





REGIONAL

# Northern Dutchess Paramedics remains in service amid changes at Sharon Hospital

By RUTH EPSTEIN  
Special to the Millerton News

FALLS VILLAGE, Conn. — Paramedic coverage in the Northwest Corner is continuing despite concerns raised last month after Sharon Hospital announced it would not renew its long-standing sponsorship agreement with Northern Dutchess Paramedics.

Northern Dutchess Paramedics (NDP), which has provided advanced life support services in the region for decades, is still responding to calls and will now operate alongside a hospital-based paramedic service being developed by Sharon Hospital, officials said at a public meeting Monday, Jan. 5, at the Falls Village Emergency Services Center.

“We haven’t missed a beat; we’re still taking calls,” said Andrea Downs, president of the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department and an employee of NDP, speaking at the meeting, which was attended by ambulance squad members, first selectmen and representatives of Sharon Hospital.

Sharon Hospital announced Dec. 11 that it would not renew its annual agreement with NDP, ending a 28-year relationship and initially stating that service would cease Jan. 1. Hospital President and CEO Christina McCulloch said the decision was based on compliance con-

cerns tied to the hospital’s role as sponsor.

“Being a sponsor is a big deal,” McCulloch said. “Our concerns were big enough that we couldn’t sign. It was a difficult decision.”

She said the hospital had discussed the issues with NDP representatives and cited unmet state requirements.

Without a sponsoring hospital, NDP could not operate in Connecticut. That issue was resolved when NDP finalized an agreement with Stamford Hospital, allowing it to continue providing services in the Northwest Corner.

At the same time, Sharon Hospital is establishing a hospital-based paramedic service through Nuvance/Northwell, owner of the hospital. Under the current model, the service consists of a single paramedic, who begins the day at New Milford Hospital before traveling to Sharon, prompting concerns from some volunteer ambulance crews about response times while that paramedic is in transit.

Addressing those concerns, hospital officials said while the new paramedic service covers a wide area, so too does NDP, which is based out of Rhinebeck. Some volunteer ambulance crews also said their concerns relate to the transition to two providers, with Sharon Hospital’s service still being built out and not yet fully stationed in Sharon.

Falls Village First Select-

man David Barger asked whether more than one paramedic service could operate in the region.

“There could be more than one,” McCulloch said.

Matt Cassavechia, director of emergency services for Sharon Hospital, said Litchfield County Dispatch, which handles all ambulance and fire dispatching for the region, will call whichever paramedic service is available at the time of an emergency.

He acknowledged that the current arrangement could be improved and said the hospital hopes to expand on-site paramedic coverage in Sharon. Doing so would require state approval through a need-for-service application, which Cassavechia said would benefit from letters of support from the community and area first selectmen.

Several volunteer ambulance representatives expressed concern about how changes could affect basic life support services and volunteer operations. Cassavechia said the hospital does not intend to replace volunteer squads.

“We’re not snapping up patients,” he said. “That’s not what we do. We are deliberate and purposeful. We have zero intent of putting volunteers out of business.”

Questions were also raised about possible delays in transferring patients from Sharon Hospital to other facilities.



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

Ed Sheehy and Tom Taylor, of Copake, New York, and Karen and Wendy Erickson, of Sheffield, Massachusetts, traveled to Salisbury on Saturday to voice their anger with the Trump administration.

## Protesters in Salisbury call for justice, accountability

By ALEC LINDEN  
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SALISBURY, Conn. — Impassioned residents of Connecticut’s Northwest Corner and adjacent regions in Massachusetts and New York took to the Memorial Green Saturday morning, Jan. 10, to protest the recent killing of Minneapolis resident Renee Nicole Good at the hands of a federal immigration agent.

Good, a 37-year-old mother of three, was shot at close range by an officer with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, commonly known as ICE, on Wednesday, Jan. 7. She and her wife were participating in a protest opposing the agency’s presence in a Minneapolis neighborhood at the time of the shooting.

The incident sparked protests and vigils nationwide, both in remembrance of Good and in opposition to what demonstrators described as

a broader pattern of government overreach.

In Hartford on Thursday evening, Jan. 8, two vehicles that authorities believe were operated by ICE officers drove through a crowd that had gathered in memory of Good. Connecticut Public Radio reported that at least one person had been struck by the vehicles and that police are investigating potential charges.

In Salisbury, the protest unfolded calmly but with a palpable sense of urgency. Just before noon, roughly 160 demonstrators lined Route 44, holding signs and cheering as passing motorists honked their horns.

Organizer Sophia deBoer stood alongside her husband, Lee, and fellow activists Kathy Voldstad and Amy Lake greeting demonstrators as they arrived. Along with Al Ginouves, the group has organized weekly protests against the Trump administration

since April 2025’s nationwide “Hand’s Off” movement.

“It’s time that people stood up to this lawless administration,” Sophia deBoer said as the crowd waved their signs.

Local immigrants’ rights advocate John Carter echoed that sentiment. “I need to put my body where my soul is,” he said.

Attendees cited a range of emotions for turning out, from anger and fear to cautious optimism

Joan Gardiner said it was “outrage and fear” that brought her to the protest, while Christine Clare said, “Being out here today, this makes me hopeful.”

Calls for justice dominated many of the messages displayed on protesters’ signs. Asked what motivated him to attend, Salisbury resident Louis Tomaino pointed to the words on his sign: “We all saw Renee Good murdered. And we all saw murder excused.”

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**Gabrielle Tessler, of Copake, writes on a large sheet of paper expressing her opposition to the project as speakers address more than 100 attendees at a community meeting Saturday, Jan. 10, at Copake's Memorial Park Building.**

## 'Stop Shepherd's Run' rally draws 100-plus crowd in Copake

By **JOHN COSTON**  
Special to the Millerton News

COPAKE — There was standing room only on Saturday, Jan. 10, when more than 100 residents attended a community meeting to hear experts and ask questions about the proposed 42-megawatt Shepherd's Run solar project that has been given draft approval by New York State.

The parking lot at the Copake Memorial Park Building was filled, and inside Sensible Solar for Rural New York and Arcadian Alliance, two citizen groups, presented a program that included speeches, Q&A, videos and workshop-like setups.

Speakers urged everyone to attend public hearings on the Hecate Energy LLC plan that are scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 21, and Thursday, Jan. 22, in person at the Copake Town Hall, and in a virtual setting on Tuesday, Jan. 27.

There were representatives from local, state and county government on hand, including from State Sen. Michelle Hinchey's, D-41, office. Hinchey has expressed concerns about the project. Assemblywoman Didi Barrett, D-106, plans to attend one of the in-person hearings. Sam Hodge, chair of the Columbia County Democratic Party and a potential primary challenger to Barrett, was also present, as were Columbia County Clerk Holly Tanner and Copake Town Supervisor Richard Wolf.

"The vast majority of Copakians don't want this project," Wolf said as he began to talk, arguing that the local environment would be damaged, no permanent jobs would be created and the electricity generated would be transmitted downstate.

The state has overridden 16 of the town's zoning regulations, he said.

"I encourage people to come to the hearings," he said. "Make your opinions and voices heard."

Wolf has been frustrated in dealing with the Chicago-based solar developer from the start and asserts that Hecate has "no interest in Copake."

"I haven't heard from anybody at Hecate in 20 months," he said.

Lindsay LeBrecht, a Copake Lake resident, spoke as a member of a panel and questioned why prime farm land is being taken for this so-called solar farm. "It's not a farm," she said. "It's an industrial site."

One concern cited by the project's opponents is the adjacency to Taconic Hills Central School in Craryville and the prospect of fire risk. William Murphy, a retired Battalion Chief with the New York City Fire Department, spoke about the fire threats, and said there

isn't enough fire-fighting capacity in the Craryville, Copake and Hillsdale area to adequately respond in the event of a fire. In New York in 2023, he said, there were three large solar facility fires. He also said they are increasing in number and often are unreported.

When he was asked by the school to develop an evacuation plan, he said he declined.

"No plan is fast enough to keep the students safe," Murphy said.

Animal expert Nick Jacinto, who is based on Long Island and who brought two live owls and a falcon to the community meeting, expressed concern about probable breeding pairs of peregrine falcons and bald eagles that could be threatened by the project.

"Will solar panels become this generation's DDT," he said, in a reference to the pesticide that nearly devastated bald eagle populations in the U.S. in the 1960s.

Questions from attendees focused on ways to stop the project, such as banding together to raise funds that could be used to buy out the lease options on the land, or having the town bring a lawsuit. Supervisor Wolf said there is a contingency plan that could bring this into court, but he didn't believe the lease options can be touched at this point.

There was a lot of community spirit to go around. After the two-hours elapsed, people clustered together to continue discussing the project that has been in the wind in the agricultural hamlet since 2017.

Vicki Sander, a member of Sensible Solar who helped organize the meeting, said she invited Hecate to come. But "I didn't hear back."

# NECC awarded nearly \$130K in Dutchess County grants

By **ALY MORRISSEY**  
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Millerton's North East Community Center was among 27 nonprofit organizations awarded funding through the 2026 Dutchess County Agency Partner Grant program, receiving \$128,822 to support three programs. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County also received county funding, with four grants totaling \$278,064.

In a statement shared with The News, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said the NECC and CCE Dutchess County are "tremendous partners in the community, and Dutchess County is proud to support their work addressing priority community needs with funding through our Agency Partner Grants."

The NECC grants will support the organization's teen jobs program, food access initiatives and out-of-school-time

programming.

"We are so grateful to Sue Serino and the Dutchess County Legislature for once again funding these important NECC programs," said Christine Sergent, executive director of NECC. "The County's support is important to our work in this rural community, where resources are limited." Sergent added that the funding will help meet the increasing need in NECC's service area.

NECC's Teen Jobs program places youth ages 14 to 18 in paid internships with local businesses, with NECC covering wages while employers provide on-the-job training. Participating businesses have included Agway of Millerton, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Four Brothers Pizza, The Moviehouse, Oblong Books, Pine Plains Barber Shop, Rock Steady Farm and the Wassaic Project.

The organization's after-school program serves stu-

dents at Webutuck Elementary School, providing an environment focused on social-emotional learning, recreation, community service and crafts. During the summer, the Summer Enrichment Program offers day camp programming for children entering grades 1 through 6.

NECC's food access efforts include a weekly food pantry and the Community Food Access Hub, which distributes fresh, culturally responsive food throughout northern Dutchess County in partnership with the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, the Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming, TriCorner FEED and Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley. The organization also operates a "Food Futures" paid summer internship for teens.

Cornell Cooperative Extension's funding will support four programs focused on youth

development, environmental education, parenting education and support for relatives raising children.

"Dutchess County's investment in Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County is an investment in people, families, and the future of our community," said Jessica Canale, Interim Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension. "These four grants allow us to reach youth, parents, caregivers, farmers and educators in meaningful, hands-on ways."

The APG program is a competitive grant process run by the county Department of Planning & Development for local 501(c)(3) non-profits. For 2026, \$1.5 million in grants have been awarded under the traditional APG program, with an additional \$502,583 coming from the Department of Community & Family Services and the Department of Mental Health.

## Box truck crash blocks traffic outside Millerton; no injuries reported

By **NATHAN MILLER**  
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MILLERTON — A crash involving a box truck and a passenger vehicle blocked traffic just outside the Village of Millerton for much of the early afternoon Friday.

North East Fire Chief Keith Roger told The News on-scene that no one was injured in the crash that occurred around 12:30 p.m. on Route 22/44, just south of the entrance to the Millerton Gun Club.

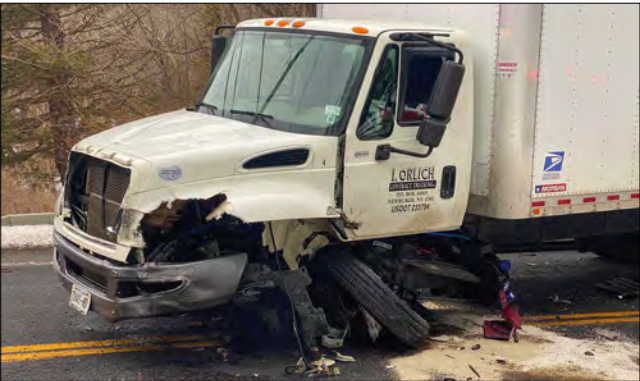
Details of the incident were limited as emergency crews worked at the scene. Roger said a box truck and a passenger car were the two vehicles involved, but additional information was not immediately available.

The passenger car was towed from the scene by about 1:45 p.m. A heavy-duty

tow truck from East Fishkill arrived shortly thereafter to remove the box truck.

The disabled box truck blocked a lane of traffic on Route 22/44 just south of the village, causing significant delays for motorists and prompting many to take a detour on Mill Road to avoid the congestion.

"It takes a minute," Roger said. "We don't have any large vehicle tow companies nearby."



**A disabled box truck blocked traffic on Route 44 for nearly 90 minutes Friday afternoon, Jan. 9.**

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FLU *Continued from Page A1*

medical officer at Community Health and Wellness Center in North Canaan, said influenza has dominated patient visits since the holidays.

“We’re seeing a ton of influenza. People are coming in with body aches, fever, congestion and gastrointestinal issues,” Humphreys said.

She noted that clinicians are also seeing many infected children, particularly those connected to boarding schools. One private school in the region, she said, shut down prior to winter break after reporting more than 100 flu cases. “At boarding schools it spreads like wildfire.”

**Sharon Hospital sees worst flu season in decades**

At Sharon Hospital, emergency department physicians are reporting a sharp increase in influenza cases, with more patients requiring hospitalizations than in a typical winter.

Between Dec. 1 through Dec. 9, “Our emergency department saw 100 patients who tested positive for influenza A,” said Marshall. Of those patients, he said, 11 required hospitalizations.

The Sharon Hospital physician said clinicians have seen an uptick in flu cases since the COVID-19 pandemic eased, which he attributed in part to people becoming less vigilant about preventive measures such as staying home when sick, masking when appropriate and hand hygiene.

He also noted that a mutated strain of influenza A, H3N2 subclade K, which is associated with more severe illness, particularly among older adults and individuals with pre-existing health issues, is contributing to higher hospitalization rates.

**New York confirms regional surge**

That local experience mirrors what health officials are reporting across New York.

The New York State Department of Health announced Jan. 2 that the state recorded the highest number of flu-related hospitalizations ever reported in a single week.

“We are having a more severe flu season than prior years,” State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said in a statement. “Almost 12,000 more people were admitted to a hospital during this most recent seven-day period compared to the prior week.”

The department’s most recent data shows a total of 4,546 flu-related hospitalizations statewide, nearly 1,000 more than the previous week.

Marshall said the impacts of the flu season extend beyond Sharon Hospital and the Northwest Corner, with mounting pressure within the broader Nuvance/

Northwell health network, underscoring the pace at which the virus continues to spread.

He described what clinicians refer to as “surging,” a rapid influx of patients arriving with respiratory illness, many of whom require hospitalization, which leads to backups as patients wait in emergency departments for inpatient beds.

“We’re seeing a little of that in Sharon, but at Vassar, they are seeing severe surging,” Marshall said, referring to Vassar Brothers Medical Center, a 349-bed, acute care hospital in Poughkeepsie.

**Primary care clinics report heavy flu volume**

The North Canaan Community Health and Wellness Center has been inundated with flu-infected children in recent weeks, and officials advise families to isolate sick children from older adults and others most at risk for serious illness.

The facility’s chief medical officer emphasized that clinicians continue to recommend the seasonal flu vaccine, despite misinformation suggesting this year’s vaccine is ineffective because it was distributed before the emergence of the H2N3 strain.

“The flu vaccine will decrease the severity of the illness. Unfortunately, it has not stopped spreading,” said Humphreys, who also advised people to protect themselves by wearing a mask in waiting rooms or while moving through health care facilities where the virus may be airborne.

**Schools see absenteeism rise**

Public and private schools across the region have also been affected by this year’s brutal flu season, particularly in the weeks leading up to the holiday break.

On Dec. 19, the last day before winter break “about 12 percent of the high school’s population, 39 students, were absent,” Nichols noted. Teachers, too, caught the flu, with about 36 staff members falling ill prior to the break.

However, once students returned to class after break, flu cases declined.

“When you don’t have 200 to 300 kids in the same space, you lessen the transmission,” said School Superintendent Melony Brady-Shanley.

“I wouldn’t be shocked if in the next couple of weeks to 10 days, between COVID, RSV and Flu, that the numbers go up.”

Brady-Shanley stressed the importance of keeping children home when sick until they are fever-free, and reinforced basic hygiene.

“If you can get kids to wash their hands three to four times per day, they are less likely to get sick.”

OBITUARIES

Richard Charles Paddock

TACONIC — Richard Charles Paddock, 78, passed away Friday, Jan. 2, 2026, at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital.

He was born in Hartford on April 12, 1947 to the late Elizabeth M. Paddock (Trust) and the late Charles D. Paddock. He grew up in East Hartford but maintained a strong connection to the Taconic part of Salisbury where his paternal grandfather, Charlie Paddock, worked for Herbert and Orleana Scoville. The whole family enjoyed summers and weekends on a plot of land in Taconic gifted to Charlie by the Scovilles for his many years of service as a chauffeur.

Dick graduated from East Hartford High School in June of 1965 and went on to join the Class of 1969 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He graduated from MIT with a

degree in Electrical Engineering and followed in his father’s footsteps by accepting a job with IBM in 1969. His career at IBM spanned 31 years and involved everything from supercomputers to single chip microcomputers.

He formally retired from IBM in 2000 but stayed on at IBM as a contract employee for the IBM Executive Briefing Center in Poughkeepsie, New York. His work at the briefing center ended in July 2002 and he finally had time to pursue other interests. Those interests included the iron industry of the Northwest Corner and the Central New England Railroad which passed through Taconic from 1871 until 1965.

Dick joined the Friends of Beckley Furnace in 2003



where he helped develop educational programs with the late Ed Kirby and designed and produced interpretive signs to explain the site to visitors, spending most summer Saturdays as a docent at the site. He also joined the Historical Society branch of the Salisbury Association where he assisted in the preparation of numerous books, the oral history and interpretive signs for the Salisbury area. He also served several terms as a Trustee for the Association. Other activities included teaching courses for the Taconic Learning Center and The Bard Lifetime Learning Center and being a frequent speaker in the area on various topics such as the railroads, the iron industry and the industrial heritage of

the area.

He leaves behind his wife and best friend, Frances Paddock of Taconic, two stepchildren; David Rosell of Greenville, New York, his son, Sterling of Tivoli, New York; Alicia Rosell of Dalton, Georgia, her daughters, Mary Rosell and Paula Gordon, also of Dalton, and his very large family of in-laws and many friends.

There will be no funeral services at this time. Ryan Funeral Home, 255 Main St., Lakeville, is in care of arrangements.

If you would like to remember Dick, please contribute to Friends of Beckley Furnace, P.O. Box 383, East Canaan, CT 06024, or the Salisbury Association (<https://salisburyassociation.org/ways-to-support/donate/>)

To offer an online condolence, please visit [ryanfhct.com](https://ryanfhct.com)

Edward Ashton Nickerson

LAKEVILLE — Edward Ashton “Nick” Nickerson died on Jan. 1, 2026, in Sharon, Connecticut. The cause of death was congestive heart failure following a heart attack. He was 100.

Nick was born July 1, 1925, in Wilmington, Delaware, the son of a DuPont Company executive, Elgin Nickerson, and his wife, Margaret Pattison Nickerson. He spent most of his boyhood in Fairfield, Connecticut, and Newburgh, New York.

He grew up with his older sister, Roma, and attended the local public elementary schools. Because Nick suffered from asthma, his parents sent him to boarding schools in the mountains in his teenage years. For one year, he had the unusual experience of going to a boys’ school at Mohonk Mountain House, a grand hotel on a mountain lake in New Paltz, New York. The owners, the Smiley family, taught classes and housed the boys in the hotel rooms. In the afternoons, the boys would swim, hike, ski, skate, or work around the property. He loved the school and talked about it for the rest of his life.

Nick went on to graduate from Northwood School in Lake Placid, New York, near the site of the 1932 Winter Olympics. He was on the ski team and ski jumped (the latter of which left him with nightmares!).

In 1943, Nick joined the

10th Mountain Division—the first American ski troops—and fought in the Apennine Mountains of Italy in 1945. He was awarded the Silver Star for, in the words of the Army, “gallant conduct under fire” and “disregard for his own safety to save the lives of his comrades.”

After the war, he attended Dartmouth College, where he wrote for the student paper, helped edit the literary magazine, and graduated with an English degree in 1949. He landed a job as a reporter for the Rutland Daily Herald in Vermont, then was hired by the Associated Press wire service. While assigned to the AP’s Baltimore bureau, he met Liselotte “Bee” Davis, a college student and native of Baltimore. After her graduation, they married on Sept. 16, 1955, and moved to New York City when he was transferred to AP’s headquarters there.

After spending the 1950s in journalism, he switched to teaching. He said that the first time he set foot in a classroom, he knew he was in the right place. In the 1960s, he taught English at three boarding schools. He became chair of the English department at the Emma Willard School in Troy, New York, a girls’ school that his mother and many other



family members attended.

In the mid-1960s, Nick became interested in teaching at the university level and earned a Ph.D. in English at the State University of New York in Albany. He combined his English teaching and newspaper reporting to become the first director of the University of Delaware’s journalism program, which was part of the English department. He led the journalism program for 21 years, teaching everything from basic reporting to radio writing. He also taught English and American literature classes, including a popular detective fiction class.

He retired as a university professor in 1991. He and Bee moved to Lakeville in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut. He taught extension classes on literature through the Taconic Learning Center, joined book clubs, sang with the HousaTonics men’s barbershop group, swam (including across Lake Wononscopomuc), and cross-country skied for years. He endowed a lecture fund at the University of Delaware to bring reporters to speak on campus.

He and Bee lived on Belgo Road in Lakeville. After nearly 52 years of marriage, she died of cancer in 2007. He moved to the Noble Horizons retirement community, where

he was a friendly fixture for years.

He celebrated Christmas with his family in 2025 then, days later, entered Sharon Hospital with pneumonia that led to a heart attack and congestive heart failure. On New Year’s Day 2026, at age 100 years, six months, he died as his daughter read him a poem by John Keats, “On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer.”

Nick loved chatting up strangers, savoring a good meal with wine, reading, playing chess, learning new things, skiing, traveling, concertgoing, wordplay, spending time with friends and family, and almost anything Italian. Days before his death, he asked his son to take him out to his favorite restaurant—the Woodland in Lakeville—for dinner.

Survivors include his daughter, Louisa, of Bethesda, Maryland, and her partner, David Shelton; his son, Matthew, daughter-in-law, Elizabeth, and grandchildren, John and Julia, all of Chicago; a niece, Anne Hockmeyer Brown; a nephew, Brian Hockmeyer, and Brian’s wife, Ann. Nick’s sister, Roma Nickerson Hockmeyer, died in 1981.

A memorial service will be held at the Congregational Church of Salisbury, Connecticut, on Saturday, Feb. 14, at noon. A reception will follow.

Steven Michael Willette

SHARON — Steven Michael “Bird” Willette, 76, of Silver Lake Shores, passed away on Dec. 25, 2025, at Vassar Brother Medical Center, with his family at his side.

Steve was born in New York City to Dorman Willette and Ann (Sabol) Willette.

He grew up in the Hell’s Kitchen neighborhood of

Manhattan, New York, where he fell in love with doowop, a cappella, and all things music.

As a teen he spent summers in Sharon, where he and his family built a cabin near Mudge Pond; he relocated here permanently in the early 90s to raise his children amid the strong community and natural beauty.

Steve was a vocalist, a genuine classic car lover, and a silversmith; he operated a jewelry business with his wife for a number of years, after which he worked as a bus driver, safely driving children for Connecticut Region 1 as well as the Webster School.

He is survived by his be-

loved wife of 32 years, Maureen; his son, Ryan; and his daughter, Desirée.

The family has chosen to temporarily hold off on memorial services to allow more time for loved ones to join us. Details will be made public as they are decided on.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

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Visit [millertonnews.com/obituaries](https://millertonnews.com/obituaries) to read more obituaries and a full appreciation of Richard Charles Paddock, a resident of Salisbury, Connecticut, who dedicated much of his time to preserving local history.

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OBITUARIES

Sarah M. Polhemus

SALISBURY — Sarah M. Polhemus, died peacefully on Dec. 23, 2025, at Noble Horizons in Salisbury, Connecticut where she had been a resident for the past four years. Born in Torrington, she was the daughter of A.H. “Hank” Mitchell and Orpha Brown Robinson. She lived in Stamford until 1941, at which time her family relocated to Salisbury, where she lived most of the balance of her life.

“Squeak” (A childhood nickname that stayed with her throughout her life) spent her youth in Salisbury until she left for boarding school at The Northfield School For Girls (Now Northfield Mount Herman School). After graduation, she followed in her mother’s footsteps to Connecticut College. Upon graduation, she headed to New York City where she worked and lived for a number of years, before moving to Wilton, where she started her family. But Salisbury was always home. In 1974, she returned to Salisbury with her family and began working for her family real estate firm, Robinson Real Estate. She worked alongside her mother and sister Louise (“Petie”), eventually partnering with her sister to form Robinson-Polhemus Real Estate. Here she remained for the next three decades, until she retired in 2007.

After retirement, she embarked on her “second career” with various board roles. She served on the board of The Corner Food Pantry and Taconic Learning Center, served as clerk of the Congregational Church for several years and even served as the Salisbury Town Treasurer from 2013-2015.

An outdoors and sports person, she loved her time on the tennis and platform tennis courts, participating in many local tournaments over the years. But her first love was golf – Playing and competing with her course partner and sister Petie and her large circle of golfing friends. In



fact, in 1980, she beat her sister Petie just one time in the Sharon Country Club Women’s Golf Championship (Petie won the championship several times and flanked her before and after, but 1980 was “Squeak’s year”). She continued at Sharon for many years, before calling the Hotchkiss course her home course in later years.

Always wearing a smile and always seeing the positive in everything, she was able to laugh at even the most unsettling situations and never let the negative stuff get her down. A loving, and loved, member of the Salisbury community, she was a family person, first and foremost and her “family” extended to countless people she touched in the community. She was a wealth of knowledge and true storehouse of time as it related to Salisbury and loved sharing funny stories about the old days in our quiet little corner. Some stories were actually hard to believe – by today’s standards – like sledding as a child all the way from the Erickson Farm up on Bunker Hill to Main Street Salisbury, right on the road! but, they were true nonetheless. She loved her home of Salisbury and the many good friends and family with whom she shared her native turf over the decades.

She was predeceased by her brother, Donald L. Mitchell and sisters, Ann R. Noble and Ann M. Van Deusen. She is survived by her sister, Louise W. Robinson of Salisbury, her daughter Sarah Bartle (Tom) and granddaughters, Sandy and Nicki Bartle, all of Wilmington, North Carolina. She is also survived by her son, Freddy Polhemus, of Lakeville, and granddaughters, Emily Polhemus (Conor) of Columbia Falls, Montana, and Katherine Polhemus (Jacob) of Rutland, Vermont.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution to The Noble Horizons General Fund.

Thomas Phillip Brod

SHARON — Thomas was born in London, England, May 1, 1945. His parents had left Germany in 1938 and arrived in England by way of Prague. Thomas grew up in London and followed his father into the Brod Gallery, specializing in Dutch 17th century paintings and drawings. When he was eighteen, his father sent him to the United States for the first time. His assignment was to travel the country visiting collectors and museums. This would be his first trip, but many would follow.

Thomas loved art, music, travel, skiing, woodworking, and everything that went up in the air (he was a private pilot and also enjoyed flying radio control model airplanes). But there was nothing he loved more than his family. His four children, Alex, Jonathan, Julian and Amelia, their spouses, and his grandchildren. Thomas



had Parkinson’s disease for 36 years, which progressively hindered many of his usual activities. But time spent with his family, children, grandchildren and his wife, Brenda, always brought him joy and increased energy. He always had a wry and surprising sense of humor, and laugh lines at the corners of his eyes, or a raised eyebrow, when someone made a joke.

Thomas, Brenda and family lived in Sharon for part of each year, beginning in 1983. In 2018, Thomas and Brenda moved permanently to Sharon. Thomas felt a strong kinship to this area from his first visit. It is where he, and his family, spent many of the happiest moments of their lives. We are glad that his last years were spent here.

Thomas died at home in the early hours of New Year’s day after enjoying a New Year’s dinner with his family.

CANAAN — George E. Wentworth, 83, of South Deerfield, passed away peacefully on Jan. 3, surrounded by his three beloved nieces.

Born on Nov. 21, 1942, in Northampton, Massachusetts to Howard Wentworth and Velma B. McDowell, he was the oldest of their three children and a graduate of Amherst Regional High School Class of 1962.

George was a gentle kind-hearted dairy farmer who lived a simple peaceful life valuing his family, his heritage and traditions.

George was born into the Wentworth Family Farm located on Stanley Street in Amherst. He enjoyed a childhood surrounded by generations of dairy farmers. He was active in local 4-H clubs and

enjoyed reminiscing about his memories of traveling around the country with his 4-H friends. A favorite tale of his was when he traveled to Waterloo, Iowa to represent his local 4-H club and the Future Farmers of America as a judge at the National Dairy Cattle Congress in 1962.

George and his parents continued their farming legacy in 1964 when they started the Canaan Valley Farm in East Canaan, Connecticut. There they continued milking and breeding registered Ayrshire cattle until 1986 when they returned to Massachusetts to be closer to family. George worked for Bill



Graves of Conway, the Williams family at Mt. Toby Farm in Sunderland and later retired from the Cook Family Farm in Hadley. After retirement he enjoyed visiting with the Cook and West families of Hadley.

Some of George’s favorite pass times were driving through the farms and backroads of Western Massachusetts, grabbing a hot black coffee and his annual trip to the Canadian Dairy sale. He could be found visiting family and friends, often delivering fresh vegetables from his garden, and always sharing memories through his cherished family photos. George rarely missed a Hadley Young Men’s Club dinner or the opportunity to celebrate an ARHS class reunion.

He was loving cared for by his nieces and nephews Amy and Shane Stout, Jeff and Mimi Wentworth, Emily and Scott Ewell, and Sarah and George Emery.

George was immensely proud of his great nieces and nephews, Wyatt Bourbeau

and Captain Trent Bourbeau, USMC; Savannah and Peyton Emery; Sydney and Reese Ewell; Jake and Tyler Moynihan. He could often be found at their sporting events, school activities, and family celebrations.

George was predeceased by his parents, his sister, Carol Jenks and his niece Stephanie Wentworth. He is survived by brother Arthur Wentworth (Linda), brother-in-law Duane Jenks and partner Kathy LaPointe, and extended family.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026, at Kostanski Funeral Home, 1 Kostanski Square, Turners Falls, Massachusetts 01376. A calling hour will begin at 10 a.m. until the time of the service at 11 a.m. Burial will take place at Elm Grove Cemetery, 524 Turners Falls Road, Montague immediately following.

Memorial contributions in George’s honor can be made to the Massachusetts Ayrshire Breeders Association in care of Marilyn Donovan, Club Treasurer, PO Box 133, Chesterfield, MA 01012.

For condolences, please visit [www.kostanskifuneral-home.com](http://www.kostanskifuneral-home.com)

Theodore Ned Drumm

SHARON — Theodore Ned Drumm passed away peacefully on Jan. 1, 2026 after a long battle with heart failure.

Ted Drumm was born Nov. 26, 1932 in Sharon to the late Julia and Ned Drumm. He lived all his life in Sharon.

Ted was a loving father and husband. He was a member of the First Church of Christ Congregational and the Taghannuck Grange No. 100 for more than 50 years. He served on the board of Deacons and was the first moderator of the church. He also served on the Sharon Board of Finance. He ran

a paint contracting business for more than 35 years.

He is predeceased by his wife and son. There are no survivors.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Jan. 17 at 11:00 a.m. at The First Church of Christ Congregational in Sharon.

Burial is private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Sharon Ambulance Squad on The Teddy Lee Memorial Scholarship Fund, 271 Main Street, Suite 3, Great Barrington, MA 01230.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Jill Scott

SALISBURY — Jill Scott passed away peacefully on Jan. 2, after 93 years of a wide-ranging and well-travelled life.

She was born in Essex, England in 1932. She attended a girls’ boarding school, then went on to complete a year of college. Unfortunately, the need to educate two younger brothers and the Second World War (during which she was evacuated to Oxford) interrupted her studies.

She briefly worked assorted jobs in the London area and attended her brother’s sporting events at the King’s School, Canterbury. It was at King’s that she met and married her husband Neil, a teacher. She was soon hired by King’s as a “house matron,” essentially taking on the household management and “mothering duties” for a large dormitory of teenage boys.

Prior to starting a family, she and Neil went on a motorcycle camping trip to Scotland. Later, summers were spent camping with her growing family in nearby European countries. Jill and Neil needed new horizons, so they moved with their three children to Quebec, Canada for a year, then down to the Hotchkiss School in Connecticut in 1970. Jill immediately became engaged in supporting all the activities of her family, and, once the children were old enough to be home alone, she started working part-time for the Lakeville Journal as a copy editor. Always a supporter of Hotchkiss, Jill frequently worked in the Hotchkiss School store.

A teaching exchange year in New Zealand provided additional adventure in 1986-1987, and Jill thoroughly enjoyed traveling throughout those islands with Neil and with visiting friends.

Upon Neil’s retirement in 1993 Jill continued her family support work, taking special joy in spending any time possible with each of her

four grandchildren as they grew. Jill and Neil also traveled overseas and around the globe, visiting family and friends, and just enjoying new people and experiences.

Besides being family-centered, Jill was a lifelong learner. She read voraciously and thoroughly enjoyed discussing world events with anyone and everyone.

She took a multitude of classes, from ceramics to world history, and always enjoyed learning something new. She also believed in community service and was a long-time member of the Salisbury Garden club. Indeed, she was a passionate gardener and, as one friend put it, she could plant a broomstick in the ground and make it grow. She thoroughly enjoyed her time reading to younger students at Salisbury Central School and working with the Noble Horizons Auxiliary. She thrived being outdoors, whether camping, canoeing, skiing, sailing, playing golf, just going for walks, or, in her last years, riding the pathways at Noble Horizons in her electric chair.

Jill was very practical, and in a file designated for after her passing she left us all a note written long before:

“No pain, no senility. I am just in the next room. Laugh and enjoy every day.”

Jill is survived by her son David (Kari), daughter Carol, grandchildren Harry (Samantha), Alexandra, Philip, Spencer, and son-in-law Paul. She is predeceased by her husband Neil, daughter Kathryn, and brothers Jack and Robert. We all miss her greatly.

A celebration of life will be held in the dining room at Noble Horizons at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, 2026.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Jill’s name to Noble Horizons Auxiliary, 17 Cobble Road, Salisbury, CT 06068.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care arrangements.

| Worship Services<br>Week of January 18, 2026  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon</b><br>9 South Main, Sharon CT<br>Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M.<br><i>Transitioning through prayer</i><br>All welcome to join us<br>860-364-5260<br><a href="http://www.christchurchsharon.org">www.christchurchsharon.org</a>  | <b>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.</b><br>30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT<br>Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!<br>Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming<br><a href="http://www.salisburyucc.org">www.salisburyucc.org</a><br>Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy!<br>(860) 435-2442  |
| <b>Trinity Episcopal Church</b><br>484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville<br><i>Offering companionship along the Way</i><br>Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.<br>Livestream at 10:30 found at <a href="http://www.trinitylimerock.org">www.trinitylimerock.org</a><br><a href="http://trinitylimerock.org">trinitylimerock.org</a><br>(860) 435-2627   | <b>St. John's Episcopal Church</b><br>12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT<br>SUNDAY SERVICE<br>10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II)<br>Rev. Dr. Johan Johnson, Priest-in-Charge<br><i>In-Person and on You-Tube</i><br><a href="http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org">www.stjohnssalisbury.org</a>   |
| <b>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC</b><br><i>Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people</i><br>172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT<br>Worship services Sundays at 10 am<br><a href="http://www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational">www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</a><br>860-824-7232  | <b>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT</b><br><i>Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons</i><br>Sunday, February 8 at 10:30 a.m.<br><b>SCIENCE and RELIGION: Is there a connection?</b><br>For information, contact Jo Loi at <a href="mailto:jokialoioi@gmail.com">jokialoioi@gmail.com</a><br>All are Welcome   |
| <b>FISHES &amp; LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH</b><br>is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan<br><i>Tuesday 4-6 pm &amp; Thursday 12-2 pm</i><br><a href="http://www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org">www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</a>   | <b>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH</b><br><i>Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk</i><br>St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan<br>St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville<br><b>MASS SCHEDULE</b><br>Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church<br>Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary<br>Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church<br><b>DAILY MASS SCHEDULE</b><br>Wednesday 6pm<br>St. Joseph Chapel or Church<br>Thursday 8am<br>Friday 8am<br>Church of St. Mary<br>ALL ARE WELCOME!<br>For information, please call 860-824-7078 |
| <b>Congregation Beth David</b><br><i>A reform Jewish Synagogue</i><br>3344 East Main St., Amenia<br><b>SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM</b><br>Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at <a href="http://congbethdavid.org">congbethdavid.org</a> )<br><b>ALL ARE WELCOME</b><br>Rabbi Jon Haddon<br>845-373-8264<br><a href="mailto:info@congbethdavid.org">info@congbethdavid.org</a> | <b>UCC in CORNWALL</b><br><i>Cornwall Village Meeting House</i><br>Worship Sunday, 10 am<br>Outstanding Church School (10 am)<br>Mission Opportunities<br>Warm Fellowship following Worship<br>860-672-6840<br><a href="http://www.uccincornwall.org">www.uccincornwall.org</a><br>Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister<br>Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community   |
| <b>The Lakeville United Methodist Church</b><br>319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039<br>9:15 a.m. Worship Service<br>9:15 a.m. Sunday School<br><i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i><br>The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse<br>860-435-9496<br><a href="mailto:Lakevillemethodist@snet.net">Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</a>   | <b>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall</b><br>Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m.<br>Trinity Retreat Center Chapel<br>Lower River Road, West Cornwall<br>in person and on zoom<br>Warm fellowship following service<br>All Are Welcome!<br><a href="http://www.allsaintscornwall.org">www.allsaintscornwall.org</a><br>Rev. Mary Gates!   |
| <b>The Falls Village Congregational Church</b><br>16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village<br>10:00 a.m. Family Worship<br>Coffee Hour<br><i>A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!!</i><br>860-824-0194  | <b>St. Thomas Episcopal Church</b><br>40 Leedsville Road<br>Amenia Union, NY<br><b>SUNDAY WORSHIP at 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE</b><br>Visit our website for links<br>845-373-9161<br><a href="http://www.stthomasamenia.com">www.stthomasamenia.com</a><br>A Community of Radical Hospitality   |
| <b>The Sharon United Methodist Church</b><br>112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green<br><i>Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits</i><br>10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care<br>No Sunday School in Summer<br>The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse<br>860-364-5634<br><a href="mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net">sharonumc5634@att.net</a>  | <b>Promised Land Baptist Church</b><br>29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT<br><i>Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!</i><br>Sunday School - 10am<br>Sunday Worship - 11am<br>Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM<br>(860) 824-5685<br><b>VISITORS WELCOME!</b><br><a href="http://www.promisedlandbaptist.org">www.promisedlandbaptist.org</a>  |
| <b>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church</b><br>656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY<br>Services every Sunday 10 a.m.<br><a href="http://www.thesmithfieldchurch.org">www.thesmithfieldchurch.org</a><br>21st Century Theology in an Historic Building   | <b>Canaan United Methodist Church</b><br>2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT<br>8:00AM - Worship Service<br>2nd & 4th Sunday<br><i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i><br>The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse<br>860-824-5534<br><a href="mailto:canaanctumc@gmail.com">canaanctumc@gmail.com</a><br><i>We hope you will join us!</i>  |
| <b>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church</b><br>313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT<br>Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M.<br>Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M.<br>Special Services Online<br>Rev. John Kreta<br>860-824-1340   <a href="mailto:allsaintsofamerica.us">allsaintsofamerica.us</a>   |  |
| <b>Sharon Congregational</b><br>25 Main Street, Sharon, CT<br>Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.<br>Visit our website <a href="http://sharoncongregationalchurch.org">sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a> for Sunday services<br>Contact us at 860-364-5002 or <a href="mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org">info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a>                                     |  |
| <b>Millerton United Methodist Church</b><br>6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812<br>Millerton, NY 12546<br>Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:00 P.M.<br>518-789-3138   |  |

For more obituaries, see Page A4

Send obituaries to [obituaries@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:obituaries@lakevillejournal.com)



OUR TOWNS

The first babies of 2026



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Top, Belinde and Erick Garcia, of New Milford, are the parents of twins Gabriella and Isabella, who were the second and third babies born in Sharon Hospital in 2026. Their older siblings, Matthew, 6, and Melanie, 3, are pictured. Left, Bryan Monge Orellana and Janneth Maribel Panjon Guallpa, of Amenia, are the parents of Ethan Nicolas Monge Panjon, Sharon Hospital's first baby of 2026.

Alexander, Drago to lead Dutchess County Public Safety Committee

By ALY MORRISSEY  
aly.m@millertonnews.com

POUGHKEEPSIE — Local Dutchess County legislators Eric Alexander and Chris Drago have been named chair and vice chair, respectively, of the county's Public Safety Committee for the 2026 legislative session.

Newly-elected Alexander of District 25 — who represents Amenia, the Town of Washington, Pleasant Valley, and the Village of Millbrook — will serve as chair. Alexander flipped his district from Republican to Democratic control in November, helping secure a Democratic majority in the county legislature for the first time since 2008.

Alexander said he looks forward to working alongside Drago.

"Chris has already demonstrated strong leadership in addressing the countywide issues impacting our EMS capabilities," said Alexander. "I look forward to working with him and the executives leading Emergency Response, our Sheriff, and local police and fire chiefs in further strengthening public safety for all residents of Dutchess County."

Returning legislator Drago of District 19 — who represents the Towns of Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan, Red Hook, North East and the Village of Millerton — will serve as vice chair. Drago was elected to his second consecutive term in November and has been a



PHOTO PROVIDED

Eric Alexander, left, D-25, and Chris Drago, right, D-19.

sponsive to the needs of the communities being served."

Drago added that he and Alexander are also focused on addressing the EMS challenges facing communities across Dutchess County, particularly in Northern Dutchess, where long response times and limited coverage are a daily concern.

"Our goal is a more coordinated, reliable, and cost-effective EMS system that works for every resident, no matter where they live," Drago said.

The appointments were announced Jan. 7 by Dutchess County Legislature Chair Yvette Valdés Smith, along with the full slate of committee assignments for 2026.

"Each Chair was chosen based on their deep experience and understanding of the issues their committees will address. I am confident in their ability to build thoughtful consensus with their members and to develop strong policies and positive outcomes for the legislature to carry forward. Our leadership looks forward to working with them to build a stronger, more vibrant Dutchess County for all residents."

Annual re-organizational meeting begins a new year of service for officials

By LEILA HAWKEN  
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — After taking a solemn oath of office promising to serve the town and its residents lawfully and to the best of their abilities, the Town Board settled in to complete the ritual of the annual reorganizational meeting, colloquially known as a reorg, on Thursday, Jan. 8, voting on numerous resolutions to establish the town's governance for the next year.

Administering the swearing in of officials, including the Town Board as well as Highway Superintendent Megan Chamberlin, Town Clerk Dawn Marie Klingner and Court Judge The Hon. Chris Klingner was County Clerk Brad Kendall.

"We need to listen," said Town Supervisor Rosanna Hamm, as she began her first term in that position, although she had served as a member of the Town Board in the previous term.

Defining her goals for the coming year, Hamm said that she intends to bring the town together, citing the success of the town-wide Harvest Festival that was held in October as a concept to be built upon.

The construction phase for the new Town Garage is expected to begin with a groundbreaking in May, Hamm said, and the sidewalk project along Route 44 is expected to be completed in spring.

Another goal, Hamm said,

will be to tie up loose ends referring to numerous initiatives that are underway. And, of course, there will be the unanticipated things, she added.

Newly elected councilperson Walter Dietrich said that he completely agreed with Hamm's stated goals.

Councilperson Vicki Doyle echoed that sentiment, saying, "I will help in any way I can to move projects forward," and praised the work of former budget officer

Charlie Miller, noting that his efforts contributed to several successful grant applications.

Doyle said that she will continue working with local groups including the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee, the Conservation

Advisory Council and the Enhancement Committee.

Dietrich added his thanks to past members of the Town Board and he congratulated the newly seated board members elected by the town's voters.

YOUR NEWS

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

John J. Contracting USA LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 12/29/2025. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 364 Pumpkin Lane Clinton Corners NY 12514

Purpose: The purpose of the LLC IS TO ENGAGE IN ANY AND ALL LAWFUL ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY MAY BE ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law.

01-08-26  
01-15-26  
01-22-26  
01-29-26  
02-05-26  
02-12-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Lady Hounds Farm, LLC. Arts. or Org. filed with SSNY on 8/25/25. Office Location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Jane D. Watson, 33 Prospect Avenue, Amenia, New York 12501. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

12-18-25  
12-25-25  
01-01-26  
01-08-26  
01-15-26  
01-22-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Max Cohen Design LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/07/2025. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Max Cohen Design LLC, 253 Benson Hill Road, Dover Plains, NY 12522. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

12-18-25  
12-25-25  
01-01-26  
01-08-26  
01-15-26  
01-22-26

Legal Notice

Notice of formation of Glynevan Gundogs LLC. Arts of Org filed with SSNY on 9/25/2025. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Business Name and Address. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

01-15-26  
01-22-26  
01-29-26  
02-05-26  
02-12-26  
02-19-26

Legal Notice

Please take notice that the Wassaic Fire District of the town of Amenia, County of Dutchess, New York, will hold its regular meetings for the year 2026 on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. on such day at

the Wassaic Firehouse, 27 Firehouse Rd, Wassaic, NY. All meetings of the Wassaic Fire District are open to the public.

This notice is being posted in accordance with the provisions of Section 94 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York.

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Wassaic Fire District. January 11, 2026.

Pamela J Butts  
Secretary  
Wassaic Fire District  
01-15-26

Notice of Receipt of Tax Roll and Warrant

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Eileen Ciaburri the Tax Collector for the Town of Pine Plains, has received the Tax Roll for 2026 and will be collecting taxes during the month of February 2026 at the Town Hall, 3284 Route 199 East, Pine Plains New York, on Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10:00AM to 1:00 PM and during the months of March, April & May on Tuesday and Thursday 10:00Am-1:00PM. Taxes collected through the month of February 2026 are without penalty. Penalties are levied as follows: March 2 percent, April 3 percent, May 4 percent.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that pursuant to the provisions of the law, the Tax Roll of the Town of Pine Plains will be returned to the County Treasurer of the County of Dutchess on

the first day of June 2026.

Eileen Ciaburri  
Tax Collector  
Town of Pine Plains  
01-15-26  
01-22-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Pine Plains Fire District held its 2026 reorganization meeting on January 7, 2026 at the Pine Plains Fire House, 7 Lake Road, Pine Plains, NY. Regular monthly meetings in 2026 will be held at the Fire House on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM.

Board of Fire Commissioners  
Pine Plains Fire District  
01-15-26

TOWN OF AMENIA TOWN BOARD REQUEST FOR THE FOLLOWING TOWN SERVICE: CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AS ADVISOR FOR THE NEW HIGHWAY GARAGE & SALT STORAGE FACILITY FOR THE TOWN OF AMENIA

Proposals are sought and invited by the Town Board, Town of Amenia for a qualified construction management organization capable of providing comprehensive construction management as advisor services for the new Highway Garage & Salt Storage Facility for the Town of Amenia.

Proposals will be received by the Town Clerk, Dawn Marie Klingner, of the Town of Amenia, until 2:00 PM on February 3, 2026. All proposals must be in a sealed envelope and clearly marked "Construction Manager as Advisor for New Highway Garage & Salt Storage Facility". The proposals will be opened on February 4, 2026 at 2:00 PM at Town Hall, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, NY 12501.

Copies of the RFP may be obtained from the Office of the Town Clerk:  
4988 Route 22  
Amenia, NY 12501  
(845) 373-8118 ext.125  
townclerk@ameniany.gov

The Town Board expressly reserved the right to waive any irregularities in a particular proposal, or to accept any proposal or reject any and all proposals, or to award on any or all items, as the interest of the Town of Amenia may require.

By order of the Town Board, Town of Amenia, New York.  
By: Dawn Marie Klingner,  
Town Clerk  
Town of Amenia  
01-15-26

TOWN OF NORTH EAST, DUTCHESS COUNTY NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF TAX BILLS AND WARRANT

TAKE NOTICE, that I, Elizabeth "Tilly" Strauss, the undersigned Collector of Taxes of the Town of North

East, County of Dutchess and State of New York, have duly received the Tax Rolls and Warrant for the collection of property taxes within the Town of North East for fiscal year 2026. Collection of taxes will begin with the receipt of taxes through March 2, 2026 at the Town Hall, 19 N. Maple Ave, Millerton, New York, on the following days and times: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; and FEBRUARY ONLY Saturdays 9:00 a.m.-noon. Checks are to be made payable to "North East Tax Collector".

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that taxes may be paid on or before March 2, 2026 without penalty. All taxes received after that date shall have an added interest of 2% for the month of March, 3% for the month of April, and 4% for the month of May. In addition, after May 15th, a fee of \$2.00 will be added for each parcel.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that after June 1st, 2026 all unpaid taxes will be turned over to Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance, 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

Dated: January 5, 2026  
Elizabeth Strauss Town Clerk/North East Tax Collector  
01-15-26  
01-22-26



EDITORIAL

Millerton should welcome its first dispensary

A dispensary is coming to Millerton in a few months, bringing legal cannabis sales to the village for the first time since North East-based growers Alchemy Pure and Harney Brothers Cannabis operated a short-lived pop-up in September 2023.

While the announcement has drawn some criticism from community members, the overwhelming majority have welcomed the new business that will occupy 32 Main St. The Millerton News welcomes Douglas Broughton's Black Rabbit Farms dispensary, which will generate tax revenue and further the long-standing tradition of diversity among the village's businesses.

Since New York legalized retail cannabis sales in 2022, the number of dispensaries has grown rapidly across the state. As of November 2025, the Office of Cannabis Management reported more than 550 licensed retailers. Those retail dispensaries accounted for more than \$1.5 billion in sales last year, bringing total cumulative sales since legalization to \$2.5 billion.

As a result, more than \$340.6 million in state and local tax revenue was generated across New York between April 2023 and November 2025, according to the Office of Cannabis Management's 2025 annual report.

In 2024, 43 towns, cities and villages recorded a total of \$7.75 million in revenue from retail cannabis sales taxes, according to data obtained through the New York State Comptroller's Open Book program.

While it's unlikely that this dispensary will generate hundreds of thousands in tax revenue, it will still provide Millerton with a meaningful source of new funding.

In a village that's pursuing a brand-new pool and a centralized wastewater system, all while keeping the lights on in a world where everything is getting more expensive, any additional revenue is a boon.

And, in keeping with an unwritten tradition to keep things local, this dispensary is an arm of Douglas Broughton's Black Rabbit Farms operation based in Wassaic.

Broughton possesses what's known as a "microbusiness" license from the Office of Cannabis Management. Those licenses allow smaller-scale operators to grow, package, distribute, sell and deliver their own products.

He grows his cannabis at his home farm in Wassaic, just 11 miles from the storefront he's rented on Millerton's Main Street. In conversations with The News, Broughton said he plans to stock additional products from other microbusinesses in the area, emphasizing a commitment to high-quality products from local growers.

Millerton has a time-honored reputation for celebrating and welcoming local business owners, even when new ventures draw criticism.

This dispensary is no different. Readers of The News voiced their support in dozens of comments on social media, and community members told us they were excited about the dispensary coming to town in the weeks since we published our report. Many cited shorter travel times for cannabis purchases as a major benefit.

The News joins those voices in welcoming this new business to Millerton's vibrant downtown. The village's diversity is a core strength, one that continues to attract strong businesses and a community ready to support them.

A difficult year for the environment

2025 turns out to be the warmest year on record followed by the previous ten years. At the same time the Trump administration has removed the term "climate change" from federal agency websites and declared it to be a "hoax".

The gently progressive environmental policies of President Biden, culminating in the sweeping Inflation Reduction Act of 2023 incorporated a huge array of provisions designed to improve the environment. Since returning to office, President Trump has produced a whirlwind of policy changes and actions, bold and far-reaching in environmental matters. What follows are just a few of those changes.

On his first day in office, President Trump removed the United States from the 2016 Paris Agreement, the accord signed by nearly 200 nations to move forcefully to arrest climate change. Last Wednesday at the U.N., Trump went further and withdrew the U.S. from the 1992 climate treaty which was a pact between all nations to keep global temperatures at safe levels.

Earlier this year when more than 100 nations were poised to approve a deal to slash pollution from cargo ships, the Trump administration

OCCASIONAL OBSERVER  
Mac Gordon

launched a successful pressure campaign to halt it.

In November, the US boycotted the United Nations COP Conference for the first time in thirty years thereby leaving it leaderless and ineffective.

The Trump administration also sided with Russia, Saudi Arabia and Iran to block part of a U.N. report about the state of the planet because it called for phasing out fossil fuels and the use of plastics.

Trump's dislike of clean energy became clear soon after his inauguration when he signed an executive order banning both new solar and new wind power installations on federal property. His executive order to stop work on five large off shore wind farms along the Atlantic coast, two of which were nearly complete and would power close to two million homes puts the wind energy industry in dire financial straits imperilling investments and more than 10,000 jobs.

While the Biden administration was beginning to put

significant federal money into rebuilding rail service, Trump has been opposed and pulled support from a number of major rail projects already approved including the North River project featuring a new desperately needed rail tunnel under the Hudson River to help facilitate improved rail traffic along the entire east coast.

On December 16, the Trump administration announced plans to dismantle the leading US atmospheric science center. Constructed in 1960 and housed in an I. M. Pei designed structure in Boulder, Colorado, the National Center for Atmospheric Research had become world famous for its research activities.

Russell Vought, the head of the Office of Management and Budget (and previously the main author of the Federalist Society's Project 2025) had condemned the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) calling it "one of the largest sources of climate alarmism in the country." A wide range of federal officials and scientists, not just from NCAR, have lobbied to save the Center and keep it intact.

No cabinet department has been as involved in undoing the efforts of previous administrations in protecting the environment as the Envi-

ronmental Protection Agency. During the past year dozens of rules and regulations regarding air and water pollution have been dropped or eased. Promised new controls over "forever chemicals" (PFAS) have been postponed or dropped. Fossil fuel exhaust controls have been severely weakened.

Subsidies for solar collectors and electric vehicles have been drastically cut. At the same time, the administration has actively promoted fossil fuel including massive sales of oil and gas abroad and issuing enormous leases on land and sea for oil and gas drilling. The Trump administration's recent seizure of the Venezuelan petroleum reserves leaves the U.S. with the largest reserve of what turns out to be probably the world's dirtiest, most polluting oil. At the same time they spent significant sums to recondition coal burning power plants otherwise at the edge of retirement.

Is there anything we can do to improve this troubling situation we are finding ourselves in? Perhaps the most significant action individuals can take would be to become better informed about environmental issues and vote accordingly.

Architect and landscape designer Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville.

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

January 17, 1935  
Town Has \$198.32 At End Of Year

The Town of North East received a total of \$6,899.16 and spent \$6,700.84 in the year just ended, leaving an unexpended balance of \$198.32 in the treasury as of December 31, 1934, according to the annual report of Supervisor Frank L. Minor.

Fifteen-Year-Old Girl Prepares Lunches For 200 At Roeliff Jansen Central School

To prepare luncheon for two hundred people, including students and members of the faculty, was the assignment given to a fifteen-year-old girl the day Roeliff Jansen Central School in the Town of Copake reopened after the holiday recess. The girl was Miss Shirley Knickerbocker.

Miss Joyce House, head of the [text unreadable] who ordinarily supervises operation of the cafeteria was unable to return on the opening day of school because of inclement weather, and the when the situation became known to principal Dana Roblee a plan was devised to provide lunches for those who rely on the cafeteria.

This meant the purchasing of supplies and actual preparation of sandwiches, cocos, milk

FROM THE ARCHIVES  
The Millerton News

and broth, all of which were on the menu for that particular day.

Shirley planned the menu, estimated the amount of food required, put in the order and received the supplies from a local store. In addition, she did a major share of the actual preparation of the food, and the whole program was carried out so smoothly and many were unaware that the meal had not been prepared under the supervision of Miss House.

January 8 1976  
Environmental Quality Law To Be Discussed

The controversial State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) will be discussed at an open meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 6, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center in Millbrook.

The new law requires the preparation of an environmental impact statement on any local government decision which will significantly effect [sic] the environment. It has been approved by the New York State Legislature and will take effect in June 1976.

Athlete of the Week:  
Robert Runge

"Reliable" Robert Runge has



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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Town surplus, SEQR, Bob Runge, library tech

definitely lived up to his nickname thus far this season. The senior captain of the Webutuck Warrior basketball squad has led his team in every one of the 4 games they've played with the qualities that really count on the court: good defense, hustle, high-percentage shooting, and strong rebounding.

Bob is the son of the Rev. Robert and Alice Runge and lives in Smithfield with his family. The ever-smiling, ever-relaxed Runge said he hopes to play a lot of hoop when he gets on the college scene.

January 11, 2001  
Town Now Has Powerful Ally: State Attorney General Joins North East Landfill Suit

NORTH EAST — Because of unsuccessful attempts at a voluntary agreement, the town of North East will continue with its federal lawsuit concerning the old town landfill.

But now the town has the support of the office of New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer (AG), which has recently joined the suit on behalf of the town, according to Town Supervisor Dave Sherman.

As Trucks Roll on Sidewalk, Officials Are Concerned About Key Intersection

MILLERTON- The issue of school safety generally conjures up images of students with weapons or kids dealing drugs in the boys' room.

But a village intersection has caught the eye of local officials who fear that children who are coming and going from Millerton Elementary School might be hit by a truck.

"It's a real safety issue," said Beverly Gordon, who sits on the village board of trustees.

"The state really messed up when they engineered this project."

At issue is the tight intersection of routes 22 and 44 and the many semi-tractor trailer trucks that negotiate it every day. Trucks headed west on Route 44 (Main Street) have a difficult time turning left onto Route 22 south.

NE Library Gets Tech Upgrade

Thanks to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the North East-Millerton Library has installed four Gateway computers, a contact server and a laser printer for residents to utilize.

Originally, the Gates Foundation only offered the town of North East a discount on the purchase of these computers. According to the foundation's calculations, the library was not eligible for the grant because it did not fall within the targeted economic circle. However, Library Director Margaret Quick wrote a two-page appeal, highlighting the fact that the inclusion of areas of Connecticut in the figures created a skewed perception of income levels.

After one month, Ms. Quick was pleased to find that the foundation had considered her appeal and would be willing to provide the grant for her library.

Letters to the editor deadline is 10 a.m. Monday for that week's publication. No more than 500 words. Send to editor@millertonnews.com. Include town and phone number for confirmation.

**THE MILLERTON NEWS**  
(USPS 384600)  
*An Independent New York Newspaper*  
Official Newspaper of the Village of Millerton, Town of North East, Town of Washington, Town of Amenia, Town of Pine Plains, North East (Webutuck) Central School District and Millbrook Central School District  
Published Weekly by LJMN Media, Inc.  
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; Dan Dwyer, Chair  
P.O. Box 625, Millerton, NY 12546  
(860) 435-9873 ext. 608 • millertonnews.com • editor@millertonnews.com

**Volume 94, Number 51**

**Thursday, January 15, 2026**

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**The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News**  
Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, and to foster the free flow of information and opinion.

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**Subscription Rates - One Year:**  
\$120.00 in Dutchess and Columbia Counties, \$147.00 Outside Counties  
Known Office of Publication: Lakeville, CT 06039-1688. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Millerton, NY 12546. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to LJMN Media, Inc., PO Box 1688, Lakeville, Connecticut 06039-1688.



ZONING *Continued from Page A1*

for their work and volunteer efforts. Some brought up targeted concerns while others made recommendations.

North East resident Tyler Graham – founder of the newly formed Save Millerton group, which has publicly challenged the zoning revision process and specifically the town board – was more critical.

**Review of the process**

Prior to opening the public hearing, Town Supervisor Chris Kennan summarized the steps that were taken to update the zoning code. He noted the process began with the Town and Village Comprehensive Plan — adopted on Nov. 14, 2019 — which recommended hiring a consultant and attorney to draft updates to zoning and subdivision laws.

A significant undertaking, the board broke the process into two parts. The objective of the first phase was to focus primarily on the commercial districts in the town. Kennan said some aspects of the residential zones, as well as the land conservation zone, were included. The Zoning Review

Commission presented its work on Nov. 14, 2024, and the town board completed its review on Nov. 4, 2025.

**Support and recommendations**

Rich Stalzer, chair of the town’s Conservation Advisory Council, said he viewed the zoning review process as “open and inclusive,” while raising several technical concerns. He asked the town to clarify zoning document provisions related to backup generators and noise impacts, strengthen pedestrian safety requirements for off-site parking and address ambiguities around accessory dwelling units on properties owned by trusts or LLCs. Stalzer also recommended aligning school use requirements across residential zoning districts.

Kathy Chow, a North East resident and chair of the Millerton Climate Smart Task Force, focused her remarks on agriculture and economic development. She said current permitted uses limit farming opportunities and called for greater flexibility to allow market gardens, greenhouses, community gardens and a broader range of farm animals. Chow also urged the town to encourage artisan workshops and food-based businesses in the Irondale area, suggesting it could become a hub for small industry and capture Route 22 traffic.

Other supporters spoke in favor of specific policies that would increase housing opportunities or relax setback requirements and of the nature of the work in general.

Kevin Webb of Skunk’s Misery Road expressed general support for the draft, saying “the spirit of the work seemed good and seems like the product of a lot of hard work.”

“I don’t want to make perfect the enemy of good,” Webb said. “This can’t be a perfect product, but I support it.”

**Criticism of the process**

Ed Covert, a resident of Cooper Road, thanked the ZRC “for their hard work,” and efforts to improve the town. He added, “It’s just a shame that it had to be handed over to the town [board], who added things that the ZRC didn’t even address.”

Covert criticized what he described as a lack of zoning enforcement on Cooper Road, citing years of tension with a neighbor who he said constructed an illegal dwell-



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

**Kathy Chow, pictured here standing, addresses the room during public comment on the proposed overhaul of North East’s zoning code on Thursday, Jan. 8.**

ing and a lack of response to multiple complaints filed by residents. “Fix problems before you change things,” Covert said.

Tyler Graham, founder of Save Millerton, used his allotted time to question the process, including the timing of the draft’s release over the holidays and classification of the rewrite as primarily commercial when, he argued, it would also impact residential zoning. He also criticized the lack of a reader-friendly summary explaining what changes were made and why.

**Next steps**

The town board will continue to accept written comments in advance of the Feb. 3 continuation of the public hearing, all of which will become part of the official record. Copies of the draft zoning code remain available at Town Hall, on the town’s website and at the NorthEast-

Millerton Library.

The board and Dutchess County Planning officials will review written submissions and feedback provided during the hearing as they consider potential revisions to the draft. The town board will also complete a State Environmental Quality Review to assess any significant adverse impacts before closing the public hearing and adopting amendments with the New York Secretary of State.

Once approved, a committee will be appointed to dive into phase two, an overhaul of the residential zoning code.

**Other business**

Following the public hearing, the board resumed its regular monthly meeting and routine business. Members voted to sign an agreement with the Town of Pine Plains, designating its facility as North East’s official dog shelter.

## Re-zoning in summary

At the public hearing, Town Board members distributed a document containing the following summary of the zoning overhaul’s significant changes:

- Creating purpose statements to align with the 2019 comprehensive plan
- Consolidating the boulevard districts and overhauling the permitted uses, as well as the lot area and bulk standards for this important area within the town.
- Permitting housing in the boulevard districts in addition to commercial/retail/service uses.
- Expanding and updating definitions in our code (primarily those relating to the commercial districts but including some others that needed to be updated.)
- Revising, updating and expanding the types of uses permitted in the commercial districts
  - Revising and updating both general and supplemental use standards
  - Putting the Uses and Bulk Standards for the entire town (For all districts, residential and non-residential) into chart form thereby making the code much more accessible to users.
  - Improving and updating design standards and site plan expectations for off-street parking, signage, landscaping and exterior lighting
  - Providing an off-street parking and load-in schedule (now in chart form) to provide standards that will help avoid excessive parking spaces and impervious pavement.
  - Changing current procedures to clarify and streamline our land use approval process, while also updating them to reconcile with current New York Town Law standards.

WASTEWATER *Continued from Page A1*

to hear the presentation.

“I have to take my hat off to everyone working on this,” said North East Supervisor Chris Kennan, noting that the work on the project, particularly related to financing, has been complicated. “Tracking every dollar — where it’s allocated, where it goes and who’s responsible — requires an extraordinary level of detail. We’re very grateful for the work that’s being done.”

After the presentation, the board postponed the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process for renovations at Veterans Park. Required by the state, the SEQR process examines potential environmental, social or economic impacts of the renovations, and the board will first seek comments from the Dutchess County Planning Department before beginning the review.

The renovations to Veterans Park are being funded by a Community Development Block Grant awarded in 2024. Village officials previously secured an extension on the grant and the construction is expected to wrap up by Memorial Day. Mayor Jenn Najdek said she doesn’t expect the delay to significantly affect the construction timeline.

Trustees also postponed discussion of a local law to formally establish a village tree committee, a group that has been in development for several months. The board will meet with legal counsel to review a proposed committee description before bringing the matter back for discussion and scheduling a public hearing.

The village also approved the resignation of Deputy Clerk Emerald Havelin, who will step down from her role effective Jan. 29 to spend more time with family. Joshua Schultz, a member of the Planning Board, also resigned, effective Jan. 12. His term was scheduled through the end of 2029. The board voted to replace Schultz permanently with alternate Planning Board member Ata Secilmis.

FOXTROT FARM *Continued from Page A1*

vibe of a bouquet,” she said.

In addition to flowers, Farrar grows select fruits and vegetables, like raspberries and kale. Each year, she adds more native plants to support her regenerative, pesticide-free farming model. Because she doesn’t use pesticides, Farrar relies on the robust ecosystem of insects, birds, and native predators attracted by those plantings. While soil health is the foundation of her regenerative model, she said creating a diverse ecosystem is just as important.

“I think regenerative farming is not only amending the soil for your crops, but improving the quality of the soil,” Farrar said. “And beyond that, it’s about creating an ecosystem where things can thrive.”

Each season, Foxtrot offers its products through several business models. Flowers are available wholesale to florists and other businesses, arrangements are available for weddings and special events, and a pick-your-own membership is available for local residents. Farrar also offers community supported agriculture — commonly known as a CSA — for customers seeking a steady



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Foxtrot Farms founder Kate Farrar said she initially focused on flower farming because of its high returns.**

supply of locally grown blooms. In this model, customers can pay in a seasonal lump sum, installments, or even on a sliding scale.

**A science and art**

Farrar said she initially focused on flowers because it offered the highest return per square foot, but she stayed with flowers because she loves it. While the farm is her livelihood, she views Foxtrot as not just a business and a science, but an art.

“I get to be playful with the work, and it’s a straightforward way to tie art into agriculture,” Farrar said, reflecting on her dual English and photography major at a liberal arts college. Her senior thesis involved photographing people in agriculture. “I hadn’t gotten my hands dirty yet, but I was already drawn to it,” Farrar said.

**From grief to growth**

Farrar’s mother died when she was a senior in college, and she found herself navigating intense grief at a pivotal moment in her young adult life. A friend brought her to a farm to get her connected with the land and, for Farrar, it was a light-bulb moment.

“It reminded me that there

was a spaciousness beyond deadlines and tests,” she said. Farrar described that experience as cathartic. “That was the moment I realized I didn’t just want to observe the land through photography, I wanted to work with it.”

Today, as Foxtrot enters a new growing season, Farrar is excited to be expanding. After operating largely as a one-woman farm with some part-time seasonal help, she is looking forward to hiring a full-time employee for the fifth growing season.

**Winter craft event on Jan. 18**

Foxtrot Farm will host a winter craft event on Saturday, Jan. 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Vitsky Bakery in Wassauc. Farrar said she chose to host the crafting event as a way to stay relevant and connected with the community during the winter months.

Attendees will be able to enjoy conversation and add some color to the cold, winter months through the floral dreamscape collaging event. Farrar will also share more information about Foxtrot’s CSA. The event is free and open to the public.

AN ART CONTEST AND EXHIBIT  
AT INDIAN MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

# Connection

**SUBMISSIONS:**  
Due by February 13, 2026  
artshow@indianmountain.org  
860.435.0871 x 185

**RECEPTION:**  
Friday, April 3, 2026, 6:00-8:00 PM  
IMS Student Center  
211 Indian Mountain Rd., Lakeville, CT

www.indianmountain.org/home/events


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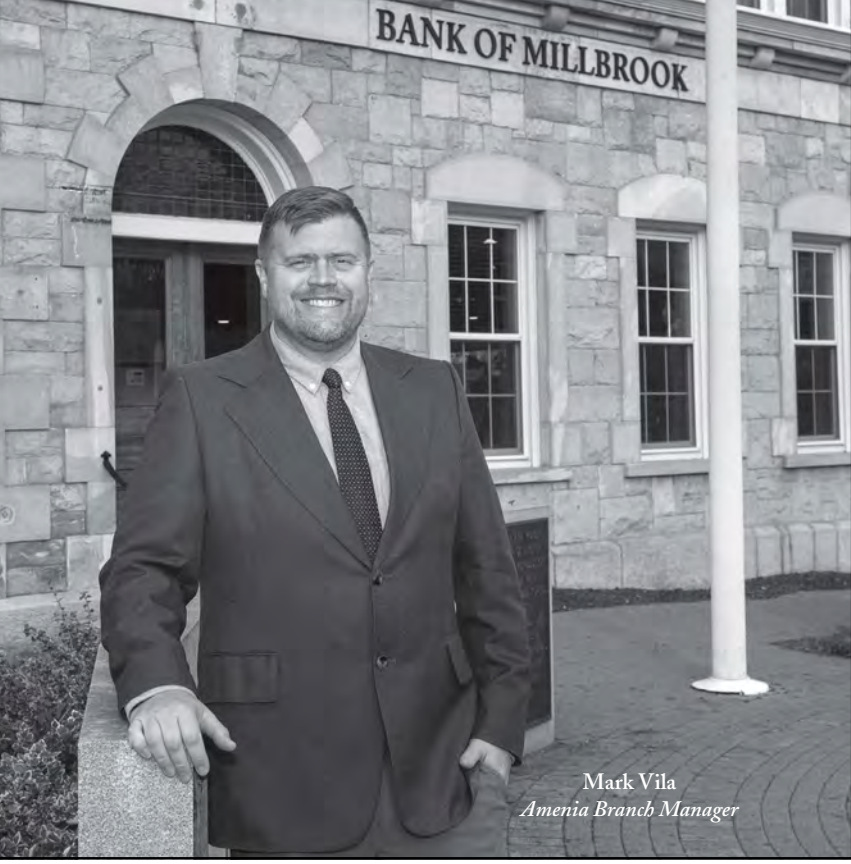
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FILM: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

# Schlock and awful: Rothrock

While back, the Bad Cinema desk was investigating two movies, “Martial Law” and the imaginatively-titled “Martial Law II: Undercover,” both starring a shortish, incredibly fit and rather cheerful-looking woman: Cynthia Rothrock.

Looking into it a bit more, we found that Rothrock has over 80 movie credits and has been a martial arts superstar for decades. So why isn’t she a household name?

Because she’s not named Bruce Lee or Jackie Chan.

It’s an outrage, and we’re gonna do something about it.

In “Martial Law” (1990), Rothrock and Chad McQueen (Steve’s son) are cops and David Carradine is the evil kung fu-practicing international car thief. We’re talking fun with pizza, the most annoying snitch in cinema history, and a compelling visual discourse on the inadvisability of stealing cars at night from a well-lit dealership located on a busy highway. No gratuitous nekkidity, which really isn’t a problem here, as nobody wants to see any of these people nekkid.

Chad is replaced by Jeff Wincott for the sequel, “Martial Law II: Undercover” (1991). This is much rougher stuff, not least because it has a “sex scene” involving Billy Drago. A kung fu villain runs an expanding underworld empire from the kind of bar you can’t get into without a double-breasted suit and a ponytail. There are large, grunting lackeys, a bit of gratuitous nekkidity, and Rothrock delivering swift justice while clad head to toe in teal.



PHOTOS PROVIDED  
**Cynthia Rothrock and Steve McQueen's son saunter purposefully in "Martial Law."**

“Yes, Madam” (1985) is Rothrock’s debut, as Carrie Morris, a Scotland Yard inspector in Hong Kong to help Inspector Ng (Michelle Yeoh) do something about a piece of errant microfilm. There is an exceptionally unconvincing dubbing of a British accent for Rothrock, who strongly resembles American Olympian Mary Lou Retton — except Retton didn’t do kung fu. The movie makes no sense, which is OK because it’s short. Plus, Rothrock delivers her trademark scorpion kick to some hapless goon’s forehead, which is worth the price of admission.

“City Cops” (1989): Here our heroine is FBI agent “Inspector Cindy,” who comes to Hong Kong to fight crime in warehouses, alleys, office buildings and airports. Featuring the spectacular Receptionist’s Desk Roll. We also get a comical cop

duo, a martinet police superintendent, and an extended opening riff on gender that would be impossible to make today.

“Undefeatable” (1993) was directed by Godfrey Ho, the Jess Franco of the East, and despite Ho’s Hacko di Tutti Hacki status, this movie actually has a story and makes sense. Rothrock plays Kristi, who participates in illegal fights to earn enough money to get her sister through med school. Meanwhile, Anna dumps her psycho husband, Stingray, who fights on the same underground circuit as Kristi — but he’s a lunatic and has a mullet.

Anyhoo, there is a lot of plot involving a couple of cops and Kristi’s dorky gang, and none of it matters because at the end Kristi and the cop subdue Stingray in extremely gory, horrible and entertaining fashion. And then everybody goes to college.



**Rothrock and Michelle Yeoh in "Yes, Madam," featuring the scorpion kick.**



**Rothrock fights crime after rolling around a receptionist's desk in "City Cops."**

“Black Creek” (2025): Rothrock produced, co-wrote and starred in this crowdfunded Western, in which she plays a tough woman who rides into town to find her family has been destroyed by the local bad guy, played by

the late Richard Norton. You could make a 15-minute reel of Rothrock and Norton kicking each other over the years, so this is a fitting coda. (Norton died in March 2025.) It seems Rothrock spent most of the bud-

get on sets, lighting and costumes, figuring the writing would only get in the way of the story. So it’s heavy on the fighting, and anyone who thinks kung fu and Westerns don’t mix deserves a scorpion kick to the noggin.

## ...‘Soul on Fire’ *Continued from previous page*

battle but won the war,” Rudavsky said. “Because how he spoke up was much more lasting than whatever Reagan did.” He adds that what mattered most was the tone: “It was a civil dialogue. A gentle dialogue.”

Moderating the post-screening discussion will be Ileene Smith, editor at large for Farrar, Straus and Giroux and editorial director of Jewish Lives, the prize-winning biography series published by Yale University Press. Smith worked closely with both Elie and Marion Wiesel on many books, including the new translation of “Night.” In 1986, she accompanied the Wiesels to Oslo when Elie received the Nobel Peace Prize. Her husband, Howard Sobel, served for many years on the board

of the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity.

Wiesel believed that memory was not passive; it was a moral act. Asked about the moral obligation to bear witness, Rudavsky said, “It’s an endless moral obligation. And we all take on what we can, which is always too little.”

And what would Rudavsky ask Wiesel now if he were still here to bear witness?

“People ask, post-Oct. 7, what would Elie have said? And I can’t speak for him but I know he would have spoken up from where he comes from. Some would have disagreed with him. But in the U.S. today, when immigrants are being shipped off to places unknown, when people trying to defend them are facing violence, even

death, we all need to try to do whatever little bit there is to do.”

Even within disagreement, Wiesel believed in dialogue. Rudavsky, speaking about his relationship with Wiesel’s son, Elisha, said: “We have different political perspectives, but we’re united in saying we’ll keep talking, we’ll keep working together. It’s such a divisive time where people don’t talk to each other — they yell at each other and kill each other. That’s something Elie Wiesel certainly would have spoken up about.”

Because for Wiesel, bearing witness was not only about preserving the past. It was about refusing indifference in the present.

For tickets, visit: themoviehouse.net

**We here at Robin Hood Radio are on-air and on-line keeping you informed and updated 24 hours a day on the following stations of the Robin Hood Radio Network.**

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**WLHV FM 88.1**  
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**WBSL FM 91.7**  
Serving North Canaan, CT, Sheffield and South County, MA



ART: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

# From the tide pool to the stars: Peter Gerakaris’ ‘Oculus Serenade’

Opening Jan. 17 at the Cornwall Library, Peter Gerakaris’ show “Oculus Serenade” takes its cue from a favorite John Steinbeck line of the artist’s: “It is advisable to look from the tide pool to the stars and then back to the tide pool again.” That oscillation between the intimate and the infinite animates Gerakaris’ vivid tondo (round) paintings, works on paper and mosaic forms, each a kind of luminous portal into the interconnectedness of life.

Gerakaris describes his compositions as “merging microscopic and macroscopic perspectives” by layering endangered botanicals, exotic birds, aquatic life and topographical forms into kaleidoscopic, reverberating worlds. Drawing on his firsthand experiences trekking through semitropical jungles, diving coral reefs and hiking along the Housatonic, Gerakaris composes images that



PHOTO PROVIDED

Artist Peter Gerakaris in his studio in Cornwall.

feel both transportive and deeply rooted in observation. A musician as well as a visual artist, he describes his use of color as vibrational — each work humming with what curator Simon Watson has likened to “visual jazz.” At the heart of the exhibition is a four-foot-diameter hand-painted “Orchid Oculus Tondo,” surrounded by four hand-embellished prints

and a shimmering cut-glass mosaic. The central painting conjures a dreamlike cosmos where endangered St. Lucian parrots glide through oversized tropical orchids and foliage. Built through a “call-and-response process” that allows drips, spills and chance encounters to remain visible, the work is alive with motion and improvisation. In the depths of winter, “Oculus

Serenade” offers a kind of visual warmth, a reminder of the beauty, fragility and music of the natural world. “Oculus Serenade: Artwork by Peter D. Gerakaris” runs Jan. 17 through Feb. 28 at the Cornwall Library. An artist’s reception will be held Saturday, Jan. 17, from 4 to 6 p.m. Registration is requested at [cornwalllibrary.org/events/](http://cornwalllibrary.org/events/).



‘Orchid Oculus Tondo’  
by Peter Gerakaris

## ...Marietta Whittlesey

Continued from page B1

attend right now,” she laughed. She studied psychology as an undergraduate at New York University, where she worked in the lab of Dr. Jay Weiss, a MacArthur Fellowship recipient at Rockefeller University and later at the New York State Psychiatric Institute. After moving to Salisbury, Whittlesey joined the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance as an EMT and found work writing radio and television spots at the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington. That led to a 30-year freelance career writing continuing medical education programs for physicians, often ghostwriting first drafts of journal articles. “I learned a lot of medicine that way and learned how to speak and write like a doctor, which is essential.” At the same time, she continued to write and co-author nonfiction books. “But after a couple of decades, the 80-hour workweeks and the insane pressure got to me.” She enrolled in a master’s program in psychology at Capella University, one of the first accredited online universities. “This worked perfectly for me because I could continue to earn a living as a writer during the day.” After graduating with a Master of Science in clinical psychology, she

decided not to pursue a doctorate. “I am a good autodidact, and I decided I’d rather learn clinical techniques like EMDR and hypnotherapy than do another round of stats and write a dissertation.” EMDR, or Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing, is a form of psychotherapy most commonly used to help people process and heal from trauma and other distressing life experiences. After completing a 3,000-hour internship at the former Community Mental Health Affiliates in Lakeville, she opened a private practice in Lakeville. She now works from an office near Sharon Hospital, where she has a general psychotherapy practice. She has a particular interest in treating disorders of appearance, ranging from body dysmorphic disorder to alopecia areata and severe scarring. Whittlesey is certified by the EMDR International Association in eye movement desensitization and reprocessing. The therapy follows a specific protocol using bilateral stimulation — through eye movements, pulsars or audio — to help process traumatic memories associated with PTSD. “So many people have never heard of EMDR, yet it is such a powerful clinical tool — not just



PHOTO BY ELENA SPELLMAN

Marietta Whittlesey

for treating trauma, for which it was originally employed, but now with protocols for eating disorders, phobias, anxiety and many other issues. It is considered one of the top evidence-based

treatments for trauma by the World Health Organization, the American Psychiatric Association and the Department of Veterans Affairs.” Whittlesey treats many clients with chron-

ic pain, often stemming from medically unexplained symptoms. Unlike traditional talk therapy — which has an important place, she said — EMDR can sometimes help patients feel significantly better even after a single session. Rarely are more than six to 10 sessions needed to process traumas such as car accidents, violence or childhood neglect that can lead to a diagnosis of complex PTSD. “Clinical hypnosis is also very helpful in treating chronic pain, as well as anxiety and addictions. I like to teach people self-hypnosis to use on their own. It has been an extremely useful tool for me throughout my life as a writer with deadlines and as a rider facing a jump course.” Whittlesey has also launched a performance

coaching business, Partners in Performance, where she helps clients overcome performance anxiety. Recent clients have included a golfer with “the yips,” a rider recovering from a bad fall, a teacher accepting an award and a woman studying for a dental hygienist exam. Asked about future plans, Whittlesey’s eyes lit up as she described upcoming training in Deep Brain Reorienting, a new treatment with some similarities to EMDR. Whittlesey has a profile on Psychology Today and can be reached at 860-397-5296 or [mwlp-cllc@gmail.com](mailto:mwlp-cllc@gmail.com). Elena Spellman is a recent Northwest Corner transplant. She is a Russian native and grew up in the Midwest. In addition to writing, she teaches ESL and Russian.

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NOV 4, 2025 - JAN 25, 2026

Reception: Sat, Nov 15, 4 – 6 p.m.

11 Interlaken Road, Lakeville, CT

[www.hotchkiss.org/arts](http://www.hotchkiss.org/arts)

HOUSATONIC  
CAMERA CLUB

2026 EXHIBIT  
JAN 16-FEB 15

HCC is a group who collectively share their love of photography and want to share it with you. Attend our opening night on January 16 from 4-6 in the Learning Center and get acquainted with these local image-makers. Exhibit will stay open for viewing on weekends 11-4 until Feb 15.

17 Cobble Rd.  
Salisbury, CT 06068  
860-435-9851  
[noblehorizons.org](http://noblehorizons.org)



# COMPASS

## TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

### JANUARY 15

#### Monotype Printing Workshop

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

2 to 4 p.m.

The David M. Hunt Library will host a Monotype Printing Workshop with Gail O'Donnell & Rika Laser.

Participants will experiment with a variety of materials and printmaking techniques to create unique prints on paper by hand and using a small etching press. All levels welcome! This workshop is limited to 10 participants. Please register here: forms.gle/VFEqa4fjWrf9EJb36

#### Genre Fiction Book Club

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

Come join us on Thursday, Jan. 15, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., if you enjoy reading and discussing fantasy / romantasy / romance / mystery / thrillers / YA / sci-fi. This new book club offers a chance to enjoy conversations, snacks, and book recommendations. This month's book is HEARTWOOD by Amity Gaige. Registration is appreciated. Learn more at www.scovillelibrary.org/event/genre-fiction-book-club-384

### JANUARY 16

#### Opening Reception for the Salisbury Association Exhibit SWSA's First 100 Years

Academy Building, Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

Exhibit hours Tuesdays-Saturdays (Jan. 17- Feb 5) 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with extended hours during Jumpfest posted on Salisburyassociation.org.

#### Poetry Workshop with Sally Van Doren

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

Write poetry with us on Friday, Jan. 16, 2 to 4 p.m. Sally Van Doren's workshop is an immersive experience of writing, reading, and listening. An inspiring poem and well-chosen prompts set the stage to unlock the imagination and generate unexpected new work. No previous poetry-writing experience is required. Registration is required. Please use this link: www.scovillelibrary.org/event/poetry-workshop-sally-van-doren-385

### JANUARY 17

#### Saturday Story Hour

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

Join Miss Anna for stories about hibernation, a fun craft and a snack at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 17. All ages welcome.

#### Free Chocolate Tasting

Tricorner FEED Market, 56 S. Center St., Millerton, N.Y.

Come and try a FREE tasting of Millerton's own Mudgetown Chocolate at 1 p.m. at TriCorner FEED Market. Featuring new varieties of origin craft chocolate.

#### Oculus Serenade

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

An exhibition of tondo paintings, works on paper and mosaic art by Peter D. Gerakaris, opens at the Cornwall Library with an artist reception from 4 to 6 p.m. Registration for the reception is requested at cornwalllibrary.org/events.

#### Things that Go Bump in the Night

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

The David M. Hunt Library will host Ginny Apple on Saturday, Jan. 17 at 1 p.m. for "Things that Go Bump in the Night". When the sun sets and night is upon us, all sorts of critters emerge from their hiding places and begin to forage, hunt—even play! This program is free and open to the public.

#### Lakeville Journal Executive Editor Christian Murray in Conversation with Publisher James Clark

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

Join Christian Murray and James Clark for a dialogue about local journalism and coverage of our community's news and issues. Ask questions, suggest stories, and stay on for refreshments and a chance to meet and greet after the program. Sunday, Jan. 17, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Registration is required. Please use this link www.scovillelibrary.org/event/meet-new-lakeville-journal-executive-editor-christian-murray-411

### JANUARY 18

#### Meet the Director: Elie Wiesel: Soul on Fire

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

1 p.m.

A screening of Elie Wiesel: Soul on Fire followed by a post-screening discussion and Q&A with director Oren Rudavsky, in conversation with Ileene Smith.

Drawing from Wiesel's landmark 1958 memoir Night, the documentary explores his profound philosophical inner life and the lasting impact of his work on how the Holocaust has been written about. Tickets: http://r3jf2.vu/1

#### Dine Out for History

Various locations

Jan. 18 to March 23, 2026

Seven Millerton restaurants will host Dine Out for History evenings benefiting the North East Historical Society, with 10% of proceeds donated on designated nights. Participating restaurants include The Millerton Inn (Jan. 18), Taro's (Jan. 29), Willa (Feb. 12), Oakhurst Diner (Feb. 22), Pasture Kitchen (March 5), Golden Wok (March 15, takeout only) and Round III (March 23). Diners are encouraged to mention Dine Out for History when ordering.

### JANUARY 22

#### Ski Jumping in the Northeast with Author Ariel Picton Kobayashi

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

At 6 p.m., the David M. Hunt Library will host a virtual program with Ariel Picton Kobayashi author of "Ski Jumping in the Northeast: Small Towns and Big Dreams." Join author and coach Ariel Picton Kobayashi as she examines ski jumping's fascinating identity as both a small-town tradition and thrilling sport. Register for the program here: http://r3jf2.vu/2

#### Owls of the Hudson Valley

Online.

With more than 400 acres of varied habitat, Innisfree in Millbrook provides refuge for an impressive diversity of wildlife, including as many as five species of owls that may visit, hunt, roost, or nest on the property throughout the year.

From 1 to 2:30 p.m., join local scientist, natural historian, and writer-photographer Dr. Loren Merrill for a fascinating exploration of the owls that call the Hudson Valley home and learn about the remarkable adaptations that make these mysterious

Last week's WotW

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nighttime hunters so captivating. Online only. Register: www.innisfreegarden.org/events/owls-2026

#### Genealogy Workshop: Trace Salisbury's Roots to the Revolution

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

Thursdays, Jan. 22 & 29

On two Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., learn the basics of genealogy in

this fun, two-part, hands-on, exploratory workshop with genealogist Jane Sellery. Use online ancestry tools and accessible public information to uncover past lives and create a profile for a real Salisbury resident who lived during the Revolutionary War era.

Registration is required. Please use this link:

www.scovillelibrary.org/event/genealogy-workshop-trace-salisburys-roots-revolution-403

### JANUARY 23

#### Black Comedy

Ghent Playhouse, 6 Town Hall Place, Ghent, N.Y.

Jan. 23 to 25 and Jan. 30 to Feb. 1

The Ghent Playhouse opens the new year with Peter Shaffer's fast-paced farce "Black Comedy," directed by Ed Dignum

("Lend Me a Tenor"). Set in swinging 1960s London, the play follows a young sculptor whose scheme to impress a collector and future in-laws unravels during a sudden blackout, triggering a night of slapstick chaos.

Times: Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m.

Tickets: GhentPlayhouse.org

#### Lunch and Learn

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

Lunch and Learn at Hotchkiss Library of Sharon returns from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23, with "Winter Wellness with Dr. Elizabeth Wing, ND." Learn naturopathic strategies to boost your immunity and stay well in the season of colds and flu. Registration is required hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com.

#### Happy Hour Piano Series: Christopher Casey

American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn.

5 to 7 p.m., \$8

Jazz pianist and composer Christopher Casey performs as part of AMP's Happy Hour Piano Series, featuring live music and libations in a distinctive art space. Tickets may be reserved in advance at americanmuralproject.org/piano-series.

### JANUARY 24

#### Teen Art Workshop: Game On!

American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn.

10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Suggested donation \$10

Artist and educator Gerald Moore leads an interactive workshop using 3D acrylic shapes to build worlds, characters and storylines through collaborative play. Open to teens of all skill levels. Advance registration recommended at americanmuralproject.org/teen-art-workshops.

### JANUARY 25

#### Village Gardeners Book Club

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

The David M. Hunt Library and the Village Gardeners will partner to offer a book club at the library. All meetings will take place on Sunday afternoons at 3:30 p.m. On Jan. 25 the group will be discussing "Seed to Dust" by Marc Hamer. On March 8 the book will be "The Red Garden" by Alice Hoffman. On April 12 the group will discuss "Soil: The Story of A Black Mother's Garden" by Camille Dungy. Books for each discussion will be available to check out at the library. This program is free and open to the public.

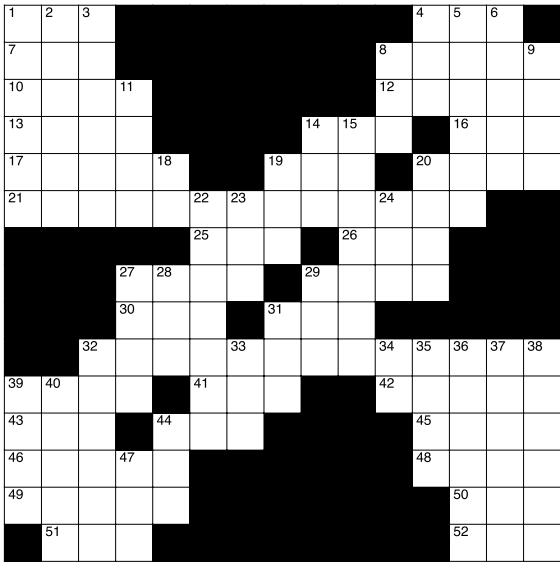
## Brain Teasers

### CLUES ACROSS

- Former CIA
- Language
- Constrictor snake
- Demand
- Rich man
- Short-tailed marten
- Zoroastrian concept of holy fire
- Superconducting super collider
- International group of countries within the Americas
- Sacred state for Muslims
- Shock therapy
- Engrave
- Localities
- Paddle
- Periodical
- Dishonestly gained money
- Gain possession of
- Actor DiCaprio
- High schoolers' test
- Mr. October
- Sign of healing
- One's grandmother
- Entrap
- One who simultaneously buys and sells
- \_\_\_ Francisco
- Web-based data provider of marine life
- Type of snake
- Dark mark or stain
- Member of the Salii
- Former measure of length
- CNN's founder
- Witness

### CLUES DOWN

- Acquire
- Console
- Hunting expedition
- Pie \_\_\_ mode
- Simple shoes for peasants
- Eurasian shrub
- Reciprocal of a sine



- Work together in harmony
- Grenade
- File extension
- Minute pores in a plant
- Medal of Honor
- Make a mistake
- Advance slowly, as if by inches
- Sandwich meat
- An awkward stupid person
- Strong tree
- Commoner
- Electroencephalograph
- \_\_\_ Mahal
- Congressman
- Disorderly crowd
- 007's creator Fleming
- Atomic #55

- Part of a door
- Short-tail martens
- Baltimore ballplayer
- Cuddle
- Gang in "The Outsiders"
- Of Croatia
- Body cavity
- Get free of

### January 8 Solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | E | R | E | S |   | E | M | F |   | S | B | I | C |
| S | L | O | A | N |   | P | R | A | U |   | E | L | B |
| E | D | A | M |   | S | O | N | A | R |   | H | A | S |
| C | A | R | E |   | T | A | K | E | R |   | S | A | B |
| S | O | R | E | S |   | M | E | G |   | N | A |   |   |
| M | E | M |   | G | O | B |   | N | Y | A | L | A |   |
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| M | A | C | A |   | U |   | N | A | K | E | D | N | E |
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| S | E | R | E |   | S | E | E | R |   | O | C | E | A |
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### Sudoku

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 |   |   |   |   |   |   | 3 |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   | 5 |   | 2 |
| 5 |   | 3 |   |   |   | 4 | 7 |   |
|   |   | 7 |   | 5 |   |   |   |   |
| 3 |   |   |   | 7 |   |   | 4 | 8 |
| 2 |   |   | 4 |   |   | 3 |   |   |
|   | 8 | 6 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 4 | 6 | 8 | 2 |   |
|   |   |   |   | 3 |   | 6 |   |   |

Level: Intermediate

### January 8 Solution

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



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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

This three bedroom, 2,722-square-foot Victorian house at 32 Reservoir Drive was built in 1895 and sold for \$610,000.

Washington median sales price up 2.6% year-over-year

By CHRISTINE BATES  
Special to the Millerton News

MILLBROOK — In November, real estate activity in the Town of Washington was concentrated in the Village of Millbrook, which accounted for most of the recorded transfers. The village saw the sale of two condominiums and two single-family homes, while only one home and one parcel of land sold elsewhere in the town.

The 12-month median sales price for single-family homes rose to \$625,000, up from \$609,000 a year earlier — an increase of 2.6%. Despite this gain, prices remain well below the all-time peak of \$900,000 reached in February 2025.

Housing inventory has stabilized in recent months, though homes are taking longer to sell, suggesting the local market may be taking a breather. As of late December, 21 single-family homes

were listed for sale in Washington. Of those, nine were priced above \$1 million, while just two were listed under \$500,000.

- Transactions**
- 4 Carroll Boulevard — 3 bedroom/3.5 bath condo on 1 acre in the Village of Millbrook sold to Gregg Stokes for \$460,000.
  - 53 Bennett Common — 2 bedroom/2 bath condo in the Village of Millbrook was sold to Elizabeth Scott Stewart for \$435,000.
  - 23 Johnson Lane — 3 bedroom/1 bath ranch in the Village of Millbrook was sold to Jeffrey Alan Unemoto for \$475,000.
  - 32 Reservoir Drive — 3 bedroom/1 bath home on .27 acres in the Village of Millbrook sold to Thomas McA-

- leavey for \$610,000.
- 3715-3717 Route 44 — 6 bedroom/3.5 bath remodeled home on 4.06 acres sold to Mabbett's Pond LLC for \$980,000.
- Orchard Hill Drive (#335577) — 12.39 acres of wooded rural residential land sold to Scott Brien for \$1.85 million.
- \*Town of Washington recorded real estate transfers from Nov. 1 to Nov. 30, 2025 sourced from Dutchess County Real Property Office monthly reports. Details on each property from Dutchess Parcel Access. Current listings from One Key MLS. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.

'Dine Out for History' returns with most restaurants since the pandemic

MILLERTON — Diners will once again have the opportunity to support the North East Historical Society this winter while enjoying meals at local restaurants with the return of "Dine Out for History."

Seven restaurants across Millerton and the Town of North East will be participating in this year's event, marking the highest number since the COVID-19 Pandemic shuttered the event from 2020 to 2022.

On select dates from Jan. 18 through March 23, participating restaurants will host their own Dine Out for History night, with 10% of the evening's proceeds donated to the historical society to support research, digitization of its collection and efforts to make historic content more accessible to the public.

"We're very happy to see the significant support we are getting from local restaurants," said Edward Downey, president of the North East Historical Society. "We aim to bring them more business at a tough time of year, and from the feedback we've gotten, their patrons enjoy rallying to support local history."

The series will begin Sunday, Jan. 18, at The Millerton Inn, 53 Main St. An optional brief presentation — a participatory local history quiz — will be held at 5:30 p.m. for those who wish to arrive early. The program includes a complimentary glass of wine, with dinner to follow. Reser-

ervations are requested.

The other participating restaurants include Taro's at 18 Main St. on Thursday, Jan. 29; Willa at 52 Main St. on Thursday, Feb. 12 (reservations requested); the Oakhurst Diner at 19 Main St. on Sunday, Feb. 22; Pasture Kitchen at 130 Route 44, on Thursday, March 5; the Golden Wok at Railroad Plaza, 2 Main St., on Sunday, March 15 (takeout only); and Round III at 5523 Route 22,

on Monday, March 23.

To get a reminder, please sign up for the North East Historical Society newsletter by contacting Ed Downey at eddowney12@gmail.com.

The North East Historical Society is on the second floor of the NorthEast-Millerton Library, 75 Main St., Millerton. Its hours are 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays or by appointment. For more information, contact Ed Downey at eddowney12@gmail.com.

**'Dine Out for History' on these nights:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>The Millerton Inn</b><br>Sunday, Jan. 18, 5 to 9 p.m.<br>53 Main St.<br>518-592-1900<br>Reservations requested | <b>Pasture Kitchen</b><br>Thursday, March 5, 5 to 8 p.m.<br>130 Route 44<br>518-689-4090                   |
| <b>Taro's</b><br>Thursday, Jan. 29, 5 to 9 p.m.<br>18 Main St.<br>518-789-6630                                    | <b>Golden Wok</b><br>Sunday, March 15, 5 to 10 p.m.<br>2 Main St.<br>518-789-9236                          |
| <b>Willa</b><br>Thursday, Feb. 12, 5 to 9 p.m.<br>52 Main St.<br>518-789-0252<br>Reservations requested           | <b>Takeout only</b><br><b>Round III</b><br>Monday, March 23, 5 to 8:30 p.m.<br>5523 NY-22<br>518-592-1240. |
| <b>Oakhurst Diner</b><br>Sunday, Feb. 22, 5 to 8 p.m.<br>19 Main St.<br>518-592-1313                              |  |

INVITATION TO BID:  
Sharon Housing Trust  
Single-Family Residence

160 Silver Lake Shore Rd Sharon, CT 06069

**DESCRIPTION:**  
The Sharon Housing Trust, an organization dedicated to increasing the availability of affordable housing in Sharon, CT, is soliciting bids to construct a new single-family residence at 160 Silver Lake Shore Rd. The scope of work includes:  
• Demolition of an existing cottage  
• Construction of the new building  
• Drilling a well and connecting to existing septic tank  
• Installation of a gravel driveway and parking area  
• Grading the site for drainage

The proposed house is an approximately 1,350 square-foot, 2-story stick-framed structure with truss roof and poured concrete crawl-space foundation. The house site is a pre-existing, nonconforming lot in the RR zone, but building in the existing footprint will be allowed; the lot is located in the Wetlands Upland Review area.

Budget is an important consideration for this project. The attached scope of work describes materials and systems that

**SITE VISITS: January 12-19, 2026**  
**QUESTIONS DUE: January 19, 2026**  
**BID DUE: February 13, 2026**  
**ANTICIPATED START DATE: April 1, 2026**  
**ITB CONTACT: Christine Gray, AIA**  
christine@cgarch.com

have been selected to keep construction straightforward and cost-effective, and to avoid delays during construction.

We are hoping to begin construction by April 1, 2026, with an estimated completion date of December 31, 2026. We are accepting bids that are fixed price, with limited allowance for time and materials. Information on the full scope of work is available. We look forward to reviewing your proposal.

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For a review of the Litchfield County real estate market in 2025, I would recommend visiting [www.williampitt.com/market-watch/](http://www.williampitt.com/market-watch/). There you will find analyses of the last four quarters and how the numbers compare year over year. Basically, '25 was a strong year in closings despite continued low inventory. Values of property across the board increased as interest rates for mortgages have become more favorable. With regards to affordability, we still have a long road ahead to balance out our communities with modestly priced homes. For more information on this issue, please see: [www.jchs.harvard.edu/blog/lower-interest-rates-fail-offset-effects-high-home-prices](http://www.jchs.harvard.edu/blog/lower-interest-rates-fail-offset-effects-high-home-prices).

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