficult to develop with the current Zoning Regulations. However, with 830-g it allows for the construction of a home on such a parcel, if deemed restricted to remain affordable, so this is exciting! For more information on 830-g, please visit: www.greenwichct.gov/1854/Affordable-Housing-Units-CT-Gen-Statute-

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THE MILLERTON NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE A5

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025

Beware of an unfettered presidency

When America's Founders wrote the Constitution in 1787, the world had no democracies. Countries across the meridians were led by all-powerful kings and other dictators. An example was George III, the British monarch, who treated the American colonists as mere vassals who could be wantonly taxed despite their lack of representation, in whose homes British troops could be quartered at whim, and who constantly harassed colonial shipping in international waters — among other arbitrary activities backed by military force. This King, as is characteristic of dictators, eventually overplayed his hand and the thirteen colonies rose up in revolt.

The great genius of James Madison and his colleagues was to create the first true democracy in history, going far beyond the semi-democratic practices of ancient Greek cities and Swiss canons. They insisted on the sharing of power across three "departments" of government: the executive, legislative, and judicial. Their novel Constitutional endeavors had an overriding objective: to guard against the dangers of tyranny. Above all else, the Founders were imbued with anti-power values. No more autocratic leaders like King George.

The core philosophy guiding the Founders was to distribute power across three "branches" of government, as a means for limiting its potential abuse by any one branch. As Lord Acton would state in his famous aphorism a hundred years later, "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely." Long before Acton, the colonists understood this principle. By establishing separate institutions — executive, legislative, and judicial — "ambition would be made to counteract ambition," as Madison stated the case in Federalist Paper 51. In this manner, no branch would grow so mighty as to dwarf the others or dictate to the American people.

Justice Louis Brandeis eloquently expressed the spirit of the Founders in a case that came before the Supreme Court in 1926 — *Myers v. United States*. "The doctrine of the separation of powers was adopted by the [Constitutional] Convention of 1787," he wrote, "not to promote efficiency but to preclude the exercise of arbitrary power. The purpose was not to avoid friction, but by means of the inevitable friction incident to the distribution of governmental powers among three departments, to save the people from autocracy" [emphasis added].

In contrast to this wise approach to governance, a more recent school of thought has embraced the concept of a "unitary" presidency. What becomes all-important in this approach is a powerful engine to move the nation forward — an unfettered president free to shape a nation's destiny as the White House sees fit, without the interference of "checks-and-balances" from lawmakers on Capitol Hill or members of the Supreme Court. In this model, now in place in the United States, the legislative and judicial branches are largely supine to the will of the Oval Office and the president's minions spread across the agencies of the executive branch.

The greatest achievement of the Founders — their estab-

GUEST COLUMN

Loch K. Johnson

lishment of safeguards against the use of absolute power by a single individual or branch of government — is currently being erased. It is a troubling time in the nation's history, with liberty hanging in the balance. A starting place to restore our form of democratic restraints on arbitrary power is to support those members of Congress and the judiciary who understand the Constitution. Our fate depends heavily on America's representatives and judges as independent guardrails in this struggle to continue our long and admirable history of shielding freedom against the forces of tyranny.

Loch K. Johnson taught political science for forty years at the University of Georgia, while also serving intermittently as a senior staff aide in the White House, the Senate, and the House of Representatives, and as a Fellow at Oxford and Yale Universities. He retired to Salisbury in 2019. Professor Johnson is the author of The Third Option: Covert Action and American Foreign Policy (Oxford University Press).



Natalia Zukerman

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Join Amenia's Earth Day clean-up on April 26

Earth Day is Tuesday, April 22, and a great way to celebrate it is to join Amenia's Conservation Advisory Council's town-wide Clean Up Day Saturday, April 26. From 9 a.m. to noon, volunteers will be fanning out from the centers of downtown Wassaic and Amenia to pick up litter and beautify our hamlets. Even if you have only 20

minutes to join the fun, this is a group exercise everyone can contribute to and benefit from. Volunteers can sign in and pick up contractor bags and reflective vests at Fountain Square/Bank of Millbrook, 4958 Route 22, Amenia, or check in with Conservation Advisory Council members at Borden Park, 37 Furnace Bank

Road in Wassaic.

Then you can join other groups or go it alone in your own neighborhood, focusing on high-visibility roadways, civic centers, the rail trail, etc. Filled bags and large items can be picked up at various locations by 11:30 a.m. that day by contacting Vicki Doyle: 845-489-7826 or vdoyle@ameniany.gov. Trash

bags and vests can be arranged to be picked up in advance, upon request. Many thanks to Welsh Sanitation for allowing us to bring litter to their recycling center for free, once again, to help us commemorate Earth Day in Amenia.

Vicki Doyle
CAC member

Wassaic

Post Office moves; flood hazard sanctions; oldest house razed

April 5, 1934

'Millerton Post Office Moved; New Location Said to be Temporary';

With a crew of carpenters and cleaners working overtime since Saturday converting the erstwhile saloon of the late Charles A. Corey into a semblance of quarters suitable for the temporary installation of the Millerton post office, sufficient progress was reported Tuesday morning to warrant the immediate removal of mail and equipment from the Shufelt building where the post office has been situated for the past twenty years.

While admitting that the new location was in no way suitable for post office occupancy, the post office inspector supervising the work Tuesday morning pointed out that it was merely temporary, and that a new brick building yet to be erected has been leased by the United States government for five years on the condition that it be ready for occupation by June 1, 1934.

As far as could be learned such arbitrary action by any government department is unprecedented in the history of the United States with the possible exception of a time of national emergency which no one has felt adequately describes the present situation, and the legality of the department's action as well as the ethics of the case constituted the chief topic of discussion throughout the Village over the week-end.

'About Millerton'; Mrs. Willard S. Vail was able to sit up Monday for a few minutes for the first time since Wednesday when she contracted a severe bronchial cold that for a time threatened to develop into pneumonia. Mrs. Vail is compelled to use a cane in moving about because of the bad sprain she suffered about two weeks ago when she fell part way down a flight of stairs.

William Masten has moved

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

from the Hoysradt house in Railroad Street to the Clement Wiltsie place in Mill Street.

'Former Millertonian In Match'; Pocket billiard enthusiasts will have an opportunity to witness an interesting contest Saturday night when William Rathbun, former Millertonian, will play an exhibition match with Frank Taberski, of Schenectady, veteran cue artist and former world's champion, in the Masonic Temple in Poughkeepsie.

April 3, 1975

'Flood Hazard Areas Face Federal Economic Sanctions'; State Environmental Conservation Regional Director Warren H. McKeon said this week that Millerton, Millbrook and other Dutchess County communities with flood hazard areas may shortly face Federal economic sanctions under provisions of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

These communities are threatened with a loss of Federal aid for a wide variety of projects and activities in areas subject to flooding. Mortgage money for homes and business properties in these areas is also scheduled for termination if the communities do not join the National Flood Insurance Program before July 1 of this year.

'Day Care Holds Raffle'; The Millerton Day Care Center is sponsoring a raffle, with the drawing for three prizes — a picnic basket, hibachi and an iron — set for Tuesday, April 22.

Tickets costing 25 cents per chance or \$1 for a book of five, are being sold by parents of children enrolled in the Day Care Center.

'Trap Shoot To Benefit Ambulance Fund'; The Millerton Gun Club will sponsor a trap shoot on Sunday, April 13, with all proceeds earmarked for the Millerton Ambulance fund. Grounds will open at noon, and refreshments and food, including barbecued chicken, will be available.

All "hot shots" are welcome, stresses Gun Club member Charlene Ahearn. Persons with questions are invited to contact Mrs. Ahearn at...

'Grange Week Proclaimed'; Mayor-elect John L. Hermans Tuesday proclaimed the week of April 6-12 as "Grange Week" in Millerton, and urged all citizens to join him in honoring this worthy organization.

'March Colder, Less Snowy'; Frank Paar, Millerton's "weatherman," has announced that March this year was colder and less snowy than the same period last year.

According to Mr. Paar, the temperature this March averaged 31.61 degrees, with only 2 inches of snow recorded, while March 1974 experienced a 33.74-degree average, with 6 inches of snow. The year 1972 saw the wintriest March: 10.5 inches of snow fell and the mercury averaged 31.16 degrees.

'Sheriff's Report'; Millerton Burglaries

The Sheriff's office is currently investigating a burglary at the home of Donald Ezzo on Gun Club Road, Millerton. During the night of March 22 the hinge pins of the front door were removed, allowing entry via the door, and a 22 Winchester rifle, tools and a tent were stolen. The garage also was entered and tools pilfered.

Corporal Bedell and Officer Decker, while investigating this burglary, discovered that the home of another Gun

Club Road resident, Arnaldo Gallardo, had been partially ransacked sometime between March 18 and 21. The house had been forcibly entered through the front door. Gallardo was out of town during this period.

April 6, 2000

'NE's Oldest House Coming Down'; NORTH EAST — A house near Spencer's Corners that dates to the mid-18th century is coming down, a North East landowner confirmed last week.

Christof Hamm, who has recently purchased and built on farmland near the house, said, "The house is in bad condition and not worth saving," citing the need for extensive asbestos removal from the site.

A "center-hall colonial," the house is commonly known as the Merwin House and is located on Merwin-Clark Road near Spencer's Corners.

Merwin House is thought

to be the original structure from the 18th century, though there have been additions and changes over the years. The house was built in the mid-to-late-1700's by Uriah Lawrence, Esq., a native of England, on a road that became an iron-ore trade route running from Salisbury, Conn., to Rhinebeck.

'Village Budget Rises, 10% Raises Proposed for Mayor, Trustees'; MILLERTON — The Village Board got right down to work on the 2000-2001 budget and swore in new trustees John Scutieri and Beverly Gordon during meetings March 30 and April 3, while Michelle Haab announced her resignation as village attorney.

'HV Rail Trail Seeks More volunteers'; MILLERTON - The Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association (HVRTA) will hold two meetings in April for trail volunteers.

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

Published Weekly by LJM Media, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; Dan Dwyer, Chair

P.O. Box 625, Millerton, NY 12546

(860) 435-9873 ext. 608 • millertonnews.com • editor@millertonnews.com

Volume 94, Number 11

Thursday, April 3, 2025

Mission Statement

LJM Media, Inc., Publishers of

The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News

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LJM Media, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Subscription Rates - One Year:

\$120.00 in Dutchess and Columbia Counties, \$147.00 Outside Counties

Known Office of Publication: Lakeville, CT 06039-1688. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Millerton, NY 12546. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to LJM Media, Inc., PO Box 1688, Lakeville, Connecticut 06039-1688.

ARPA *Continued from Page A1*

over the course of the disbursement time frame.

"With any set of expenditures as large and far-reaching as these, there can be disagreement over the merits, timing, and prioritization of certain projects over others," Aymar-Blair wrote in his summary.

"However, it is in the opinion of the Comptroller that the planning in relation to the allocation and spending of these funds could have been more rigorous," he added.

William F.X. O'Neil served as County Executive beginning in January 2023 when he was appointed to complete the third term of Marc Molinaro, who was elected to Congress in the 19th District. Sue Serino took office in January 2024.

As of June 30, 2024, the county had spent a little over \$31 million in ARPA funds. In that month, Dutchess County Executives updated the ARPA fund spending plan, choosing to allocate all remaining funds

to education in the county, focusing mainly on Dutchess County Community College. The county chose to use the remaining \$25 million to fund its contribution to the community college, chargeback costs paid to other community colleges and costs paid toward the New York State-mandated pre-school education program.

"The allocation to the college was a standard obligation that the county makes every year," Aymar-Blair said in an interview. "What was a tax levy just became ARPA."

"Reallocating ARPA funds for the Dutchess Community College and Pre-School Special Education costs resulted in a positive impact to the general fund balance in the amount of \$15 million," he said in the report.

Aymar-Blair said positive impacts of the funding included: retaining and hiring new staff, keeping non-profit partners afloat, supporting some of

our most vulnerable populations, and generally mitigating the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Dutchess County.

A wide variety of grants were distributed through the program.

In Millerton, \$328,000 was allocated under the ARPA program for Phase I of Eddie Collins Memorial Park revitalization.

The North East Fire District received \$73,283 for protective equipment for fire rescue.

The Amenia Free Library Association received a \$2,467 grant for future youth programming.

The Town of Pine Plains received grants for all-terrain wheelchairs, town parks and trails, and to make Stissing Lake Beach Park wheelchair accessible.

ARPA investments were made in several categories: community, county parks,

youth services, education, food security, seniors, mental health and emergency medical services.

A plan to spend \$11.6 million in ARPA funds for improvements to Heritage Financial Park, home of the Hudson Valley Renegades in Wappingers Falls, was reduced to spend funds for other projects, bringing the total cost of upgrades to the park to \$1.4 million. Initial spending plans were changed as other funding plans surfaced, such as in the case of \$10 million planned for a Youth Opportunity Center in Poughkeepsie that was reduced to \$4.5 million.

States, counties and municipalities won't receive funding for recurring program expenses with ARPA and Aymar-Blair said he didn't see a problem with ongoing financial commitments now that the federal relief program has ended.

"I don't see a burden on upcoming budgets," he said.

BOARD CHAIR *Continued from Page A1*

"I thanked Lance for his 17 years of volunteer service on the Board," Mayor Jenn Najdek told the Village Board.

Najdek said that she spoke with Lynch-VandeBogard about assuming the chair at the Planning Board following Middlebrook's resignation.

Middlebrook, who has been chair for more than a decade, made his surprise exit at a regular meeting of the Planning Board on March 12.

He cited frustration about the large sign on Route 22 which displays the message "Community + Kindness" as in violation of village code.

"That should have gone to us. They just took it upon themselves. That was it for me," he said.

The sign went up in December with the support of the Dutchess County Commission on Human Rights and Townscape, a volunteer group focused on revitalization of the Village.

Wastewater grants

Mayor Najdek informed Village trustees that federal-funding earmarks for Millerton's proposed wastewater system were removed from the Congressional continuing resolution, and she recommended that the Village resubmit its application for funding.

"It's the exact same application," Najdek said.

Trustees voted unanimously to reapply for the funding.

The Village of Millerton and the Town of North East had been anticipating the earmarked funds that were supported by Sens. Chuck Schumer, D-NY, and Kirsten Gillibrand, D-NY. U.S. Rep. Pat Ryan, D-18, had secured \$1 million, a grant that remains intact, Najdek said.

Fire update

The Village has received two payments to date from its insurance company related to the costs of the early February fire at the Water Department building, which remains off-limits.

A third payment is an-

tipated, Najdek said, noting costs the Village will incur as it moves some operations into the Town of North East's old town garage on South Center Street as a temporary storage and operations center.

The trustees approved an agreement with North East to lease the facility at a cost of \$500 per month to be covered by insurance.

Summer Camp canceled

Due to planned construction for the pool at Eddie Collins Memorial Park starting in August, Village trustees concluded that holding a summer camp would be problematic out of concern for the safety of the children.

This past December, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation awarded the village a matching grant of up to \$675,000 in support of the project. With these monies, funding for Phase II, which stems largely from a NY SWIMS capital grant, is now at \$7.56 million.

Trustees gave preliminary approval to Oblong Books to hold a 50th anniversary block party on South Center Street in August.

The March 24 meeting also focused on the upcoming budget, and trustees worked through a line-item examination of budget items. Plans call for a special Village Trustees meeting to be held April 3 at 6 p.m. to continue the budget workshop that will lead to an eventual public hearing sometime in mid-April.

HISTORIANS *Continued from Page A1*

HVRHS deals with the story of how two Black girls came to the high school for the 1958-59 school year.

The girls were from Little Rock, Arkansas, which was the epicenter of the fight over school desegregation.

The documentary uses a mix of archival footage and an interview with one of the girls.

From Yale came Michael Morand's "What Could Have Been," about an 1831 proposal to establish what would today be called an Historically Black College or University, or HBCU, in New Haven.

Supported by abolitionists and prominent citizens, the proposal was nonetheless soundly defeated at a town meeting. Many of the opponents were also prominent citizens.

Morand was scheduled to attend the screening but was unable to make it. Salisbury School's Mokriski and Vermilyea from HVRHS spoke after the films were shown, highlighting how the tactic of letting students take control of such projects yields considerable results.

"This is students getting

their hands dirty as historians," said Vermilyea.

The teachers noted how the students took advantage of modern technology to get access to source material.

"It's a game-changer," Vermilyea said.

Mokriski added "We can use this as a template."

HVRHS students Tess Marks and Elinor Wolgemuth, both seniors from Salisbury, presented at the America 250 conference "Shaping a Commemoration Rooted in Belonging," held at the University of Connecticut on March

21. Marks and Wolgemuth were members of a panel discussion entitled "Students as Historians: A Community-based Approach to History," along with Mokriski, Vermilyea, and Charlie Champalimaud, owner and operator of Troutbeck in Amenia. The students spoke about how student projects presented at last year's Troutbeck Symposium could serve as a model for the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of American independence.

This year's Troutbeck Symposium runs from April 30 to May 2. The student-led forum includes middle and high school students from 14 regional and independent schools who will "listen, present, and discuss findings of their research projects uncovering little-known local histories that tie to our national fabric," according to the Troutbeck website.

Dr. Sarah Humphreys named chief medical officer of CHWC

TORRINGTON, Conn. — Community Health & Wellness Center has appointed Sarah Humphreys MD, MPH, as its new chief medical officer.

"I feel deeply connected to this community, and it was that connection that drew me to work at the Community Health and Wellness Center," stated Dr. Humphreys in a March 26 press release.

Dr. Humphreys is board certified in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases.

She earned her BA from Brown University before completing a Master of Public Health at Yale University. She then obtained her medical degree from Ben Gurion University in Israel, followed



PHOTO PROVIDED

Dr. Sarah Humphreys

by residency in Internal Medicine at New York University and a fellowship in Infectious Diseases at Mount Sinai in New York City.

Prior to joining CHWC, Dr. Humphreys served as an Assistant Professor of Infectious Diseases at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, where she provided outpatient and inpatient Infectious Disease consultations, HIV primary care and conducted clinical trials research.

Dr. Humphreys has spent time in Connecticut's Northwest Corner since she was born. She is excited to be moving back to the area full-time to further strengthen her roots in the community.

Passionate about public health, patient care, and medical education, she is committed to expanding the reach and impact of CHWC.

Outside of work, Dr. Humphreys enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband, daughter, and their two beloved dogs, Oliver and Romeo.

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. Notice of such error must be given to us after the first run of the advertisement.

Managing Invasives: A Series of Workshops

SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH • 10 am – noon

Sharon Land Trust Hamlin Preserve on route 341
Tom Zetterstrom will discuss invasive plant management, exhibit the work done at the preserve, and demonstrate the use synthetic herbicide with a Buckthorn Blaster applicator.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH • 10 am – noon

Sharon Land Trust, Benton Hill Preserve
Tim Hunter, of the Sharon Land Trust, will conduct a discussion about land restoration and the plans for bringing the Benton Hill property into ecological balance by planting native plants; if time allows, he will provide a demonstration.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH • 10 am – noon

Sharon Town Hall
Bethany Sheffer of Audubon and Mike Nadeau, native landscape expert, will present a PowerPoint on invasives and answer questions on plant identification and control. (Rain date April 6th)

SATURDAY, MAY 17TH • 10 am – noon

Meristem, 169 Bowne Road in Sharon
Bethany Sheffer and Mike Nadeau will demonstrate invasive plant control without herbicides and show how to foster the growth of native plants to create habitat and beauty. (Rain date May 18th)

These workshops are sponsored by The Sharon Energy and Environment Commission, Sharon Audubon, The Sharon Conservation Commission, and the Sharon Land Trust

SPORTS



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Safe at first

The Varsity Pine Plains softball team started getting ready for the spring season with a scrimmage at Stissing Mountain High School Thursday, March 27.

A Bank for the Next Generation

To George Whalen IV, relationships are what build community, and lending is a tool that helps people make things happen. He's seen it his whole life – the Bank of Millbrook working together with people like you, in this area that's thrived from his great grandfather's generation to his son's.

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George T. Whalen IV
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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

COMMUNITY: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

All are welcome at The Mahaiwe

Natalia Bernal is the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center's education and community engagement manager and is, in her own words, "the one who makes sure that Mahaiwe events are accessible to all."

The Mahaiwe's community engagement program is rooted in the belief that the performing arts should be for everyone. "We are committed to establishing and growing partnerships with neighboring community and arts organizations to develop pathways for overcoming social and practical barriers," Bernal explained. "Immigrants, people of color, communities with low income, those who have traditionally been underserved in the performing arts, should feel welcomed at the Mahaiwe."

Partnerships with organizations like Volunteers in Medicine Berkshires (VIM), the W.E.B. Du Bois Legacy Committee, and Community Access to the Arts (CATA) have helped bridge that gap. But for the Latinx community, there's an even more targeted effort: the Spanish-language Community Advisory Network (SCAN).

"Six years ago, we started an advisory group of Spanish speakers in the community," Bernal said. "They tell us what the community wants to see, how they'd like their culture represented. Today, SCAN has 12 members. We meet four times a year and are in constant communication. It's because of them that we've hosted free Spanish-language film screenings and live performances."

For Bernal, this work is personal. "When I first moved to the U.S. in 2003, it was because I got a Latin American scholarship to study at Berklee College of Music. That first year, I went home to Uruguay for Christmas and saw Paquito D'Rivera perform at a jazz festival. I was determined to meet him, and I did. Later that year, Paquito came to Berklee and invited me on stage."

Now, two decades and 16 Grammys later, Paquito D'Rivera is coming to the Mahaiwe on April 5, and there's a chance history might repeat itself. "He saw a post we made about his



PHOTO BY GEANDY PAVON

Paquito D'Rivera performs at the Mahaiwe in Great Barrington on April 5.

concert and commented, 'Ay, chica, que maravilla, are you gonna sing a song with us?' I almost died," Bernal laughed. "I don't know if it will happen, but it would be a dream."

About the possibility of a guest appearance by Bernal, D'Rivera said, "Natalia is a very dear, valuable colleague, and jazz is about improvisation, so the surprise factor is always part of the fun here."

D'Rivera's concert is just one example of how the Mahaiwe is making world-class performances accessible. "My whole day has been about offering 'pay what you can' tickets for this show," Bernal says. "We also issued a 50% discount to our partners. We work with ESL teachers, public libraries, literacy agencies, anyone who can help us get the word out."

That kind of grassroots effort has been transformative. "Last year, we screened 'Florencia en el Amazonas,' the first opera written in Spanish ever performed at the Met," Bernal said. "I sat in the Mahaiwe in tears. As someone who loves opera, it was the first time I heard one written in my own language. It was so powerful."

For Bernal, it all comes back to representation, on stage and in the audience. "My son is eight. I bring him to everything I can. Spanish shouldn't just be something that happens at the dinner table. It should be in the world, in all these shapes and forms."

And that's what SCAN is helping build: a future where Latinx voices aren't just included, they are central. "Our SCAN



PHOTO BY MARTIN COHEN

Natalia Bernal, Mahaiwe's education and community engagement manager

advisors are volunteers, cultural ambassadors," Bernal said. "They help us distribute surveys, talk to the audience, and strengthen the community. Nobody should feel alone. Everybody should feel like they belong here."

Education and outreach are central to D'Rivera's work as well. He said, "It is an important part of our mission to plant and nurture the seed of quality music in our communities." He continued to say, "Using our visibility and influence in favor of justice is always a very effective vehicle in denouncing violations of human rights around the world." This shared mission

of education and social justice extends beyond the Mahaiwe. "We are one of the few arts organizations in a monthly meeting with BASIC (Berkshire Alliance for Immigrant Services). We have direct ties to the Berkshire Immigrant Center, VIM, and others so that we are well-informed and ready to serve," said Bernal.

That commitment to community, culture, and access is why Bernal's dream panel—Women in the Music Business—would feature Paquito's wife and longtime manager, Brenda Feliciano. "She's a tower of power. She's been managing his career for at least 45 years. If I could organize an event one day, she would be the cherry on the cake."

Until then, Bernal will keep doing what she does best: making sure the Mahaiwe is a place where everyone, regardless of language, income, or background, feels at home. And maybe, just maybe, she'll find herself back on stage with Paquito D'Rivera, just like that first time, all those years ago.

For more info and tickets to Paquito D'Rivera, visit mahaiwe.org



PHOTO PROVIDED

LIFESTYLE: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Living with the things you love: a conversation with Mary Randolph Carter

There is magic in a home filled with the things we love, and Mary Randolph Carter, affectionately known as "Carter," has spent a lifetime embracing that magic. Her latest book, "Live with the Things You Love ... and You'll Live Happily Ever After," is about storytelling, joy, and honoring life's poetry through the objects we keep.

"This is my tenth book," Carter said. "At the root of each is my love of collecting, the thrill of the hunt, and living surrounded by things that conjure up family, friends, and memories."

The creative director at Ralph Lauren for almost four decades, Carter began writing this book during the pandemic, a time of rediscovering comfort. "I found more time to appreciate those special things that give our homes warmth and connection." Working with Ralph Lauren, she learned that the best spaces tell a personal

story. "His desk was filled with toy cars, miniature shoes, superheroes, English dandies, cowboys on horseback. The walls? A gallery of his children's paintings, iconic photos of Frank Sinatra and Gary Cooper. Everything told a story."

Carter acknowledges how homes can become overwhelmed with stuff but sees a difference between clutter and collection. "To live happily, create environments that inspire and comfort rather than encumber you! Look around and ask, 'What is truly meaningful? What makes you smile? What recalls the people and places you cherish?'" Then, she added, "weed out the rest with discipline and

Continued on next page

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COMPASS

...Carter

Continued from previous page



PHOTO BY CARTER BERG

Mary Randolph Carter teaches us to surround ourselves with what matters to live happily ever after.

courage!” Each home in Carter’s book reflects its inhabitant’s spirit. “The first time I walked into Bethann Hardison’s apartment, I knew right away how authentic it was to who she is.” Hardison’s walls are lined with artwork from friends Keith Haring, Jean-Michel Basquiat, and Haitian paintings, testaments to a life well lived. “Though her mantra is, ‘the lighter the load, the freer the journey,’ she also admits some things ‘delight your environment’ and can’t be parted with. Amen to that!” Having survived two childhood fires, Carter deeply understands what truly matters. “It’s not the things, but the people and memories they evoke.” She loves her collections, but they don’t possess her. “They make me happy, but they do not define me.”

She delights in how people showcase treasures. Paula Grief, for instance, lives in a ten-foot-wide house and had to part with many books. “She tucks the ones she can’t live without through the rungs of her staircase. I love that ingenuity!”

When asked about her most cherished possession, Carter tells a story of loss and serendipity. A childhood portrait of her in a blue velvet dress was lost in a fire. “Years later, the artist’s daughter found another version. Now, it hangs in our apartment, surrounded by flea market art and one of my favorite saints, Our Lady of Guadalupe.”

Adding to the cozy feeling of this book, Carter’s son, Carter Berg, took the photographs,

and her sister, Cary, contributed the illustrations. “Cary once stayed in our apartment and painted a dozen objects from our cluttered kitchen. I hung them immediately. When I started this book, I knew she had to capture my favorite objects.”

Four of the featured homes are local to the Northwest Corner, including Carter’s in Millerton, Joan Osofsky’s in Lakeville, Robin Bell’s in Salisbury, and Paula Grief’s in Hudson. They all gathered at the White Hart/Oblong Speaker Series on March 27.

After perusing the richly colored pages of this book, you may feel tempted to shop. “You don’t need money to create a meaningful home,” Carter insisted. “Some of my favorite paintings cost no more than \$10 or \$25. Value is personal. It’s not about provenance but the story an object tells you or the one you make up.”

Carter’s advice? “Fall in love with the wackiest thing. Surround yourself with what matters, and you’ll live happily ever after.”

FILM: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Beloved classic film ‘The Red Shoes’ comes to the big screen for Triplex benefit

On Saturday, April 5, at 3 p.m., The Triplex Cinema in Great Barrington and Jacob’s Pillow, the dance festival in Becket, Massachusetts, are presenting a special benefit screening of the cinematic masterpiece, “The Red Shoes,” followed by a discussion and Q&A. Featuring guest speakers Norton Owen, director of preservation at Jacob’s Pillow, and dance historian Lynn Garafola, the event is a fundraiser for The Triplex.

“We’re pitching in, as it were, because we like to help our neighbors,” said Norton. “They (The Triplex) approached us with the idea, wanting some input if they were going to do a dance film. I thought of Lynn as the perfect person also to include in this because of her knowledge of The Ballets Russes and the book that she wrote about Diaghilev. There is so much in this film, even though it’s fictional, that derives from the Ballets Russes.” Garafola, the leading expert on the Ballets Russes under Serge Diaghilev, 1909–1929, the most influential company in twentieth-century theatrical dance, said, “We see glimpses of that Russian émigré tradition, performances we don’t see much of today. The film captures the artifice of ballet, from the behind-the-scenes world of dressers and conductors to the sheer passion of the audience.”

Hailed as one of the greatest films about ballet, “The Red Shoes,” 1948, is a dazzling fusion of dance and cinema, featuring a mesmerizing 17-minute ballet sequence performed by Scottish ballet dancer and actress, Moira Shearer. Directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, the film’s breathtaking use of Technicolor and evocative storytelling continues to captivate audiences, including

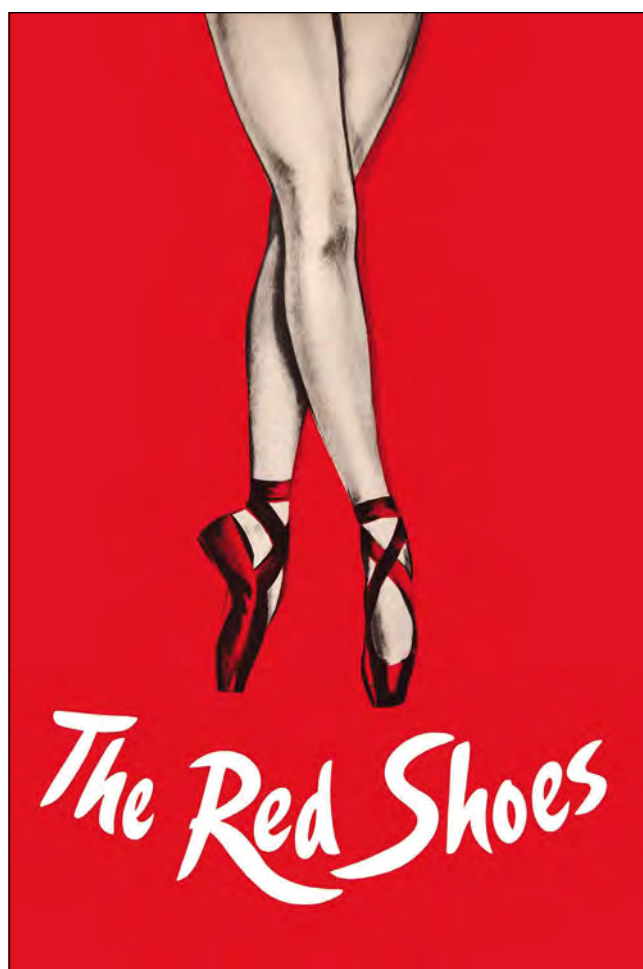


PHOTO PROVIDED

legendary filmmakers like Martin Scorsese, Brian De Palma, and Steven Spielberg all of whom have cited the film as an influence on their work.

Garafola recalled seeing the film as a young dancer. “I remember being more taken with the plot then, but seeing it again recently, it was the color, the fantasy,

and the glamour that struck me. Given how gray England was after the war, the film’s vibrant costumes and settings create an almost dream-like escape.”

Owen echoed Garafola’s sentiment. “It’s magical. Color was their thing, and this latest restoration makes it even more breathtaking.”

The film underwent an extensive digital restoration at the UCLA Film and Television archive between 2006 and 2008 and premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in 2009. This is the version of the film which will be screened at the Triplex.

Owen said, “I love the depiction of young ballet audiences racing to their seats. That kind of enthusiasm is contagious. It’s what draws young dancers in.” Both Owen and Garafola expressed hope that young dancers will attend the event, sharing in the film’s enduring inspiration.

Owen and Garafola’s Q&A is sure to be lively and educational as they delve into the film’s legacy in both dance and cinema. “It’s not just a film for dance lovers. It’s a filmmaker’s film, too,” Owen added.

Join The Triplex and Jacob’s Pillow for this rare opportunity to experience “The Red Shoes” on the big screen, a film that continues to enchant, inspire, and ignite artistic passion.

Tickets are available for \$75 at www.thetriplex.org.

NATURE: FRITZ MUELLER

A botanical spring puzzle

Why are there no native super early flowering plants in our area? By “super early” I mean flowering some five weeks before forsythia. All the ones I know are alien. Most are “bulbiferous” and go dormant in summer. Snowdrops, *Galanthus nivalis*, and Snowbells, *Leucojum vernum*, are both in the amaryllis family; crocus species, in the iris family; and scilla,

in the asparagus family belong to this category. Others, like *cyclamen coum*, primrose family; winter-aconite, *eranthis hyemalis*; and *adonis amurensis*, buttercup family; grow from tubers, thickened roots. None of them is a native plant. Although all mentioned families exist in the New World as well, none have produced super early flowering species similar to what exists in Eurasia, nor have other plant

families. We wait for our beautiful native spring wildflowers — Virginia bluebells, Dutchman’s breeches, Trilliums, Trout lily, etc. In our garden, the earliest native will be Bloodroot, by mid-April. By then, a large cohort of alien plants are already in full flower for several weeks, in some cases for over a month.

Continued on next page

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Noble Horizons will be hosting The Voice of Art’s Therapeutic Art Program for Older Adults, featuring The Great Wave off Kanagawa by Japanese artist Hokusai. REGISTER using the QR code below or by going to noblehorizons.org/events. Studio Art Supply Fee will be waived for Noble Horizons residents.

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 Serving North Canaan, CT, Sheffield and South County, MA



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Theropods spotted in Falls Village

The Falls Village Children's Theater's production of "Dinosaurs Before Dark" played to packed houses March 28-30. Directed by Michael Siktberg, with choreography from Amber Cameron and Darcy Boynton, the lively show featured shadow puppets, tree houses, lots of dancing and singing, and of course dinosaurs, including a splendid Tyrannosaurus Rex.



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Helen Sung's lyrical and virtuosic playing filled The Tall Barn at Troutbeck in Amenia.

MUSIC: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Helen Sung mesmerizes at Music Mountain's rescheduled winter concert

Renowned pianist and composer Helen Sung took the stage for a rescheduled performance of Music Mountain's Winter Concert Series at Troutbeck in Amenia on Sunday, March 30. Sung led the audience through a thrilling solo program that traced her journey from classical to jazz. Performing works by Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk, Chick Corea, and one of her own original compositions, Sung's artistry and distinctive touch captivated listeners. She brought her dynamic interpretations and deep musical storytelling to each piece, seamlessly blending technical

mastery with emotional depth. From the rich harmonies of Ellington to the angular brilliance of Monk, Sung's performance showcased both reverence for jazz tradition and her own inventive spirit. The intimate setting of Troutbeck's Tall Barn provided the perfect backdrop for an afternoon of inspired musicianship, leaving the audience mesmerized and eager for more. Music Mountain's 96th season opens on June 1 with a benefit concert and reception of Benjamin Hochman & Friends from the Met Opera playing Beethoven and Brahms. More info at music-mountain.org

... spring *Continued from previous page*

Why is this roughly four to five week temporal niche in the annual cycle unoccupied? It's a niche of very low productivity for sure, but nature, famously, abhors any vacuum. Could it be that the physical habitat niche is too small here? What I found, doing some research, suggests it is possible — larger areas are correlated with more speciation according to p. 1149 in Science from March 15, 2025.

Eurasia, broadly oriented from west to east, has a very long, uninterrupted temperate and mountainous zone, stretching from Spain to western China. With its many grassland habitats, it provides a huge playing field for evolution. America, by comparison, geographically laid out north to south, contains much less continuous temperate environments suited for crocus.

Until now. Our small, short-cropped lawn at winter's end mimics aspects of Eurasian alpine meadows. There, before any green grass is visible, crocuses break through the edges of the melting snow cover on the late winter lawn. Species crocuses have conquered that new habitat, first in European gardens, and



PHOTO BY FRITZ MUELLER

Honeybees have developed interdependencies with early spring flowers.

now here too. Before the grass grows too tall, they benefit from abundant sunshine to nourish their bulbs for next year. That's another reason to delay mowing as long as possible. A lawn may not be a natural habitat, but if free of herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers, it is after all just another meadow.

Perhaps another reason for missing March flowers is a lack of early pollinators. On one of these rare sunny, warm days in early March, I wrote in my diary: "03/09/23 - many honeybees on winter aconite, also a fly ..." and some honeybees on crocus as well. Like winter-aconite

and crocus, honeybees are not native in America and I have never seen them again that early, ever since a nearby beekeeper gave up. Looking at the amounts of pollen in these crocus flowers, they must be an abundant food source for all kinds of bees and bumblebees. However, only honeybees — whose colonies survive the winter in hives — can quickly deploy a large number of pollen collectors. Flowers and insects co-evolved a myriad of interdependencies, so super early flowering plants, cold adapted, depend on enough pollinating insects to make flowering through

the snow worthwhile. On high alpine meadows there may be other early up-and-about insect species, but here it is honeybees which profit most.

Snowdrops, snowbells, crocuses — they don't compete with any natives, but fill a manmade, unoccupied niche. The very earliest to flower through the snow, *adonis amurensis* and *cyclamen coum*, grow in light shade and slowly form stay-in-place clumps. Unless in a controllable setting, I would stay away from squill — *Scilla siberica* — which is a very aggressive naturalizer and easily escapes.

As we wait for our many native beautiful spring flowers, how nice to have these aliens, such benign aliens for a change, to cheer up a March-brown lawn.

Fritz Mueller lives in Sharon.

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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APRIL 3

LGBTQIA+ Game Night

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

The David M. Hunt Library will partner with Out in the Corner to host a LGBTQIA+ game night from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Bring your own game, play one of the games provided, or just come to hang out. This program will be held monthly on the first Thursday of the month. Out in the Corner is an LGBTQIA+ coalition based in Litchfield County with a mission to provide a safe and inclusive space for the LGBTQIA+ community.

APRIL 4

First Friday Music

Salisbury UCC, 30 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

The Congregational Church of Salisbury will present its monthly First Friday Music in the Meeting House on Friday, April 4 at 12 p.m. at 30 Main St., Salisbury. The Meeting House will open at 11:45 a.m. For this month's program, Litchfield County trusts and estates attorney Donna Vincenti shares her segue into music with an all-Chopin program of piano works. Free to the public.

Millbrook Arts Project: BIO-BASED

Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook, N.Y.

BIO-BASED by Loren Eiferman & Henry Klimowicz will be on view from March 31 to April 26, with a reception on Friday, April 4, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

There will be an Artist Talk: Friday, April 18, 4 p.m.

Details: millbrooklibrary.org/millbrook-arts-project

Celebration of Poetry

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

On Friday, April 4, at 5:30 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village will host a Celebration of Poetry in honor of National Poetry Month!

Participants are invited to read their own poems or pieces by their favorite poets. Each reader will have 5 to 10 minutes

Last week's Word

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to share. All ages are welcome to participate.

Drinks and snacks will be served.

Sharon Volunteer Recognition and Recruitment Event

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

April is National Volunteer Month, and Sharon wants YOU! Join us at the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon to discover volunteer opportunities with local nonprofits, town boards, and commissions.

If you already volunteer in Sharon, come be recognized for your invaluable contribution.

Light refreshments will be served. This event is sponsored by the Sharon Historical Society, Audubon Sharon, and the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon.

For more information, call the Library at 860-364-5041.

APRIL 5

The Future of Ukraine's Children

The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.

A special event to show support and raise awareness of the humanitarian impact of the continuing war in Ukraine on Saturday, April 5, at 4 p.m.

Once Upon a Time in Ukraine: Directors: Betsy West, Richard Blanshard, Tetiana Khodakivska

Sunflower Field: Director: Polina Buchak. Followed by a talkback and Q&A with Sunflower Field director Polina Buchak, and Anastasia Rab, Chief Advancement Officer, RAZOM for Ukraine.

For tickets & more detailed information visit:

bit.ly/TMH-hope-in-every-story-ukraine

How to Improve Memory and Other Cognitive Problems

1 John St., Suite 104, Millerton, N.Y.

A presentation will teach basic skills that have been demonstrated to improve memory and cognitive problems using specific breathing and movement practices.

Heart rate variability and cognitive functions will be discussed. Harvard University has research showing the effectiveness of this ancient traditional Chinese art and practice in improving

mental functions such as memory. Tai Chi movements will be demonstrated. Participants will be able to learn some of these skills and use them at home. Reservations are required for this Free Program. Participation in a free pilot study will be offered.

Please call 518-592-1023 or email drgunser@hushmail.com.

Why Native Plants? Topic Introduction + Q&A

Sharon Town Hall, 63 Main St., Sharon, Conn.

What's the big deal about native plants? Join Mike Nadeau from the Sharon Energy and Environment Commission and Bethany Sheffer from the Sharon Conservation Commission from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for an introduction to what they are, why they're essential to our environment, and how they connect to invasive species management. Register at sharon.audubon.org/events

Saturday Morning Family Series at The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck

The CENTER for Performing Arts, 661 Route 308, Rhinebeck, N.Y. www.centerforperformingarts.org

Saturdays at 11 a.m. Tickets: \$10

Skyhunters in Flight

An indoor falconry presentation followed by an outdoor flight demonstration — weather permitting.

Info & Tickets: www.centerforperformingarts.org

The Mural as Muse Poetry Workshop

American Mural Project, Winsted, Conn.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the American Mural Project, Winsted, Connecticut, Poet Laureate Ed Lent leads this poetry workshop inspired by AMP's five-story Art of Work mural. Writers of all levels will explore free verse and haiku in an immersive creative setting. Tickets are \$30. Ages 16+. Register at www.eventbrite.com/e/art-inspired-poetry-workshop-the-mural-as-muse-with-poet-ed-lent-registration-1258454955649

Downstream from Culture: Crowns, Keys and Power

Kenise Barnes Fine Art, 5 & 7 Fulling Lane, Kent, Conn.

Margaret Lanzetta, an artist known for her significant involvement with culturally inspired

patterns, will discuss the crown series within the trajectory of her practice and the history of imperial crowns and keys. April 5 at 4 p.m.

Playing with Art: Art & Animation for Children of All Ages

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

A vibrant group exhibition featuring colorful works by local artists, including quilts by the Hunt Library Quilters and children's tissue paper collages by Breetel Graves.

The exhibition also includes works from Katie Atkinson, Megan Berk, Erika Crofut, Robert Cronin, and more. Free and open to the public. The exhibition will be on view from April 2 to 25. Reception from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 5.

For more info, visit huntlibrary.org/art-wall or call 860-824-7424.

Twelve Moons Coffee House

Center On Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.

Live music, poetry and storytelling every first Saturday. Doors 6 p.m., open mic 6:30 p.m., featured artists 8 to 9 p.m. Coffee, tea and baked goods available; bring your own dinner if desired.

This month, the featured act is George Potts & Gordon Titcomb. Potts has played with The Joint Chiefs and Wanda Houston. Titcomb has toured with Arlo Guthrie and more.

Make a Vase

Bes, 50 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. www.shop-bes.com

Pottery hand building workshop 1 to 3 p.m. — make a vase and personalize it with handles, a spout, a face — anything you like!

Pieces will be fired and glazed off site by instructor and ready in 4 week's time.

Class will be led by Erica Recto, owner of Bes. Her ceramics are on display in-store and she has 10+ years of experience with clay.

APRIL 6

To Welcome Spring: A Show of Kinetic, Textile and Graphic Arts

Parish House of the United Church of Christ, 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall Village, Conn.

Works by artists Susan Hellmann, Richard Griggs, and Ellen Moon through May 15. The Opening Reception will be on April 6, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. All are welcome. For further information, please call the church office, 860 672-6840.

APRIL 10

Immigration Law Forum with Glenn Formica

Trinity Lime Rock Episcopal Church, 484 Lime Rock Rd., Salisbury, Conn.

Learn what you can do to protect the rights of your neighbors and employees who may be undocumented immigrants. Glenn Formica has 25 years of practice as an immigration attorney and is the lead partner at the law firm Formica, PC in New Haven. Glenn will answer questions after his talk. Light refreshments will be served at this free event. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

If you can't attend in person, register to participate on Zoom at: us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WebsuXC-SC6fszcgks6TkW#/registration

APRIL 12

Egg Hunt

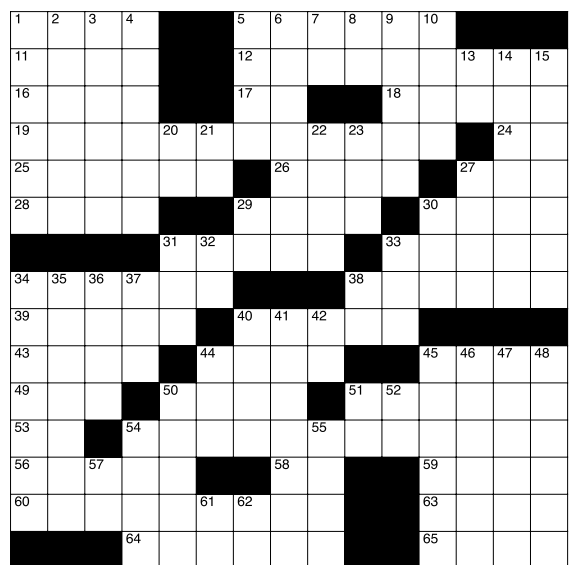
Lawrence Field, Main St., North Canaan, Conn.

North Canaan Recreation Commission hosts the annual egg hunt at 12 p.m. at Lawrence Field. Children aged 10 and under are invited to take part. Eggs can be redeemed for goodie bags. Find the silver and gold eggs for a prize basket. Free event. No rain date.

Brain Teasers

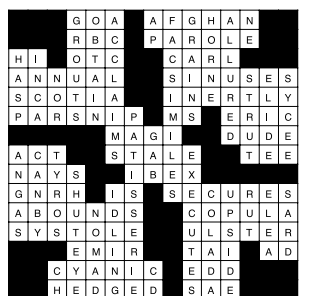
CLUES ACROSS

- Narrow piece of wood
- African desert
- Waxy covering on birds' beaks
- Sour
- Infrequent
- Former AL MVP
- Vaughn
- Policemen wear one
- Out of the question
- Used to chop
- Symptoms
- Not moving
- Folk singer DiFranco
- Comedian Armisen
- Quantitative fact
- Incline from vertical
- Scottish musician
- Rooney and Kate are two
- Positioned
- A very short time
- Tropical American shrubs
- Yemen capital
- Spanish municipality
- Medical professionals
- Fibrous material
- Confined condition (abbr.)
- Without covering
- "Mad Men" honcho Don
- Hockey position
- Taste property
- Fertile spots in a desert
- Fertile precede C
- "Requiem for a Dream" actor Jared
- Try a criminal case
- Liberal rights organization
- Spoke
- Insect repellent



- Global investment bank (abbr.)
- Jewish calendar month
- Popular sandwich
- Swiss river
- Incorrect letters
- Popular entree
- Foot (Latin)
- A driver's license is one form
- Extinct flightless bird
- Appetizer
- After battles
- It neutralizes alkalis
- Beverage container
- Partner to "Pa"
- Gray American rail
- Salt of acetic acid
- Canadian province
- Dish made with lentils
- Narrative poem of popular origin
- For each one

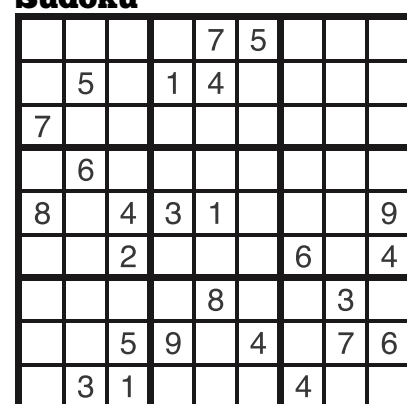
March 27 Solution



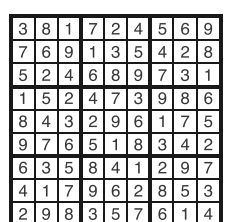
CLUES DOWN

- Unshaven facial hair
- More thin
- Show up
- Seethed
- Ancient Greek city
- Poisonous plant
- Hello
- College sports official
- Monetary unit of Russia
- Wings
- Take too much of a substance
- A citizen of Uganda
- Most appealing
- Atomic #18

Sudoku



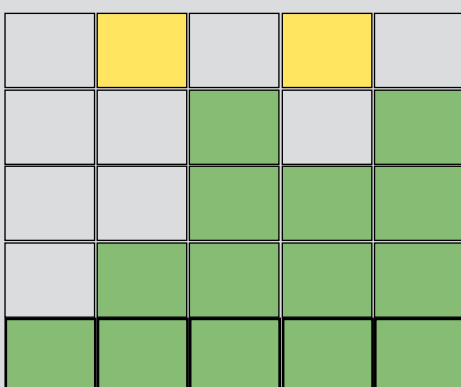
March 27 Solution



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 Word of the Week.



- Jewish potato pancake
- The sound a duck makes
- Botched golf hit
- 2007 T-Pain song "Buy U a ___"
- April Fools Day fun



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OUR TOWNS

Renovation comes into play in Millerton housing market

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

MILLERTON — The four February transfers in the Town of North East show that improving and “flipping” properties continues to be profitable as buyers look for homes that need no renovation or contractors look for attractively priced properties to improve.

There are nine listings of land parcels ranging in price and size from \$3.4 million for 258 acres to a one acre building lot for \$49,000. Four single family homes are available from \$352,000 to \$1,665,000. Also listed are a mobile home and the Millerton Village Hall which reportedly has a buyer over the asking price of \$249,777. No properties are publicly listed for sale in the



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Vacant for a decade, the distressed property at 12 State Line Road was sold for \$265,000. Renovation has begun.

Village of Millerton.

1420 Route 83 — 5 bedroom/2.5 bath home on .46 acres which sold in December 2023 for \$186,000. After renovation another sale was recorded at \$407,500 in February 2024 to Clare Cooper Hall. 391 McGhee Hill Road —

3 bedroom/1.5 bath home was sold in October 2023 for \$350,000, renovated and sold again for \$573,000 to Noah Matthew Goodman.

12 State Line Road — a distressed, vacant 3 bedroom/2 bath house on 3.81 acres was sold for \$265,000 to Lala

Enterprises LLC ready for renovation.

Sharon Road Parcel # 465647, #56635, #584635 — 17.26 acres of land on 3 parcels sold for \$400,000 to Hayden K. Harman, Trustee.

*Town of North East real estate transfers as recorded between Feb. 1, 2025, and Feb. 28, 2025 are sourced from Dutchess County Real Property Tax Service Agency. Information on active listings taken from First Key MLS. Parcel numbers refer to parcel designation by Dutchess County and 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.



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Silent auction surprise

Webutuck elementary student Isabella Acklin, left, won a gift basket at Math & Science night by bidding \$60.50. Acklin is pictured here with her mother Amanda Gallagher, Bank of Millbrook Amenia branch manager Mark Vila and Webutuck PTA president Anna Kall, right.

Casserole dinner at Grange

STANFORD — The Stanford Grange is serving a casserole dinner Saturday, April 12.

The dinner starts at 5 p.m. at the Stanford Grange Hall at 6043 route 82 in Stanford.

The menu includes a chicken, rice, broccoli and cheese casserole; carrot and

raisin salad; and dessert.

Each dinner costs \$17. Service is take-out only. Diners must drive up to the back door at the Grange Hall to purchase and receive their dinner.

Call 845-868-7869 to reserve dinners.

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TOWN OF AMENIA IS SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR PART-TIME RECREATION LEADER: Candidates must possess high school equivalency diploma or GED certificate and one (1) year of experience which involved conducting, organizing, and leading recreation activities. Salary \$18/hour, up to 20 hours a week. Letter of Interest may be submitted via email to dmkingner@ameniany.gov or by mail to Town Clerk, 4988 Route 22, Amenia NY 12501. Application deadline: April 30, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

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TOWN OF CORNWALL HIRING: The Town of Cornwall has a full-time job opening: for a Highway Department Maintainer. CLD required. For more details and to apply, contact First Selectmen's office 860-672-4959.

Real Estate

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