



AMENIA
 “Back to the ‘80s” **A2**

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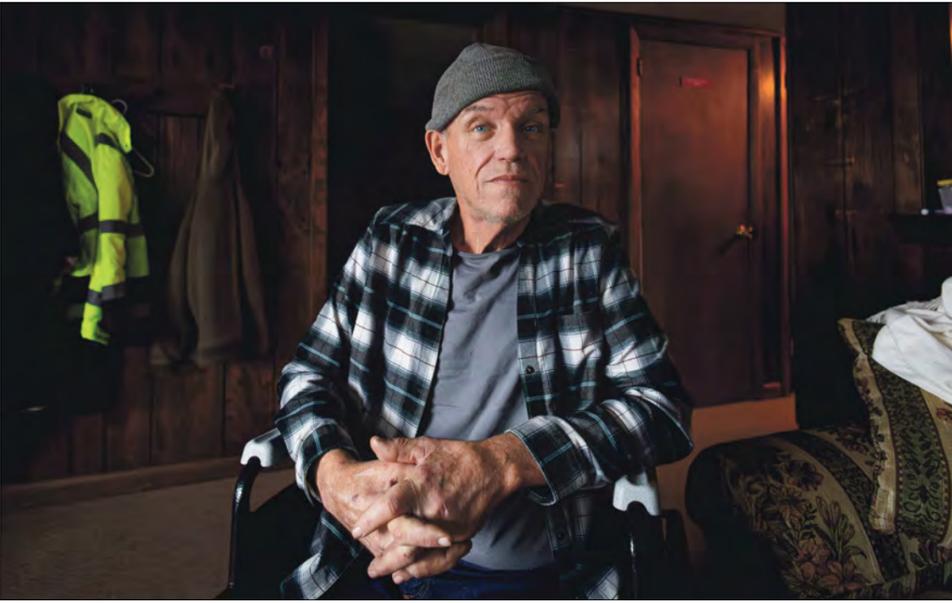


PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Tim Watson sits in the front room of a home he and his family are temporarily occupying. Watson and his family evacuated their apartment at 7-9 Main St. in Millerton after a carbon monoxide leak.

Displaced Main Street tenants allege neglect; owner pushes back

By **ALY MORRISSEY**
 alym@millertonnews.com

MILLERTON — Nearly four weeks after a furnace fire sent deadly levels of carbon monoxide inside 7-9 Main Street and forced as many as 18 residents to evacuate, a dispute between displaced tenants and the building’s owner has raised questions about safety, management and whether the property

will reopen. As of press time, the village had posted a notice on the building declaring it an “Unsafe Structure,” barring residents from returning until required repairs are completed. Village officials said required repairs include installing a new furnace, carbon monoxide and smoke detectors, and an ADA-compliant ramp. However, the owner said he is hesitant to un-

dertake those upgrades after years of challenges with the village and some tenants. Several tenants described their displacement as the latest failure of the owner, Kastriot “Chris” Rrapi, to properly maintain the 126-year-old building, an argument that Rrapi disputes. “Our entire world got flipped

See 7-9 MAIN ST., A10

Pine Plains Supervisor defends role in surveillance contract

By **NATHAN MILLER**
 nathanm@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — More than 50 residents packed Town Hall on Thursday, Feb. 19, as Town Supervisor Brian Walsh sought to address continuing controversy over a proposed license plate reader surveillance system.

At issue is a February 2025 contract with Atlanta-based surveillance company Flock Safety. Residents questioned when the agreement was signed, who authorized it, and whether it was reviewed by the Town Board or Town Attorney Warren Replansky, as re-

quired under town procurement procedures. Walsh addressed the matter about 15 minutes into the meeting, following a public hearing on an unrelated local law. Before opening public comment, he read a prepared statement, asserting once again that he had no knowledge of a contract with Flock Safety and addressed specific comments from a phone call he held with company officials that were recently revealed in a report by The New Pine Plains Herald. The contract in question came to light two weeks ago on Feb. 9 during an emergency meeting of the

Pine Plains Town Board following the discovery of markers for surveillance cameras across town. The New Pine Plains Herald reported that Sgt. Michael Belliveau, who resigned from the town’s police force last year, signed the \$80,000 contract with Flock on Feb. 25, 2025. Under New York State Law, town funds can only be spent with Town Board approval. In Pine Plains, police department equipment is jointly owned with the town government. “At no time was it ever stated to me that a contract had been execut-

See SURVEILLANCE, A10

Cannabis entrepreneur Wassaic grower leaves black market for Main Street

By **NATHAN MILLER**
 nathanm@millertonnews.com

WASSAIC — Tucked into the hills just off Old Route 22, Douglas Broughton operates an indoor cannabis farm — and this spring, he plans to open a dispensary in downtown Millerton. The Wassaic-based grower signed a lease Dec. 1 for the former Demitasse storefront at 32 Main St. He plans to reopen the space as the Black Rabbit Farms cannabis dispensary following modest renovations. The work will include cosmetic updates and the installation of freestanding, custom-made display cabinets. Broughton said he hopes to open in April, but red tape at the New York Office of Cannabi-

Management could delay the opening. The Millerton storefront will mark another milestone for the 63-year-old farmer, who has been cultivating cannabis since the 1990s, when the plant was still illegal. “I just loved the plant and how it grew,” Broughton said. “It’s a very alien plant — it seems like it came from a different planet.” In the early 1990s, Broughton was bartending in Brooklyn and couch-surfing after becoming disenchanted with the television broadcast industry. As an Asian American, he said his dreams of becoming a leading man or prime-time news anchor were dashed by what he described as discrimina-

See CANNABIS., A10



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER



Nor’easter
 A powerful blizzard inundated much of the Northeast U.S. with snow and heavy winds Sunday, Feb. 22, and Monday, Feb. 23, burying north-east Dutchess County in 8 to 12 inches of snow and causing travel bans. Right: Alanna Broesler clears snow from the sidewalk in front of her restaurant, Willa, just after 4:30 p.m. Monday after the storm ended.



CONTACT
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OUR TOWNS



Kyra Whalen, left, and Mariah Bradley perform an impression of elderly women during dress rehearsal at Webutuck High School on Saturday, Feb. 21.



Webutuck music and chorus teacher Kaylee Kelsey, right, puts a tie on Liam Diaz to complete his preppy costume.



Boxes backstage hold costumes for quick changes.



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER

The ensemble cast of "Back to the '80s" shows off their vintage dance moves during dress rehearsal.

Webutuck students bring back the '80s with nostalgic comedy

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — Webutuck's drama program is returning for the second year with a production of "Back to the '80s."

A cast consisting of mostly middle schoolers and one freshman will debut the throwback comedy in Webutuck's auditorium at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 26. Additional performances will follow at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 27, and Saturday, Feb. 28, with a matinee at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 1.

"Back to the '80s" is a nostalgic comedy written by Dean O'Carroll following sixteen-year-old Mary Fitzry who gets transported back in time to 1985 when a time machine malfunctions — echoing the plot of 1985 blockbuster "Back to the Future."

What follows is a reference-filled jaunt through '80s pop culture as the teen, played by Webutuck eighth-grader Fiona Crow, tries to repair the time machine and return to the present day without doing

anything that could change the future.

At dress rehearsal on Saturday, Feb. 21, performers buzzed with excitement as they donned their neon-splashed costumes and high-top sneakers. Some of the students had been preparing for the performance by taking in 80s media.

"We watched 'Big' last night," Webutuck Freshman Nolan Howard said at dress rehearsal, adding that he thought the 1988 Tom Hanks feature was a good movie.

Webutuck music and chorus teacher Kaylee Kelsey leads the

production, marking her second year as the school play's director and producer. She said Webutuck hadn't had a school play in years before she rebooted the program last year.

She said the timing of the program — with rehearsals starting in late September and the performance in the first week of March — created challenges in getting high school students involved.

"It's a winter play, it's not really a spring play," Kelsey said, adding that the winter sports season, academic responsibilities and a lack of familiarity with performance

contribute to the lower numbers among high school students.

So Kelsey, like last year, brought middle school students into the fold. She said at least 10 performers returned after last year's production of "Clue," bringing along friends and other inspired classmates to build a cast of 26 for this year's production.

The younger cast has its own challenges, however. "It is a bit more of a scramble," Kelsey said, but the middle school students make up for a lack of organization with excitement.

Right: Nolan Howard wears his first costume for his role as a local eccentric scientist. Below: the play opens with a modern-day teen arguing with her mother before being transported back to 1985.



Webutuck music and chorus teacher Kaylee Kelsey meets with students at dress rehearsal.

Pine Plains police to test real-time translation software for body cameras

By NATHAN MILLER
nathanm@millertonnews.com

PINE PLAINS — Town officials announced that the police department will begin testing new translation and transcription software designed to help officers communicate more effectively with non-English speakers and improve efficiency in writing reports.

The software package — developed by body camera and electric stun gun manufacturer Axon — includes translation tools that interpret conversations in real time using the microphones and speakers in state-mandated body cameras. That technology would allow officers to communicate with people who can't speak English without the use of a cellphone app, which officials said can be unreliable in areas with poor reception.

Sergeant Steven Camburn said he wanted at least two board members to view a live demonstration of the technology from Axon representatives, though a date for the demonstration has not yet been set.

Councilwoman Jeanine Sisco opened the invitation to community members, saying that interested volunteers could reach out to town board members or Camburn by email if they would like to attend.

Camburn outlined some of the benefits of the tools. The translation tools would eliminate cellphone translation apps, which he said were cumbersome and inconvenient in the field. Translation tools aid in writing police reports, improving officers' efficiency and accuracy, Camburn said.

"It will write the report pretty much more accurately than we can," Camburn said.

The software would be provided through a 30-day trial with no money down and no commitments, Camburn told the board and residents in attendance.

After a brief description of the software, Camburn took questions from a capacity audience. More than 50 people filled Town Hall for the meeting in anticipation of further statements from the Town Board on a controversial proposed surveillance system in the town.

Community members sought clarification as to who has access to body camera footage and transcripts from officers' interactions. Camburn said the data is only accessed on a case-by-case basis and every action is tracked. Axon and outside agencies cannot access the footage, he said.

"Axon is a closed system," Camburn said. "They don't sell anything."

Amenia invites applications for volunteer posts

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millertonnews.com

AMENIA — The Town of Amenia has announced opportunities for residents to fill open volunteer positions on local boards and committees.

Two openings exist to serve as alternates for the Planning Board, and one ex-

ists to serve as an alternate for the Zoning Board of Appeals. Meanwhile, the Housing Board is seeking to fill one vacancy.

Positions are also open to assist with the Climate Smart Task Force, part of the Conservation Advisory Council, and the Enhancement Committee.

All positions are open to town residents. To apply, send a letter of interest and resume by email to the Town Clerk at dmklingner@ameniany.com, or by mail to Town Clerk, Dawn Marie Klingner, 4988 Route 22, Amenia, NY 12501. The deadline for applying is Thursday, March 12, at noon, or until the position is filled.

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Correction

AMENIA — An article on the front page of The Millerton News on Thursday, Feb. 19, incorrectly reported that the Amenia Planning Board voted to require a full environmental impact analysis for the proposed 28-unit workforce housing subdivision.

In fact, the board voted 4-2 on Wednesday, Feb. 11, to prepare a draft positive declaration under the State Environmental Quality Review Act. The issue will be discussed further at the board's March meeting. If adopted, the positive declaration would require a full environmental impact statement and delay the project by six to 12 months.

ZBA rejects attempt to reopen 20-year dispute over illegal Cooper Road home

By ALY MORRISSEY
aly@millerntonnews.com

MILLERTON — The Town of North East Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) voted Thursday, Feb. 19, to formally deny a request that would have reopened a 20-year-old dispute over an illegal dwelling on Cooper Road, bringing the latest chapter of the long-running Vitiello case to a close — and leaving the future of the property unresolved.

The rehearing request, filed in September 2025 by Josephine and Erasmo Vitiello, sought to revisit a 2005 ZBA decision related to the legality of their dwelling — a home located in a landlocked wood lot that has never received a certificate of occupancy.

Although the structure received a building permit in 2005, Town Attorney Warren Replansky has said it was approved as a shed but built as a single-family residence without the required public road frontage. It remains illegal under the

town's zoning code and litigation between the town and homeowners in 2018 resulted in an injunction requiring the property to be vacated.

The home, however, remains occupied, prompting public questions about enforcement by the Town Board. Thursday's meeting served as the board's final opportunity to determine whether it would reopen the case. The ZBA declined to do so, voting 3-1 to adopt a formal resolution written by Replansky denying the request.

The vote leaves the original ZBA ruling in place and affirms that the board will not consider whether the structure can be legalized. The future of the property is now back in the hands of the town's zoning enforcement powers, returning to a status quo that has left residents of the illegal dwelling and neighbors uncertain about next steps.

While the agenda framed the item as a "review and vote on the decision for the reconsideration," the board's

discussion shifted to broader questions about the legality of decisions made decades ago.

Board member Jeff Stark attempted to introduce a motion to re-hear the original 2005 determination, arguing that the ZBA's original ruling contained legal errors — specifically that the board had imposed conditions it did not have the authority to impose and overstepped into the jurisdiction of the highway superintendent and town engineer. No board member seconded Stark's motion.

The decision ends the Vitiellos' attempt to revive the zoning case through the ZBA, the latest chapter of a dispute that has dragged on for years.

Stark, in a lengthy statement entered into the record, argued that the 2005 decision should be clarified to remove conditions the ZBA had no legal power to enforce and to make clear that any path forward lies outside of the ZBA. Other board members did not respond on his comments.



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Julia Descoteaux

Stanford supervisor pushes transparency in first year

By ALY MORRISSEY
aly@millerntonnews.com

STANFORD — Last fall, Julia Descoteaux campaigned for and won election as Stanford's supervisor — but she says she does not want Town Hall to feel political. Instead, she wants it to be accessible and transparent, qualities that recently earned Stanford top honors from the New York Association of Towns (NYAT).

Last week, Stanford's town officials attended the annual NYAT luncheon to receive official recognition as a 2026 "Gold Town of Excellence," an achievement that acknowledges towns that go above and beyond in the areas of economic development, sustainability, planning, community engagement, governance and transparency, and workforce development.

"This honor reflects the hard work happening every day," Descoteaux said. "It belongs to our entire community."

Descoteaux, a Democrat, describes the position as both representative and chief financial officer. As Stanford's budget officer, she is responsible for keeping the town on stable financial footing while navigating the pressures common to rural communities. Rising housing costs, an aging population, limited staff capacity and a narrow tax base are among the challenges she said will command her focus in the year ahead.

"I try to lead with data and

examples," Descoteaux said. She moved from New York City to Stanford during the COVID-19 pandemic and now serves as town supervisor. "I think of myself as a very community-minded and neighbor-minded leader."

Stanford has been helped in recent years by generous donors — including a sizable \$2 million gift to subsidize EMS and ambulance service — but Descoteaux said philanthropy can't replace long-term financial planning.

"That's not a long-term solution," she said.

Her approach, she said, is to minimize the burden on taxpayers by pursuing grants and outside funding — while being candid about the tradeoffs that come with them. Stanford is one of the only towns in Dutchess County not part of the Greenway Compact, she said, which can limit grants and funding.

"Everything has tradeoffs," she said. "My goal is to talk about all of the pros and cons."

The transparency-first stance is likely to be tested as the town prepares to take up zoning recommendations and changes later this year, tied to Stanford's comprehensive plan "Preserving Our Rural Character and Advancing Economic Vitality," adopted in December 2023. Descoteaux expects the conversation to be high-stakes — in part because residents are protective of the town's rural character.

"Most people really want to keep Stanford rural," she said. "They don't want Stanford to turn into something it's not."

While a significant portion of Stanford's land is permanently protected from development, those parcels generate little or no property tax revenue. As a result, the town must fund its services with a smaller tax base, creating additional financial strain.

At the same time, she said, preserving Stanford's identity cannot come at the expense of long-term sustainability, particularly as housing costs continue to rise.

In the near term, Descoteaux said she hopes to make local government easier to access and understand. Her priorities include modernizing the town website, livestreaming meetings, digitizing the paper-based building department and, eventually, enabling electronic payments.

"These are things that can be solved with technology," she said, describing efficiency as both a workforce issue and a fiscal one.

Descoteaux's style is deliberately personal — a hockey mom and a dog mom who talks about government in the language of neighbors in an attempt to avoid divisiveness. Government works best when residents stay in the loop and the conversation, she said.

"Feedback is a gift," she said. "We read everything. My ask is that we keep up that dialogue."

Amenia Town Board divided on filling vacant seat

By LEILA HAWKEN
leilah@millerntonnews.com

AMENIA — Town Board members debated how to fill a seat that has been vacant since February 2025, ultimately tabling the discussion until a formal resolution can be considered at a future meeting.

The vacancy stems from the sudden death of Councilman Paul Winters in February 2025. Since then, the board has operated with four members instead of the prescribed five.

Members were divided on whether to appoint an interim councilmember or leave the seat empty until voters decide at the November election. The debate extended into public

comment at the Thursday, Feb. 19, meeting, where some residents suggested holding a special election to fill the seat.

Councilman Walter Dietrich nominated resident Charlie Miller for the interim appointment, citing Miller's history of service to the town.

Town Supervisor Rosanna Hamm said any appointment would need to be formalized by resolution. The board voted 3-1 to table the matter until its next meeting on Thursday, March 5, when a resolution could be considered. Dietrich cast the lone vote against tabling the discussion.

Comments from residents included a suggestion for a special election, but officials said the cost of holding an

election for what would be a short-term appointment would be impractical. Hamm noted that the seat will appear on the November ballot.

Another resident asked whether additional candidates might be considered for the interim appointment. Hamm recalled a similar vacancy in 2024 that became "unduly divisive," saying she favors leaving the position unfilled until the election.

Councilwoman Vicki Doyle disagreed, arguing that a full board is necessary to manage the town's workload.

"But we're minus one person," Doyle said, likening the situation to a basketball team trying to play with only four members instead of five.

LEGAL NOTICES

ABSTRACT

By resolution dated February 18, 2026 the Amenia Fire District has approved a resolution, subject to permissive referendum, to utilize reserve funds to purchase a Heavy Rescue Vehicle in the amount of up to \$2,100,000.00, utilizing funds from the Capital Reserve Fund. Any person desiring a mandatory vote on the issue must file a properly executed and sufficient petition within thirty days of the date of publication of this notice. Dated: Amenia, New York, February 26, 2026

Dawn Marie Klingner,
District Secretary
02-26-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Cat Kin Willow LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 1/7/2026. Office Location: Dutchess County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: Cat Kin Willow LLC, 14 Poplar Ave, Pine Plains, NY, 12567. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

02-05-26
02-12-26
02-19-26
02-26-26
03-05-26
03-12-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Your Mom's Bush Native & Medicinal Plant Nursery LLC. Arts. Of Org. file with SSNY on 1/20/2026. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 3657 U.S. 44, Millbrook, NY, 12545. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

02-12-26
02-19-26
02-26-26
03-05-26
03-12-26
03-19-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of CGM Freight, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/13/2026. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 27 Whinfield Street, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

02-26-26
03-05-26
03-12-26
03-19-26
03-26-26
04-02-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company HV Moonlight Events LLC

filed with SSNY on 2/17/26. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 103 Horseshoe Road Millbrook NY 12545 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

02-26-26
03-05-26
03-12-26
03-19-26
03-26-26
04-02-26

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Dreamcatcher Holdco, LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/18/2026. Office location: Dutchess County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 79 Kent Street, Beacon, New York 12508. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

02-26-26
03-05-26
03-12-26
03-19-26
03-26-26
04-02-26

Legal Notice

On-Center Contracting LLC filed an Application for Authority with the Secretary of State of NY on 11/14/2025. Office location: Dutchess County.

SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom

process against it may be served.

SSNY shall mail a copy of any process served against the LLC to 183 Lake Rd, Warren, CT 06777.

The purpose of the LLC is contracting/carpentry. On-Center Contracting LLC can be reached at (860)-806-4934.

01-29-26
02-05-26
02-12-26
02-19-26
02-26-26
03-05-26

Legal Notice

The Town Board of the Town of Pine Plains will hold a Special meeting March 3, 2026 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall ,3284 Rt. 199 Pine Plains Ny 12567.

The purpose of said meeting is to discuss the New York State DOT TAP Grant.

The said meeting is Open to the Public and comments are encouraged.

By Order of the
Town Board
Madelin Defoe
Town Clerk
02-26-26

LEGAL NOTICE Village of Millerton 2026 Election

Please take Notice that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Millerton designates the following offices as vacant position(s)

at the end of the current official year to be filled at the Village Elections to be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, for the following terms.

TRUSTEE - TWO (2)
YEAR TERM
TRUSTEE - TWO (2)
YEAR TERM

By order of the
Village Board
Lisa Cope
Village Clerk
02-26-26

TOWN OF AMENIA PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF

PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Chapter 105 of the Town of Amenia Code, the Planning Board of the Town of Amenia will hold a public hearing on the application by Laurence DeSegonzac Levin (the "Applicant") for a lot line change consisting of transferring .45 acres from 173-279 Amenia Union Road, tax parcel 13200-7266-00-340380 to the adjoining 554-acre farm (the "Application") on the property located at Leedsville Road, tax parcel # 132000-7266-00-165686 in the Town of Amenia (the "Project Site" (s)). The Project Site is located in the Rural Agricultural zoning district and Flood Plain Overlay and Scenic Protection overlay districts.

P L E A S E T A K E

FURTHER NOTICE that the Planning Board will hold the public hearing on the Application on March 11, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Amenia Town Hall, 4988 NYS Route 22, Amenia, New York 12501.

P L E A S E T A K E FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the Application is on file in the Amenia Town Clerk's Office for public viewing and inspection during normal business hours. The Application can also be viewed and downloaded from the Town's official website at www.ameniany.gov.

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

Dated: February 19, 2026

Robert Boyles, Jr.,
Chairman
Town of Amenia
Planning Board
02-26-26

OBITUARIES

Irving Francis Robbins

CORNWALL — Irving Francis Robbins of Cabot, Vermont, age 85, died in his home with his family by his side on Feb. 11, 2026. Irv lived an active and fulfilling life, and he often spoke of how truly fortunate he was. He took great pleasure in family, friends, teaching and coaching, travel, the forest, and UConn basketball.



hill, off the grid, on a Class IV road, and the other, easily accessible, at the bottom of that hill. He and Cindy enjoyed Vermont living with Irv working the land with his tractor and backhoe. He developed vegetable and flower gardens, meadows, and forest paths. He planted firs for Christmas trees, harvested wood, and maintained and plowed the long road to his home.

Born in May of 1940 in Torrington, Connecticut, to John and Dorothy Robbins, Irv grew up beside the Weigold dairy farm near Winchester.

Irv was an involved grandfather, lucky to live near both of his children and their families in retirement. A good neighbor, Irv liked to visit and was always ready to lend a hand. He was open to meeting new people and took interest in their experiences. Ever the advocate for independence and self-reliance, Irv tutored newcomers to the United States in English and encouraged people of all ages to pursue their education. He will be missed dearly by those who knew and loved him.

The youngest of four children, Irv's early education began in a one-room schoolhouse. A childhood spent fishing and hunting sparked his lifelong interest in the forest and self-sufficiency. Baseball games and jaunts through the woods with his siblings were balanced with work at home and on the farm. As a young man, Irv worked at the Great Mountain Forest in Norfolk where his interest in the forest grew.

Irving was predeceased by his wife, Cynthia Robbins; his sister, Shirley Pedone; and his granddaughter, Madeline Robbins. He is survived by his daughter, Leslie Robbins (Nick); his son, Luke Robbins (Taeryn); his grandchildren, Crawford, Hudson, Silas, and Alaina; his brother, William Robbins; his sister, Patricia Bodmer; as well as many nephews and nieces.

A member of the Army National Guard and a graduate of Western Connecticut State University and the University of Hartford, Irv's teaching career spanned several decades.

A Celebration of Irv's life will be held later this year. To receive updates about the service, please email: lukecrobbins@gmail.com.

He was a stalwart figure at Sharon Center School where he taught for twenty-nine years and coached multiple sports.

Contributions in Irving's memory may be made to the Irving and Cindy Robbins International Studies Fund, a fund of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, which Irv established to support immersive international travel experiences in cultures outside of North America for students, teachers, and alumni of Region One school district in Connecticut. Contributions to the fund may be made by visiting www.berkshiretaconic.org/donate, or by mailing a check made out to Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, with the fund name on the memo line, to 800 North Main Street, Sheffield, MA 01257.

An advocate for youth athletics, he helped organize the first Region One track meet for elementary students, an event he championed for many years. Above all, he enjoyed the students and staff of SCS.

Memories and condolences may be shared with family at CaledoniaLifeServices.com.

While on sabbatical in the early 1990s, Irv taught English at a language university in Wroclaw, Poland for a year, an adventure he relished.

Photo by Sarah Kenyon, courtesy of BTFCF.

Irv married Cindy in 1965. After several years in Oregon and Vermont, the couple returned to Connecticut and chose Cornwall to raise their children. A kind and patient father, Irv was supportive of Leslie's and Luke's education and interests. His luge run provided hours of fun every winter, and his maple syrup was a household favorite.

Irv's many extra jobs, from lawn care to security at Lime Rock Park, ensured his family's educational opportunities.

After retiring from teaching, Irv built two homes in Cabot, Vermont: one atop a

Hubert Doyle Cleaveland, Jr.

SHARON — Hubert Doyle Cleaveland, Jr., 84, of Darden, Tennessee, passed away Feb. 16, at his home after a brief illness.



He was born Dec. 1, 1941 in Sharon, Connecticut to the late Hubert Doyle Cleaveland, Sr. and Georgia Willson Cleaveland. He was a retired diesel mechanic, attended Rock Hill Baptist Church, enjoyed antique cars and was a U.S. Air Force veteran serving from 1962 to 1967. Mr. Cleaveland was a member of the American Legion Post 243 in Scotts Hill and was very active in providing military honors at veteran's funerals in this area for several years.

land, in Jan. of this year and by 2 brothers, Richard and James Cleaveland.

Hubert is survived by three sisters; Carol Dean, of Millerton, New York, Beverly Cleaveland, of Glastonbury, Connecticut, Mary Massy, of Warren, Connecticut; two brothers, John Cleaveland, of Palm Harbor, Florida, and Joseph Cleaveland of Lakeville, Connecticut.

Mr. Cleaveland's wishes were to be cremated and a memorial service will be held at a later time.

He was preceded in death by his wife Marcella Cleave-

land, in Jan. of this year and by 2 brothers, Richard and James Cleaveland.

John Forbes Hanlon

NORTH CANAAN — John "Jack" Forbes Hanlon, 90, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Feb. 22, 2026, at Noble Horizons in Salisbury, Connecticut. He was born July 29, 1935, at Geer Hospital in Canaan to parents Joseph Daniel Hanlon and Ruth Cleaveland.

Jack grew up in Falls Village and joined the Army from 1957-1958. He was married for over 50 years to his sweetheart, Linda "Niver" Hanlon in 1959. Jack worked on the Hanlon Family Farm on Route 63 in Falls Village. After that, he worked for the Town of Canaan Maintenance Department and O'Connor Bros. as a truck driver for 30 years where he took pride in maintaining his truck with weekly detailing to keep it pristine. After retirement, Jack kept busy by mowing lawns and rototilling gardens.

He lived on Granger Lane for over 50 years where he waved to all the neighbors who passed. He lived at Wangum Village after Linda's passing for 13 years before moving into Noble Horizon. Jack was a regular at Collin's Diner, where if he missed a day, they went looking for him.

Jack was predeceased by his siblings; Elizabeth Beebe, Margaret Flynn, Joseph Hanlon and Florence Hayes. He is survived by his children; Vincent and Michele Hanlon of Lime Rock, Theresa and Mat-

thew Freund of East Canaan, Michael and Tina Hanlon of Falls Village, Lisa and Wilson Korth of Vergennes, Vermont, and Jacolyn and Barry Brown of East Canaan. Jack is also survived by his grandchildren; Caitlin Hanlon, Lauren Hanlon and her husband Kenny Weaver, Amanda Freund, Emily Freund, Isaac Freund and his wife Ashley, Rachel Freund and her husband Cole Van Seters, Alexandra Brown, Ryan Brown, Michael Hanlon, Jr., Alexander Korth, Kyle Korth and his wife Emily, his great grandchildren Rhyder Prause and Delila Freund and many nieces and nephews. Jack had a special connection for his niece, Mary Kate Hayes of Falls Village.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the North Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corps, PO Box 178, Canaan, CT 06018 and share a story about our father that would bring a smile to a friend.

The family wishes to thank Noble Horizon for their compassionate care and patience with our father.

Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main Street, Canaan, CT, 06018.

Calling hours will be held at the funeral home on Sunday, March 1, at 2 p.m. Memorial service will immediately follow.

Moe Bordwin

LAKEVILLE — It is with great sadness that we announce that Moe Bordwin, age 89, died peacefully with family by his side on Oct. 30, 2025.



Born in the Bronx in 1936, Moe delighted his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and all who would listen, with his stories of running around the Bronx neighborhood with his many friends, taking 3 subways to work in his uncles' grocery store from the age of 8, as a teenager, waiting tables at hotels in Spring Valley, New York (where he met his wife, then a counselor at that hotel's day camp), and army stories to last a lifetime.

In 1957, Moe married Rochelle Semp, his soulmate, from Jersey City and they built a life together in Glen Cove, New York with a large group of friends. They raised their children there, helped found Theater II, and were lovingly involved in their synagogue Congregation Tifereth Israel, where he was a pillar of their community. Moe was also a supporter of Surprise Lake Camp, where he spent many summers as a child, and later became a trustee of the Camp.

Moe had a distinguished professional career as an attorney where he transformed the real estate bankruptcy field in the 1970s. In 1982 he established Keen Realty Consultants which later became Keen-Summit Capital Partners from which he retired in 2010. Moe borrowed the name "Keen" from his in-laws, who were retiring and closing their Jersey City clothing store Keen Kotton.

Moe lived his life with love, humility and generosity. He always wanted to help others, and he shared his business

acumen with all who needed it (and even some who didn't ask for it). He quietly helped people through difficult times with advice and care. Anyone who needed help knew they could turn to Moe for support.

Moe leaves behind his wife of 68 years, Rochelle; his son Harold (Julie); his daughter Janet (Eric Gallant); his son Matthew (Danielle); and his grandchildren; Jesse Bordwin (Gwendolyn Towers) and Simon Bordwin (Robbie Blue), Charlie Kannel (Arden Kreeger), Ethan Kannel (Rebecca) and Jared Kannel, Lizzy Bordwin (Peyton Don), Callie Bordwin and Mia Bordwin, and his great-grandchildren; Madelyn Paige Kannel and Sophia Rose Kannel. His legacy of love, innovation, generosity, honor, compassion, and integrity will forever inspire us.

Donations in memory of Moe can be made to:

The Moe Bordwin Memorial Fund at Congregation Tifereth Israel, 40 Hill Street, Glen Cove, NY 11542; <https://members.ctionline.org/form/Moe%20Bordwin%20Memorial%20Fund>

(Just as Moe was always one of the first to lend a hand to others, this Fund has been created to carry forward his spirit of generosity and compassion).

Surprise Lake Camp, 302 Lake Surprise Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516; <https://surpriselake.org/ways-to-give/tribute-gift/>

(As a kid from the Bronx, Moe was sponsored to go to Surprise Lake Camp and get out into the country. In addition to being a camper there, he was a long-time member of the Board of Trustees and has helped numerous children experience summer camp there).

Carolyn G. McCarthy

LAKEVILLE — Carolyn G. McCarthy, 88, a long time resident of Indian Mountain Road, passed away peacefully at home on Feb. 7, 2026.



She was born on Sept. 8, 1937, in Hollis, New York. She was the youngest daughter of the late William James and Ruth Anderson Gedge of Indian Mountain Road.

Carolyn's first job out of high school was at the Time and Life building in Manhattan, New York. In 1956, she went on to work for Capital Airlines until they disbanded.

She began banking in White Plains, New York, where she met her husband Edward James McCarthy. They started their family and relocated to Pleasant Valley, New York. She then returned to banking in Poughkeepsie, New York and later pursued real estate.

Carolyn was very creative and enjoyed home making, gardening, sewing, knitting, cooking and baking. Her Christmas cookies were always remarkable. She had a pioneer spirit and embraced

the toil of yard chores. She was very independent and at 87 she still shoveled the driveway in the winter, mowed the grass, trimmed the bushes, raked the leaves and dragged the brush. She took pride in the manicure of the grounds where she resided.

Carolyn was a wonderful mother who had an enormous heart. She loved all animals, wild or tame. She will be dearly missed by her family and the people that knew her.

She is predeceased by her husband Edward McCarthy Sr. and her brother Dr. Stafford Gedge of Minnesota.

She is survived by her son, Edward (Anne) McCarthy of Greenfield, Massachusetts, and grandsons James and Theodore, son Sean McCarthy of Oak Hill, New York, sister Nancy Dougherty of South Carolina, nieces Lynn Warner, Debra Phillips, Susan Nelson, Christine Richards and nephews William, James and Robert Gedge.

A private service will be held at a later date.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

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

Send obituaries to obituaries@lakevillejournal.com

THE MILLERTON NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE A5 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

What is gunboat diplomacy without boats?

In December 2025, the president unveiled plans to revamp the U.S. Navy. He announced the construction of two new battleships, each costing between \$10-\$15 billion. It's a start, but still only a drop in the bucket for reviving American shipbuilding.

Why is that important? First off, in commercial terms, almost 80% of global trade by weight is transported by ships. If you also consider the capabilities of our armed forces, you understand that nearly 90% of their supplies, equipment, fuel, ammo, and food are delivered by ships. In addition, if we encounter a national emergency, the Navy will depend on commercial shipyards to build warships and support ships, as well as to transport equipment and troops.

We learned this during World War II. At its height, the U.S. accounted for nearly 90% of global shipbuilding output. Today, that output has declined to a mere 0.2% of gross tonnage. What happened? Competition. After the war, the rest of the world needed to be rebuilt, much of it with American money, and the shipyards were among the areas that had been decimated.

Japan, for example, could offer lower labor costs, no union issues, brand-new shipyards, and prices that undercut American construction by as much as 60%. The fact that foreign steel production skyrocketed as well and was sold at a fraction of the U.S. price didn't help either.

You know this, how? You might ask. As a kid in Philly in the early 50s, lots of neighborhood dads worked at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard after the war. They made a good living then, since U.S. shipbuilding was still in its heyday. But the decline was rapid.

In the 1970s, the U.S. government attempted to reverse that slide with the Merchant Marine Act of 1970. Shipbuilders spent more than a billion dollars modernizing their yards and making capital improvements with government backing. America also asked the Japanese, now the world's top shipbuilder, to introduce new techniques and practices to reinvigorate our moribund industry.

It worked. For a brief period, the U.S. became the second-largest commercial shipbuilder in the world, behind Japan. Many of these new ships were Liquefied Natural Gas carriers and oil tankers. However, the 1973 oil crisis put an end to that. The petroleum industry was on its knees, and demand for new ships dried up.

Despite that setback, our shipbuilding productivity improved in the years that followed. Meanwhile, foreign shipbuilders—especially the Chinese—improved even faster. In 2008, China surpassed Japan in shipbuilding output; by 2010, it overtook Korea to become the world's largest shipbuilder.

By 2022, the U.S. had built just five ocean-going, commercial ships compared to China's 1,794 and South Korea's 734. Today, the U.S. Navy estimates that China's shipbuilding capacity is 232 times that of the U.S. Even

THE RETIRED INVESTOR

Bill Schmick

worse, it costs twice as much to build a ship in the U.S. as it does elsewhere.

Nine Asian and European carriers, organized into three cartels, now control 90% of the U.S. containerized shipping trade. To add insult to injury, one Chinese company produces 80% of all the ship-to-shore cranes in America. I could go on, but this is about shipbuilding, not about the Chinese, who also produce 95% of the shipping containers. The 2025 order book for new vessels indicated that China accounted for 75% of orders, followed by South Korea at 19%. Under these circumstances, how is Donald Trump going to make American shipbuilding great again?

Largely by following the tactics used by the U.S. in the Seventies. A new office of shipbuilding has been established and is again offering special tax incentives to develop the industry. Last year, the U.S. signed deals with three affiliates of Hanwha Group, the world's third-largest shipbuilder. The \$500 billion deal is earmarked for maritime investment. In 2024, Hanwha bought the Philly Shipyard for \$100 million. This is the sad remnant of my boyhood Naval Yard. That yard closed in the 1990s, laying off thousands of South Philly workers.

Hanwha is sinking \$5 billion into the shipyard to upgrade the site. It is also training what they hope will be a new generation of shipbuilders, while investing in robotic labor. Management estimates that, if they hit their target of 20 boats per year, the workforce could top 10,000. That's a big "if."

The administration and industry plan to focus on manufacturing LNG tankers, icebreakers, and naval vessels. An Italian company, Fincantieri Marinette Marine (FMM), based in Wisconsin, is already manufacturing naval vessels, LNG-fueled cruise ships, and other commercial vessels. The U.S. is working with the Italians to expand that enterprise. In addition, last year Finland and the U.S. agreed to spend \$6.1 billion to produce 11 new icebreakers for the U.S., with the first due to be completed by 2028.

Trump's gunboat diplomacy, whether in Iran, Venezuela, or who knows where, appears to be a strategic tool of his presidency. As such, it is vital that the U.S. commands the high seas. In an age of drone warfare, ships are vulnerable in both combat and commercial settings. It's early days, but at least the administration recognizes the need to modernize this industry. The hope is that just maybe my grandson might see the day when Philadelphia could once again be noted for something other than cheese steaks.

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).



"It's not that I don't see it, but perhaps we should discuss why you feel compelled to go down it..."

'Weird New Deal', Grand Union, Harlem Line

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

Feb. 28, 1935

Ross-Haas Bill Attacked By Senator Assailed as "Example of Weird New Deal Policies"

ALBANY-State Senator Frederic H. Bontecou of the Twenty-eighth Senatorial District Tuesday night made a biting attack upon the Ross-Haas bill, also known as the New York State Rural Rehabilitation bill, declaring that the "bill is a perfect example of weird Federal New Deal policies incorporated into New York State Law."

Describing the bill as "the most far-reaching and loosest piece of legislation introduced this session." Mr. Bontecou ridiculed the theory contained in the bill of "taking citizens from the cities of the State and planting them on Up-State farms to compete with farmers in an effort to make a living."

Asking if the real purpose behind the bill was to "colonize Up-State rural communities with Manhattan Democrats who, after failing on the farm, would become burdens upon the communities." Mr. Bontecou branded the proposal as "another \$50,000,000 experiment destined to meet with failure."

Eight-Hour Day Favored By Allen

Assemblyman Howard N. Allen of Pawling, representing the First Assembly District of Dutchess County, last week expressed his support of an eight-hour day for employees of State institutions. Interviewed at Albany by a special representative of THE NEWS, Assemblyman Allen stated that he was thoroughly familiar with working conditions at State hospitals and that he is in favor of an eight-hour day for employees.

Isabel Harvey Chosen Alumni Vice-President

Miss Isabel Harvey was unanimously elected vice-president of the Millerton High School Alumni Association at its regular meeting Monday night, succeeding Maurice Downey who resigned recently. Methods of creating more interest on the part of members in Alumni activities were discussed, and it was suggested that a room be rented and furnished for social meetings of the organization. A drive for the payment of dues has been launched.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Millerton News

February 26, 1976

Grand Union Set To Build At Ames Plaza

The construction of a Grand Union supermarket and 4 or 5 retail stores is tentatively scheduled to begin in the spring at the site of the Ames department store north of Amenia.

James Munroe, real estate manager for the Grand Union Company, said this week construction on a 20,000 square-foot store will begin when warm weather sets in. "I'd say May or June they'll start building," said Munroe. The present Amenia Grand Union on East Main Street is 10,000 square feet.

Bond Sale Bust Leaves Harlem Line In Lurch

New York State's inability to market its railroad bonds to market its railroad projects in the lurch, including the State Department of Transportation's (DOT) promise to return passenger service to Millerton.

Penn Central cut off passenger trains to Millerton without warning in March 1972. The commuter trains from New York City presently run only to Dover Plains.

Needs Annual Appropriation

Louis Rossi, chairman of the State's Rail Task Force, said Tuesday, "The commitment is still there (for Millerton trains), but as years go by since the bond issue, with inflation; projects will cost a lot more."

He asserted that the only way the State will be able to maintain an efficient railroad system is "to create a permanent mechanism to keep the railroads going, an annual railroad appropriation, to give continuity."

Lettie Carson, president of the Harlem Valley Transportation Association (HVTA), charged this week that State legislators are not listening to their constituents about their need for the railroad: "They appropriate \$364 million for new highway construction but can't afford to save rail lines." State Sen. Jay P. Rolison Jr. and Assemblyman Benjamin Roosa were not available for comment.

Carson said that she believed the Millerton depot could support 2 trains a day each way, beginning with 2 morning trains: "If we get decent service, I do think it

would be supported with expanded service on weekends and holidays." She also advocated unit trains to Chatham and Pittsfield: "The size (of the train) should be modified to the time of the week." Carson asserted that passenger service was "unreliable in the past. It was not unusual to arrive in New York City 1½ hours late. That does not stimulate patronage of trains."

February 22, 2001 On Taking Over Grand Union, Bob Trotta Leaves Door Open

MILLERTON — Once again the upper Harlem Valley is rife with speculation that change is in the air for the Grand Union supermarkets.

Early this week, rumors circulated that local businessman and attorney Robert Trotta would take over both the Grand Union stores in Millerton and Amenia.

"I can neither confirm nor deny that," Mr. Trotta said Tuesday:

The Grand Union Co., based in Wayne, N.J., last year declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy, and subsequently sold most of its stores and assets through an auction to C&S Wholesale Grocers in Brattleboro, Vt.

According to Mr. Trotta, C&S has yet to officially close on the deal, and in the meantime "there are two - possibly three - different companies looking at Millerton."

Mr. Trotta declined to reveal the names of those companies. Nor would he rule out

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a re-entry into the supermarket business. C&S representatives said earlier this year they had no plans to close the Millerton or Amenia stores.

"C&S is keeping us informed," said Mr. Trotta, who owns the buildings in the Millerton Plaza, including the Grand Union.

"If we are convinced there will be a good operator, then we will not jump into it and participate in the bidding process," said Mr. Trotta.

He said he would "like to see a good, aggressive, knowledgeable operator in the building." He would also like to know that any potential buyer could keep the store adequately staffed.

"If we thought the town was going to get hurt, then we would likely step in," added Mr. Trotta.

Mr. Trotta said he owns all the equipment currently in the building, so he could act quickly if the store closed.

The Millerton store has seen its share of occupants over the years. Known as "Trotta's" since relocating to the Millerton Plaza from the village center in 1970, the store was owned and operated by Joseph Trotta Sr., who died in 1986.

In 1993, Mr. Trotta's sons Joseph Jr. and Robert sold the store to a leasing company that brought in Great American. When the leasing company went bankrupt three years later, the store was sold to Grand Union, which has operated at the Route 44 location since 1996.

THE MILLERTON NEWS

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With Gratitude

The Lakeville Journal

The MILLERTON NEWS

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Millerton turns 175 this summer

What to expect from the village-wide celebration

Millerton will commemorate its 175th anniversary this summer with a nine-day, village-wide celebration designed to honor the past, showcase its current success and generate excitement about the future.

Planned festivities will span July 11-19, 2026, with events spread across Main Street, Eddie Collins Memorial Park, the Millerton Moviehouse, the NorthEast-Millerton Library and more.

The celebration is being built as a true community effort, with local organizations,

businesses, historians and residents shaping the program. The goal, organizers say, is to create something that feels both nostalgic and exciting for people of all ages. Committee Chair Lisa Hermann said it will be a mix of retro fun, hometown pride and forward momentum.

Attendees can expect pop-up events across Main Street, historic exhibits and photo displays, local business collaborations, food and street celebrations, and more throughout the week.

The grand finale will be a

multi-day fair in Eddie Collins Memorial Park with rides, games, live entertainment, an old-school carnival and a drone show that will light up the night sky with images of a train to wow spectators.

"We considered fireworks but opted for something more modern that would combine elements of the past and future," Hermann said. "Plus, a lot of us on the committee have dogs," she laughed, acknowledging that furry friends aren't always fans of the popping sounds of fireworks.

Officials say the celebration is designed to feel like a living snapshot of Millerton with the past, present and future unfolding across the village throughout the week.

A full schedule of events can be found at villageofmillerton-n-y.gov/175th.

Millerton at 175

This story marks the launch of The News' ongoing 175th Anniversary series, which will explore the history, people, places,

and pivotal moments that have shaped Millerton over the past 175 years in the lead-up to the July celebration.

Celebrating Millerton's founding days

This year's celebration marks 175 years since Millerton's founding in 1851, when civil engineer Sidney Miller brought the New York and Harlem Railroad through what was then farmland in the Town of North East — itself established in 1788. Almost overnight, a village formed around the railroad tracks. In tribute to the engineer whose work sparked its creation, the new settlement was named Millerton.

The railroad transformed the area from a quiet, agricultural landscape into a bustling commercial hub. Soon after, additional rail lines connected Millerton to Boston, Poughkeepsie and the Hudson River, positioning the village as a key shipping point for milk, crops, goods and travelers moving between rural communities and major cities.

With the trains came hotels, stores and workers. Early visitors arrived seeking fresh country air, while farmers shipped milk and crops to growing urban centers. In a New York Times article published in 2011, longtime resident Phil Terni — whose grandparents founded Terni's General Store in 1919 — described the early days as

"an agricultural crossroads with three hotels served by three railroads."

Industry also helped shape the young village. In nearby Irondale, established in 1854, the Millerton Iron Company produced cast iron railcar wheels and employed more than 100 workers at its peak,

underscoring how rail and iron together fueled Millerton's early growth.

Though Millerton traces its founding to 1851 with the arrival of the railroad, the village was formally incorporated in 1875 — securing its status as an independent municipality.

Behind the logo – inspired by the history of the railroad

When the Millerton 175th Anniversary Committee set out to design a logo for the milestone celebration, it wanted an image that reflected how the village began — not just a graphic, but a symbol of how Millerton came to be.

Committee member Eric Rewilak spearheaded the design process, grounding the logo in the village's history as a railroad town.

"We wanted the logo to represent the foundation of the Village of Millerton," Rewilak said.

In Millerton's early years, three intersecting train lines transformed the rural hamlet into a regional commercial and agricultural hub, connecting local farms and businesses to the Northeast.

"Although the train is no longer in operation, we felt it was important to recognize what put Millerton on the

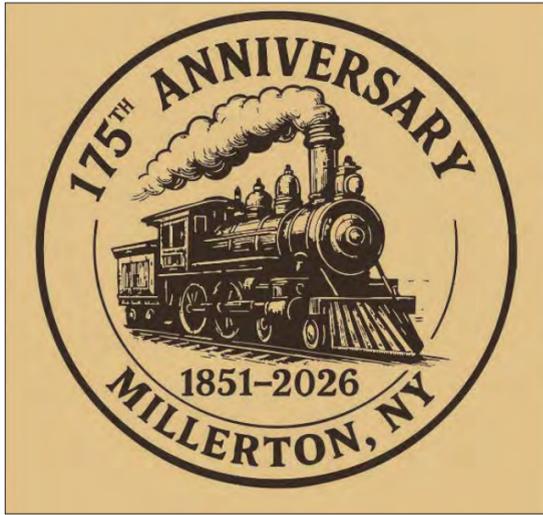


ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

The Millerton 175th Anniversary Committee's logo.

map when the community formed in 1851," Rewilak said.

Committee Chair Lisa Hermann said the train motif reflects both movement

and connection — a nod to the village's past and a symbol of how the community continues to come together 175 years later.

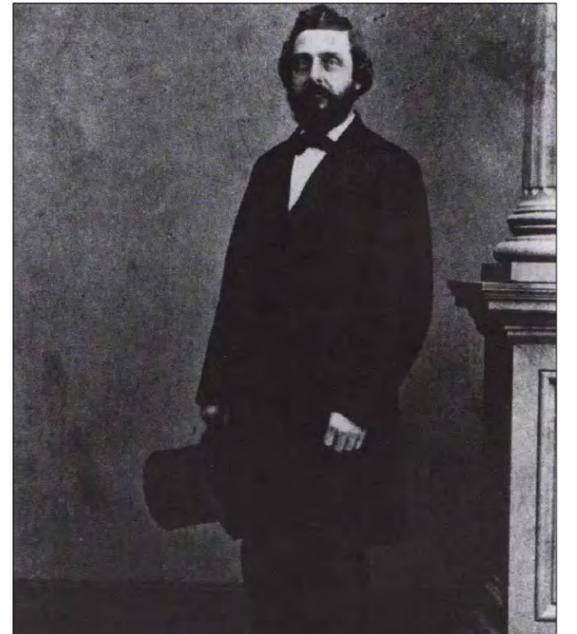


PHOTO COURTESY VILLAGE OF MILLERTON

Sidney Miller

Follow along and get involved

The Millerton 175th Anniversary Committee is encouraging residents and visitors to follow along as plans continue to take shape and new events are added to the calendar.

Social media and the village website will serve as the main

hub for announcements, schedules, volunteer opportunities, contests and a behind-the-scenes look at what's coming.

Follow the 175th Anniversary Committee:

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/profile.](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61575949232182)

[php?id=61575949232182](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61575949232182)

Instagram: @millerton-s175th

Community members who want to get involved are invited to reach out to the committee at 175th@villageofmillerton-n-y.gov.



PHOTO COURTESY NORTH EAST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A vintage postcard shows the Millerton train station when it was an active stop along the Harlem Railroad line.

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A view of the past

An 1887 map of Millerton captures the village in its early years as a railroad hub. Readers who have historic photos depicting life in Millerton in decades past are encouraged to email nathanm@millertonnews.com

7-9 MAIN ST. Continued from Page A1

upside down in a matter of hours," said Britney Watson, 22, who said she woke to the smell of smoke and felt dizzy as alarms sounded. Her family — including her father, Tim Watson, who uses a wheelchair after losing both legs — was among those forced to evacuate.

The property now appears unoccupied. Village officials said they shut off water to the building as an additional measure to prevent anyone from living there.

The Watson family is currently staying in temporary housing with assistance from the American Red Cross — an arrangement that is set to expire in early March, around 30 days after they first moved into the temporary home. The family said their future living situation is now uncertain.

Tenants describe displacement and past conditions

Tim Watson said he and his family moved into a first-floor apartment in the building about three years ago — though Rrapi describes it as less than two — and did not sign a written lease. Watson said his family was asked to pay rent in cash under a verbal agreement that would allow for weekly payments based on their fixed-income financial situation. Rent was \$1,650 per month for a two-bedroom apartment.

"There was no lease," Watson said. "It was always cash."

The Watson family described long-standing problems, including pests, unreliable heat, and water leaks. The family said they repeatedly raised concerns about maintenance issues that went ignored. In the weeks leading up to the fire, Watson said the apartment went days without heat or hot water, forcing the family to rely on a space heater.

Jason Wendover, who is married to one of Watson's daughters, described similar issues during his time in the building in 2025 in a second-floor apartment, including concerns about whether utilities were properly separated by unit and what he said was a severe cockroach infestation.

"They got into everything," Wendover said of the cockroaches. "I'd wake up in the morning and, if I forgot to change the coffee, there would be roaches floating in the coffee pot."

Rrapi disputes many of the Watsons' claims and said they stopped paying rent months ago, leaving their unit in disarray after the evacuation.

"The building is old, I understand that," Rrapi said. "It needs work. But the drama this family puts landlords through — it's unacceptable."

He said the family destroyed the apartment and caused tension for other tenants, noting complaints about loud arguments and smoking indoors.

Rrapi disputes allegations that he required cash-only payments, saying all of his tenants are welcome to pay by cash, check or Zelle — a cellphone banking app that allows for electronic payments. He also said a professional exterminator was sent to the building and that the Watson family refused to allow them into their apartment.

"I submitted the receipt to the Dutchess County Department of Health," Rrapi said.

Rrapi said the Watsons owe him nearly \$22,000 in back rent and damages, and eviction proceedings are underway. He said they were provided with notice in the months leading up to the fire. He described the apartment left behind by the family as severely damaged, saying they did not maintain the interior

of the apartment.

"It's a wreck to the point that it has to be gutted," Rrapi said. "It's my fault that I rented to them, but I felt sorry for them."

Tim Watson denied ever receiving an eviction notice and rejected claims that his family caused damage to the apartment. He said he withheld as much as \$15,000 in rent in the months leading up to the fire, describing the decision as a protest against what he called "slum-like" conditions in the building.

Foreclosure, zoning roadblocks and an uncertain future

Rrapi said the building's future remains uncertain amid foreclosure proceedings that began in 2023 after a commercial loan went into default, which he attributed largely to a discrepancy he said he discovered after purchasing the property with his father, Zef Rapaj.

With 12 electrical meters on the building, the pair believed it was configured for 12 units, but they later learned it is legally zoned for six, which complicated the property's finances and prompted him to pursue a variance through the village's Zoning Board of Appeals.

He described the property as "the biggest headache I ever bought," citing years of zoning roadblocks and financial strain that have left him uncertain how much more he is willing to invest in the property. Rrapi purchased the Millerton property along with two residential properties in Amenia and a vacant lot in Dover Plains from Christine Lilley of Brewster in 2021.

"I'm not going to put that kind of money into it if I'm not allowed to use the building the way it's set up," he said.

While he said he plans to replace the furnace, Rrapi said renovation plans have stalled amid what he described as shifting standards and mixed signals from the village.

With his legal team and architect Ray Nelson of Earthwise Architecture, Rrapi sought to scale back a proposal from 12 units to nine, which the ZBA rejected in June 2025.

The variance request was denied in part due to parking requirements, which mandate 1.5 spaces per unit — a standard that village officials have acknowledged has been difficult to meet in Millerton's dense downtown.

Rrapi said he considered demolishing the building out of frustration, though he said he still has hope that there is a path forward to rehabilitate the building.

No timeline has been set for repairs or occupancy. Village officials said residents may not return until all safety requirements are met. Rrapi said he will complete the required work but remains undecided about whether he will continue renting the building long-term.

CANNABIS Continued from Page A1

tion in the industry.

Broughton, who was raised in Washington state, initially moved to New York City in the late 1980s, when a series of internships brought him out east. Rather than return home to complete his degree, he opted to stay and try to make it on his own.

By 1995, Broughton was regularly growing multiple plants on the roof of an apartment building in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, selling small quantities of the plant on the black market to customers at the bar where he worked.

"Bartending in the city is pretty good," Broughton said. "It was just that I didn't want to bartend."

His chance to leave bartending came in 2000, when he met Joe Murray, known in New York City's cannabis scene as "AJ Sour Diesel" for pioneering the Sour Diesel strain, prized for its strong effects and pungent odor.

Broughton said Murray helped expand the operation, allowing him to rely on cannabis cultivation as his primary source of income beginning in 2000.

Broughton moved to his home in Wassaic in 2016, where he operated a black market farm until New York state legalized cannabis and began accepting license applications in 2021.

He said his age was a factor in deciding to get a license and form a legitimate enterprise. Broughton,



Douglas Broughton, left, and Glenn Hilliard of Newtown, Connecticut, package cannabis flower for wholesale to dispensaries at Broughton's home in Wassaic on Dec. 19, 2025.



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER

Cannabis branches hang after being weighed.

nearly 60 at the time New York legalized cannabis for recreational use, had been running illicit grow operations for decades and said the anxiety of avoiding law enforcement had worn him down.

"Every aspect of what you did had to be hidden," Broughton said. "You couldn't tell anybody."

After legalization, however, he said he faces a different set of challenges brought on by bureaucracy and corporatism in New York's cannabis industry.

Broughton said New York's tax scheme hits small growers the hardest. He said he has to pay taxes on each

plant he grows, and then again when he sells to retailers or, eventually, directly to consumers.

Despite those hurdles, Broughton said he is eager to bring a high-quality product to consumers in Millerton.

Over the past 30 years, he has developed a growing technique that relies entirely on artificial light and strict control of nutrients and moisture. He said he main-

tains a level of oversight that borders on obstinance.

"I'm more of a purist when it comes to this stuff," Broughton said. "I'm not very forgiving."

That rigidity pays off with better product, he said, even when it means destroying an entire harvest.

"We cut down an entire crop of amazing Sour Diesel like two years ago because we got mites," Broughton said.

SURVEILLANCE Continued from Page A1

ed," Walsh said. "I contacted Flock, instructed them to halt all activities, and stated I had no idea that mark-outs were being performed."

Walsh said Flock Safety representatives had approached him and the town's police department about a nine camera system in February 2025, but Walsh told the company at that time the town could not afford such a system and declined the cameras. Walsh said company officials then offered a limited trial including four cameras at no cost to the town, at which point Walsh agreed. He said he had no contact with the company between July 2025 and February 2026 when markings appeared across Pine Plains for what appeared to be permanent camera installations.

Reports in the New Pine Plains Herald revealed Walsh told Flock Safety officials during a phone call on Feb. 5 that camera installations were "going to get done." At the Feb. 19 meeting, he addressed the remark in his prepared statement, saying he was referring to the county.

"If the county wanted to place cameras in the Town of Pine Plains it would be done, but the town is not."

Walsh and Town Board



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

A standing-room-only crowd packed Pine Plains Town Hall on Feb. 19, as residents turned out amid mounting controversy over a proposed police surveillance system.

members declined to answer questions regarding Flock Safety at the board meeting.

The statement did not immediately put residents' minds at ease. Matthew Lebaron, of Pine Plains, voiced concern over procedure, asking questions about town and police department officials' capacity to pursue demonstrations—or enter into contracts—without first consulting the town board.

"If equipment was installed, marked, tested or contracted without a formal public vote or proper procurement process, that raises serious questions about compliance with town law and fiduciary responsibilities," Lebaron said. "My request is simple — any agreements, any communications made to the public about these agreements, all be given to us with good warning over multiple communication streams."

Keary Hanan voiced fur-

ther concerns about procedures, asking during public comment whether the town's counsel, Warren Replansky, had read or provided advice on the contract. Hanan expressed broken trust with the town's officials, asking "how does this town board plan on restoring the trust of this community after this egregious breach of honesty and trust with its constituents?"

Michael Cooper, who serves with the Pine Plains Volunteer Fire Department alongside Walsh, offered a defense of the town's supervisor, saying he believed Walsh's comments were being misunderstood.

"I have personally known Brian for 10 years since joining the fire company," Cooper said. "Knowing Brian and how he communicates, I believe his words are being misrepresented, and I would encourage anyone who has problems with what he has to

say to examine what he has in fact done."

Cooper said he does not support surveillance systems in Pine Plains, citing abuses of surveillance technology by bad actors, but praised the Town Board and Supervisor Walsh for swift action regarding the controversy.

"I hope the Town Board and community can move past this and continue to maintain Pine Plains as a wonderful place to live," Cooper said.

Pine Plains resident Alice Nuccio objected to what she described as the politicization of the issue, referencing a comment Walsh made to Flock Safety officials in which he said, "I think we're a decent blue area right now, unfortunately."

"This is not a red or a blue issue," Nuccio said. "This is a humanitarian issue. We need to stop dividing everyone between this and that and really try to do the best for the town."

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Last November, Governor Lamont signed off on a large bill aimed at encouraging the creation of more affordable housing across the state. One of the keys was to provide state resources while at the same time supporting local control for how each town would accomplish this goal. There is an excellent article reviewing this new law by Yale School of Management's Jeffrey Sonnenfeld, which can be found at: insights.som.yale.edu/insights/connecticut-charts-new-course-on-affordable-housing. Worth the read to understand the effects it will have on our small towns here in the NW Corner!

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our community



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Stephanie Haboush Plunkett

Stephanie Haboush Plunkett and the home for American illustration

By Robin Roraback

For more than three decades, Stephanie Haboush Plunkett has worked to elevate illustration as a serious art form. As chief curator and Rockwell Center director at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, she has helped bring national and international attention to an art form long dismissed as merely commercial.

Her commitment to illustration is deeply personal. Plunkett grew up watching her father, Joseph Haboush,

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

FILM

Free film screening and talk on end-of-life care

By Brian Gersten

Craig Davis, co-founder and board chair of East Mountain House, an end-of-life care facility in Lakeville, will sponsor a March 5 screening of the documentary “Come See Me in the Good Light” at The Moviehouse in Millerton, followed by a discussion with attendees.

The film, which is nominated for best documentary at this year’s Academy Awards, follows the poet Andrea Gibson and their partner Megan Falley as they are suddenly and unimaginably forced to navigate a terminal illness. The free screening invites audiences to gather not just for a film but for reflection on mortality, healing, connection and the ways communities support one another through difficult life transitions.

East Mountain House grew out of a realization that “there are so many issues with how we are taking care of

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

To save birds, plant for caterpillars

You must figure that, as rough as the cold weather has been for us, it’s worse for wildlife. Here, by the banks of the Housatonic, flocks of dark-eyed juncos, song sparrows, tufted titmice and black-capped chickadees have taken up residence in the boxwood — presumably because of its proximity to the breakfast bar. I no longer have a bird feeder after bears destroyed two versions and simply throw chili-flavored birdseed onto the snow twice a day. The tiny creatures from the boxwood are joined by blue jays, cardinals and a solitary flicker.

These birds will soon be nesting, and their babies will require a non-stop diet of caterpillars. This source of soft-bodied protein makes up more than 90 percent of native bird chicks’ diets, with each clutch consuming between 6,000 and 9,000 caterpillars before they fledge. That means we need a lot of caterpillars if we want our bird population to survive.

So how do we ensure that there are sufficient caterpillars for them? That is the question, as caterpillars are very particular. Their butterfly or moth mothers cleverly attach their eggs to the very specific plants their tiny babies require. Once they hatch, the caterpillars eat the leaves of these plants until they are either picked off by birds to feed their young or create a chrysalis and turn into a moth or butterfly to repeat the cycle of life.

Some caterpillars are generalists and can survive on a variety of plants, but most — 90 percent, according to scientists — are specialists, relying on only one or two types of plants for survival. In their winged form, dietary re-



PHOTO PROVIDED BY WILD SEED PROJECT

Fireweed attracts the fabulous hummingbird sphinx moth.



The Ungardener
Dee Salomon

strictions ease as they source pollen more widely, but when it comes time to lay eggs, they use a keen sense of smell to find the specific plants that will help their young survive.

Research by Doug Tallamy shows that 90 percent of but-

terfly and moth species rely on just 14 percent of native plant species for food, which makes the planting of these “keystone” plants critical. Let’s review a few.

Goldenrod: Not all goldenrod is created equal. Old field goldenrod, (*Solidago nemoralis*), is a shorter and less aggressive alternative to the tall, aggressive goldenrod we are familiar with, as is wrinkleleaf goldenrod, (*Solidago rugosa*), a compact species that has arching sprays of bright yel-

low flowers supporting more than 100 species of insects. This species is deer-resistant with no serious pests or diseases. Last year, Mt. Cuba Center, a conservation center out of Delaware, focused its trials on goldenrod, and its research report, available online, is sortable not just by aesthetic attributes but also by the number of insects seen on each species.

Scarlet strawberry: (*Fragaria*)

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

WRITER’S NOTEBOOK

The power of one tray

By Kerri-Lee Mayland

Winter is a season that invites us to notice our surroundings more closely and crave small, comforting changes rather than big projects.

That’s often when clients ask what they can do to make their homes feel finished or fresh again — without redecorating, renovating or shopping endlessly. My answer: start with one tray.

A tray creates a moment. It gives the eye a place to land and turns everyday objects into something intentional. More importantly, it’s approachable. There’s no measuring, no commitment, no pressure to get it “right.” It’s a small, easy project — affordable, functional and even a little fun — that can be tailored entirely to you.

One of the things I love most about styling trays is that your cozy “moment” becomes mobile. Everything you love is gathered in one place and can be easily moved from room to room as your day unfolds. A tray that starts on an entry table can later migrate to a coffee table or kitchen counter, adapt-

ing to how you’re actually living in your home.

In one client’s entryway, we styled a tray that sets the tone the moment you walk in. A simple pair of brass candlesticks adds warmth, a blue-and-white chinoiserie vase brings character, and two vintage books ground the arrangement. It’s not decorative for decoration’s sake — it feels collected, welcoming and personal, all while keeping the surface from becoming cluttered.

In another home, a coffee table tray became the quiet anchor of the living room. We included a strand of wooden beads for texture, the TV remote tucked neatly into a small vintage box, and a plant nestled in a pottery bowl. The tray keeps everyday necessities close at hand while making the space feel relaxed and lived-in rather than chaotic.

Kitchens may be where trays work hardest, especially in winter when we’re cooking

inside more and gathering more casually. For one client, we styled a tray with a pepper mill; a shallow bowl for garlic, shallots and onions; and a white Italian ceramic container filled with olive oil. It’s practical and beautiful, and it makes cooking feel intentional instead of rushed. The tray warms up the counter while keeping essentials within reach.

Another version I often cre-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

INSIDE

REAL ESTATE

Washington, Millbrook median home price drops to \$625,000

CALENDAR

A list of upcoming events



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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... Stephanie Plunkett

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

an illustrator and graphic designer, work late into the night in his home studio creating art and hand-lettered logos for package designs, toys and licensed-character products for the Walt Disney Co. and other clients.

“The field of illustration is very close to my heart,” she said. Inspired by that example, she studied illustration at Pratt Institute and began her career as an illustrator before shifting toward museum work. An internship at the Brooklyn Museum proved pivotal. “It was inspiring to see the children come alive in front of art,” she recalled.

In addition to her curatorial work, Plunkett is the author of two children’s books, “Kongi and Potgi: A Cinderella Story from China” and “Sir Whong and the Golden Pig,” and has written or co-authored numerous books on illustration, including “Drawing Lessons from the Famous Artists School” and “Leo Lionni: Storyteller, Illustrator, Designer.” She earned an MFA from the School of Visual Arts and built a museum career that included positions at the Brooklyn Museum, the Brooklyn Children’s Museum and the Heckscher Museum of Art before joining the Norman Rockwell Museum, where she has worked for 31 years.

But elevating illustration has meant challenging decades of critical skepticism.

“The goal has been to shine a light on this important American art form and to elevate public awareness of its artistic and cultural importance,” Plunkett said.

As a popular and widely circulated art, illustration is sometimes thought of as inferior to fine art, such as painting and sculpture. Plunkett considered why. She theorized that the 1913 New York Armory Show, the International Exhibition



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Visitors consider Norman Rockwell’s paintings on Civil Rights for Look Magazine, “New Kids in the Neighborhood” (1967) and “The Problem We All Live With” (1963.)

“The field of illustration is very close to my heart

STEPHANIE PLUNKETT

of Modern Art, with works by artists such as Picasso, Matisse and Duchamp, initially contributed to this evaluation. In the 1930s and ’40s, abstract expressionism became the art of the nation, and the rift widened further.

“Norman Rockwell became the antihero for many art critics of the time,” said Plunkett. “Illustration was viewed as too commercial and sentimental because of its emphasis on visual storytelling.”

Plunkett calls illustration “art with a job to do.” She explained, “Illustrators are adept at solving visual problems for their clients while expressing their own aesthetic and artistic vision.”

She noted that the line between the fine and applied arts “is much more porous now, with many artists working across

platforms and styles.” She cited late-20th-century illustrators like Marshall Arisman, Barbara Nessim, Robert Cunningham, Bernie Fuchs and Mark English as illustrators who forged unique approaches to working and seeing.

Plunkett commented that people want to see the original illustrations. “Generally, Rockwell exhibitions bring high attendance. Currently, our traveling exhibition, ‘Norman Rockwell: From Camera to Canvas,’ is at the New Britain Museum of American Art, but we’ve traveled Rockwell and illustration to 45 states and several countries, including Japan, France, Italy and Germany.”

Nowadays, illustrators take on subjects that are important to them. “The children’s book industry is committed to sharing the richness and diversity of people and cultures with young readers,” Plunkett cited the late illustrator Jerry Pinkney’s commitment to this goal. As a boy, Pinkney found no books portraying children like him, and “his

life’s mission as an artist was to present inspiring, positive images of children of color.”

The Norman Rockwell Museum and Rockwell Center seeds were sown when “Rockwell placed the first 199 artworks in the care and collection of the Norman Rockwell Museum upon its founding in 1969, some of which he personally acquired for the fledgling collection,” said Plunkett. “The museum’s current Rockwell holdings include 865 original artworks, the artist’s Stockbridge studio and an archive of 400,000 photographs, letters, props and first uses of the artist’s work. We also hold about 25,000 illustrations by other artists, from the historical to the contemporary.”

“We call ourselves the home for American illustration. We have a real commitment to illustrators and what they’ve accomplished,” said Plunkett.

The Norman Rockwell Museum is located at 9 Glendale Road, Stockbridge. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit nrm.org

... ungardener

CONTINUED FROM B1

virginiana), is one of the plants I have had great luck growing in the woodland. When there is a new sunny spot, which happens when a tree or large branch falls, I plant a few strawberries, which I dig out of a spot where they are thriving. These plants make a great groundcover and are especially nice used under trees for caterpillar “soft landings.”

Spotted Joe-Pye weed: We see this plant, (*Eutrochium maculatum*), on roadsides in late summer, but it looks as sharp as an ornamental in the hands of Michael Trapp, who, in the garden behind his shop in West Cornwall, encloses a bed of Joe-Pye weed with a short boxwood hedge, dignifying this plant that supports between 35 to 40 caterpillar species, including those that become the three-lined flower moth, Clymene moth, ruby tiger moth, Eupatorium borer moth and great spangled fritillary moth.

I am less familiar with fireweed, (*Chamaenerion angustifolium*), but will be adding it this year, as it may be the prettiest of the keystone plants in our region and attracts the fabulous hummingbird sphinx moth. I will let you know when I find a local nursery that stocks it and, when planted, how it fares here.

Also keep in mind this spring: smooth aster, (*Symphyotrichum laeve*); white yarrow, (*Achillea millefolium*); and the beautiful Canadian columbine, (*Aquilegia canadensis*), which is the first food for hummingbirds’ arrival in the Northwest Corner.

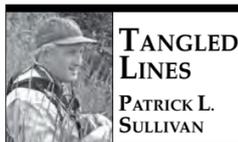
Dee Salomon ‘ungardens’ in Litchfield County.

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Tangled specks: tiny flies, big ambitions

I need to get my glasses checked
My fingers fumbling like heck
I have become a nervous wreck
Must be the season of the speck...



TANGLED LINES
PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

(With copious apologies to Donovan).

I’m still on the injured reserve list following replacement right hip surgery. Right now the plan is to come off the IR June 1, but I’m going to ask if we can’t shave something off that.

And yes, the rehab is going very well, thank you for asking.

What this means in practical terms is I am scheming and plotting like nobody’s business about all the fishy things I am going to do once Ye Doctor blows the all-clear.

I have glaring weaknesses in my angling game. I stink at roll casting. I’m hopeless with 12-foot leaders.

And I am really lousy at fishing with the kind of tiny little flies I refer to as “specks.”

I define a speck as anything smaller than size 20. Speck experts will disagree, as they think a size 20 is huge. Maybe I will think so too some day.

One of the perils of sitting around after surgery is scrolling through social media and buying things. For preference, things I don’t need.

I got some weird t-shirts. One sports the logo of the Shenandoah (Pa.)

Hungarian Rioters, a 19th century minor league baseball team. Another reads “Surely Not Everyone Was Kung Fu Fighting.”

Among these idiotic acquisitions was an offer of 72 specks for about \$50. This was a rock-bottom price, and it wasn’t coming from a fly-by-night outfit either, but from an online company, The Catch and the Hatch, who provided me with some very good perdigon nymphs a few years back.

So the specks arrived, and they are everything I feared.

Tiny. Hard to see. Did I say tiny? Infinitesimal. You know.

SPECKS!

Here’s why an angler needs to know how to use specks. In between the nice hatches of large, easily identifiable bugs, which is most of the time, trout eat little bugs.

If it’s a cloudy day, chances are there will be blue-wing olives on the water. Then there is a category called midges which contains multitudes.

I look at the river for five minutes, see nothing happening bug-wise, and I start trying to provoke a reaction somehow.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Here is a sample from a recently purchased assortment of specks. From left: Black speck, Parachute Adams dry fly speck, greenish sparkly speck.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

arts
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FASHION

For what it's Worth, saved from the dumpster

By Jennifer Almquist

"When an authentic House of Worth Paris gown was discovered in the trash, it was more than just a piece of discarded silk; it was a lost chapter of fashion history," said Barry Webber, director of the Norfolk Historical Society. In his talk, "From Dumpster to Display: Restoring a Worth Gown," on Sunday, Feb. 22, Webber recounted the dramatic rescue and meticulous conservation of a formal dinner dress by the "father of haute couture," Charles Frederick Worth (1825-1895), founder of the famed atelier House of Worth in Paris.

In the inaugural exhibit for the Society celebrating the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Webber curated a display of artifacts from one Norfolk family, Rev. Joseph and Sarah Battell Eldridge, spanning 200 years. Webber explained, "The Eldridge daughters, Mary, Isabella and Alice, were among Norfolk's most notable benefactors whose gifts, including the Norfolk Library, Eldridge Gymnasium (Norfolk Town Hall),



Alice Bradford Eldridge (1850-1935) of Norfolk wore this coral-and-black silk evening gown by House of Worth in Paris, c. 1876. Rescued from a dumpster and restored by conservator Flora Keene and museum director Barry Webber, it is now on display at the Norfolk Historical Society.

Norfolk Downs and Battell Fountain, helped beautify and shape the town as we know it today."

The Eldridge sisters owned gowns made in Paris by the House of Worth. Their prized gowns, packed

in travel trunks and stored for a century, were donated to the NHS in 1977. In 2020, Alice's great-granddaughters discovered a water-damaged trunk filled with mold and mildew that had been thrown into a dumpster. Inside was the lost coral-and-black Worth gown. "It had been soaked when a pipe burst in the house many years ago, but the trunk was filled with mold and mildew. The trunk had been placed in the dumpster and I went in and retrieved the garment from there," Webber said.

Webber enlisted conservator Flora Keene to help restore the fragile dress. Keene fastidiously restored the gown, from her initial evaluation of water-damaged fibers and removal of rust-prone metal buttons to the delicate hand-washing process.

Despite the technical challenges of stabilizing fragile 19th-century textiles, Keene and Webber succeeded in rescuing this abandoned masterpiece from ruin and returning it to display.

For more information, visit norfolkhistoricalsociety.org

... one tray

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1



PHOTOS BY KERRI-LEE MAYLAND

Styling a tray can give a home or room a re-fresh.

ate is the cocktail, mocktail or tea-and-coffee tray — endlessly useful for friends popping over to say hello. A few cups, a teapot or carafe, honey or sugar, and a candle create an inviting setup that's ready at a moment's notice. It says, "Stay a while," without any fuss.

What makes trays so effective this time of year is that they respond to winter's quieter rhythm. Winter decorating isn't about bold color or dramatic statements — it's about texture, warmth and restraint: wood, stone, ceramic, linen, candlelight. A tray helps you edit rather than add, grouping items so they feel thoughtful instead of

scattered. When the seasons shift, the same tray evolves with you. Heavier elements can be swapped for lighter ones — fresh flowers, glass, pale ceramics — without starting over. One tray, styled seasonally, becomes a constant that gently changes rather than something that has to be replaced.

Remember, good design doesn't have to come from big gestures. Often it comes from small moments done well — a surface that feels intentional, a corner that feels cared for. In winter's stillness, creating a simple tray may be just enough to make your home feel calm, personal and complete.

... end-of-life care

CONTINUED FROM B1



PHOTO PROVIDED

'Come See Me in the Good Light' is nominated for best documentary at this year's Academy Awards.

our dying in our community," said David. "We wanted to provide a solution for some people where they can die in a serene and calming home-like setting." This compassionate approach at East Mountain House is carried out with the support of seven staff members and 42 volunteers who do everything from reading to residents, gardening, cooking, communicating with family members and assisting with therapeutic treatments. East Mountain House houses just two residents at a time, and staff and volunteers work around the clock to accommodate

their needs. In a culture where we are trained to panic when a loved one is dying, and where a clinical space like a hospital is the norm for many individuals at the end of their lives, Davis feels that East Mountain House is an alternative with a natural and organic approach to death. It's a place where death can be celebrated and viewed as something that is simply a part of life. Davis' vision for East Mountain House is more than a decade in the making, and he is eager to introduce his work and his perspective to locals at the upcoming

community screening. One of the reasons Davis was interested in sponsoring a screening of "Come See Me In The Good Light" was because the film gracefully explores themes of vulnerability, resilience and the search for meaning in the face of death. Through its deeply personal storytelling, the film highlights how people navigate loss, transformation and the desire to be seen for who they truly are. The documentary's emphasis on compassion and human connection aligns closely with the mission of East Mountain House, making the post-film discussion

a natural extension of the evening. Davis hopes the event will serve as both a cultural offering and a community touchstone — an opportunity for neighbors to gather in a welcoming space, share ideas and reflect on the importance of end-of-life support systems. The screening is free and open to the public, though advance registration is recommended due to limited seating. For registration, go to themoviehouse.net.



A tray can help group items in a way that looks and feels thoughtful and intentional.

... tangled specks

CONTINUED FROM B2

What I am missing is the trout happily eating specks beneath the surface.

So how am I going to do this?

What little speck success I've had has been with a dry-dropper rig. I use a big Stimulator or Chubby Chernobyl, a large, very visible, very buoyant dry fly, and tie a piece of fluorocarbon tippet to the bend of the dry fly's hook with an improved clinch knot and attach the speck to that. A bass or panfish popper works as the dry

fly too. Here's the problem. The speck hook eyes require a very fine tippet material — 6x, 7x, even 8x.

I dislike fine tippets even more than specks. The stuff is devilish. It curls up. It refuses to knot. It's just awful to work with.

Some years back I discovered one brand of fluoro tippet with a 5x tippet that was somehow able to get through the eye of a size 22 hook. That made a difference.

But this moderately

successful method is very one-dimensional. I need to be able to construct a leader with a dropper or two and get my specks down in the water column.

That's going to mean 6x or worse, probably. I might have to add some weight, another thing I dislike and am not good at.

But that is the plan. I hope to report great things as I master the speck this season.

Or until my left hip goes out.

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ART

Suzan Scott sees every detail in 'This Beautiful Place'

By Patrick L. Sullivan

Landscape painter Suzan Scott said, "I see every leaf on every tree, every blade of grass," when she assesses a particular view. Her paintings are her effort to "distill it to the essence."

Scott said she has been painting for 30 years, and she moved from central Connecticut to Torrington a few years ago to be closer to the landscapes she prefers. "I just get in the car and drive."

One painting, with dramatic clouds and light, was the result of a group project. The leader suggested

a protest theme, and Scott was not initially enthused. But that was the summer of 2023, when smoke from wildfires in Canada drifted into the Northeast U.S. The phenomenon yielded spectacular sunsets, among other things. So Scott was able to comment on the situation in a subtle manner without taking an overtly political stand.

Scott's paintings are on display at the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village through Friday, March 13. She will give a talk at the library on Thursday, March 12, at 5:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Torrington artist Suzan Scott talked with visitors at a reception for her show "A Beautiful Place" at the David M. Hunt Library Saturday, Feb. 21.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Andrew Jack, chair maker, will host an open shop on March 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Magic Fluke Building (292 S. Main St., Sheffield). Jack will demonstrate Windsor chair making and green-wood carving. Email andrewjackchairs@gmail.com with questions about the open shop event, for commissions or to register for an upcoming chair making course.

Tri-Corner Calendar

FEBRUARY 26

Kent Historical Society Virtual Talk

Online. Hosted by the Kent Historical Society, learn about Revolutionary-era painter John Trumbull in a virtual talk at 6:30 p.m. led by Connecticut State Historian Emeritus Walt Woodward, exploring the lasting impact of his life, art and family story. Presented on Zoom. Register at kenthistoricalsociety.org

Light Pollution and Its Effect on Birds, Wildlife, and Human Health

Sharon Audubon Center, 325 Cornwall Bridge Road, Sharon, Conn. Learn how artificial light impacts birds, wildlife, and people from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in a Policy Potluck series with experts Craig Repasz and Leo Smith. Free; ages 15+. Pre-registration required bit.ly/4auJD93

Coloring Our Past: Troutbeck Symposium Sneak Peek with Salisbury School Students

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org Join us 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., for a preview of this year's Coloring Our Past work as Salisbury School students share original, place-based research uncovering stories that have too often been ignored, silenced, or misunderstood—both in the Northwest Corner and far beyond it. Registration requested.

FEBRUARY 27

Line Dancing with Tina Mole

Buttonball Barn (formerly Egremont Barn), 17 Main St., Egremont, Mass. Line dance with instructor Tina Mole at ButtonBall, featuring new country hits, Top 40 favorites and classics. All skill levels welcome; monthly party atmosphere with easy instruction and plenty of fun. 6 p.m. Tickets at buttonball-barn.com

Stissing Center Presents: The Maker and the Muse

The Grace Note @ The Stissing Center 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y. A staged reading of a new musical by Schuyler Press, following two young artists swept from modern-day

FEBRUARY 28

Hamantaschen How-To

Troutbeck, 515 Leedsville Road, Amenia, N.Y. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Celebrate Purim with a hands-on baking class led by Troutbeck's pastry chef. Learn to shape and fill classic triangular hamantaschen and take home your own freshly baked cookies. All ages welcome; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets required at troutbeck.com

Meet the Filmmakers: Cathedrals + Q&A

The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. Filmmaker Dan Algrant reconnects with collaborators from a film made nearly 50 years ago in a screening exploring creativity, identity, and Black life in America, followed by a Q&A with Algrant and Don Wright. 7 p.m. Tickets: bit.ly/TMH-Cathedrals

A Sweet Deal for Birds: How a Sugarbush Can Benefit Wildlife

Sharon Audubon Center, 325 Cornwall Bridge Road, Sharon, Conn. Explore how sugarbushes support birds and wildlife from 10 to 11:30 a.m. with Rosa Goldman and Dr. Eileen Fielding. \$20/adult; ages 16+. Pre-registration required bit.ly/4qinbEX

Traveling the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org Cyclist and retired educator Alan Lovejoy shares photos and stories at 2 p.m. from his 3,100-mile bikepacking trip along the Continental Divide from Alberta to New Mexico.

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

Pitching for TV Workshop with Eric and Justin Stangel

The Grace Note at The Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y. 12 to 2 p.m.

Learn to Curl

Norfolk Curling Club, 70 Golf Dr. Norfolk, Conn. Cornwall Park and Recreation and Norfolk Curling Club will offer a lesson to participants aged 12 and up Saturday, Feb. 28, at 6:30 p.m. Learn the game, rules and terminology, then hit the ice to play. Register at cornwallparkrec.org for \$30. Space is limited.

MARCH 3

Drawing Skills & Mixing Color with Pieter Lefferts

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org Join this four-session workshop and enhance your understanding of color mixing and/or hone your drawing skills with artist and art educator Pieter Lefferts. Four Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m. All levels of experience welcome, all materials provided. Registration required at scovillelibrary.org

Cottage Courses: Spoon Carving with Kate Hawes

Troutbeck, 515 Leedsville Road, Amenia, N.Y. 1 to 4 p.m. Hands-on workshop covering safe tool use, carving techniques, grain orientation and shaping while creating a wooden spoon from a pre-cut blank. Open to beginners and experienced woodworkers. Tickets required at Troutbeck.com

Windsor Chair Maker Open Shop

Magic Fluke Building, 292 S. Main St., Sheffield, Mass. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Chair maker Andrew Jack demonstrates Windsor chair building and green-wood carving with hand tools and shares info on upcoming classes. Details: andrewjack.net

Local Indigenous Communities & the U.S. War for Independence with the Institute for American Indian Studies

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org From 4 to 6 p.m., Darlene Kascak and Irene Norman of the Institute for American Indian Studies will speak about the complex history of local Indigenous people in relation to the U.S. War for Independence. Existing as

Last week's WoTW

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | E | V | E | N |
| P | A | S | T | E |
| C | L | O | S | E |
| H | O | U | S | E |
| H | O | R | S | E |

sovereign entities for some 12,500 years, Indigenous communities were integral to creating the conditions for this conflict and participated on both sides.

MARCH 3

Drawing Skills & Mixing Color with Pieter Lefferts

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org Join this four-session workshop and enhance your understanding of color mixing and/or hone your drawing skills with artist and art educator Pieter Lefferts. Four Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m. All levels of experience welcome, all materials provided. Registration required at scovillelibrary.org

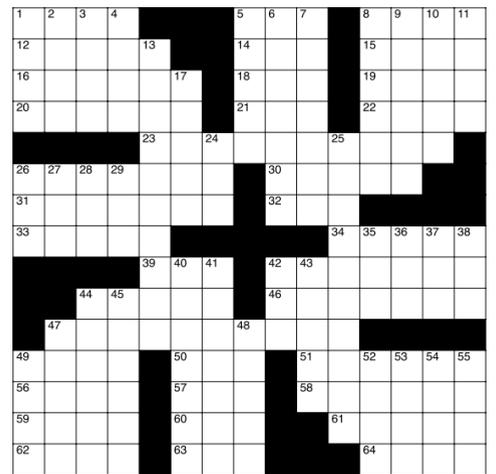
Welcoming new voices

We welcome story ideas, tips and pitches, and we're interested in working with writers and photographers who want to contribute thoughtful, independent arts and lifestyle coverage. Send inquiries to nataliaz@lakevillejournal.com.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- What travelers must do
- Calendar month
- Hopefully quickly
- Once more
- Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- "Cheers" actress
- Astronomy unit
- Savings vehicle
- Get your ducks in this
- Right away
- Popular sports league
- Containers
- Entireties
- One who wassails
- Turned-up position
- Extreme modesty
- Writing utensil
- Rewards (archaic)
- Ancient capital
- S. American wood sorrel
- General discomfort
- Philippine island
- A witty saying
- One who summarizes
- Covered in
- Mimic
- Henry was a notable one
- Daughter of Hera and Zeus
- Retired NFLer
- Playground equipment
- Concept
- Satisfaction
- Fishing net
- Hammer end
- A father's male child
- Japanese drink



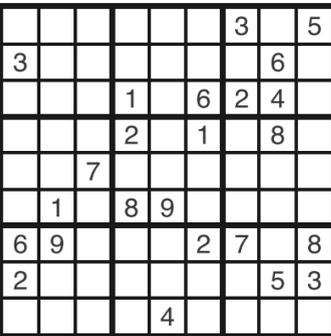
- Animal parts
- Causing annoyance
- Amarous talker
- Attempt
- Harmonic effects
- Cost per mile
- They —
- Bitterly regret
- Not even
- A way to drop
- Title of respect
- World leader
- Georgia rockers
- National capital
- Great Plains people
- Duck-sized dinosaur genus
- Architectural recesses
- Member of U.S. Navy
- Mountainous
- Kite bird

- Sweetheart (archaic)
- Popular snack made of potato
- 70s songsters The Bee
- SE China port —men
- Something to fill up
- League of Legends character

February 19 Solution

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | N | I | P | A | S | S | E | R | T | D | E | E |
| W | I | D | E | G | A | U | C | H | E | E | R | A |
| E | X | O | S | K | E | L | E | T | O | N | C | A |
| P | I | L | E | I | P | R | O | M | S | C | A | S |
| T | E | S | T | E | D | B | I | A | S | E | D | |
| A | V | A | R | I | C | I | O | U | S | | | |
| M | U | M | S | N | A | M | E | N | G | A | M | I |
| U | F | O | S | E | N | I | O | R | S | T | A | D |
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| E | G | O | N | A | D | E | R | B | A | R | C | A |
| E | A | R | A | M | E | N | A | B | I | L | I | T |
| M | M | E | D | O | C | I | L | E | E | M | I | R |
| S | A | D | E | R | O | D | E | D | S | A | N | E |

Sudoku



February 19 Solution

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

Level: Intermediate

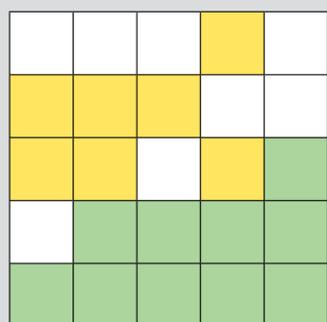
Word of the Week

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.



- Pen made from a feather
- Hawaiian greeting/farewell
- Hard work
- Of the sun
- Fit for a blizzard



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OUR TOWNS

Washington, Millbrook median home price drops to \$625,000

By CHRISTINE BATES
Special to the Millerton News

WASHINGTON — The housing market in the Town of Washington and the Village of Millbrook cooled over the past year, with median prices falling sharply from 2025 but remaining above 2024 levels.

For the 12-month period ending Jan. 31, 2026, the median home price was \$625,000. That represents a steep decline from the \$895,000 median recorded for the comparable 12-month period ending Jan. 31, 2025, but remains higher than the \$526,250 median for the 12 months ending Jan. 31, 2024.

Since September 2025, median prices in Washington and the Village of Millbrook have stayed below \$700,000, marking a sustained pull-back from the beginning of the year.

Sales activity, however, ticked up slightly. A total of 42 single-family homes sold in the 12 months ending Jan. 31, 2026, compared with 39 sales during the 12-month period ending Jan. 31, 2025. Of the 42 homes sold over the past year, 10 closed above the \$1 million mark.

Seven property transfers were recorded in January, reflecting closings that occurred at the end of December 2025. Those transactions included



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

The former 53-bed Green Briar Adult Home at 26 Old Route 82, closed by New York State in 2024, sold for \$1.2 million in 2022 to TYH Greenbriar Propco and was later sold privately to Kingston Millbrook LLC for \$400,000, according to Dutchess County records.

three sales above \$1 million and two below \$400,000, an indication of the broad price range.

Inventory remains skewed toward the high end. As of mid-February, 21 single-family homes were listed for sale, comprised of 14 priced above \$1 million.

January transactions

18 Alden Terrace — 2 bedroom/2 bath condo built in 1988 in the Village of Millbrook sold to Chereene Mastroianni for \$398,500.

36 Horseshoe Road — 2 bedroom/1 bath ranch on 1.16 acres sold to Donato Gem-

mati for \$210,000.

3598 Route 82 — 3 bedroom/2.5 bath Empire style house built in 1994 on 5.43 acres sold to Dutchess Second Empire LLC for \$1.9 million.

47-49 Crescent Road — 5 bedroom/5.5 bath home built in 1822 with 3 parcels on 10 acres sold to 47-49 Crescent LLC for \$6.25 million.

11 Sutton Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home built in 1950 sold to Matata Management LLC for \$995,000.

92-114 Sutton Road — 2 bedroom/2 bath home plus a hanger and asheep barn on

135.07 acres sold to Sutton Acres LLC for \$3.6 million.

26 Old Route 22 — Nursing home on 4 acres sold to Kingston Millbrook LLC for \$400,000.

**Town of Washington recorded real estate transfers from Jan. 1 to Jan. 31 are 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.*

DUTCHESS COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Harlem Valley area activity report Feb. 6 to Feb. 18

Feb. 6 — Deputies responded to Cumberland Farms in the Village of Millerton to assist EMS with a report of a female passed out in a vehicle. Investigation resulted in the arrest of Kristi E. Bruchholz, 50, for driving while intoxicated. Bruchholz to appear in the Town of North East Court at a later date.

Feb. 6 — Deputies responded to 390 Old Route 22 in the Town of Amenia for the reported larceny of \$180 worth of dog food that was reported to have been delivered by FEDEX. Investigation pending.

Feb. 9 — Deputies responded to Church Street in the Town of Pine Plains for a reported domestic dispute between a man and a woman. Matter resolved without further investigation.

Feb. 9 — Deputies report the arrest of Selvin E. Ramirez, 34, for driving while intoxicated during a traffic stop on Route 22 in Dover. Subject to appear in the Town of Dover Court at a later date.

Feb. 18 — Deputies responded to 4 Elm St. in Pawling for a domestic dispute between a husband and wife. Matter resolved without further police intervention

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

If you have any information relative to the aforementioned criminal cases, or any other suspected criminal activity please contact the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office tip line at 845-605-CLUE (2583) or Email dcsotips@gmail.com. All information will be kept confidential.

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