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Constitution
copying **B2**



Cars packed in the Four Brother's parking lot, in front of the drive-in and in every streetside parking space available in downtown Amenia for a fireworks display at the Four Brother's Drive-in on the Fourth of July Friday. Fireworks punctuated a double feature of "Jurassic World: Rebirth" and "F1."

By CHARLIE GREENBERG
Special to the Millerton News

The Pine Plains native took to restoring the degraded signs owing to his grandmother's influence. "My grandmother was a historian, so as a kid I'd help with the histori-

Historical markers are installed by the state government through an application process, but maintenance of the signs is far from centralized and usually relies on volunteers like Mr. McGhee. According to the website of the New York State Education Department, "Local authorities maintain, repair, and replace historical markers often in cooperation with local historical groups and volunteers."

See MARKERS, PAGE A6

By ALY MORRISSEY
alym@millertonnews.com

And she's succeeded. Nearly five years in, Candy-O's has become a sweet staple in town, drawing a steady stream of regulars and seasonal visitors — not just for the nostalgic treats, but for the store's one-of-a-kind personality and charm.



Despite the daily grind of running a small business, Gillian says she wouldn't trade it for anything. "I find even when I'm mentally

See SAL OSNATO, PAGE A6

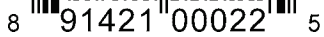
By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

Noting that 2025 marks the Bicentennial of the kilns that were built in 1825 by Noah Gridley, Town Historian Betsy Strauss invited everyone to plan to visit the

See KILNS, PAGE A6



An old-fashioned handshake finalized the transfer of ownership of the Gridley charcoal kilns to the Town of Amenia on Thursday, July 3. Restorer of the kilns Bernie Leighton represented owner Eric Bommer at the event. He is shaking hands with Town Supervisor Leo Blackman. Town Historian Betsy Strauss, center, spoke of the history and unveiled a new permanent sign detailing the site's importance to the iron industry of the 19th century.



editor@millertonnews.com
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Still waiting
for a good thing,
Column **A5**



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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Sunday dinner

A large black bear helped itself to trash from a roadside can at the end of a driveway on Mygatt Road just south of the Indian Rock Schoolhouse in Amenia on Sunday, July 6. Black bears are attracted to the smell of food and improperly secured trash cans and bird feeders can draw in hungry bears looking for an easy snack.

Millerton renews emergency declaration for burned Water Dept.

By ALY MORRISSEY
alym@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — A State of Emergency notice posted to the Village of Millerton website on Thursday, July 3, referenced “a fire at the Village Highway Garage” and stated, “such conditions threaten the public safety of the citizens and residents of the Village of Millerton.” Mayor Jenn Najdek clarified that the document is in reference to the February incident and that there was no new fire — the alert was simply a renewal of a 30-day emergency declaration approved by the Village Board in March. “One of our two village wells is still not functioning



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

The burned remnants of the Millerton water department building near Eddie Collins Park on Route 22.

due to damage from the original fire,” Najdek explained. “Typically, we alternate both wells, and the concern is overuse on the well me-

chanics.” If the current well fails, the village may face the expensive and logistically challenging task of trucking in water. She explained that declaring a State of Emergency allows the village to respond more quickly to emergency infrastructure needs, such as hiring contractors or engineers, without going through the full public bidding process. The second well is expected to be operational by the end of the month. Mayor Najdek also reassured residents that the village’s water supply remains safe. “We are continually monitoring and testing the water, and we have not had any issues of contamination due to the fire,” she said. The village remains in regular communication with the Dutchess County Department of Health.

NECC Farmers Market kicks off picnic month

By ALY MORRISSEY
alym@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — The North East Community Center Farmers Market drew another big crowd on Saturday, July 5, just one week after Main Street buzzed with activity during the first-ever Millerton Street Fair, hosted by The Millerton News. “Since the sun has been out, we’ve really seen an increase in folks coming out to join us,” said Katie Cariello, NECC’s food program coordinator. Cariello runs the weekly market and has brought her own flair to Saturdays in downtown Millerton. This month, the market is celebrating “Picnic Month,” inviting visitors to “BYOB” — Bring Your Own Blanket, that is. With live music,



North East Community Center Food Program Coordinator Katie Cariello said the sunshiny summer weather has brought a surge in attendance at the Farmers Market.

colorful flower stands, local produce, vegan treats and handmade crafts, the market has become a laid-back summer staple. “Folks are just enjoying the weather and hanging out,” Cariello said. “We’re seeing a lot of new faces,

which is exciting, but our usual crowd is here, too.” Looking ahead, August’s theme will be “Dog Days of Summer.” On the first Saturday of the month, organizers hope to welcome adoptable pups from Animal Farm Foundation to join in the fun.



PHOTOS BY ALY MORRISSEY

Louis W. Watterson, known as L.W. “Blue Water” Watterson, set the tone with folk, soul and blues music.

Amenia Housing Board announces new ADU program

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — For residents considering adding an Accessory Dwelling Unit within their homes or perhaps converting garage space to create an apartment, the Amenia Housing Board has announced a new grant program to begin soon. The new program titled PlusOne ADU being introduced in Dutchess County will become active on July 14. Residents can complete an interest form by visiting the Town of Amenia website. The program is administered through Hudson River Housing. Eligible homeowners can receive a grant of up to \$112,500 plus technical assistance to create a new accessory dwelling unit or improve existing units. To qualify, the

homeowner must fall within 120% of the Adjusted Median Income for Dutchess County. Grant funding can be used to plan, design and build an ADU, the intent being to create more affordable housing opportunities, provide opportunity for property owners and promote long-term community stability. Provisions of the program stipulate that the homeowner must build or upgrade an ADU at their primary

residence and use the new unit for year-round housing only. A family member is allowed to occupy the new unit. No short-term or vacation rentals are permitted. Information is available from the Housing Board or by contacting Jordan Schinella, Community Development Manager at Hudson River Housing. To learn more, contact Schinella at jschinella@hudsonriverhousing.org.



Dressed for the part, NECC Food Program Coordinator Katie Cariello and Thistle Pass Farm Owner Ellie Brown sport matching red for the launch of Picnic Month at the Millerton Farmer’s Market.

Correction

In the Thursday, July 3, coverage of the Millerton Street Fair, the event was presented by The Millerton News in partnership with the Millerton Business Alliance and the North East Community Center.

Don't Miss This Week's Special Inserts! Sales and more! Check them out inside. •Herrington's

Public Conversations of Consequence "Who Is My Neighbor?" challenges and opportunities. Come to interact with fellow attendees and to engage with guest presenters: Will Conklin (Greenagers) Jill Drew (Vecinos Seguros 2) Peter Halle (Salisbury Housing Committee) Ellie Youngblood (Sky High Farm) Sunday, 20 July, 4:30-6:00pm 30 Main Street (entrance on Library St) The Congregational Church of Salisbury UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Meeting in Grace, Transformed by Love, Serving with Joy An Open and Affirming Church in a net-zero Meetinghouse SalisburyUCC.org

Nonprofit SPOTLIGHT PROJECT SAGE to end relationship violence 2025 is Project SAGE's Year of Digital Safety. If you are being threatened with non-consensual image sharing, there are steps you can take. 1. Consider blocking, muting, or restricting the other person. 2. Report to the platform where the images are being hosted. 3. Save evidence — take screenshots, download videos — for possible use in a court case. 4. Reach out to a trusted family member, friend, or Project SAGE advocate for support. All Project SAGE client services are free, confidential, and available 24/7. (860) 364-1900 | project-sage.org 13a Porter Street, Lakeville, CT 06039 Wassaic Project wassaicproject.org Floridazzle Floridazzle Floridazzle Dance Party, July 19 @ 8 PM Plus, our gallery is open all summer! Thursdays-Sundays, 12-5PM Local Matters Never miss an opportunity to stay connected, informed, and empowered. The Lakedville Journal The MILLERTON NEWS Subscribe Today 860-435-9873 | circulation@lakevillejournal.com LakevilleJournal.com | MillertonNews.com

OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Saturday in the village

Cars rumbled down Main Street as visitors and locals strolled around Millerton’s downtown Saturday, July 5, creating another busy weekend for the NECC Farmers Market and filling the seats in Veteran’s Park.

Affordable housing bill veto draws mixed reaction in CT’s Northwest Corner

By ALEC LINDEN
alecd@lakevillejournal.com

While communities in New York and across the region grapple with rising housing costs, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont vetoed a contentious bill on June 23 that would have significantly altered that state’s policy on affordable housing.

Responses from local municipal leadership and housing advocates have run the gamut from gratified to frustrated.

“I’m disappointed by the result and I’m just disappointed by the process,” said State Rep. Maria Horn, D-64, positing that Lamont’s decision was influenced by naysayers who refused to find middle ground.

The bill in question was one of the most high-profile bills to be passed during the recently closed session, with the CT Mirror describing it as “the most significant piece of housing legislation to cross [Lamont’s] desk since he became governor in 2019.”

After being passed in early June, the bill was left in limbo for weeks as Lamont weighed outcry from a contingent of municipal leaders, reportedly particularly in Fairfield County, who claimed it would

strip autonomy from town governments and interfere with zoning discretion.

Known as House Bill 5002, the omnibus proposed law called for a number of policy reforms regarding affordable housing, among which were the “fair share” housing and “Work, Live, Ride” models which saw large-scale push-back from Republicans and even drew a few nays from a handful of center-leaning Democrat lawmakers.

The “fair share” framework provides incentives for communities to install a minimum number of affordable housing units, while “Work, Live, Ride” prioritizes certain infrastructure improvement funding opportunities for towns that build affordable housing near public transit stations.

After Lamont’s veto, for which the Governor cited local autonomy as a primary reason, state Senate Minority Leader Stephen Harding, R-30, issued a statement that referred to the bill as “anti-local control legislation,” saying that “our towns and cities deserve a seat at the table – not a mandate from Hartford.”

Several of the Northwest Hills Council of Government’s first selectmen have similarly voiced concern that the legislators who crafted the

Accordion museum needs room to expand

By DAVID CARLEY
Special to the Millerton News

NORTH CANAAN, Conn. — New England Accordion Connection and Museum is expanding to an upstairs room in the Canaan Union Station.

The “Community Music Room,” as named by Paul Ramunni, director of the museum, is intended to bring people together around joyful music.

In the spirit of preservation and the creation of new memories and stories, Ramunni’s vision for the new expansion of the museum is a place for people with any instrument to get together and jam. The inspiration for this was about a year ago when two students from the Yale Summer School of Music and Art in Norfolk came to the museum wanting to see an accordion.

Ramunni asked where they were from; one was from Iran and the other from Israel. He recalled, “At that moment, what was going on is what’s



PHOTO BY DAVID CARLEY

Paul Ramunni, owner and operator of New England Accordion Connection and Museum, with a small portion of his accordion collection. Below, the new “Community Music Room” at Canaan Union Station.

always going on over there: their families were in the middle of battles. He said ‘Paul, when we met here for the first time, there was something that connected. It was music. We both agreed that we would never let anything come between us that would ruin that bond.’”

After they left, Ramunni

said the idea for a community room struck him. Regardless of background or beliefs, he said, music can bring people together.

Ramunni has more than 650 accordions in his collection, each with its own story to tell.

“When we started collecting,” said Ramunni, “I didn’t think much of the backstory. I was thinking, ‘Hey, that’s a cool little one.’” He soon found out that “there’s a lot of memories packed into each one of these things, because you only played them when you wanted to make other people happy.”

42 years had gone by since Ramunni first picked up the instrument, and he found himself in the garage of a col-

lector with more than a dozen accordions. He was sending them to a Holocaust Museum in Glen Cove, Long Island. “Those came out of the camps at Dachau during World War II,” Ramunni explained.

“That’s what got me going when I went around looking at accordions, I’d look for the stories. This is history here. It’s not just bottle caps that we’re collecting here. This is what people did with these things, and sacrifices they made. It’s important to preserve,” he stated.

Even the origins of the accordion, according to Ramunni, came from a desire for community. “Since the birth of the country, these things were being made in people’s shops because they wanted music... So, they came up with the first accordions,” which were smaller, wooden contraptions called flutinas, originally patented in 1829 in Vienna, Austria.

The beginning of the 20th century is when the instrument took its modern form with a larger body and piano keys. From 1900 to 1960, millions were made in the United States, and competing companies would distinguish their product with intricate case designs and impressive craftsmanship.

Perhaps more important are the stories imbued within, and as Ramunni shared, “They each have their own personality.”

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF PINE PLAINS
DUTCHESS COUNTY,
NEW YORK
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

that a public hearing will be held by the Town of Pine Plains Planning Board on the 16th day of July 2025 at 8:00pm at the Town Hall, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York, for the purpose of hearing all persons for or against an application submitted by HTWO Properties, LLC for a Lotline adjustment at the premises located at 2814-2816 Church Street and 2812 Church Street, Town of Pine Plains, Dutchess County, Tax Map ID #134200-6872-13-181251-0000 and 134200-6872-13-173256-0000.

Any resident of the Town of Pine Plains shall be entitled to be heard regarding said application. The application is available for review during regular business hours at the Pine Plains Town Hall.

By order of:
Town of Pine Plains
Planning Board
07-10-25

TOWN OF PINE PLAINS
DUTCHESS COUNTY,
NEW YORK
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

that a public hearing will be held by the Town of Pine Plains Planning Board on the 16th day of July 2025 at 8:15pm at the Town Hall, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains, New York, for the purpose of hearing all persons for or against an application submitted by Steve Patterson for a special use permit and site plan permit for a proposed accessory dwelling unit at the premises located at 266 Schultz Hill Road, Town of Pine Plains, Dutchess County, Tax Map ID #134200-6971-00-635594-0000.

Any resident of the Town of Pine Plains shall be entitled to be heard regarding said application. The application is available for review during regular business hours at the Pine Plains Town Hall.

By order of:
Town of Pine Plains
Planning Board
07-10-25



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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

A recurring “No Kings” protest at Fountain Square on Saturday, July 5, drew horn toots and mostly positive reactions from passing motorists. Local activist and resident Kimberley Travis was joined by Angus Elliott. She plans to continue daily, except Sundays, between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Public square offers a place for energetic activism

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Toots and a variety of political comments on all sides were heard from passersby on Saturday, July 5, inspired by a daily demonstration at Fountain Square initiated by a local resident. Maker of the signs and initiator of the “No Kings” protest is Kimberley Travis of Amenia who began her solo appearances two weeks ago. By this weekend, one additional Amenia resident, Angus Elliott, had joined her to hold a sign and wave to motorists. Travis said that she would like to have even more residents join in for some or all of the time. She plans to protest daily, except Sundays, between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

State finds Shepherd’s Run application lacking for second time

By JOHN COSTON
johnc@millertonnews.com

COPAKE — State regulators have issued their second notice of incomplete application this year for Hecate Energy LLC’s proposed Shepherd’s Run solar project. On June 27, the New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission found Hecate’s most recent application deficient in eleven areas. The company had filed an application in late December, which also was kicked back for deficiencies in February. “Hecate continues to engage in a productive dialogue with ORES and the community. We look forward to moving ahead with a project that helps meet the state’s clean energy goals while protecting the rural character of Copake and the surrounding communities,” said Matt Levine,

Self-described as “a full-time activist,” Travis said that she began her activism in 1974, protesting the Vietnam war as a child. A former actress and stand-up comedian, Travis majored in Theater at New York University, and while pursuing a theater career, she worked as a legal secretary at a major New York law firm. She has worked as a personal trainer and been active in animal rescue work, volunteering at an animal shelter. Her theatrical training supports her vocal projection strength, useful for conversation with passing motorists that she characterizes as mostly positive, like a toot. Even opposite viewpoints are delivered with good-natured civility, Travis noted.

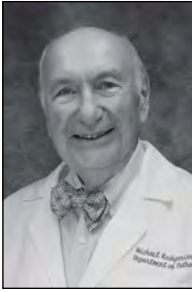
project director. The project proposed by the Chicago-based developer of solar, wind and energy storage projects, has been a flashpoint for the rural hamlet’s residents since it initially was discussed in 2017. Then, it was planned as a 60-megawatt solar farm to be located near the intersection of Routes 23 and 7. In February 2024, the state granted a motion from the Town of Copake to dismiss the application, and Hecate regrouped, filing last December. Citizen groups have both opposed and supported the project. In a recent statement following ORES’s notice of deficiencies, Sensible Solar for Rural New York said it is “unconscionable that ORES ... is ignoring smoke and fire risks to the adjacent Taconic Hills Central Schools” and residents near the 215-acre facility.

OBITUARIES

Michael Kashgarian

SHARON — Michael Kashgarian, MD (Mike), died peacefully at home in Hamden, Connecticut, on June 28, 2025, surrounded by his loving family and the sounds of his favorite Irish folk music. Mike and his beloved wife Jeanie (d.2019) were longtime residents of North Haven and Sharon. Mike was a devoted husband, father and grandfather, a distinguished physician, professor, colleague and mentor. He had wide-ranging interests – he was a music lover, a wine connoisseur, an avid fly-fisherman, and enjoyed gourmet cooking and travel.

Born on Sept. 20, 1933, in New York City to Toros and Araxie (Almasian) Kashgarian – both survivors of the Armenian Genocide – Mike was raised with a deep appreciation for learning and the responsibility to make the world a better place. He attended public schools and graduated from Bronx High School of Science, already showing the brilliance and curiosity that would shape his life’s work. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry and philosophy from New York University in 1954 where he sang tenor in the glee club and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Infantry that same year. He went on to receive his Doctor of Medicine from Yale University School of Medicine in 1958. After an internship in Internal Medicine at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri, and a research fellowship in Renal Physiology at the University of Goettingen in Germany, Mike returned to New Haven to join the faculty of the Yale School of Medicine where he became a full professor and served as vice chair and interim chair of the Department of Pathology. He also held a joint appointment in Yale’s Faculty of Arts and Sciences as Professor of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology. He retired as an Emeritus Professor in 2008.



Mike was a world-renowned, dedicated and prolific academic and clinician in the field of Renal Pathology, he was the founder of Yale’s Diagnostic Renal Pathology and Electron Microscopy Laboratory and also served as Chief Pathologist at Yale New Haven Hospital. His research advanced the understanding of the cell biology of kidney function, from the role of ion transporters to the mechanisms of acute and chronic kidney disease. He published a vast body of pioneering collaborative scientific work in renal physiology and cellular and molecular biology, including the Diagnostic Atlas of Renal Pathology, currently in its 4th edition. Among numerous awards and honors, he was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and recognized by Osaka City University, the Postgraduate Medical Institute of Saint Petersburg, and was a recipient of both the Jacob Churg Distinguished Achievement Award and Robert Heptinstall Lifetime Achievement Award from the Renal Pathology Society where he also served a term as President. Mike touched the lives of countless students and colleagues throughout his career at Yale and as a visiting professor at over 50 universities throughout the world. Active in the Yale community, he served as the Resident Faculty Head at Harkness Hall, a Fellow at Jonathan Edwards College, Editor in Chief of the Board of Governors of Association of Yale Alumni and was recognized with Distinguished Service Award of Association of Yale Alumni in Medicine. A lifelong learner with a sharp mind and a kind heart, he found joy in nature, music, and family. Introduced to fly fishing by his father-in-law, Harry Caldwell, he spent countless treasured hours on rivers and streams across North America. He was a longtime member of the Potatuck Club in Sandy Hook, the Walton Fishing Club in Cornwall, and the Tobique Salmon Club in Matapedia, Quebec. He supported many charitable organizations and served on the boards of the Connecticut Fund for the Environment and the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. But his greatest joy and pride was always his family. He was married for 60 years to Jean Gaylor Caldwell, who passed away in 2019. He is survived by his two daughters and their spouses, Michaele Kashgarian and Mark Rose, and Thea Kashgarian Obstler and David Obstler; and by his four grandchildren, Alison Gaylor Obstler, Eugenia Coley Rose, Andrew Caldwell Obstler, and Harry Caldwell Rose. He also cherished his extended family, especially his many nieces and nephews. He will be remembered not only for his intellectual brilliance and professional legacy, but for his warmth, humility, generous spirit, and sense of humor. It was in his family, in the quiet of nature, and in the pursuit of knowledge that he was truly happiest. Contributions in his memory may be made to The Michael and Jean Caldwell Kashgarian Scholarship Fund at the Yale School of Medicine. Checks can be made payable to Yale University and mailed to: P.O. Box 7611, New Haven, CT 06519-0611 Please note “Michael and Jean Caldwell Kashgarian Scholarship Fund” in the memo line. A memorial will be held in the fall. Arrangements are with the Hawley Lincoln Memorial, New Haven.

James North

SHARON — James W. North of Sharon, passed away on June 4, 2025 at the age of 91.



James was born on Feb. 2, 1934, and grew up in Stratford, Connecticut. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He made his career in advertising, working for many years as an advertising executive in New York City.

He was the husband of the late Joanne C. North. He was the father of Brian F. North and of the late Laurie (North) Fox. James is survived by his son, Brian F. North. The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Send obituaries
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For some unknown reason I have decided to attempt to eradicate the Japanese Barberry in our backwoods, probably a Sisyphean task, but I have pushed forward nonetheless. Why, one might ask? The reasons are sound; Barberry is an invasive plant that overtakes our native plants and becomes a wonderful habitat for ticks, just to name a few. I started by cutting the Barberry which is inefficient as it simply grows back, so I have entered stage two of spraying the new shoots with Roundup, which contains glyphosate and is effective for containing Barberry. Finally, I have found an informative bulletin from the CT Agriculture Extension Station on the best practices for controlling Barberry, which can be viewed at: portal.ct.gov/-/media/caes/documents/publications/special_bulletins/specialbulletfeb2013wardpdf.pdf. Will give an update on my efforts later this fall!



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 Worship Services <i>Week of July 13, 2025</i>	
Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. <i>Transitioning through prayer</i> All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org	The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442
Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville <i>Offering companionship along the Way</i> Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627	St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) <i>In-Person and on YouTube</i> www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290
North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC <i>Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people</i> 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232 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	Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT <i>Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons</i> Sunday, September 14 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoui@gmail.com All are Welcome
Congregation Beth David <i>A reform Jewish Synagogue</i> 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly - Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org	ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH <i>Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk</i> St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078
The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net	UCC in CORNWALL <i>Cornwall Village Meeting House</i> Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community
Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour <i>A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!!</i> 860-824-0194	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!
The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green <i>Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits</i> 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net	St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road, Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 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
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	Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT <i>Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!</i> Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org
Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org	Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 8:00AM - Worship Service 2nd & 4th Sunday <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-824-5534 canaanctumc@gmail.com <i>We hope you will join us!</i>
All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us	

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EDITORIAL



PHOTO PROVIDED
An artist's rendering of what a pool and poolhouse in Eddie Collins Park in Millerton could look like.

Still waiting for a good thing

Sometime this month the Village of Millerton will meet with regulators to learn more about what is needed to proceed with construction of the pool at Eddie Collins Memorial Park. As we reported last week, the Dutchess County Board of Health and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation are reviewing the project regarding septic placement and wetland buffers.

It has been a long time coming, but worth the wait, and the Village has the money! That’s a big accomplishment, and the lion’s share of the credit goes to the Millerton Community Park Committee chaired by Stephen Waite. As Mayor Jenn Najdek said last week, the project is now “99% funded,” with \$7.56 million secured from three separate New York State grants.

Located on North Elm Avenue in the Village, Eddie Collins Memorial Park was originally used as a turntable for trains, a ball field and a horse racing track. In 1916, the village was left a sum of \$15,000 by William G. Denney for “the benefit of the young people,” and by 1963, a committee was formed to name the ball field after former resident and Major League Baseball Hall of Fame inductee Eddie Collins.

Since then, the park has seen several additions, including the now defunct Denney Pool. Mayor Najdek has a lifelong connection to the park — swimming and lifeguarding at the pool and running the camp as a teenage counselor.

Waite also has fond memories of Denney Pool. “I spent a lot of time at the old Denney Pool as a kid and made many friends there, some I still keep in contact with,” he said in an interview last year.

Even today, The Millerton News invokes memories of Denney Pool in its ‘From the Archives’ column that appears on this page every week. Written by Kathleen Spahn and Rhiannon Leo-Jameson of the NorthEast-Millerton Library and reprinting news from the past, the column frequently mentions stubborn cracks in Denney Pool or news about lifeguard lessons. Announcements back then of night swims for the community also suggest an inviting recreational activity during these hot summer days.

Built in 1966, the Village closed the pool in 2015 — due to those cracks and structural problems.

In 2019, as members of the Eddie Collins Memorial Park Revitalization Committee, Waite and Jeanne Vanecko presented tentative plans for the park’s re-imagining to the Village Board. They explained the committee ultimately decided to complete the project in four phases. Waite and Co-Chair Vanecko have volunteered their time, energy and talents to help renovate the aging Eddie Collins Park into a recreational resource for the 21st Century.

The bequest more than 100 years ago by William G. Denney now has been succeeded by state grant money and significant funding raised by a steering committee and the entire revitalization committee.

As a community we owe much to these selfless volunteers for making it possible not only for Millerton to have a pool, but a first-class park for all of us to enjoy.

So let’s do the meetings, however long it takes.

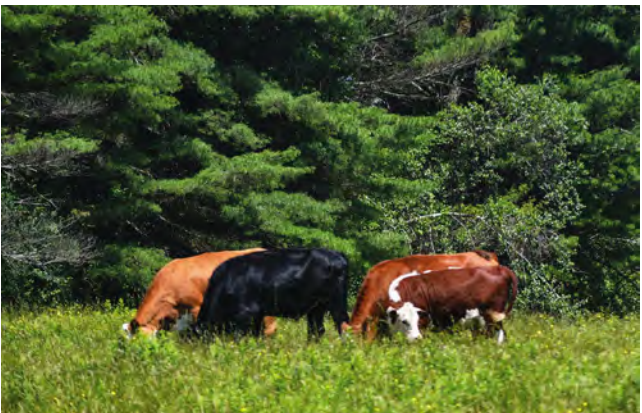
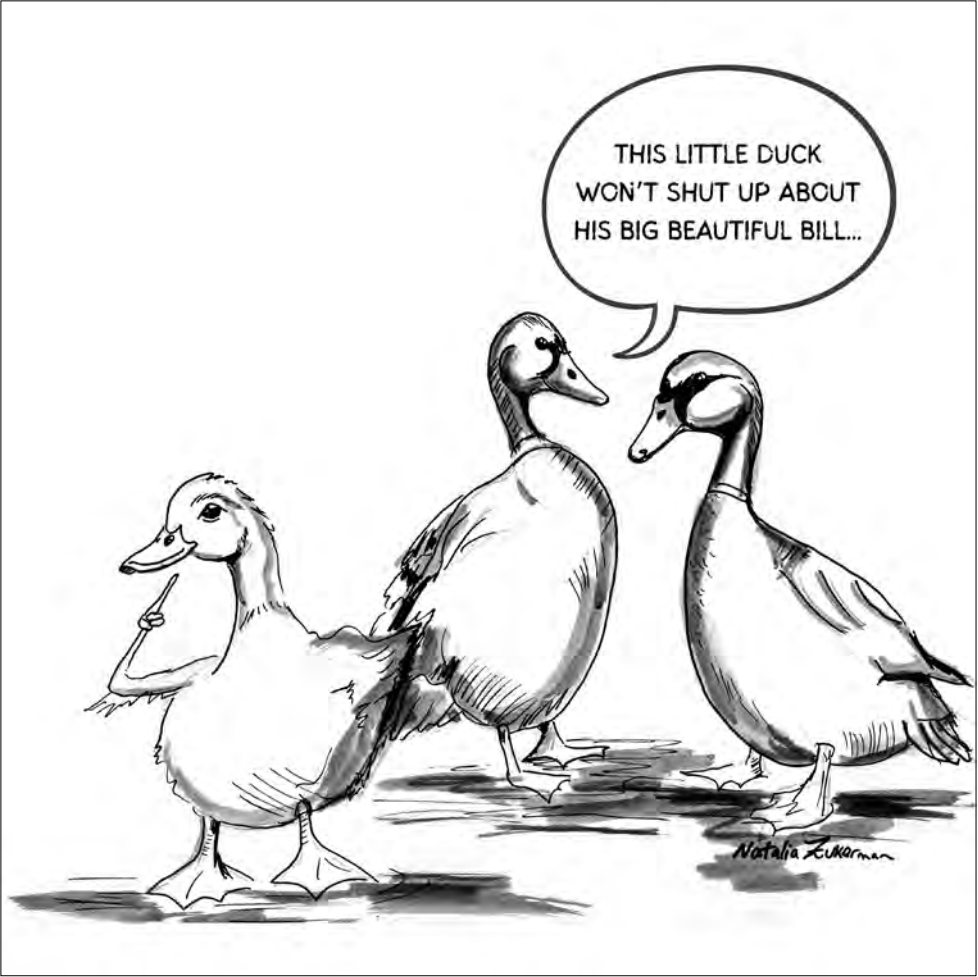


PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON
There's the beef

YOUR NEWS

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Passenger train talk; parking crusade

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

July 12, 1934

‘\$2,315.69 Earned By Clerk’s Office’; The Dutchess County clerk’s office turned over to the county treasurer last week a check for \$2,315.69, this amount representing the earnings of the county clerk’s department during the month of June. Of this, \$917.42 was earned by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and the balance represents fees received for filing and recording papers and other services. Besides this, a check was also transferred to the county treasurer in the amount of \$758.36 for mortgage tax collected during the month of June.

Making a comparison with last year, it is found that the earnings of the clerk’s office are about \$300 higher than last June.

Frederic A. Smith, county clerk, also announced that in accordance with a new law passed by the Legislature at its last session, the automobile bureau will be closed at four o’clock during the months of July and August.

‘About Millerton’; Worthey J. Pulver and family and Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Keller left Saturday for a two weeks’ stay at Silver Beach, Milford, Conn.

Mrs. E. S. Simmons is spending a few days at Port Chester, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederic A. Smith returned to their home here Sunday after a wedding trip to Essex on Lake Champlain.

July 10, 1975

‘Passenger Trains’ Return Certain, Officials Say’; Passenger trains definitely will return to Millerton, Lettie Carson, president of the Harlem Valley Transportation Association asserted again this week.

Mrs. Carson cited renewed and detailed assurances from New York State officials to support her statement.

Separately Assemblyman C.D. “Larry” Lane of Chatham stated Monday that reports that he doubted passenger service would return to Millerton were inaccurate. Mr. Lane’s letter appears on page A-4 of this issue.

Mrs. Carson and Assemblyman Lane were both responding to a story in this paper last week which reported widespread difference of opinion on the revival of

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Millerton News

Dover Plains—Millerton passenger traffic. No passenger trains have made the 16-mile run since 1972. Even Mrs. Carson is now quoted as expecting their return may not come before early fall, 1976.

Though the New York State Assembly has budgeted only \$100,000 specifically for restoration of the Dover - Millerton tracks, an estimated \$2.5 million will be provided for the work, Mrs. Carson said Tuesday.

The New York State Department of Transportation has \$250 million to spend for upgrading of rail service statewide. Dutchess, Columbia and Putnam counties have applied to the State for \$4.5 million in all to upgrade the tracks, signals and stations north at least as far as Millerton, and if matching Federal funds are forthcoming, all the way north to Chatham.

Several officials interviewed last week had expressed confidence that passenger service would return to Millerton in “12 months or so.” But Lane was quoted as saying DOT Commissioner Raymond Schuler “told me it does not include passenger service,” in reference to the \$100,000 set specifically set aside for track restoration.

In his letter this week however, Lane said that Mr. Schuler had assured him that passenger service to Millerton was definitely in the DOT program. John Tone, director of Commuter Services for the Metropolitan Transit Authority, which operates passenger service to Dover now, was also quoted last week as being skeptical that \$100,000 would be adequate to restore the 16 miles of track.

July 13, 2000

‘Flea Market Slated For July 15’; MILLERTON - The NorthEast-Millerton Library flea market will be held Saturday, July 15, on the lawn of the library.

The flea market includes a tag sale, book sale, bake sale and the raffle of a hooked rug and handmade baskets.

Refreshments of coffee, doughnuts, hot dogs and cold drinks will be available.

In case of rain, the flea market will be held Saturday, July 22.

‘Foursquare Gospel Tent Vandalized’; MILLERTON The Millerton Foursquare

Gospel Church tent in Railroad Plaza was vandalized both Monday and Tuesday nights this week, said the Church’s Pastor, Floyd Rosini.

According to Mr. Rosini, vandals threw material around the tent, which is normally left unattended after 9:30 p.m. Nothing was stolen.

The vandalism was reported to the Dutchess County sheriff, but there are no suspects.

The church is sponsoring a week-long series of speakers and Bible study with the theme “Unity in Our Community.”

‘Millerton Townscape Continues Parking Crusade’; MILLERTON — Millerton’s Townscape continued to push forward the agenda for parking in the village and for the Rail Trail at its meeting at the North East Community Center last Monday.

One of the priorities this summer is getting parking spaces “striped” on Main Street, John Street and Century Boulevard. Village trustee John Scutieri said a striping machine could be rented inexpensively, and that the village crew probably had the resources to do the work.

The issue will be brought up at the next Village Board meeting, Monday July 17, and Townscape members figure to be there to ask the village to move forward on the plans.

One of the advantages of striping out spaces is that it would make Main Street look narrower, which might encourage truckers and

other traffic to slow down while passing through. Also, without markings, Century Boulevard, while providing plenty of space for parking, can be chaotic as cars pull in and out near the post office with nothing to guide them.

Traffic patterns in the village were also an issue. Townscape Chairman Renee Vollen asked whether the Village could set up a committee to be in regular contact with the State Department of Transportation about the intersection of Route 44 with Route 22, among other things. Two possibilities that are currently being pursued are a left turning lane southbound at the light, as well as markings to distinguish a parking lane from a driving lane at the turn onto Route 22.

The Harvey house to the south of the Rail Trail and behind the Brick Block building has attracted considerable interest. Townscape has had its eye on the property for its value as a potential parking area, or as a park for Rail Trail users. There appears to be at least one other party interested in purchasing the house for commercial purposes.

A list was circulated of some 200 potential members of the Millerton Chamber of Commerce.

“It’s imperative to get the chamber reinstalled,” said Ms. Vollen. Among the priorities is choosing a slate of officers.

Townscape meeting was set for Monday July 17 at 6 p.m.

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SAL OSNATO Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Gillian Osnato started running her father's store — the T-Shirt Farm on Main Street in Millerton — after his death in April. "I'm trying to fill those big shoes," Osnato said of the business and community her father built over a lifetime.

people — and making people feel happy in my space."

That connection to customers is something she learned from her dad.

"Dad could connect with somebody and find them a shirt in five minutes, just from getting to know what they liked," she said. "He would always say, 'Connect with your people, connect with the customer.'"

With storefronts just steps apart, the father-daughter duo often traded business tips, customers — and even swapped products.

"My dad would send one of his employees up every day for three pieces of chocolate," Gillian said with a smile. "No more, no less." She added that the Italian cookies now displayed at Candy-O's were actually his idea. "He was pushing for cookies for a long time," she laughed.

Born and raised in the Bronx, Sal Osnato led a colorful life before relocating to the region with his family in the late 1990s.

"Everybody knew he was from the Bronx," Gillian said. "He connected with every person that came into his store — and if you were from New York, he'd sense it right away and strike up a conversation."

Sal's strong work ethic and deep roots in a big Italian family shaped his approach to business. He left high school as a teenager to start working, learning early on what it meant to earn an honest wage. His first job was at his uncle's deli, where he made fresh mozzarella and processed shipments of sheep's heads around cultural and religious holidays.

"He loved it," Gillian said, recalling his stories fondly. "I always told him he should write a book with all of the wild experiences he had."

In the 1970s, Sal worked as a cab driver — one of many chapters in a life filled with hard work and adventure. It was during that time that his T-shirt business began. He would drive into the city, buy rock 'n' roll T-shirts and sell them out of a van. Soon after, he opened his first store in Yonkers, naming it Denim Heaven.

While the T-Shirt Farm has been a fixture in Millerton for the past decade, its original location was in Canaan, Connecticut, next to the hardware

store. But no matter the address — from Yonkers to Canaan to Millerton — people often came as much to see Sal as to buy shirts — drawn by his warmth, humor and unmistakable presence behind the counter.

Today, when Gillian isn't managing every detail of Candy-O's, she's also running the T-Shirt Farm, keeping both businesses and her father's memory alive on the street they once shared.

On any given day, she can be seen walking between the two shops, serving customers and practicing what her father taught her; connect with people, find joy, and always keep the spirit of childhood alive.

"I think for my dad, this was his life force — working and being in the community," she said. "He was also a kid at heart. He embodied that in his life."

That energy still lives on. A quick stroll through the T-Shirt Farm reveals that unmistakable sense of adventure and play.

Some sharp-eyed customers have noticed the "For Sale" sign on the building that houses Candy-O's, but Gillian is quick to reassure the community that she doesn't plan on going anywhere.

"I'm hoping that if the building does sell, the new owner will see this store as a staple in the town and won't want to change things."

As for the T-Shirt Farm, she says she feels a deep responsibility.

"I'm trying to fill those big shoes," she said of the business and community her father built over a lifetime. "He didn't go to college or finish high school, but through hard work and personality, he created something lasting. I think he just wanted that to continue."

Looking back, Gillian says she can see just how proud her father was of her — even if he didn't always say it outright. "He told every customer to go visit my store," she said. "I'm not kidding — everywhere we went, he mentioned it." That didn't change during his illness. Whether it was doctors, nurses, or anyone he met, Sal made sure they knew about the T-Shirt Farm and Candy-O's. "That was his way," Gillian said. "And looking back, I know he was proud."

MARKERS Continued from Page A1

McGhee assumed the role of maintaining signs in and around Dutchess County out of his own interest in seeing the signs properly cared for. "I just started repairing signs on my days off," he said. "I didn't ask anyone at first but now I'll talk with the historical societies in villages, if they have one."

Mr. McGhee brings his experience from the hardware profession to refurbish the markers with precision, down to the exact shades of blue and yellow paint used originally. "The first coat of blue paint is Rust-Oleum Royal Blue and the writing is Sunburst Yellow — that's how [New York State] wants the signs done. You can get all that from the internet on the historical pages," the volunteer restorer said.

Restoring the signs correctly is an extensive process. "I take some drives that are quite lengthy in mileage. One day, if I'm going through the area, I'll stop and clean [the marker] and then I'll wait a week and do the next part of

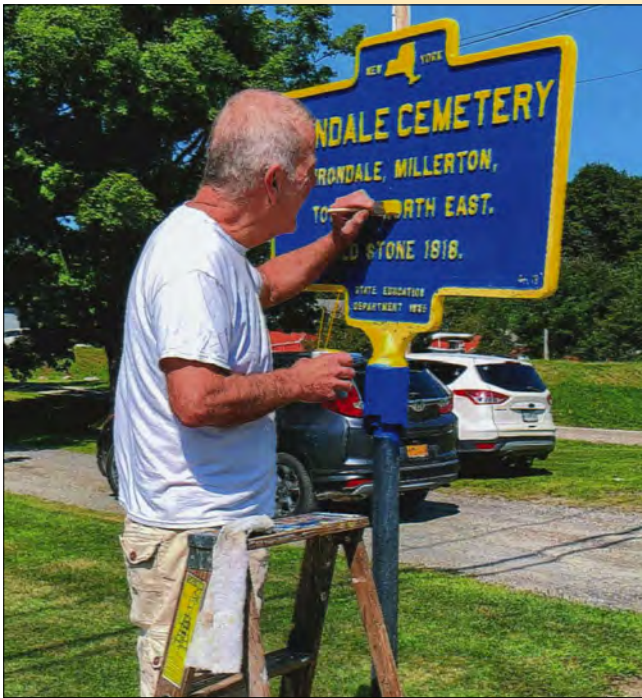


PHOTO PROVIDED

it," McGhee said.

To date, by his own accounts, Mr. McGhee has restored 64 signs in total, including 24 near Gallatin, 18 in his hometown of Pine Plains and five in Millerton.

McGhee cites the Hammertown and Rippon Road signs as the most historically significant markers he has restored. The signs respectively commemorate the Hammertown Sheath — a

George McGhee of Pine Plains restores a historical marker commemorating the location of the Irondale Cemetery.

large, defunct manufacturing business dating back to the 1800s — and the boxing matches which occurred in Boston Corners during its lawless period.

The distinctiveness of Mr. McGhee's services has attracted interest all over New York from people looking to restore signs of importance to them. "Two weeks ago... [a woman] sent me pictures of a sign [on her property] with the paint pretty well popped off," McGhee said. "I asked her, 'whereabouts are you?' and she said 'about 15 miles west of the Finger Lakes.'"

History may be in the past, but George McGhee's restoration efforts are ongoing.

"I don't plan to stop anytime soon," Mr. McGhee said.

KILNS Continued from Page A1

site to learn more about the kilns and their importance to the early history of Amenia and the iron industry that thrived throughout the region.

"This is an historic place and this is an historic day," "Three years ago, you would not have been able to see the kilns," said Strauss, addressing an enthusiastic gathering of residents who witnessed the historic occasion.

"Noah was 'the father of Wassaic,'" Strauss said. Noah had come to Amenia from the nearby town of North East. His father's work was also within the charcoal industry. Noah's one-of-a-kind kilns stood near Furnace Bank Road that led to the smelting furnace situated next to Wassaic Creek.

There are no kilns of this type and design anywhere in North America.

Strauss thanked Eric Bommer for the gift and Bernie Leighton for his long years of diligent labor and care in 2022 and 2023.

Leighton spoke briefly, pleased that the site could be restored and saved.

Termed the kilns "the great pyramids of Amenia," Town Supervisor Leo Blackman recalled first coming to Amenia.

"The area appealed to me," Blackman said, noting that he saw the vestiges of industry in Wassaic, attractive to him because of his profession as a preservation architect.

"I watched the renovation of the kilns," Blackman said, expressing gratitude to Leighton for his work.

"Betsy is tenacious and wonderful," Blackman said in praise of Strauss. "I love the sign," he added, noting that Betsy had researched and created the historic sign at the site to inform visitors about the kilns and the industry they supported.

"I'm honored to be standing here," Blackman said.

"There would be no Wassaic without the Gridleys," Strauss said. The railroad came in 1851, thanks to convincing Cornelius Vanderbilt to build the line to Wassaic.

Gail Borden came to take advantage of the railroad line. By 1887, the area's iron industry was ending. Dairy farms had taken over, leading Borden to situate his plant nearby to manufacture condensed milk, a process he invented.

According to Blackman, the final approval before the transfer could take place came from the state environmental officials determining whether the ash deposits throughout



PHOTO PROVIDED

A sign detailing the history of the charcoal kilns and the recent restoration now stands at the site of the historic kilns on Deep Hollow Road just off Route 22 in Wassaic. The sign and restoration were part of an effort by the Amenia Historical Society and Bernie Leighton, who cleaned up the site and restored the kilns.

the area were toxic, but as the site work has not disturbed the subsurface, approvals were issued.

Following the ceremony, Blackman commented that when the kilns were operating, the trees were pretty much gone, having been harvested for charcoal. Most of the oak trees in the area today have sprouted from oak stumps.

Leighton recalled that his

work was to clear away the overgrown brush and vines and even remove trees from the site, long overgrown. He had to reset the stones in the kilns that he found were held in place by soil as mortar, giving rise to much of the overgrowth. He used an additional 15 tons of rock to make the repairs and 400 bags of concrete. There is an inner lining of rock and concrete within each kiln. He said he

added shards of stone for stabilization.

"We want people to know the site is now open to the public," Strauss said. The site will be open between April 1 and November 15 each year, from sunrise to sunset.

Everyone is encouraged to visit the site located on Deep Hollow Road just off Route 22, Strauss said. Individuals and any groups are welcome. School tours can be arranged.



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Spongy moth larvae feed on tree leaves, contributing to stress that could kill an ailing tree.

Years-long spongy moth epidemic fades

By CHARLIE GREENBERG

Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — The spongy moth epidemic of eastern Dutchess and Columbia Counties and northwestern Connecticut appears to be receding after more than three years of infestation, based on forecasting work and early-summer land surveys undertaken at Millbrook's Cary Institute.

The spongy moth epidemic has marked widespread defoliation, affecting trees particularly in the area of the New York-Connecticut border.

The current epidemic appeared in Dutchess and Columbia Counties and in Connecticut's northwest corner in 2021 as a result of various regional ecological factors, combined with the spongy moths' ability for rapid proliferation.

"The white-footed mouse, which preys on spongy moth [egg masses], is usually enough to keep the population under control," said Clive Jones, a terrestrial ecologist at the Cary Institute. "If the mouse population collapses, as it did, then the spongy moth population can escape." Populations of parasitic wasps and flies, which bring the population down to normal levels, can take a few years to grow enough to curb the spongy moth. During this time, when the moths have few significant predators, their population grows unchecked and they rapidly defoliate trees.

This year's wet spring contributed to the counter-epidemic of both a virus and a fungus antagonistic to spongy moth larvae.

The Cary Institute, in its 2025 forecast of the spongy moth's prevalence, estimated the outbreak would abate

during the summer, leading to a negligible population of spongy moths in previously-affected areas. "We see the population collapse due to the fungus and the virus and due to the other natural enemies' population growing because of the moth's rise," Jones said.

Given the passage of an appropriate period of time for natural mechanisms to control the moth population, “we knew at Cary that there was a very low probability of much defoliation by the spongy moth [in previously-affected areas] this year,” Jones said.

Jones and his colleagues at the Cary Institute compiled their forecast of the danger the spongy moth would pose to trees this summer through the collection of data at the Cary Institute's own 1,924-acre arboretum, the observation of satellite imagery and through samples taken around the Hudson Valley and into Connecticut's northwest corner.

Defoliation rarely kills trees directly, even if it occurs for years in a row. But defoliation in conjunction with other harmful factors does kill trees. “Many of the trees out there are fine... but quite a lot have succumbed due to the drought in 2022 and then defoliation in ‘23 and ‘24,” Jones said.

“Spongy moth flare-ups are not cyclical in the sense that they are regularly spaced,” Jones said. “You can fit a periodicity to spongy moth outbreaks which shows that they occur about every 10 years, but it’s no more than a very rough guideline and can be completely wrong.” Before the 2021 epidemic, the last spongy moth infestation occurred in Millbrook nearly

30 years prior, limiting the statistical measures which can be taken to forecast a future spongy moth epidemic.

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Fallen trees, uprooted and splintered during a thunderstorm, injured a man, destroyed fences and damaged a dog kennel at the Animal Farm Foundation facilities in Bangall.

Isaias Nunez was cleaning along a road on the property with Marco Ortiz, another employee of the dog shelter, when the storm rolled in on the afternoon of Thursday, June 19.

"We saw the storm getting stronger," Ortiz said. "We started talking, 'we should check for trees.' That's when I looked outside the Kubota and I just started screaming 'run!'"

A branch from a tree just above their utility vehicle had split. The two men ran from the vehicle, but the falling branch caught Nunez and struck his back.

The fallen branch caused some soreness and bruising, Nunez said, but no broken bones. After a short hospital visit, doctors sent Nunez home to rest and heal. He has since returned to work, helping to repair the broken fences and clean up the storm damage that still lingers.

The powerful storm uprooted and knocked down branches of dozens of black locust trees on the Animal Farm Foundation's property and on neighboring properties along Pugsley Hill Road and Shaefer Road. Nikki Juchem, Director of Operations and Public Policy for the shelter, was in a meeting with Executive Director Bernice Clifford and founder Jane Berkey when a tree outside the main office building was struck by lightning and fell on the farm's donkey enclosure.

"It's really a miracle that everyone was unscathed, as well as the animals," Juchem said.

In addition to Nunez's injuries and the damaged donkey enclosure, fallen trees destroyed the fencing that secured the Animal Farm Foundation's original kennel yard, fencing for a horse paddock, and poked a hole through the roof and into the ceiling of one of the facility's dog play rooms.

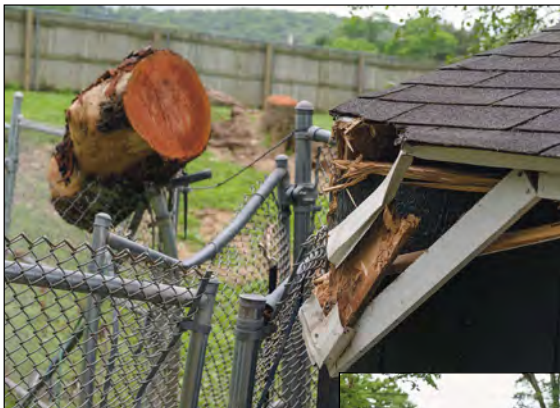
And more was at risk than just the employees, volunteers, dogs, and other animals already sheltered at the farm. The shelter was expecting about 15 more dogs to arrive shortly after the storm.

"We were fixing up the horse barn to be dog kennels," Juchem said. "Luckily



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER

Two uprooted locust trees still lie in the yard in front of Animal Farm Foundation's original kennels where they fell on a fence during a storm on Thursday, June 19.



A log stuck on a fence post outside the shelter's kennel building.

**Uprooted locust trees man-
gled fences, damaged roofs
and knocked down power
lines all over the 400-acre
farm that houses the Animal
Farm Foundation's shelter.**



we had all the extra space, because we would have been in a real pickle."

All the dogs that were being kept in the original kennel building had to be moved to the newly renovated kennels so the noisy repairs wouldn't bother them, Juchem said. Fosters stepped up to house dogs that couldn't fit while necessary repairs were being completed, too.

"Lots of damage but we had a lot of support from the community," Juchem said. "We had contractors come out immediately to start cutting down trees and helping us out with the cleanup, so we're doing OK now."

The cleanup and repair process is ongoing, but Juchem said the total cost is still unclear.

Animal Farm Foundation is a nonprofit dog shelter with a focus on "pit bulls," Juchem said. "Breed is not behavior," she said, emphasizing the organization's guiding philosophy. More information on volunteering, donating to the shelter, or adopting a dog is available online at www.animalfarmfoundation.org

The Animal Farm Foundation will be collaborating with the North East Community Center Farmers Market to bring adoptable dogs to the market every Saturday during the month of August.

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OUR TOWNS

Quakers and the rise of the abolitionist campaign explored in Meeting House talk

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — The interior of the unchanged Nine Partners Quaker Meeting House built in 1780 was the perfect setting for a talk on Quaker influence on the anti-slavery movement of the 18th and 19th centuries offered by the Millbrook Historical Society on Sunday, June 29. The talk was presented as the society’s first event in observance of next year’s celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Featured speaker was Sarah Gronningsater, professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania and author of “The Rising Generation: Gradual Abolition, Black Legal Culture, and the Making of National Freedom,” published in 2024, by Penn Press. Basing on exhaustive research that supported the book’s publication, Gronningsater’s talk was titled, “Quakers, Anti-slavery and the American Revolution,” focusing on the critical role of New York’s Quakers, particularly those of the Hudson Valley, in furthering the rise of the abolitionist movement before and after the American Revolution. The “Rising Generation” was a whole generation of freed children of enslaved parents who reached adulthood in time for the Civil War.

An audience of more than 50 settled onto the appropriately firm, solidly hard wooden Quaker benches for Gronningsater’s illustrated talk chronicling the generation that grew to shape the laws that would end the institution of slavery.

“Among the northern colonies, slavery was important to the economy,” Gronningsater explained, estimating a population of 20,000 slaves in early New York, second only to Pennsylvania. The Hudson River Valley was a powerhouse of commerce and influence.

The role of the Quakers, the Religious Society of Friends, has been underestimated. They firmly believed that slavery was wrong, although many Quakers, in reality, owned slaves. New York was not a Quaker colony, although it was a place of religious tolerance, Gronningsater explained.

What has proven to be a boon for researchers, Gronningsater observed, is the meticulous record-keeping of the Quakers who kept voluminous notes and wrote detailed minutes of every meeting.

“They write a lot,” said Gronningsater.

Quakers living within the Oblong territory between Connecticut and New York were activists in the New York City abolitionist movement.

The first published Black poet in the colonies was Jupiter Hammon, living on Long Island and published in 1761. The abolitionist movement had begun in 1760, continuing into the 1770s. Different elements within society were pushing for abolition during the pre-Revolution years.

Quakers began by encouraging their Quaker brothers to free their slaves. As that happened, Quakers next emphasized education of emancipated children of slaves, providing them with school learning.

Following the Revolu-



PHOTO BY CHARLIE GREENBERG

Sarah Gronningsater, a history professor at the University of Pennsylvania and author, lectured on the Quakers’ abolitionist history at the Nine Partners Meeting House in Millbrook on Sunday, June 29.

tionary War, the Constitutional Convention in 1787 was marked by a call to abolish slavery, ultimately unsuccessful.

In 1799, New York passed an Act for the Abolition of Slavery where New York freed the children of slaves, but not the adults.

“Children were born into a different social structure,” Gronningsater said, leading to what could be termed “The Rising Generation.”

In 1827, after a ten-year campaign, New York passed a law to free all enslaved people in the state.

A lively question and answer period followed the talk, evidencing that the questions were emanating from people who knew their history well.

During welcoming remarks, Millbrook Historical Society President Robert McHugh had noted that the series of two meeting house talks are supported by a grant from Dutchess County.

The second meeting house talk of the summer will invite expert Carl Lounsbury of the College of William and Mary and Colonial Williamsburg to speak on the architecture of the Nine Partners Quaker Meeting House. Expert in colonial architecture, Lounsbury will compare the unchanged Nine Partners meeting house, novel architecture in its time, with the architecture of other houses of worship in New York and New England.

The second talk, free and open to the public, is scheduled for Sunday, July 27, at 2 p.m.

For those who want to look in on the Nine Partners Meeting House, McHugh announced that the historic site will be open through the summer until November on the first Sunday of each month, from 12 noon until 4 p.m.

Library hand-copying program seeks to engage patrons with the U.S. Constitution

By LEILA HAKWEN
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — Engagement with the U.S. Constitution is the simple aim of a July program at The Millbrook Library, where each Saturday of the month library visitors can use the paper and pen provided to hand-copy the words of the historic document.

The first such session was held on Saturday, July 5, between noon and 3 p.m. The program will repeat each Saturday through July.

Leading the program is Jason Wagner, of Millbrook and the Bronx, who serves as Principal at Pelham Lab High School, a small public school in the Bronx.

An April article in the New Yorker magazine served as inspiration for the Millbrook Library’s program, Wagner said. He had read about a professional artist who had been the first to conceive of the idea and carry it out at the New York Public Library.

“She sparked it,” Wagner said. The goal is engagement to engender a knowledge of the Constitution.

“This is a really interesting way to dive deep into it. That’s why I’m writing in cursive,” said Jen McCreery, Adult Programs Coordinator for the library. She noted that the library is finding ways to both celebrate Independence Day, leading into next year’s observance of the 250th anniversary of the Revolution.

“This program is a good fit,” McCreery said.

Understanding the provisions of the Constitution is incredibly important, Wagner said.



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Squeeze and hold

Eugenia Vlahostathopulu of Clinton Corners donates blood during a Red Cross blood drive at the NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex on Saturday, July 5. A total of 19 people donated blood, five of whom were first time donors.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Jason Wagner of Millbrook and Jen McCreery, Adult Programs Coordinator at the Millbrook Library, set about hand-copying the document on Saturday, July 5, urging others to join them and do the same. The program will continue on Saturdays through July, between noon and 3 p.m.

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Paint Cafe with Hannah Jung
Monet's Water Lilies
Wednesday July 23rd
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in the
Learning Center



Noble Horizons will be hosting the popular Paint Cafe art class featuring Claude Monet's "Water Lilies." Studio art supply fee will be waived for Noble Horizon residents. Registration is required, please sign up using the QR code below or by going to the Events page on our website at noblehorizons.org.

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OUR TOWNS

Abbott tapped as HVA’s new executive director

By DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS
Special to the Millerton News

CORNWALL, Conn. — Following a six-month national search, the Board of Directors of the Housatonic Valley Association has selected Timothy B. Abbott, a well-known conservation leader in the region, as its new executive director.

Abbott, 57, succeeds Lynn Werner, who retired on July 1 after 42 years with the Cornwall Bridge-based organization and 30 years as its executive director.

Abbott, who has been a resident of North Canaan since 2002, has focused on conservation leadership for 27 years in western Connecticut and eastern New York, with national and regional nonprofits, including 17 years at HVA, where he most recently served as conservation director.

James H. Maloney, search committee chair and president of the HVA board of directors, said Abbott was selected from a field of about 60 applicants from all over New England and one from the West Coast.

“We actually narrowed the field down to Tim and one other. Tim became the clear choice when it became clear that no one had a stronger background,” said Maloney. He noted that the process of utilizing a formal search committee “was done deliberately, looking at the highest standards.”

The committee, he said, narrowed candidates down to a dozen, and from that, five were selected for interviews,

then the field was narrowed down to two, Abbott and one other. “The board really did think over this decision very carefully,” Maloney explained. “We are convinced that Tim is the strongest candidate and the best candidate for us.”

The HVA Board of Directors, said Maloney, is highly confident that Tim will make a “dramatic and substantial contribution” to the wellbeing of the tri-state Housatonic River Watershed as HVA’s new leader.

“It is going to be an exciting time working with Tim and making, we hope, very significant progress. He has huge experience in environmental conservation and in the work that an organization like HVA does. He also has a tremendous network of people that he knows in the community at large. It’s a great and unique combination of professional skills and personal relationships that are so valuable.

Referring to the overwhelming response from applicants, Maloney said HVA is a very well-regarded organization in the environmental community. “It’s not a position that comes up very often, so there was a lot of pent-up interest.”

Abbott said he is grateful that, in the end, the board was enthusiastic about his candidacy. “Now there is no question in their minds. They had a chance to kick the tires,” he said of the search committee’s full vetting and national search.

“It allowed the board to think hard about what they



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Cornwall-based Housatonic Valley Association has named Timothy B. Abbott as its new executive director. He succeeds Lynn Werner, who retired on July 1.

want in Lynn’s successor, and for the organization, and it has allowed me to present a strong case for my vision of HVA, said Abbott. “I am very grateful that in the end, the board was enthusiastic about my candidacy.”

Land protection work began with the Nature Conservancy

Abbott is a well-known and respected conservation leader who grew up in Dutchess County, New York, and began his land protection work with The Nature Conservancy in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts.

He is an appointed member of Connecticut’s Natural Heritage, Open Space and Land Acquisition Review Board

and a member of the Steering Committee of The Nature Conservancy’s Staying Connected Initiative.

During his long tenure with HVA, Abbott championed the federal Highlands Conservation Act, and he represents HVA as Connecticut’s nonprofit member of the four-state Highlands Steering Committee.

A skilled fundraiser, effective advocate and creative problem solver, Abbott created and led HVA’s Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative, an innovative regional conservation partnership among northwest Connecticut’s land trust community. He holds an M.A. in International Development from Clark University and a

B.A. in English from Haverford College. He was the winner of a J. William Fulbright Scholarship in 1997.

Abbott said this is a time of tremendous opportunity for HVA and conservation urgency for the region. “The climate crisis is a paramount concern, and HVA’s Follow the Forest and Clean, Cold & Connected conservation programs represent vital and effective ways to make an impact at local and regional scales.”

He noted that he is excited to work closely with his HVA colleagues, its board, supporters and conservation partners to advance these and other conservation initiatives across the watershed and beyond.

“I have been working in conservation within this tri-state region and focused on this geographical region since 1995. I have institutional knowledge and fully recognize the conservation goals. I am ready for this level of leadership.”

Vast watershed impacts tri-state region

The 1,248-million-acre Housatonic River watershed encompasses parts of 83 communities in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York and contributes 11% of the fresh water that enters Long Island Sound. It includes habitats as ecologically diverse as fens and seepage swamps, extensively forested uplands and a tidal estuary.

Some of its villages have fewer than 2,000 people, while more densely populated areas and significant cities include Danbury, Waterbury and Pittsfield. The intersection of human communities with natural ones is at the core of HVA’s work and the organization specializes in strategic, collaborative conservation action with a wide range of partners.

“HVA’s strategic plan for climate adaptation and resilience,” said Abbott, “recognizes the need to adapt bridges and culverts to accommodate both increased water flow and wildlife, to protect and connect for-

est habitat and allow for safer wildlife passage between them, to enhance riparian area and wetland conservation and to ensure that everyone has access to nature, wherever they live in the watershed.”

HVA has always been solution-oriented, said Abbott, “and that will serve us well as we and our conservation partners advance this vital work.

‘An essential partner’ for NW Corner land trusts

John Landon, committee chair for the Salisbury Association Land Trust, said he feels Abbott is “the perfect choice” to lead HVA and advance its goals.

“I have known Tim for many years. Over that time, he has been razor focused on preserving the important ecosystems in the Northwest Corner and beyond. He has always been available to assist local land trusts in identifying the most important parcels in need of protection and then helping secure necessary funding,” said Landon, who noted that Abbott’s strong connections with state and federal agencies has frequently helped overcome bureaucratic obstacles.

“He can be very persuasive in a friendly, non-confrontational way that advances the region’s conservation objectives. Without Tim’s help,” said Landon, “the Salisbury Association Land Trust would not have been able to protect several important parcels.

Shelley Harms, co-president of the Norfolk Land Trust, executive director of Cornwall Conservation Trust and Conservation Director of the Salisbury Association, said she is thrilled to hear about Abbott’s appointment.

“Tim is an essential partner for the land trusts of the Northwest Corner. His relationships with the state and other important funders brings grant dollars to our area for land conservation,” said Harms. “He has a deep understanding of the ecology and the history and the economy of our towns and the Housatonic River Watershed.”

Amenia Planning Board approves Cascade Creek conservation analysis

By LEILA HAWKEN
Special to the Millerton News

AMENIA — Following months of meetings and significant discussion at the regular meeting of the Planning Board on Wednesday, June 25, the board voted 5-1 to approve Hudson River Housing’s conservation analysis document in connection with the Cascade Creek affordable housing project.

Planning Board chairman Robert Boyles cast the negative vote.

Senior Planner Peter Sander of Renna Engineering asked the planning board to approve the conservation analysis that he indicated had been revised to accommodate conservation concerns.

“We feel that our plans provide benefit to all involved,” Sander said of the conservation analysis. Board member Ken Topolsky questioned the definition of “benefit,” leading Sander to reply that “benefit” indicated “no impact.”

Planning board member Foz Bullock asked how utili-

ties can co-exist with conservation interests.

“Because the utilities are sub-surface, there is no visual impact, no impact to wildlife, and no soil removal. The bottom line is that what they are proposing agrees with code,” planning board engineer John Andrews said.

Topolsky asked about grading and erosion control at the Cascade Creek site. Sander explained that those elements are to be detailed within the preliminary subdivision mapping phase of the application process, the next step coming up.

“This is preliminary,” planning board attorney Paul Van Cott explained. “Beyond the non-binding conservation findings will be the subdivision planning phases.

Explaining the order of the process, Atty. Van Cott said that preliminary mapping will provide project layout that will address such issues as drainage, stormwater runoff, and State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) requirements.

“All of that comes before a

public hearing,” Van Cott said. “We’re here to listen,” Sander said. “We will address your concerns within the next set of plans,” Sander said.

In a process that began in January with preliminary plans described by Sander of Renna Engineering, and a determination from planning board engineer John Andrews that a conservation analysis was needed, several meetings ensued. One of the meetings was a listening session in which HRH met with neighboring property owners and residents to hear their concerns. Those concerns led to revised conservation planning, presented to the Planning Board in March.

In May, a public hearing about the revised conservation planning was held with many residents’ comments focusing on site development rather than conservation planning.

Silo Ridge

In other action on Wednesday, June 25, a public hearing invited comment on Silo Ridge plans to revise its official plans to eliminate 13

townhouses and substitute ten condominiums in the same space on a single lot.

Of concern to planning board members was the likely tax receipt impact where the town would lose \$48,000 in tax revenue based on the change to the site plan.

Silo Ridge consultant Patrick O’Leary agreed to provide more information explaining that the tax impact would be offset by new homes being planned for future construction.

The public hearing was held open until the next planning board meeting on Wednesday, July 9, awaiting O’Leary’s information.

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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JULY 10

Fossil Dig at the Library

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

Thursday, July 10, 3:30 p.m. we're bringing the dig to the David M. Hunt Library! Experience paleontology for yourself at our mini fossil dig with REAL fossils to find and identify on July 10th at 3:30pm. Participants will "dig" through sand, rocks, and shells for micro- and small fossils namely from the Miocene era, and work to identify what animal they belonged to while learning more about early life on our planet. Let's get digging! This event is free and open to the public.

Painting Music at Music Mountain

Gordon Hall, 225 Music Mountain Road, Falls Village, Conn.

On Thursday, July 10 at 3 p.m., there will be a multigenerational event where artists, amateurs, and beginners paint while listening to live music. Guided by Vincent Inconigios and Artistic Director Oskar Espina Ruiz. Materials provided. Rain or shine, held indoors. Info and tickets: musicmountain.org

JULY 11

Senior Lunch & Learn: Fun and Games

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

Join us for a relaxing break to meet others and socialize through a board or card game. Please register: hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/14689809

Learn to Play Fridays

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

Every Friday from 3 to 5 p.m., level up your game skills at the library this summer with our Learn to Play Fridays! Every Friday this summer we'll be teaching and playing all kinds of old-school, screen-free card games. Stop by July 11 for UNO, War, and Cheat; July 18 for Euchre; and July 25 for Bridge. These events are free and open to the public.

Finding Nemo, Jr.

Sharon Playhouse, 49 Amenia Road, Sharon, Conn.

Friday, July 11 at 2 p.m. and Saturday, July 12 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Musical adaptation of the Pixar classic, performed by local youth ages 11 to 16.

Where the Mountain Meets the Sea

Ancram Center, 1330 County Route 7, Ancram N.Y.

A Haitian man travels from Miami to California on a once-in-a-lifetime road trip and, years later, his gay son travels the same route in reverse. These parallel journeys allow them to forge a connection that had eluded them for years." Where the Mountain Meets the Sea was previously produced by Manhattan Theatre Club.

Summer Concert Series: Jonny Grusauskas

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

On Friday, July 11 at 6 p.m., The David M. Hunt Library and the Falls Village Recreation Committee are excited to offer a summer concert series on the lawn of the David M. Hunt Library. On July 11 at 6 p.m. the library will host Jonny Grusauskas. Jonny is a founder of the Music Cellar in Millerton, N.Y., a space dedicated to music education. He performs solo and as part of the band Ilespecial. Pack a picnic, bring chairs or a blanket, and join us on the library lawn for music this summer! The second concert will be a Community Open Mic on Friday, Aug. 8 at 6 p.m. These events are free and open to the public.

JULY 12

Ice Dyeing with Anne Cameron

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

Saturday, July 12 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Come in and cool down with a dye project that is easy, fun, and has the element of surprise! Ice Dyeing is a technique in which fabric dye and ice combine to create beautiful "abstract" patterns on fabric. Please register: hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/14367388

Book Signing

The Wish House lawn, 413 Sharon Goshen Tnpk., Cornwall, Conn.

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 12, author Gregory Galloway will be at the West Cornwall farmer's market with copies of his latest book, "ALL WE TRUST." In the book, what starts out as a family squabble turns into an international battle between competing crime organizations, moving from small town New England to San Francisco to Mexico.

Ingrid Freidenbergs: COLLAGE REDUX!

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

Exhibit: July 12 through Aug. 8. Reception: Saturday, July 12, 5 to 7 p.m. Art Talk: Thursday, July 24, 5:30 p.m. This exhibit features the richly layered collages and box constructions of Latvian-born artist Ingrid Freidenbergs, whose work has been praised by The New York Times for its sensitivity, atmosphere, and historical depth.

New Art at the Akin Free Library

Akin Free Library, 378 Old Quaker Hill Road, Pawling, N.Y.

Contemporary works by 12 regional women artists shown throughout the historic Akin Free Library. Public reception: Sunday, July 13, 3 to 5 p.m.

JULY 13

Blessing of the Bikes

All Saints of America Orthodox Church, 313 Twin Lakes Road, Salisbury, Conn.

Once again motorcycles and their riders will be blessed at All Saints of America Orthodox Church on Sunday July 13. All are welcome and should arrive between 11:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. Refreshments will be served. The church is located at 313 Twin Lakes Road in Salisbury. For more information call 860-435-9632.

Falls Village Car & Motorcycle Show

Main Street, Falls Village, Conn.

The Falls Village Car & Motorcycle Show will take place on Sunday, July 13, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in downtown Falls Village

July Fest

Cornwall Village Green, Pine St., Cornwall, Conn.

Fun for all ages Sunday, July 13, from 5 to 8 p.m. on the Green. Come dance with music by The Joint Chiefs and food from Hot Z's, Nibbles n' Noms and Peter Doda's Ice Cream. Games, face painting, slime with Makayla, and hose off with a fire truck.

Last week's WotW

E	R	U	P	T
D	E	P	O	T
S	P	A	D	E
S	P	E	N	D
S	P	E	E	D

Word of the Week

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

- 1. Morsel of breakaway food
- 2. Worn by Harry Potter to vanish
- 3. Series of metal links
- 4. Storage for items or data
- 5. Classic summertime activity

JULY 15

Book Release: The Met and Its People, by Jonathan Conlin

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

On Tuesday, July 15, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., author Jonathan Conlin and art historian Michael FitzGerald discuss Conlin's new book. This groundbreaking bottom-up history reveals behind-the-scenes stories of the people who shaped the Met, from artists and curators to museum goers and security guards. Registration is required online.

JULY 16

Peace Corps Program

Kent Senior Center, 16 Swift Lane, Kent, Conn.

Five Kent Residents who served in the Peace Corps in the 1960's and 1970's will speak at the Kent Senior Center on Wednesday, July 16, at 11 a.m. as part of the "People and Places of Kent" series co-sponsored by the Kent Senior Center and Kent Historical Society.

JULY 17

Modern Calligraphy Workshop with Debby Reelitz

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

On Thursday, July 17, 4 p.m., come learn the popular and playful Modern Calligraphy

with calligrapher Debby Reelitz at the David M. Hunt Library! In this workshop, you will learn where this style comes from, strategies on how to create this lettering style and projects to use the skills you have learned. No experience necessary! More information about Debby Reelitz is available at: letteringdesign.com This program is free and available for ages 8 – adult or younger with permission.

JULY 18

Roaring 20s Cocktail Party

Douglas Library, 108 Main St., North Canaan, Conn. douglaslibrarycanaan.org

The Douglas Library of North Canaan will host a summer cocktail party with a Roaring 20's theme on Friday, July 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres, desserts, wine and punch will be served: tickets are \$15 per person and \$25 a couple and available at the door. Dressing up is optional. All proceeds benefit the Douglas Library. 860-824-7863 for further info.

2025 Falls Village AND MOTORCYCLE CAR SHOW

Sunday, July 13 10am-3pm 34 Railroad St., Falls Village, CT

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Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Taxis
- 5. Space Systems Command
- 8. Plant seed by scattering
- 11. Alliances
- 13. Fiddler crabs
- 14. Heroic tale
- 15. Yemen capital
- 16. Misleading gesture
- 17. Cain and __
- 18. Simple shoe
- 20. Hundredweight
- 21. Children's toy in the snow
- 22. Gets rid of
- 25. Free of deceit
- 30. Performed a dance
- 31. Chinese philosophical principle
- 32. Exaggerated
- 33. Refrain from inflicting
- 38. A doctrine
- 41. Can be subdued
- 43. A place to bathe
- 45. Land used for pasture
- 48. Curved piece of iron
- 49. Automobile
- 50. Fencing sword
- 55. Breezes through
- 56. Child
- 57. NBA legend Iverson
- 59. Horsley and Iacocca are two
- 60. Midway between northeast and east
- 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 62. U.S. leader during much of WW2
- 63. Lair
- 64. Fibrous material

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10
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48					49			50	51	52	53
55					56				57		58
59					60				61		
62					63				64		

- 24. Weather events
- 25. A pituitary hormone
- 26. Jamie Foxx film
- 27. Rocker's accessory
- 28. One point east (clockwise) of due north
- 29. One who obtains pleasure from another's pain
- 34. Consume
- 35. Licensed for Wall Street
- 36. Sick
- 37. Israeli city __ Aviv
- 39. Removed the husk
- 40. Mass of rocks and sediment
- 41. Two-year-old sheep
- 42. Area units
- 44. Prison overseer
- 45. Walked
- 46. Wartime escort aircraft carrier

- 47. Tax
- 48. 50 percent
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Tattle
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. Resist authority (slang)
- 58. Egg of a louse

July 3 Solution

M	E	M	O	S		S	E	T	T	E	R
W	O	R	L	D	W	I	D	E	L	E	A
E	S		L	I	A	B	I	L	I	T	Y
A	L	E	N		S	O	L		H	R	A
R	E	P	S		M	E	R	E	S		A
M	A		M	A	N		R	A	D		A
	N	O	E	S			C	A	N	N	E
G	A	O	L				M	E	A	D	
S	A	C	H	E	M		R	O	T	C	
T	S	H	E	A	T		E	B	N	E	G
A	L	E	S		M	E	A	D	E		H
T	I		C	A		M	S	G		M	O
I	G		A	N	O	P	H	E	L	E	S
C	H	A	R	A	C	T	E	R	I	S	T
T	R	Y	S	T	S		T	S	A	D	E

Sudoku

		1				6	4	7
4						1	3	
							5	
			9	1		2		8
	3						6	
			8					
	8					4		
		2		5				
1	5			3	9			

July 3 Solution

8	5	1	3	4	2	7	6	9
3	9	2	1	7	6	8	5	4
4	7	6	8	5	9	3	2	1
1	8	5	7	9	4	2	3	6
9	6	7	2	3	8	4	1	5
2	3	4	5	6	1	9	8	7
6	2	8	9	1	7	5	4	3
5	4	9	6	8	3	1	7	2
7	1	3	4	2	5	6	9	8

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OUR TOWNS

Grassroots efforts bring green landscaping grants to Millerton

By ALY MORRISSEY
alym@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON – The Village of Millerton has been awarded two state grants totaling \$15,000 to replace landscaping equipment lost in the February fire at the Highway and Water Department building, thanks to the efforts of the joint Climate Smart task force of North East and Millerton.

Instead of gas-powered tools, Millerton will cut emissions — and grass — with a new fleet of mostly STIHL-brand electric tools. The commercial-grade equipment is quieter, cleaner and most are powered by interchangeable lithium-ion batteries, Climate Smart Task Force Coordinator Kathy Chow said.

“It’s actually a silver lining of the fire,” Chow said. “The Highway Department didn’t even have a rake left. This gave us a chance to start with a clean slate.”

The grants come from the Clean Energy Communities program, an initiative of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. Funded through a tax on electric bills, the program rewards municipalities for completing energy-saving actions. Chow compared the system to earning scout badges — towns rack up points for verified sustainability steps, then become eligible for



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

An autonomous mower will soon be mowing the grass at Millerton’s baseball diamond.

grants.

For example, Millerton earned 800 points for achieving Climate Smart Community certification. Chow added that six recent “high-impact” actions, including installing the EV charging station on Century Boulevard last July and converting streetlights to LED in January, helped qualify the village for funding.

Climate Smart task force member Andrew Stayman described the new tools as a full suite of battery-powered gear — from chainsaws to blowers and trimmers — all running on interchangeable batteries for streamlined use and charging.

The broader goal is to phase out polluting two- and four-cycle engines in favor of cleaner, quieter electric alter-

natives. “Two-cycle engines, just by definition, are inefficient and far away from being green,” says Stayman.

One standout purchase is an autonomous electric mower, which will use satellite guidance and a smartphone app to trim the baseball field at Eddie Collins Park. According to Stayman, the mower is expected to cut a quarter-inch of grass each day and return to its charging station near the field. Though some liken it to a Roomba, Stayman, who is known to handle the technical aspects of most initiatives, said, “It’s more like a precision farming tractor than a robot vacuum.”

Chow said the switch to electric landscaping tools is part of a larger shift toward energy efficiency in local government and communi-

ties. While the equipment is an investment, she said the long-term benefits are clear — lower emissions, reduced maintenance and less noise for nearby residents. “It sort of feels like a win-win,” she said.

While individual climate actions can be hard to quantify, Stayman believes in their collective power.

“Grassroots efforts have always fueled larger movements,” he said. “It doesn’t make a difference when just one person does it, but when more and more people make small changes, the impact adds up.”

While there is no official expected arrival time for the equipment, the Climate Smart Task Force hopes to receive the new fleet of landscaping tools by August.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Thomas Divito, Lisamarie Manso and Jody Trosi as Administrator sold the 2 bedroom/1 bath home on 1.5 acres at 552 Rodman Road for \$295,000 by to Joseph R. and Carolyn Buyse Corney.

End of spring brings single \$1M+ home sale in Hillsdale

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

HILLSDALE, N.Y. — A current nickname for Hillsdale in Columbia County may be “Beverly Hillsdale” but the six real estate transfers in April through June included only one million-dollar property.

3002 Route 23 — 3 bedroom/1 bath homes on .83 acres sold by Janice Sharron to Joe Yammine for \$393,500 recorded on April 17.

Mitchell Street — 135.98 acres of vacant land sold by Corrigan Family Farm LLC to Richard B, Carrie H, and Careth H Herrington for \$269,000 recorded on April 28.

287 State Route 71 — 2 bedroom/ 2 bath home on 2.3 acres sold by Thomas and Stephanie Kelleher to

Green River House LLC for \$310,000 recorded on May 5.

35 Stage Coach Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home on 8.4 acres sold by Howard Jacobs by Attorney and Maiken Jacobs by Attorney to Robert Breer LLC for \$715,000 recorded on May 28.

90 Overlook Drive — 3 bedroom/2 bath home on 3.1 acres sold by Neil Kumar Chatani and Sara Iliana Ongun to James Sadek and Anabel Macrae for \$1,220,000 recorded on June 26.

**Town of Hillsdale real estate recorded as sold at arm’s length with consideration is derived from Columbia County public deed transfers from April 1 to June 30, 2025. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby’s International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.*

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