

Rounders camp inducts first woman in club's history

See ROUNDERs, A6

Vitsky Bakery turns local surplus into seasonal pastries

See BAKERY, A6



Ariel Yotive portions dough for baked goods to be sold at Vitsky Bakery in Wassaic. Yotive has been baking since childhood, first helping in her father's Illinois-based Quality Bakery.

ZBA rejects bid to reopen long-running Cooper Road dispute

See ZBA, A6

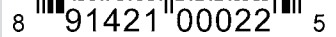


*The Little Flower Bar
opens in Armenia,
offering blooms and gifts*

Owner Kelly Deneen keeps the

Since its soft opening Saturday,

See FLORIST, A6



CONTACT

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OUR TOWNS



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

The North East Community Center’s Early Learning Program shuttered abruptly last December after non-profit leadership announced that significant financial strain required the program’s termination. NECC Executive Director Christine Sergent said the organization remains open to reconsidering childcare in the future.

Dutchess County among three selected for state childcare pilot

By ALY MORRISSEY
alym@millertonnews.com

Dutchess County is one of three counties selected to receive significant state funding as part of a new childcare pilot program announced by Gov. Kathy Hochul last week — an initiative that could expand childcare options in rural communities like Millerton. The announcement follows Hochul’s State of the State address in which she proposed a landmark \$4.5 billion investment toward universal childcare in New York. Hochul visited a childcare center in Queens on Thursday, Jan. 15, to outline her vision for the rollout of the pilot program, which would include a total of \$60 million in state funding, along with additional funding from each of the three counties — Dutchess, Monroe and Broome — with a particular focus on serving newborns to three-year-olds.

“When we invest in our kids, we’re investing not just in their future, but the future of our state,” Hochul said. She called her plan aggressive, bold and ambitious with a focus on access and cost.

While the proposal must still be approved by the State Legislature as part of the 2026 budget process, Dutchess County’s Department of Community and Family Services is expected to work with the state on developing ideas to address Dutchess-specific needs. The state budget is due April 1.

Filling a local gap
The pilot would support community-based programming, a move that could fill the gap left in Millerton by the recent abrupt closure of North East Community Center’s Early Learning Program (ELP).

NECC officially closed the program on Dec. 19, 2025, after determining that the financial burden of operating a daycare had become unsustainable. The decision followed months of quiet internal deliberation and came as a shock to families and staff. NECC leadership cited rising operating costs, declining

enrollment and the loss of grant funding as driving factors in the closure.

Christine Sergent, Executive Director of NECC, said the organization remains open to reconsidering childcare in the future, though no timeline has been announced.

“We are monitoring the governor’s actions as they clearly relate to the needs of the people we serve,” Sergent said. She added that she is hopeful that potential state resources could eventually bring more childcare options back to Millerton and surrounding communities, whether before or after NECC moves to a new facility.

Dutchess County Legislator Chris Drago, D-District-19, said the closure of the ELP has intensified the childcare challenges in the region. Drago, who had been working to raise awareness about the issue even before the pilot program was announced, said cuts to federal funding will be felt in rural Dutchess County.

“Childcare is a must-have,” Drago said. “Families need childcare if they’re going to work, and this is something we need to be fighting for.”

While he said Hochul’s proposal is a step in the right direction, Drago described the funding as a “drop in the bucket.” He hopes to organize a public forum to discuss the issue and better inform state representatives about the urgent childcare needs in northern Dutchess County.

Still, the news signals hope for local parents like Kim Yarnell, whose family was affected by the ELP closure.

“As a parent, I have struggled for years trying to source reliable and affordable care for my kids just so I could go to work,” Yarnell said, adding that she is thrilled about the pilot program.

Yarnell said it will be crucial that those overseeing the pilot rollout involve parent advocates upfront as part of the process to ensure that funding and support are allocated to not just county-run childcare facilities, but also private and in-home care — especially in rural communities like Millerton.

Salisbury prepares for launch of 100th Jumpfest

By MIA BARNES
Special to the Millerton News

SALISBURY, Conn. — Salisbury’s longstanding tradition of ski jumping is reaching new heights this year with the 100th annual Jumpfest, scheduled for Feb. 6–8 at Satre Hill.

The weekend-long celebration opens with a community night on Friday, Feb. 6, followed by youth ski jumping competitions and the Salisbury Invitational on Saturday. The event concludes Sunday with the Eastern U.S. Ski Jumping Championships.

While spectators look skyward to watch the high-flying athletes, Jumpfest will also invite the community to look back on Salisbury’s deep-rooted ski jumping history.

Ski jumping originated in Norway in the 19th century and is a tradition familiar to most Nordic children. That was the case for the five Satre brothers — John, Magnus, Ottar, Sverre and Olaf — who grew up competing in ski jumping and cross-country skiing.

When John Satre moved to Salisbury in 1923 to work as a chauffeur, he brought the tradition with him. The rolling hills and heavy winters of the Northwest Corner resembled those of Norway, allowing John to seamlessly integrate his passion into his new community.

Within a year, his brothers followed him to Salisbury.

In 1926, John Satre captivated roughly 200 spectators by skiing off a snow-covered barn roof.

The brothers soon formed the Salisbury Outing Club — now known as the Salisbury Winter Sports Association (SWSA) — and began construction of a permanent ski jump in the same location it sits today: Satre Hill.

By 1933, the Satre brothers had won numerous championships and helped popularize the sport across the United States. Salisbury hosted the U.S. Olympic Trials in 1932, and the following year hosted the National Championships. Tragically in 1934, at the



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Satre brothers, of Norway, brought ski jumping to Salisbury in the 1920s. Clockwise starting at lower left John, Olaf, Ottar and Magnus Satre pose alongside their large collection of trophies earned for accomplishments as ski jumpers.

age of 40, John Satre was killed in a car accident. The New York Times hailed him as a pioneer in U.S. skiing and his legacy is carried on in the winter sports culture that is nurtured in Salisbury today.

During this time, local children were introduced to the sport, creating makeshift jumps in their backyards out of crates and hay bales. One of these children was Richard Parsons, who became the first Salisbury resident to earn recognition for cross country skills. He earned a spot for the 1932 Lake Placid Winter Olympic Games and in 1936 competed in the Winter Olympics in Garmisch, Germany, where he was the leading American-born cross-country skier.

During World War II, young athletes who would have normally been jumping were enlisted in the service, causing a lull in the sport and deterioration of the jump itself. After the war, however, community members eagerly worked to rebuild the jump, and another Salisbury athlete emerged.

Roy Sherwood was first introduced to ski jumping when his father built him and his brother their own

ski jump in their backyard. Sherwood quickly gained ground, earning himself the title of “hometown hero.” By 1954, Sherwood was offered a spot on the U.S. Olympic Team for the 1956 games in Cortina, Italy.

Sherwood’s path to the Olympics was far from easy. A year before the Games, he was diagnosed with polio, threatening his ability to compete. He recovered enough to travel to Italy, only to hit an icy patch during a practice run.

Sherwood rebounded and competed the next day, placing 36th out of 51 — the second-highest finish by an American — and was later inducted into the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Today, four jumps line Satre Hill — K10, K20, K30, and K65. The 65-meter jump is used for competitions, and the smaller jumps are used to teach local youth during winter camps.

Islay Sheil, a Housatonic Valley Regional High School student and Lakeville resident, is the current SWSA athlete on the rise in ski jumping today. Her passion for the sport emerged during one of the SWSA winter camps, and last March earned gold in the Junior National Championships. The next Junior National Championships will be hosted in Salisbury in 2027.

While Salisbury celebrates the 100th anniversary of its own ski jump this year, the

Olympic Games will be held in Milan and Cortina, Italy, the same place that Sherwood gained global recognition.

To honor the town’s remarkable history and tradition of ski jumping, Jumpfest will begin early with a Winter Warmer on Jan. 31 between 5:30 to 8 p.m. It will be at the home of Salisbury First Selectman Curtis Rand. Small plates and drinks will be served. Limited tickets are available for \$50 and more details can be found at Jumpfest.org/100years/

On Feb. 1, a double feature screening of On the Hill and Downhill Racer will be held at The Moviehouse in Millerton, followed by a panel discussion on winter sports and SWSA’s role in Salisbury’s history. There will also be a raffle and SWSA merchandise for sale.

Tickets for the showing are \$16 and details can be found at Jumpfest.org/100years/.

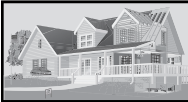
On Friday, Feb. 6, Jumpfest will host community night at Satre Hill. SWSA will offer free admission for the night. Gates open at 6 p.m. and “Target Jumping Under the Lights” will begin at 7 p.m. There will be fireworks sponsored by NBT Bank, bonfires, and food and drinks available for purchase. The Human Dogsled Race is set for 8:30 p.m. Teams of five can register at Jumpfest.org

On Saturday, Feb. 7, the Junior Competition on K20 jump will begin at 9 a.m. The Salisbury Invitational Ski Jumping Competition will practice from 11 a.m. to noon and compete at 1 p.m. Community members are invited to the Snow Ball at the Lakeville Town Grove at 8 p.m. Dancers will be accompanied by live music from the Steve Dunn Band. Entrance to the Ball is \$20 with children 12 and under free of charge.

On Sunday, Feb. 8, Satre Hill will hold the Eastern U.S. Ski Jumping Championships. Athletes will practice between 11 a.m. to noon and compete at 1 p.m.


Willie Hallihan of SWSA explained that the length of time and number of people involved on an emotional level has made the sport “iconic to Salisbury.”

Hallihan recounted in the PBS documentary “The Jump” that the ski jumps are “like a family member to a lot of people.”



Realtor® at Large

There is an interesting article in the CT Mirror which forecasts the effects of the Big Beautiful Bill recently passed by Congress on Connecticut residents. As you might imagine, it will be the upper income levels that will benefit the most and this comes on the backs of the lower income households. I had no idea that Connecticut ranked 4th in the nation for wealth inequality, which is not where we want to be! My sense is that this inequity will be compounded by cuts in SNAP and social support programs such as mental illness prevention. So what can we do here in the NW Corner? My thought is to be aware of this issue and increase our support for programs like our local food banks and our social service support offices found in each town. Please visit the following link for more information: ctmirror.org/2026/01/16/how-will-the-big-beautiful-bill-impact-your-ct-town/



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Stissing Storage operator proposes farm stand and self-storage business expansion

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — A new farm stand could be coming to Pine Plains soon. Steve Hobson, of Milan, met with the Planning Board on Wednesday, Jan. 14, to lay out preliminary plans for a retail farm stand at 2812 and 2814 Church St., two residential lots across from Stissing Mountain High School. Hobson is proposing demolishing the residence on 2814 Church St. and constructing several structures. The plans include an expansion of Hobson’s self-storage facility on the neighboring 2818 Church St. lot. Hobson said the house on the property was in too poor condition to be renovated or sold. “It needs a ton of work,” he said. “It’s going to be difficult to implement any further on the site without removal of that house that’s there.” The proposed farm stand would be available to farmers on a seasonal

basis, Hobson said. Planning Board members met the proposal with optimism, although they made a few suggestions pertaining to the aesthetics of the storage facilities. “I think it’s doable,” Planning Board Chair Michael Stabile said. Planning Board members suggested Hobson should plan screening to reduce the visibility of the planned storage units. They also asked if Hobson had identified any potential tenants for the farm stand, to which he said no. “It’s certainly going to be a roll of the dice on my part,” Hobson said. Planning Board Chair Michael Stabile recommended Hobson begin the search. “I think part of the application you try to get somebody interested in it,” Stabile said. The board wrapped up the meeting after about half an hour of deliberation by giving Hobson the greenlight for an official application.

Amenia residents comment on Cascade Creek subdivision plan

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Residents filled the Town Hall meeting room to capacity for the Planning Board meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 14, to provide comments about the Cascade Creek workforce housing application submitted by Hudson River Housing. For several months, the non-profit developer has been engaged in preparing environmental impact analyses for the property, including utility plans, as well as potential effects on wildlife or watercourses with plans for mitigation of stormwater runoff. Once the environmental impact report phase is complete, the actual site plan drawings will be considered as part of the application’s next phase. Public hearings will continue. Senior planner Peter Sander of Rennia Engineering, speaking on behalf of the Cascade Creek project, reviewed conservation plans for the 24.13 acres that would comprise the development. Of the total acreage, 59% would be conserved, and 28 house lots would be drawn, each lot encumbered by conservation easements. Also planned is a rectangular space for a community garden. Sewer and water utilities would be on-site. Since the Planning Board’s November meeting, Sander reported, the developer has met with local fire officials, leading to an agreement to provide a buried large-reservoir water tank to combat



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

The proposed site of Hudson River Housing’s Cascade Creek workforce housing subdivision on Route 44.

fires and the use of fire-resistant building materials in each home. Planning Board Engineer John Andrews reminded residents that the meeting was an opportunity for public comment, an informal public hearing, and that future public hearings would be held on the project. Summarizing the comments heard at the meeting, Planning Board member Jamie Vitiello enumerated topics that would lie within the purview of the board and the required environmental analysis, currently being considered. Topics identified by Vitiello included the fire department’s concerns about an adequate water supply in case of fire, Webutuck School enrollment growth, the effect on community character, and increased traffic. Newly seated Planning Board attorney Victoria Polidoro of Rodenhausen Chale and Polidoro, LLP, with offices in Rhinebeck, suggested that she would be interested in information about marketing plans for the Cascade Creek subdivision. Vitiello suggested that some aspects are not within

pressed concern about the effect on ground water levels in the area, indicating his opposition to the project. “Who will pay to have area wells redrilled,” asked resident Kim Travis, also expressing concern about rainwater runoff and the diminishment of the rural character of the area. Questioning the traffic study conducted as part of the application, resident Judy Moran noted the study was done when schools were not in session. Former Town Supervisor Leo Blackman spoke, noting his prior years of service on the town’s Housing Board. “There is definitely a problem with a lack of affordable housing,” Blackman said. “The community could become economically segregated,” he warned. About concerns over higher density housing, Blackman described the high incidence of small house lots already existing within the community. “We need affordable housing; we need to do something,” resident Gaye Parisi said. Parisi currently serves on the Housing Board. Planning Board Secretary Judy Westfall read two letters into the record. The first, from the local fire department, noted no access to a municipal water supply, that the natural water sources are unreliable, the need for monitoring of the buried tank, adequate turn-around room for fire apparatus, and plans for snow removal. The second letter was from resident Daniel Donnelly who favored the application and urged its approval. Resident Ken Merritt ex-

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OBITUARIES

Marjorie A. Vreeland

SALISBURY — Marjorie A. Vreeland, 98, passed away peacefully at Noble Horizons, on Jan. 10, 2026. She was surrounded by her two loving children, Richard and Nancy. She was born in Bronxville, New York, on Aug. 9, 1927, to Alice (Meyer) and Joseph Casey, both of whom were deceased by the time she was 14. She attended public schools in the area and graduated from Eastchester High School in Tuckahoe and, in 1946 she graduated from The Wood School of Business in New York City.

At 19 years old, she married Everett W. Vreeland of White Plains, New York and for a few years they lived in Ithaca, New York, where Everett was studying to become a veterinarian at Cornell. After a short stint in Coos Bay, Oregon (Mike couldn't stand the cloudy, rainy weather!) they moved back east to Middletown, Connecticut for three years where Dr. Vreeland worked for Dr. Pieper's veterinary practice. In Aug. of 1955, Dr. and Mrs. Vreeland moved to North Kent, Connecticut with their children and started Dr. Vreeland's Veterinary practice. In Sept. of 1968 Marjorie, or "Mike" as she wished to be called, took a "part-time job" at the South Kent School. She retired from South Kent 23 years later on Sept. 1, 1991. Aside from office help and bookkeeping she was secretary to the Headmaster and also taught Public Speaking and Typing. In other times she worked as

an assistant to the Town Clerk in Kent, an office worker and receptionist at Ewald Instruments Corp. and as a volunteer at the Kent Library.

"Mike" loved the sun, sand and water and spent many summers at Westport Point, Massachusetts with the kids and their best friends, the Bauers. She was the consummate hostess, and a wonderful cook. She also appeared in several plays with The Sherman Players and also a show or two on special occasions at The Kent Community House. She took enjoyment from working outdoors doing chores around her home in North Kent. She lived in that house until she sold it and bought a condominium on North Main Street in Kent in May of 2003. She lived in the condo until 2018 after which her light began to fade and her last 8 years were spent comfortably at Noble Horizons.

"Mike" leaves behind her children, Richard (Susan) of Lakeville, her daughter Nancy Rutledge (Jim) of Salisbury; two grandchildren, Chandra Gerrard (Sean) of Litchfield, Matthew (Larissa) of Lakeville; three great grandchildren, Addison, Emilia and Everett, all of Lakeville.

She was predeceased by her beloved granddaughter Caroline in 2020.

All services are private. The Ryan Funeral Home, 255 Main St., Lakeville, is in charge of arrangements.

To offer an online condolence, please visit ryanfhct.com

Edward Aparo

TACONIC — Edward Aparo passed away peacefully at his home on Jan. 7, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

Edward was born on May 10, 1936, in New Britain, Connecticut. He was the beloved son of the late Anthony and Rose Valenti Aparo and attended New Britain schools. On April 7, 1958 Edward married his school sweetheart, Jean Ackerman beginning a devoted marriage that spanned 67 years. Together they built a life rooted in family, hard work and love.

Edward began his career working in the family business, Aparo's Electric Motor Service Inc. where he learned



the trade alongside his father. Following his father's passing, Edward became the owner of the business, carrying on the family legacy with dedication and pride.

Edward is survived by his loving wife, Jean Ackerman Aparo, his sons Stephen Aparo and his wife Marie of New Britain, Connecticut, and Craig Aparo and his wife Valerie of Naples, Florida; his sister Arlene Aparo St.Germain and husband Joseph of Hobe Sound, Florida, and his cherished grandchildren; Danny Aparo and wife Nicole, Tyler Aparo and Morgan Wilson and Jared Aparo all of New Britain.

Services with be private.

Robin Lee Roy

FALLS VILLAGE — Robin Lee Roy, 62, of Zephyrhills, Florida, passed away Jan. 14, 2026.

She was a long-time CNA, serving others with compassion for more than 20 years before retiring from Heartland in Florida.

Robin loved the beach, sunshine, and gardening, and was known for her strength, hu-

mor, and unwavering support of those she loved.

She is survived by her daughter, Sierra R. Zinke, and brothers, Darren Roy and Todd Roy. She was preceded in death by her parents, Sharon Thomkins Roy and Robert Roy, and her brother Nevin Roy.

No services will be held at this time.



Rafael A. Porro

SALISBURY — Rafael A. Porro, 88, of 4 Undermountain Road, passed away Jan. 6, 2026, at Sharon Hospital. Rafael was born on April 19, 1937 in Camaguey, Cuba the son of Jose Rafael Porro and Clemencia Molina de Porro. He graduated from the Englewood School for Boys in Englewood, New Jersey and attended Columbia University School of General Studies. Rafael retired as a law library clerk from the law firm of Curtis, Mallet Prevost in 2002 and came to live in Salisbury to be nearer to his sister, Chany Wells.

Rafael is survived by

his sister, Chany Wells, his nephew Conrad Wells (Gillian), and by numerous cousins in North Carolina, Florida, Wyoming, Arizona, Cuba and Canada. He was the eldest of the cousins and acknowledged family historian. He will be greatly missed.

A memorial service will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church in June. Memorial contributions may be made to Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service, St. John's Episcopal Church in Salisbury and Scoville Memorial Library.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

OUR TOWNS

Stanford real estate market sees bump in October sales

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

STANFORD — Median home prices in the Town of Stanford continued their upward trend in October, with the 12-month median reaching \$610,000, a 7% increase from the same period in 2024.

Transfers of nine single family homes were recorded in October, including the sale of a \$4 million five-bedroom home on 21.72 acres on Duell Road. Many high-end properties were taken off the market during the winter. Only five residential properties were listed for sale in mid-January, including three over \$1 million and two over \$500,000.

Transfers

1 Kimberly Way — 3 bedroom/4 bath ranch on 7.1 acres was sold to Lucas Diblasi for \$905,000.

5730 Route 82 — 3 bedroom/1 bath home sold to NMS II LLC for \$100,000.

3 Rock Place — 3 bedroom/1 bath farm house built in 1965 sold to Jessica Daddino for \$413,400.

6322 Route 82 — Residence on 5.01 acres sold to Glenn



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

With direct lake access across the road, 744 Hunns Lake Road was built in 2016 and sold in October for \$525,000.

Novan for \$676,000.

16 Bangall Amenia Road — 3 bedroom/1.5 bath home sold to Bangall Hamlet LLC for \$375,000.

744 Hunns Lake Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home on 1.16 acres sold to Richard J. Kaufman for \$525,000.

768-770 Willow Brook Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath 2,224 square foot home built in 2022 on 20.5 acres sold to Matthew Kamrowski for \$1,225,000.

193 Decker — 2 homes and a barn on 12.5 acres sold to Whispering Willow Farm LLC for \$380,000.

836 Duell Road — 5 bedroom/5 bath home built in 1991 on 21.72 acres sold to Touchstone 836 LLC for \$4 million.

**Town of Stanford recorded real estate transfers from Oct. 1 to Oct. 31, 2025 provided by Dutchess County Real Property Office monthly transfer reports. Only transactions with consideration are included. Details on each property from Dutchess Parcel Access. Market data from One Key MLS and Infosparks. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.*

Roger was predeceased by his daughter, Penny Fallon, sister Joy Eichstedt, brothers Ronald, Carlton, Jerry, Wayne, and Raymond Ovitt, his grandson Shawn Bachman, his great-grandson Eli Green, and his step-father Edwin Mansir.

A Celebration of Roger's Life will be held on Saturday Jan. 24, 2026, at 11 a.m. in the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. North Canaan, CT 06018.

Calling hours will be held at the funeral home on Saturday from 10 a.m. until the service begins at 11 a.m.

Memorial donations in Roger's memory may be made to Connecticut Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association 10 Executive Drive Suite 202 Farmington, CT 06032.

Send obituaries to obituaries@lakevillejournal.com

In Loving Memory of Peter C. Roosa

October 12, 1950 to January 11, 2019

Time slips by and life goes on
But from our hearts you're never gone.
We think about you always, we talk about you too, we have so many memories but we wish we still had you.

You are deeply loved:
Phyllis, Jamie, Nonnie,
The Petkovich and Roosa Family




In Loving Memory of Jeffery Jay Petkovich

May 12, 1968 to January 20, 1990

May the wings of Heaven blow softly
and whisper in your ear
How much we Love and Miss you and
Wish that you were here.

You are loved deeply:
Mom, Jamie, Nonnie





Worship Services

Week of January 25, 2026

Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon
9 South Main, Sharon CT
Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M.
Transitioning through prayer
All welcome to join us
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www.christchurchsharon.org

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info@congbethdavid.org

The Lakeville United Methodist Church
319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039
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9:15 a.m. Sunday School
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The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-435-9496
lakevillemethodist@snet.net

Falls Village Congregational Church
16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
Coffee Hour
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860-824-0194

The Sharon United Methodist Church
112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green
Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care
No Sunday School in Summer
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-364-5634
sharonumc5634@att.net

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Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons
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Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary
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We hope you will join us!

LETTER TO
THE EDITOR

A New Chapter for Sharon Hospital: Our Commitment to the Northwest Corner

At Northwell Health, we are incredibly excited and deeply committed to our new hospitals in Connecticut, including the future of Sharon Hospital. We understand that Sharon Hospital is more than just a building; it is a cornerstone of this community, a place of healing, comfort, and trust built over generations.

We hear the concerns about healthcare access in rural areas – the challenges of a “health care desert,” the distances, and the need for reliable, local services. That’s precisely why our commitment to Sharon Hospital includes being a community partner, listening intently to community needs and ensuring you have reliable local care.

That commitment includes the preservation and advancement of vital services, including comprehensive women’s health services. We understand that the availability of obstetrics is profoundly important, and we are committed to maintaining these services at Sharon Hospital. Our goal is to ensure that future generations can continue to be safely born and compassionately cared for right here in Sharon.

As Attorney General William Tong rightly emphasized, “miles and minutes matter when it comes to labor and delivery,” and we believe every family deserves access to safe, local maternity care. At Northwell Health, we don’t believe in a “hub-and-spoke” model of care where patients requiring most specialized services are referred into only the most advanced facilities. We’ve always believed in care being provided as locally as possible, so long as local expertise can provide such care safely. We believe that obstetrical care at Sharon is evidence of this commitment.

But our commitment extends far beyond that. We will maintain Sharon Hospital as a full-service community hospital, ensuring 24/7 surgical capabilities and a robust, full-service emergency department. Our plan isn’t just about maintain-

ing; it’s about improving services and enhancing access in the community. Northwell is incredibly committed to ambulatory network development – we are today a network of 28 hospitals and 1,050 ambulatory practices. While enhancing care for the community will always be viewed through the lens of capabilities at Sharon Hospital, ensuring the right care is being provided in the right setting is also a part of our commitment. At Northwell, nearly 80 percent of our patient encounters take place outside of a hospital, with a focus on providing services in the most efficient and patient-centric environment possible.

This acquisition is backed by significant investment. Northwell has committed to injecting at least \$1 billion across Nu-vance hospitals in Connecticut and New York over the next five years, a process that we’ve already begun, ensuring capital, expertise, and support for long-term fiscal stability and critical growth investments at places like Sharon. We’re also integrating advanced systems, like a unified electronic records management system, to enhance care coordination.

Our partnership with the Connecticut and New York Attorneys General, as well as the Connecticut Office of Health Strategy, reflects our shared goal: to safeguard the interests of Connecticut patients and providers, ensuring accessible, quality healthcare for this community for years to come.

Northwell Health is honored to become an even greater part of this community, and we are grateful for the community’s engagement and partnership. We are confident that, together, we will not only secure Sharon Hospital’s future but elevate its capacity to serve, providing the essential, high-quality care this vibrant community deserves.

John D’Angelo, MD, is president and CEO and Kevin Beiner is chief operating officer at Northwell Health.



Gen Z is facing hard times despite a growing economy

THE RETIRED INVESTOR

Bill Schmick

Gen Zers report experiencing symptoms of stress and anxiety.

While Wall Street opened the year celebrating the promise of a bright future, thanks to AI. Opinion leaders predict that artificial intelligence, robots, and space, among other technological breakthroughs, will dramatically reshape the way the world works. For college grads, all they see is a no-fire, no-hire labor market where unemployment among workers ages 20 to 24 continues to rise. It is now to 5.3% and even worse for those younger than that.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers predict the entry-level hiring crisis will worsen this year, rating job prospects as poor or at best fair. At a recent gathering of employers at the Yale School of Management, 66% admitted they planned to cut jobs or freeze hiring.

With an economy that is expected to grow by 3% in 2026, one would have expected the opposite reaction, but then you would not be reckoning with the impact of artificial intelligence on the job market. Potential employers are concerned and uncertain about how AI might reshape the workforce over the next few years, and rightfully so.

Most analysts believe that many white-collar positions, especially at the entry level, will be replaced by technological advancement. Under-scoring that concern, many corporate giants, including Amazon, UPS, Target, and Google, announced layoffs affecting more than 60,000 jobs. And to many, that is just the tip of the iceberg.

Faced with taking fast-food jobs at minimum wage and lacking work experience in their hoped-for professions, 3 in 5 Gen Z workers are looking elsewhere for a job with some kind of reasonable future. Almost half of these young workers believe the blue-collar jobs may offer better long-term security than corporate work in the technology fields. The top sectors pursued by Gen Z include plumbing, automotive repair, construction, and electrical work.

I happen to agree with that belief, but unfortunately, Gen Z applicants face the same barrier to entry in their white-collar arena—lack of experience. Many job applicants, regardless of industry, are now required to have at least 3 years of experience and up to 5 years before being considered.

The lure of six-figure salaries in the blue-collar area is attracting more Gen Zs to vocational schools. However, what many conveniently forget is that earning that kind of take-home pay requires years of experience, a substantial

investment in personal tools and equipment, and serious wear and tear on the body.

As I write this, in the next room, a 65-year-old builder I’ll call Scott, who is going in for his second knee replacement next month, is building another room in our condo. Assisting him is a young GenZer. There is a constant stream of chatter as Scott talks through his drywalling process. His helper listens intently. They seem eager to learn and ask questions as they work. He did the same when he placed the struts and erected the wall.

For several years, Scott has been involved in a local high school program that teaches vocational school grads his business, while they gain on-the-job experience and a paycheck. Scott and others like him are providing a solution one day at a time. He is one answer to the dilemma facing this struggling generation. This country needs more Scotts to hire and teach a young workforce in need.

Next week, I will highlight one area where many Gen Xers have found an alternative to home ownership. It holds risks but doesn’t cost an arm and a leg to get involved.

Bill Schmick is a founding partner of Onota Partners, Inc., in the Berkshires. Bill’s forecasts and opinions are purely his own and do not necessarily represent the views of Onota Partners, Inc. (OPI).

Millerton, snowmobiles, homes, businesses

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

January 24, 1935

About Millerton

Mayor and Mrs. William J. Brewer and Mr. and Mrs. Miles Jenks left on Monday for a month’s vacation in Florida.

Mr. Roy Ganung and daughter, Jane, spent Tuesday afternoon in Poughkeepsie.

Jean Silvernale is confined to home by illness.

Miss Blanche Bates is spending several weeks at the home of her brother, Edward Bates, at Pittsfield, Mass.

George Wooding of Thornwood spent Sunday at the home of his sister, Mrs. Harry Card.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Decker and family moved to Lakeville on Sunday.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

January 22, 1976

Snowmobiles Trespassing[sic], Officer Says

Trespassing and riding on public roads are the major offenses committed by area snowmobilers this winter, New York State Conservation Officer Harry Wheeler stated this week.

He asserted that a number of snowmobile riders have been sighted traveling on public roads and soaring across private property without permission, both illegal acts.

January 18, 2001

Local Homes Added to Historic Register

COLEMAN STATION

— Three houses in the town of North East were recently added to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Oliver Barrett House, the Dakin-Coleman Farm and the Thomas Wheeler Farm, all located in the Coleman Station area, were selected by the New York state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be listed individually on the register, though the entire Coleman Station Valley was considered for the recognition in 1993.

Millerton Sees Some Business Changes; Shops Move, Expand

MILLERTON- Two stores on Main Street in Millerton have interior changes in the works.

Leslie Hoss Flood has recently relocated her Amenia-based store to the basement of the Millerton Antiques Center. Ms. Flood’s shop had been in Amenia for about 15

years, where, in addition to selling used and antique furniture, Ms. Flood also ran an upholstery shop.

After removing several partitions and installing new lights, the basement store looks entirely new. Ms. Flood is pleased with the space, which offers more room in which to showcase her wares. She is also taking advantage of the additional area by creating a separate reupholstery room and a section to display in-stock fabrics.

Pasta-At-Large Expands

After acquiring the empty space, owner Sofia Okolowicz has expanded her business to provide “a little more elbow room inside.”

The front portion has been open since late November and, in recent days, Ms. Okolowicz has removed a wall and had electricity installed in the new area.

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

PERFORMANCE: RICHARD FEINER AND ANNETTE STOVER

Stissing Center announces expansive 2026 season

There’s something for everyone at the Stissing Center for Arts & Culture, the welcoming nonprofit performing arts space in the heart of Pine Plains, New York. The center’s adventurous 2026 season is designed to appeal to all audiences, with a curated mix of local and visiting artists working across a range of disciplines, from bluegrass to Beethoven, from Bollywood to burlesque.

The season opens Saturday, Jan. 31, with Spark!, a multimedia concert that will also preview the center’s fifth year of presenting performances that inspire, entertain and connect the community. Spark! features Grammy Award-winning Rosanne Cash, one of the country’s preeminent singer-songwriters, whose artistry bridges country, folk and rock with a distinctly literary strain of American songwriting.

According to Patrick Trettenero, executive director of the Stissing Center, “This year’s programming is inspired by our commitment to bring people together through the shared experience of arts and culture. It’s a lively mix of musical styles — from roots, classical, world, rock and jazz — to our always-popular singer-songwriter series, with more than 50 music events to choose from.”

In addition to music, the season includes theater and dance. Highlights include the Hudson Valley Puppet Slam and the Roundtop Burlesque Revue, along with dance performances ranging from flamenco to Irish step. A film series will showcase the indie comedy favorite Hundreds of Beavers and a live-score screening of the beloved silent Charlie Chaplin classic The Kid. The season also includes free programs for children all summer, along with community events and family-friendly fare.

The 2026 season also marks the launch of The Grace Note, an intimate venue located downstairs at the Stissing Center that will serve as an inviting and informal entry point to mainstage shows. The Grace Note will be open every Friday night and will feature singer-songwriters, stand-up comedy, jazz



PHOTO BY VIVIAN WANG

The opening of the 2026 season at The Stissing Center on Jan. 31 will feature Grammy winner Rosanne Cash (pictured with John Leventhal).

quartets, play readings, storytelling and more.

The venue is part of the center’s commitment to offering a place for locals and visitors alike to gather and discover new work, hear familiar voices in new ways and enjoy a great night out in the neighborhood. The Grace Note opens Feb. 13 with a performance by local singer-songwriter Natalia Zukerman, who is also the Lakeville Journal and Millerton News’ arts, lifestyle and engagement editor. Her masterful musicianship and storytelling blend folk, blues and Americana with wry humor and emotional clarity, creating an experience that feels both personal



PHOTO BY SARAH BLODGETT

Natalia Zukerman will open the series at The Grace Note, the new space at The Stissing Center on Feb. 13.

and expansive. Zukerman said, “I’m honored to be opening the season in this beautiful new room at The Stissing Center. The Grace Note opens up lots of creative opportunities for the Center, for performers and for our community. It’s thrilling.”

“We are very intentional about this season and the launch of The Grace Note,” Trettenero added. “Our goal is simple: to make the Stissing Center a place for people of all backgrounds and

perspectives to come for great arts experiences, to support outstanding artists and to offer a place for connection and shared humanity through the arts.”

The full season schedule and tickets for all events are available at thestissingcenter.org or by calling 518-771-3339.

ART: DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

American Mural Project names new executive director

When Jennifer Chrein first stepped inside the cavernous mill building on Whiting Street in Winsted and looked up at the towering figures of the American Mural Project, she had no idea what she was walking into.

“I had been invited by a friend to attend an event in May 2024,” Chrein recalled. That friend, she said, had a ticket they couldn’t use and thought she’d enjoy it. “I didn’t know anything about AMP. I didn’t Google it — nothing.”

What followed was immediate and visceral.

“I was just — wow!” she said. “I was awed. So excited to see something like this in this area. There isn’t anything else like it.”

That first encounter would eventually lead Chrein to her new role as executive director of the American Mural Project, where she joins founder and artistic director Ellen Griesedieck in guiding the organization into its next chapter.

Announced earlier this month, Chrein’s appointment follows the departure of Amy Wynn, who stepped down Oct. 31 after seven years as the nonprofit organization’s first executive director.

Chrein praised

Wynn for her leadership in establishing the organization’s solid roots and foundation, including its children’s programming, events and talented staff.

At the heart of AMP is what is widely regarded as the world’s largest indoor collaborative work of art: a five-story, 120-foot-long, three-dimensional mural depicting American workers across trades, industries and eras.

Created by Griesedieck with the help of hundreds of community volunteers, the mural fills the former mill building with life-sized and larger-than-life figures at work, transforming the space into an immersive environment that blurs the line between art, history and lived experience.

“The first time I saw the mural, I was awed by its scale — Ellen’s artistry, and what it says about the central role of work in our lives,” said Chrein. “I was immediately captivated and felt the need to share the space, the mission, and the live performances and educational programs with as many people as possible.”

At the time, she said, AMP was still in an early phase of its development.

“They were still

Continued on next page



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FOOD: SALLY HAVER

Café Gourmet Bakery and Catering brings high-quality dining to Canaan

Café Gourmet Bakery and Catering opened in Canaan in November 2024, bringing a high-quality yet approachable dining experience to East Main Street. The restaurant is co-owned by Andrew Thielemann, general manager, and Nicholas Policastro, executive chef, who met two years ago while working in similar roles at another establishment and decided to strike out on their own.

Currently, the restaurant is open five days a week — Thursday through Monday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. — serving breakfast and lunch. Dinner service is planned for later this winter.

“Before the end of winter, we will be offering dinner service,” Thielemann said. “Initially, we’ll open softly for a couple of nights — Fridays and Saturdays — then expand dinner service fully Thursday through Monday by the beginning of summer.”

The phased rollout



PHOTO BY BOB ELLWOOD

will allow the owners to gather feedback and iron out any wrinkles while serving a carefully curated menu designed to give customers the quality food and service they have already experienced as breakfast-and-lunch diners.

“Then we’ll move forward on expanding menu offerings based

on what we’ve learned,” Thielemann said.

Thielemann has spent three decades in the hospitality industry. “From dishwashing to running entire operations as a general manager,” Thielemann said. “Mine has been an experience-driven career,” he added. “Locally, I spent a few years at Troutbeck

in Amenia, then went to Community Table in New Preston. What I bring to the enterprise is my ability to manage multiple stakeholders in venues ranging from casual dining operations to high-end country clubs, always with excellent hospitality as my primary deliverable.”

Policastro earned his culinary arts business management degree at SUNY Delhi, where he won multiple awards

Co-owners Nicholas Policastro, left, and Andrew Thielemann of Café Gourmet.

as an undergraduate. After graduation, his expertise grew with each professional move: an internship at the Otisaga Hotel & Resort in Cooperstown, New York; a chef role at Turning Stone Casino in Utica; chef at the private Columbia Golf Course in Claverack, New York; and at Wheatleigh in Lenox, Massachusetts, where he perfected his upscale French cooking.

The menu reflects that depth of experience. Breakfast is available all day, and after 11 a.m., an extensive lunch menu is offered through closing at 3 p.m. Standout breakfast items include the Crème Brûlée French Toast; the Salmon Avocado Toast on house-made whole wheat sourdough; and the Elderflower Fruit Parfait with house-made granola.

Lunch offerings include French onion and potato & leek soups,

a variety of fresh salads, and a “Shareable” section featuring items such as truffle fries and chocolate sourdough with ricotta.

Online reviews reflect the experience:

•“WOW!! This place is incredible! The food was absolutely delicious... Andrew, the co-owner, was friendly and made us feel so welcome.”

•“The most charming spot around with an unpretentious atmosphere and genuinely great food. High-quality ingredients, thoughtfully made dishes, and very fairly priced.”

•“The wait staff asks right away when you sit down about your dietary needs, like gluten- and dairy-free, or allergies. So welcome and proactive!”

•“I intend to become a regular customer; this restaurant, this wonderful food — well worth the trip.”

Café Gourmet – Bakery & Catering is located at 18 E. Main Street in Canaan. Phone: (959) 227-9021. Reservations are not required at this time. Once dinner service begins, reservations will be recommended.

...Karen Belove *Continued from previous page*

Her book is character-driven, Belove said, because those were the narratives she remembers resonating with her most as a young reader. A favorite was Beverly Cleary’s “Beezus and Ramona.”

“I told my mother then, ‘When I grow up, I’m going to write stories like “Beezus and Ramona,”’ Belove said.

She credits her parents’ support for her career in writing. Though they were not artists themselves, they encouraged Belove and her sister to pursue creative interests. That encouragement, Belove said, led her to become a writer and her sister a painter.

“I can still remember the first thing I ever

wrote,” Belove said. “It was a poem about my cat.”

Her childhood cat had escaped from the family’s home in suburban Westchester County. To process the loss, Belove wrote a poem and showed it to her mother, who insisted she bring it to school the next day to show her teacher.

“My mother kept it,” Belove said. “I still have it.”

Belove was close with her parents, so the sudden death of her father at age 56 sent her on a search for joy that eventually led her to Cotton Candy Sally, an experience she said is reflected

in her book.

These real-life experiences are meant to give young readers an engaging, empowering and educational narrative, Belove said, because the complexities of real life are unavoidable.

“Life enables me to write the kind of book I want to write,” Belove said. “Children are complex. They’re really trying to navigate a world they have no experience navigating.”

Belove self-published “Cotton Candy Sally Finds a Home.” More information about purchasing the book is available at sallyhor-sechronicles.com.

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KATHY CHOW, MILLERTON

“Simply put, *The Millerton News* is one of the most important public services we have. It does more than report the news, it weaves the fabric of our community, It tells our stories, celebrates our successes, and ensures everyone knows what’s happening right here at home. When trusted information is accessible to everyone, our community is stronger.”

JENN NAJDEK, MILLERTON

“*The Millerton News* is an essential part of my weekly routine. Its in-depth local coverage helps keep the fabric of our community strong.”

RUTH HARLOW, MILLERTON

“Building community and connection is of great importance to me, and thus I’m consistently impressed by the way *The Millerton News* is telling stories that honor these attributes — highlighting the good, the hopeful, unfolding for our neighbors and within our towns.”

SARAH RIGANO, MILLERTON

“I feel my sense of community expanding when I read *The Millerton News*. The letters to the editor, the stories from our neighboring towns – Amenia and Millbrook – keep me connected to our region. We are all dealing with similar issues...albeit in different ways. There is nothing else like our paper and I’m so grateful to have it.”

JENNIFER DOWLEY, NORTH EAST

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COMPASS

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

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.” Register for the program at huntlibrary.org/events/

Owls of the Hudson Valley

Online.
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 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 at scovillelibrary.org

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.

Tickets and showtimes: 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

New Art Nest Opening at Wassaic Project

Wassaic Project, 37 Furnace Bank Road, Wassaic, N.Y.

Wassaic Project announces the reopening of the Art Nest, its free, drop-in artmaking space for families, now in a fully ADA-accessible, renovated ground-floor location at Maxon Mills. The refreshed space features expanded seating, new amenities and year-round Saturday drop-in hours, with a reopening celebration on Jan. 24 from noon to 5 p.m., including a ribbon cutting at 1 p.m.

Blacklight Dance!

Dewey Hall, 91 Main St., Sheffield, Mass.

Sheffield Contra presents an evening of contra dancing at Dewey Hall with music from The Star Charters. There will be a lesson from 6:30 to 7 p.m. and the dancing will be 7 to 10 p.m. with caller Will Mentor. No partner necessary. Tickets and more info at sheffieldcontra.com

Heroes & Villains in Your Backyard: The Native vs. Invasive Plant Conundrum

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

A free three-part workshop series hosted by the Sharon Energy & Environmental Commission, the Sharon Audubon Center and the Sharon Land Trust.

Jan. 24: Understanding Native & Invasive Plants in our Local Landscape.

Feb. 21: Practical Strategies for Managing Invasive Plants at Home & On Your Land

March 28: Choosing, Planting & Supporting Native Plants for Healthier Landscapes

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

Master Wildlife Conservationist Ginny Apple at the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon

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

Jan. 25, 4 p.m.: Black Bears in Connecticut — Learn about bear habitat, diet, behavior, reproduction, current research, and practical tips for coexisting with Connecticut's black bear population.

Free and open to all. Registration required at hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com.

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. Books for each discussion will be available to check out at the library. This program is free and open to the public.

Last week's WotW				
F	U	Z	Z	Y
O	F	T	E	N
S	T	I	F	F
S	W	I	F	T
S	H	I	F	T

REVOLUTION SONG Book Discussion with Peter Vermilyea

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

Join us from 4 to 5:30 p.m. to discuss this year's Salisbury READS book, "Revolution Song," by Russell Shorto, an acclaimed nonfiction narrative of the American Revolution, seen through the eyes of six diverse historical individuals. Author and award-winning HVRHS educator Peter Vermilyea will lead the discussion, connecting Shorto's themes and characters with our own local Revolutionary War history. Registration is required at scovillelibrary.org

JANUARY 29

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). Mention Dine Out for History when ordering.

Bats of the Hudson Valley

Online.
1 to 2:30 p.m.

Though rarely seen by daytime visitors, Innisfree's varied landscape provides habitat for a remarkable diversity of bats—up to nine species native to New York may forage, roost, or pass through the garden during the warmer months.

Join Hudsonia biologist and educator Dr. Amanda Bevan Zientek for an engaging exploration of the behaviors, adaptations, and ecological importance of these misunderstood animals. Register: www.innisfreegarden.org/events/bats-2026

JANUARY 31

Town of Amenia Open Mic

Amenia Auditorium, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, N.Y.

Present your talent before a live listening audience. Bring your friends and family for a fun-filled night with live music, poetry readings and more. Free. Sign ups begin at 6 p.m.

Spark! Season Launch Event featuring Rosanne Cash

Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y.

Celebrate the opening of Stissing Center's season with a launch

event featuring four time Grammy winner Rosanne Cash, acclaimed singer-songwriter, author and cultural voice. Hailed by Rolling Stone as one of her generation's most ambitious and literary artists. 7 p.m. Tickets at: thestissingcenter.org

FEBRUARY 1

A Year in the Books: Reflecting on What We Read in 2025

Homegrown Cafe, 5 Railroad St. North Canaan, Conn.

Whistle Pig Books invites you to join us at Homegrown Cafe on Sunday, Feb. 1, at 3:30 p.m. for thoughtful conversations about the books you read in 2025—the ones you loved, didn't love, and couldn't stop thinking about.

Traitor or True Defender? Loyalists and the American Revolution

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

Who remained loyal to the Crown? Join us 4 to 5:30 p.m., and travel back in time with Tom Key to 1830 to hear the other side of history as told by a historical loyalist, Ezra Curruthers, who fought under Lord Cornwallis. We'll explore the complex political, economic, theological, and personal reasons why so many Americans risked everything to remain British.

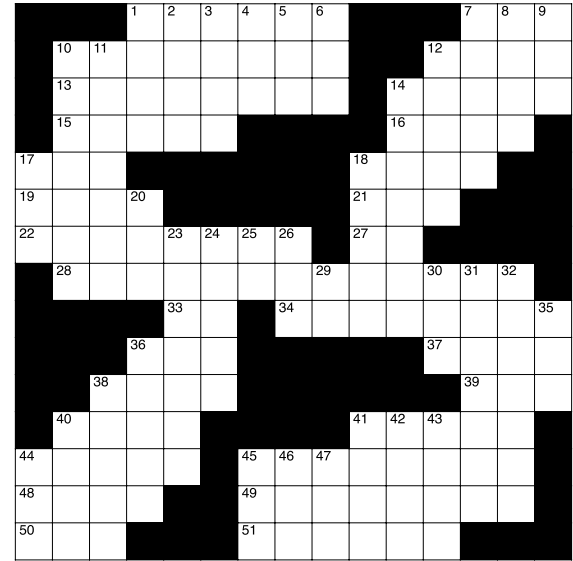
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- Mechanical lever
- Rocky peak
- Leave a country
- Discount
- D.C. ballplayer
- Partner to "oohed"
- Engine sound
- Japanese ornamental box
- Fido is one
- Amounts of time
- DiFranco and Phyto are two
- Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- Make secret plans
- "Tiny Bubbles" singer
- "His Airness"
- Morning
- Perfected
- Winger guitarist
- Beach
- Abba __, Israeli politician
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- A way to save money
- Pulpit
- Make ecstatically happy
- Once more
- Works on
- Nocturnal S. American rodent
- State again
- Expression of disappointment
- Type of door

CLUES DOWN

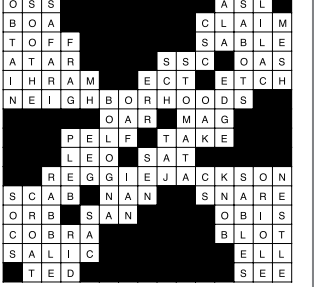
- Yugoslavian communist leader
- Exchange rate
- High school dance
- Peter's last name
- When you anticipate arriving
- Israeli city __ Aviv
- Goat-like mammals
- Margarine
- End-of-the-spectrum color
- Make poisonous
- Popular beverage
- Actress Lathan
- Where planes land and depart
- Political fundraising entity



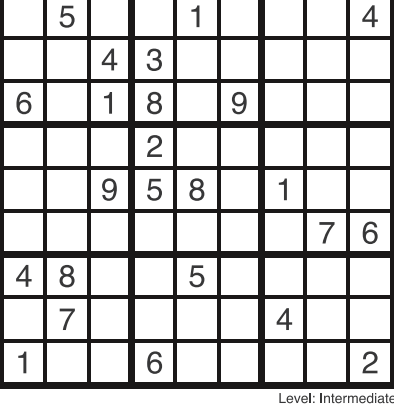
- The distinctive spirit of a people or an era
- Buffer used in microbiology
- Light, open carriage
- Metrical feet
- Email subject line feature
- A street with lots of nightmares
- Rapper Rule
- River in Scotland
- One who settles a dispute
- Most chummy
- We all have our own
- Arab tribe
- Slap
- Ottoman military commanders
- Scottish or Irish Gaelic language

- Emit coherent radiation
- Sun or solar disk (Egyptian mythology)
- Inclined to
- Olfactory reference syndrome
- Chest muscle (slang)
- Body part

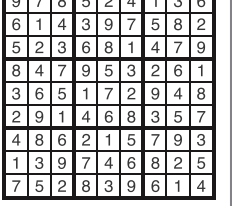
January 15 Solution



Sudoku

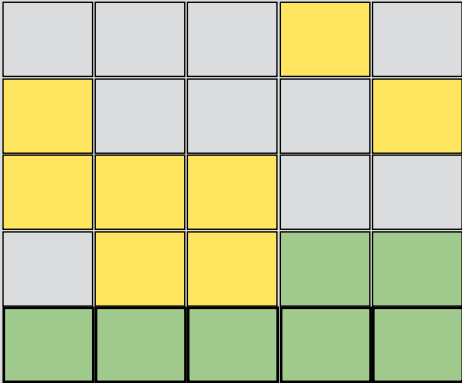


January 15 Solution



Word of the Week

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



- Fully grown human
- Plastic used to make records
- A bar that pivots on a fulcrum
- To work out an answer
- Winter hand covering



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PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

A gaggle on the ground

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 Glynevian 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

Notice of Receipt of Tax Roll and Warrant NOTICE IS HEREBY

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REAL ESTATE

rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, physical or mental disability or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

To view all the news and Classifieds from The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News each week, go to our websites at lakevillejournal.com and millertonnews.com

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