



MILLERTON
Trout time again **A2**



MILLBROOK
Some fantastic finds **A7**

COMPASS
Ukrainian films; and more **B1-4**



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

More than 400 turned out for a HANDS OFF! protest rally in Salisbury Saturday, April 5.

Political protests draw hundreds despite downpour

By RUTH EPSTEIN
Special to The Millerton News

It was all hands on at two HANDS OFF! protest rallies Saturday, April 5, in the Northwest Corner.

Amid heavy rainfall, the lawn of the White Hart Inn in Salisbury was filled to the brim with citizens out to express their fear and anger with the Trump administration. This was one of legions of protests held around the United States that day.

Armed with signs proclaiming a wide range of messages, the more than 400 who turned out were passionate about the causes which they support.

"For me it's the arts," said Maura Wolf of Salisbury, noting specifically that such cultural institutions as PBS are at risk.

Sherie Berk worries about Social Security, the loss of grants and the loss of freedom.

Lisa Gold of Sharon said, "There is so much at risk. I can't just stop at one thing," while Mark

Alexander of Falls Village said he's focused, "on the whole nine yards being stolen. We're losing our democracy if this continues. It was hard for me to decide what sign to make." He eventually settled on one about Medicare.

In a poignant response, Jane Herold of Cornwall talked of her father who was a survivor of the Holocaust. "He didn't ever think he'd see something like that twice in one lifetime. Fortunately, he

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Village of Millerton Budget

2.53% mill rate bump goes to public hearing April 14

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — The Village of Millerton board of trustees held a special meeting on April 3 to review budgetary items and to set a date for a public hearing on the budget. The public hearing will be held on Monday, April 14 at 6 p.m.

The trustees spent much of the session in review and assessment. As a result, the mill rate, briefly discussed at the previous meeting, was clarified the day after the meeting with village clerk Lisa Cope.

According to Cope, the proposed mill rate for this year is 4.32922. Last year the mill rate was 4.22248. The difference is an increase of 2.53% from the previous year's budget. The assessed valuation of Village of Millerton properties increased to 122,207,680.

While Najdek has described the

'I think we all take pride in our Village and all want to have a minimal burden on the taxpayers while trying to provide the necessary services.'
Jenn Najdek

year as "difficult" due in part to the Feb. 3 fire at the Village Water and Highway Building on Route 22, she confirmed multiple checks totaling over \$200,000 in insurance monies have since been received by the Village, but what has been forwarded so far will cover only so much of the losses. She remained optimistic, however, about the completion of the budget, which could feasibly be adopted at the upcoming public session. "I am hoping the proposed budget at the public hearing will be received well," she said afterwards.

See BUDGET, PAGE A6

American Legion hosts final pancake breakfast of the season

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON – Sunday's rain didn't deter diners from enjoying the hospitality and pancakes offered up by the American Legion. "We always enjoy it," said Joe Perusse of Millerton, who alongside his wife, Jaclyn, and their two children, was tucking into a plate of all the best breakfast has to offer: eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries and toast – and of course, pancakes.

His tablemate, Chris Reyes, who was there with his own two children, agreed, saying, "It's absolutely delicious. Generous portions, all you can eat."

It was the last pancake breakfast of the season for the American

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PHOTO BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

Pancakes brought out both smiles and families to the American Legion's April 6 breakfast. Pictured clockwise: Chris Reyes, Lillian Perusse, Jaclyn Perusse, Joe Perusse, Tillman Perusse, Brody Reyes and Cooper Reyes.

Realtors retain positive outlook

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

Area realtors expressed little concern about last week's historic decline in global capital markets and largely agree it's too soon to know what the impact will be.

"In times of economic uncertainty — whether driven by market volatility or global trade tensions — real estate remains one of the most reliable investments," observed Elyse Harney Morris of Elyse Harney Real Estate. "Unlike the stock market, which can react instantly to news and speculation, real estate is grounded in tangible value, especially in regions like Litchfield County. We continue to see strong interest in existing homes, and the current market has not shown signs of slowing due to increased building costs. If anything, those higher costs have made move-in ready homes even more attractive. I believe we'll

continue to see people investing in properties here as a way to diversify their assets, secure a foothold outside the city and enjoy the lifestyle this beautiful area offers. In a shifting economic landscape, real estate up here isn't just a safe harbor — it's a smart move."

One real estate broker largely confirmed Harney's viewpoint. "It's too early to tell. We remain in a high demand market... Properties priced properly are going under contract in fourteen days or less, in some cases, within the first two days of listing with multiple offers and closing above list price."

Andrew Gates, a real estate agent with Houlihan & Lawrence in Millbrook commented, "No one can tell if the tariffs will have any direct effect on our local market, which as everyone knows is driven by demand from second home owners, largely based in

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CONTACT

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OPINION
Columns **A5**



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OUR TOWNS

Town Board approves purchase of new playground equipment

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Following months of planning, the Town Board voted at their regular meeting on Thursday, April 3, to approve the purchase and installation of a new unit of playground equipment at Beekman Park, replacing an out-of-service unit.

Providing the equipment will be Great Lakes Recreation at a cost of \$131,020, through the town's membership in a Minnesota-based purchasing cooperative, Sourcewell.

In other action, the board agreed unanimously to proceed with redesign and replacement of audio-visual equipment in the Town Hall first floor meeting room.

The contract was awarded to Tamboia Media at a cost not to exceed \$21,807.50.

Discussion continued on the issue of parking in the town's commercial center. Possibilities include converting the basketball court along Route 343 to parking. The

basketball court could be relocated.

"This is something we should circle back on in cooperation with the Recreation Commission," Town Supervisor Leo Blackman said.

Council member Rosanna Hamm agreed that there is a need for additional parking but added that a parking lot would require curb cuts to create entrances, reducing street parking by a number of spaces. Hamm suggested an evaluation to determine the net number of spaces that would be added by a parking lot on the basketball court site.

Continuing discussion, councilmember Brad Rebillard emphasized the importance of promoting walkability throughout the town center.

The next meeting of the Town Board will be held on Wednesday, April 16, at 7 p.m., a change from its usual Thursday meeting date. A quorum would not have been able to attend on that Thursday, necessitating the change.

Town of North East sees renewed interest in fishing licenses with start of trout season

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — For trout-fishing enthusiasts, the time has come to cast a line — or at least obtain a fishing license to do so.

Spring trout season began in New York State on April 1. Since it started, North East Town Clerk Tilly Strauss has observed a jump in the number of local fishing licenses being requested at town hall. Strauss reported that seven fishing licenses were issued in the month of March. As of April 4, the number stood at 10 with more anticipated to come.

Renewed interest in licensing at this time of year is not unusual. Fishing licenses can be issued at any time during the year, but particular fishing seasons drive the demand for licenses. According to Strauss, what has differed recently from seasons past is the range of people applying for fishing licenses. "With hunters, you get the same sort of guys," Strauss said, pointing out the diversity of fishing license applicants who vary in age, gender and walk of life.

While there are no trout at nearby Rudd Pond, licensed local anglers looking to reel in this particular species of fish can head to Wasaic Creek/Tenmile River in Amenia, which is home to brown trout and brook trout. According to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, over 9,000 brown trout are stocked on an annual basis at Tenmile River. The DEC also lists largemouth bass, chain pickerel, bluegills, black crappie and yellow perch as fish which can be pulled out of Rudd Pond.

According to deputy town clerk Marcy Wheatley, 60 fishing licenses were issued at town hall in 2024. It remains to be seen whether this figure will fluctuate in any direction over the course of 2025.

For New York state residents, \$25 is the current an-



PHOTO BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

George Brazee of Amenia wasn't having much luck reeling them in at Rudd Pond on April 3 due to equipment failure, but he did have his fishing license on hand in case it was needed.

nual fee to obtain a fishing license for ages 16 to 69. Residents of the state who are 70 and older will pay an annual

fee of \$5. Licenses can be purchased online, over the phone or through a license issuing agent. For more information,

go to www.dec.ny.gov, navigate to "Freshwater Fishing," and click on "Get a Fishing License."

Community Swim program to begin

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — The Amenia Recreation Department has announced that registrations are open for a new Community Swimming program at Maplebrook School.

The final piece in the months-long planning saga was the hiring of four lifeguards for the program, receiving unanimous approval at the Town Board meeting on Thursday, April 3.

"It's really exciting," said Town Supervisor Leo Blackman, following the vote.

Maplebrook pool facilities will be open weekly on Sun-

days, Mondays and Wednesdays, with seniors having an hour of pool time to themselves before the pool opens to others and families.

On Sundays, seniors may swim from 2 to 3 p.m., with open swimming beginning at 3:15 and continuing until 4:15 p.m. On Mondays and Wednesdays, seniors will swim from 4 to 5 p.m., with open swimming beginning at 5:15 and continuing until 6:15 p.m.

Fees are \$5 per person or \$10 per family for a single session. Or, monthly for \$50 per person or \$70 per family.

For more information or to register, email recreation@ameniany.gov.

Amenia pancake breakfast April 13

AMENIA — The Amenia Fire Company's monthly pancake breakfast is set for Sunday, April 13 from 7:30 to 11 a.m.

For \$12, diners can get pancakes, sausage, French toast, eggs and omelettes, home fries, bacon and beverages. Seniors and kids under 12

eat for \$11.

Call 845-373-8352 for information.

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.



Non-profit SPOTLIGHT

SAVE THE DATE
North East Community Center's
CHEF & FARMER BRUNCH
Annual Fundraiser
July 20th, 11:30 am - 2 pm
www.necmillerton.org

An evening with Dr. Dasgupta, the author of
WHERE BIOLOGY ENDS AND BIAS BEGINS
April 17, 2025
6:30 - 8:00 PM
The Colonial Theatre
The Colonial Theatre is thrilled to host author Shoumita Dasgupta for a conversation about her new book *Where Biology Ends and Bias Begins: Lessons on Belonging from Our DNA*. The author and a moderator will delve into the crucial and timely topics this book explores. The talk will be followed by a book sale and signing, where attendees will have the opportunity to meet the author.
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YOUTH IN DEMOCRACY

PILL BOTTLE COLLECTION FOR PROGRESS

Come to the Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station on April 15th from 11am-2pm for our kickoff event and more information about our program.

Bring your empty pill bottles, questions, and community pride!

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Sunday, May 17th
Rare Plants & Garden Antiques Sale Event
Lime Rock Park - Lakeville, CT

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PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Kick up your heels

A workshop presentation, "The Secret Language of Flamenco," by the Hudson Valley Flamenco Festival drew a rapt audience to The Millbrook Library on Saturday, April 5, to learn more about the improvisational percussive dance form. Demonstrating the unchoreographed communication between dance performer and musician were Anna Librada, creative director of Hudson Valley Flamenco Festival, and guitarist/vocalist Ricardo Sanchez. The state-funded program, administered by Arts Mid-Hudson, will return to Millbrook in October for another performance event.

Late-night knock-and-run prank at Millerton residence

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — A resident of Park Street concerned about late-night noise at their front door contacted the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office to report the incident, but has since walked back on their original suspicions.

According to officer Erik Breen of the Millerton Police Department, the alleged incident occurred on April 4.

Two suspects were captured on the resident's ring camera approaching the home of Audrey and Ron Watson around midnight. Deputies spoke with Ron Watson, but during the course of the conversation, Watson conveyed the noise he heard from the outside of their home may have been a knock on their door. Millerton police chief Joseph Olenik spoke with the News on April 6 and confirmed the likelihood of a prank.

The suspects, who have not yet been identified, may possibly have been playing a game of "knock-and-run" a prank in which participants ring a doorbell or knock on a door and retreat soon after, leaving behind puzzled residents.

While the News was able to connect with the Millerton Police Department to confirm the details, attempts to contact the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office for commentary were unsuccessful at press time.

Impact of federal cuts on county gauged by comptroller via survey

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — The Dutchess County comptroller's office has launched an online survey to collect in-

formation on residents and organizations impacted by the loss of federal employment or funding as a result of cuts from the Trump administration.

The data gleaned from the survey will be verified and eventually will be provided to state, local and federal officials. Its purpose is to serve as a means of evaluating community impacts while guiding fiscal planning for the county.

According to the comp-

troller's office, nearly \$35 million in federal support to the county has been lost, impacting projects on the local level. Town of North East supervisor, Chris Kennan, had raised concerns on local funding cuts at a town board meeting on March 13.

For more information on the online survey, visit: www.dutchessny.gov, navigate to "Departments," navigate to "County Comptroller," and click on "Loss of Federal Funding/Job Survey."

OBITUARIES

Peter Andres Jensen

COPAKE — On March 31, 2025, Peter Andres Jensen, entered the heavenly gates to be with his longtime love, Mary Lou. He will always be loved and cherished by his family and three sons; Christian (Cathy), David (Alexis) and Kurt (Courtney) and many grandchildren and great-grand children.



Peter grew up in the town of Copake, and was the son of Walter Christian Jensen and Lula (Langdon) Jensen, one of three sons (Thomas, predeceased, Eric) and protector of his only sister (Amy Lu, predeceased). He attended Roe Jan School, then his beloved University of Connecticut. While at UCONN he worked an internship at Glen Afton Farms in Ontario, Canada, where he met the love of his life, Mary Lou. They returned to Copake to shepherd the family dairy farm "Toper-A Farms" and raise a family. The Jensen boys were nurtured and raised with the same work ethic and get it done attitude that Peter lived by. Always challenged, but never down. Later in life, Peter worked for J. Reiner and Sons and then Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Connecticut until his retirement.

Peter joined the Copake Fire Company #1, later in life, but was very active as Captain of the Fire Police and proudly served a term as Fire Commissioner for the Copake Fire

District. Peter always enjoyed caring for his community and the "family atmosphere" of the firehouse.

During retirement, he enjoyed reading American history and watching UCONN girls basketball games "Go Huskies." Peter and Mary Lou would travel throughout the Eastern United States and Canada seeing family and friends along the way. He was always enjoying the life that was given and took nothing for granted. Peter and Mary Lou always enjoyed the company of family and friends. He would recall his many adventures with his brothers and sister and from his farming days and showing dairy cows at fairs and at the black and white shows.

As we lay to rest our father, we have faith that he will be at peace and join his beloved wife, Mary Lou, forever more and to eternity.

Please join family and friends in remembering Peter on April 12, 2025, beginning at 10 a.m. at Peck & Peck Funeral Homes, 8063 Route 22, Copake, where a funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Interment will follow in Copake cemetery.

Donations may be made in Peter's honor to the Copake Fire Company #1 or your favorite charity. For directions or to leave a message of condolence for the family please visit www.peckandpeck.net

Edith Twiss Loening

SALISBURY — Edith (Edie) Twiss Loening, of New York City and Salisbury, died on Feb. 23, 2024, at 88. Raised in New York City and a graduate of The Chapin School and Smith College, Edie was best known for her work at The Garden Club of America, her dry sense of humor, and her skill as a watercolor artist.



In 1960 the lovely petite blond married dashing lawyer Michael Loening, (who predeceased her in 2022), and had two sons, Brooke and George. When her children were in their teens, Edie began volunteering. Ahead of her time in many areas, her sons recall her teaching children at New York public schools how to build raised beds and grow vegetables on the school property—a practice that is popular today but was not so common back then. Her interest in the

natural world also expressed itself through art: Edie was a talented watercolorist who painted flowers, plants and vegetables with photorealistic skill.

Joining The Garden Club of America in 1985, she became a prominent member of both the New York City and Millbrook, New York chapters, where she received many awards for helping to create exhibits that educated both members and the public on a wide range of environmental issues, including the importance of wildlife preservation and the impact of invasive plants and insects on the native landscape. Much loved by all in the GCA and a wide circle of friends, she was remembered as a hard worker, for her great wit and as a true environmentalist.

She is survived by her sons and grandchildren, Heidi, Lola, Chloe, Luke, and Ruby.

All Saints church marks 35 years

By SAVA MARINKOVIC
Special to The Millerton News

SALISBURY, Conn. — This year All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church is celebrating its 35th anniversary and its first as a fully realized parish.

Consecrated in 1994, the church persisted as a mission prior to its elevation to parish status by newly-appointed Bishop Benedict of Hartford and New England on July 7, 2024.

Currently, the church operates out of the restored former St. Francis Chapel on the shores of Salisbury's Twin Lakes, where it serves as the spiritual home for a devoted community of Orthodox Christian parishioners —

many of whom were present at its nascent gatherings in the early '90s.

As much as has changed for the parish in its 35 years, yet more has remained the same. Adhering to the annual movements of a liturgical calendar that has repeated itself for centuries, worship at All Saints of America resembles that of Eastern Orthodox communities the world over — all of which are now in the latter phase of Great Lent: the preparatory season preceding Easter, or Pascha.

Daily services will be offered in English from April 12 to 20. All Saints of America invites the community to participate in the observation of its anniversary and celebration of the Resurrection.

For more obituaries, see Page A4

Email news and photos to editor@millertonnews.com

When it comes to finances, it matters who has your back.

Meet Beth Coon, branch manager of our Pine Plains branch. If you ask her what she likes most about her job, she will say it's all about the customers — from helping high school grads open their first bank accounts, to assisting older customers maneuver new banking services like Online Banking. With over 30 years of local banking experience, Beth says "it's great to be part of a bank where family and community are so important."

Stop by, say hi to Beth and tell her what financial services she can help you with. She's a great listener!



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OBITUARIES

Allyn H. Hurlburt III

CORNWALL — It is with great sadness that I share that I lost my husband, Buddy, my best friend and soulmate in a matter of minutes with no warning, at home on March 31, 2025. Our wonderful children are a testament to who he was and what we are as a family.



Buddy was born on July 5, 1955 as Allyn H. Hurlburt III, but went by Buddy because his father and grandfather were both Allyns too.

During school, he excelled in public speaking and was the FFA President in 1972-1973, which earned him a sharp blue jacket with gold letters that he recently wore with the buttons proudly closed up! He grew up with his siblings working on the farm and ended up being the one who purchased the farm from his parents. Anyone who has ever worked a farm knows that the work is constant, hard and sometimes not profitable, though always rewarding, and a great way to raise children.

In 1997, life changed for both of us and we were lucky enough to "save each other" as we liked to refer to it, and we combined forces and families and made a go! What an adventure we had, more kids, more cows, more chickens and more fun. We even made time for a couple of big trips to Florida so Buddy could visit some of the country. With the help of our kids, we milked cows, planted corn, sold eggs and eventually even diversified into pasteurizing and selling our own cheese and milk in glass bottles. Delivered fresh weekly to 27 different stores all over Connecticut.

Alas, economics won out and we struggled until we decided that our quality of life would improve with two full time jobs and part time farming. Buddy worked for the Town of Cornwall until he retired. These last few years have been busy for him despite "retiring", he had odd jobs mostly at home, helped anyone that asked, kept tabs on the kids and what they needed, fed the animals we still have and of course tended to his beloved bird family out-

side, which we will continue faithfully.

He mostly enjoyed his family, his children meant the most to him, gave him so much pride and joy and love. He would sing their praises ad nauseum to anyone who would listen or look at high school basketball

footage or listen to stories of their accomplishments. He loved going to a field hockey game for Brooke and then watching Mason swim at the lake.

Buddy loved people, meeting people, talking to people, helping people, learning from people, everywhere he went. He was funny, kind, generous to a fault, and deeply loved me and our family. He was in a happy place in his life, with so many things that he was planning and looking forward to which makes his passing even more heartbreaking to us.

Buddy is survived by his loving wife Irene of 28 years, daughters, Ciara (John) Orchard, Caroline (Matthew) Murray, sons, Brian (Chloe) Fossati, Carl Fossati, Jonathan (Regina) Hurlburt, grandsons Mason Hurlburt; granddaughter Charlotte Hurlburt, daughter-in-law Erin Reilly (Jason) and granddaughters Rita Dzedzic and Brooke Hurlburt, daughter Brittany (Benjamin) Palinkas and granddaughters Hadley and Kasey, son Christopher Hurlburt and grandchildren. He is also survived by his mother, Anita Hurlburt, siblings, Patricia (Ross) Huntington, (John in Heaven), Richard Hurlburt, William (Becky) Hurlburt, David (Valerie) Hurlburt, James Hurlburt, Nancy (Rob) Hohlfelder and Jennifer (Joseph) Markow. Also many nieces, nephews, (Timmy in Heaven), grand nieces and grand nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2025, at 1p.m., at the United Church of Christ, Congregational, in Cornwall Village, CT. Burial will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department, PO BOX 180, West Cornwall, CT 06796.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

FALLS VILLAGE — David Charles Wilburn, 75, of Falls Village, died peacefully surrounded by his family on March 23, 2025, at Vassar Hospital, Poughkeepsie, New York.

David was born on Aug. 5, 1949, in Asheville, North Carolina. He grew up with his older brother, Randall Wilburn, and was raised by his father, Harold Charles Wilburn, and his mother, Marcene Hicks Wilburn. He was educated at Georgetown Preparatory School in North Bethesda, Maryland, The University of Notre Dame du Lac in South Bend, Indiana, and St. John's University School of Law in New York City, New York.

He began his career as an attorney at The Tennessee Valley Authority, where he met his wife, Sally Scott Wilburn. The two were married at First United Methodist Church in Jackson, Tennessee on Nov. 29, 1980. It was shortly after that David and Sally, two lifelong Southerners, both with families with the deepest of Southern roots extending back to the English and Scottish Colonies of the 1600s, made a lifelong change — they became permanent East Coasters. They moved to the Upper East Side of Manhattan, where David had a career in corporate and municipal finance, as Vice President at Kidder Peabody and UBS (then United Bank of Switzerland), and later as Managing Director at Paine Webber.

With plans for a family, in 1987 David and Sally bought a Queen Anne-style brownstone on Strong Place in Brooklyn's Cobble Hill neighborhood, which became the childhood home for their two sons, Alexander and Clayton, and their daughter, Katherine. Their three children were all born at New York University Hospital in Manhattan and christened at Grace Episcopal Church in Brooklyn. In 1998, David and his family moved full time to the second home where they had enjoyed so many summers and Christmases, a Colonial Revival house listed in the Register of Historic Homes of Sharon, Connecticut.

In the Northwest Corner of Connecticut, David was an active and eager community member, especially when it came to athletics. His efforts shaped Salisbury Youth Hockey into the program it is today, including naming

the team the Redhawks and designing the original logo with his son, Alexander. He spent many frigid, early winter mornings with a hot coffee in hand, shuttling his two hockey players, Clayton and Katherine, to play in weekend games across New England through their grade school and high school years.

Beyond team sports, David was enthusiastic about giving his children a rich cultural education, whether through old films, photography and art exhibits, productions of Shakespeare and New York's American Ballet Company — and of course, classic sci-fi, including "The Empire Strikes Back" and "Star Trek: The Wrath of Khan." He instilled a love of the outdoors in his children as well, and in fatherhood enjoyed downhill skiing, fishing, doubles tennis and scuba diving in the Caribbean. He loved to golf, a passion he inherited from his own father, and spent many early summer mornings on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, golfing with son, Clayton, his father-in-law, the late Dr. Barnett Scott, his brother-in-law, David Scott, and his nephew, Andrew Scott.

In 2007 David embarked on an unexpected venture and brought his love of the culinary arts to the public when he opened the New American-style restaurant Chives in Lakeville, Connecticut. Favorably reviewed in the New York Times in 2008, Patricia Brooks wrote, "The crisp, neat, fresh-looking little place is enlivened by water glasses in electric Giverny blue" and later complemented the "seared yellowfin tuna and soba noodles, baked Westfield goat cheese salad; asparagus risotto, crispy-skin Loch Duart salmon, pan-seared Maine diver scallops and house-made ice creams." The tough-as-nails Lakeville Journal food critic Marsden Epworth even complimented the restaurant's "magazine-cool presentation."

David and Sally shared a love for home restoration, and the pair could be seen over the years working together as a team on interior renovations and decorating (they were both great fans of the late Mario Buatta), as well as spending their warmer days out among the many pastel

peonies, dahlias and roses in their garden.

In the couple's later years, they bought their shingle-style home in The Historic District of Main Street in Falls Village, Connecticut. David served as treasurer of the Falls Village Community Development Corp., and was elected to two terms on the Falls Village Board of Finance. Especially in his later life, David was a passionate progressive, who believed in economic, racial and housing equity, and that it was the role of the community to look out for those in need.

David is predeceased by his parents, Harold and Marcene Wilburn, his older brother, Randall Wilburn, as well as his departed buddy, the Wilburns' chocolate Labrador retriever, Jasper, named after the artist Jasper Johns.

He is survived by his wife,

Sally Scott Wilburn, and his three children, Charles Alexander Wilburn, Clayton Scott Wilburn, and Katherine Wilburn Lasacco. David was in attendance (and is remembered for his excellent speeches) as Clayton married Elizabeth Teitzel Wilburn in Nashville, Tennessee in 2018, and his daughter Katherine wed Jeremy Lassaco in Ocean Grove, New Jersey, in 2021. David became a grandfather for the first time upon the birth of Jeremy and Katherine's baby girl, Scarlett Joan Lassaco, on April 19, 2023, and again on Oct. 1, 2024, upon the birth of Clayton and Elizabeth's daughter, Sophie Madison Wilburn.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

A private family service is planned for the spring.

In lieu of flowers please make a memorial donation to David's cherished local library, the David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, CT 06031.

David Charles Wilburn



peonies, dahlias and roses in their garden.

In the couple's later years, they bought their shingle-style home in The Historic District of Main Street in Falls Village, Connecticut. David served as treasurer of the Falls Village Community Development Corp., and was elected to two terms on the Falls Village Board of Finance. Especially in his later life, David was a passionate progressive, who believed in economic, racial and housing equity, and that it was the role of the community to look out for those in need.

David is predeceased by his parents, Harold and Marcene Wilburn, his older brother, Randall Wilburn, as well as his departed buddy, the Wilburns' chocolate Labrador retriever, Jasper, named after the artist Jasper Johns.

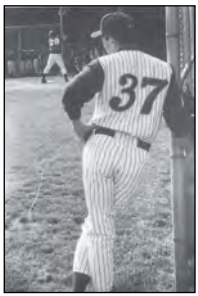
He is survived by his wife,

For more obituaries, see Page A3

Send obituaries to obituaries@lakevillejournal.com

Worship Services Week of April 13, 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 New 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 jokialoi@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 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>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 515 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 Holy Week and Easter services are listed online. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>

SALISBURY — Richard M. "Mike" Metzger, 78, passed away Friday, April 4, 2025, at GEER Assisted Living, Canaan.



Mike was born on July 11, 1946, in Rockville Centre, New York, son of the late Richard A. Metzger and Gloria A. (O'Donnell) Metzger. He made his home in Salisbury for the past 25 years and was known throughout the community for his warmth, generosity, and passion for sports and education.

Mike dedicated his professional life to teaching and coaching in Nassau County, New York. He spent much of his career at North Shore High School, where he not only taught but also made a lasting impact as a dedicated coach. He founded the school's summer baseball program and led his teams to numerous championships in both baseball and bowling, shaping the lives of countless student-athletes along the way. A proud member of the

Professional Bowlers Association and the Nassau County Coaches Association, Mike was a competitor at heart and a mentor by nature.

In his younger years, Mike excelled as an athlete, playing professional bowling and continuing to play baseball well into his 50s. His lifelong love of classic American muscle cars earned him many trophies and brought him joy and camaraderie at competitions throughout the years.

Mike will be remembered not only for his many accomplishments but for his good-natured spirit and unwavering kindness. He was the type of person who always went the extra mile—whether that meant lending a hand to a friend, guiding a student toward their potential, or simply offering a word of encouragement when it was needed most. He truly was an all-around good guy and his legacy lives on in the lives he touched.

Richard M. Metzger

Survivors include his siblings; Thomas Metzger (Madeline) and Mary D'Ambrosio (Joe); nieces and nephews, Michael D'Ambrosio (Kerri) and their children Shea and Camden, Kristen D'Ambrosio (Mike Faraglia) and their child Hazel, Katie Bell (Darren) and their children Bryce and Carolina, and Megan D'Ambrosio

(Matt Sinese) and their child, Ben.

Services will be held in the near future. Ryan Funeral Home, Lakeville, is in care of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. To offer an online condolence, please visit ryanfhct.com

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THE MILLERTON NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE A5

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

Follow the money is wrong — it's the power

When any human has sufficient money or access to unlimited funds, the actual value of money diminishes. Do you really think that any of these titans of industry who make more in a day than you make in a lifetime are worried about money at all? If Musk, Bezos, Allen, Gates spent \$1,000,000 a day, they would have more the next day than the day before, even spending freely for a year, because their wealth is so vast they cannot, physically, spend more than even the lowest interest rate would replenish their wealth. Look, if each of them had all their money in \$100 bills, crisp new bills, it would stack up from here to the moon. Yes, that much. It is obscene.

And that's the point. When a human has that much, and knows that no matter what he does, it'll never be spent or lost, money ceases to be a driving factor in their lives. Power does. The search for a measure of self-worth has morphed from money-gathering to power-grabbing.

Much worse than financial avarice or desire to beat-the-Joneses, at a certain point in all these billionaires' careers, they ceased worrying about a paycheck and switched to that ultimate primordial feeling of superiority. The ruthless need for so much power breeds total contempt for the fellow man, government structures, morals and, what is truly awful, the value of life on Earth. Look, these are not stupid people, these are not ignorant people, these people have become so perverted that

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Peter Riva

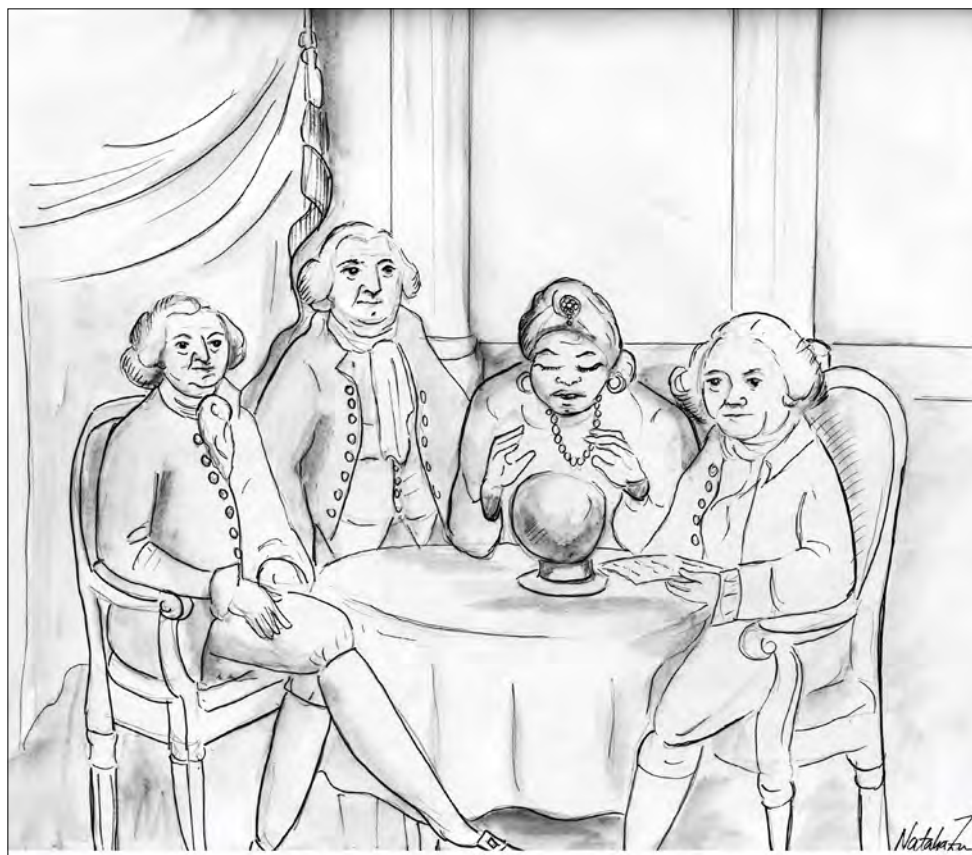
they have lost the capability to empathize, or care, or prognosticate for the welfare of others, the planet, or the future.

That lack of empathy, nurtured by the need for more and more power to measure their own self-worth, is taking them down a road that can only lead to destruction: theirs or ours, or both.

So stop thinking the game here is making money, using money to buy voters, using money to corrupt politicians. The game here is without value of money, it is about pure, unfettered power, a blind capability to seek to control everything that they can. Like addicts, they need the daily cut and thrust of the exercise of that power. There is no long-term strategy for the individual beyond doing something big, every day, every moment, to impose that power, to feel the capability of that power.

Power is a drug for them. Money means nothing. As the Roman historian Tacitus said, "Those who seek absolute power are those who are intoxicated by their own ambition." And the possible outcome? Also from Tacitus, "They make a desert and call it peace."

Peter Riva, a former resident of Amenia Union, New York, now lives in Gila, New Mexico.



"...and in the year 2025, a man will stand to defend it for 25 hours and 4 minutes...no like literally stand."

Why wildlife finds new homes in urban spaces

Dear EarthTalk: Why do some wild animals live in cities more than in rural areas? — L.K. via email

When people think of wildlife, they often picture animals wandering in nature. However, in the past 15 years, scientists have found more animals moving into and thriving in cities—sometimes even more successfully than in their natural habitats.

Before learning about why animals are moving to cities, it's important to understand what urban and rural mean. Urban areas are densely populated regions dominated by human activity. Rural areas are sparsely populated with

EARTHTALK

Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss

more natural ecosystems. Wildlife that successfully adapt to city life are often called urban wildlife. Unlike rural areas, where animals rely on seasonal food cycles, the urban environment provides them with more predictable food sources like waste bins, pet foods and restaurant waste, ensuring a steady food supply. Thus, animals endure harsher habits in rural areas, leading to greater migration into the city.

"Anecdotally, we see high



PHOTO CREDIT: PEXELS.COM

A coyote on a city street is not an uncommon sight.

densities of coyotes in nature preserves and urban parks," said Emily Zepeda, of the School of Environment and Natural Resources from Ohio State University. "Also, in low-income areas, coyotes are 11/2 times more likely to survive to age two than in high-income areas," due to the amount of human food waste. The presence of humans discourages natural predators, unlike rural areas where predation is a major threat to wildlife. Thus, animals prefer cities, as they can thrive with less competition. Moreover, urban settings provide animals with shelter, like parks and suburban green spaces. Also, warmer microclimates in cities make survival easier for animals that struggle in colder rural areas.

Urban wildlife is adapting to cities in many ways. Lauren Stanton, a PhD candidate at the University of Wyoming, says that raccoons in Toronto "are making rapid associations, and they can alter their behavior." To find more food sources, animals have learned to synchronize their behavior

with human activity; for example, raccoons have learned to get inside rubbish bins with securely locked lids. And pigeons typically nest on cliffs, and a multi-story building is indeed a type of cliff, albeit manmade. Therefore, adapting to cities isn't hard for the pigeons due to preadaptation.

Living in cities as urban wildlife isn't easy. There is a risk of vehicle collisions, habitat fragmentation and human-wildlife conflict. Thousands of animals die each year on roads. Humans are also at risk. Animals cause serious road hazards. Bears break into homes and garages to search for food. Ultimately, humans need to balance urbanization with wildlife needs, like expanding natural habitats, thoughtful city planning and wildlife corridors to ensure a future where both species can live together safely and peacefully.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk.

Post Office move prompts a stir; classroom 'phone patch', rail trail toilet idea gets flushed

April 12, 1934

'Moving of Post Office Criticised by Leading Citizens of Millerton.'

That the action of the United States Post Office Department in removing the Millerton post office from the Shufelt building on Main Street to its present location in Center Street is meeting almost universal condemnation among the citizens of the village is indicated by protests arising from some of the leading citizens of the village when interviewed by a representative of THE NEWS during the past few days.

'NOTICE'; I would respectfully inform my customers that I am continuing to deliver ice, and will give prompt service. I thank you for your past patronage.

Tel. 23-11.

RALPH BRIZZIE, Pine Plains.

'Mrs. Rand Appears With Roosevelts In Picture'; A picture of Mrs. Ellen Emmet Rand, of Salisbury, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Mrs. James Roosevelt, mother of the President, viewing the portrait of President Roosevelt painted by Mrs. Rand and now on exhibition in New York appeared in Tuesday's New York Herald Tribune. Mrs. Rand's painting is to be the official White House portrait of the President.

April 10, 1975

'Phone Patch' Brings Experts To Webutuck'; For the last several months teachers at Webutuck Junior-Senior High

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

School have been using the telephone as an important instructional tool. "Recognizing that a textbook alone cannot fully bring instruction to life, teachers are now employing a 'phone patch' device to bring expert speakers directly into the classroom" said Principal Jerry Cramp, the initiator of the program at Webutuck.

The "phone patch" allows everyone in the classroom to hear the expert's telephone voice and a microphone allows any student to speak directly to him. "This allows for total interaction between the speaker and the class, just as if he were right in the classroom," said Cramp.

'Eastern N.Y. Holstein Club Honors Benekes Of Millerton'; Mr. and Mrs. Joachim Beneke of Willowbrook Farm, Millerton, were the honored guests of the Eastern New York Holstein Club Saturday evening, April 5. The annual spring banquet was held at Bennett College in Millbrook.

Each year at the banquet the Holstein Club honors one of its members. The Benekes have been active in the organization since 1951 and began farming in this area in 1944. They have a total herd of 300 Holsteins and own 800 acres of crop land.

'Editorial: Checkerboard Turn'; The checkerboard turn on Route 22 has been a curse

to Millerton for too long. It is time that Village officials and concerned residents pressure the state highway department to erect emphatic warning signs before any more bad accidents occur.

Last weekend 4 teenagers barely escaped serious injury when their Volkswagen flipped over at the sharp right angle turn, just south of the Village Center.

April 13, 2000

'Toilets on Trail: Don't Hold Your Breath'; MILLERTON — Comfort stations and emergency telephones are not likely along the rail trail anytime soon, according to Dick Hermans, president of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association (HVRTA).

"They're expensive and maintenance is problematic," said Mr. Herman's, who noted that there were toilet facilities available behind the North East Community Center. "I think people who use the trail a lot plan accordingly," he said. He added that any facilities with doors tended to attract loiterers.

The comfort station issue has attracted some attention from business owners in the area, as there are not many known public toilets in Millerton. The one in the rear of the community center, for example, does not seem designed for high traffic and is not always open.

'Merwin House Saved, Sold to Millerton Man'; MILLERTON — North East craftsman David Shapiro this week bought the old Merwin House from landowner

Christof Hamm and will dismantle and move it to his own property on Indian Lake Road, where it will be reconstructed, Mr. Shapiro said.

According to the closing contract, finalized on April 10, the house on Merwin-Clark Road has to be off Mr. Hamm's property by April 30. Deconstruction will begin April 12 or 13, according to Mr. Shapiro.

'Easter Egg Hunt Is Saturday'; MILLERTON — The Millerton Fire Department, American Legion Post 178, and the Millerton Gun Club along with the Round Tuit will sponsor the seventh Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 15, at 11 a.m. at the Millerton Fire House. In addition to the Easter Egg Hunt, there will be a hayride from the Millerton Fire House on Century Boulevard to the Millerton Gun Club.

'Webutuck Science Evening A Hot Ticket For All'; WEBUTUCK— Despite the threat of inclement weather, scores of people packed Webutuck High School Tuesday night for the district's annual Science Night. And they weren't disappointed. "This has been great," said organizer Joanne Boyd. "This is our third year and it gets easier every year."

Parents, students and friends of the Webutuck district attended almost a dozen different workshops with a wide range of topics, including Asian math and science, simple mechanics, liquids, "Computer Guts" and "Death Defying Physics."

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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OUR TOWNS

New York State Police property stolen from Cottonwood Motel

By KRISTA A. BRIGGS
kristab@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Public knowledge is being sought in a burglary at the Cottonwood Motel over the weekend which saw items belonging to the New York State Police unlawfully removed from the premises.

According to Trooper

Krystal Paolicelli, law enforcement was utilizing the Fowler Road venue for a training session when the burglary occurred, somewhere between Saturday, April 5, and Sunday, April 6, between the hours of 3 p.m. to 11 a.m.

At press time, Paolicelli was unable to verify which items — or how many items — were taken from the property,

which sustained some damage as a result. She could confirm that the public is not in harm's way, saying, "Nothing was taken that was a threat."

The investigation is ongoing, and there are no suspects at this time. Anyone with any information may contact the New York State Police, Troop K, at 845-677-7300 or via email at crimetip@troopers.ny.gov.

Hillsdale takes its turn to host Memorial Day parade

HILLSDALE — Patriotism will be on full display when Hillsdale hosts the annual Roe-Jan Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 26.

The parade, which Hillsdale, Ancram and Copake take turns hosting, will feature floats,

bands, marchers of both the human and canine varieties, vintage cars, veterans and more. Additionally, a special commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the 1775 Revolutionary War Knox Expedition will be on display.

Interested participants can join the parade by creating or

sponsoring a float, organizing marchers, taking a drive down the parade route in vintage vehicles — or by dressing in Revolutionary War-themed apparel.

Registration required. For further information, contact deputyclerk@hillsdaleny.com.

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 referendum 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
04-10-25

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

TOWN OF AMENIA PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

that pursuant to NYS Town Law § 277 and Chapter 105 of the Town of Amenia Code, the Planning Board of the Town of Amenia will hold a public hearing on the application by Linden C. Chamberlin (the "Applicant") for lot line adjustments (the "Application") between lands located at Cascade Mountain Road in the Town of Amenia that are redesignated Parcel Grid Identification # 7168-00-025330, 7068-00-990325 and 7068-00-930290 (the "Project Site"). The Project Site is located in the Rural Residential and Rural Agricultural zoning districts.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Planning Board will hold the public hearing on the Application on April 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Amenia Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, New York 12501.

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

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Planning Board will hear all persons interested in the Application at the public hearing noticed herein. All persons may appear at the hearing in person or by agent and may also submit written comments to the Planning Board at or prior to such hearing by emailing comments to Planning Board Secretary Judith Westfall at jwestfall@ameniany.gov.

Dated: April 3, 2025
Robert Boyles, Jr.,
Chairman
Town of Amenia
Planning Board
04-10-25

The deadline for legal notices is Friday at 4 p.m. for publication the following Thursday.
Notices can be emailed to legal@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.

Grace Church holds a whale of a sale annual event

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — A steady stream of bargain hunters took advantage of perfect weather at the annual “Great Whale of a Weekend Rummage Sale” at Grace Church on opening day, Friday, March 4.

The three-day event that ended with a Sunday bag sale, offered a grand selection of clothing, art, children’s items, furniture, jewelry, housewares, collectibles and more, artfully displayed throughout both floors of the church’s social hall.

Reflecting on the event, volunteer Lisa Lacey said that in addition to offering high quality items for sale at really low prices, a further advantage is that it invites people to experience the church.

“It’s also a great way to recycle,” Lacey said, noting that items were donated by numerous community members, items that were finding new usefulness and appreciation as they moved into other area homes.



Not her first year as second floor cashier at the annual three-day Grace Church Rummage Sale, volunteer Janelle Styles paused for a photo on opening day, Friday, April 4. She was kept busy with a steady stream of sales.



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN
Displaying what she said was one of her favorite framed artworks up for sale at the Grace Church Rummage Sale on opening day, Friday, April 4, volunteer Lisa Lacey was one of the many enthusiastic volunteers on hand to serve eager customers.

The entertaining skinny on what’s going on outdoors

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — Those curious about what’s really going on underfoot whenever they venture outdoors will be entertained by the answers when the Arm-of-the-Sea theatrical company performs “Dirt: The Secret Life of Soil,” on Saturday, April 12, at the Millbrook Village Hall, from 11 a.m. to noon.

Featuring live music, masks and puppet theater, the com-

pany that was founded in 1982 promises a visual story-telling experience for its audience. Familiar to locals, the Arm-of-the-Sea company served as artists-in-residence at the Cary Institute in 2014.

Co-sponsored by The Millbrook Arts Group and The Millbrook Library, the production is appropriate for all ages. Although the performance is free, registration is required on the website of The Millbrook Library. Village Hall is located at 35 Merritt Avenue.

Easter Egg Hunt at Beekman Park

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Families are invited to Beekman Park for the Recreation Department’s Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Satur-

day, April 12, beginning at 11 a.m.

During the free event, kids can hunt for gold eggs and candy, vying for prizes. The Easter Bunny has even agreed to be there to help with the fun.

Children should bring baskets to fill with collected eggs. The event will be held at Beekman Park, rain or shine, but if rain should be drenching, the location could move to the Town Hall.

Easter Worship & Celebrating

Falls Village Congregational Church

Maunder Thursday Service: 7:30pm
Easter Sunrise Service: 5:45am
At the Church on Beebe Hill Rd.
Followed by Breakfast
Easter Service: 10:00am
All are welcome.

16 Beebe Hill Rd, Falls Village, CT | (860) 824-0194 | thefvcc@gmail.com

**NORTH CANAAN
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Come join us in person!

Our Annual Maunder Thursday Service, 7 PM

Easter Sunrise Service,
6:30 AM on Easter Morning
in Hillside Cemetery

Wrestling with the Bible, 9 AM

Worship, 10 AM

Fellowship Coffee, 11:15 AM

We will continue to broadcast services
live on Facebook: @northcanaancongregational

172 Lower Road/Rt. 44 East Canaan, CT

Holy Week and Paschal Schedule
All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church

April 12, 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy, Raising of Lazarus
5:00 p.m., Vespers, Blessing of Palms

April 13, 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy, Palm Sunday

April 14, 6:30 p.m., Bridegroom Matins

April 15, 6:30 p.m., Bridegroom Matins

April 16, 6:30 p.m., Holy Unction for Healing

April 17, 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy, Last Supper

April 18, 3:00 p.m., Burial Vespers

6:30 p.m., Matins, Lamentations

April 19, 9:30 a.m., Vespers, Liturgy,
15 Old Testament Readings

11:30 p.m., Nocturns of Pascha,
immediately followed at midnight by:

April 20, 12:00 a.m., Midnight (Saturday evening),
Matins and Divine Liturgy of Pascha!

12:00 p.m., Noon, Paschal Vespers

April 21, 9:30 a.m., Bright Monday Divine Liturgy

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Maunder Thursday, April 17 at 5:30pm
Good Friday, April 18 at 5:30pm
Holy Saturday “Drop-in” Retreat Day of Meditation,
April 19, 9am - 12pm
Easter Sunday, April 20 at 10:30am

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thesmithfieldchurch.org

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12 Main St. Salisbury, CT

GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 18

Noon Liturgy

EASTER CELEBRATION | APRIL 20

10:00 a.m. Rite II, Eucharist with music

Rev. Paul Christopherson presiding

Also live on YouTube: St. John’s Church, Salisbury, CT
sjepiscopal@gmail.com

**TRINITY
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Offering companionship along the Way

Maunder Thursday

April 17

6:00 PM Roast Lamb Dinner
Bring a side dish to share

Good Friday

April 18

12 Noon Way of the Cross

7:00 PM Words of the Life of Jesus
*Short reflections by 7 ecumenical preachers
& baroque choral music and preludes*

Easter Day!

April 20

8:00 AM Eucharist with hymns

10:30 AM Celebration Eucharist
*Music by Palestrina, Handel and George Vincent
sung by the Trinity Choir & Crescendo guests
Easter egg hunt follows the service*

The Rev. Heidi Truax, Rector
Christine Gevert, Music Director
484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville, CT
Trinitylimerock.org 860-435-2627

BUDGET *Continued from Page A1*

"I think we all take pride in our Village and all want to have a minimal burden on the taxpayers while trying to provide the necessary services."

The two items slated for emphasis in the budget are salaries and insurance. A conversation on salaries was tabled at the meeting, but Najdek maintained the ongoing goal is to remain mission-oriented and fiscally sensible. She also stressed the need for quality staff, saying, "The driving factors are prioritizing employee salaries and benefits to ensure we can retain our employees."

Staff retention concerns were also echoed during the evening by Millerton police chief Joseph Olenik, who appeared before the trustees to propose a \$2.00 per hour increase for police officers, which would bring their hourly wage to \$28.50. Trustee Dave Sherman cited concerns about the increase, and discussion continued regarding a lower hourly rate of \$28.00 per hour instead.

Additionally, Olenik spoke of the need for two ballistic vests, stating that no grant

money had been made available for their purchase. Following the conclusion of Olenik's comments, Najdek agreed to meet with him at a later date to follow up on his concerns.

Among the categories discussed during the evening was general revenue, which included a discourse on the EV charging station, with Najdek proposing a climb from its current funding. General expenses more or less remained the same. The topic of water was tabled with Najdek citing the unknown variables ahead and the need to focus on the reconstruction of the Water and Highway Building. "We're doing the best we can," she said.

In her follow-up email with the News, Najdek elaborated on the fiscal realities in the aftermath of the fire as related to the budget, saying, "We are committed to building back, and while I'm sure insurance won't cover everything, I think all of the board members kept that in mind while working through the process."

REAL ESTATE *Continued from Page A1*

New York City. However, if the stock market continues to correct to the downside, that is likely to put a chill on demand. Having said that, it's always possible that if things feel unstable for any particular reason, people may seek a safe and secure refuge upstate. On the supply side, I'm renovating my fifth house ... and have yet to see upward price pressure on building materials, but very tight availability of labor in the construction space remains an ongoing issue."

More pessimistic brokers are concerned that buyers will walk away from already signed contracts or simply stop looking at the same time that potential sellers will wait and see what happens on Wall Street. John Harney of William Pitt Sotheby's observed succinctly, "When there is uncertainty buyers stay on the sideline." All agree that the direction of the local real estate market changes slowly and don't anticipate an immediate change in our high demand real estate market.

BREAKFAST *Continued from Page A*

Legion, which, according to executive board member Bob Jenks, tends to draw crowds numbering between 200 and 250 participants.

Sunday's event was no different with Jenks estimating that the breakfast was on pace to maintain its usual numbers. "It's always well-received," said Jenks, who remains grateful for the community support. "It's well-attended by repeat customers."

Indeed, familiar faces could be seen in the crowd, including Town of North East deputy clerk Marcy Wheatley, Millerton police chief Joseph Olenik, who was assisting the Legion with serving guests, and Ed Covert of Millerton, who was spotted at a table that morning enjoying breakfast along with his family.

TJ Ashline, who serves on the advisory committee of the Dutchess County 4-H Club Shooting Sports, was also on hand to support the Legion's

breakfast effort, albeit in a different manner. The Legion serves as a sponsor of the 4-Club, and in return, its youthful participants – with Ashline's guidance – give back to the Legion by assisting with the pancake breakfast as well as supporting other community service-oriented events.

While guests were at the Legion for the pancakes, they were also there to champion the 4-H Club and American veterans. "I'm proud to support the Legion and the work they do with the children," said Reyes. "It's a good cause."

As for the pancakes, Jenks reported the blueberry variety was the most popular, perhaps owing to its antioxidant powers, but he lightheartedly hinted at a mystery ingredient which possibly may have kept the requests coming in. Jenks jokingly declined to disclose any further information, saying, "If I told you, it wouldn't be a secret."

PROTESTS *Continued from Page A1*

didn't live to see this, but I am seeing it. It's very scary."

During a short program, which was introduced by Sophia deBoer, who helped organize the event, Joanne Borduas, president and CEO of Community Health & Wellness Center, a federally qualified health center, spoke about the cuts being made in the area of basic healthcare and the negative impacts, especially to those on Medicaid. She said those clients will not be able to afford to pay for insurance. "As an organization that receives federal funding, we're having to make drastic changes. Already we have had to close our dental services."

Borduas ended on a strong and foreboding note. "The cuts will result in a matter of life and death."

A woman from Stanfordsville, New York, said she is one of thousands of farmers who have been affected by the removal of promised grants. Her message to the Trump administration: "Hands off our environment."

One of the region's environmentalists, Tim Abbott, referring to the current administration as the "Trump regime," said land is important and access to nature is vital. He encouraged those present to skill up, not to comply, not to capitulate and perform defections.

Teen Alex Wilbur, representing the youth of the community, urged the crowd to stand up and protect those in the trans and LGBTQIA+



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

Above, Joanne Borduas, president and CEO of Community Health and Wellness, is among the speakers at Saturday's HANDS OFF! protest rally in Salisbury. She spoke about the impact the administration's cuts are having on health-care. Right, Alice Quinn of Millerton joined the demonstrators at White Hart in Salisbury.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

communities, expressing fear for the future. Wilbur shared a quote from activist Marsha Johnson who said, "No pride for some of us without liberation for all of us."

State Rep, Maria Horn, D-64, spoke about her major concerns, including the loss of \$1 to \$2 billion of Medicaid funding, noting one in four Connecticut residents are covered by that program. She touched on other areas that are being cut, such as food. "We must protect our most vulnerable people. That's part of our set of values."

As a former federal prosecutor, Horn is extremely upset with the attempts being made to destroy the legal system.

Later in the day, a strong showing for HANDS OFF! was seen at the intersection of routes 4 and 7 in Cornwall Bridge. With an estimated crowd of 250, once again there was a sense of enthusiasm and commitment as signs were held high and waves to passing vehicles elicited much support.

For Mike Nadeau, climate change is an important issue that needs to be addressed. "I'm concerned with what little democracy is left," he said. Louise Riley of Kent runs Fishes and Loaves food pantry in Canaan, so it's natural that food is of great concern to her. The pantry is receiving less food from governmental programs and is seeing increased demand,

she said.

Richard Sears, who along with his wife, Brenda Singer, were among the organizers of the rally because they are witnessing the destruction of democracy in so many ways. "We need to stand up for the power of people," he said. Gary Steinkohl said the administration is "implosioning our society, democracy, economy, culture, beliefs — everything we've created — without reason."

Looking around at the rally goes, Cornwall First Selectman Gordon M. Ridgway said, "These cuts impact everyone out here: veterans, farmers, people on Social Security. And they are made by someone not elected by anyone."

Future affordable homes arrive in Salisbury via truck, crane

By **PATRICK L. SULLIVAN**
patrick@lakevillejournal.com

LAKEVILLE, Conn. — After years of deliberation, grant applications and remediation, the affordable housing site at the top of Perry Street in Lakeville took tangible form Wednesday, April 2, when modular housing units were trucked in for placement by crane.

The units were stored temporarily at the Town Grove. Bright and early Wednesday morning the semi-trucks rumbled down Ethan Allen Street to the Grove, loaded up the first components and headed over to Perry Street, accompanied by a couple of escort cars with flashing lights.

The Perry Street site once had a dry-cleaning business. The town eventually took possession of the property for back taxes in May 2014. [double check]. The Salisbury Housing Trust then took over ownership of the property after approval from town meeting in 2022.

By summer of 2014, the site



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

A section of modular housing bound for Perry Street arrives in Salisbury on an oversized load tractor trailer Wednesday, April 2.

had been subjected to asbestos abatement and testing for any remaining hazardous materials, and the main demolition began.

The building and garage were visibly deteriorating, with one wall of the laundry partially collapsed, which made the demolition tricky.

It's been a long haul. In 2008, First Selectman Curtis Rand asked the state Department of Economic and Community Development for technical assistance to investigate the property. The department received a \$200,000 grant

from the federal Environmental Protection Agency for testing and remediation, and the town received a \$500,000 state Small Town Economic Assistance Program grant in August 2013. To get the grant,

Rand put "workforce housing" in the application as the probable future use.

Two foundations were poured on the 0.65-acre site in March.

The 1,500 square foot, three-bedroom, two-bathroom homes will be available for purchase at a price range between \$250,000 and \$280,000 which includes a \$25,000 forgivable down payment assistance loan. Eligible buyers must be first-time homeowners with a gross household income below the area median income.

There will be an information session for prospective buyers Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

For more information go to www.salisburyhousing.org/current-homes-for-sale

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Source: www.ctadv.org/resources/stats

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

FILM: KRISTA A. BRIGGS

Out of the mouths of Ukrainian babes

I can sum up the last year in three words: fear, love, hope," said Oleksandr Hranik, a Ukrainian school director in Kharkiv, in a February 2023 interview with the Associated Press. Fast forward to 2025, and not much has changed in his homeland. Even young children in Ukraine are echoing these same sentiments, as illustrated in two short films screened at The Moviehouse in Millerton on April 5, "Once Upon a Time in Ukraine" and "Sunflower Field."

"Sunflower Field," an animated short from Ukrainian filmmaker Polina Buchak, begins with a young girl, Katya, who embroiders as her world becomes unstitched with the progression of the war. To cope, Katya retreats into a vivid fantasy world, shielding herself from the brutal realities surrounding her life, all while desperately wanting her family to remain intact as she awaits a phone call from her father, one that may never come.

"Once Upon a Time in Ukraine," a short documentary from directors Tetiana Khodakivska, Betsy West and Richard Blanshard, shares the stories of four children navigating war. Ivanna, a young girl in the Kher-son region, reads from her a book as drawings of vegetables, which she has thoughtfully named, animatedly come to life on. As the film proceeds, Ivanna's animated vegetables eventually go into defense mode against their Russian attackers.

Young Ruslan from Moschun tells his story with an emotion not usually seen in school-age boys. He resides in a temporary home not far from his house, which was destroyed in a bombing. He speaks of time in the cellar, keeping busy canning food while his neighborhood was under attack. He misses his cat, Tima, another casualty of the conflict, and stays close to his dog throughout his time on camera while taking viewers on a tour of his neighbor's former home, now a ruin from the devastation of the area. As Ruslan sadly observes, "It used to be a beauty."

In Dnipro, eight year old Myroslava, likely a budding gymnast, is ex-



To escape the cruelties of war, Katya finds solace in her imagination in "Sunflower Field".

hibiting her limberness. She speaks of formerly smooth roads in her hometown of Mariupol, which eventually caught fire. She explains, "Ukraine and Russia used to be friends until Russia got crazy." Myroslava's father has, in fact, perished in the conflict, but she remains in denial – or, as her mother explains, "She has gone into herself." Myroslava finds comfort from multiple hugs from her mother, but continues to maintain her father is alive. "He will return," she says. "He's coming back."

In Bucha, Maksym, 10, relates stories of explosions and bombings, as well as close encounters with missiles, which forced him and his family to evacuate. As with Myroslava, Maksym finds solace in his family, particularly his older brother. He can't sleep in the dark and stays close to his favorite toy – a present from his mother. A pianist and a dancer, Maksym says, "I dream of peace so they don't have to take up arms."

Children are resilient, but the young people of Ukraine are clearly being tested to their emotional limits. When the internet cooperates, the children of war-torn Ukraine



Still from "Once Upon a Time in Ukraine" depicting a coffin designed for a child being lowered into the ground.

have, for the most part, been receiving educational instruction online for the past five years and despite their circumstances, are academically persevering with a strong academic focus on STEM and the arts.

But education, pets, toys and loving families are for those children who have not been killed since the war began. More than 2,000 young people have been injured or killed as a result of the conflict. Observed filmmaker Buchak, "We're losing such a young generation now."

The number of children who suffer from mental health challenges is much higher. Untold numbers of children are in need of psychological intervention. All of Ukraine's children need to know the war is coming to an end, but until

PHOTOS BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

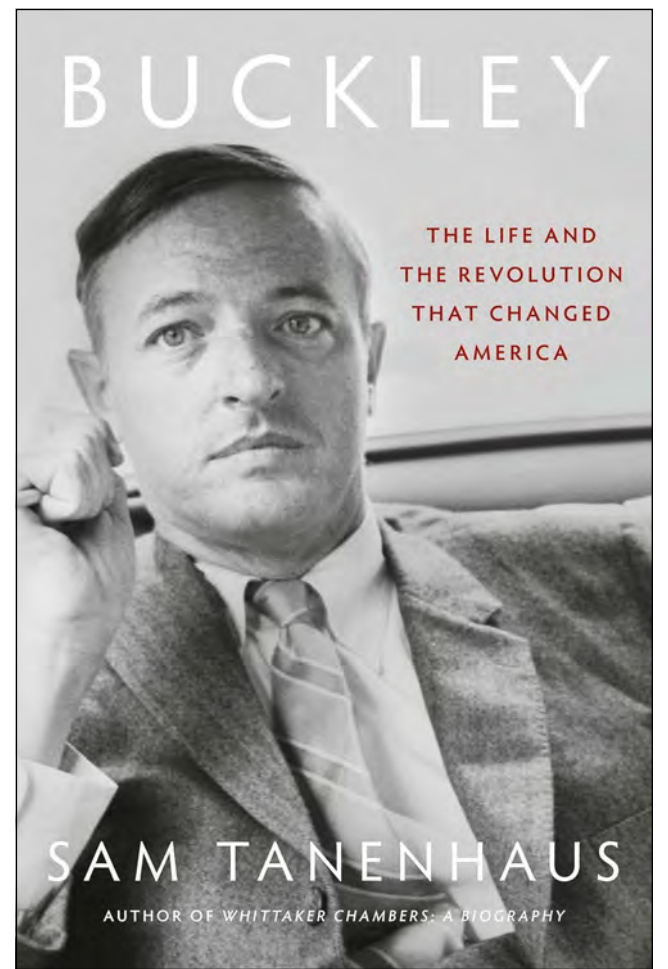


PHOTO PROVIDED

BOOKS: RUTH EPSTEIN

William F. Buckley Jr.: a legacy rooted in Sharon

Sam Tanenhaus, when speaking about William F. Buckley, Jr., said he was drawn to the man by the size of his personality, generosity and great temperament. That observation was among the reasons that led Tanenhaus to spend nearly 20 years working on his book, "Buckley: The Life and Revolution That Changed America," which is due out in June. Buckley and his family had deep roots in Sharon, living in the house called Great Elm on South Main Street, which was built in 1812 and bought by Buckley's father in 1923.

The author will give a talk on "The Buckleys of Sharon" at the Sharon Historical Society on Saturday, April 12, at 11 a.m. following the group's annual meeting. The book has details

on the family's life in Sharon, which will, no doubt, be of interest to local residents.

Buckley, who came from a family of 10 children, including his brother Sen. James Buckley and his sister Priscilla Buckley, who were familiar faces in Sharon during their lifetimes, was a well-known conservative writer and political commentator. "He was a true intellectual," Tanenhaus said during a recent phone interview. "He would even talk to his dogs in that way."

Buckley's name was synonymous with the conservative movement back in the middle of the last century. He was the founder of the National Review magazine in 1955 and host of the public affairs television

Continued on next page

Continued on next page

At The Movies

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COMPASS

LIFESTYLE: MIKE COBB

Janet Marlow's pet sounds

Does your pet suffer from anxiety and stress? Musician, pet owner, and animal lover Janet Marlow may have sound solutions. With a background in classical music and a profound interest in the auditory world of animals, Marlow has dedicated her career to understanding how sound impacts emotional and physiological states in pets.

"I've always been deeply connected to music. It's in my DNA as a fifth-generation musician. But it wasn't until 1994, after moving from New York City to Connecticut, that I discovered how music could impact animals," Marlow said, "I decided to live in Litchfield County because of the extraordinary beauty of nature that inspired so many compositions." It was when Marlow adopted a black-and-white cat named Osborn that something remarkable happened. "Every time I played the guitar, Osborn would come to my side and relax. It was clear that the music was affecting him, and this sparked my curiosity," she said. This sparked Marlow to start investigating how animals perceive sound and whether music could be used to improve their well-being.

Driven by these questions, Marlow began extensive research into animal hearing and their responses to sound. For three years,



PHOTO BY ALAN BRENNAN

Janet Marlow recording Pet Acoustics.

she immersed herself in veterinary medical literature and consulted with experts in animal hearing. By 1997, she had formulated the concept of species-specific music and learned that animals have different hearing ranges. Marlow then designed Pet Acoustics, music created specifically within the comfort ranges of dogs, cats, horses, and birds to promote calm and balanced behavior.

"The results were astonishing. I observed that by eliminating alert-triggering frequencies, animals became noticeably calmer," Marlow said.

Marlow founded Pet Acoustics in 2009, which has since grown into a global leader in pet wellness for dogs, cats, horses, birds, rabbits and small animals. They

have developed a range of products, including music compositions and speakers designed for pets. Today, Pet Acoustics has co-branding partnerships with Nestlé, Purina, Friskies, Boehringer Ingelheim, and Nationwide Pet Insurance.

"One of the biggest hurdles was convincing people that music could truly influence their pets' well-being. Educating pet owners about the benefits of species-specific music took time and persistence. But through continuous research, product development, and dedication, we've built trust and established Pet Acoustics as a trailblazer in the field," Marlow said.

Pet Acoustics offers a range of scientifically designed products aimed at enhancing pet wellness

through sound. These include Bluetooth-enabled speakers, portable music devices, and species-specific soundtracks tailored to reduce stress and promote relaxation in dogs, cats, horses, and birds. Each product is developed using bioacoustic research to ensure compatibility with the unique auditory sensitivities of different animals.

Additionally, Pet Acoustics provides a specialized free pet hearing test, designed to assess an animal's auditory range and responsiveness. This test ensures that soundscapes are optimally suited to each pet's hearing profile, offering an effective and personalized approach to auditory wellness.

For more information, visit www.petacoustics.com

...Ukraine

Continued from previous page



PHOTO BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

Anastasia Rab of Razom for Ukraine, a nonprofit advocacy organization, fields questions from the audience alongside filmmaker Polina Buchak. Anastasia and Polina are both Ukrainian natives now living and working in the United States.

appropriate on a day marked by protests by the Hands Off movement in support of American democracy.

Rab, whose organization supports a physically, politically and economically secure Ukraine, noted the trauma in young Ukrainians whose existence and identities are under attack. "This war is about erasing Ukraine," said Rab, who pointed out another atrocity of war – the kidnapping, trafficking and forced il-

legal adoptions of young Ukrainians by Russian forces. In some instances, the young victims are "deprogrammed" by Russian forces and forced to fight against their own country – a war crime. Despite the atrocities of war and its terrible consequences, Polina Buchak, while grounded firmly in the awful realities of the ongoing battle, remained optimistic for change. "My hope is for a peaceful sky over Ukraine without the fear of being invaded."



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...Buckley

Continued from previous page

program, "Firing Line" that ran from 1966 to 1999. The key aspect of Buckley's conservatism was a push against the tide of liberalism, said Tanenhaus. "It was more a negative than positive movement. He lived as a conservative, being highly patriotic, family-oriented and practicing civility and order."

Tanenhaus said Bill Buckley was the first political writer/thinker to understand political controversy was really cultural controversy. When he was waging a cultural war, the stakes were about such things as the communists winning and Jim Crow."

Tanenhaus relates his subject's relationship with a variety of individuals, including the explosive encounters he had with writer Gore Vidal. "There are indications he had a large capacity and never held a grudge. He didn't disparage Vidal as a writer and didn't say he was a bad person. Nowadays that approach is really uncommon."

Buckley was always

interested in other people's lives, including such figures as Huey Newton of the Black Panthers and Jesse Jackson, of whom he was very fond.

Tanenhaus spends time in the book delving into Buckley's personality, noting he could talk with anyone and was always interested in those he met. "He wanted to maintain friendships. He never wanted politics to

supersede relationships. He was just such an exciting person to be with."

What he couldn't tolerate, said Tanenhaus, was being bored. He enjoyed being in the company of others and was a great listener; not so great a talker. He was a great publicist and promoter of ideas and arguments.

Often asked what Buckley would think of

today's political scene, Tanenhaus said he really couldn't say, but he said he did have lots to say about Donald Trump back in the 1990s. "He might say different things now. He never did have him on 'Firing Line.'" They had one friend in common; attorney Roy Cohn.

Tanenhaus revealed his political leanings do not mirror those of Buckley's, but took on the project to see how the world thinks of him.

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Guiding principles for spring gardening

It's safe to say we deserve a dose of optimism now and spring delivers it to us in the form of nature's gifts. I have been away for two weeks and am excited to be back among the wildness of the Northwest Corner, to watch life begin to stir above ground and to sense it stirring beneath. This installment of *The Ungardener*, written on a plane returning from London where spring has gloriously sprung, delivers a short set of guiding principles to keep in mind as you make your gardening choices this spring. Admittedly, they might induce some guilt if they were not followed in the past but, if heeded, I promise they will lead to outcomes of profound optimism.

1. Select plants for their ecosystem purposes, not only for their aesthetic merit

Many, if not most, native insects — such as caterpillars/butterflies — are only able to eat one or a few kinds of plants; they are not able to quickly adapt their diet to other plants and will die if they don't have them available in quantity. Similarly, newborn and fledgling birds require being fed a diet of caterpillars to survive, and, as just relayed, many caterpillars can only feed on very particular native plants. When we don't cultivate



these native plants in our gardens, we are effectively depriving baby birds of their nutritional requirements for survival. If you remove the food sources for critical species they cannot survive, and the animals that depend on them cannot survive. You end up breaking a link that can have dire circumstances further up the food chain; biodiversity is reduced, creating vulnerabilities for other animals including humans. The Xerces Society has a list of Northeastern native plants that are key for this purpose: https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/publications/22-026_01_NP-PBI%E2%80%9494North-east_web.pdf Highlights include: Butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), Lanceleaf coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*), Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*), Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*), Virginia mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum virginianum*).

2. Don't spray for ticks

When you have your yard professionally sprayed for ticks, it's the yard perimeter that is sprayed. This is where



PHOTO BY DEE SALOMON

Caution in early spring to minimize footfall will preserve the early emergence of plants. Here, the flowers of the skunk cabbage dot the marsh.

leaf litter houses overwintering caterpillars and other beneficial insects. The spray used is a synthetic and concentrated form of permethrin, a nerve agent, that will kill fireflies, butterflies, many species of bees, beetles and insects including ticks that overwinter in the leaves. That's a lot of collateral damage, especially as ticks mostly stay away from cut lawns anyway. If you want to minimize tick populations on your property, the safest, most effective and scientifically proven way is to cut back barberry on your property as ticks proliferate on mice that use the spiny barberry shrubs as safe houses from predators.

3. Remove invasive plants

The invasive plants growing in your gardens and in backyards are decimating native ecosystems. Now is a good time to make a plan to get rid of them, but not necessarily to do the work. Larger, woody invasives such as bittersweet, burning bush, honeysuckle, barberry and multiflora rose should wait until about June for removal. Also wait for late summer to tackle Japanese knotweed. Early spring, however, is an excellent time to pull out young, woody

invasives and invasive weeds such as narrow-leaf bittercress (*Cardamine impatiens*), and garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), as well as creeping plants such as vinca major and ground ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*), as their roots are loosened from the soil just after the thaw. Consider substituting the native species of pachysandra, heuchera, tiarella, violet and/or strawberry.

4. Don't ignore your soil

While you work outdoors, be careful where you tread. You don't want to compact the soft and wet soil by walking on it heavily. This is not an easy thing to do if, for example, you are removing vinca, as you really must get into the soil to get the roots. But keep it in mind. Step gingerly to pluck out the offending weeds and then stay off while tender spring plants start to poke through. Now is a good time to get a soil test, especially around areas where you have seen unusual leaf yellowing. At home, our native hollies seem to be struggling and I have a feeling the heavy rains have washed out some critical minerals. As with a blood test for humans, supplementation of the soil starts

by testing to finding out what is needed for healthy nutrition. If you have beech trees, you will want to investigate adding phosphite (not phosphate) to the soil. Speak with an arborist who can assist you. Beech Leaf Disease is real and is leading to the death of these important native trees.

5. Soft Landings

Writing about soft landings seems appropriate given my current airborne state, although I am referring to the practice of planting native plants under trees, creating a soft landing area for caterpillars as they descend from the branches where they hatched and begin climbing up plants to feed and to pupate into moths and butterflies.

This will be the focus of my own spring planting efforts this year. I will be mixing ferns with the before mentioned tiarella, violet and strawberry, to plant around the apples, lindens, yellow wood and redbud trees that dot our lawn. I expect the effort will reduce our lawn area by 10 percent, a small but not insignificant win for the environment.

Dee Salomon 'ungardens' in Litchfield County.

THEATER: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Sharon Playhouse hosts 'Play Soirée: Noises Off'

The Sharon Playhouse is throwing open its doors (and slamming them theatrically) for "Play Soirée: Noises Off," a one-night-only romp through Michael Frayn's hilariously catastrophic backstage comedy. On Friday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m., two local luminaries, Michael Kevin Baldwin and Andrus Nichols, will lead what promises to be an exquisitely unhinged reader's theater experience.

If you've never flung experienced Frayn's madcap maze of missed cues and sardines, this is your moment. "Noises Off" is the crown jewel of meta-farce: a play about a play going spectacularly, unrelentingly wrong. Doors open. Doors close. Lines are forgotten, feelings are bruised, and everything teeters on the edge of chaos. It's a kind of theatrical Jenga, and every block teeters on the edge of collapse.

But for this production, the plot is almost



PHOTOS BY ALY MORRISSEY

Above, a table read at The Sharon Playhouse. Right, Emma Simon, actor/educator.



beside the point. This evening is about the joy of being in a room, scripts in hand, drinks in glass. You don't have to be an actor (though all levels are welcome) as roles are handed out on the spot. It's democratic, it's chaotic, it's a little bit tipsy. In short, it's theater as it ought to be — alive, messy, and fueled by community... and cabernet.

\$20 gets you in, gets you a drink, and maybe even gets you a starring moment in one of the greatest backstage implosions ever penned. It's part rehearsal, part party, and entirely unmissable.

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OUR TOWNS

Real estate transfers in Town of Washington and Village of Millbrook in February

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

MILLBROOK — Like many towns, transfers slowed down in the short month of February with only two recorded transfers in the Village of Millbrook and two in the Town of Washington. All four under a million dollars.

The 12-month rolling median price of a single-family home rose to a new high of

\$900,000 in February despite the low number of sales.

Inventory of houses listed for sale as of April 12 has remained stable with 24 homes for sale with ten over a million dollars. The good news for apartment hunters is that more than half of the 13 available rentals are listed for \$3,000 or less.

13 Alden Terrace, Unit 13 — 2 bedroom/2 bath, 1,202 square foot condo with a two car garage sold to Narrow

Flats LLC for \$320,000.

12 Haight Ave. — 4 bedroom/2 bath house in Village sold to Nicholas Vanikiotis for \$661,370.

4-6 Neighborly Lane — 3 bedroom/1 bath home on .36 acres in the Dover School District sold to MMRB Investors LLC for \$115,000.

60-62 Old Route 82 — 4 bedroom/4.5 bath home on 1.67 acres sold to Jason Michel Prigozen for \$999,999.

* Town of Washington and Village of Millbrook 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. Only transfers with consider-



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

This center hall colonial built in 1930 at 12 Haight Ave. in the Village of Millbrook sold on Feb. 5 for \$661,370 after 258 days on the market.

ation are included. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sothey's International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.



PHOTO BY KRISTA A. BRIGGS

Bunny trail leads to library

The Easter Bunny hopped into the Pine Plains Library and was greeted by Silver Stoner of Pine Plains who was helping out her mom, Vanessa, at a table during the Willow Roots craft and vendor show on Saturday, April 5.

DUTCHESS COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Harlem Valley area reports activity from March 23 to April 1.

March 23 — Deputies responded to area of 146 Sharon Road Trinity/North East for reported two-car auto accident. Investigation resulted in the arrest of Fredrick J. Richards, age 48, for driving while intoxicated.

March 23 — Deputies responded to 75 Castagna Drive Trinity/Pawling for reported

disturbance. Parties were separated for the night.

March 30 — Deputies responded to 38 S. Center St., Millerton for reported husband/wife domestic dispute. Matter resolved without further incident.

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

If you have any informa-

tion relative to the aforementioned criminal cases, or any other suspected criminal activity please call the Dutchess

County Sheriff's Office tip line at 845-605-2583 or email dcsotips@gmail.com. All information will be kept confidential.

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