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PHOTO BY THEO MANIATIS

Inside one of America’s only waterfowl conservation centers

By THEO MANIATIS
Special to the Millerton News

LITCHFIELD, Conn. — The Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy is quietly saving some of the world’s rarest birds — just over the border in Litchfield.

The Conservancy protects 100 species and more than 500 birds. It is one of the few bird-specific conservation centers in the United States, and the only one operating in a northern climate.

As humanity’s footprint tramples habitats worldwide, RWC’s local efforts have global effects. For example, Emperor geese from Alaska, which RWC protects, could lose 50% of their breeding habitat by 2070.

Bird conservation is a puzzle in two pieces, Executive Director Ashleigh Fernandez said. “You have to work to save the habitat, but you also have to work to save the genetic diversity of the species itself.”

RWC’s mission is to preserve genetic diversity through conservation breeding of birds. But caring for the birds is difficult, like running a hotel for fussy guests who

can’t speak.

Some species require special attention. Spectacled Elders, large sea ducks native to the Arctic, are clumsy parents who might step on their eggs or roll them out of their nest.

“Getting them to lay an egg is the ultimate sign that all their needs are met. It’s kind of a bonus thing birds will do,” said Breanne Ellis, an aviculturist at RWC.

RWC’s staff work with every major zoo in the country and universities worldwide. A few years ago, the endangered White-headed duck was not being successfully bred in captivity in the United States; they would lay eggs, but the ducklings would die after hatching.

RWC Director of Aviculture Logan Connor worked to find a counterintuitive feeding protocol after hatching. After the adjustment, RWC went from raising one or two ducklings per year to more than twenty.

For humans, RWC provides a chance to see conservation in action. It is open to the public on weekends from May to November, running tours, summer camps, and internship programs.

From values to valedictorians:
A family’s path to achievement

By JULES WILLIAMS
Special to the Millerton News

CORNWALL, Conn. — “Matsudaira” can be translated from Japanese to mean “peaceful pine,” evoking a sense of enduring strength that reaches great heights.

The Matsudaira family of Cornwall has embodied this symbolism with a stream of six successful children.

Rachel Matsudaira, a current counselor at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, is the mother of six children who each attended the school. Her husband, Yoshihiro Matsudaira, died earlier this year before their youngest son graduated as HVRHS’s 2025 valedictorian.

The family resided in Japan for twelve years doing missionary work before receiving a grant to come back to the United States. They landed in Connecticut and began to thrive.

At HVRHS, each child placed in the top percentile of their classes and five of the six became either valedictorian or salutatorian.

While there were many factors that led to her children’s success, Matsudaira spoke of a few she felt were most important.

Firstly, the children were all raised close together as a family unit rather than as individuals, and looked to each other for inspiration and instruction. “The oldest one sets the pace, the tone, and they kind of all follow in suit,” Matsudaira explained. After her oldest son became valedictorian, the others also began to

view that as a goal.

Many of their extracurricular activities were family oriented, such as every kid playing the same sports, which helped manage taking care of such a large family.

The family was raised to deeply value their Christian faith, reading the Bible daily and living by its scripture. One of their favorite verses is, “Do your best unto the lord,” as it establishes a set of expectations for each child, not backed by just the parents’ wishes but by God himself.

Matsudaira also spoke of the multicultural influences on her strategy of raising her family. Not only did she live in Japan, she also met many other international Christians during her time there, allowing her children to experience a “third culture.” She was able to pick and choose strategies from the many cultures she encountered to raise her family the way she believed was best.

All having entered adulthood, the Matsudairas are now spread across the U.S. but still keep in close contact with each other.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Manny Matsudaira, the youngest of the Matsudaira clan, was the 2025 valedictorian of Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

Micah just received his degree from Springfield College and has moved to Boston, managing a gym and using his exercise science to manage sports facilities.

Melody is a rising junior at Davidson College, studying biology and tentatively interested in cancer research and treatment, or perhaps osteopathy.

The youngest, Manasseh, or Manny, is attending Harvard, potentially majoring in economics and environmental policy.

To those who are also raising children or considering it, Matsudaira advises thinking about the big questions. “There are so many things we think we value. I say this from experience that we don’t actually value it,” she said.

She highlighted the importance of forming relationships with other people. It is the close relationships, such as the bonds between her family, that are supports in times of need.

“Make your relationships right, become the person that you’re going to value and that leads to a good legacy. You don’t have to be famous.”

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5 pm
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OUR TOWNS

Millbrook School District capital project still in earliest phase

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — Since voters approved planned construction work throughout the Central School District, the district board decided on a phased approach to the work in order to move ahead with the most pressing needs.

A statement from Elliot Garcia, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Personnel, outlined the two phases in three parts and gave a timeline for completion.

“The process is detailed and lengthy, but necessary to be certain that the work is done properly,” Garcia said, adding that the start of actual construction work is still months away.

The project is currently in the Schematic Design Phase, Garcia explained, a step when all of the project plans are drawn, including engineering, architectural design and equipment specifications. Part of this design phase is to create a detailed assessment of current conditions such as precise measuring of each window slated for replacement.

Once the detailed plan drawings are completed, they need to be submitted to the state’s Education Department for review and to make any modifications to meet state law and building codes. It will take time to complete the back-and-forth negotiation of those findings before the phased project can go out for bid, Garcia said.

As bids are received, they will be opened publicly and reviewed by district administration and then passed on to the Board of Education for awarding of contracts. Construction will begin soon after, to be scheduled by the contractors.

The overall project has been broken into three phases to allow the most pressing repair work, involving less design work, to progress more swiftly through the process, Garcia explained. An example is the work that is critically needed at the Middle School.

Design work on the two parts of Phase One is to be done first. The design of the Middle School roof replacement, HVAC replacement and Energy Performance began in June, Garcia reported. Plans for that aspect are projected to be submitted to the state Education Department in March 2026. Under that schedule, work might be expected to occur over two summers, 2027 and 2028, when school is not in session.

The other Phase One work will involve the Middle School accessibility renovations and window replacement, with work projected to occur over a nine-month period between July 2026 and May 2027.

The design of Phase Two — Elm Drive and Alden Place — would be slated to begin in June 2026 with plans submitted to the state by spring 2027 and construction projected to occur in summer 2027 aiming for completion in summer 2028.

Overall, the entire project will likely take a minimum of three years to complete, Garcia said of the timeline.

“These much-needed improvements to our buildings will help us better build our students for their futures, and we can only do so thanks to the incredible support we received from our voters,” Garcia said.



Grace Episcopal Church on Franklin Avenue in Millbrook.

Grace Church golf benefit set for Sept. 8

MILLBROOK — The annual golf tournament and dinner benefitting the Grace Episcopal Church in Millbrook is set for Monday, Sept. 8.

Jean Hates and Elizabeth K. Shequine are to be honored at this year’s dinner for their commitment and service to the church and the community.

The golf tournament and dinner will commence with 18 holes of golf at the Millbrook Golf & Tennis Club at 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. A round of golf includes breakfast and lunch, on-course refreshments, golf cart, raffle, a 50/50 cash drawing and other prizes.

Dinner begins at 5 p.m. with an hour of cocktails, a silent auction and speeches venerating the two honorees.

Just golf or just dinner will cost \$150 per ticket. Tickets for the golf tournament and dinner combined run \$225.

The 17th annual Grace Golf & Dinner Benefit will provide support for the church’s community programs including the Millbrook Community Pre-school, the Food of Life food pantry, The Lunch Box community meal program, immigrant support services and counseling, affordable mental health services, Church Alliance Senior Housing Program, and a Saturday morning AA Meeting.

Registration for the benefit is now open for sponsorships, golf, and dinner. To register, call (845) 677-3064 or email office@gracemillbrook.org. Registration may also be com-

Millerton DWI checkpoint nets one arrest

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

MILLERTON — A DWI checkpoint stopped all cars on Route 22 starting at 7 p.m. on Saturday night, Aug. 23, in front of Eddie Collins Field in Millerton.

Officers stopped all 624 cars that passed through the check point until 11 p.m., pulled over six for secondary screening and arrested one individual who tested over the legal .08% alcohol level.

Bill Johnson, the head of the STOP DWI Program in Dutchess County, was at the scene along with four Dutchess County Sheriff’s deputies, three state troopers and four members of the Millerton Police Department.

“Our intent is to deter drunken driving, not make arrests. We focus only on impaired driving, not other ticketable offenses,” explained Johnson. “Word gets out quickly on cell phones, Waze, and Google that the check point exists and everybody slows down. We want people to know law enforcement is out there and drink less. After COVID when there was less enforcement, driving behaviors degraded for a couple of years.”

Dutchess County Sheriff Tyler Wyman observed that the drivers who were stopped were eager to talk with officers and pleased with their presence. Wyman said the number of cars pulled over for secondary examination and the one arrest were on the low side. “That’s a good thing,” Wyman said. “It shows that people are being more aware and careful.”

The STOPDWI — Special Traffic Operations Program — began in 1981 when Dutchess County wide arrests for impaired driving ranged from 1,400 to 1,800 annually and around 10% of all auto crashes involved alcohol.

By 2024 there were 1,199 DWI arrests and only 3% of car accidents are attributable



Police officers from three agencies stopped 634 drivers Saturday, Aug. 23 in a DWI checkpoint on Route 22 in Millerton. The checkpoint led to one arrest.

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OBITUARIES

Clyde Perham Weed

CORNWALL — Clyde Perham Weed, 74, passed away peacefully at his home in West Cornwall, Connecticut on Sunday, August 17.

Clyde was born in New Orleans, Louisiana to Jeanne and Herbert Weed. He was the grandson and namesake of Clyde E. Weed, Chairman of the board of Anaconda Copper.

Clyde was a gifted scholar. He did his undergraduate work at Vassar College, his Master's and PhD at Columbia University. He was a wonderful Professor of Political Science and taught at Colgate University, Baruch College and spent the last 20 years of his career as a tenured Professor of Political Science at Southern Connecticut State University.

Clyde had remarkable energy and a vivacity that is hard to explain! Through his teaching, kindness and mentorship he touched so many lives.

He also wrote two important works on political realignment theory, "The Nemesis of Reform: The Republican Party during the New Deal," published by Columbia University Press; and "The Transformation of the Republican



Party 1912-1936 from Reform to Resistance". At the time of his death, he was completing a manuscript on the political thought of Walter Lippmann during the New Deal.

Clyde loved nature and all animals. He spent many happy years walking and loving the natural beauty in West Cornwall.

Clyde leaves behind his wife of 24 years, Amy Weed, and brother Michael Weed of Los Altos, California, sister-in-law, Patricia Hurley, nieces, Emily and Maggie Weed, Brielle Cleary and nephews Jesse Weed, Daniel and Teagen Cleary. He also leaves behind his beloved Scottish Terrier "Hoover."

Calling hours were held at The Kenny Funeral Home, 41 Main Street, Sharon, CT 06069 on Wednesday, Aug. 27 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers please consider sending contributions to The Little Guild of St. Francis, an animal shelter, 285 Sharon Goshen Tpke, West Cornwall, CT 06796.

Clyde was much loved and will be truly missed by all who knew and loved him.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

John N. Franzese

CANAAN — John N. Franzese, was born on Dec. 10, 1947, and died on Aug. 22, 2025, at age 77.

John was born and raised in Huntington, New York. He served in the United States Army, stationed in Germany during the Vietnam War. He rejoined the Army Reserves, serving for seventeen years, rising to the rank of Staff Sergeant E7.

John is survived by his wife of forty-five years, Mary B. Franzese. He was the father of John L. Franzese, of Seoul, Korea, and the stepfather of Christine Zoro, of Boston, Theresa Zoro, of Brooklyn, and the grandfather of Wyeth and Olive Billinger. He is also survived by his beloved sister, Terry Kirillin; brother-in-law, Alex Kirillin; and nephews, Gregory and Michael Kirillin. He was a loving husband, father, brother, uncle, and grandfather.

John moved to Millerton, New York, in 1985 with his family to work at Sharon Hospital as a Radiological Technologist, helping to operate the newly acquired diagnostic imaging machine (CT scan). He eventually became the Chief Technologist of the Radiology Department at Sharon Hospital and later worked at and retired from Columbia Memorial Hospital in Hudson, New York. He retired in 2009, moved to Harrisburg,

Pennsylvania, and then returned to the area almost four years ago, residing at Geer Lodge in Cannan, to be closer to his family.

John was an active golfer and golf enthusiast who also made custom golf clubs for people in the tri-state area. John was also an excellent cook and

will be remembered fondly for his famous Italian cooking and cocktails. His hospitality and generosity were often evident around the dinner table and during many celebrations, where he and Mary would host and entertain with warmth and generosity of spirit. He loved motorcycles, watching golf, cooking shows, and movies. His passion for healthcare and helping people was integral to his profession and purpose. He was kind and generous with advice, support, and friendship.

A Celebration of John's life will be held Friday, Aug. 29, 2025, at Geer Lodge, Hollenbeck Room, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to The North Cannan Volunteer Ambulance Corps at https://www.northcanaanems.org/ donations or the Residents Association of Geer Gratuity Fund. Checks can be made out to the Geer Residents Gratuity Fund and mailed to: 77 South Canaan Road, Canaan, CT 06018.

SALISBURY — On Aug. 18, 2025, the luckiest man in the world, David Thorne Bayersdorfer, died peacefully at Noble Horizons surrounded, as always, by family and friends. David frequently told all who would listen that he was the luckiest man; to be married to his beautiful wife Nancy; to have two wonderful children, Cara and Jordan; to live in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut, a community he happily called home for more than 50 years; and to teach and coach at a high school he loved.

According to David, his luck began when he was born on May 3, 1946 to Frank and Beatrice Bayersdorfer in Teaneck, New Jersey. He spent his childhood at 231 Queen Anne Road. He loved growing up with his three brothers, John, Frank, and Roger, in Bogota, New Jersey where his early athletic achievements landed him in the Bogota High School Athletic Hall of Fame. As luck would have it, he was admitted to and then graduated from Syracuse University in 1968, setting him on a course to spend most of his adult life as an educator and coach. While at Syracuse, he met and immediately proposed to Nancy Jones of Lakeville, Connecticut. He had to wait for her answer, but after proudly serving his country in the Marine Corps he married Nancy and the happy and lucky couple settled in the Northwest Corner.

David soon found his dream job as a history teacher and football coach at Housatonic Valley Regional High School where he spent the next 33 years of his life, always finding the greatest joy among students and athletes. He wore many

hats during his years at Housy, serving as Athletic Director, Vice Principal, and interim Principal as well as enthusiastically coaching football, basketball, golf, and even cheerleading. During this time he received two advanced degrees; a Master's in secondary education from Central Connecticut State University in 1981 and a 6th year degree from Southern Connecticut State University in 1992. In 2008, he was inducted into the HVRHS Athletic Hall of Fame, which he helped found during his time as Athletic Director.

David found further luck, and shocked his family members, when he tried out and landed his dream role as Joe Boyd in "Damn Yankees" for TriArts in 2000 despite not having any previous acting experience...or talent. He quickly became a local regular treading the boards at the Sharon Playhouse, with notable roles in The Full Monty, Crazy For You, Kiss Me Kate, and My Fair Lady.

As David's luck continued, he retired from education in 2011 giving him more time for his beloved six grandchildren – Cara and Patrick's sons Jack, Colin, and Luke, and Jordan and Meghan's children Nash, Locke, and Nell. He enjoyed perfecting his golf game with regular Wednesday night beatdowns of his good-natured buddies, showing off his milfoil management techniques on the Lake, and making countless but joyful trips to the town dump.



He considered himself very lucky to see the world with his adventurous wife, journeying to Italy, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, and Africa while always acknowledging his love of travel truly started with an epic cross-country drive with his less-than-enthusiastic family in 1990. He looked most forward to his yearly baseball trips with his favorite son Jordan and favorite son-in-law Patrick.

Retirement also allowed David more time to serve his adopted hometown. He proudly acted as Senior Warden at St. John's Episcopal Church in Salisbury for over a decade, won the Community Award of Merit, and was a member of the Democratic Town Committee, Salisbury Central Board of Education, and the Salisbury Planning and Zoning Committee. He served as Chair of the HVRHS 21st Century Fund, helping give teachers and students exciting and innovative opportunities beyond the classroom. He ran the Salisbury Youth Summer Jobs Program which introduced many young people to service within their community. He also taught

exhaustively-researched classes at the Taconic Learning Center, continuing his pursuit of knowledge and his love of helping others which he proudly passed down to his daughter Cara, a public-school educator.

It is said of many men: To know him is to love him. While it was true of David, it's also true that if you had contact with him you knew he loved you. David will be remembered as kind, fun, and ever-so-curious about life, relentlessly celebrating his loved one's achievements with constant, powerful support. His wife, his children and grandchildren, his many former students and athletes, and his friends and family will miss him dearly.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, Aug. 30, at 11 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church in Salisbury. Burial will follow in Salisbury Cemetery. Ryan Funeral Home, Lakeville, is in care of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the HVRHS 21st Century Fund. David would also love it if you watched your children or grandchildren play a ball game, go to a good local play, or have a catch with a friend or loved one in his memory.

To offer an online condolence, please visit ryanfhct.com



Worship Services

Week of August 31, 2025

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Lakevillemethodist@snet.net

Falls Village Congregational Church
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Canaan United Methodist Church
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We hope you will join us!



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The Salisbury Housing Trust is currently building two affordable homes at 26 and 28 Undermountain Road here in Salisbury. The foundations are complete and today the first house has been set by Signature Building Systems. Very impressive to see how the four boxes that have been built in Moosic, PA are gently lifted in the air and set on the foundation. For more information on how the houses are constructed, please visit www.signaturebuildingsystems.com/. The second house will be set this Thursday, Aug. 28th and if of interest, please come in the morning to watch how this all happens. A special shout out to George Hill who supervises and coordinates the building of these affordable homes! Also to Brandon Flint of Lime Rock Race Track who allowed the semi trucks with the houses loaded to stage at the Park! All very exciting! For more information on the Salisbury Housing Trust, please see: www.salisburycthousing.org/.



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Why the Russian Donbas takeover deal won't work

It is better to know than to hope. Even if the Ukraine democratic government wants to do a deal to end the war by ceding parts of the Donbas region to Russian takeover, what the Russians — Putin and his military advisors — will want, will include a constant threat to a sovereign Ukraine all the while preserving Putin's hold on the Donbas.

Israel set the standard that the West has turned a blind eye to. When Israel captured Golan in the Six-Day War in 1967, they also took — and want to forever hold — the Golan Heights. Golan, as it is called, is a plateau which borders the Yarmouk River in the south, the Sea of Galilee and Hula Valley in the west, the Anti-Lebanon mountains with Mount Hermon in the north and Wadi Raqqad in the east. If the IDF military controls the high ground of Golan, they can thwart any invasion from Syria. That's why in every peace treaty subsequent discussion and negotiation with Israel they will never give up the Golan. Never.

In the Donbas, the Ukraine military controls and should never cede Donets Ridge, including Mohyla Mechetna (the highest point on Donets). Although the majority of the Donbas region is now occupied by Russian forces, the Russians have not, and seem incapable of, capturing the Donets Ridge. Even if Trump wants Ukraine to cede all of the Donbas Region as part of a capitulation — oops, sorry, "US brokered peace deal" — the Ukraine government cannot and should not ever cede the Donets Ridge. To do so would be to incur, as Israel did prior to the Six-Day War, constant threat of a Syrian

Musing on summertime

It's been a good summer thus far in this area other than brief skirmishes with moles and rabbits invading our vegetable and flower gardens, minimal adverse weather and the usual turmoil of owning a home and property. Rewards of fresh vegetables now supplement our meals.

Usually days require light clothing, morning sweat-shirts or sweater. Don't forget long sleeves, hat and sunscreen for prolonged exposure to the sun. Those rays look delightful and enticing but can be dangerous if precautions are not taken.

We were delighted to learn our granddaughter qualified for the national swimming finals at Ocala, Florida, and have been attentively watching simulcasts of her races. In Ocala. A variety of birds have had successful hatches and hummingbirds seem to be in over abundance. Their feeders require daily cleaning and filling. Their flight antics and near mid-air collisions are fascinating to watch and often make me conjure 'if only our military developed a fighter plane with flight capability of a hummingbird it would be invincible'. Baby sitting a couple of independent thinking pugs has

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Peter Riva

Army looking down on and wanting to recapture the Holy Land. After '67, Syria tried, more than once, to recapture the Golan and was defeated.

Putin will know that a naïve Administration, childishly uninformed, might think they can make a blanket statement of ceding the Donbas work for peace. But when serious negotiators sit down to negotiate, Ukraine will know they cannot allow ceding the Donets Ridge. Yet the Russians will know that unless they get the Donets Ridge, their "capture" of the Donbas will forever be under threat from the higher ground. Putin is not naïve, he and his generals will know this.

There is no hope for a peaceful resolution here until the fighting is exhausted. Europe knows this, that's why they are here trying to educate the Administration who, so far, think they can make a sweeping statement and it'll all be done, fine, no problem. Stupid, ego-driven, people think that way. Mistaken, naïve Neville Chamberlain thought he could stall Hitler. This Administration is incapable of grasping the end-game Putin is playing. Assuaging egos, pomp and red carpets never, ever, won the diplomatic game — especially not this one with historic precedent clearly so very obvious to serious negotiators for which the Administration shows itself woefully inadequately staffed.

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

VETERAN'S CORNER

Larry Conklin

kept us occupied, amused and at times frustrated.

The fringe growth of our property is receding and soon ready for brush-hogging to control overgrowth.

My thoughts are turning to fall events: Great stream and river fishing beckons as does our yearly reunion of The Rounders of Riga at deer camp (More on that later).

Legion and Firehouse breakfasts are opening to the public, usually on Sunday mornings. Where locals and ever increasing neighboring towns public enjoy socializing and a fulfilling sit-down meal or grab some take-outs for themselves or those unable to attend.

God bless you faithful and patriotic readers and your families. Enjoy the remainder of summer and the upcoming delightful fall season. Til next time.

Town of North East resident Larry Conklin is a Vietnam veteran and a member of both the Millerton American Legion Post 178 and the VFW Post 6851. in North Canaan, Connecticut.



County Fair cattle call; unearthed skeleton on Morehouse Farm; McLean Ford on tire recall

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

August 23, 1934

'Entries Come In Fast For County Fair; All Space Taken In Several Departments; Auto Races Slated'; RHINEBECK, August 22 — Entries have been coming in so rapidly for the exhibits at the Dutchess County Fair at Rhinebeck, to be held August 28th to 31st, with auto races on Sept. 1st, that in several departments no more space is available.

Superintendent Tozier, in charge of the 4-H Club exhibit, states that 109 head of cattle alone will be shown by boys and girls of Dutchess County. The fair management has allotted an extra tent of 2,400 square feet of coverage to house this exhibit, in addition to the 8,800 square feet of tent space originally allowed for this outstanding display.

G. Herbert Allen, general superintendent of cattle, predicts that the entire cattle show will house over 300 head of the country's best. Henry G. Traver, in charge of Guernseys; Frederick Ham, at the head of the Holsteins; and William Telfer, sponsoring the Jersey exhibit, all report heavy entries.

'Car rams barn at North East center'; James H. White, 46, of Danbury, and his son, Harry, 6, escaped with minor cuts and bruises Saturday when White's automobile ran off Route 22 at North East Center, broke off an electric light pole, hurdled a ditch and crashed into a barn on the William M. Sadler farm. According to Police Chief Van De Bogart, who investigated, White said he had fallen asleep. The accident occurred at about 3:45 P. M. and considerable damage was done to the car.

'Unearth Skeleton On Morehouse Farm'; The skelton [sic] of an adult person was unearthed last Thursday on the Henry J. Morehouse farm on the Amenia-Sharon road by a steam shovel which was being used to dig gravel for the new Sharon-West Cornwall highway. According to reports of the find, workmen did not see the skelton [sic] when it was scooped up by the steam shovel, but discovered it when a truck load of gravel was dumped on the road.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

Dr. J. S. Chaffee, health officer of the Town of Sharon, made an examination of the skelton [sic] and reported that he believed it had been buried for about twenty-five years.

August 28, 1975

'Grange Places 2nd At County Fair'; Millerton Grange 796 won second place in the Grange exhibit at the Dutchess County Fair, Rhinebeck, this past week. All of the displays were centered on the nation's bicentennial and the Millerton theme was "The Industrial Evolution: 200 years of American Progress."

The display featured old equipment, tools, and items and the modern equivalent and its effect on the lifestyle of the people. Also featured were fruits, flowers, vegetables and baked goods.

There were 12 granges throughout the county represented and Millerton was 1.1 points behind the first place winner, Pleasant Valley. The committee for the local grange was co-chaired by Helen Lachler and Hugh Leighton.

'Guide Dog Homes Sought'; Temporary homes are being sought for 10 Labrador retriever puppies who will eventually become guide dogs for blind persons.

John Byfield, director of training for the Second Sight Dog Foundation of Smithtown, N.Y., has explained that the pups need to live in a stable family environment from the age of 6 weeks until they are a year old. This litter will be ready for distribution in early October.

The Labrador retriever pups are now at the home of Leon Silvernale, Rudd Pond Farms, Millerton, N.Y.

August 24, 2000

'Firestone tire recall hits McLean Ford'; MILLERTON — If you listen to John McLean, owner of McLean Ford on Route 44, one of the most notable things about the recent recall of Firestone tires is that lawyers everywhere are sure to go into a litigation feeding frenzy. And customers are getting some great deals on new tires.

However, the problem, especially in northern states, may be overstated. "We've had

no problems ... never," Mr. McLean said, referring to his dealer-serviced vehicles.

McLean's has many customers waiting to have tires replaced, and now dealers are allowed by Firestone to use any of a long list of tire brands.

"People love it," he said of the recall, which authorizes free-of-charge replacement of all recalled tires.

According to the Firestone Web site, bridgestone-firestone.com, 97 percent of the incidents involving defective tires were reported in southern states, where road temperatures are naturally the highest. When tires are inflated on the low side, or about 26 pounds per square inch (psi), as opposed to the tire manufacturer's recommended 30 psi, the tire's sidewall can peel off and cause a blowout at high temperatures.

The discrepancy in recommended tire pressure is sure to generate lawsuits between Firestone and Ford, he said.

The recall affects all North America-produced Radial ATX and Radial ATX II tires in size P235/75R15, according to the Firestone Web site. Also, Wilderness AT tires in that size produced in Decatur, IL., are being recalled.

'Water Tower Work May Start Next Week'; MILLERTON — It looks like the painting of village water tower is imminent.

OPINION

The views expressed here are not necessarily those of The Millerton News and the News does not support or oppose candidates for public office.

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YOUR NEWS

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OUR TOWNS

Shepherd’s Run developer faces ‘solvency’ claim in court

By JOHN COSTON
johnc@millertonnews.com

COPAKE — Opponents of the Shepherd’s Run solar project here have asked New York State regulators to put a hold on a pending application for a permit because of new concerns raised about the company’s financial solvency. The concern was raised following a motion brought in Delaware Chancery Court seeking a restraining order against Hecate LLC, the developer of Shepherd’s Run. The motion was brought this month by a Hecate creditor, NEC VI, which loaned Hecate \$82 million. The lender claims in court that Hecate is in breach of credit agreements and has been making

“ongoing attempts to hide and dissipate” NEC VI’s collateral in order to pay unsecured obligations to its principals and other creditors. “Hecate Holdings is woefully insolvent, strapped for cash, and drastically overleveraged,” the motion states. In an Aug. 20 letter to the NYS Office of Renewable Energy Siting and two other state agencies, Sara Traberman on behalf of Sensible Solar for Rural New York called on the agencies to put on hold any further consideration of Hecate’s application for a 42 megawatt solar installation in Copake. Sensible Solar wants the agencies to conduct further due diligence regarding Hecate’s financial status. Matt Levine, the Shep-

herd’s Run project manager, said in a statement on Friday, Aug. 22: “Hecate Energy remains committed to Shepherd’s Run, and to continued engagement with the community and project stakeholders to advance the project through the ORES process. “Regarding the legal matter mentioned, Hecate denies that NEC’s claims and allegations have merit and will vigorously dispute them in court.” The project proposed by the Chicago-based developer of solar, wind and energy storage projects, has been controversial 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. Since then, state regulators have issued two notices of incomplete application. On June 27, ORES found Hecate’s most recent application deficient in eleven areas. Over the summer, state regulators have received extensive public comment from residents of Copake. The majority of the nearly 100 comments oppose the project, including more recent ones that cite the Delaware court proceedings as a reason to pause the project.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Sidewalk construction that will extend the town sidewalk to Beekman Park got underway this week along Route 44. On Wednesday, Aug. 20, the crew was checking excavation lines.

Sidewalk construction underway along Route 44

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Construction work on the long-awaited sidewalk extension along Route 44 to link the town center to Beekman Park was underway on Wednesday, Aug. 20. Work is expected to be completed within four weeks. “Ecstatic” was the term used by Town Supervisor Leo Blackman, who commented on Friday, Aug. 22, when he was asked to describe the level of his happiness about the start of work. Blackman recalled that former Town Supervisor Victoria Perotti had begun the planning for the sidewalk extension ten years ago. As costs rose and state Department of Transportation requirements grew, the project needed to be reduced in scope and sent out for bid repeatedly. With each delay, grant funding needed to be extended. “It took until now for the

contractor to get all submissions to the DOT for approval and permission to begin,” Blackman said, noting that the contractor, Southern Industries Corp., has been perhaps even more eager than town officials to get started and finished. Blackman praised Project engineer Gary Aber of LaBella Engineering for his work in preparing the drawings and helping with the many revisions necessary. A recent hurdle was the need to hire an onsite superintendent for the project. “Gary has gotten us through a lot of obstacles,” Blackman added. “The sidewalk project’s benefit to the town is, I think, huge,” Blackman said. “Kids and teens will now have a safe way to walk along Route 44 from the center of town to Beekman Park, safely removed from the traffic.” The Recreation Commission is also working to expand the number of activity offerings at the park as an outgrowth of the project.

Amenia Town Board moves Harvest Festival forward

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — A varied agenda ranging from approving plans for an October Harvest Festival to accepting a resident’s gift of gravel was considered at the regular meeting of the Town Board on Thursday, Aug. 21. A presentation by resident Ken Topolsky asking for approval of what is likely to become an annual Harvest Festival event won a favorable response by unanimous vote. Official approval will come once the event committee submits a proposed budget for the event. On Saturday, Oct. 18, a portion of Main Street (Route 343) between Fountain Square and Mechanic Street will be closed to traffic to accommodate the festivities, Topolsky reported. The event will “show off our community” to residents and visitors, Topolsky said, asking for prompt approval as the event would be only nine weeks off. Festival hours will be 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., when highway detours will be in effect.

Early planning has yielded participation by food trucks, face painters for the kids, the library and local merchants, a health screening van, the C.A.R.E.S. van from U.S. Rep. Pat Ryan’s office, two bands and the Smithfield Church choir. “Street fairs mean growth,” said Recreation Commission chairperson Judy Moran, who said that the recreation department is coordinating with the library to offer games and activity stations. “It will be a community event,” Moran said. “It’s bringing so many of our town-wide committees together, it feels good,” said town Budget Officer Charlie Miller, praising the planning committee chaired by Topolsky. “It’s gratifying to see the community coming together for a common goal,” commented councilmember Rosanna Hamm. To assist with budgeted expenses, Topolsky said that he is hoping that residents will provide unsolicited donations along the way, anytime they feel moved to contribute.

Gift of gravel
In other action the Town Board voted unanimously to accept a gift of 600 tons of gravel from resident Craig Youmans, the gravel to be used for road work by the town’s highway department. **Constables hired**
Also by unanimous vote, the Town Board voted to approve the hiring of Francis Lansing and Justin Romeu as part-time constables, each serving 20 hours per week. They will also be allowed to carry firearms in connection with their duties, following completion of required training courses. **New town garage**
The Town Board approved the seeking of bids to complete grading and site work at

the new town garage property. Anticipated work includes cutting a temporary entrance apron off of Route 22, storing topsoil on the site, stump removal and drainage control. During public comment, a resident voiced traffic safety concerns near the intersection of Route 343 and Mechanic Street, notifying the board of a recent serious collision. He called for parking restrictions at the corner to promote more favorable sight lines for motorists. Town Supervisor Leo Blackman indicated that a meeting with state officials was upcoming and that he planned to discuss that safety concern along with others during that meeting.



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Culvert replacement under Boston Corners Road near the intersection of Rudd Pond Road began on Aug. 11. Construction work is expected to complete in November.

Boston Corners Road closed for culvert replacement

By ALY MORRISSEY
alym@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — A portion of Boston Corners Road near its intersection with Rudd Pond Road will be closed for several months, the Dutchess County Department of Public Works has announced. The closure began on Aug. 11 and is expected to last through November. According to a memo on the Town of North East website, the shutdown is necessary so crews can replace Culvert N-21, which carries water from a small stream into the Webutuck Creek. The project is part of a larger county-wide initiative to repair roads and

bridges. Robert H. Balkind, Commissioner of the Dutchess County Department of Public Works, outlined the 2024 Road and Bridge Improvement Program during a meeting of the Legislature’s Public Works and Capital Projects Committee in March 2024. In that presentation, available on the county website, he noted that 199 culverts across Dutchess County were in need of maintenance, repair or replacement. The Boston Corners project was budgeted at \$900,000 for construction and inspection, while county-wide culvert and bridge work totaled about \$10.7 million.



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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

The last “Animals After Hours” of the season is set for Friday, Aug. 29 from 4 to 9 p.m. at the Trevor-Lovejoy Zoo.

Last chance to visit the Trevor-Lovejoy Zoo after dark

By ALY MORRISSEY
alym@millertonnews.com

MILLBROOK — The Trevor-Lovejoy Zoo is wrapping up its summer “Animals After Hours” series on Friday, Aug. 29 from 4 to 9 p.m.

Held on the final Friday of each month, this family-friendly experience is open to the public, features extended hours and food trucks and allows visitors to roam the zoo after dark.

This Friday, From the Ground Up food truck will offer cafe-style food and beverages. Though reservations are encouraged, admission fees are collected in-person and cost \$7 for adults and \$5 for children. Admission is free for kids two and under.

Fall breaks and back to birding

By GRACE DEMARCO
Special to the Millerton News

New England and its varying types of habitats offer unique and expansive refuge for many species of seasonal travelers. Birds especially, pass through on their journey southward and impress birders with their diversity and numbers.

Hannah Coon, a conservation intern at the Sharon Audubon Center, explained that Connecticut is part of the Atlantic Flyway, a bird migration route which spans from Eastern Canada to Florida. “Each fall, this pathway becomes a superhighway for millions of birds traveling to overwinter in the southern U.S., Central America and South America,” Coon said.

The Sharon Audubon Center, as part of the National Audubon Society, aims to protect birds and their habitats through educating and inspiring communities to “appreciate, understand and protect the natural world.” With expansive hiking trails, pollinator gardens, and more than 1,100 acres of forest, meadows, and wetlands, the Sharon Audubon Center is a great spot for birders who seek to identify a wide variety of species.

In the upcoming peak of migration season, Coon explained that the mix of nearby habitats serve as important places of rest and rejuvenation for many different bird species. “This means visitors can witness an impressive diversity of species in a short time this fall, from warblers and thrushes, to raptors and waterfowl, and perhaps even the occasional shorebird.”

In June, the Sharon Audubon Center’s Conservation Intern Denali Krampe recorded 72 bird species at the Center, and 82 species at the Miles Wildlife Sanctuary. “Among the most exciting species seen this summer are the Common Nighthawk, American Bittern, Indigo Bunting, Spotted Sandpipers, Canada Warbler, Winter Wren, American Woodcocks and, of course, the resident Purple Martins at the colonies located at Miles Wildlife Sanctuary.”

“But don’t overlook the common species; paying attention to the behaviors and whereabouts of birds we see every day might prove more rewarding than you’d expect,” Coon implored. The Center is also home to many local birds such as the Wood Duck, Red-shouldered Hawk, Chimney Swift, Eastern Phoebe, Pine Warbler, Orchard Oriole, Wood Thrush, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Great Blue Heron, Common Raven, Brown Creeper and the Barred Owl.

Birding is all about knowing what to keep an eye out for, Coon explained. She also noted that bird migration happens in waves and in time with weather patterns. Cold fronts and north winds push more birds southbound, and nights with favorable winds may also bring a new group of birds, making for a great morning of birding.

The best and most diverse results will be found by traveling through several different types of habitats, especially

during the early morning, Coon suggested.

The Sharon Audubon Center is not the only place to see diverse birds in flight. “Everywhere is a place to bird, if you know how to look,” said Coon, adding that a colleague advocates for parking lots as some of the best birding locations.

For other locations, Coon notes that “popular birding spots around the area include stretches of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail over the border in New York. Additionally, in Litchfield, there is Macedonia Forest and the White Memorial Conservation Area.” Bartholomew’s Cobble in nearby Massachusetts has also reported 226 species in a single year.

“Because migrants are often feeding and resting, patience pays off more so than in summer. Pause often, scan slowly, and listen for unfamiliar call notes,” Coon advised.

New birders should not be discouraged by limited vision due to the dense foliage of summer. Coon noted other subtle signs to look out for, such as the sounds of fluttering leaves or birdsong, sudden movement, or flashes of color.

Autumn, according to Coon, differs from the summer in a few ways. “Fall birding has its own rhythm. The leaves are starting to thin, making it easier to spot birds visually, but many migrants are quieter than they were in the spring,” she said. During this time, birders should also look out for shorter calls, rather than the distinctive full songs.

There are many tools to aid curious birders as they set out this migration season. “Binoculars are essential for making out details from far away, such as beak shape, plumage color, and behaviors that can help identify a species,” Coon suggested. An app by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, called Merlin, is also a helpful tool to identify birds by their calls and other identifying features. The Audubon also has their own free Bird Guide App.

So, when setting out on birding expeditions this migration season, keep an eye out for optimal weather conditions and patterns, slow down, and look up. “If you don’t know where to go, start in your backyard or nearest green space. Birds will be there and everywhere,” Coon said.

Email news and photos to editor@millertonnews.com

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

Formation of LLC TrueClean Solutions, LLC. Filed with NY Dept. of State on 5/28/25. Office: Dutchess Co. NY Sec. of State designated agent for service of process. Mail to: 3 Neptune Rd, Ste Q19, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Purpose: Anylawful activity.

08-07-25
08-14-25
08-21-25
08-28-25
09-04-25
09-11-25

Legal Notice

McIntyre Law PLLC, a domestic PLLC, filed with the SSNY on 7/18/2025. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to PO Box 554 Amenia, NY 12501. Purpose: Law. Section 1203 of the Limited liability Company Law.

08-07-25
08-14-25
08-21-25
08-28-25
09-04-25
09-11-25

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Tailored Tails Grooming LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/25/25. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Kim Czelowalnik, 15 Millstream Court, Pawling NY 12564. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

08-07-25
08-14-25
08-21-25
08-28-25
09-04-25
09-11-25

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Compa De Danza FolkRegional Mexicana, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/24/25. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to PO Box 554 Amenia, NY 12501. Purpose: Anylawful activity.

08-07-25
08-14-25
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09-11-25

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Chocolate and Pines LLC. Filed with NY Dept. of State on 5/28/25. Office: Dutchess Co. NY Sec. of State designated agent for service of process. Mail to: 3 Neptune Rd, Ste Q19, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Purpose: Anylawful activity.

08-07-25
08-14-25
08-21-25
08-28-25
09-04-25
09-11-25

Legal Notice

Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/26/2025. Office location: Dutchess County.

SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Natalia Hurley, 108 Old Post Rd N, Apt 2, Red Hook, NY 12571. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

08-28-25
09-04-25
09-11-25
09-18-25
09-25-25
10-02-25

Legal Notice

The Union Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting on Sept. 13, 2025, at St. Thomas Church, 40 Leedsville Rd., Amenia, NY from Noon to 1:30 PM. If attending, please bring a couple of dollars to give to the Church's Food Pantry. If you have family in the Cemetery, we are always looking for new Board members. Also if you wish to donate to help support the Cemetery, you can send a check made out to Union Cemetery Association and mail it to Union Cemetery Association, Gail Seymour, 16 Townsend Blvd., Poughkeepsie, New York 12603. Call Gail with any questions at 845-454-6641.

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UNCLAIMED FUNDS *Continued from Page A1*

logged about 1,100 accounts each.

For northeast Dutchess County account owners, 10% of the money owed comes from uncashed New York State-issued checks.

Each record in the list includes a name for the account holder and the unique account number, a recorded reporter for the lost funds, a description of the lost funds and the year the funds were reported. The complete list of funds held by the state comptroller contains over 12 million records from 1985 to 2025.

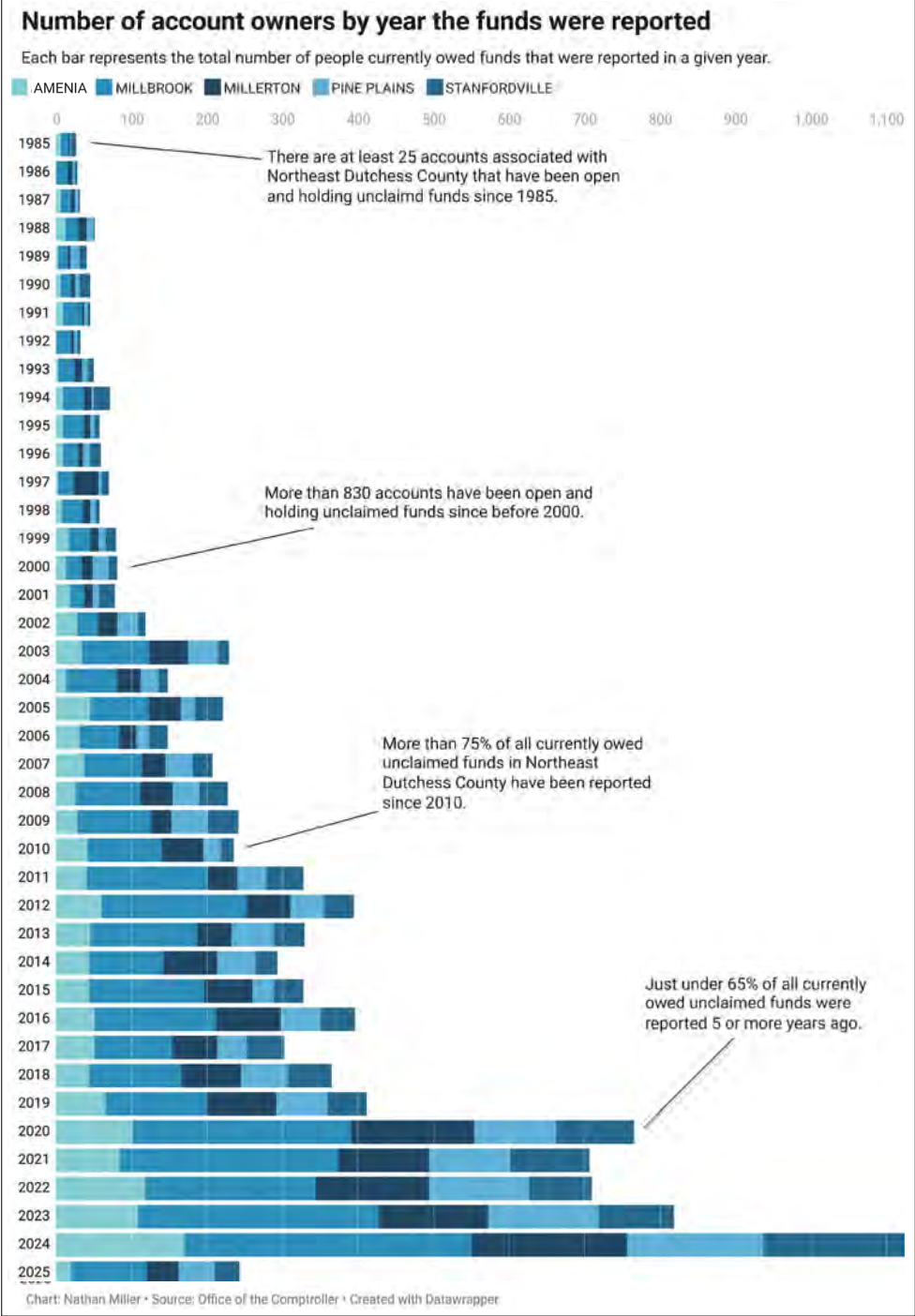
The state comptroller does not publicly release the amount of money held in each account. Amounts could range from as little as a single cent to hundreds of dollars.

The comptroller’s website allows for a search of the list to initiate the claiming process.

Names of individuals, businesses and government organizations are varied on the list. The Village of Millerton has eight account numbers with outstanding unclaimed property from outstanding checks to vendors, New York State uncashed checks and other reported unclaimed property types.

According to the list, the Town of North East has an outstanding unclaimed property account dating back to 1997. The funds were reported by Pitney Bowes Inc. and recorded as relating to outstanding checks issued to vendors.

The village and town clerks expressed surprise at the reported unclaimed funds when the News stopped by their offices on Monday, Aug. 25, but vowed to start filing claims.



Retrieving unclaimed property is possible at the New York State Comptroller’s website at www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds. Claimants can search for their name and home town, click the “claim” button next to the right record and then fill out a short form to confirm their identity. The state comptroller’s unclaimed funds office will then mail a check for the full amount.

EMS *Continued from Page A1*

struggling with providing emergency medical services to their residents for a number of reasons including rising costs, low reimbursement rates, and the lack of trained personnel.”

In an interview with The News, Supervisor Kennan highlighted the fiscal strain EMS places on the town’s budget. “I’ve reached out to everyone,” he said of his efforts to advocate for the bill. “I’m waving the flag as vigorously as I can.”

On May 27, the New York State Association of Towns released a memorandum supporting the bill, stating, “NYAOT strongly supports this measure that would remove EMS services from the real property tax cap, and therefore allow local municipalities to maintain, expand and better support their local EMS services.”

Even with its statewide benefits, the bill carries no fiscal impact for state or local governments, making it a practical solution despite being held up in legislative limbo. While the bill would significantly ease budget pressure, it represents only one step toward addressing EMS challenges in Millerton.

The town’s annual contract with Northern Dutchess Paramedics, which it shares with Amenia and Dover, exceeds half a million dollars in 2025 and is expected to spike above \$700,000 next year. Kennan said one reason the cost is so high is because NDP is only partially reimbursed by those who use its services, and with “less than a call a day,” much of the financial burden falls on the town and taxpayers.

Meanwhile, EMS response disparities remain a critical issue in Dutchess County. In a June 13 open letter to County Executive Sue Serino, members of the Democratic Caucus of the Dutchess County Legislature acknowledged the launch of supplemental EMS services but criticized the effort’s effectiveness, calling for a more aggressive, long-term strategy.

“We believe the current approach remains a temporary solution — and one that still falls short of delivering equitable results across the entire county,” the letter states. It also references data showing response times in many rural towns remain well above acceptable targets. “This is not just a data point; it is a serious public safety issue affecting thousands of Dutchess County residents.”

Recent second quarter data further highlights these concerns, showing an ongoing imbalance in supplemental EMS response between rural and urban areas. It reveals that Region 5, which includes North East, Millerton, Amenia and Dover, almost never received supplemental EMS services provided by the county. Throughout all of Q2, supplemental EMS was dispatched only one time in Amenia but was canceled en route after interception by a closer agency.

The data also highlights the financial and performance disparities facing Region 5. Amenia and North East are among the highest spenders in Dutchess County, paying over \$167 and \$172 per person respectively for EMS coverage, more than three times what Dover spends. Despite that investment, response times for Region 5’s “Priority 1” calls, defined as potentially life-threatening emergencies, are the worst in the county with only 40% of calls responded to within the recognized standard of nine minutes or less. In contrast, Region 6, which includes the City of Poughkeepsie and the Town of Poughkeepsie, saw 84% of Priority 1 calls in 9 minutes or less.

While North East shows relatively better performance with no calls exceeding 15 minutes, Amenia and Dover see significantly more delays. Rural towns are paying high costs for EMS, yet still experiencing the slowest emergency response times in Dutchess County.

Asked what he would like to see from the County officials, North East Supervisor Chris Kennan responded, “I’d like to see them provide an additional ambulance over here so we could reduce the demand on NDP and our taxpayers.”

PECK’S MARKET *Continued from Page A1*

Judge Jessica G. L. Clarke ordered owners Donald and Charlene Peck to show cause why a default judgment should not be entered. Court records show no response was submitted by the Aug. 18 deadline.

It is unclear when Clarke is expected to rule. A default judgment would mean the Pecks lose the case without a trial and could be ordered to pay the full amount. The attorney for Bozzuto’s declined to comment.

In a phone interview Wednesday, Aug. 20, Don

Peck said the family is considering options, including raising money by selling or borrowing against property. “We’re very optimistic about the lawsuit,” he said. “We’ll take care of that. As far as the store itself, we’re trying to keep optimistic about it. We’re working at it.”

Still, Peck acknowledged the store’s shrinking inventory and the difficulties facing small, independent grocers. He said he loves the business but raised the possibility of closing or selling the store, noting that several potential

buyers have expressed interest.

“We have a lot of options, just closing and selling, of course, is one,” he said.

“Hopefully if we did do that, people would come up with an idea that would work for a small town.”

For Pine Plains, the stakes are considerable. The nearest full-service supermarkets are more than 15 miles away — Hannaford in Red Hook, Tops in Rhinebeck, Freshtown in Amenia, or LaBonne’s in Salisbury, Connecticut. That distance poses a hardship for older residents and those without reliable transportation.

Peck said members of the community have offered support, but no clear path forward has emerged. “There’s no definite thing right now,” he said. “People are interested in supporting us in different ways. So I’m not sure which

direction we’re going to go in.”

Peck also pointed to broader changes in the grocery industry that have left independent stores vulnerable. “A lot of our suppliers today are different than they were 40 years ago. They demand a certain amount of volume, because they’re taking care of bigger stores, so the volume that we have to get from them to get so many cases of grocery or dairy, or meat or frozen, has all gone up.... All these things have changed so much. It’s just unbelievable.”

Laura Strange, chief communications and engagement officer for the National Grocers Association, said many independents face similar pressures. “Independent grocers continue to navigate significant challenges in today’s marketplace,” she said. “Costs for goods, utilities, rent, and labor have all increased, yet independents

have worked to compress margins to help consumers absorb rising prices and remain competitive. Even in this environment, their resilience, innovation, and commitment to their communities remain unmatched.”

Food sourcing has also dwindled, Peck said. “We used to have 57 suppliers of product coming here. You know, now we have 17. A lot of them are out of business.... and a lot of them have been sucked up by other distributors.”

Brothers William and Robert Peck founded Peck’s Food Market in 1922, and Don represents the third generation of family ownership. Despite the uncertainty, he expressed hope the business will survive. “We’re working at it,” he said. “Thank God, we believe in God and Jesus. He’s with us, trying to figure out how to do this. So we’ll see what happens.”

GRANTS *Continued from Page A1*

woman Jeanine Sisco.

ADUs can take several forms, including detached or attached structures, garage conversions or interior units on upper or lower floors. Modular or tiny homes are also eligible under the program.

To qualify, homeowners must meet several criteria. They must reside in one of the 10 eligible Dutchess County municipalities, occupy a 1- to 4-unit residential property as their primary residence for a 10-year compliance period and have a household income at or below 120% of the area median income, currently \$147,000 for a four-person household in Dutchess County, with adjustments based on household size.

Winkler said preference will be given to applicants who are “shovel ready,” in other words, those who have completed the screening process and are ready to begin construction.

Potential rural challenges
According to the program’s eligibility requirements, all ADUs must comply with standard building and health

codes, including those related to water supply and wastewater disposal. For properties not connected to municipal water or sewer systems, bringing an ADU up to code may require costly upgrades or could disqualify the property entirely.

“If you have the infrastructure, it’s one less barrier,” Winkler noted, concerned that North East’s municipal water system only serves a few streets. And, in Pine Plains, municipal water is only available in the Hamlet.

To address this challenge, Winkler and Sisco are working with the Northeastern Dutchess Tri-Town Coalition and Hudson River Housing to engage the Dutchess County Board of Health and explore solutions to reduce these infrastructure barriers.

The Plus One ADU Program has received a total of \$6 million from the state, with the goal of creating 48 ADUs across 10 municipalities between 2025 and 2027.

Interested applicants in North East may contact Meg Winkler at mwinkler@townofnortheastny.gov.

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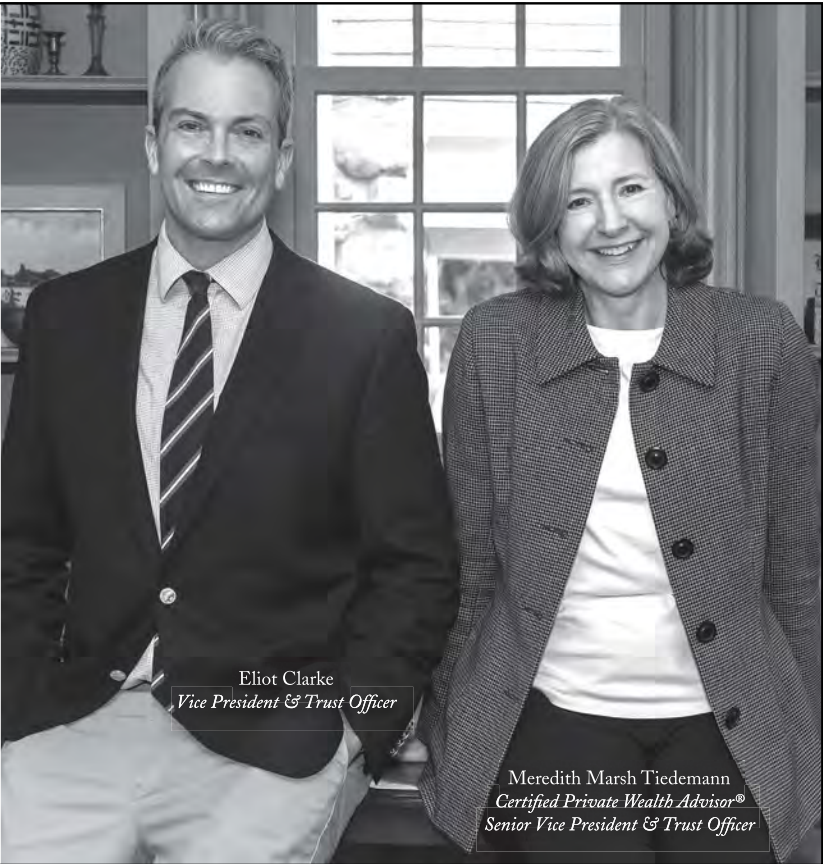


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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

MUSIC: MIKE COBB

Busking in the Berkshires

While playing outside in the early post-pandemic days, Berkshire Busk! founder Eugene Carr had an epiphany: why not expand the idea of performing on the street (aka busking) into a full-fledged festival in Great Barrington?

As an entrepreneur and cellist, Carr envisioned a well-organized jamboree featuring regional talent, including musicians, acrobats, storytellers, fire-eaters, and more. He formed a team, connected with local businesses and the town of Great Barrington, and launched Berkshire Busk! in 2021. Since then, Berkshire Busk! has grown into a summer staple for Great Barrington.

In the summer of 2024, over 25,000 people experienced Berkshire Busk!. The festival is free to the public, provides a big boost to local businesses, and spectators can tip performers.

Busking takes place all over the world, either organized by individual performers or via busking festivals. Artists like The Roots, Tracy Chapman, Phoebe Bridgers, and Old Crow Medicine Show have all cut their teeth performing on the street.

General Manager Carli Scolforo is a Berkshire native with a love of music and writing. She can often be seen roaming the streets of Great Barrington, making sure everything's in order, and serves as the festival's face on social media.

"This year is the fifth anniversary of Berkshire



PHOTO BY ROMAN IWASIWKA

Brent McCoy of Secret Circus Show at Berkshire Busk!

Busk!, and it's been an amazing summer," said Scolforo. "We were able to welcome back a lot of our favorite performers, and bring in some new experiences as well. After getting rained out last year, we were able to host our first outdoor movie night in partnership with The Triplex Cinema and the Boon-docks Film Society."

Scolforo added, "This summer, we also introduced our first Open Mic Night, hosted by local recording artist and music producer Jackson Whalan. We were really pleased with the turnout of talent. The sheer amount of talent that's hidden within an hour or so drive of Great Barrington always astounds us."

Local businesses sponsor various busking spots, like the Berkshire Money Management Stage in the parking lot

between the Triplex Cinema and Mama Lo's BBQ. Typically, buskers bring their own amplification, while there are few spots — such as Berkshire Mountain Distillery in Sheffield — provide power.

Berkshire Busk! will end its season with a fireworks display on its last night on Saturday, Aug. 30.

Berkshire Busk! is endorsed by the Select Board of the Town of Great Barrington and is entirely supported by sponsorship fees from companies and organizations, as well as philanthropic donations from granting organizations, individuals and the Town of Great Barrington.

It operates under a fiscal sponsorship agreement with the Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires and participates in Mass Cultural Council's Card to Culture program — in collaboration with the Department of Transi-

tional Assistance, the Department of Public Health's WIC Nutrition Program, the Massachusetts Health Connector, and hundreds of organizations — by making cultural programming accessible to those for whom cost is a participation barrier.

For more information, visit: berkshirebusk.com

THEATER: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

'Sylvia' brings heart, humor and one unforgettable dog to Sharon Playhouse stage

What if the dog onstage was played by a person? That's the delightful twist in A.R. Gurney's "Sylvia," opening at the Sharon Playhouse on Aug. 29. In this clever and heartfelt comedy, the title character — a stray pup who disrupts the lives of a married couple — is portrayed not in costume but by an actor who brings insight, charm, and chaos to the role.

Stepping into Sylvia's paws is Jen Cody, who is returning to the Sharon Playhouse in a starring role for her third year in a row, ready to bring this spirited dog to life. She's joined by Jonathan Walker as Greg, the middle-aged man smitten with his new four-legged friend, and Jennifer Van Dyck as Kate, his wife, whose patience and identity are tested by Sylvia's sudden presence in their home.

Directed by Colin Hanlon, this production balances elements of



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Jonathan Walker as "Greg" and Jen Cody as "Sylvia" in rehearsal at The Sharon Playhouse.

comedy and emotional depth. Gurney's script may be filled with laughs but at its core, "Sylvia" explores loyalty, companionship, and how love sometimes arrives in unexpected forms. The play premiered Off-Broadway in 1995 and has since become an audience favorite for its wit, warmth, and originality.

Continued on Page B4

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for hours and location

ART: ALEC LINDEN

Labor Day weekend art, design and local finds

The unofficial end of summer is here, and while some of us may mourn the shortening days and cooler nights, the culturally-inclined denizens of the Litchfield Hills, Berkshires and Taconics have plenty to look forward to.

During Labor Day weekend, visit one of the offerings below, and maybe even take home a watercolor, rug, or locally-crafted wooden bowl to ready your home for the indoor season ahead.

Kick off the weekend with libations and bites from legendary New York City importer Rosenthal Wine Merchant at Mad Rose Gallery (5916 North Elm Ave., Millerton). The evening will mark the end of Paul Chaleff's ceramics exhibition, which closes at the end of the weekend. Ashley Gilbertson and Franco Pagetti's photography exhibition "Fragments in Time," which has been extended through Sept. 21, will also be on display. RSVP by emailing info@mad-rosegallery.com.

Head to the Cornwall Library (30 Pine St., Cornwall) for its seventh annual weekend-long Art Sale, and peruse an endless supply of prints,



PHOTO PROVIDED

Paul Chaleff's exhibit at Mad Rose Gallery in Millerton.

posters, watercolors, photos, paintings and more, with price tags ranging from a very reasonable \$20 to much greater sums.

The Library has announced that this year's selection will "run the gamut from the antique to the contemporary, from the jazzy and colorful to the classic black and white, from realistic to abstract." Thanks to generous donors, the sale will feature works from notable artists such as Amedeo Modigliani, Enrique Chagoya, Marc Simont, Leonard Baskin, Ruth Gannett, Robert

Andrew Parker, Nicole Eisenman, R. H. Quaytman, and others, as well as a special exhibition of vintage photos, paintings and posters from late artist Duncan Hannah.

For more information and hours, visit cornwalllibrary.org/labor-day-art-sale/.

Visit the Barn at the Pine Plains location of beloved antiques and décor purveyor Hammertown (3201 NY-199, Pine Plains) and find the coffee table of your vintage dreams this weekend. Up to 75% off home goods and furniture of all

kinds will be available.

This year's iteration of the biannual tent sale features a "Makers Market" with local artisans, craftspeople and food vendors.

Visit <https://shop.hammertown.com/blogs/journal/hammer-town-labor-day-tent-sale> for additional details and hours.

The Berkshire Woodworkers Guild, a coalition of local woodworkers that supports the local industry and its craftspeople, is hosting its 25th Fine Woodwork Show at the Berkshire Botanical Garden (5

West Stockbridge Rd., Stockbridge) this weekend. Attendees will have the chance to watch 32 masters from around the Tri-Corner region demonstrate their trades, from woodturning and Chinese joinery to boat building and French polishing.

The event will also announce the allocation of \$32,000 from its scholarship fund to support 9 aspiring woodworkers, and host a silent auction of guild member-crafted pieces to support next year's fund. Works from the artisans will also be available for viewing and sale.

Pittsfield, Massachusetts' Hot Plate Brewing will provide frothy, local ales for swilling, while SoCo Creamery of Great Barrington will be pedaling its handcrafted ice cream for sweeter options for the whole family. Great

Cape Baking Co., from Dover Plains will offer a full breakfast and lunch menu, including donuts, while Pleasant & Main from Housatonic will be providing the caffeine and crepes. Further details can be found at berkshirewoodworkers.org.

Artists across Cornwall will fling open their studio and gallery doors to welcome Labor Day culture rambblers on Saturday afternoon. An eclectic lineup of ten participating artists will show their work, ranging from pottery to sculpture paths, allowing participants a chance to enjoy the fresh late-summer weather as they meander through Cornwall's green valleys from studio to studio. For a list of the artists, a map, and directions to each studio, visit cornwallct.org/event/cornwall-open-studio-2025/.

MUSIC: THOMAS JENSEN

Handler debuts, Hadelich dazzles in thrilling night at Tanglewood

On Saturday, Aug. 16, we were excited to see the debut of new Boston Symphony Orchestra assistant conductor Anna Handler, and the return of violinist Augustin Hadelich. Another warm evening in Lenox with humidity near 100 percent, couldn't stop a massive crowd from gathering.

Handler strode onto the Shed stage with purpose, greeted the evening's concertmaster, Alexander Velinzon, and took the podium for Brahms' "Tragic Overture." Right away, her crisp, powerful conducting style — clearly reminiscent of Andris Nelsons' — was effective at bringing Brahms to life. She urged forth the strings, waved in the brass and percussion with verve, and caressed her winds in an emotional way.

Velinzon and the stings were superb — a powerfully played Brahms. Handler made her mark. She bowed modestly, placing hand to heart, and pointed to credit various sections and individuals. She

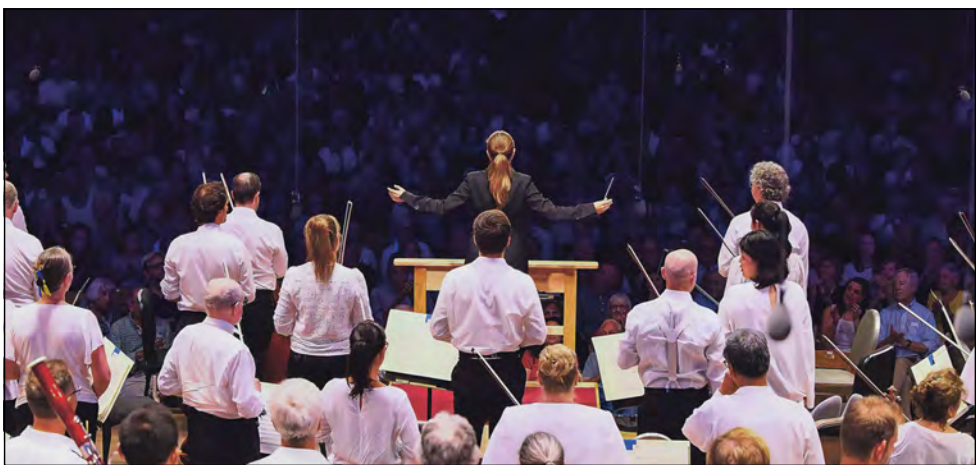


PHOTO BY HILARY SCOTT

Anna Handler makes her BSO debut.

strode off stage with
pace and quickly re-
turned for Schumann's
"Symphony No. 4."

No. 4 begins with

somber tones and develops into something else: Ziernlich langsam

Continued on next page

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10:00am - Opening Ceremony	- Antique Tractor Pull	- Garden Tractor Pull
- Poultry Judging	- Horse Show	9:30am - Judging of Oxen
11:00am - Beef Junior Obstacle Course	10:00am - Swine Judging	- Draught Oxen Exhibit
- CT Renegades Horse Show	- Sheep Judging	10:00am - Sheep Judging
12:00pm - Rabbit and Cavia Judging	11:00am - New England Cup Lumberjack	10:30am - Pork Cook Off
10am-4pm - High School Timber Teams	- Angus, All Other Breeds and Herefords Open Breed Show	- NBHA 01 Barrel Race
2:00pm - Dairy Cattle Showmanship	1:00pm - Draught Horse Exhibit	11:00am - Junior Beef Steers and Heifers Show
- Jackpot Steer Show	4:30pm - Skillet Throw Contest	12:00pm - Woodcutting Contests
- Frozen T-Shirt Contest	5:30pm - Motorcycle Stunt Show	2:00pm - Apple Fritter Eating Contest
- Professional and Street Outlaw Truck Pull	7:30pm - Motorcycle Stunt Show	3:30pm - Motorcycle Stunt Show
3:00pm - Jackpot Heifer Show	9:00pm - Gates Close	6:00pm - Gates Close
9:00pm - Gates Close		

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 31st: 11am Bristol Old Tyme Fiddlers (G),
• 12pm Dan's Roadhouse Country Band (M) • 1-5pm Northwest CT Band (G)
• 4pm Nashville Drive (M) • 7pm Soul Sound Review (M)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st: 12pm Lost Rebel (M)
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BOOKS: LEILA HAWKEN

The Dogist: Understanding human-canine bonds

Elias Weiss Friedman, acclaimed canine photographer and creator of "The Dogist," brought heart and humor to Troutbeck's Luminary Series in Amenia, sharing stories that celebrated the enduring bond between humans and their dogs.

The event, held Sunday, Aug. 24, was paired with The Little Guild of Cornwall, giving attendees the chance to meet and greet a small selection of dogs available for adoption. Friedman is passionate about organizations that advocate for canine welfare and service training, making The Little Guild a natural partner for the event.

A best-selling author, Friedman brought along his latest book, "This Dog Will Change Your Life," that was greeted with brisk sales and the chance to obtain a signed copy. His Instagram postings have amassed a loyal following of more than 11 million and growing. To date, he has photographed more than 50,000 dogs.

"Dogs complete every aspect of human life," said Charlie Champalimaud, Troutbeck owner,



Elias Weiss Friedman, aka The Dogist, photographing adoptable pup Petunia from the Little Guild at Troutbeck and signing books after his talk.



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

who served as interviewer for the event. "I just love dogs, and I'm very excited to see people come together," she added. Her own family dog, Rocky, accompanied her and charmed the audience with exemplary behavior.

"I've been following you for years," said

Priscilla McCord of Lakeville, speaking with Friedman before the event began. McCord also serves as a board member at The Little Guild.

"You are an artist and storyteller," said Champalimaud, introducing Friedman to the audience of more than 100

dog lovers gathered in Troutbeck's pole barn.

Friedman said he has been developing The Dogist concept and brand for the past 11 years.

"I had an understanding of the cultural phenomenon of dogs," he said. "Dogs are a source of joy. I wanted to write

about that," he added, noting that dogs are also hilarious.

"I was a shy kid with a dog," Friedman recalled. "Dogs are generous with their eye contact."

"I've moved the needle a bit in how we appreciate our dogs," he said of his role as The

Dogist. Over the years, his work has included helping dogs find homes or receive service dog training.

Asked about recent advances in artificial intelligence in learning to communicate with animals — particularly current research into communicating with whales — Friedman noted that we already communicate with dogs, though often through our own ego. "There is no shortage of communication," he said.

He added that some dog owners might not want to know their dogs' honest opinions about their circumstances or lifestyles.

Looking ahead, Friedman will be international in scope, exploring how different cultures view their relationships with dogs. He expects to find meaningful differences and insights across borders.

Next in the Luminary series at Troutbeck will be a talk by Mark Ronson on Sunday, Sept. 7. He will speak about his book, "Night People," pairing the talk with a DJ session. For more information, go to www.troutbeck.com.

... at Tanglewood

Continued from previous page

(Rather slow) to Lebhaft (lively) to Romanze: Zierlich langsam, to Scherzo: Lebhaft — Trio, then. Langsam — Lebhaft — Schneller — Presto (slow — lively — faster — very fast.)

It was exquisitely performed with Handler bringing both artistry and quality. It flowed like a river — meandering, then surging with power, until it exploded into a torrent. The build up was sharp; the conclusion loud, and vibrant.

Handler turned to the audience, now a broad smile. She shook Velinzon's hand. Her deeper bows greeted a standing ovation — a glimpse into a bright future.

After intermission, it was up to Hadelich to follow a great orchestral performance.

A large man with larger hair, he dwarfed Handler as he waited on-stage to begin his part in the famous Tchaikovsky "Violin Concerto." Velinzon and the orchestra led the soft opening bars. Hadelich lifted the 1744 "Leduc / Szeryng" Guarneri (lent to him through the Tarisio Trust), and began. Sweet tones emerged.

He had previously played the 1723 "ex-Kiesewetter" Stradivari but switched recently

after hearing the mel-low, more human-like voice he was in search of — and found — in the Guarneri. What followed was smooth, soft, gentle brilliance.

Allegro moderato – Moderato assai served as a warm-up. Then came Canzonetta: Andante —and things really got going. The Finale: Allegro vivacissimmo, Hadelich flew up and down the neck of the Guarneri with such speed and precision that, through binoculars, I caught Velinzon chuckle and

shake his head in disbelief from the best seat in the house.

A virtuoso performance. The crowd roared.

An encore followed: Forrester (arr. Hadelich) "Wild Fiddler's Rag" — fun and flirtatious.

Will there be other evenings as bright as this? Likely, but few and far between.

Will Velinzon and the orchestra continue to create rare conditions where these thermonuclear pyrotechnics are possible? Absolutely.



Anna Handler at Tanglewood.

PHOTO BY HILARY SCOTT



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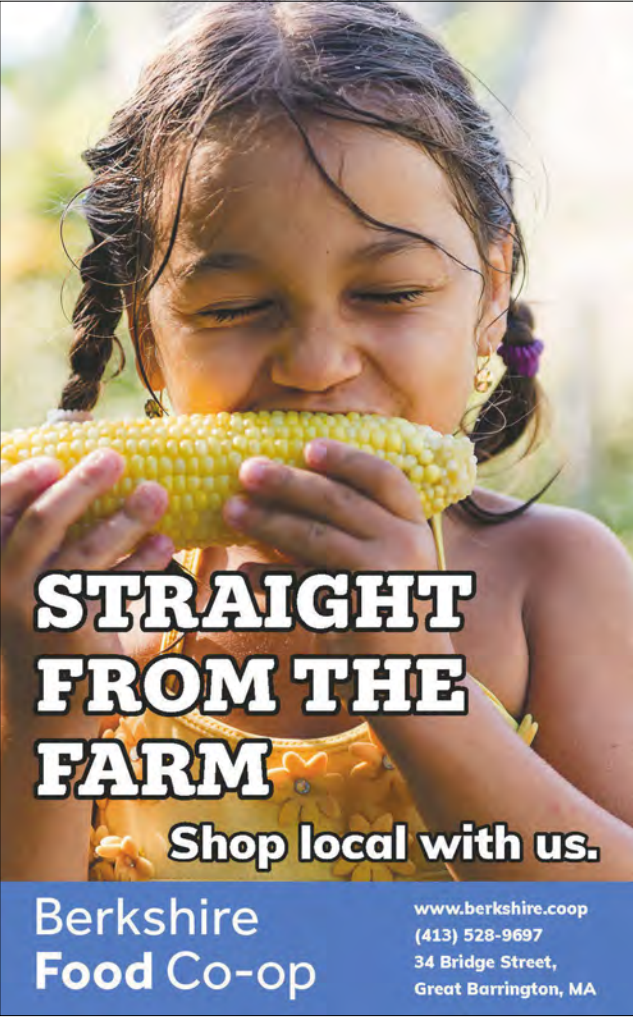
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COMPASS TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

AUGUST 28

Book Reading Luncheon

SVNA Home Assistance, 30A Salmon Kill Road, Salisbury, Conn.

Thursday, Aug. 28, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., local Lakeville Author and SVNA Home Assistance Caregiver Brian Hoff Reads from his comedy book "Twisted Terminology," a humorous look at over 100 historical sayings we still use today — like "Cat's Out of the Bag," and "Head Over Heels."

AUGUST 29

Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra

Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y. Aug. 29 at 7 p.m.

The Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra returns to Stissing Center with Broadway musicians Rachel Handman and Keve Wilson for a show-stopping evening of music and stories. From Bach to Wynton Marsalis, Astor Piazzolla to Aaron Copland, their program leaps joyfully across genres and eras.

Tickets: www.ndsorchestra.org

Sylvia at Sharon Playhouse

Sharon Playhouse, Sharon, Conn. SharonPlayhouse.org Aug. 29 to Sept. 7.

Jen Cody stars in A.R. Gurney's comedy Sylvia, directed by Colin Hanlon. This heartwarming and witty play follows a man whose life is changed when he brings home a stray dog—played by a human actor. Featuring Jonathan Walker, Jennifer Van Dyck, and Sienna Brann. Tickets at SharonPlayhouse.org

Berkshire Opera Festival Presents Verdi's La Traviata

Mahaive Performing Arts Center, 14 Castle Street, Great Barrington, Mass.

Friday, Aug. 29 at 7:30 p.m. Verdi's beloved opera follows Violetta, a Parisian courtesan who gives up everything for love—only to face heartbreak when fate intervenes. A story of passion, sacrifice, and the fleeting nature of happiness, set to some of opera's most unforgettable music.

Labor Day Art Sale

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. cornwalllibrary.org

Kick off the holiday weekend at a celebratory reception on Friday, Aug. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m., launching Cornwall Library's annual Labor Day Art Sale. Sale hours continue on: Saturday, Aug. 30, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 31, 10 am to 4 pm, Monday, Sept. 1, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Great finds and one-of-a-kinds! All profits benefit the Cornwall Library.

AUGUST 30

Cornwall Artist Open Studio Tour

Cornwall, Conn.

The 19th Annual Cornwall Open Studios will be Saturday, Aug. 30, 1 to 5 p.m. Past year's Open Studios have really showcased part of what makes Cornwall special. More info and the map of studios is available at www.wishhouse.com

Neon Moons Dance Party at Stissing Center

Stissing Center for Arts & Culture, 2950 Church Street, Pine Plains, N.Y.

Aug. 30 at 7 p.m. Admission: \$10 cover. Join honky-tonk band Neon Moons for a lively night of country grooves and dance-worthy jams. Tickets and info: thestissingcenter.org

Berkshire Woodworkers Guild Fine Woodwork Show & Silent Auction

Berkshire Botanical Garden, 5 West Stockbridge Road (Route 102), Stockbridge, Mass.

Saturday & Sunday, Aug. 30 and 31, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: \$5 General | \$3 BBG Members. A weekend show and sale of fine woodworking by artisans from the Berkshires and nearby regions. Live woodworking demos, silent auction to support scholarships, and local food vendors on site.

SEPTEMBER 1

Thomas Franken: "Yesterday & Today"

Kent Art Association, 29 South Main St., Kent, Conn.

Opening Reception: Saturday, Sept. 6, 5 to 7 p.m. Exhibition Dates: Sept. 1 to 30. A special showing of over 25 original works, including large-scale paintings not previously exhibited. Reception coincides with the KAA's Sculpture Invitational Show.

SEPTEMBER 2

History Talk Series

South Canaan Meetinghouse, 12 Rte. 63, Falls Village, Conn.

The Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society's 1st Tuesday at Seven Summer Talk will take place on Sept. 2, 7 p.m. at the South Canaan Meetinghouse. The final talk of the season is on Stunt Pilot Stanley Segalla & the History of the Canaan Airport. Stan's son, Billy Segalla, also a stunt pilot, will be the speaker. The talk is open to the public

Last week's WotW

C	H	A	I	R
B	E	R	R	Y
D	R	O	N	E
R	O	G	U	E
R	O	U	T	E

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. British tea time pastry
- 2. Budget-friendly; frugal
- 3. Arrive at a goal
- 4. Summertime destination
- 5. School is back in session

WORD OF THE WEEK ©THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

and has free admission, although donations are appreciated. For more info call 860-824-5607.

SEPTEMBER 4

Local Author: Leigh Stein at The White Hart

The White Hart, 15 Undermountain Rd., Salisbury, Conn.

At 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 4, Leigh Stein discusses her new novel "If You're Seeing This, It's Meant for You" in conversation with Amelia Wilson. Tickets \$15, includes a drink and \$5 book voucher. Presented by Oblong Books, the White Hart Inn, and Scoville Library. Info: oblongbooks.com/event/white-hart-leigh-stein.

SEPTEMBER 5

First Friday Music

Congregational Church of Salisbury, 30 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

First Friday Music returns to Salisbury UCC Sept. 5 at 12 p.m. with Baroque music by vocalist Allison Gish and cellist Kyra Saltman. Free to the public. Doors open at 11:45 a.m.

Banned Book Club: As I Lay Dying

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

Friday, Sept. 5 at 4 p.m. David M. Hunt Library and the Falls Village Equity Project will host a Banned Book Club.

This month we will be discussing the book "As I Lay Dying" by William Faulkner. Copies of the book are available at the library. This group is open to anyone high school aged and older.

SEPTEMBER 6

AI: Prompting and Practical Tools with Pam Doran

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

Saturday, Sept. 6, 11 a.m. to noon.

This AI information session is interactive, showing several tools such as ChatGPT, Perplexity and others in action. Pam Doran will demonstrate the differences in their outputs, how prompt

wording affects results, and techniques for getting reliable, source-cited responses. We'll also discuss responsible use of AI for learning and creativity. Pam can run all tools using only browser-based tools.

Donald Sosin & Joanna Seaton: Silent Film & Live Music

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

Sept. 6, 7 p.m.

Screening of F.W. Murnau's Sunrise (1927) with live music by Donald Sosin (piano) and Joanna Seaton (vocals/percussion). A landmark silent film accompanied by original music from renowned performers and composers.

...Sylvia at Playhouse

Continued from Page B1

Rounding out the cast is Sienna Brann, taking on a trio of roles that highlight the play's comic versatility. The design team includes Christopher and Justin Swader (scenic), Kathleen DeAngelis (costumes), Bobbie Zlotnik (wigs), Wheeler Moon (lighting), and Graham

Stone (sound), ensuring the story is grounded in a fully realized world, albeit one occasionally seen from a dog's point of view.

Performances run through Sept. 7 at the Sharon Playhouse. For tickets and more information, visit sharon-playhouse.org.

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
11				12		13			14		
15						16			17		
	18				19	20			21		
					22	23			24		
25	26	27	28	29							
30							31				
32									33	34	35
					38	39	40		41	42	
					43			44			
	45	46	47								
48					49				50	51	52
55					56				57		58
59					60				61		
62					63				64		

- 14. Graduation garb
- 19. A way to record
- 23. Not good
- 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

August 21 Solution

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

August 21 Solution

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

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SPORTS

Relaxed approach, solid roots help Steve Nelson win Sporting Clays Championship

By THOMAS E. JENSEN
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — On Sunday, Aug. 17, dozens of sporting clays shooters assembled in Millbrook for the Orvis Sandanona Club Championship Shoot.

I brought our local club skeet champion Gary Harrington over from Great Barrington, Massachusetts, to see how he fared. Harrington can produce perfect scores at the skeet range, but Sporting Clays present a wider variety of targets, flying at different altitudes, angles, and speeds. They present a realistic presentation of the varied game hunters encounter in the field like quail, pheasants, grouse, ducks, doves, teal, and rabbits.

I spoke with Peter Rundquist, an Orvis manager, about the facility. The Wing family in Millbrook developed the property over three generations. A combination of wealth in the 19th and 20th centuries from being big players in the chemical dye industry and also agriculture, developing the jersey cattle breed, allowed the family to acquire hundreds of acres of forest, fields, streams, and wetlands in Dutchess county.

The latest generation Wing took an interest in bird hunting and raising pheasants, and was very good at both.

A hunting lodge was built using the original Nine Part-

ners Road Schoolhouse, a very historic building itself. The estate was named Sandanona, a Native American word for “brilliant sunshine,” and the birds raised there were used to stock fields where hunters were invited to shoot over dogs.

Sandanona was the first licensed game bird preserve in the country. Birds were also sold to other clubs and to New York State to stock public hunting lands. Now, thousands of birds are raised and stocked all over the state. In the 1990s, sporting goods company Orvis bought the property, a natural fit for them to create a shooting and fly fishing preserve to add to their list of prestigious facilities where sportsmen could hone their skills, purchase the equipment they needed in the field, and meet other sportsmen.

The facility also hosts an Orvis Game Fair each Fall, open to the public, where over 5,000 people come from all over and receive free instruction in shotgun shooting, fly tying and fishing, dog care and handling, game cooking, falconry, game management, conservation, and a host of other outdoor activities.

Zach Clum from the Orvis Upland Department filled me in on the course and targets. Zach is a New York State champion sporting clays shooter; he and his team set a challenging set of targets

for this championship shoot. 100 targets over 16 stations; all pairs — no single birds — requiring 2 shots, some targets released simultaneously, others “on report” with the second target released after the competitor fires his first shot. Fourteen stations were six shots — three pairs — but two were eight shots — four pairs.

The competition commenced at 9:30 a.m. and by 11 a.m. scores were coming in. When the dust settled, it was Steve Nelson of Rye, New York, with the high score of 84. Runner up with 80 was Alan Pana, followed by David Campbell with 78. The average score was in the low 40s.

Harrington hit a respectable 51, and was well within the top third of the field. Clum had won his recent New York State championship with a score of 57.

I interviewed Nelson after we were served a lunch of sandwiches, fresh salads and cold beverages on picnic tables in the shade. He started with shotguns as a young teen in rural Virginia; his grandparents were small game hunters — not for sport, but to put nutritious food on the table. He learned from them how to hunt upland birds, but he did not continue.

Instead, he raised a family, studied law, and is now a Commercial Real Estate attorney. In 2020 his son brought him

to a father-son target shoot at Sandanona. He enjoyed it so much that he took up the sport.

Nelson appreciates getting out of the office and stretching his legs. Sunday, he took a relaxed approach to the competition; he was there to enjoy the good weather and good company for the day. He admits he is not a quick shot, but he said mental training at problem solving may have helped him puzzle out how to overcome physical reaction speed with the best choices of which bird to shoot at first, given his body type.

He said he is pleased to be a club member, and is highly impressed with the friendly Orvis staff. They all know his name, and are happy to see him every time he arrives.

“I used a Caesar Guerini Summit Limited 12 gauge shotgun that I purchased from the great team at Orvis Sandanona,” Nelson said of his equipment. “I used Winchester AA shells.”

Orvis Sandanona’s shooting preserve and learning center provide opportunities for everyone from the well-to-do sportsman to beginning youngsters. The Orvis Game Fair, set for Sept. 20 to 21 at Orvis Sandanona in Millbrook, will welcome visitors of all interest and skill levels to the facility. More information is available online at www.orvis.com.

OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

An example of the strengthening Pine Plains market is the sale of 7766 Main Street for \$565,000 on July 10 after having been listed for under \$300,000 for several years.

Pine Plains 12-month median home price hits \$555K

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

PINE PLAINS — Transfers from June and July suggest the Pine Plains real estate market continues to strengthen.

Of the four sales of single-family homes, one sold for over \$3 million while 16 acres of vacant farm land sold for \$57,000 an acre. At the same time two homes sold for under \$500,000.

The 12-month trailing median price of a single-family home in July reached a new high in July of \$555,000 because of recent multi-million dollar sales, while the three-year median is \$350,000 in July.

Active listings in mid-August include seven parcels of land and 18 houses with only three under \$500,000 and five over \$1 million.

June
54 Birch Drive — 4 bedroom/2 bath home on .68 acres sold for \$250,00 to Andrea L. Bartolomeo.
2314-2816 Church St. — 2

bedroom/1 bath home with 2,736 square feet of commercial space sold for \$450,000 to HTWP Properties LLC.

July
25 Winchell Trail — 5 bedroom/5 bath home on 12.8 acres sold for \$7,400,000 to 25 Winchell Trail LLC.

Route 199 (#905040) — 16 acres of vacant farmland sold for \$950,000 to 4071 Route 199 LLC.

7766 Main Street — 3 bedroom/2 bath house sold for \$565,000 to Shannon Kane.

**Town of Pine Plains property transfers from June and July are sourced from Dutchess County Real Property Office monthly reports. Details on property from Dutchess Parcel Access. Actual parcel numbers indicated by (#____) are included for properties without specific street address. Market data from One Key MLS and inforsparks. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby’s International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.*

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TAG SALES

SALISBURY, CT

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LARGE ECLECTIC 12 HOUSEHOLD TAG SALE: in the Amesville Section of Falls Village/ Salisbury, CT. 19 Sugar Hill Road- 7 households! And others sprinkled in the neighborhood. Follow signs! Friday August 29 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday August 30 9 a.m. to 4p.m. Come One Come All because there is something for everyone!

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REAL ESTATE

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REAL ESTATE

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& The Millerton News

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