

MAY 2022



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in Rhinebeck

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The Lakeville Journal Company
 PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039
 64 Route 7 N, Falls Village, CT 06031
 editor@millertonnews.com • 860-435-9873
 www.tricornernews.com

Janet Manko, *Publisher*
 Whitney Joseph, *Editor*
 Libby H. Hall-Abeel, *Advertising Manager*
 Mary Wilbur, *Advertising Representative*
 James Clark, *Chief Operating Officer*
 Caitlin Hanlon, *Composing*
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Come and Discover Dutchess County

Welcome to Discover Dutchess County, a special supplement published by the nonprofit Lakeville Journal Company, owned by The Lakeville Journal Foundation, which produces your local weekly community newspapers for the Tri-state region.

You, our revered readers, are encouraged to sit down, relax and savor the articles and photos, page by page. We hope you learn new and interesting facts about the communities The Millerton News regularly covers in New York's lovely Hudson Valley, along with those we don't.

While our newspaper typically sticks to reporting on the northeastern part of the county fondly known as the Harlem Valley, for this supplement we ventured

farther afield.

We have articles on some of the most charming, eclectic and artistic towns and villages many of our residents often visit for day or weekend trips, as well as lists of places to visit or things to do for a fun afternoon or evening.

Some of the communities we visited for Discover Dutchess County include Rhinebeck, Tivoli, Pawling and, of course, the county seat of Poughkeepsie.

Make sure to also read the articles on the communities we cover as part of our regular beat at The Millerton News, because you never know what surprising new facts you might learn. Or perhaps those reading this supplement haven't made it out to the Harlem Valley yet.

If that's the case, then certainly you

should read up on Millerton, Amenia and Millbrook, not to mention other local treasures, like the Stone Church in Dover.

We don't want to spoil all of the surprises inside this special section, though. So why not read on to find out what might interest you most about this unique part of New York state?

We hope to see you around the Harlem Valley, and who knows, maybe elsewhere, as you, and we, continue to Discover Dutchess County.

Thanks, and enjoy,

Whitney Joseph

Editor, The Millerton News

Janet Manko

*Editor-in-Chief, Publisher,
The Lakeville Journal Foundation*



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRIENDS OF THE GREAT SWAMP

Members of the Friends of the Great Swamp (FrOGS) went for an educational kayaking trip.



PHOTO BY MAUREEN GATES

People from near and far come to enjoy the Dutchess County Fair in Rhinebeck at the end of August every summer.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

From left, Lautaro Tambutto and Antony Todd sell home furnishings and objects d'art together at Antony Todd Home in Millbrook.

BY KAITLYN LYLE

Discovering the Magic of Millerton

Visitors passing through Millerton will find a village with roots, a community that honors its past while making room for future growth. In recent years, the village has expanded with the arrival of new businesses eager to become a part of Millerton and with groundbreakings for major community projects.

Hungry? The Oakhurst Diner (19 Main St.) is a popular spot for breakfast with classic diner fare served in a retro-styled setting. For something more grab-and-go, drop by Irving Farm (44 Main St.) for fresh coffee or Talk of the Towne Deli (138 Route 44) for breakfast and sandwiches.

Visitors can connect with nature on the Harlem Valley Rail Trail (HVRT) and at Rudd Pond. Trailblazers, walkers, bikers and skaters can bring their equipment, children and canine companions to the HVRT for time outdoors. Bikers may rent one from The Music Cellar (at 14 Main St.) by calling 860-806-1442. Bikers and hikers may also test the trails at Rudd Pond (59 Rudd Drive), a known hot spot for campers, fishermen, boaters and swimmers in the spring and summer.

Millerton has a bounty of boutiques and shops. Visitors with an appetite for antiquing should stop by Montage (25 Main St.) or Hunter Bee (21 Main St.); those searching for one-of-a-kind gifts should check out Demitasse (32 Main St.), Elizabeth's Jewelry and Fine Gifts (110 Route 44) or the T-Shirt Farm (22 Main St.). Looking to find your next great read? Stop at Oblong Books at 26 Main St. and explore the shelves of hardcovers, paperbacks, magazines and more.

Outdoor enthusiasts will find outdoor equipment and gear at Westerlind, 41 Main St., while tea lovers will find paradise (and possibly lunch) at Harney & Sons at 13 Main St. Visitors with a sweet tooth will enjoy the baked goods sold at Rookie Farm Bakery (24 Main St.) where their cookie tarts reign supreme, or at the chocolates, candies and ice creams sold at Candy O's (28 Main St.).

Families visiting Daisey Hill Farm (438 Indian Lake Road) can pick fresh flowers and produce in the spring and ripe pumpkins in the fall. McEnroe Organic Farm (5409 Route 22) offers high-quality produce and a space for young families to explore its Discovery Garden, Mud Kitchen and farm activities.

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FILE PHOTOS

Stopping by the raspberry-colored building at 14 Main St., visitors are invited to take music lessons with The Music Cellar's passionate visionaries or rent bikes to take a ride down the Harlem Valley Rail Trail. Photographed last October, Jonny G, the creator and visionary behind The Music Cellar in Millerton, invited local budding musicians to join him for a photo on the front porch of the building after an invigorating Toddler Jam session.



From left, Oblong Books booksellers Lisa Wright and Emma Warren welcomed customers into the bookstore at 26 Main St. in Millerton.

...Millerton

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Youngsters can drop by the historic one-room Irondale Schoolhouse (57 South Center St.) on the Rail Trail to learn what school was like in the 1850s and ring the school bell.

For a classic night out, visitors can see a film at the recently revamped theater, The Moviehouse (48 Main St.). With popcorn and sweets sold downstairs and drinks and food sold on the second floor, moviegoers can find something to nibble while they watch the latest blockbuster one of four screens. To see the latest showings, go to www.themoviehouse.net. After the movie, pop next door to grab a meal or tapas at 52 Main; cross the street for Mediterranean dining at The Millerton Inn (53 Main St.); or walk down Main Street for pizza at Taro's (18 Main St.) or to Four Brothers Pizza Inn (5952 North Elm Ave.), or Chinese at Golden Wok (2 Main St.).

For more on Millerton's possibilities, go to www.millertonnewyork.com.



FILE PHOTO

From cyclists and dog walkers to skateboarders, joggers and even the Berkshire Roller Girls, the Millerton section of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail has been a popular spot for locals and visitors alike looking to get some fresh air along a scenic trail.

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Riding Into Rhinebeck For a Day of Family Fun

Families ferreting out fun in Dutchess County are bound to be charmed by what Rhinebeck has to offer, with its nature trails, specialty shops, flourishing arts scene and delicious dining. Whichever corner of Rhinebeck one decides to explore, there's a little something for everyone in this historic village within the eponymously named town, and visitors are certain to return for more.

From fine art, fitness and furniture to chocolates, comics, toys and other joys, Rhinebeck's shops cater to a broad variety of tastes and interests. Voted "Best Shopping Block" by Hudson Valley Magazine Shop, Montgomery Row (between 6422 and 6423 Montgomery St.) is the place to go for all your shopping needs.

Book lovers can uncover their next great read at Oblong Books' Rhinebeck location (yes, the same Oblong Millerton residents know and love) on Montgomery Street, while youngsters can explore the wonders within Land of Oz Toys and Gifts on East Market Street.

Dog lovers can sniff out new treats and accessories for their canine companions at Pause Dog Boutique in Montgomery Row, while music aficionados might find the next addition to their collection at Rhinebeck Vinyl Vault on East Market Street.

Those with a sweet tooth should check out Samuel's Sweet Shop on East Market Street. Beyond its chocolate specialities and other award-winning desserts, its coffees and lattes have really created a buzz, according to Samuel's Sweet Shop employee Morgan Wells.

Looking at the calendar of events for the Dutchess County Fairgrounds off Route 9 in Rhinebeck, there are tons of events year-round sure to entertain. The Rhinebeck Antique Car Show & Swap Meet runs Friday, May 6, to Sunday, May 8; the Eastern New York Summer Classic Livestock Show runs Friday, June 17, to



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE RHINEBECK AERODROME



PHOTO BY MAUREEN GATES



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN TRAVER

Top, a plane flies during an exciting exhibition at the Rhinebeck Aerodrome. Above left, with a cool drink in hand, a young fairgoer and a watchful cow eyed the 2021 Dutchess County Fair festivities from the sidelines. Above right, the shelves at Samuel's Sweet Shop in Rhinebeck are stocked with a wonderful selection of sweets, treats, chocolates, candies and award-winning desserts to tantalize a wide range of tastes.

Saturday, June 18; and the 176th Dutchess Fair runs Tuesday, Aug. 23, to Sunday, Aug. 28. For more information, go to www.dutchessfair.com.

History buffs will relish the collection of antique aviation items displayed at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, many of which are featured in the Aerodrome's air shows on Saturday and Sunday afternoons from mid-June to mid-October. From mid-May to mid-October, the Aerodrome's four museum buildings are open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For details, go to www.ldrhonebeck.org.

Celebrating its 50th anniversary this season, Upstate Films on Montgomery Street has been showing foreign and

classic movies since the 1970s while The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck offers audiences live performances in addition to classes, summer camps and various arts programs.

Getting hungry? Rhinebeck boasts an active farm-to-table movement and a range of restaurants in the village. On East Market Street alone, there's Aba's Falafel, Cinnamon Indian Cuisine, Pizzeria Posto and sushi at Momiji Sushi Hibachi & Bar. Along Montgomery Street, there's Gigi Trattoria, Gaby's Cafe Mexican Bar and Grill and Foster's Coach House.

The best way to learn about all Rhinebeck has to offer is to take a drive and discover it for yourself.

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Amenia Has Amenities for Visitors of All Ages

Whether they're seeking original art to furnish their homes, a release from the day's stresses, an exploration of the local landscape or a night out on the town, residents and visitors alike are invited to treat themselves to all the amenities the town of Amenia has available.

Taking a tour of the landscape, one may want to bring their bike, roller-skates or running shoes over to the Harlem Valley Rail Trail (HVRT), one of Dutchess County's most treasured resources. Today, HVRT visitors can travel along the path from the Wassaic train station into the hamlet with the train's whistle in their ears and explore the hidden treasures there, such as The Wassaic Project's Maxon Mills building

(37 Furnace Bank Road, Wassaic).

For another memorable outdoor excursion, families can plan a visit to Wethersfield Estate & Garden (257 Pugsley Hill Road). For more information, go to www.wethersfield.org.

Browsing the shops, Amenia has a colorful variety of businesses for a wide range of budgets, from clothes shopping at Label Shopper (5094 Route 22) and book browsing at Yellow Submarine Used Books and More (3306 East Main St.) to curating curiosities at New England Village Centre (4825 Route 22) and trying new flavors at Tienda Mi Esquina (3294 Route 343). For more up-scale purchases, shoppers can stop by Tent (4950 Route 22) to browse new pieces to install in

their homes, from Bespoke upholstery and furniture to original decor, artwork and other accessories.

There are plenty of meal options in Amenia, whether diners are looking for a date night spot, a quick bite of food the whole family can enjoy. Santo Pizzeria & Ristorante (5094 Route 22) and Four Brothers Pizza Inn (4957 Route 22) offer pizza along Route 22, while Ritchie's Amenia Deli (8 Old North Road) has freshly made deli fare; Yi Kitchen (5086 Route 22) offers Chinese take out. Don't miss Amenia Steak House (4905 Route 44), and savor Mediterranean fare at Serevan Restaurant (6 Autumn Lane) or

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...Amenia

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bask in the flavors offered at Troutbeck's dining room (515 Leedsville Road). And of course, there's the sublime sweetness offered at Fudgy's Ice Cream (4789 Route 22) with flavors like Bittersweet Symphony, Mint Ting a Ling, Cannoli and Queen of Hearts.

Those hoping to release stress are invited to seek out the family-operated Amenia Massage & Wellness (5323 Route 44) and its range of treatments, including Swedish, hot stone massages and more. For more information or to book an appointment, email ameniamassage@gmail.com or call or text 845-379-1027.

Residents seeking relaxation can also visit Amenia Yoga: A Place for Wellness (18 Old North Road), where classes

are offered every day of the week at different levels of experience. For more information on current class offerings, contact the studio at info@ameniyoga.com, call 646-401-4188 or visit www.ameniyoga.com.

For a spectacular night out, there's always the Four Brothers Drive-In Theatre (4957 Route 22), where families can watch the latest blockbusters on the big screen. With 2022 marking its ninth season in operation, the Stefanopoulos family has plenty of surprises in store for theater-goers, including throwback parties, pop-up shops, new menu items and even a Mastodon skeleton. For more information on upcoming movies and events, go to www.playeatdrink.com.



FILE PHOTO

Recognized by the magazine "Food & Wine" last spring for his award-winning talents as a chef, Troutbeck Chef Gabe McMackin's cooking has been praised by many diners who have enjoyed a meal in Troutbeck's dining room.



FILE PHOTO

Located at 4957 Route 22 in Amenia, the Four Brothers Drive-In Theatre has been welcoming familiar and new faces alike for the last eight years and is looking forward to a new season of surprises for its ninth season in operation.



FILE PHOTO

Starting Saturday, June 4, through Monday, Sept. 26, Wethersfield Estate & Garden, located at 257 Pugsley Hill Road in Amenia, will be open for garden visits on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.

Sports Mergers Create Ties Among Dutchess County Schools

Beyond managing the many facets of their school districts' athletic department and seasonal sports teams, Dutchess County athletic directors (AD) want to give student athletes an opportunity to compete in the sports they want to play.

With enrollment numbers dwindling in recent years, several districts across Dutchess County — including Pine Plains, Rhinebeck, Millbrook and Dover — have successfully merged their sports teams to allow students to compete in sports that otherwise wouldn't be played in their schools.

In the Pine Plains Central School District (PPCSD), AD Rob Scott said Stissing Mountain High School (SMHS) currently has merged three teams with other schools. The first is with the Rhinebeck, for football at the modified and varsity levels.

Starting around 2017, Scott said SMHS tried playing 11-man football; Rhinebeck didn't have a football program. With participation numbers dropping for the sport alongside the enrollment numbers, Scott said PPCSD contacted Rhinebeck about merging.

What began with three or four Rhinebeck students playing football at SMHS has since turned into a successful merger where students compete in eight-man football.

Even with PPCSD's enrollment numbers still dropping, Scott said the merged team has sustained itself. He credited its success to strong communication between the two schools and to Rhinebeck AD Stephen Boucher's work in sharing the needs and wants of his students.

"As athletic directors, our primary job is to give kids opportunities to compete in the sports they want to," Scott said, "and it's worked out well."

PPCSD also merged its varsity and modified field hockey teams with Rhinebeck in 2019. Scott said Rhinebeck's program didn't have enough players and reached out to PPCSD about the other merger.

The PPCSD's latest sports team merger is with both Rhinebeck and Red Hook, to create a boys varsity lacrosse team. Scott said SMHS athletes previously joined Rhinebeck to form a junior varsity lacrosse team.

Red Hook, he said, has always had "a powerful lacrosse team." Now, those skills are combined with those of SMHS and Rhinebeck players, all of whom compete on the Red Hook field.

Millbrook Central School District AD Al Hammell welcomed a merger with the Dover Union Free School District to form an eight-man varsity football team this past fall. Six Millbrook players now compete alongside their Dover teammates.



FILE PHOTO

Since around 2017, the Pine Plains Central School District has maintained a successful merged sports program with the Rhinebeck School District, allowing for its students to play varsity football.

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21 YEARS

...Sports

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Hammell said it's a good experience and he's just happy the Millbrook students have a chance to play football.

"The main objective was to [give] an opportunity for our student athletes to compete when we didn't have enough players to fill the team," Hammell said, "so that's really the main goal in merging, but also I think it was a decent tie to our communities. We did have some Millbrook folks going out to see games in Dover.

"Most of the time, we're competing against Dover, so this was more of a friendly gesture to be able to merge together and give all the kids the opportunity — mainly our players that needed a place to play — so we were very grateful," he added. "Really it's neighboring districts coming together."

Hammell noted Millbrook merged with Webutuck in spring 2019 for varsity baseball with Webutuck acting as the host school.



FILE PHOTO

By merging their varsity football teams for the past half dozen years, the Pine Plains and Rhinebeck school districts have allowed students athletes in both communities to play the sport they love.

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MaConnia Chesser in AOH production of An Iliad, Oct. 2021
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The artwork on the Kaatsbaan barn, shown above, done by artist Portia Munson, was enjoyed by those who came to Tivoli in 2021 to enjoy a special art walking tour on the 153-acre campus of the Kaatsbaan Cultural Park.



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BY WHITNEY JOSEPH

Tivoli Is a Dancer's Delight and More

The road that Sonja Kostich traveled to now wake up in Millerton; stretch her dancer's limbs to shut off her alarm clock; get dressed; feed her dog, Rufus; breakfast with her partner; and then get behind the wheel of her vehicle for 45 minutes, meandered almost as much as the relaxing country drive it takes for her to get to the job she loves each weekday.

"The drive from Millerton to Tivoli is 45 minutes, but it doesn't feel like 45 minutes," said Kostich. "I love that the drive to work starts with winding roads; it's a beautiful drive. It definitely beats taking the subway to work."

She added that like her drive, her journey to Kaatsbaan made perfect sense.

"It feels like everything, my dance career, then going to business school and Goldman [Sachs]... it feels like I did everything within arts administration — and I feel now I have a good understanding of everything required."

Kostich is the chief executive and artistic officer at the Kaatsbaan Cultural Park.

She had a dance career that included dancing with the American Ballet Theater under the direction of Mikhail Baryshnikov, and with the San Francisco Ballet. She danced with other ballet companies before transitioning to modern dance, joining the White Oak Ballet again under Baryshnikov's direction. She also danced with choreographer Mark Morris and co-founded her own dance company, OtherShore.

Kostich then went on to business school and obtained a masters degree in arts administration. She worked for Mark Morris in her new capacity before joining Kaatsbaan in December 2018.

The multi-disciplinary not-for-profit arts center is at 20 Broadway in Tivoli, a small, quirky village in northern Dutchess County in the town of Red Hook.

Its mission statement online, at www.kaatsbaan.org, explains that Kaatsbaan is "both an incubator for creativity and presenter for diverse world-class artists in dance, theater, music, film, poetry, culinary, media and visual arts..."



PHOTO BY CHRIS JONES

The photo to the left was taken at the Kaatsbaan Summer Festival 2020, with performers from Music from the Sole. This year, Kaatsbaan is busy planning for its 2022 Summer Festival, set for three consecutive weekends, starting Aug. 28 and running through Sept. 12. The festival will feature everything from dance to sculpture to food. Hudson Valley resident Natalie Merchant will perform in an intimate concert while celebrity chef Mary Guiliani will cater the dinner.

The center is on the 153-acre former Tivoli Farms, once the “equestrian playground for Eleanor Roosevelt,” adjacent to the Hudson River, only two hours north of New York City.

Once in Tivoli, in addition to Kaatsbaan, Dutch for “a playing field,” there’s much to enjoy.

Kostich said she’s come to love Tivoli since joining Kaatsbaan.

“It’s such an incredible village, so special and unique,” she said. “You love it as a whole, it has everything. Everything that you need is here, I feel that includes Kaatsbaan. It really is a special place.”

“Everything” certainly includes places to eat. There are restaurants upon restaurants in Tivoli.

Two quick examples, both on Broadway, include Santa Fe, which has been there for decades offering fresh, authentic, made-from-scratch, Mexican food with margaritas and daiquiris to sip alongside one’s meal, and The Corner at Hotel Tivoli, with an eclectic Mediterranean-inspired farm-to-table menu, with superb wines and creative cocktails to accompany the decadent dishes.

Hotel Tivoli also has The Corner Store, with lovely curated goods by local and international artisans, from glass to textiles to fine pottery. There’s also a gallery on site.

Artists seem to gravitate to Tivoli, as seen by the collaborative group of more than 40 multidisciplinary artists who make up the Tivoli Artists Gallery (TAG), at 60 Broadway, with monthly curated shows. For more, go to www.tivoliartistsgallery.com.



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Pawling Has Everything From a Great Swamp to Yarn

The Pawling Chamber of Commerce is happy to boast of the Dutchess County dual community online, at www.pawlingchamber.org, with both a town and a village bearing the same name.

There are numerous historical landmarks. One standout is where General George Washington made his mark in Pawling. The man who went on to become our first president planned his winning strategies for the Revolutionary War in 1778 there. Washington and his troops were headquartered at the John Kane House on East Main Street.

The Chamber also notes its thousands of acres of protected environmental and recreational areas, plus the wide array of sporting activities in which one can partake.

Paul Andrews is a board member of the Friends of the Great Swamp (FrOGS). The nonprofit volunteer organization's mission since 1990 has been "to preserve and protect the health of the Great Swamp watershed."

FrOGS does so through research, education and conservation, said Andrews, who is based in Patterson. He said the swamp and its ecosystem of waterways, habitats and sanctuaries stretches from Brewster to Dover Plains.

It all needs to be protected, stressed Andrews, who joined FrOGS after the school his children attended sponsored a trip to go kayaking and canoeing.

"They would take [students] out on annual trips in the swamp and educate them," he said. "And I thought, 'This is cool.'"

He quickly became involved in learning more about delicate ecosystems, many located in Pawling, as are many FrOGS events.

"We have a big annual art show in the fall to celebrate the Great Swamp," said Andrews; the art mainly focuses on animals living in the swamp.

See for yourself; membership is \$25. One can take field canoe trips, go hiking and learn the value of swamp land and

conservation. For more, go to www.frogs-ny.org.

Pawling also has a quaint yet sophisticated dining and shopping district, with stores like Yarn & Craft Box at 24 Charles Colman Blvd., owned for 32 years by Marie Stewart.

"I always wanted to own a knitting shop," she said; her customers are glad she does.

They travel from around the Hudson Valley to buy her wool, assorted needles and notions, embroidery and needlepoint, not to mention to take knitting and crocheting classes at her store.

Regarding the average age of her customers? Stewart said they definitely run the gamut.

"I get anywhere from young children 7 years old right up to people in their 80s," she said. "It's very meditative and very creative. I can't watch television without knitting."

Afterward, visitors can grab a bite at any one of the numerous restaurants in the town or village. Here are but a few: McKinney & Doyle Corner Bakery

& Fine Foods Cafe on Charles Colman Boulevard; O'Connor's Public House on Broad Street; Gaudino's Italian Kitchen on East Main Street; the Pawling Bread Co. on East Main Street; Ming Guang on Route 22; Karen's Diner on Route 22; and, of course, Daryl's House Club on Route 22, where you can also hear live music.

Other great features about Pawling? It offers museums and concerts, a farmers market and a great library.

Plus, commuters can access New York City in a snap, just 70 miles away, thanks to the Metro-North train station.



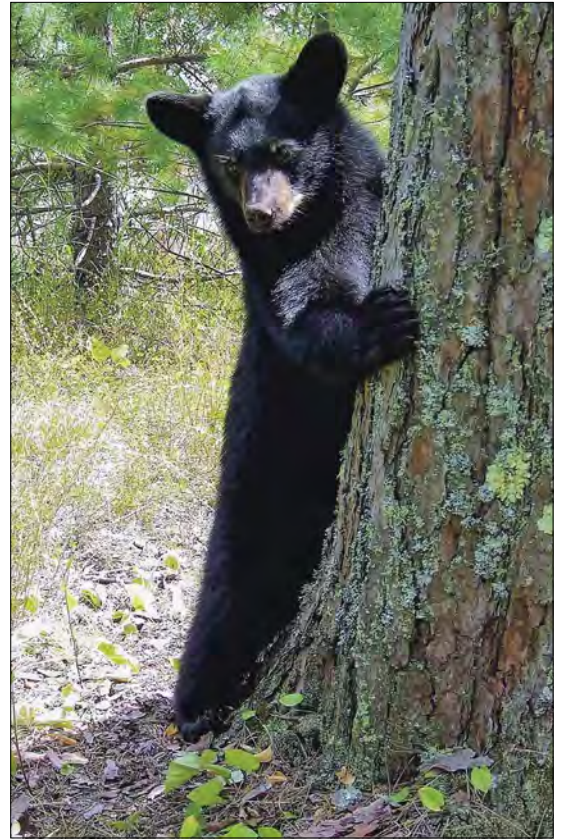
PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Marie Stewart has owned the Yarn & Craft Box on Charles Colman Boulevard for the past 32 years and has served as the secretary for the Pawling Chamber of Commerce for roughly the last decade. Stewart said Pawling is a wonderful place to live and work, and welcomes all to visit — for a day or for a weekend.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FRIENDS OF THE GREAT SWAMP

The Friends of the Great Swamp (FrOGS) get to enjoy many benefits of membership aside from learning about the ecosystem and habitats of the swamp and how to help conserve it; they can take guided canoe and hiking trips, participate in art shows and simply enjoy its beauty.



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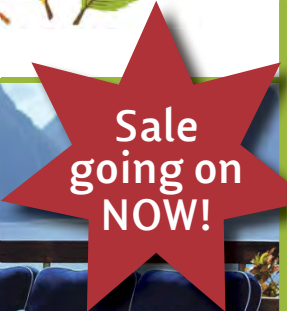


PHOTO COURTESY RONNYBROOK DAIRY

Ronnybrook Farm does its own bottling, as seen above. It packages its fresh milk, made here in the Hudson Valley, in glass bottles, just like in the “olden days.” For those who haven’t had the experience of enjoying Ronnybrook milk, the cream rises to the top in some of the varieties of milk and is reminiscent of how milk was sold years ago.



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Ancramdale's Ronnybrook, a Hit in the Country and the City

When the Osofsky family started their dairy farm in Ancramdale in 1941, they of course hoped it would be a success. In fact, they expected it to go well, because they had rolling green pastures, a work ethic that was ingrained, and faith in the fact that they loved their cows, their way of life, and the belief that it was their duty to produce the very best product that they possibly could. They were committed to improving the Holstein breed through advanced genetics, and they were thought to be innovative and progressive. The family has maintained those beliefs ever since.

The Osofsky family has always felt that how their cows are treated is very important to producing a great product. They also treat their employees very well, and many of their 50 workers have been there for many years. The Osofskys also believe in education; some of them leave, attend good colleges, but most of them come back home to work on the farm, because they love their work and their way of life. Rick is a lawyer, but his life is centered around the dairy.

Maybe this devotion to the farm and its products is why Ronnybrook products are so highly acclaimed. Their variety of products includes several kinds of milk: chocolate (both creamline and skim); creamline; homogenized; low fat; skim; half and half; heavy cream; creme fraiche; sour cream; buttermilk; and a fan favorite, egg nog.

There are many ways to acquire their products; many are sold at local farmers markets as well as at such popular supermarkets as Shop Rite, Hannaford, Whole Foods, Kings Food, Freshtown, Adam's and smaller markets like Marona's in Millbrook. Ronnybrook products are even sold in stores and farmers market throughout NYC, Connecticut and New Jersey.

Ronnybrook also has its own market on the farm, open daily.

When asked why their products are



PHOTOS COURTESY RONNYBROOK FARM

Top, the cows at Ronnybrook Farm are treated humanely, as the Osofsky family believes happy cows produce better milk. Above are some of the many products made at Ronnybrook Farm, available in markets throughout New York, New Jersey and Connecticut and also at local farmers markets and online.

so good, the family says it's because they're made with old-fashioned care, and because it's their mission.

They strive "to provide a local source of minimally processed, all natural dairy products wrapped up in an overriding commitment to the humane treatment of animals."

In fact, folks are welcome to visit the farm, meet the cows, see where they graze, how they winter and watch them roam the green hills in fair weather. They can also see how the products are bottled,

and packaged, and watch how yogurt, ice cream and butter are produced.

Ronnybrook Farm is located at 310 Prospect Hill Road, Ancramdale. If you can't visit the farm, you can still indulge in its premium products and enjoy the fruits of the Osofsky family's labors by shopping online or in stores.

You can also see pictures of the farm, its cows, its farmers and other workers, its products as well as its hours of operation, online at www.ronnybrookfarm.com or call 845-772-6455.

Village of Millbrook, Indoors or Outdoors, It's All Great Fun

There is much to do in Millbrook these days, great news for visitors. Whether taking a day trip or a weekend getaway — folks can always find a fun activity or relaxing way to spend their time.

For outdoor lovers, Orvis Sandanona offers clay shooting, shooting lessons, hunting, fishing, shopping and dining. Orvis' Gaming Weekend is Sept. 18 and 19. Visit www.sandanona@orvis.com or call 845-677-9702 for details.

Like to hike and learn about the biosphere? The Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies has hiking trails on its 240-acre Millbrook campus and an incredible science institute to boot. Call 845-677-5343 or go to www.caryinstitute.org.

The Millbrook School's Trevor Zoo is AZA accredited and features 180 exotic animals and indigenous animals. Call 845-677-3704 or go to www.trevorzoo.org to reserve tickets.

Small Paws Farm has alpacas, chickens and a gift shop with fresh eggs and alpaca products. Call 845-741-9885 or go to www.smallpawfarm.com.

Horseback riding is available throughout the Town of

Washington, in which the village sits. Call Misfits Farm at 914-584-6126 or go to www.misfitfarm.squarespace.com; Call Blackstone Stables at 914-403-3903 or go to www.blackstonestables.com; Call MLC Farm at 845-677-5232 or go to www.mlc.com; or find other stables on your own to explore.


The Millbrook Horse Trials will be Wednesday, Aug. 4, through Sunday, Aug. 8, this year at Riga Meadow at Coole Park at 1031 Bangall-Amenia Road, Amenia, adjacent to the Town of Washington. Go to www.millbrookhorsetrials.com.

Millbrook is also known for its shops. On Franklin Avenue there's Creel & Gow and Orangerie; further down discover the Millbrook Antiques Mall and Center, Millbrook Home, Antony Todd Home, J. McLaughlin, Reardon-Briggs, Uncle Al's, Alicia Adams Alpaca and Juniper.

Pop around the corner to discover more gems, like Merritt Bookstore on Front Street and Cordially Corinne's on Church Street.

There are charming places to dine, including Charlotte's Restaurant, offering fine dining in the Town of Washington; call 845-677-5888 or go to www.charlottesny.com.

There are many great eateries in the village, too. Barbaro's offers a taste of Italy, call 845-677-4440; the Millbrook Café is known for its wood oven, call 845-677-6956; Canoe Hill offers oysters and more, call 845-605-1570; Babette's Kitchen is popular for breakfast, lunch and pastries, call 845-677-8602; the Millbrook Diner always hits the spot, call 845-677-5319;



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Millbrook Vineyard and Winery, located at 26 Wing Road, offers wine tastings, non-alcoholic beverages and plenty of gourmet foods, including decadent cheese platters, to enjoy. That's in addition to the beautiful scenery and relaxing atmosphere. There's also a gift shop featuring many local products. For more information, call 845-677-8383 or go to www.millbrookwine.com.

Millbrook Deli also has a loyal following, call 845-677-9391; if it's ice cream you're looking for, try Stewart's Shops; those wanting French cuisine should try Café Les Baux, call 845-677-8166; Nooch's Pub & Grill offers American cuisine, call 845-677-3088; and Julien's can satisfy those craving anything from sushi to pizza, call 845-677-2222.

Can't try all of those restaurants in just one day? Well then perhaps you should consider staying in the village overnight — there are plenty of options.

One can try The Millbrook Country Home B&B, at 845-677-9570; The Millbrook Inn, at 845-605-1120; the Cottonwood Motel (currently under renovations), at 845-677-3283; Wing's Castle B&B, at 845-677-9085; and The Gate House Airbnb, at www.airbnb.com/rooms/millbrook.

For more information on all Millbrook and the Town of Washington have to offer, go to the Millbrook Business Association website at www.millbrooknewyork.com.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Love gardens? Then the internationally-recognized Innisfree Garden in Millbrook is the perfect place to visit, with 150 acres of gardens, a lovely lake, streams and waterfalls. For more information, go to www.innisfreegardenny.org or call 845-677-8000. Innisfree is located at 362 Tyrrel Road.



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

From left, Antony Todd and Lautaro Tambutto, at Antony Todd Home in Millbrook. The store features furnishings, objects d'art and accessories from around the world. Located at 3280 Franklin Ave., for more information call 845-677-4417 or go to www.antonytodd.com.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Trevor Zoo at the Millbrook School is open year round; it has 180 exotic animals housed in all-natural habitats, including marsh lands. Pictured here are a red panda and a golden tamarin. The zoo is AZA accredited. It's located at 82 Millbrook School Road. For more information, call 845-677-3704 or go to www.trevorzoo.org.



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BY WHITNEY JOSEPH

Poughkeepsie, the Proud Seat of Dutchess County

When entering Poughkeepsie from the west, one must take the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge. It crosses the Hudson River and brings drivers from the Ulster County town of Highland into Dutchess County's (population of roughly 300,000) largest city, Poughkeepsie.

The suspension bridge continues U.S. Route 44 and N.Y. Route 55 eastward; Route 44 eventually splits off in Millbrook. Drivers may otherwise opt to continue toward Dover, eventually heading south on Route 22 or toward Amenia on Route 343 and eventually head north on Route 22.

Those who don't head toward our lovely Harlem Valley in northeastern Dutchess County might instead remain in either the city of Poughkeepsie (population of more than 31,500) or the town of Poughkeepsie (population close to 45,500).

They'll find themselves pleasantly surprised.

Not only is what is lovingly known as "Po-Town" the county seat, the city, settled by the Dutch in the 17th century, was also the state capital for a short stint after the American Revolution.

Of course, these days Albany is the state capital, but Poughkeepsie, pronounced Po-kip-see, remains the head of Dutchess County Government.

The County Office Building is located on bustling Market Street. The historic 1937-39 Poughkeepsie Post Office is there too, across the stop sign for Market and Mansion streets.

One is happy to stop to look at it. The Colonial Revival-style building was constructed with rough stone to mirror the design of early Dutch settlers in the area. It was built thanks to FDR's New Deal program and the Treasury Department.

A few steps down Market Street is the Bardavon 1869 Opera House, built by a British immigrant and successful merchant who dreamed of a grand theater in his newly adopted city. After eight months of construction and half-a-

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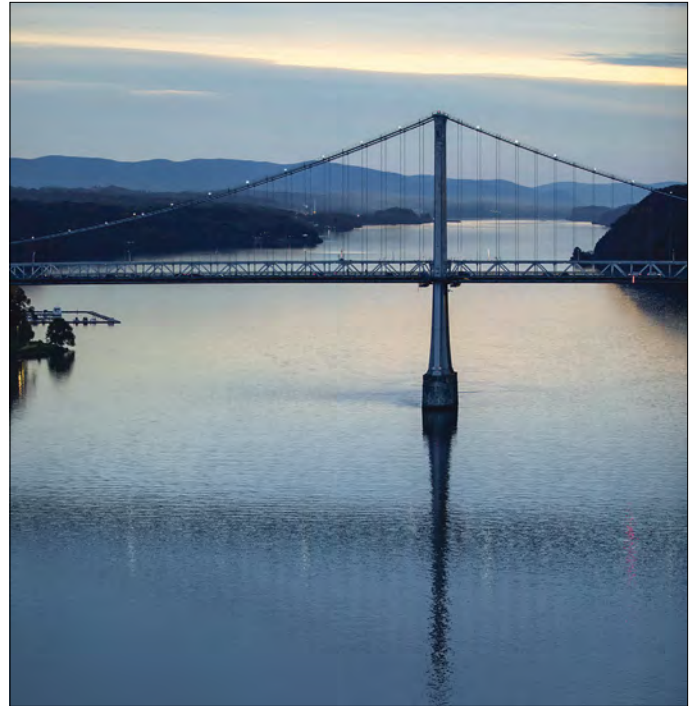


PHOTO COURTESY OF DUTCHESS TOURISM

The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge takes drivers across the scenic Hudson River, between the town of Highland in Ulster County and the city of Poughkeepsie in Dutchess County.

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...Poughkeepsie

continued from page 23

million bricks, the Collingwood Opera House opened, later to be renamed after the Bard of Avon, William Shakespeare.

Another part of Poughkeepsie's cultural offerings is the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College, free to the public six days a week. The college was founded in 1861 by Matthew Vassar, who declared art should stand "boldly forth as an educational force."

Tucked away in the town of Poughkeepsie 75 miles north of NYC, it was the country's first college founded with a gallery. One can get lost wandering through the collection, with art by Pablo Picasso, Joan Miro, Georgia O'Keeffe, Henri Matisse and many others. The permanent collection includes more than 22,000 wonderful works. For details, go to www.vassar.edu/theloeb/visit.

One can't mention Poughkeepsie without word of its crown jewel: The Walkway Over the Hudson.

"It's the longest elevated pedestrian walkway in the world," said Dutchess Tourism Inc. President and CEO Melaine Rottkamp. "They have a new electric tram that's great for people with mobility challenges."

Rottkamp said the Walkway is beautiful year round.

"Oh my god, I love it in all seasons," she proclaimed. "A lot of people come and it gets very crowded in the fall. In spring you can see the Catskill Mountains and flowers blossom; in wintertime you see ice flow in the Hudson River; in summer it's gorgeous, you see barges and steamboats and I love the Walkway at night — it's all lit up and they do night strolls across the bridge with telescopes so you can gaze at the night sky. It's a totally different experience."



PHOTOS COURTESY DUTCHESS TOURISM

Zeus Brewing opened in 2020 on Main Street in the city of Poughkeepsie, between the train station and the Majed J. Nesheiwat Convention Center. It's been well received.



The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College in the town of Poughkeepsie is open to the public for a small fee. For more information, go to www.vassar.edu/theloeb/visit.



The Walkway Over the Hudson is the longest elevated pedestrian walkway in the world, according to Dutchess Tourism Inc. President and CEO Melaine Rottkamp said the experience of crossing the pathway over the Hudson River is magical at any time of the year. She added the Walkway now has a new electric tram "that's great for people with mobility challenges."

Harlem Valley Farmers Markets

With spring has come planting season in Dutchess County, and throughout the fertile land, local farmers, bakers, artists and artisans, and musicians are planning for the farmers markets that make shopping in the country something special this spring and upcoming summer.

Not all details have been finalized, and organizers encourage visitors to check social media for evolving information, but the following specifics are known.

Millerton

The Millerton Farmers Market managed by the North East Community Center (NECC) offers milk and eggs as well as “seasonal produce, pasture-raised meats, fruit, cheese, baked goods and prepared foods,” with local vendors using “sustainable and ethical growing practices.”

An artisans’ space will include artwork, hand-crafted wood products and jewelry. A free fundraising space is open to local nonprofits. Live music will also be featured for two hours each week at the dog-friendly event.

The summer rain-or-shine market will open on Saturday, May 21, and will run each Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside of the Millerton Methodist Church at the corner of Dutchess Avenue and Main Street in Millerton.

Go to www.neccmillerton.org/farmers-market for updated information throughout the summer.

Millbrook

The Millbrook Farmers Market offers “farm-fresh produce, artisanal foods and handcrafted goods” every Saturday between May 28 and Oct. 29 — rain or shine — from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the middle of the village in the Franklin Avenue parking lot across from the Bank of Millbrook in Millbrook.

Go to www.millbrookfarmersmarket.com for information on changing offerings.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Pawling Farmers Market will be at its former, larger space on the original Village Green.

Pawling

The Pawling Farmers Market will feature vendors, artists, artisans and musicians — rain or shine — from Saturday, June 11, through Saturday, Sept. 24, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the original village green at Charles Colman Boulevard and West Main Street in the village of Pawling.

With the return to that larger space, the market will be back to the size it was before the COVID-19 pandemic had moved it to last year’s smaller area. Check the new www.pawlingfarmersmarkets.com for updates and listings of participants.

Amenia

While it started with support from Millerton’s NECC, The Share the Bounty Farm Stand at Amenia’s Sun River Health at 3360 Sharon Road (Route 343) will be in operation as soon as nature begins to produce offerings of fruits and vegetables.

Organizers expect the stand to begin operations Tuesday, July 5, continuing every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with closing set for the end of October.

The Stand is open to all and also accepts Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) checks, which are available to eligible seniors and families with young children.



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Getting Artsy in the Hudson Valley

Ever since Thomas Cole stepped off an 1825 steamboat at Catskill Landing, thereby founding the Hudson Valley Art movement, this area has been a haven for artists. Dutchess County continues to support local artists as residents and visitors enjoy all things artistic in our many towns and villages.

County wide

Free open studio tours kick off artistic adventures on Saturday and Sunday, May 7 and 8. Go to www.artmostny.com or call 845-206-3297 for details.

ArtEast offers 30 artists specializing in nine mediums various venues to showcase their work; details are at www.arteastdutchess.com or at 914-588-4182.

The group plans studio tours in eastern Dutchess County this October.

Millerton

Local performers share their talents through the free Music in the Annex Program at Taconic State Park at Rudd Pond, 59 Rudd Drive.

Monthly local art shows of all mediums rotate year round at the NorthEast-Millerton Library at 75 Main St., with children's art programs available weekly. Go to www.nemillertonlibrary.org or call 518-789-3340 for details.

The RE Institute is the exhibition space of Millerton sculptor Henry Klimowicz, at 1395 Boston Corners Road. It hosts group shows for artists

of all mediums. For more, go to www.thereinstitute.com or call 518 567-5359.

For artwork by deceased American artists, check the Green River Gallery at 1578 Boston Corners Road or call 518-789-3311.

Pawling

The Pawling Concert Series heads into its 49th season with nationally-recognized performers during the academic year at Trinity-Pawling School, 700 Route 22. Go to www.pawlingconcertseries.org for details.

Live 4 Art Gallery at 20 Charles Colman Blvd. hosts "Inspired By Nature" with five local woman artists in May; Facebook lists June artists, July sculptors and more, or call 845-216-1893.



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LAND Gallery at 30 Charles Colman Blvd. offers breathtaking local landscape and nature photographs. Go to www.landgalleryonline.com or call 845-490-2281 for details.

Millbrook

The Millbrook Arts Group posts schedules for its free annual Summer Concert Series at the Bandshell on Franklin Avenue and its Winter Concert Series at the Millbrook Library on www.millbrookartsgroup.org.

Onsite Crafts for Kids and activities for all ages are at the Millbrook Library at 3 Friendly Lane, with presentations from local artists. Call 845-677-3611 or go to www.millbrooklibrary.org for details.

The Belvoir Gallery at 3278 Franklin

Ave. celebrates the outdoors with wildlife art. Go to www.belvoirgallery.com or call 845-605-1130 for details.

Rhinebeck

The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Route 308, will mount eight summer productions beginning Friday, May 13, with "Howl." Family-friendly shows, dance classes, theatrical workshops and a summer performing arts camp are available. Call 845-876-3080 or go to www.centerforperformingarts.com for more.

Tivoli

Kaatsbaan Cultural Park, a 153-acre haven for multi-disciplinary artists at 120 Broadway welcomes will host four festivals starting Saturday, June 4. Go to

www.kaatsbaan.org or call 845-757-5106 for details.

The Tivoli Artists Group (TAG) tries to do 12 shows a year including solo and group shows, ending with a holiday show. The nonprofit is at 60 Broadway and welcomes artists of all mediums. For more information, go to www.tivoliartistsgallery.com or call 845-757-2667.

Wassaic

The community-minded Wassaic Project at 37 Furnace Bank Road is an artists collaborative that sponsors artists-in-residents, presents exhibits, lectures, events, instruction and summer camps. Call 855-927-7242 or go to www.wassaicproject.org for details.

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BY KAITLYN LYLE

Dover Stone Church: A Hidden Gem

Driving through the town of Dover in Dutchess County, residents and visitors might have to put a little extra effort into seeking out the hidden gem that is the Dover Stone Church. It's located at 3128 Route 22 in Dover Plains, tucked away off of the main road.

Once one finds the trail sign hidden in plain sight, the adventure begins. One can then begin the walk down stairs leading down to a tree-lined path to the “metamorphic rock cavern in the shape of a church’s cathedral window with a cascading waterfall through the cave’s interior,” as described by Dutchess Tourism, which explained “the Ten Mile River flows through and out the cavern entrance.”

After carefully following the trail markers through the woods, one will soon encounter the “church,” a magnificent seasonal destination that has lured tourists, hikers and locals throughout the years, not to mention the Native Americans who used it as a hideout in the 17th century.

There’s clearly plenty of history to the Dover Stone Church, so be sure to do some research before visiting.

“Each season has its own allure,” said Dover Town Clerk Katie Palmer-House, who encourages people to visit often.

Currently, the site is closed to the public pending infrastructure repairs to its footbridge.

For more details, go to www.doverny.us, the “Dover Plains, New York” Facebook page or www.duchesstourism.com.



PHOTOS BY KAITLYN LYLE

In the height of summer, the Dover Stone Church offers a spectacular nature experience for those up for the adventure of hiking to this natural wonder.



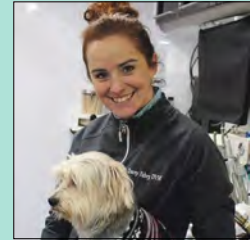
From the top of the stairwell, visitors can admire the lush tree-lined path leading to the woods where the Dover Stone Church can be found and explored.



Millerton Veterinary Practice



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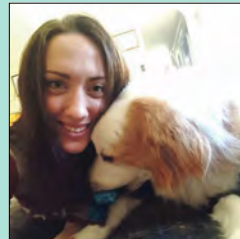
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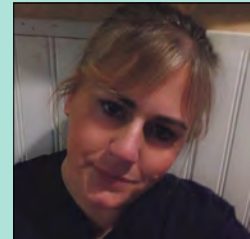
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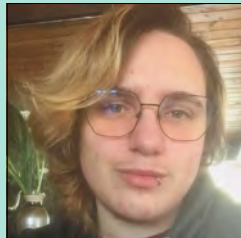
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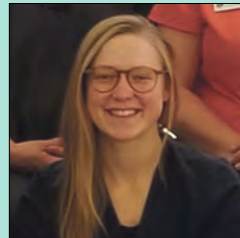
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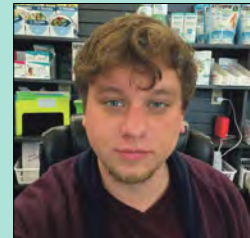
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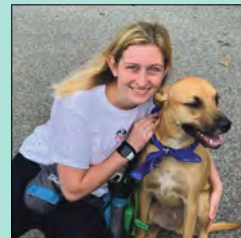
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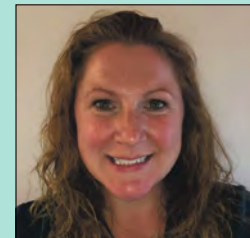
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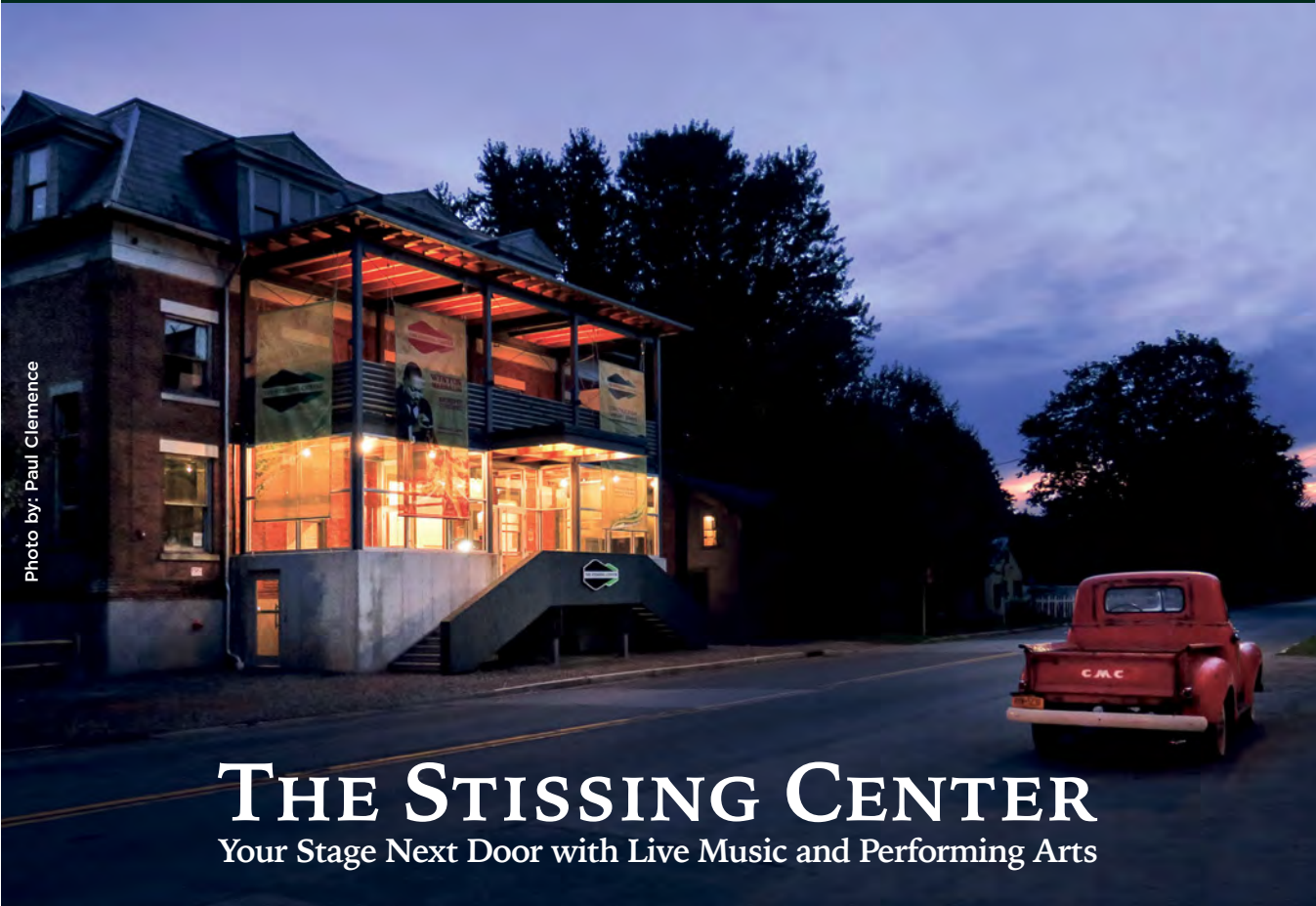
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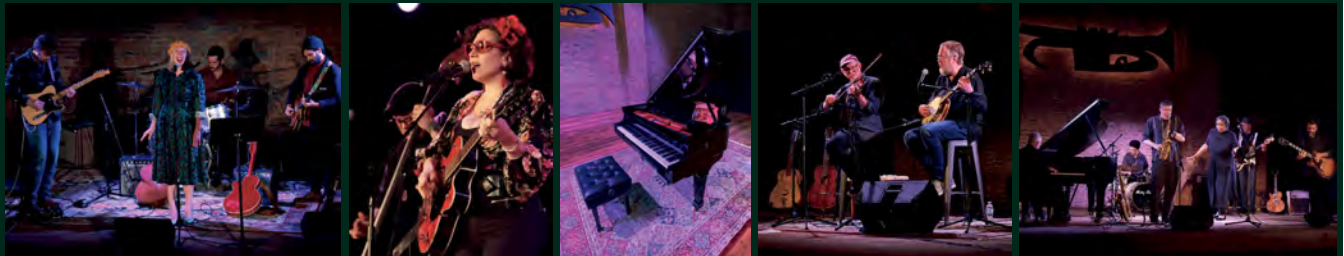
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