

MAINstreet

MAGAZINE



*The
Transportation
Issue*



4 Seasons

Family owned & operated



Garden designs by
Robbie Haldane

*Construction • Renovation • Service • Supplies • Openings • Closings
Grounds maintenance • Pool maintenance • Winter maintenance*

**Emergency Service 7 days
For Our Valued Clients.**

Licensed and Insured

**Company Store
143 Route 44
Millerton, NY 12546
(518) 592-1339**

**Main Office
10 Wakeman Rd.
PO Box 622
Millerton, NY 12546
(518) 789-0591**

From building to reconstruction and maintenance, our family owned and operated company prides itself at being the best. Servicing over 200 in ground swimming pools per season, our clients and friends are number one 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Licensed and insured with over 25 years of experience in all phases of in ground swimming pool construction and service, we are sure to provide you with excellent service. We understand our client's time is valuable therefore your swimming pool is our number one priority: clean, clear, and ready when requested. It is what we do.

Professional, courteous service performed in a timely fashion. Dressed in full uniform, our NSPI certified swimming pool technicians are equipped with fully stocked and professionally labeled service vans ready for almost anything. Our technicians are sure to bring you the ultimate swimming pool pleasure using only the highest quality of products to do so. For those who enjoy servicing their own swimming pools, we have a retail store stocked with everything needed for an enjoyable swim season.

The Four Seasons family is exactly that, family, from the office to the technicians at your swimming pool. So feel free to stop in and see us. We have two locations. Our retail store is located at 143 Route 44, Millerton, NY 12456. (518) 592-1339. Our main office is located at 10 Wakeman Rd., PO Box 622, Millerton, NY 12546. (518) 789-0591. We look forward to serving you.

Dutchess County, Columbia County and beyond, we're here to insure your world.

The Brad Peck Agency in Copake has long-standing ties to its community. It is one of the oldest hands-on agencies and in all of its years of operation it has provided a personalized approach to writing property, casualty, commercial, home, auto and above all, life insurance. The agency provides superior service regardless of where their customers lay their hats, the agency is registered in New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico and Florida. They are ready today, as they have always been, to insure your world.



Brad Peck, Inc.

Brad Peck Inc.
1676 Route 7A
Copake, N.Y. 12516
P. 518.329.3131

The Lofgren Agency
6 Church Street
Chatham, N.Y. 12037
P. 518.392.9311

Hermon T. Huntley Agency Inc.
Tilden Place
New Lebanon, N.Y. 12125
P. 518.794.8982

Auto • Home • Farm • Business & Commercial • Life, Health & Long Term Care

TAYLOR PROPANE



1-800-553-2234



Log Sets, BBQs, Pool Heaters, Hot Water

1-800-553-2234 • www.GMTaylorOil.com • "Like" us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/TaylorOilInc

Taylor Oil Inc., is a family owned and operated local business, serving the local communities for the past 80 years. Offices in Dover Plains, Pawling, Millerton, Pine Plains, Millbrook. "We're here to serve you!"

START YOUR ENGINES!

Last year's "Transportation" themed issue was such a great success that we decided to do it again this year! And boy did we have some fun. When you think "transportation" our default is to think of cars, and that's all well and good – but there are so many other forms of transportation out there: your feet are one! So with this theme in place, my team of writers went out and came back with some creative pieces that I truly enjoyed, and I hope that you will, too!

Christine met with the Morgan folks in Copake – that's Morgan cars, not horses. Not familiar with the English Morgan cars? Well, then you should definitely take a look at the article! Christine also took a spin when it came to her real estate column where she examines the world of "The Internet Highway" and how it impacts real estate. I thought it was pretty clever!

CB's artist profile is a unique piece about the building of a very rare car. I won't give more away than that, flip the page and you'll be able to learn all about it. CB also wrote a profile piece about a local female race car driver by the name of Stephanie Economou.

Claire shares two stories with us this month, one of which is how cars impacted her childhood and how integral they were to growing up in Los Angeles. She also gives you an awesome roadmap, or rather, road-trip around Dutchess County and tells you about all of the best gardens that you can visit. I have my lunch packed and am ready to hit the road and explore these gardens, I hope you will be too after reading!

We have a new addition to the Main Street family, and in her premiere piece, Dominique takes us far up in the air with the tale of local paraglider, Benoit. That's right, paragliding! So if you're afraid of heights ... well, still look at the pictures, they're pretty awesome!

Allison takes us way back in history, and fills us in on the history of rail roads and the impact that they've had on our area. Allison's article is followed by the Pleasant Valley train station, written by John. After reading these two pieces, you'll find that history is alive and well in our area! And speaking of local history, check out John's piece on the Rhinebeck car show and its horsepower-filled beginnings!

Not interested in cars or flight? That's OK. Maybe you'll enjoy a nice drive-in movie, or a local bike ride. If that's the case, take a look at Melissa and Ian's stories, respectively – because there we sure do have something for everyone! Thanks for reading.

- Thorunn Kristjansdottir



MAY 2016

With this month's theme, our very own Lazlo has gone above and beyond with this amazing cover shot, which so perfectly embodies at least two modes of transportation!

Cover photo by Lazlo Gyorsok

CONTENTS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6 SCULPTOR OF DREAMS
artist profile | 41 THE LIFE AND HISTORY OF A
TRAIN STATION
transportation hubs, then & now |
| 11 FRIENDLY FACES | 45 A LIFE IN CARS |
| 13 ENGLISH CLASSIC CARS IN COPAKE
business profile | 49 DRIVE-IN MOVIE THEATERS |
| 17 THE INTERNET HIGHWAY:
how the internet is changing real estate | 53 CAR SHOW SEASON IS HERE! |
| 23 BILL CLEGG
author profile | 57 FINDING YOUR OWN (NATURE)
PATHS
exploring nature |
| 25 FLYING FREE AS A BIRD
paragliding in the hudson valley | 61 BUSINESS SNAPSHOT
ruge's gmc
the connecticut antique machinery
association museum
brick block auto parts
north east muffler inc. |
| 29 THE GARDENS ROADTRIP
dutchess county is your oyster | 62 MONTHLY ADVICE COLUMNS |
| 33 STEPHANIE ECONOMOU
people profile | 63 HOROSCOPES & MORE |
| 37 A LOOK BACK AT MILLERTON'S
RAILROAD HISTORY | |

PUBLISHER, EDITOR, ADVERTISING, WRITING, PHOTOGRAPHY & OTHER DUTIES

Thorunn Kristjansdottir Publisher, Editor-in-Chief, Designer. **Pom Shillingford** Assistant proof-reader. **Ashley Kristjansson** and **Daniel Martucci** Directors of Advertising. Contributing Writers: **Allison Marchese** | **CB Wismar** | **Carol Ascher** | **Christine Bates** | **Claire Copley** | **Dominique De Vito** | **Ian Strever** | **John Torsiello** | **Mary B. O'Neill** | **Melissa Batchelor Warnke** | **Memo-ree Joelle** | **Sarah Ellen Rindsberg**. Contributing Photographers: **Lazlo Gyorsok** & **Olivia Markonic**

ADVERTISING

Ashley Kristjansson and **Daniel Martucci** Call 518 592 1135 or email info@mainstreetmag.com

CONTACT

Office 52 Main Street, Millerton, NY 12546 • **Mailing address** PO Box 165, Ancramdale, NY 12503
Phone 518 592 1135 • **Email** info@mainstreetmag.com • **Website** www.mainstreetmag.com

PRINT, LEGAL, ACCOUNTING & INSURANCE

Printed by **Snyder Printer, Inc.** • Legally represented by **Davis & Trotta Law Offices**
Accounting services by **Pattison, Koskey, Howe & Bucci CPAS** • Insured by **Brad Peck, Inc.**

Main Street Magazine is a monthly publication, coming out on or around the 1st of the month. It is published by Main Street Magazine, LLC. Main Street Magazine is not responsible for advertising errors whereas all ads receive final approval by the advertiser. Advertisers are legally responsible for the content and claims that are made in their ads. Main Street Magazine reserves the right to refuse advertising for any reason. The entire contents of Main Street Magazine are copyrighted and may not be reproduced without permission. All rights reserved.

PAULA REDMOND

REAL ESTATE INCORPORATED

• • •

STANFORDVILLE \$947,000



Circa 1870 Victorian Farmhouse

CLINTON CORNERS \$447,000



Perfect Country Retreat

CLINTON CORNERS \$1,375,000



Quintessential Equestrian Property

RED HOOK \$309,000



Contemporary Style Home

MILLBROOK \$650,000



55 Acres With Hilltop House Site

MILLBROOK \$685,000



Private Mountainside Log Home

Millbrook 845.677.0505 · Rhinebeck 845.876.6676

paularedmond.com

HAMMERTOWN

PINE PLAINS • RHINEBECK • GREAT BARRINGTON | LIFESTYLE MARKETPLACE

FURNITURE
LIGHTING & RUGS
GIFTS & MORE

DESIGN
CONSULTING
FOR REAL
LIVING

hammertown.com

PHOTOGRAPHY: LYNN KARLIN



sculptor of dreams

ARTIST: DON BRESLAUER

Above: Photo courtesy of The Revs Institute for Automotive Research, photograph by Peter Harholdt.

By *CB Wismar*
arts@mainstreetmag.com

Don Breslauer's shop, or better named, his studio, is filled with ghosts. And, each one has a name. There's "Harry" the barn-find Cunningham C-3 over in the corner. "The Green Monster," another C-3 sits near the large roll-up door.

Among the assembled spirits, Breslauer presides with an easy, self-deprecating style that supports the impression that he is very comfortable in this world of machine tools, oddly shaped pieces of metal, old motor racing posters, the looming hulks of classic automobiles in desperate need of artistic re-creation ... and ghosts.

Set in a large, functional building in the forested hills near the Connecticut/Massachusetts border north of Twin Lakes, Don Breslauer is a sculptor of a different sort. He is a sculptor ... of cars.

With the studied eye of a designer and the sensitivity of an art critic, he has the uncanny ability to look at a classic vehicle, much in need of love and caring, and devise the physical, sculptural details needed to make it what it once was – or even more than it was ever intended to be.

The Cunningham C-4RK

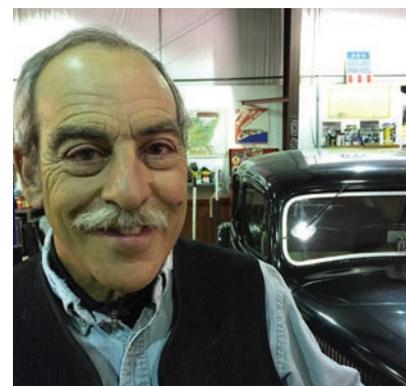
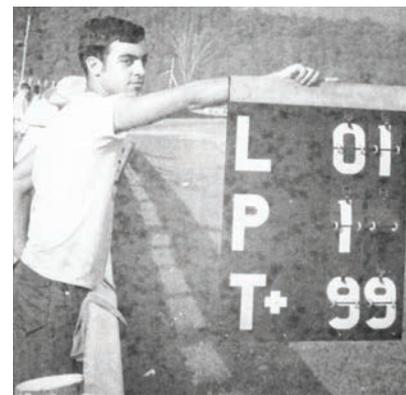
In what might be his most ambitious creative effort, Breslauer is in the advanced stages of a complete art project. He is building an exact replica of a legendary vehicle: the Cunningham C-4RK, from, as he calls it, "fresh air."

Like every other project that has been towed into this studio and quietly rolled out the door months, even years later, there is a deep personal story behind this project. This creative expression, however, did not begin with a decaying "barn find" or an aging vehicle that had basic mechanical parts that needed to be rebuilt or door and fender panels that needed to be re-created.

This one started with a few photographs, a digital file, and the distant echoing of the roar of a crowd ... in 1952 ... in France.

The end result of Breslauer's heroic efforts will be an exact, driving replica of an automobile that exists only in the The Rev Institute collection in Florida. The Cunningham C-4RK currently occupying a place of honor there is one of a kind – the only C-4 racing coupe built by legendary designer/manufacturer/driver Briggs Cunningham.

The car was raced in Le Mans, France in its famous 24-hour endurance race in both 1952 and 1953. Those same years, Briggs Cunningham, himself, piloted one C-4 roadster and racing legend John Fitch



Above, top to bottom: Don Breslauer at age 18; Breslauer today in his studio. All photos courtesy of Don Breslauer.

drove another. The C-4RK was the show piece, evidence that Cunningham had acknowledged that to race at Le Mans as a manufacturer, he needed to produce cars available for sale and viable on the open road. “Homologation” it’s called, and Cunningham had followed the rules.

It was Lucie Cunningham McKinney, Briggs Cunningham’s daughter, who had been introduced to Breslauer by Cunningham collector Charles Schoendorf that began the creative process. Her wish was a challenging one – recreate the C-4RK from photos in a book, pictures online and the actual vehicle resident in the Florida museum.

Breslauer may be a mild gentleman, but his naturally inquisitive nature grabbed the project and took it on with the imagination and energy of an artist.

The imagination of an explorer

As a young man, Don Breslauer was not fearful of following his imagination. Riding his bicycle from his Alexandria, Virginia home, he explored the Virginia suburbs and nearby Washington, DC. One stop that merited repeated visits was a garage in nearby Falls Church, Virginia – the garage and office of racing legend Bob Tullius whose “Group 44” racing team became a major force in sports car racing for decades.

At first, young Breslauer simply looked in awe at the racing machines parked at the garage. When Tullius noticed the repeat visits and respectful distance that Breslauer kept, he invited the 16 year old to get closer ... to look ... to get inside.

The magic was too much for Breslauer. Soon he was volunteering to be on the Group 44 pit crew – doing whatever needed done to keep the white and green race cars on the track. High School behind him, he began following his muse well beyond Northern Virginia – becoming a member of Tony Adamowicz’s Porsche crew, based in Wilton, Connecticut. “I got paid \$50 a week, but it was magical,” recalls Breslauer with his knowing smile.

In time, Adamowicz moved up to the exotic world of “open wheel” racing – Formula 5000 – light-framed

single seat cars with massive V-8 engines. This was world-class racing, and the team criss-crossed the continent in pursuit of a title.

The moment that changed it all

It was in Riverside, California, April of 1969, during a practice session for the Riverside Gran Prix that a fiery crash changed the direction of Breslauer Breslauer’s life. He was in the pits, far from the crash site – but the mark was indelible. “I didn’t get to know Sam Posey until years later ... he’s become a good friend and a great client,” recalls Breslauer with a seriousness that punctuates his comments. “Posey’s crash scared me. I was used to putting cars together that had been wrecked in races ... but that was frightening.”

Adamowicz was third in the race and finished the season by winning the championship, but Breslauer’s racing career was finished, as well. “I decided I needed to go to engineering school. I needed to learn more.”

Back in Connecticut, Don concentrated on learning more of the physics and mathematics that were the language of engineering. His muse never left him, however, and the artist’s soul had to come out.

“I worked for a metal sculptor who did large public installations,” remembers Breslauer. The sculptor, Charles Perry, may be best known for *Continuum* that is installed prominently in front of the National Air and Space Museum, part of The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. He was an important mentor. The Perry influence – testing and pushing the capability of artistically formed metal – is quite evident in Breslauer’s work. “Racing taught me that I had to think on my feet. But more than that, whatever piece you made, whatever piece of metal you crafted had to work ...

Continued on next page ...



Above, top to bottom: C-4RK chassis and engine; plywood frame; and C-4RK at fabrication shop. All photos courtesy of Don Breslauer.

and be elegant. Hunks of steel on the bench. That's where we start."

The studio

It wasn't until 1990 that Don created DB Enterprises and offered his artistry to an eager audience. With his young family, he had settled in Salisbury, had worked at several high-end automobile garages in the area, but felt it was time to go off on his own. With his new venture, he waited for the phone to ring.

"I had a reputation. I could make stuff. I could fix stuff," he admits with a coy smile. The phone began ringing from the first day and hasn't stopped, since.

Make stuff ... create stuff ... fix stuff ... is what he has done successfully for the last 25 years. He has created and restored beautiful, drivable sculptures for the late actor Ed Herrmann, race cars and collector cars for Sam Posey, elegantly restored British classics for auto writer and historian Rich Taylor. And a dream for Lucie Cunningham McKinney – which brings us back to the C-4RK that is emerging from photos and scans and grainy film and the intuitive mind of Don Breslauer.

Creating from fresh air

Not able to deconstruct an existing car, Breslauer relied on his reputation, the devotion of classic car enthusiasts and more than a bit of luck to begin the creative process. Because Lucie was a Cunningham, the museum was willing to allow a full digital scan of



the existing automobile. Then with near encyclopedic knowledge of the ways and wonders of Cunningham engineering, Breslauer set out to work.

A form made up completely of plywood ribs was constructed. A chassis was designed and fabricated, based on other Cunningham vehicles that had matriculated through Breslauer's shop. An engine was sourced and rebuilt – Cunninghams were powered by large, throaty Chrysler V-8's. (See photos on previous page).

Every detail of this project requires fiendish devotion. Fabricating the steering wheel and the dashboard panels required becoming immersed in the ways of Vignale, the Italian coachworks that created the original Cunningham bodies designed by Michelotti.

Chassis built, engine and transmission attached, it is time for the body panels, the painstaking process of bending and shaping sheet metal to the exact dimensions created from the digital scans.

Through this lengthy process,

Breslauer's client had changed. With the passing of Lucie Cunningham McKinney, the Cunningham aficionado who first introduced Lucie and Don – Chuck Schoendorf – stepped into that role. And, the work goes on.

There is no question of "When will the C-4RK be finished?" There is simply the understanding that real artistry is finished ... when it's finished. And, the ghosts in Breslauer's shop silently look on. •

To reach Don Breslauer email him at yuccaseed@aol.com.

Are you an artist and interested in being featured in Main Street Magazine? Send a brief bio, artist's statement, and a link to your work to arts@mainstreetmag.com.

Above: The late actor Ed Herrmann with the 1934 Alvis Speed 20 restored by Don Breslauer. Photo courtesy of Don Breslauer.



trattoria
SAN GIORGIO



Live music
every Sat

Branch
Sat & Sun

It's almost patio season, and our patio is pet-friendly!

845 677 4566

3279 FRANKLIN AVE., MILLBROOK, NY 12545
WWW.TRATTORIASANGIORGIO.COM



THE ARTS AT
HOTCHKISS HOTCHKISS.ORG/ARTS
(860)435 - 4423

All events are free and open to the public.

May 7, 7:00 p.m.

FINE ARTS QUARTET WITH FABIO AND GISELE WITKOWSKI, PIANO. Finale concert celebrating the 10th Anniversary Season of the Esther Eastman Music Center. *Brahms' Piano Quartet in C Minor op. 60 and Piano Quintet in F Minor op. 34* - Katherine M. Elfers Hall, Esther Eastman Music Center.

May 7 - June 5

TREMAINE GALLERY: *Remix, Reshoot, Research*. Curated by 99 Hooker. Survey of 10 contemporary media artists. Reception: May 7, 3 - 5 p.m.

May 8, 7:00 p.m.

SPRING CHORAL CONCERT - Hotchkiss Chapel. An all Shakespeare program honoring the 400th anniversary of the Bard's death.

May 20, 7:00 p.m.

HOTCHKISS ENSEMBLES: Hotchkiss Orchestra and Right Brain Logic Jazz Ensemble - Katherine M. Elfers Hall, Esther Eastman Music Center.

L to R: Smoke and Fire by Dina Kellerman, Fine Arts Quartet, William Shakespeare.

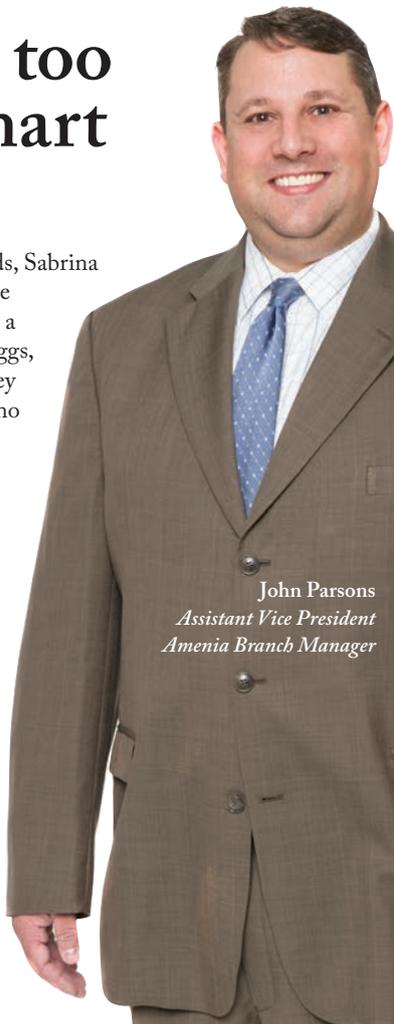


THE HOTCHKISS SCHOOL | 11 Interlaken Road, Lakeville, CT

You're never too young for smart business

John knows business. So when his kids, Sabrina and Donald, said they wanted to raise goats for the county fair, John financed a flock of chickens for them. They sold eggs, made money to buy goats, and then they discovered an opportunity: there were no 4H market goats at the fair. John's kids won first prize and enough money to start a goat farm.

Smart lessons that apply to grown up businesses too. John knows the right financing can help you succeed without taking on burdensome debt, and when you profit, that's money in the bank – and that benefits the whole community.



John Parsons
Assistant Vice President
Amenia Branch Manager



3263 FRANKLIN AVENUE MILLBROOK
5094 ROUTE 22 AMENIA
2971 CHURCH STREET PINE PLAINS
11 HUNNS LAKE ROAD STANFORDVILLE

BANKOFMILLBROOK.COM
(845) 677-5321
MEMBER FDIC

CHURCHILL

BUILDING COMPANY, LLC

332 MAIN STREET | PO BOX 1749
LAKEVILLE, CT 06039

t: 860.596.4063 | f: 860.596.4091

www.churchillbuildingcompany.com



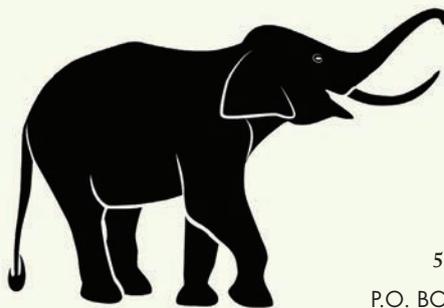
Factory Lane Auto Repair

Dominick Calabro - owner
(518) 398-5360 | 3 Factory Lane, Pine Plains, NY 12567

845.868.7085 C
845.756.5009 H

BOWEN BARN

ANTIQUES & MORE



"A
CHAIR FOR
EVERY
ASS"

Sat. & Sun 11:00 to 5:00

5911 Route 82 Stanfordville NY

P.O. BOX 363 STANFORDVILLE NY 12581



Horse Leap, LLC

A specialty tack shop

3314 ROUTE 343, AMENIA, NEW YORK 12501 • (845) 789-1177
WWW.HORSELEAP.COM • OPEN 10-5, SUN 12-4, CLOSED TUES & WED



Ruge's has 2 locations in Rhinebeck & also in Copake • New & Used Subaru, Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, RAM, GMC & other fine vehicles • Personal & Commercial • Sales, Service, Parts • Family operated since 1935 • www.rugesauto.com

Prevention, wellness and
healing in partnership
with caregivers



Millerton
Veterinary
Practice

CAROLYN CANNON, DVM | KATIE VAGLIANO, DVM | JACY CYR, DVM

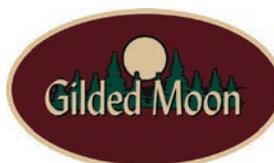
Integrative medicine & surgery | Therapeutic Laser
Acupuncture | Chiropractic

518-789-3440 | millertonvet.com | MVPonlineRX.com

From Frugal... to Fabulous!



What can we frame for you?



GILDED MOON FRAMING
& GALLERY

17 John Street • Millerton, NY • 518.789.3428 • www.gmframing.com

friendly faces: meet our neighbors, visitors and friends



Skip Barber is the president of Lime Rock Park, which he has owned since the early 1980s. Before that, Lime Rock was already an important part of his life. Skip raced and won there during his SCCA Hall of Fame racing career in the 60s and 70s, and after he founded his eponymously named racing school (which he sold in 1999), Lime Rock was the school's most popular track. "I bought Lime Rock along with some other investors when I found out the current owner was minutes away from selling to someone else. That guy's plans for the property were surely going to fail miserably, and Lime Rock would have disappeared," Skip says. "I see myself as a caretaker of an important, historically valuable property. That's my 'job.'" We certainly do appreciate it, Skip!



Bill and Heidi House are the owners of House Plumbing and Heating in Pine Plains, NY. They have been in business for over 18 years. Bill loves to make things work and takes pride in a job well done. Heidi helps with the bookkeeping, but also works full-time for The Pine Plains Veterinary Hospital. She is a veterinary assistant and has been there for 11 years. In their spare time they like taking their classic cars to car shows or just cruising. His, a silver 1969 all original Z28 Camaro, her's an orange 1969 custom Camaro. Bill also enjoys flying airplanes, and is working on his pilots license. They are also bee keepers and maintain ten hives in their backyard in Pine Plains. Sounds like they've got their hands pretty full, but keep up the good work!



Caroline Markonic is a junior at Webutuck High School. She's very active in field hockey year-round, likes to up cycle (transforming items that would otherwise be thrown away), hanging out with friends, and plans on spending her summer vacation having fun working at the Millerton summer camp as a counselor. Caroline told us that ever since she was a kid that she wanted an "old fashioned punch buggy." Today she is a proud owner of a 1974 sky blue Super Beetle that she has named Charles. "I'd like to thank my dad for putting in countless hours to make it safe and drivable, and my mom for teaching me how to drive standard. I couldn't have done it without them." Charles was recently installed with speakers because Caroline loves to jam to the classics. Punch buggy, no punch backs!



Carol Lyman has been manning the front desk at the Millerton Service Center since 1989. Her duties include answering the phone, taking care of the business' books, and making sure the customers are taken care of. She likes the flexibility of her hours and being able to make a little extra time to spoil her grandchildren. Carol also enjoys crafts and gardening. Every summer she and her husband, Mike, look forward to spending a couple of weeks at the beach in Rhode Island. Her Tahoe is the go-to vehicle for road trips and driving around town. "The seats are comfortable, A/C is nice during the summer, and satellite radio is awesome!" Mike has a 67' Corvette that you just might see Carol enjoying an occasional ride in. As well as she should!



Between both brothers **Tim and John Plaza**, they have 20 years experience in auto repair and work at their family-owned and operated auto repair facility, TP Mobile Auto Repair in Pine Plains, NY. Together they specialize in Ford and Subaru repairs, but are not limited to those makes and models. John and Tim also work on anything from lawn mowers to diesel trucks, equipment, or even frame repair and welding fabrications. Outside of work, they both love Motocross. They have been racing in local races for many years. Last year John placed second in the 30+ amateur division and Tim placed sixth in the 25+ novice division. They are extremely appreciative of everyone who have helped them along the way on their journey. They are looking forward to serving more people in our community.



Guy Hanselman started at Stanton Equipment's John Deere dealership in Canaan, CT as a service technician and after six months earned the title of service manager. Almost three years later, he still loves the clientele and working with his fellow mechanics. Guy has never been a "car" guy; he likes his ATV's, snowmobiles, and quads. He has been fixing small engines for 25 years and knows a lot about lawn and garden equipment, but is learning a lot about the agriculture side of it, too. Outside of work, Guy likes to gamble at the casinos, travel, and shop locally. This summer he is looking forward to going back to the Outer Banks. "I love being in the water and that's where I spend most of the time." Sounds like a nice and relaxing time!

WES
845-605-1099
AUTOBODY

- 24 Hour Towing
- Aluminum and Steel Welding
- Insurance Claims
- Complete Auto Body Repair
- 4x4 Truck Accessories
- Environmentally Friendly

3718 Route 44, Millbrook, NY 12545 www.WesAutobodyWorks.com

Herrington Fuels
It's all about comfort.

9018 State Route 22 • Hillsdale • Servicing Taconic Hills Area
(518) 325-6700 www.herringtonfuels.com

- Heating Oil
- Propane
- Heat/AC Systems
- Diesel
- Kerosene
- Service/Repair
- 24/7 Emergency

Olivia Valentine Markonic Photography

(914) 475 4831
omarkonic@hotmail.com
Like me on Facebook!

(860) 435-1414 • www.salisburywines.com • wine@salisburywines.com
19 Main Street, Salisbury, CT 06068

SALISBURY WINES

Wine, Spirits, Beer • Tastings/Classes

Open Monday - Saturday 10 to 7 and Sundays 11 to 5

JENNINGS & ROHN

MONTAGE
ANTIQUES - ARTS - EVENTS
25 MAIN STREET, MILLERTON, NY

FULL CIRCLE
WORKS BY
GAIL DOWNEY

Opening Reception May 28, 4-6
at Montage, 25 Main Street, Millerton, NY

860-485-3887
www.jenningsandrohnantiques.com

Zig's Stone & Tile Services
Polishing & Restoration Specialists

Stone • Tile • Grout • Concrete • Marble • Granite • Limestone
and more

High Pressure - Steam Cleaning
Sanitizes ♦ Disinfects ♦ Kills Bacteria

*Clean it
Polish it
Seal it*

Fall in love with it again

CALL ZIG 860-913-4473
ZIGS.STS@GMAIL.COM
WWW.STONEPOLISHINGCT.COM

English Classic Sports Cars in Copake

LINDA & LARRY ECKLER, MORGAN MOTORS OF NEW ENGLAND, COPAKE, NY

By Christine Bates
christine@mainstreetmag.com

We stopped by to investigate Morgan Motors after years of driving by and wondering about an English sports car showroom on Route 7 in Columbia County. Morgan Motors is another discovery in Main Street's monthly coverage of entrepreneurs in our region, and is especially appropriate for our annual transportation issue. Three-wheeled cars anyone?

What are you doing here? What is this business?

Larry: We're a Morgan Sports Car dealer, which sells parts, restores cars, and sells new and "formerly loved" Morgans. If you look downstairs you'll see that we also store cars for clients over the winter. We're the largest Morgan parts and dealer in the world outside of the UK. Occasionally we also take in other British orphans.

In the 1980's I got to know the original owner of a Morgan spare parts business at the Congregational Church in Sharon and eventually went to work for him when the business was located on North Center Street in Millerton. Eventually I became his partner and then in 1997 my wife and I bought him out with a loan from her grandparents. By 2000 we expanded to include selling new cars, as well as parts.

We bought this commercial property in Copake and built a new building to store parts and cars. We are now the largest supplier of Morgan car parts in the world outside of the UK and ship globally from Japan to Australia.



Above: An electric Morgan 3-wheeler built around a motorcycle is available now at Morgan New England Motors. Below left: The Morgan Motors sign on Route 7 Copake that intrigues everyone driving by. Photo by Christine Bates.

Who drives Morgan cars?

Larry: Everybody drives Morgans from schoolteachers to hedge fund managers. They are fun to drive if you like the feel of the road and they make people smile at you. It's very different from the looks of disgust if you're driving a Maserati. It's a happy car for a sunny day.

And the people that drive Morgan's keep them in the family. They hand them down to their children. They get rebuilt and restored. The only time they seem to part with them is in divorce. (See the movie *The War of the Roses*). Most of the Morgans ever sold in the US are still on the road today. Owners regard them as cherished members of the family and see themselves as caretakers of the car. Every vehicle has a history, a family tree.

Maybe people like the unchanging classic design. The body style of a 1960 Morgan looks a lot like a 2005 Morgan.

Linda: Compared to most classic and sports cars, the price of a Morgan has not gone up in recent years as with the rest of the mar-

ket. A nice driving Morgan can be purchased from anywhere from \$25,000 to \$50,000 depending on year and model, but you can expect to spend an average of \$35,000 for a nice +4 or 4/4. The newer +8's command a much dearer price, usually north of \$50,000.

What about buying a new Morgan?

Linda: In 2005 importation of US certified new Morgans stopped because of government crash safety standards and air bag regulations. Starting next year, under a safety waiver for small car manufacturers, we will have new cars to sell. There will likely be a +4 and a 6 cylinder Roadster available, costing around \$50,000 to \$80,000. There's already a waiting list.

Morgans are made to order, as the English say "bespoke." You can select your color and your leather upholstery. If you want, you can go to the factory and watch it being made. It takes about a week. When your car is delivered you get a leather-bound book with photo-

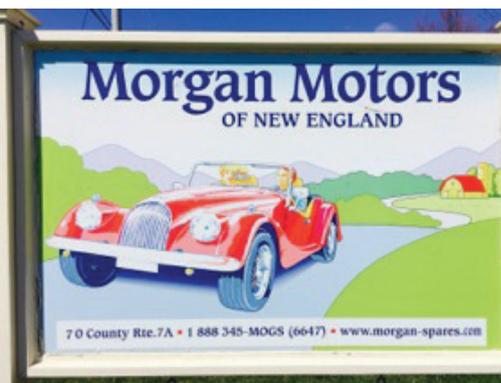
graphs documenting the making of your car.

There are only 13 Morgan dealers in the US and we're the only one north of Philadelphia. We're also the only Morgan dedicated dealer in the country. The other dealers just dabble in Morgans. When imports to the US stopped in 2005, only about 100 cars a year were shipped here. In our best year we sold 20.

What's important to your business success?

Larry: Our website brings us parts business from all over the world. But word-of-mouth and reputation are really the key in such a small market. In the entire country there are only 3,000 to 5,000 Morgans. We know their owners. We know the garages that work on their cars. They call us for advice. We are the Morgan experts.

Continued on next page ...





Right: Linda and Larry Eckler seated in a Morgan in their showroom in Copake. Far right: A 1970 rebuilt Morgan in the garage of Morgan Motors. Photos by Christine Bates.



What is your marketing strategy?

Linda: In such a small market our marketing activities are very targeted. We advertise in the Morgan Club newsletter and vintage car clubs. We go to car meets. Once a year all the dealers get together in Worcestershire at the factory on Pickersleigh Road, Malvern Link that's been there since 1913. Morgan is the last, independent family-owned car company in Great Britain. All of the dealers are family and we get together with our kids and visit.

We strive to be a "destination" for all things Morgan, so interested people who make the effort to come by are not disappointed. We've had visitors from the Pacific Northwest, Colombia, South America, The Dominican Republic, and even England.

How do the two of you divide up responsibilities in this business?

Linda: This is a very full-time job for both of us. Larry is in charge of all things mechanical and I handle the business side – parts inventory, accounting, marketing. I studied accounting in college. Including ourselves, we have six employees.

Would your business be profitable if you both weren't working all the time?

Linda: You know the saying, "There's no one you can hire that's as cheap as yourself." When we're not working we are doing something with our kids.

What's the most difficult part of owning your own business?

Linda: The hardest thing is not letting your business take over your life. "BK," that's what we call life before kids; we were here at 7am and went home after 7 at night. We could be going to car shows every single weekend, but we don't do that anymore.

Larry: On the business side the Sterling Dollar exchange rate is very hard to predict and Morgan in the UK does not hedge currency risk so we have to buy in dollars at whatever the exchange rate is. Right now it takes \$1.50 to buy one pound sterling, which is great. But when it took two dollars to buy one pound it was costly to import. And all of our transactions are cash and carry. There is no floor financing like American car dealerships.

What have you learned running your own business?

Larry: You prioritize and keep your sense of humor. We've learned that good customer service is very rare and we provide it. Our reputation is everything. In a world that's so small it's the key to our success. Everyone in the Morgan community has good things to say about us. We always do what we say we're going to do. And most of our transactions are done on a handshake.

What advice do you have for others starting their own business?

Linda: Work for somebody in the business and go to school to get important business skills. I was lucky

that I worked for savvy bosses. We use QuickBooks to help us and we always know exactly where we are. The other crucial piece of advice is to have enough working capital. Lack of it is the reason most businesses fail.

What are your plans for future growth?

Larry: You mean like buying up other car dealerships? I don't think so. We're pleased with the level of our business right now. We don't want to be bigger, just even better.

What do you enjoy about this business, and having your own business?

Larry: I like the flexibility it gives us. I can go on a school trip with our kids.

Linda: The people are the most important to me. We're all one big family.

What do you do for fun?

Linda: We're always busy with our kids, chickens, gardens, and horses. And our kids are members of many 4H clubs – for horses, dogs, shooting. We're very active with our church, the Millerton American Legion and the Upton Lake Christian School. Once a year we all take a one-week vacation in Florida. ●

For more information about Linda and Larry Eckler and their Morgan Motors, you can call (518) 329-3878 or visit them online at www.morgan-spares.com.

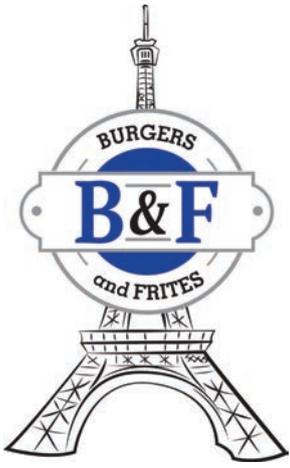
Morgan trivia

- The sports car that Michael Douglas owns in the 1989 movie *War of the Roses* was a Blacktop crème colored 1960 British Morgan Roadster Plus 4 convertible known to collectors as a Morgan Plus 4 convertible, which is still made today. The car was actually crushed in the film and was purchased by a man from Hartford, CT, who restored it with the intention of racing it at Lime Rock Park. He died before he could race it and the Morgan was purchased by auto enthusiast Wayne Carini for his show *Chasing Classic Cars*.
- It wasn't until 1936 that Morgan introduced a car with four wheels, the Morgan 4-4, indicating four wheels and four cylinders.
- Dr. "Ducky" Mallard, the medical examiner on TV hit *NCIS* played by British actor David McCallum, drives a 1964 +4 restored Morgan roadster on the show.

QUIZ: American Automobile English vs. British Motor-Car English
Match the British equivalent terminology for the American term on the left

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Trunk | A. Roundabout |
| 2. Battery | B. Windscreen |
| 3. Hood | C. Accumulator |
| 4. Shock absorber | D. Lorry |
| 5. Truck | E. Bonnet |
| 6. Windshield | F. Damper |
| 7. Traffic Circle | G. Boot |

Answers (1/G, 2/C, 3/E, 4/F, 5/D, 6/B, 7/A). If you get more than five correct have a brew.



Fresh burgers, twice-fried frites, hot dogs and milkshakes, Croque-monsieur, Crème brûlée, and Escargot. We spin our own ice cream in small batches and unique flavors.

A FAST-CASUAL AMERICAN DRIVE-IN WITH FRENCH FLAIR!

Open daily from 11:30 through 8pm

860-596-4112
227 Main Street, Lakeville, CT

pieces

unique furnishings, lighting, jewelry and objects of interest!

Hours: Friday-Sunday 10-4
2816 West Church Street (Rt.199), Pine Plains, NY
914 388 0105 • piecespineplains@gmail.com
Like us on Facebook




Casana
info@casanadesigns.com
1.855.922.7262
Premium Cashmere CasanaDesigns.com



Lightning Protection!

ASSOCIATED LIGHTNING

Rod Company, Inc

www.alrci.com

518-789-4603
845-373-8309



north elm home
furnishing | accents | antiques



SPRING SALE

GOING ON NOW

unique new & used furniture – reclaimed – original hand crafted artisan pieces
– one of a kind finds – mattresses – rugs – gifts – home accents – accessories

5938 North Elm Ave., Millerton, NY 12546
t: 518.789.3848 • f: 518.789.0234 • www.northelmhome.com



AVONRIDGE

Building and Renovating Country Homes
Since 1991.

avonridge.com
info@avonridge.com

o. 860.677.5355
c. 860.543.2933

See Video



IDYLLIC KENT RETREAT

All the creature comforts and more in this carefree country home. Expansive kitchen with a native stone fireplace with bookshelves at one end and a granite topped gourmet kitchen on the other. Master suite and private office, French doors lead to the wrap-around porch overlooking the heated pool. Screen porch and poolhouse kitchen. Newly listed, newly reduced – 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms set on 2.31 acres. Now Just \$579,000.



860-927-4646 • 860-364-4646 • 860-672-2626 • www.bainrealestate.com

PALEY'S MARKET and GARDEN CENTER



Our greenhouses are bursting!

Annuals • Perennials • Nursery Stock
Herbs & Vegetable Starts • Hanging Baskets
Garden Pottery & Decor • Gifts for Garden & Home
Gardening Tools, Supplies & Accessories
**Our food market re-opens in mid-May with
Fresh Produce, Specialty Foods & Baked Goods**

230 Amenia Rd. (Rt. 343) • Sharon, CT • 860-364-0674 • Open 7 days, 8-6



www.PaleysMarket.com

THE GOOD EARTH FARM ~ ESTABLISHED 1982



CLASSIC BEAUTY



AMBER CONSTRUCTION & DESIGN

General Contractors

- Architectural Design & Build
- New Home Construction • Remodeling
- Millwork • Furniture • Cabinetry

Registered AIA Architectural Services

amberconstruction.net | 860 693 0040



1969 CHEVROLET CAMARO SS 4 SPEED 396/375HP UPGRADED TO L89 SPECS

*Specializing in full mechanical restoration, repair
& maintenance of all classic cars*

CLASSIC AMERICAN CARS

Sales & Service



860-596-4272 • OPPOSITE LIME ROCK PARK
438 LIME ROCK ROAD, LIME ROCK, CT 06039
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NORTHWESTCORNERCLASSICCARS



The Internet Highway:

HOW THE INTERNET IS CHANGING THE REAL ESTATE MARKET

By Christine Bates *For Main Street's "Transportation" issue we explore the impact that the Internet is having on buying and selling real estate. We spoke to industry veterans about the change in the real estate market and their role. It means a lot less driving and many more informed buyers.*
 christine@mainstreetmag.com

Today 95% of all buyers look at the Internet before calling a broker

Can you remember trying to buy a house before the Internet came into our lives? If you didn't know the geographic area, you needed a road map or an atlas to identify the names of the towns where you might like to look. You would go to the library and see if they had telephone directories with Yellow Pages for these towns. Then you could call a broker you didn't know on the telephone – maybe the one with an ad or a boldfaced listing.

Or you might just get in a car, like John Dyson did many years ago with his mother to search for a home in Millbrook, drive to the town and look on Main Street for a real estate broker's office. You could buy the local paper to look at advertised listings – there were more local newspapers back then because they were supported by classified ads.

Even if a friend referred you to a broker, you would always begin by talking to a stranger in a real

estate office describing what you thought you wanted. The real estate agent you just met would access the area's proprietary multiple listing service (MLS), mainframe computer through a dedicated dummy terminal. Brokers were the exclusive custodians of all information. Next you would drive around with the broker and look at many, many properties before buying.

Today an estimated 95% of all buyers visit Internet real estate sites like Trulia or realtor.com first – at home on their computer, in a restaurant on their phone, or in their pajamas on their tablet – in fact 60% of Internet real estate sites are accessed through mobile devices. Looking for real estate has been transformed by technology.

The first nationwide real estate listing site available to consumers, Cyberhomes, didn't go online until 1995 – just twenty years ago – followed by realtor.com in 1997 sponsored by the National Association of Realtors. The MidHuson Multiple Listing service was one of the first MLS groups to link their information to national, public sites and now sends listings to 60 or 70 national real estate portals.

The biggest change came in the mid-2000s when easy to navigate sites like Zillow, Trulia, and Redfin were launched. Consumers wanted information that the real estate

industry wasn't interested in sharing or researching, such as original listing price and time on the market, price reductions, recent sales, maps, homes for sale by owner, and neighborhood walkability and crime statistics.

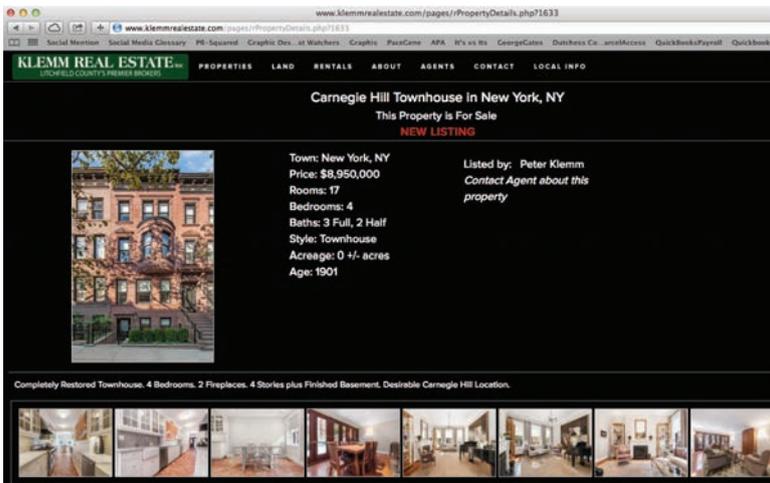
Just as the real estate market was crashing, traffic on real estate sites exploded. Today over 36 million people visit Zillow each month, followed by 23 million on Trulia, and 20 million at Yahoo homes. Catching up fast is www.realtor.com, purchased by News Corp in 2014 for almost one billion dollars, with 18 million visitors.

Has the Internet changed the real estate market?

The Internet has clearly made the real estate market more efficient providing wider, immediate exposure, valuable information, much quicker time to sale, and more transparent pricing.

"We definitely have fewer house showings per sale than before the Internet," is the experience of Carolyn Klemm of Klemm Real Estate. "And because of the Internet there are fewer really crazy prices. People can see what other sellers are asking. They can see what has sold. The world has changed, buyers are more informed."

Continued on next page ...



Above top: This house on Belgo Road is the first property that Elyse Harney sold directly from the Internet based on photographs of the house and view. Photo courtesy of Elyse Harney. Above: The Internet allows area brokers to reach buyers in New York City. Screen shot taken from Klemm Real Estate website.

But there are pitfalls as well. One of the big drawbacks according to brokers are the wildly inaccurate Zillow “zestimates” of individual home values in our sparsely populated region. An extreme example is an estate on Mill Road listed for sale at \$2,750,00, which has a “zestimate” of \$585,964. RealFors report that there is no one to contact to correct mistakes. Zillow price estimates may supply insight in more densely populated urban areas, but assessor values, also available on the Internet, usually offer a much better guide.

Price history is especially valuable when it comes to making an offer and negotiating a deal. How many months or even years has the property been on the market? For example, a modern home located in Anramdale went on the market in 2012 at \$2,750,000 is now listed with a third broker at \$1,475,000.

Great photos are key

Another change is the critical importance of professional, high-resolution photographs and videos to include with each property listing on the Internet. Quality photos

distinguish a property online. No more tiny, smudgy black and white mug shots of houses – full color and multiple photos are required. On the Internet the seller can tell a story and, combined with staging, appeal to a certain kind of buyer. Strategic marketing skills have become more important than personal salesmanship. Because of superb photographs Elyse Harney of Elyse Harney Real Estate sold a property on Belgo Road straight off the Internet (see photo to the left).

“We actually had an accepted offer but I insisted that the buyer had to come take a look. He flew into New York and I picked him up at the train. He was thrilled with the view and we proceeded to a smooth closing.”

As Tim Donnelly of William Pitt Sotheby’s International commented, “Your first showing of a property is online.”

For hilarious examples of terrible Internet photographs check out www.badmlsphotos.com, or buy the book *Terrible Real Estate Photos: A Book of the Most Baffling Property Photographs Ever Taken*.

The impact of the Internet on real estate brokers

“The Internet leveled the playing field for local, boutique firms like ours,” according to Pat Best of Best & Cavallaro. “It gives us a chance for national exposure, it lets us be nimble. But people still call on the telephone and come to our office.”

Klemm agreed that the real estate business has traditionally been very territorial and that the Internet opens up markets to everyone, everywhere (see photo of a Klemm listing in New York City above left). Investing in an excellent Internet site and driving viewers to the site from social media gives tech savvy brokerage firms a tremendous competitive advantage, especially in listing properties. Sellers can compare the sites of brokers, the number of listings etc., and go with the most active, not the broker they may have known for years. This process will only accelerate.

The Internet has changed where brokers spend their marketing

dollars. “To start with, the Internet reduced our print advertising expenses dramatically,” explained Best. “Just one ad in the print edition of the *New York Times* used to cost \$1,000. 90% of our ad budget was spent on print and the rest on radio.” Best remembered that in 2004 it cost \$25,000 for a broker to build a website that now costs much less.

Klemm Real Estate launched their Internet site 17 years ago, “As soon as we could,” according to Klemm. “At first we only put two or three listings on a week. But now everything is online and all of our photos are high resolution.”

The Internet has required every brokerage firm to become IT and social media savvy. “We track our web traffic and buy key Google words to get people to our own site,” said Best.

Social media is becoming increasingly important. “Facebook accounts for half of the people who come to our website,” estimates Harney. Sites like Zillow which charge brokers for rotating display at the top of the page, also bring in new business.

As the result of the Internet showing all the properties available there are fewer closed, exclusive listings. This translates to more sales of other brokers listings and fewer “internal” sales where both the listing and sales fee is collected by the listing brokers. And just as buyers can see what’s new on the market, brokers can easily see the freshest inventory of their competitors.

The Internet has also enabled owners to sell and rent properties without brokers. www.forsale-byowner.com, which charges the owner a modest listing fee instead of a 5% to 6% real estate brokerage commission, claims to sell a home every 52 minutes and its listings are included on Zillow sites. Note that no broker thinks this works very well around here. More typically landlords may list properties for rent on Zillow, hotpads, and Trulia, avoiding paying 10% of one year’s

Continued on next page ...

ELYSE HARNEY REAL ESTATE

GLOBAL REACH • COMMUNITY CONNECTION • A TRADITION OF TRUST

Country Roads...
Take Me Home!

Millerton, NY 518-789-8800 www.HARNEYRE.COM Salisbury, CT 860-435-2200

BRINGING YOU THE BEST LOCAL FOOD



TO BUY THE BEST LOCAL FOOD IN THE HUDSON VALLEY – FROM THE HUDSON VALLEY – VISIT THESE LOCATIONS:

Millerton Agway in Millerton, NY • Bywater Bistro in Rosendale, NY • Boitson's Restaurant in Kingston, NY • Hudson Hill's in Coldspring, NY • Phoenicia Diner in Phoenicia, NY • Red Devon in Bangall, NY • Roundout Music Lounge in Kingston, NY • The Local in Rhinebeck, NY • Jack's Meats in New Paltz, NY • Adams Fairacre Farms in Poughkeepsie, NY • Adams Fairacre Farms in Wappinger, NY • Adams Fairacre Farms in Newburgh, NY • Associated in Rosendale, NY • Bistro-To-Go in Kingston, NY • Gigi's Market in Red Hook, NY • High Falls Food Co-Op in High Falls NY • Honest Weight Food Co-Op in Albany, NY • Nature's Pantry in Fishkill NY • Nature's Pantry in Newburgh, NY • Otto's Market in Germantown, NY • Sunflower Natural Foods in Woodstock, NY • The Cheese Plate in New Paltz, NY

If you'd like to carry our products and see a full list of our retail locations, please visit our website.

www.hv-harvest.com



QUATTRO'S POULTRY FARM & MARKET

FRESH FROM OUR FARM

Chickens, Pheasants, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys & Venison

A UNIQUE SHOP FOR OUR CUSTOM-CUT PRIME MEATS

Steaks • Chops • Ribs • Fresh Ground Beef • Bacon Burgers • Fresh Sausages

Fire up the grill! • **QUATTRO'S ICE CREAM BAR IS OPEN!**



Our own Smokehouse Specialty Meats & Sausages

Wide variety of CRAFT BEERS & BEERS ON TAP!

ITALIAN SPECIALTIES: Cheeses, Pastas, Olive Oil, Vinegars

Also LOCAL Breads, Vegetables, Honey, Jams, Grains & more!

VISIT OUR FARM STORE

RT. 44, PLEASANT VALLEY NY 12569

(845) 635-2018



POULTRY FARM & GOURMET MARKET



TRADE SECRETS

A two-day event in Sharon, CT
to benefit Women's Support Services

MAY 14 & 15, 2016

TICKETS & INFORMATION:

TradeSecretsCT.com

(860) 364-1080

Rain or shine
No pets

Media Sponsors



Michael D. Lynch*

ATTORNEY AT LAW

106 Upper Main Street • PO Box 1776 • Sharon, Connecticut 06069

(860) 364-5505 • MLynch@MichaelLynchLaw.com

www.MichaelLynchLaw.com

* Also admitted in New York State

GORDON R. KEELER

APPLIANCES

Appliance sales & service since 1930

SUB ZERO • MONOGRAM • WOLF
SPEED QUEEN • GE CAFÉ • GE PROFILE



3 Century Blvd., Millerton, NY 12546
518-789-4961 • 518-789-4813 • 518-789-4252 fax



THE REAL WORLD

May 15 - June 25

Champagne Brunch Opening May 15th 12 - 4 pm at Eckert Fine Art

A survey of important artists working in the real of realism throughout the ages. This show will explore a range of subjects, allowing the viewer to compare and contrast the various methods and styles artists use to depict the reality of the world around them as truthfully as possible.

Featuring the work from the 19th century to contemporary masters including Andrew Wyeth, Eric Forstmann, Eric Fischl, Robert Cottingham, William Keith, Stephen Scott Young, George Deem, William MacGregor Paxton and more.

Pictured: Eric Forstmann "Staccato" 2016 Oil on Canvas 71 x 40 inches



Open Saturdays 10-5 and by appointment.
1394 Route 83 Unit 3, Pine Plains, NY 12567
518-771-3300 | eckertfineart.com

Right: A screenshot of realtor.com, which seems to be updated more frequently than other Internet sites.

rent and enabling themselves to respond immediately to interest and screen potential renters directly.

The role of the real estate agent in a digital market

When buyers contact a broker, they usually have a list of properties that they find appealing culled from Internet sites. It's no longer necessary to answer that dreaded question: "What is your price range?" Potential buyers now need the broker to actually get them inside the house.

The role of the real estate agent has evolved from gatekeeper of information to professional facilitator and expert. Even though an estimated 42% of buyers find their home online, 89% still use a real estate broker to complete the sale. And an estimated 91% use a broker to sell. For most people this is the biggest investment of their life, not an airplane ticket. The Internet may have eliminated travel agents, and decimated classified ads, but brokers are still required to help negotiate the terms and price of the sale and do the paperwork. Real estate brokers have to be as tech savvy as their customers, but while technology has changed the way information is disseminated, it hasn't changed the fundamentals of how real estate is bought and sold. Real estate professionals will always be key.

"Someone has to know where the septic is. Someone has to negotiate," said Best.

"Every town is different. Every house is different," maintains Klemm. "Around here houses will not be sold at auction. There just aren't enough buyers."

"Closing is much more complicated than listing or selling," agreed Elyse Harney.

Not only are brokers here to stay, but clients can often learn about the brokers themselves online. The best real estate broker sites contain agent background information that might make you select one agent over another because of their experience, or interests. Juliet Moore at Elyse Harney started out in television and has restored historic properties, John Harney of William Pitt Sotheby's graduated from Williams and served in the Marines, Carolyn Klemm knows everyone. The Internet can help you pick a property and a broker you might like.

The Internet will never understand the emotional appeal of a particular property to a certain buyer, or persuade a seller that they are just asking too much. A website never has years of experience in a community and can't refer you to the right attorney, the right banker, or even more difficult, the right plumber. All successful brokers share the personal people skills and life experience that Zillow will never have, but realtors without an Internet presence will fade away. ●

6 INTERNET TIPS FOR BUYERS

1. Get a feel for individual communities by looking at information often contained on local brokers' sites. At the same time sign up for broker alerts on new listings and emails.
2. Check brokers' sites for comparative price and market sales information. These are much more accurate than information supplied on Internet listing sites. William Pitt Sotheby's International has an excellent quarterly sales report for Litchfield and Berkshire counties. Elyse Harney's site has recent actual closed sales with asking prices.
3. If you are looking at a specific property, type the street address directly into Google which should bring up all the Internet sites where the property is listed. Compare information from each one. Ignore Zillow and other Internet price estimates especially at the high end.
4. To view all the sale listings in your desired area check many sites and search by zip code as well as town/village name.
5. Check listing history and price adjustments to help with bargaining.
6. Use maps on government sites, for example Dutchess Parcel Access, to gather information on owners, assessments, maps for flood zones and wetlands.

6 INTERNET TIPS FOR SELLERS

1. Research information available online through your local, county, or state tax departments. Check official parcel description with lot size, square footage, improvements etc. Confirm current assessed value.
2. Check recently sold homes in your neighborhood from assessor's sold figures if online or on sites like Zillow. This will give you an idea of comps before you even speak to brokers.
3. Type in the name of your community and zip code into realtor.com for current listings and prices. Note the names of the listing brokers of homes similar to yours. Evaluate photographic quality of properties listed and description of properties.
4. Visit the individual sites of the listing brokers you think might be the best for you. Does their site make it easy to find properties? Are there videos on properties? Would their website attract buyers because of additional content on the real estate market?
5. When you interview brokers ask them about their online marketing strategy. Do they send out emails to a list of prospective buyers? Do they advertise in the *Wall Street Journal* and the *New York Times* online? What is their activity on social media sites like Instagram and Facebook. The seller must approve listing access.
6. Visit *Remodeling Magazine* (www.remodeling.hw.net) online and look at the cost versus value report. Think about what improvements, besides a fresh coat of paint, are necessary and cost versus return on investment.

“When it comes to quality antiquing
in a warm and welcoming environment
all roads lead to the Millerton Antiques Center.”

Fodor Travel

MILLERTON ANTIQUES CENTER

MAIN **25** STREET

More than 35 dealers.
Open 7 Days a Week.

518-789-6004



THINK GLOBAL, EAT LOCAL.



www.hudsonvalleyfresh.com
www.hvdairy.com

A few words about

Rosé

Pink wine is all the rage now, not only for summertime but year round. Delicious with a salad, delicious with a steak, its versatility is much appreciated.

Real rosé is red winemaking interrupted halfway in the process. Blending various red and white wines to make a pink concoction (as is common practice here) is outlawed in France. We sell only authentic rosé.

For fourteen years we have presented large and carefully edited selections of the best rosés in the market. We feel our selection this season is the best ever. Come see for yourself.

Open Tasting of Our Rosé Wines:

Friday, May 20 - 11AM-7PM

Saturday, May 21 - 10AM-7PM

Please plan to stop by.

We look forward to tantalizing your taste buds.



Fine Wines and Spirits

There are two main roads in Pine Plains. We've moved to the other one.
Route 199, two blocks west of the stoplight, going toward Rhinebeck.
The drive is beautiful.

Bill Clegg

By Betsy Maury
info@mainstreetmag.com

“She will go” begins the second chapter of Bill Clegg’s debut novel, *Did You Ever Have a Family*, published by Scout Press/Simon & Schuster last October. And though it’s not the first chapter of this deeply felt book, it’s the one that draws readers into the drama of a small, northwest Connecticut town, the urgent one that keeps your interest in what devastating thing happened, eager to unravel the threads of the lives of many faintly recognizable characters. Within pages, a grief-stricken protagonist drives a black Subaru out to Route 4, past a stretch of the Housatonic river south on to Route 7 out of fictional Wells, CT and away from tragedy.

Growing up in Sharon and creating the town of Wells, CT

Sitting with Clegg in Tivoli last month I had the chance to hear firsthand about the writing of his novel. *Did You Ever Have a Family* has been widely praised and was long-listed for major literary awards in 2015. Clegg, a literary agent and author of two previous memoirs, took seven years to write this book.

Over the course of our conversation we moved back and forth between Bill’s childhood in Sharon, CT and the fictional town of Wells, where much of the novel takes place and which looks and feels strikingly like Sharon (only the Audubon and transfer station are missing). While no character in the book is based directly on anyone, there are familiar people and places here: the Weekender, the Local, the Prep School, The Motel, the community gathering around the firehouse. And there’s a local swill hole where much of Wells gathers to drink too much that looks an awful lot like the Sharon Valley Tavern.

Part of the pleasure of Bill’s book is the perfect pitch with which he captures small town Litchfield County life, both the handsome barns and fields of daisies, but also the struggling mom-and-pop outfits, neglected churches, and secret fields only the local kids know. Clegg told me he was interested in how gossip happens in a small town and his book captures the very stifling feeling one has living in a place where everyone knows your business and has made up their mind about you. There’s nowhere to

go where people don’t know your son was in jail, your high school humiliation, the time you passed out on the town green.

The book is told from multiple points of view with each character – some very minor – getting a chance to say their piece. Many lives intersect in a small town popular with weekenders and Clegg’s ear picks up subtle dissonant notes in the country quietude, like the simmering tension of the local florist:

“Local couples, even the young ones, are worn-out from two jobs, school schedules, family obligations, and too much debt. And the older ones, with their late mortgage payments to make, propane-gas tanks to be filled, and sons and daughters skipping school and smashing cars and getting in fights at the Tap, are too tired, not to mention too busy performing their roles as jolly country folk on the weekends for the pampered and demanding New Yorkers, spending every last drop of civility and patience on these strangers with none left over for their wives and husbands.”

Small town life and the characters

Yet, for all the sour grapes different characters have in *Family*, surprising alliances develop in Wells. Small patches of common ground are shared here as anyone who’s been to a town hall meeting in these parts knows. Contrition is a constant theme in the book; many characters are cycling away from both wholesale betrayals and minor disappointments in search of some reckoning. This gives the book its real life appeal; small town or big city, we all caress our grudges and pardon those around us only when life compels us to. As someone who’s written about personal addiction and recovery, Clegg knows forgiveness often comes from blessedly remote places.

The story centers on June Reid, a middle-aged weekender-turned-full timer and her boyfriend, Luke Morey, the biracial son of local hottie, Lydia Morey – a woman roughly June’s age. There’s a local boy involved, who’s at the wrong place at the wrong time and makes a terrible mistake. A tragedy rolls the tape backward in Wells and we find out everyone’s point of view of what happened that day,



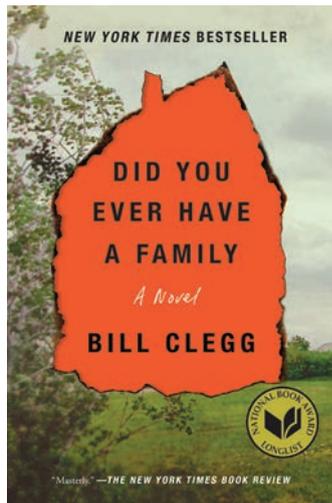
Above: Author Bill Clegg. Below: The cover for Clegg’s latest novel. Photos courtesy of Bill Clegg.

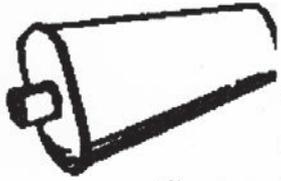
and what led to it; then we follow many to honest resolution.

There’s compassion for just about everyone in this story, the mother who lost everyone, the mother who lost the one who mattered, the young lovers, the haunted teenager and all those in their wake. Clegg’s storytelling resonates because though many characters confide in the reader, all their stories make sense, even if their world view is woefully incomplete. This is one of the joys of the book: these characters are carved from organic matter, every last one of them.

As our conversation moved from Wells and novel writing back to his Sharon childhood, Bill remembered a halcyon youth growing up near Ellsworth farm among a close-knit group of friends at Sharon Center School. He brightened when he remembered all the many well-meaning teachers who put books in his path, books about places and people he’d never seen or would not likely see in his small town world. Nourished by these and observant of his own unfolding narrative, Clegg learned how to write, not just about small towns and families but about human nature, its possibilities and its limits. *Did You Ever Have a Family* tells us more than a story; it tells us about ourselves. ●

“*Did You Ever Have a Family*” goes on sale in paperback May 17, available at Oblong Books & Music. To learn more about Bill Clegg you can visit his website at www.billclegg-author.com.





NORTH EAST MUFFLER INC.

Custom Bending Up to 3 Inches

Open Mon.-Fri. 8 to 5; Sat. 8 to 1

Route 22, Millerton, NY

John Heck

(518) 789-3669

Cindy Heck

HOUSE

Plumbing  Heating  Cooling

Water treatment systems • Mini splits • IBC boilers • Triangle Tube boilers
Buderus boilers • Radiant installations • New construction, renovations & repairs

(518) 398-7888 • houseplumbing@yahoo.com

SHELDON MASONRY & CONCRETE LLC

"All phases of masonry construction"



Matt Sheldon
860.387.9417
sheldonmasonry.com

Stonework | Brickwork | Blockwork
Poured concrete foundations & slabs

Insured | Free estimates | Servicing western Connecticut, Massachusetts, & New York

Valentine Monument Works & Sandblast

SINCE 1875

Cemetery Monuments • Pet Markers
On-Site Lettering • Cleaning • Repairs
Sand Blasting Service

Bruce Valentine, *proprietor*

Tel: 518-789-9497

ValentineMonument@hotmail.com

Park Avenue & Main Street, Millerton

VALENTINE
MONUMENT WORKS



Trex Transcend®



LUMBER • MILLWORK • BUILDING SUPPLIES

HERRINGTON'S®

We share your passion.®

Hillsdale, NY: 518.325.3131 • Lakeville, CT: 860.435.2561

Millerton, NY: 518.789.3611 • Hudson, NY: 518.828.9431

Chatham, NY: 518.392.9201 • Sheffield, MA: 413.229.8777



WE OFFER FREE DECK DESIGN SERVICE • 800.453.1311 • www.herringtons.com

Yikes!

Ash trees need prophylactic treatment to assure their survival. Untreated they will not survive.

www.emeraldashborer.info



RON YAPLE
LICENSED/CERTIFIED ARBORIST
TRI-STATE REGION

(413) 229.2728

WWW.RACEMTTREE.COM

Flying free as a bird

By *Dominique De Vito*
info@mainstreetmag.com

A beautiful day. A light breeze. A hawk soaring overhead, wings outstretched, floating, flying. Who hasn't wished they could extend their arms and take flight? Well, wishes can – practically – come true right here. How? Paragliding.

Yes, paragliders are a presence right here in the upper Hudson Valley! The flyers have flocked here on the wings of a French-born outdoorsman whose journey led him to the foothills of the Taconics in Millerton, NY, where he runs a flight school called Let's Go Paragliding. The man is Benoit Bruneau, and his philosophy and objective are as easy-going and inviting as the name of his business. When you have an opportunity like this in your back yard, what else is there to say but, "Yes, Let's Go Paragliding!"

What is Paragliding?

Paragliding is the sport of flying in a paraglider. What is a paraglider? Bruneau describes it as a "flying toy in a back pack." A paraglider is a large "wing" made of rip-stop nylon from which ropes extend to a harness where the pilot sits and controls the aircraft. There are no rigid parts, which makes getting ready and taking off super easy – and which makes paragliding so accessible. There are different types of paragliders, and they're assigned based on the pilot's weight and proficiency – a training glider for beginners; an

intermediate glider for club-level, recreational pilots, and an advanced glider for competition-level flying.

What delights Bruneau and other pilots is the simplicity of the mechanism and the experience. Weighing in at 30 pounds or less (depending on the style), and folding up into their own back pack, Bruneau says, "You can easily hike and fly, or take your



paraglider on the bus, the subway, a plane, on a gondola at a ski resort, take it out, and you're off."

Pilots will confirm that the gliders are easier to maneuver in the air than on the ground. They're designed to gently lift you off the ground once you've been trained to properly take off. There are two lines to use for steering, which is also done by shifting your shoulders. Once you've reached the level of being a recreational pilot, all you do is strap yourself into the harness and a helmet, catch the wind, and let the wing do the rest. A paraglider moves slowly and steadily, and recreational pilots tend to fly for two to three hours at a time, reaching heights of up to 15,000 feet.

A hang glider, by contrast, is constructed of rigid wings. A hang glider will fly faster and farther, but it weighs 45 to 90 pounds, must be transported on a rack on your car, carried from there to a launch site, and assembled properly before it can be launched.

Assembly can take 30 minutes or more.

Paragliding should in no way be confused with parasailing, either, which is the beach-side recreation experience of being strapped in a parachute and dragged along by a speed boat. Granted you are air-bound and the experience can be exciting, but it is not a gentle flight that you control.

About Bruneau

Benoit Bruneau grew up in La Vi- enne, France, where from a very early age he was an outdoor enthusiast. As a teenager, he was already teaching skiing in the winter and kayaking in the summer. He went on to become a certified instructor of these sports as well as mountain biking, climbing, spelunking (exploring caves), and whitewater rafting. Even with his feet

Continued on next page ...

firmly planted on the ground, or on pedals, or in boots, or on the sloshy bottoms of rafts, his eyes kept returning to the skies. “When I was kayaking on a beautiful river,” he explained, “doing a very scenic canyon, or riding my mountain bike, I was thinking about flying.

“One day I started taking lessons,” he continued, and of course, that led to more and more flying. “After I did my first cross-country paraglide, I sold all my outdoor gear,” Bruneau confessed. Next came the two-year process of French certification to become a *Brenet d’Etat* (Instructor). That was almost 20 years ago. Since that time, Bruneau has taught paragliding everywhere from the French Alps to the environs of Montreal, Canada, to upstate New York. He founded Let’s Go Paragliding in 2008. In 2010, he was named the Paragliding Instructor of the Year by the US Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association (USHPA) – an incredible honor.

The USHPA

Bruneau is a huge fan of the USHPA, which is a non-profit organization dedicated to “unpowered free flight.” Established as an association for hang gliders in the early 1970s, the corporation moved from southern California to its current home in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in the late 1980s. Paragliding was incorporated in 2006.

“The individuals, clubs, and schools that are involved are getting more and more professional,” Bruneau noted. The USHPA bestows a number of awards annually to recognize the dedication and accomplishments of its members. Instructor of the Year is one of them, and in 2010, Benoit Bruneau received it. A huge honor, he claims being its recipient deepened his resolve to “improve everyone’s experience of learning to paraglide and be a pilot.” You can hear him entreating you: “Let’s Go Paragliding!”



All photos courtesy of Benoit Bruneau.

The USHPA now boasts over 100 chartered local chapters and clubs around the US, where everyone from beginners to recreational and experienced pilots have a community in which to share their sport and passion. Nine of them are in New York State, and one of them is the club out of which Bruneau conducts Let’s Go Paragliding. It’s the Mount Brace Outdoor Club, which hosts the Mount Brace Flight Park.

Mount Brace and Learning to Fly

The Mount Brace Flight Park is part of the Outdoor Club, which offers opportunities for paragliding and hang gliding. The inter-connected institutions were established when Ciaran Egan and Paul Hogan bought the land for the purpose of developing a flying site. “Thanks to them, the school can operate on the land, which is a rare privilege” Bruneau acknowledges.

For the safety of its members, protection of its purpose, and for community relations, there are strict rules for membership and participation, but that is as it should be. Even to go and observe the pilots you need to respect the rules of the park, sign the necessary waivers, and be sure you’ve let others know where you are.

It’s all part of being an ambassador for these amazing sports.

So how do you get started?

Let’s Go Paragliding offers instruction at five different levels – everything from a from a three-hour “discovery” session to intensive training. There is a program in which you can take up to a year to get to the P2 level (Novice Pilot). All instruction is done by Bruneau and his team of certified pilots, who are committed to providing exceptional instruction and experiences.

“Paragliding has something to offer everyone at all levels,” Bruneau says. “Recreational pilots enjoy a flight and then, after they land, often have a beer and barbeque with fellow pilots and friends. Explorers can take on cross-country flights, where they try to cover as much distance as possible. The current record,” he notes, “is 318 miles in 11 hours, done in Brazil. And,” he adds, “there are pilots who are adrenaline junkies and like to do tricks and acrobatics.”

Whatever the level of participation, he has seen paragliding enthusiasts quit smoking, lose weight, even change jobs so they could fly more. It’s easy to understand why. The desire for flight is as old as humankind, celebrated in art, architecture, myth, and legend. The image of a bird’s

wings outstretched in flight, catching a breeze, is the epitome of freedom, exhilaration, and being one with the world.

Considering all the experience Bruneau has had paragliding, teaching, and being an active outdoorsman all over the world, it’s a huge compliment to Millerton and the Hudson Valley that he chose here, of all places, to operate his business. Part of the decision, he admits, was made by his wife taking a job in Manhattan – and the establishment of the Mount Brace Flight Park – but Bruneau’s voice echoes the strong feelings he has for Millerton and this area when he says, “The scenery is fantastic when we can soar with the view of the Hudson River, the Taconics, and the Catskill Mountains in the background.”

He describes himself as a passionate man whose perfect day involves “a lot of flying – touching the clouds with friends, landing safely and having a lovely evening with the family.” He continues, “I want a long, injury-free life as a pilot, and to fly as much as possible.”

Another reason to love this area: Yes, let’s go paragliding. ●

To learn more about Let’s Go Paragliding call (917) 359-6449, visit www.letsGOParagliding.com or email them at paraglidinglessons@gmail.com.



Four Brothers

Drive In THEATRE

7 Nights - Playeatdrink.com - 845 373 8178

FOR THOSE WHO WANT AMAZING



"For Propane There Is No Better Name"®

Three Great Ways to Kick Off the Summer Pool Season

1. A **warm** pool at a **great** price
2. Never run out of propane gas with our **Tank Butler**®
3. Keep your system **running efficiently** with our Annual Service Package

800.647.4427 • www.ParacoGas.com

Hylton Hundt

518.789.9390

Route 44 East | Millerton

hyltonhundtsalon.com

HYLTON HUNDT SALON MAY SPECIALS

BREAK OUT THE SHORTS!

30% off full leg sunless tanning with purchase of Yon-ka of Paris Solarcare home products.

OXYGEN!

Your natural alternative to Botox!
\$20 off your facial oxygen treatment.
Rejuvenates to the cellular level with vitamins and pure oxygen.



Welcome Home SUMMER!

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY FOR A DRIVE.
JOIN US FOR TEA & LUNCH.



HARNEY & SONS, 1 RAILROAD PLAZA, MILLERTON, NY | 518.789.2121
ALWAYS ONLINE AT HARNEY.COM | 1.800.TEA.TIME
SHOP OUR SELECTION OF FINE TEAS, TEAWARE & GIFTS



LAKEVILLE INTERIORS

Design Consultation . Inhouse Workroom . Retail Shop

7 Holley Street, Lakeville, CT LakevilleInteriors.com

860.435.9397

HALSTEAD PROPERTY

HUDSON VALLEY • NEW YORK CITY • HAMPTONS • CONNECTICUT • NEW JERSEY



REFINED LAKE COMMUNITY LIVING

Serene, elegant, pristine Long Lake homes in desirable Columbia County. Every detail of the exteriors, including landscaping will be taken care of, which will give you plenty of time to enjoy swimming, tennis, hiking, biking and boating in this stunning 220 ac private setting. Each home is unique and offers 3-4 bedrooms. 20 min to Metro North train. 2 hours from NYC. Close to skiing and Berkshire activities. \$320K-\$465K. Web#s 11129243, 13040645, 13216432. Jennifer Capala t: 917.685.6925

halstead.com 526 WARREN STREET, HUDSON, NY • 518.828.0181

LUXURY REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD

Halstead Hudson Valley, LLC We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the Nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. All information is from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, prior sale or withdrawal without notice. No representation is made as to the accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footages are approximate and all information should be confirmed by customer. All rights to content, photographs and graphics reserved to Broker.

The Gardens Roadtrip

By Claire Copley
info@mainstreetmag.com

We are so fortunate to live in or near Dutchess County. Should you need proof of this view, set out early on a spring day to visit some of our many local historic gardens. Not only are these sites beautifully restored and maintained, they are the evidence of those before us who found inspiration in this landscape.

Visiting gardens is always a surprise; bloom times vary and the very things you want to see are sometimes not in bloom or full form on the day you visit. But there is something else for you if you are open to the beauty and excitement of a living, breathing (respiring?) artwork. Just being in these environments is stress-relieving, visually stimulating, and inspiring. Most of our local gardens open in May, but check on their websites before leaving home.

Wethersfield

Driving west on Route 44 out of Amenia you will first come across Wethersfield. Located just north of Route 44 on Bangall-Amenia Rd. Wethersfield is comprised of formal gardens, a wilderness garden, a residence, and a carriage house containing a fabulous collection of historical carriages. The formal garden is three acres, created mainly in the classical Italian style, designed for the senses and contemplation. An inner courtyard garden is in the later English style, created to highlight an idealized pastoral landscape. Peacocks occasionally stroll across your path as you wander the formal gardens and gardeners are around to answer questions and point out highlights. There are garden tours available with advance notice. The wilderness garden is a seven acre area adjoining therein site that was originally conceived for drives in the glorious carriages that the estate's owner collected and kept on the property. These carriages are on view in the carriage house, should a peek at them strike your fancy. (Visit www.wethersfieldgarden.org).

Innisfree garden

When you finish at Wethersfield continue west along Route 44 to Millbrook. Look for Tyrell Road where you will see a sign to turn left for Innisfree garden. Recognized as one of the world's ten best gardens, Innisfree is a powerful icon of mid-twentieth century design. It was created,



beginning in the late 1920's, by Walter Beck and his wife, avid gardener and heiress Marion Burt Beck. They, along with landscape architect Lester Collins, created a 185 acre garden that was influenced by Chinese and Japanese traditions, but embraced the Hudson Valley site and the emerging modernism of the times.

The Becks endowed a foundation for the "study of garden art at Innisfree" that would create a public garden and study center. Life intervened and funding disappeared and Collins was left to craft the garden into a public garden. Innisfree is a strolling garden. The graceful relationship between the lake and the surrounding landscape is a rare treat. The cypresses alone are an amazing sight as they rise up out of the lake with their surrounding field of "knees" (roots specific to cypresses that rise above the surrounding waters).

A visit to Innisfree will take at least an hour and a half. There is a designated picnic area, some seating throughout the garden, and public restrooms in the parking area. Innisfree is open to the public Wednesday through Sunday. Check the website for information about tours and hours at www.innisfreegarden.org.

Vassar's Arboretum

Back on Route 44, head west across the Taconic Parkway to Route 9. You will find yourself in Poughkeepsie, very near the Vassar College Arboretum. If you have an interest in trees, the Vassar

campus is a treasure trove. More than 230 species of trees now comprise the vast arboretum of the Vassar campus that began with the first plantings laid out by Matthew Vassar in 1865.

The college grounds are graced by elms, maples, beeches, a huge hornbeam, Russian olive trees, and even a cucumbertree magnolia. There are weeping willows, weeping beech, weeping hemlocks, and red, silver, sugar, and striped maples. In 1916, the Shakespeare Garden was planted to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare. The garden includes many of the plants mentioned in his works. We are now in the year of the 400th anniversary of his death, so it is a fitting visit.

From here you can head north to the Vanderbilt Estate gardens, Montgomery Place, Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Museum and Library in Hyde Park and its lovely rose garden, and the Beatrix Ferrand walled garden at Bellefield. Or turn south, stopping at Locust Grove and continuing on to Mt. Gulian in Beacon. In fairness, there is enough to see in each direction that each one might be an all-day excursion.

The vast beauty and history in Hyde Park
Heading north on Route 9 you will arrive first at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Museum

Continued on next page ...

and Library. Putting aside the amazing museum and historical house, there are two small but stellar gardens here. The Rose Garden where FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt, as well as their celebrated dog Fala, are buried, is adjacent to the home and should be seen in early summer. It is a beautiful rose display as well as a moving sight. (Visit www.nps.gov/hofr/index.htm).

Next door, at Bellefield, there is a small walled garden designed by the world famous Beatrix Ferrand. Ms. Ferrand was America's best known female landscape architect and the niece of Edith Wharton. She designed Bellefield for its owners in 1912, and the garden was restored in 1994 to specifications and drawings left by Ms. Ferrand. It is Ms. Ferrand's earliest extant example of her residential designs. She had a passion for perennial borders, and this exquisite walled garden is a rare insight into her gift for style and plant choices. The home, designed by architects McKim, Mead & White, now serves as the headquarters for the National Park Service. It's a quick visit, but well worth it. (Visit <https://tclf.org/landscapes/bellefield>).

The National Park Service also administers the Vanderbilt Mansion, a short distance up Route 9. Known simply as "Hyde Park," the estate was designated a National Historic Site by Act of Congress in 1939 and recognized by President Roosevelt as one of the oldest and best preserved "country places" (FDR's words) in the northern United States.

A large, formal garden was common to most estates of the period known as the Gilded Age. At the end of the nineteenth century when the wealthy built their country estates, it was not uncommon to incorporate an Italianate design in the landscape. Frederick Vanderbilt, an avid gardener himself, established an Italian-style, terrace garden containing many varieties of roses, annuals, and perennials. After Vanderbilt's death in 1938, the estate was sold to the federal government thanks to the intervention of President Roosevelt.

The house is open only by guided tour, but the grounds may be seen from sunrise to sunset and are free for visitors. The 211 acres of park land that boast centuries-old trees, stunning Hudson River and Catskill Mountain views, and Italian gardens are a wonderful place to while away an entire day, but a visitor may also simply spend an hour taking in the formal gardens and feasting on the river views. The Italianate gardens have been restored lovingly and stay true to the Gilded Age aesthetic. (Visit www.vanderbiltgarden.org).

Montgomery Place

If you choose to continue north from here, pass through Rhinebeck and head to Red Hook, where you will find the breathtaking grounds of Montgomery Place in Annandale, next door to Bard College. The home and gardens at Montgomery Place date back to the beginning of the 19th century, but what a visitor sees today is more reflective of the period from 1925 to 1945 when the then owners added many new features. Today, the beautiful Montgomery Place is filled with over 400 acres of flowers, trees, and animals. Montgomery Place has a herb garden, rose gardens, and an informal "Rough Garden." It is also made up of orchards, open meadows, a greenhouse, and an arboretum. An added plus is the South Woods, which contain eighty acres of native Hudson Valley forest. Strolling along the paths at Montgomery Place is a glimpse of what Hudson Valley life once was. The grounds are open daily from nine to four, and admission is free. (Visit www.hudsonrivervalley.com/Details.aspx?sid=3c4d3f12-9286-42f1-9140-9607c2f1ab44).

Poets Walk Park

If you still have the strength, head straight for Poets Walk Park. When you are going north on Route 9, take a left at the traffic light in Red Hook, then turn right on River Road. The park entrance is ahead about a half a mile.

Poets Walk Park is 120 acres of "improved" land. In 1849, members of families, who lived on adjacent estates, commissioned German-born landscape architect Hans Jacob Ehlers to design this landscape. The wooded areas, open fields and thick forest were the main focus of Ehlers' vision for the property. He created a series of "outdoor rooms," using stands of foliage and stone walls to break up the landscape. Ehlers also created a shaded, stream-side path, dubbed Poets' Walk in honor of Washington Irving and other literary figures who reputedly strolled here. Legend has it that Irving came up with the idea for "Rip Van Winkle" here, while gazing at the distant but very prominent Catskill Mountains. Today, the park features two miles of trails through woods and meadows with rustic cedar pavilions, footbridges, and benches. The park is surrounded on all sides by 780 acres of private lands under conservation easements. (Visit www.scenichudson.org/parks/poetswalk).

Locust Grove

There is also much to see had you headed south from Vassar. The first garden stop on the southward journey would be Locust Grove, at 2683 South Rd, in Poughkeepsie. The estate at Locust Grove was established some 150 years ago by Samuel Morse. In 1895 the house changed hands and new owners created miles of carriage

trails down to the river. Near the house they expanded the formal gardens and the Perennial Garden which today preserves a unique plant collection. The grounds and gardens have a distinctly romantic feel. A kitchen garden once provided fresh produce for the residents of the Locust Grove estate. Now the Heritage Vegetable Garden occupies the location of the old kitchen garden and provides a place for visitors to learn about the wide variety of vegetables and fruits grown on the estate. Today Locust Grove's gardens and grounds cover nearly 200 acres. (Visit www.lgny.org).

Mount Gulian

The Last stop on this road trip would be Mount Gulian, unless you want to continue across the river to Storm King which takes you out of the garden realm and into the contemporary world of art and landscape. Though not part of our tour, Storm King might be worth a trip in itself. (Visit <http://stormking.org>).

Mount Gulian is a special place. A small homestead owned by the Dutch Verplanck family since colonial times, the garden has been extensively documented over the years. Originally a summer retreat for the Verplancks, the homestead was managed by James Brown, an escaped slave from Maryland who kept a detailed journal for 40 years. Later, the garden was chronicled in two books by Virginia Eliza Verplanck: *Every Day in My Garden* (1913) and *A Year in My Garden* (1909). The garden was all but lost after a fire in 1931, but beginning in 1995 volunteers used the historic texts to locate the elements of the garden and begin to reconstruct what once had been there. Today, Mount Gulian is a wonderful example of garden restoration based on two hundred years of gardeners notes. The formal gardens have been restored and paths and plantings replaced. (Visit www.mountgulian.org).

We spend so much time driving here in Dutchess County, we forget that road trips to close destinations can be a great source of richness in our lives. Our area is particularly notable for the history and splendor of the Gilded Age, when vast gardens were not only possible but a desirable part of country life. Time has taken its toll on these estates but, luckily, many people have worked to save and preserve these sites and open them to us. Pack a picnic lunch and leave early. •

860-824-7276 Fax 860-824-7759
337 Ashley Falls Rd (Route 7) – Canaan Ct 06018
sales – service - parts



Sales: Rich Crane
richie@cranesope.com
Sale: Brian Cavanaugh
brian@cranesope.com
Service: Todd MacNeil
todd@cranesope.com

Outdoor Power Equipment



WWW.CRANESOPE.COM



Fine Wines & Spirits • Custom Engraving
Gift Cards & Custom Gift Baskets

Tel: 845.373.8232 • Fax: 845.789.1234
5058 Route 22, Amenia, NY 12501
Open 7 Days: Mon–Sat 10am–7pm, Sun 12–5pm



Twilight II, oil on canvas 30x42, Jeffrey L. Neumann ©2016

Neumann Fine Art features changing exhibitions by a select group of regional and nationally exhibiting artists. Our mission is to present world class art in a small town atmosphere.

Group Show through July 1st:

Leon A. Comstock Jr., Ron Goldfinger, Joel Mark, Jeffrey L. Neumann, H. M. Saffer II, Cal Thompson, Margot Trout, Don Wynn, Ken Young

NEUMANN
FINE ART

65 Cold Water Street
Hillsdale, NY
Open 11 - 4 Thursday - Sunday
www.neumannfineart.com



SETH CHURCHILL FURNITURE

sethchurchillfurniture.com | 860 596 4063



Charlotte Taylor

home accessories • gifts • the nursery

32 Main Street, Millerton, NY www.CharlotteTaylor.net

t: 518-592-1800 info@CharlotteTaylor.net

So this avid fisherman came in and asked us to build a table to be used outdoors on his deck...
... He was thrilled with the table.

SIMMONS FABRICATIONS

845 635 3755

1558 MAIN STREET
PLEASANT VALLEY, NY 12569
simfabs@verizon.net



Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction

THE 8-WEEK COURSE DEVELOPED AT
UMASS MEDICAL SCHOOL BY
JON KABAT-ZINN, NOW IN OUR AREA

IN AMENIA, NY SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, JUNE 11-JULY 30TH

KATHERINE B. CRUM, PH.D.
KBC29@KBC29.COM

518-789-9635
WWW.MINDFULNESSMEDITATIONNYC.COM

Millerton Service Center



Not your average repair shop
Does your Subaru need service or repair? See us first!



We've been servicing Subaru's in Millerton for over a quarter century!
Subaru parts delivered twice daily.

Remote car starters • Auto detailing • AC services • Gift certificates available
We buy and sell quality used cars

We employ technicians certified by National Institute for
AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE EXCELLENCE



Service Hours: 7am-5pm Mon-Fri • 7am-noon Sat

Master technicians
Michael D. Lyman & Adam M. Lyman

518-789-3462 • 518-789-3488 fax
52 South Center St. • Millerton, NY 12546

Driven to build the finest furniture!



*They don't
make furniture
like they used to.
We do!*

Not to toot our own horn, but Hunt has been hand crafting heirloom quality furniture since the days of the Model T. We use select, sustainable hardwoods and timeless woodworking techniques like mortise and tenon joints and hand-wedged spindles. It's a small difference in price that makes all the difference between furniture that ends up in a will or as landfill.

HUNT COUNTRY FURNITURE INC.

HANDCRAFTED
EXCELLENCE
SINCE 1926



Wingdale, NY
16 Dog Tail Corners Rd.

Dover Plains, NY
2549 Rt. 22 (Factory Store)

Chadds Ford, PA
299 Route 202

www.huntcountryfurniture.com

Stephanie Economou

By CB Wismar
info@mainstreetmag.com

Find your line. If you're unfamiliar with the term, you may not be a rabid automobile racing fan. Even if the plaintive whining of a finely tuned engine progressing smoothly through the gear changes effected with flourish and panache by an experienced driver are not music to your ears, finding your line is also a very good life suggestion.

Stephanie Economou is finding her line

To be clear, the term refers to the process of learning the nuance of every twist and turn of a racetrack, then deciding exactly where the car should be as it navigates the turns. Too wide, and you're likely to spin out. Too narrow and the next move will be to crush the brake pedal and hope you can beat centrifugal force and stay on the track.

But find your line, and the track opens up. Find your line and now you can increase your speed. Now you're racing.

Stephanie Economou was born in Akron, Ohio. The daughter of an Arthur Anderson executive who moved the family as he progressed up the corporate ladder. First to New Jersey, then to Hartford, Connecticut. For Stephanie, "wanderlust" was simply part of life.

California dreamin'

Venturing cross country at 17, she entered the University of Southern California in downtown Los Angeles, and at that young age, began



Above: Stephanie Economou with Gearhead Girls BMW Racing. Below left: Stephanie on the victory podium. Photos courtesy of Stephanie Economou.

searching for her line.

"I was the queen of internships" she says with the easy laugh that makes Stephanie so engaging. "I majored in English Lit and Theatre and ended up working at Pasadena Playhouse in production."

Her speed intensified, but her "line" was still elusive. The center of the media production universe, Los Angeles afforded her the opportunity to freelance on commercial shoots and stage productions. One highlight for her was participation in the production of *Readings of Winnie the Pooh*. A safe enough beginning, to be sure, but opportunity was simply too enticing. Find the line. Add more speed.

For Stephanie in California, it was a time of risk and discovery. Computers were emerging as tools for communication and commerce. "Enter Apple ..." she references. "Suddenly there were possibilities that hadn't existed a few years before."

Her credits are both impressive

and revealing. She has a knack for organization, an appetite for risk and a restlessness that pushes her forward. Stephanie dove into the world of computing and developed inventory systems for the store at the Museum of Flying in Santa Monica and the J. Paul Getty Museum Store. With some college friends, she helped create "The Men of USC" calendar and watched it become an international sales success.

Almost on a whim, she aligned with other college friends and decided that what Los Angeles needed was a high-end night club... a place that mirrored the exclusive music and dance environments of New York. "Vertigo" was opened in the Los Angeles warehouse district to great attendance and some negative reviews.

"They called us elitist," she says with a smile. "Eventually our landlord locked us out... so we found another location - 333 Boylston Street - and opened a new club

on Oscar Night. The place was jammed."

The East Coast came calling Adventures were on the West Coast, but family was on the East. With skills self-taught and finely tuned, and the ambition of a true entrepreneur, Stephanie returned to Connecticut. IBM was happy to welcome her into "Big Blue" where she existed for several years, working on projects - new and different challenges that never got tedious or boring. When the job dynamics changed, she accelerated through the curve and has found her "line" at a smaller local firm that appreciates her unbridled talent - and unbridled enthusiasm. It is, however, on the race track where Stephanie finds that karmic place where speed, challenges, elegance, and adrenaline all come together.

Continued on next page ...



For the love of the automobile

From her childhood, Stephanie has been enthralled with cars. “I loved cars. Loved them. I had a collection of Matchbox cars for as long as I can remember. I loved their beauty, their aesthetics and the fantasy of what they could do.”

Certainly, there was learning to drive in the family sedan and “finding her line” on some of Connecticut’s scenic back roads. It was when it became time to buy her first car, however, that Stephanie realized that it was far more than the aesthetics of cars that attracted her. It was the intoxication of speed.

“My first car was a VW Scirocco S – and boy could that thing fly.”

The hook was firmly set. For Stephanie, there was no turning back. Porsches followed – a classic 911 and an elegant Cayman. And, a Mini Cooper. And, a racing Miata. And, a BMW. And, an Audi TT.

But, the roads of New England were not enough. The hunger for speed ... to find her line through a tight corner and accelerate onto a straightaway, holding the engine speed as long as possible before decelerating into the next turn – using the amassed power to slide cleanly through an arc and shoot out the far side – meant racing. And, race, she did.

Stephanie’s first foray into the exotic world of breathtakingly fast cars and the “speed junkies” who race them came at Lime Rock Park in 2007. The Skip Barber Racing School was holding a one-day competition school, and Stephanie enrolled.

The experience was earth shattering. Racing allowed Stephanie to fully realize what was driving her. For her, there was no turning back, even when she was personally “black flagged” (when a car is pulled off the track because a mechanical issue threatens the safety of the race) by a sudden brain hemorrhage in 2008. Stephanie’s determination took over and drove her recupera-

tion. “I’ve got to do what I love. I had just found it, and I wasn’t about to give it up.”

She was resolute, and the burdens of therapy and rebuilding her strength and dexterity were no match for her “full throttle” approach to getting back into her car and onto the track.

Back in the driver’s seat

Fully recovered, she committed to an opportunity that married speed and the thrills of racing with a welcoming group of like-minded enthusiasts who have become lasting friends. The Lime Rock Park Drivers Club provides access to the mile and a half track nestled in the Litchfield Hills for 60 days a year. The Club also offers access to experienced drivers who instruct, coach, encourage and correct with the same politeness that one expects of a pursuit as costly and complex as motor racing.

But, there’s more.

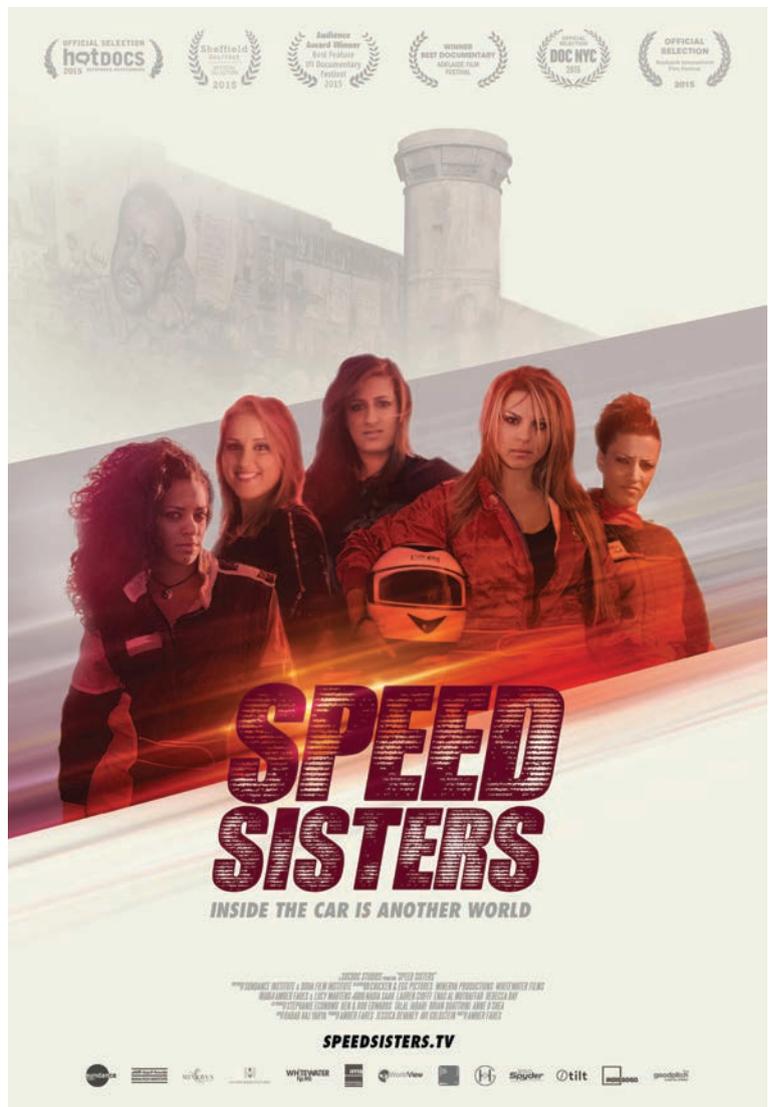
Because there is no women’s league

Stephanie Economou is not content merely following her own line.

After all, the experiences of her past have given her an array of talents that can well be shared and some dramatic life experiences that have given her perspective. Stephanie is not the only woman to “find her line” in the cockpit of a race car. There are young women everywhere who need encouragement, support and mentoring in their pursuit of racing.

Those efforts are at the heart of “Gearhead Girls Racing,” the web-based community that Stephanie has created to provide access for those just starting out to those women who have made their mark and are eager to share the “how’s and what’s and where’s” of racing.

It was through Gearhead Girls Racing that Stephanie made contact with one of the icons of women’s motorsports racing, Lynn St. James. Lynn invited Stephanie to a “brain storming” session to share energy and ideas about a project that was certainly worthy of pursuit, but lacking in support. There was a documentary film in production



Left: Poster for *Speed Sisters*. Courtesy of Stephanie Economou.

in, of all places, Palestine. The film was to be less about politics and the ever elusive search for peace, than the profiling of some young women who were defying stereotypes and role assignments. They are racers, and their story was worth sharing.

Recalling her years in the production world, Stephanie immediately threw herself into the complex world of film finance, production and distribution. If *Speed Sisters* was to be a reality, money needed to be raised and for that, Stephanie reached out to her extended racing family.

Lights, camera, action!

On a day at Lime Rock Park that boasted snow and a temperature of 11 degrees, the operating team at Lime Rock created an “autocross” track in the area known as “B” Pad-dock and under the watchful eye of Fox News and some brave print journalists, Amber Fares, director of *Speed Sisters*, Stephanie Economou and a crowd of truly devoted supporters raised money for the film. A dinner that evening at the Falls Village Inn, complete with an auction overshot the original fund raising

goal, and *Speed Sisters* became a reality.

Two years on, the film has been screened at festivals in 21 countries and is actively seeking wider broadcast circulation – all because Stephanie Economou and a group of like-minded enthusiasts helped the film go from intriguing idea to exciting reality.

Drivers, start your engines

Spring is creeping into the Litchfield Hills. Soon Lime Rock Park will move beyond “winter” racing on the infield autocross track and invite drivers to pit their skills against the classic mile and a half track with its elevation changes and challenging turns.

Among those in one of the finely tuned machines will be Stephanie Economou – accelerating through the gears, sizing up the competition, pushing limits, feeling the surge of speed that is, at the same time, liberating and energizing. Stephanie will be finding her line. ●

To learn more visit www.speedsisters.tv and www.gearheadgirls.com.



Rent your very own Scottish Highland cattle “herd” without any hassle!



James Archer of Country Views, Inc. offers the unique service of renting you a “herd” of Scottish Highland cattle to enjoy on your property.

Country Views Inc.

914-262-4737 • Amenia, NY
www.countryviewsinc.com

The cattle can be a nice visual for you and your family to enjoy, they can provide the landowner with an Agricultural Tax Exemption, they will keep your fields maintained – or all of the above! You can choose from two to 50 cattle to roam your property. The only thing that the landowner needs to supply is a fenced-in area with water access, and James takes care of the rest, including taking care of the cattle! Country Views also provides new fencing services or repairs to existing fencing. Servicing Dutchess County and the surrounding areas. To learn more, please visit Country Views website or call James.

MICHAEL & SETH FALLON'S COPAKE AUCTION Inc.

Full Service Auction Gallery in
Columbia County Since 1952

Thinking of selling your Collection,
Estate or a Single Item?

**THESE ITEMS SOLD AT COPAKE
AUCTION FROM ESTATES IN
THE TRI-STATE AREA**

Specializing in...

★ AMERICANA ★ TEXTILES
★ FOLK ART ★ BICYCLES

266 Rt. 7A Copake, NY 12516

Ph: 518.329.1142



View Current & Past Catalogs at **WWW.COPAKEAUCTION.COM**

Visit us in our NEW
Lakeville location,
behind The Boathouse!

ROARING OAKS FLORIST

Unique designs created with personal attention

(860) 364-5380 • www.roaringoaksflorist.com • 349A Main Street, Lakeville, CT

If you like Styal...

I have paintings ready to hang or I can paint something that will fit your needs



I'm a retired Art Director who paints and teaches photography

KarlLaLonde.com

203 300 6236



SUTTER ANTIQUES

JACK'S Auto Service, Inc.

For all your automotive needs!

845-373-9757

4228 Route 22 Wassaic, New York

www.jacksautoservice.com

M-F 8:00 - 5:00 Saturday 8:00 - 12:00

24/7 Towing & Road Side Assistance



William
Pitt

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



Salisbury, CT \$1,750,000 | C. 1862 Farmhouse
5 BR, 4 BA | 7.8 Acres | 5 FP | Pool | Views
MLS L10118851 | John Borden 860.435.5921



Shelburne, MA \$2,900,000 | Country Estate
4 BR, 3/1 BA | 62+ Ac | Horse Stables | Pool
MLS 211863 | Jeff Loholdt 413.652.7423



Millerton, NY \$1,685,000 | C. 1795 Colonial
3 BR, 3 BA | 39+ Acres | Guesthouse | Pool
MLS L10115454 | Ira Goldspiel 860.927.7724



Cornwall, CT \$1,175,000 | Near Mohawk Mtn
4 BR, 3/1 BA | Mtn Views | Open Floor Plan
MLS L10119455 | Tyler O'Hazo 860.248.9181



Sharon, CT \$645,000 | Grand Views
3 BR, 2/1 BA | 5.94 Acres | First Flr MBR Suite
MLS L10115173 | Ira Goldspiel 860.927.7724



Austerlitz, NY \$1,249,000 | Mountain Views
4 BR, 2/1 BA | 44+ Ac | 3-Car Garage | Pool
MLS 214503 | G. Montgomery 413.822.0929

williampitt.com

Kent 860.927.1141 • Lakeville 860.435.2400 • Litchfield 860.567.0806 • Washington Depot 860.868.6600 • Berkshires 413.528.4192

Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated. Equal Housing Opportunity.

A LOOK BACK AT millerton's railroad history

By Allison Guertin Marchese
info@mainstreetmag.com

Dutchess County first became a rail corridor in 1848 when the New York and Harlem Railroad from New York City entered the county on its way to Albany.

The early technology or method of track transport, however, goes much further back in time. In fact, the idea of using “tracked” roads is nearly 2,000 years old.

Inventing the wheel...

In Ancient Greece, Malta, and as far back as the early Romans, it was proven that wheeled vehicles ran more smoothly if stone roads had grooves carved into them. Quarries used this method in a time when loads were pulled by animals.

Much later on, railways started to show up in Europe during the Dark Ages using wooden carts. Early wagon ways or trams are believed to have started in German mines used to transport ore in the 1550s. There were similar coal carriers in England around 1605 and these trams became the norm.

Huntingdon Beaumont earned the credit for inventing the first wagon way. His aristocratic family owned coal mines in English East Midlands. While working in Nottingham around 1605 he created the Wollaton Wagonway earning him the title of “The Grandfather of the railway.” The rudimentary British railway was built to carry coal from Beaumont’s loads of coal near Strelley down to an existing coal wharf at Wollaton.

The goods carrying business (including building materials, manure, corn and seeds, etc.) extended into the 18th Century and would “lay



the track,” so to speak, for the coming of more sophisticated forms of rail travel. At the time, horses were the motive power and passengers really hadn’t been considered then. And with horses as the mode of operation, hence came the phrase “horsepower” used commonly in describing car engines, and “Iron horse,” was slang for trains.

The Iron Horse

The creation of steam locomotives began with the development of the steam engine. The invention of the steam engine dates back into the late 17th Century. In 1698, Thomas Savery, an English inventor, patented a device that allowed for the use of steam to pump water. The steam engine that he created was used to remove water from mines. This design was improved upon by English engineer Thomas Newcomen in 1712. Later, further and more significant improvements to the steam engine were made by a Scottish engineer and inventor by the name of James Watt, starting in

1763. It was Watt’s improvements to the steam engine that opened the door to the invention of steam locomotives.

After the steam engine was perfected enough to power a wheel, it was applied to a steam locomotive designed by John Fitch of the United States in 1794. The first full-scale steam locomotive was developed in England in 1803 by engineer Robert Trevithick, for freight and passengers. The first ride down the rails went only 10 miles, hauling 70 men and 10 tons of iron at a speed of five miles per hour. Unfortunately this train’s inventor and this particular train landed in obscurity because it was just too heavy. It was George Stephenson who would finally perfect the machine in 1825 and become the preeminent builder of steam locomotives used in the UK, the US, and Europe.

Above: The “Toonerville,” #9022, a diesel or “Dinky,” at the CNE Railroad station, Millerton, in the 1920s. Engineer Patrick J. Delaney, Conductor William J. Cole, Sr. Photo courtesy of Ralph Fidele.

Continued on next page ...



Women in the train industry

Working to establish the train business, the track, and maintaining the whole lot of it was strenuous and dirty work. But for the many who may think that trains were merely a masculine industry, let me correct that bit of history.

Susan Morningstar was reportedly the first woman to be hired by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in 1855. While originally women held clerical and cleaning positions in the railroad business, in the mid 1800s and onward, when men went off to fight in wars, women served in a wide variety of jobs including telegraph operators, welders, brakemen, yardmasters, and engineers, and therefore making historic contributions.

Eliza Murfey patented 16 devices for improving railroad car axles. These devices were used to lubricate the axles with oil, which reduced derailments caused by seized axles and bearings. Sara Clark Kidder was the president of Northern California's Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad from 1901 to 1913. She was the first female railroad president in the world, taking over the post when her husband, John Flint Kidder died.

Closer to home, Lettie Carson was a name few can forget. In 1958 she helped create the Mid-Hudson Library System, which today has more than 80 members. Carson served as president of the Mid-Hudson Library System for two years, and was on the board for eight.

Lettie Gay Carson later became



Above top: The Old Harlem Railroad passenger station in Millerton, NY - today the home of Country Gardeners Florist. Image is from a post card photo by local druggist Myron Puff. Above: Sidney Green Miller, the railroad's chief engineer that Millerton is named for. Photos courtesy of Ralph Fidele.

Stephenson's "Rocket" designed in 1829, weighing four and a quarter tons, found fame at the Rainhill Trials, a competition held by the Liverpool & Manchester Railway Company to determine whether stationary locomotion could be used to power the company's new line.

Dutchess County in the 1800s

OK, so pulling the story along toward our local tracks, by 1892 there were hundreds of miles of tracks in Dutchess County weaving their way around and touching every township. By all accounts, Dutchess County was an important north-south, as well as east-west corridor because of its convenient location between New York City and Albany, as well as adjoining the New England states. The railroads took root here in 1848 to provide merchants and farmers with more direct access to the Hudson River where they could reach markets in New York City and Albany by boat.

The first two railroads constructed in Dutchess County were the New York and Harlem railroad, and the Hudson River railroad originating in New York City. The first railroad to originate in Dutchess County was the Dutchess and Columbia Railroad completed in 1869. Needless to say, the development of the railroads was not as linear as were the tracks they traveled on.

The original charter for the New York Harlem railroad was granted on April 25, 1831. It was the first railroad in New York City running on a single mile track pulled by horses carrying commuter passengers from lower Manhattan to the new and upcoming neighborhood of Harlem. Eventually they would build tracks up to Albany and they extended the track into Chatham, NY. In essence someone could ride from 42nd Street to Chatham.

The Millerton train station was located on the New York City/Harlem division and the tracks known as the "Upper Harlem Line." When traveling the 125 miles into Chatham, you could make a stop in Millerton and connect to New England trains.



associated with the Harlem Valley Transportation Association, as vice president, and then as president. The organization came to life in the 1960s when the New York Central railway threatened to abandon passenger service on the Upper Harlem. When Penn Central took over they too wanted to end passenger service north of Brewster. Lettie fought them for many years with the help of her fellow Association members. They staged large demonstrations, attended public hearings, and moved the issue through the courts. Ultimately the passenger service was abandoned north of Dover Plains in March of 1972, though the HVTA continued to fight for freight on the line. Eventually that too was abandoned, and the tracks were removed.

Millerton's railroad history

Clearly the railroad was an important part of Millerton's history for 100 years. In fact, Millerton was founded in 1851 when the New York & Harlem Railroad was built through the area. The village was named for the railroad's chief engineer, Sidney Green Miller. According to reports, Miller also took an interest in building the original depot located on the south side of the railroad and across from the new station constructed some sixty years later. In that period, the station was called Northeast until the growing village adopted the name "Millerton," after the ambitious local contractor.

By 1875, three additional train



Above: The train arriving at the station. Below and image opposite page bottom: The "newer" Millerton train station at different times and at different angles. The one on opposite page shows looking straight ahead at it from Main Street with a glimpse of The Millerton Hotel to the right, while the one below shows it if standing in front of today's location of Harney & Sons Tea. All photos courtesy of Ralph Fidele.

lines came to Millerton: the Poughkeepsie and Eastern; the Dutchess and Columbia; and the Connecticut Western. These three lines had their own station separate from the Harlem Division line. It was located on Century Boulevard ("the post office street") in Millerton. These three additional rail lines were eventually incorporated into a single railroad in 1907 called The Central New England Railroad.

The Millerton station was open 24 hours a day for many years to facilitate the movement of milk and freight trains that operated mainly at night. All trains, with few exceptions, stopped in Millerton to fill the locomotive tender with water until steam operations ended in 1952. The passenger station was closed in March, 1972. The

freight agent's office closed in 1974, although freight service continued until 1981. Until the railroad shut down, several businesses received rail shipments.

By the 1960s, highways and cars were replacing trains. By 1971, the 50 miles of track with 13 stations north of Wassaic was shut down. It wasn't until the year 2000 that Wassaic would again see passenger traffic into New York City and Metro-North with commuter stops in between.

The happy ending on the history of the rail in this region is perhaps the development of the recreational paved path, the Harlem Valley Rail Trail made in two sections totaling 15 miles at the foot of the Taconic Mountain range that weave through farms, great swamps, hidden hillsides, historic settlements and villages. The trail is vehicle-free and perfect for biking, running, skiing, and riding and enjoying country air and lovely rural Dutchess and Columbia County landscapes made possible by the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association. The north segment is located near Copake Falls and the south segment stretches between Millerton and Amenia. According to the Association's website, ever since the mid-1980's the Association "has dreamed of a 46-mile rail trail in the Harlem Valley and Taconic Hills of eastern New York."

That dream seems to be becoming true, slowly but surely. The long strip of land once used for the train tracks was converted into a public park in 1989. The first segment of the trail opened in 1996. The trail has been extended over time in 1997, 2000, and again in 2005. An additional 13 miles of formerly active rail beds are in different developmental stages; with 18 miles of northern land ending in the Village of Chatham.

Starting the trail in Millerton is easy, just head for the train station. The north end of the southerly section of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail is located on the south side of Main Street near the intersection of Main with North and South Center Streets in Millerton. There is a Rail Trail parking lot on S. Center Street. For anyone taking the train from New York City with bikes in tow they can get off in Wassaic and pick up the trail just in front of the station on Route 22.

So hit the Rail Trail and enjoy a piece of local history that's been transformed! ●



VKLarsonCommunications is a full service public relations company based in New York and Pine Plains specializing in Writing, Positioning and Communicating messages and news to the right audience. We offer Newsletters, Press releases, Website copy, Media Outreach, Social Media Programs tailored for your company's needs.

VKLARSON COMMUNICATIONS

Communicating Substance with Style

victoria@vklarsoncommunications.com
www.vklarsoncommunications.com
@victorialarson



BRICK BLOCK Auto Parts

Auto parts • Accessories • Tools • Equipment
Paints & lubricants sold to businesses and individuals
High quality brand name merchandise
Open Mon-Fri 7.30-6, Sat 7.30-3, Sun 9-1

12 Main Street, Millerton, NY
518 789 3696 • brickblockautoparts.com



Invisible Fence Brand

Solutions for every type of home, yard, paw, bark and purr!

Free Shields® for Indoors or Out!

brought to you by

Boundaries For Pets

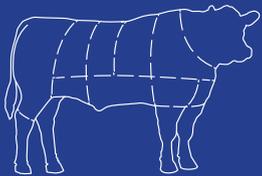
800-732-3181 boundariesforpets.invisiblefence.com

MSM: Offer valid on new professionally installed, premium outdoor containment packages. Coupon must be presented at time of consultation. Expires 5/31/16. No cash value. Not combinable with any other offer or on previous purchases. ©2016 Boundaries For Pets. Invisible Fence® and Shields® are registered trademarks of Invisible Fence, Inc. All rights reserved.

OVER MOUNTAIN BUILDERS, LLC.

30 years and still passionate! Quality craftsmanship delivered on time & within budget.

John Crawford
P: 518-789-6173 | C: 860-671-0054
john@overmountainbuilders.com
www.overmountainbuilders.com



WALBRIDGE FARM MARKET



538 Route 343, Millbrook 12545 / 845.677.6221
For hours please visit walbridgefarm.com



William Pitt

Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY



COUNTRY ELEGANCE

Elegant country estate, privately sited to maximize the long views over meadows and hay fields. Trails are mowed through the fields for walking and horseback riding in a pastoral setting. The house features large open rooms, screened in porches, terraces, mature gardens, and an in-ground pool. \$1,995,000.



JOHN HARNEY

p: 860.435.4600 e: jharney@wpsir.com
www.williampitt.com/agents/johnharney/
Lakeville Brokerage
346 Main Street, Lakeville, CT

Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated. 🏠

TRANSPORTATION HUBS, THEN AND NOW:

The life and history of a train station

By John Torsiello
info@mainstreetmag.com

They once dotted the landscape of Dutchess County, serving as hubs of transportation and centers for social activity. The train station has long been a landmark, whether it be New York City's Grand Central Terminal or a small building in a tiny hamlet. While Grand Central remains one of the country's most imposing buildings and a crossroads for millions of people travelling by train each year, most of the smaller stations are gone, victims in the middle of the last century of the diminished influence of the train as a form of everyday transportation.

Saving a local landmark

A number of Dutchess County individuals took it upon themselves to save an area station from the wrecking ball, one that once served travelers in Pleasant Valley, NY.

After several moves from its original location near a present-day CVS store in Pleasant Valley, the station now resides at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds off Spring Brook Avenue in Rhinebeck. It serves as an educational venue, informing young and old alike of the powerful hold trains once held on the region and country.

The refurbished station opened last year at the annual fair and some 5,000 people passed through its doors. But more about the station and its particular history later.



Above: The Pleasant Valley Train station at its new home in Rhinebeck, NY. Below: The majestic Grand Central Terminal. Photo from istockphoto.com contributor dibrova.

The design of train stations

It took a bit of time for architects to develop a style that would differentiate the train station from other buildings, especially in the great cities of the world. Because stations needed to stand out from other public buildings, such as town halls and churches, eventually their form began to catch up with their function.

A prominent feature of the train station came to be the station

clock, which was important in train travel's early days because many people did not carry a watch. Usually, stations have a clock on their facade, such as Grand Central's 13-foot time teller that faces 42nd Street, while many also have a large clock on the inside of the building. Again, we reference Grand Central's famous clock that stands sentinel in the middle of the grand concourse, where so many travelers have arranged to meet.

Other design themes, such as a clock tower, which became popular around the beginning of the 20th century, covered driveways and walkways, and eventually the use of architectural forms that created large high spaces that were often modeled on classical forms of the Roman Empire came into vogue. Some train stations remain masterpieces of architecture on a grand scale.

Located on 49 acres, Grand Central Terminal has mammoth interior spaces and meticulously crafted detail, especially on its

facade. In 2013, it was reported that Grand Central hosted 21.6 million visitors, ranking it among the 10 most-visited tourist attractions in the world. The clock facing 42nd Street contains the world's largest example of Tiffany glass, and is surrounded by the Glory of Commerce sculptural group designed by Frenchman Jules-Felix Coutan. At its unveiling in 1914, the 48-foot-high sculpture was considered the largest sculptural group in the world.

Back to Pleasant Valley

Of course, there were thousands of small stations that sprang up around the country, most of them utilitarian in design and purpose, although this is not to say that some did not possess their own style and charm – which takes us back to the saga of the Pleasant Valley Train Station.



Continued on next page ...

The station opened in 1871 and was a stop on the Poughkeepsie and Eastern Railroad that included Pine Plains, Boston Corners, and eventually Millerton. With the increasing significance of the automobile as a means of transportation and a resulting decline in passenger service, the station shut its doors in 1938 and served as a warehouse for a local business for a number of years.

The station was in jeopardy in the 1980's when a new owner wanted to demolish it to make way for an expansion of his business.

Well, Olive Doty, a local historian, was determined not to let that happen, and money was raised to eventually move the station to a site in the Saw Mill Plaza. Around 1989, the then principal of the town's West Road School, Joseph D'Aquanni, had the idea that the station would serve as a valuable educational asset, and another successful effort was launched to have the station moved onto the school's property, where it was used by teachers and students until "its purpose ran its course," relates Dick Whalen, who was chairman of a committee that eventually brought the station to the fairgrounds. "It was starting to be vandalized, bushes around it has become overgrown, and it was becoming a nuisance for the town."

Moving to the fairgrounds

The late Warren Wigsten, a Pleasant Valley resident and longtime



Above: A side view of the beautiful Pleasant Valley Train Station in Rhinebeck. Below, left: A detail image of the corbels under the overhang.

member of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society, which manages the annual fair and fairgrounds, believed the station should be salvaged, restored, and brought to the fairgrounds, where it could once again serve an educational purpose.

He initially served as the lead in the effort. "We had an old schoolhouse from Pine Plains that we moved to the fairgrounds and we thought that the station would be another nice piece of a historic village that we could have at the grounds," says Whalen.

The idea ran into some local opposition from townspeople that believed the station should remain where it was because of its historic significance to the community and its past. However, after a number of meetings and negotiations, as well as assurances that the building would retain the name *Pleasant Valley Train Station* once it was moved to the fairgrounds, an agreement was reached whereby the agricultural society purchased the station for a dollar.

The 40-by-20-foot structure was carefully dismantled, brought by truck to the fairgrounds (after the Society attained the proper permits), and was reconstructed. Various items related to the railroad of the 1800's and early 1900's were obtained by individuals and arranged inside the station, some

placed in display cases.

"We got the interior done five minutes before the fair opened last year," says Whalen. "We didn't know how people would receive it but we were thrilled that so many people came. We figured around 5,000 people visited the station last year during the five days of the fair."

Telling a story

The station tells the history of railroads in Dutchess County and how influential and vital they were to commerce and personal travel. The trains allowed farmers, especially dairy farmers, to get their products to New York City in a timely fashion. The Poughkeepsie line also brought coal from Pennsylvania into New England to be used in the manufacture of goods that were then shipped west.

"There was once 300 miles of track in Dutchess County alone," says Whalen. "And we know there were about 50 stations, maybe as many as 70, in the county at one time."

While small in size, the Pleasant Valley Train Station has a certain amount of architectural flare of its own, such as corbels under an overhang, wood siding, and a hipped roof. "The roof is not typical of stations at the time," says Whalen. "Station roofs were made of slate because the steam engines gave off

sparks that could easily cause a roof fire. So we added the hip roofline, which looks even more attractive."

Whalen added, "You have to remember, the train station was once bustling with activity in our small towns. Passengers came and went, the mail came there, and the telegraph was located at the station. We believe the Pleasant Valley Train Station is an important addition to the fair and serves as a symbol of what a typical train station during the 1800's and early 1900's looked like in Dutchess County."

There were many people involved in the various efforts to preserve the train station. "To name just a few, Bob Beckman oversaw the dismantling of the station and their work to move it and restore it at the Fairgrounds," says Whalen. "Andy Imperati, the Fairgrounds manager, was also very instrumental and also oversaw the work. And my wife, Judy, along with Ingrid Kulick, assisted heavily in the finishing touches. Of course, the Dyson Foundation lent financial support several times over the years to preserve the station." ●

Efforts are in place to help save other local train stations, like the one in Canaan, CT. Contact the respective local organizations to see how you can help preserve these historic landmarks.

CARRIE CHEN DESIGN GROUP

Carrie Chen
Principle / Designer

ARCHITECTURAL . LANDSCAPE . PLANNING . INTERIOR

117 E 57th St #32F New York, NY 10022
carriechendesign@gmail.com
1-917-831-4333

NEW YORK • SEATTLE • SHANGHAI • TAIPEI



Japanese Zen Garden project in Copake, NY.



McLEAN FORD

Family owned & operated

NOBODY SELLS FOR LESS

BRUCE FLINT • DAVE McLEAN • DEREK GARDNER

518 789 4477 • www.mcleanfordinc.com
182 Rt. 44 East • Millerton, New York



UPCOUNTRY

S E R V I C E S

— OF SHARON —

CELEBRATING
30 YEARS OF
EXCAVATION,
LANDSCAPING,
& GROUNDS
MAINTENANCE

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:

Lawn care • Spring & fall clean up • Edging, mulching, bed maintenance • Lawn fertilizer, weed & disease control • Field mowing • Complete property management • Commercial snowplowing, sanding & magic salt

LANDSCAPING:

Paver terraces / walkways • Retaining walls • Lawn renovation & Installation • Shrubbery & tree planting • Fencing • Landscape construction

EXCAVATION:

Excavators, backhoes, dumptrucks • Drainage • Water & electric lines dug • Landclearing • Driveway construction & repair • Power stone rake

BBB • A+ • LICENSED/INSURED/BONDED • ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED • CT & NY PESTICIDE LICENSE • HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTOR # 514325

860 364 0261 • 800 791 2916
www.upcountryservices.com



NORTHERN DUTCHESS | AGRICULTURAL CONTRACTING

If you have or are looking to purchase an overgrown farm or woodland, restoring it for agricultural use will benefit you.

- Save money on taxes & maintenance
- Create an agricultural assessment
- Enhance the natural beauty of your landscape

Field Restoration • Tree Work • Orchards • Custom Farming • Food Plots • Ponds • Woodland & Brush Clearing • Fencing • Drainage • Excavation • Earth Work

845 532 2152 for a free consultation

or email: ndagriculturalcontracting@gmail.com

◆ Church Street ◆
DELI & PIZZERIA

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER
SALADS • SANDWICHES • SUBS •
WRAPS • BURGERS & DOGS •
PIZZA • & MORE!

(518) 329-4551
1677 COUNTY RT. 7A, COPAKE



**CUSTOM FRAMELESS
SHOWER DOORS**

Before you replace your win-
dows, doors or custom glass,
get a FREE estimate from us.
We do it all, expertly installed!

Hobson Window, Inc.
Replacement Windows & Doors

845-758-0390
51 Elizabeth St., Red Hook, NY 12571
www.hobsonwindow.com



Now the Hudson Valleys exclusive
dealer of Phantom Retractable Screens!

Hobson Window, Inc. are the area's replacement window & doors
experts and they offer free estimates, too!



**tristate antique
restoration**

SPECIALIZING IN ANTIQUE
FURNITURE RESTORATION



CONALL HALDANE | proprietor
191 wilsie bridge road | ancramdale, ny 12503
518 329 0411 | www.tristateantiquerestoration.com

From the bottom of the well to the top of the glass...



*Drilled & Hydroflushed Wells
Installation & Servicing of Pumps
& Water Conditioning Systems
IGSHPA Geothermal certified*

JOE FLOOD, OWNER

(518) 325-4679 • ESWD@FAIRPOINT.NET • HILLSDALE, NY
Mass. Lic. #101, 704 & 949 • NY Lic. #10061 • Conn. Lic. #85 & 364

COPAKE LAKE REALTY CORP.



Incredible Catskill views! Dennis Wedlick, AIA, sited this home to take advantage of the beautiful vistas. Open living/dining/kitchen. Chef's kitchen has a Liebherr refrigerator/freezer, Thermador double wall ovens, Wolf 6-burner range, stainless hood, Bosch dishwasher. A separate Subzero refrigerator/freezer for beverages and ice. Gas wall-mounted fireplace. LED or low voltage lighting in the living room, dining room, kitchen and bathroom floors. Exterior remote-controlled colored LED lighting in the stone walls. Many green features such as passive solar, Pella thermopane windows, solar panels and bamboo floors – and much more! \$1,200,000.

Lindsay LeBrecht, Real Estate Broker
Copake Lake Realty Corp.

285 Lakeview Road
Craryville, NY 12521

(518) 325-9741
www.copakelakerealty.com

Ready. Set. Save on
Kubota's BX Series
sub-compact tractors.

**GET SET TO
SAVE**

SALES EVENT



\$0 Down, 0% A.P.R. Financing for 60 Months*

Offer ends 3/31/16.



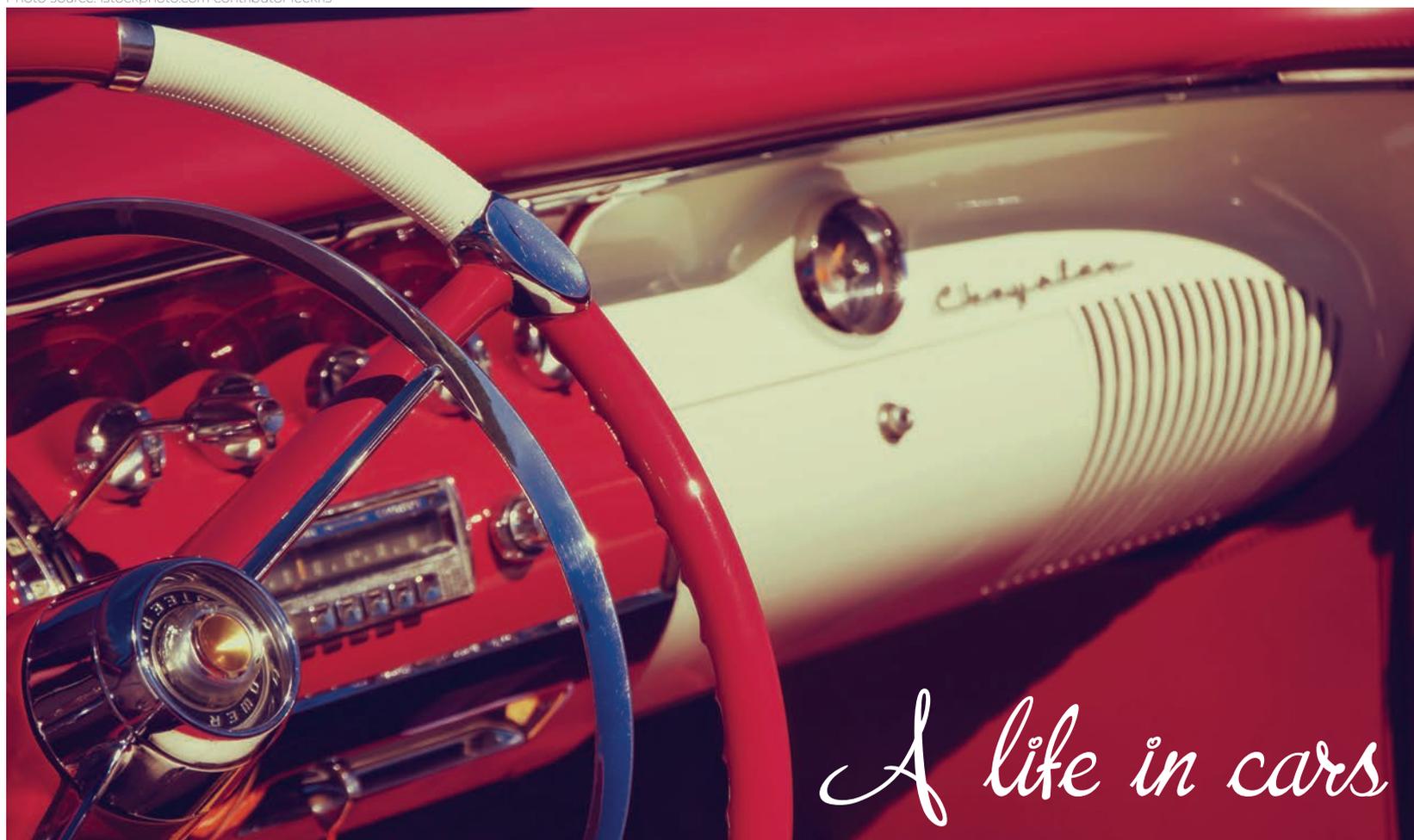
Columbia Tractor, Inc

841 Route 9H
Claverack, New York 12513
(518) 828-1781

*\$0 down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 60 months on new Kubota BX Series. Equipment is available to qualified purchasers from participating dealers in select markets through 3/31/2016. Example: \$0 down monthly installment requirement term at 0% A.P.R. requires 60 payments of \$16.67 per \$1,000 financed. 0% A.P.R. financing is available to customers for dealer participation programs only in select states. Dealer change fee document preparation fee shall be in accordance with state laws. Inclusion of multiple equipment may result in a higher financed A.P.R. 0% A.P.R. and vehicle financing may not be available with certain related offers. Financing is available through Kubota Credit Corporation, U.S.A., 3401 Oak Grove Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503. Subject to credit approval. Some restrictions apply. Offer expires 3/31/2016. See us for details on these and other Kubota options or go to www.kubota.com for more information. *Optional equipment may be shown.

© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2016

Photo source: istockphoto.com contributor leekris



A life in cars

By Claire Copley
info@mainstreetmag.com

I was born in Los Angeles, City of Cars. In those days one could actually drive in Los Angeles, rather than simply sitting in a car in traffic. In my lifetime I have spent a great deal of time in cars. Cars shape my memories and punctuate the sequence of my life. Cars create a chronological framework.

The first family car I remember was a 1949 Studebaker – I am dating myself (see picture on following page). I now know it was a Champion Starlight Coupe. It had panoramic rear windows which, as the back seat was where I spent a lot of time, allowed me an unfettered view of the world around me. My mother was a single mom with two children under the age of five, and before the era of seat belts. I often think about what that must have been like. I do remember her reflexive arm shooting out to protect us if a sudden stop occurred, a habit that continued into my adulthood. But in the back seat the world was mine.

Our Studebaker had a padded felt interior and the seats were covered in

woven lanyard-like vinyl strips in a variety of colors creating a plaid pattern. I remember picking at those strips to see if I could change the pattern or remove a portion of my favorite color (red).

The Chevy Deluxe Convertible

My mother met and eventually married a man who drove a Chevrolet (a 1951 Chevrolet Deluxe Convertible). A convertible! It was a wondrous green with a white-ish top that was rarely needed in Los Angeles. Being a wise man, my future stepfather courted me, as well as my mother. I think my brother was a tougher nut to crack. But that convertible did it for me. Maurie used to drive me to MacArthur Park, to the lake where we could venture out in a rowboat. It was a long drive and the ever-present Southern California sun gleamed off of the heavily chromed dash board grill and warmed the top of my head.

When they married, somehow we miraculously ended up with two cars. One was a Ford Country Squire station wagon, complete with wooden sides and a way-back where our

parents would make up a bed for us when we went on trips. My brother and I gave puppet shows with our feet in the rear window. There were advantages to no seat belts, but I say that as a survivor.

The second car was a Volkswagen Beetle. This was the car Maurie used to drive to work and around town. Though usually we took the station wagon to the drive-in movies (so my brother and I could sleep in the back as the movie wore on) on occasion we would take the VW and I would curl up in the little space behind the rear seat of the VW and, like a cat in a too-small box, I would happily nap.

A time when cars were celebrated

You must understand, Los Angeles was as good as it got when it came to the celebration of cars. When we were getting a new car my aunt and uncle and cousins were invited over to wait for the appearance. We would stand around outside at the curb for as long as it took for my stepfather to drive the marvel home. Then we would all check it out thoroughly, take rides

around the block, and try out all the new features. We pushed every button, adjusted every seat, and set every radio station. I still remember my insane joy when power windows replaced the old, cranks. Then the adults would party (any excuse!).

After the Beetle, Maurie brought home a two-tone, red and black Karmann-Ghia. It was about this time that I realized just how much his cars meant to him. There was a look on his face that was unique to his car relationships. Driving these cars around LA was clearly a source of enormous pleasure for him. And I understood and shared this joy. There was something so satisfying about the sound of a downshift, the whine of acceleration, and the snug interior of a small (but “practical” he insisted) car in the vastness of Los Angeles and the sea of giant flamboyant cars.

Continued on next page ...

Then there was the Thunderbird. 1958. A comparatively large and somewhat eccentric car. It was grey, and my mother, by now tired of being relegated to station wagon life, loved to drive it as well. She was still driving a '56 Ford Ranch Wagon, two-tone "baby blue" and white. She would throw her coat on over her nightgown and drive us to school in the wagon, which mortified me. I was sure something would happen to us and there we would be, our mother dressed in her nightgown.

I began to learn about cars. I knew, and still do, the look of a 1957 Ford Fairlane, or a 1958 Chevy Bel Air. I cared about the shape of the grill, and the taillights. I mourned the demise of the two-tone paint job. The '59 Cadillac Eldorado with its extended fins punctuated by pointy red rocket lights was pure joy. I never cared much about how cars worked, only about how they looked. I wouldn't know a V8 from a V6. I laughed at the Edsel, and mourned the demise of the fins once the sixties began (what did it mean?).

The "Executive"

My stepfather took a new job around 1962 and with it came a "Company Car." I think he got to pick out his own and he chose, mystifyingly, a

Buick Riviera. Gone was that dashing guy whizzing around town in his beloved oddball cars. He had evolved into an "Executive" with an "Executive" car and "Executive" suits. I was sad for him. It didn't seem right. I didn't spend much time in the Buick. It seemed to represent a new phase that I wasn't entirely sure about. I longed for the Karmann-Ghia.



Photo source: istockphoto.com contributor Eduardo Luzzatti Buyé



Above: The interior of a late 1960's Mustang convertible. Photo source: istockphoto.com contributor Reimphoto

A Mustang convertible - in Vermont

Later, my father bought me my own car. He still did not own one but I was a college student living in Vermont and needed a car. Never having lost my LA roots, I wanted a Mustang. Convertible. It was 1968. I had to load up the trunk with cinder blocks just to keep the car adhered to the wintery Vermont roads. Snow would rain in through the cracks where the convertible top met the windshield. I loved it, but it wasn't quite the same as it would have been in Los Angeles. Like so many things, the glories of youth had to give way to adult concerns like safety and warmth.

When I met my Brooklyn-born and raised husband many many years after high school, it was important to introduce him to my California buddies. I remember my best friend asking him directly "What kind of

car did you drive in high school?" (A potentially meaningful question for someone like us – born and raised in Los Angeles). The look on his face was priceless. The moment might have shattered our still fragile compact. In Brighton Beach kids did not drive cars, certainly not in high school. It was indeed two separate worlds. Yet when we met, we both owned the same cars (1975 BMW 2002's). I can't pretend this wasn't important. His was red and smelled like cigarette smoke. Mine was beige and pristine and was stolen off the street in New York City while I was at the obstetrician, eight and a half months pregnant with our first daughter. The police didn't even bother to look for it. "It's probably on a boat to Brazil as we speak" one of the cops muttered.

And that, more or less, was the end of my car fetish. I guess from that day on, my attention shifted to more "practical" things. But the ability to discern a 1955 Ford Fairlane from a '57, or a '58 Cadillac from a '59 (so different!) still brings joy. And the audacity of Cadillac fins or the sight of a two-tone paint job, or the sheer size of cars from the nineteen fifties still makes my heart race. As they say, it was a different time. •

The ideal venue & location for your perfect day

CATSKILL VIEW

WEDDINGS & EVENTS



CALL 518 592 1135 • INFO@CATSKILLVIEWWEDDINGS.COM • CATSKILLVIEWWEDDINGS.COM

RECOGNIZED BY WHO'S WHO IN LUXURY REAL ESTATE



MILLBROOK

This Bauhaus inspired home for all seasons overlooks a large pond and commands a 300 acre view of protected lands. Features include spacious, light-filled rooms, master suite on the main level, professional darkroom and an attached guest house in a century old, fully renovated barn. \$1,950,000. Call Candy Anderson 845-677-5311.



GALLATIN

Private 3 bedroom Cape with views of Stissing Mt. and surrounding farmland. Many upgrades including renovated kitchen with walk-in pantry. Two separate buildings with heat perfect for studio or office. 16+ acres with pool, stream & room for horses. \$795,000. Call Ann Simmons 518-398-5344.



ACRAMDALE

Charming 1760 Farmhouse on 31 acres with a pond, tennis court and barn. Original features include wide board floors, exposed beams, early moldings and 2 fireplaces. Lovely rural views. \$890,000. Call Ann Wilkinson 845-677-5311.



H W GUERNSEY
REALTORS, INC.
SINCE 1908

hwguernsey.com

A Heritage of Fine Homes and Property

Millbrook 845-677-5311

So. Columbia County 518-398-5344

CARLSON

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.

**Complete Design,
Installation & Service**



An Independent **LENNOX** Dealer

Specializing in:

- Gas Warm Air Systems
- Centrail Air Conditioning

800-542-2422

www.carlsonpropane.com

Serving Northwest Corner Since 1979

CT Lic. 302776 • CT Lic. 278010 • CT Lic. 1113
CT HOD #1002

MA Lic. 023709 • MA Lic. 30167 • MA Lic. 912

79 Pike Rd., Sheffield, MA

CARLSON PROPANE

Sales • Service • Installation
Residential • Commercial
Competitive Pricing
Automatic Route Deliveries
Forklifts • Construction
Heat • Hot Water • Cooking
Budget Payment Plan



Prompt Professional Service
Carlson ... for Customers
who insist on Safety & Quality

800-542-2422

www.carlsonpropane.com

**Division Of Carlson Heating
& Air Conditioning, Inc.**

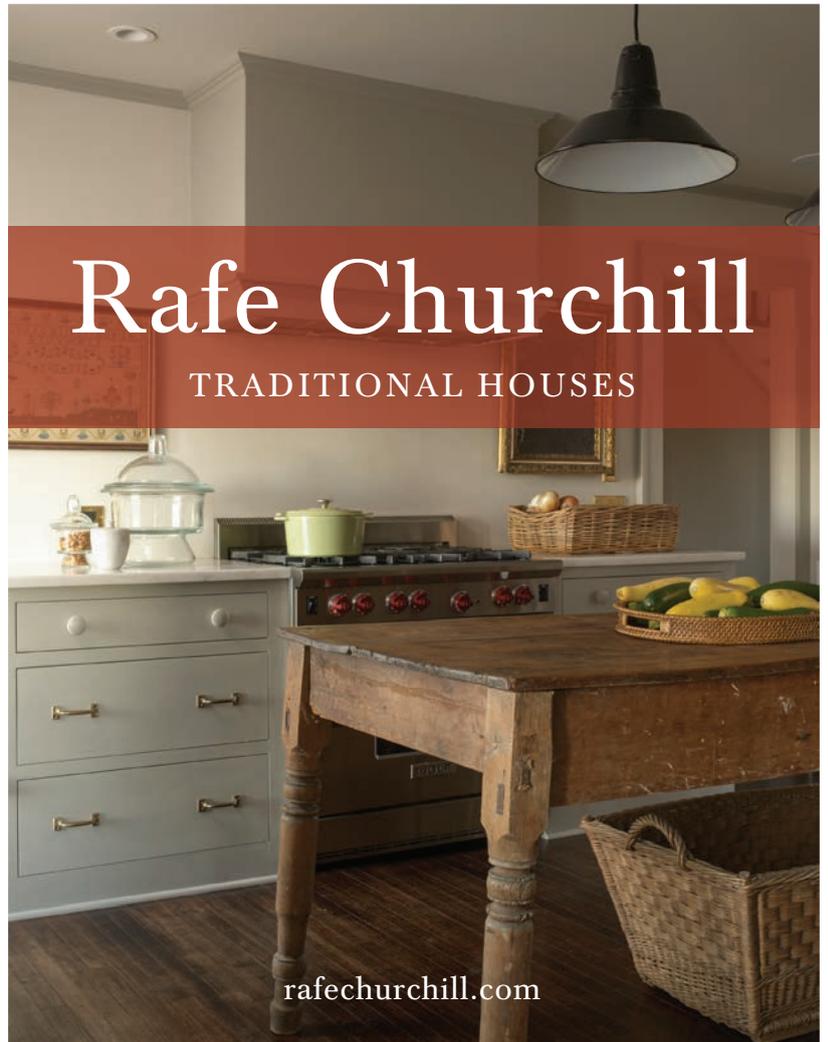
Serving Northwest Corner Since 1979

CT HOD #1002



Rafe Churchill

TRADITIONAL HOUSES



rafechurchill.com

One of New York's oldest and
largest certified organic farms.



**Join our Grand Opening
Event on May 21!**

DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS • BAKERY • LOCAL & SPECIALTY
GROCERIES • FRESH MEATS • PREPARED FOODS

Visit mcenroeorganicfarm.com or

call 518-789-4191 for hours & directions.

5409 Route 22, Millerton, NY 12546



Millerton Agway ... a full line dealer for Husqvarna
and Stihl power equipment. From riding mowers to
string trimmers, push mowers to blowers. We
have it all and service what we sell and stock parts.
Available only in our Millerton, N.Y. location.

AGWAY

VISIT YOUR LOCAL AGWAY:

**Route 22 in Millerton, NY • Route 23 in
Great Barrington, MA • Route 9H in
Claverack, NY • Route 66 in Chatham, NY**

HOURS:

Monday–Saturday: 8:00 AM–5:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

For more savings & information:

(518) 789-4471 or www.agwayny.com

Drive-in movie theaters

By Melissa Batchelor Warnke
info@mainstreetmag.com

Drive-in movie theaters seem to be somewhat synonymous with American culture, and non-Americans associate drive-ins as typical Americana. Drive-ins are a throwback to a simpler time in American culture – and besides, who doesn't remember the classic drive-in movie theater scene from such classics as "Grease"? But whatever your association with drive-in movie theaters may be, you don't have to go far to experience that feeling all over again, or for the very first time. Just take a ride down to Amenia, adjust your seat, order a burger and soda pop via the carside hop service, and enjoy the double feature.



Drive-in movie theaters have been around for the better part of a century; the first one popped up in 1933 in Camden, New Jersey. Now, with the advent of Netflix and DVDs, it's become so easy to watch movies at home that going to a drive-in has a certain sense of ceremony and whimsy to it.

Four Brothers restaurant added a drive-in movie theater to their property in the middle of Amenia several years ago, and they've been building the services out ever since. (I saw Magic Mike XXL there, a highly recommended film). John Stephanopoulos, who co-manages the Four Brothers Drive-in with his brother Paul, told us a little bit more about what makes a drive-in special in this day and age.

When and why did you decide to start the drive-in theater? Tell me about that decision making process.

The drive-in had been a thought since 2005. We had a great location, being in the center of town, and we had access to a large plot of land.

Back in the infancy stages, we were brainstorming on what the area lacked. We wanted to maintain the town's quaint charm without compromising the aesthetic value of the land. As a result, we created a boutique, timeless, family-oriented destination – the Four Brothers Drive In.

The first tangible developments of the drive-in began in 2012, but it wasn't until the spring of 2015 that we were actually a licensed, full functioning, drive-in theater.

How is it going so far? What has surprised you about the business?

We were pleasantly surprised to find that there was more of a demand for a drive-in theater than we had expected. Drive-ins, although not as apparently popular as they used to

be, are slowly becoming more a part of today's everyday life and culture.

I have found that many adults reminisce about their childhood experiences at a drive-in, and are now able to create memories with their own children, family, and friends again.

What is the greatest success and greatest challenge?

One of the greatest successes has been that the experience, philosophy, and vision we had about the drive-in has been validated by the demand and praise that we receive.

When customers are traveling as far as three hours to come to us and see a movie, when they can see that movie anywhere, makes us very happy to know that people are enjoying what we have built. We are very much in tune with this new wave and trend in our society and American culture.

Another great success is the combination of the drive-in and restaurant. They work in conjunction

Continued on next page ...

Above: An aerial view of the concession stand, parking area, and the big screen of Four Brothers Drive In movie theater in Amenia, NY. Photo courtesy of John Stephanopoulos.

with each other while in-season. They both play off of each other's success, as the restaurant offers car-hop service to the movie-goers, and the ambiance of the drive-in attracts people to the restaurant.

The drive-in has put Amenia on the map as a destination for people. It is no longer a drive-through town. People come here to experience what they cannot find anywhere else – and that is a tremendous accomplishment for a small town.

The beauty is that we don't survive off of magnified margins on concession. The theatre is a supplement to the restaurant and so we are able to keep our prices very affordable and fair, and we love that we can pass that value on to our customers.

Our greatest challenge was creating the experience – that is where the true value lies in our establishment. We spent an incredible amount of effort in creating a multi-dimensional experience that gives you a sense of feeling, belonging, and a place that makes you happy. That is where the greatest amount of energy went in, and proved to be our biggest challenge.



Why is a drive-in movie theater fun in this day and age?

Our drive-in movie theater is fun because it gives the consumer more flexibility and control. What we mean by this is that in this day and age, consumers are given options so they can customize their experience for their own unique self. The dynamic of every movie-goer is different. People come as a family, on

a date, with friends – all of which require different needs to be met.

At Four Brothers Drive In our goal was to create unique amenities and services in order to accommodate the needs for flexibility and control for each movie-goer. Therefore, the beauty of the drive-in is the breadth of the customers that we can attract – you can bring small children, people with special needs, smokers, dogs – all of which are not typically able to be accommodated at a regular indoor theater.

Specifically at our drive-in, included in the admission fee with the movie, we offer an array of activities that the customers are able to take advantage of. The activities range from pre-show concerts, face-painting, playground fun, fire-pit, pony rides, petting zoos, etc.

What sort of films are your focus?

Our main focus are first-run big hits that are geared towards the family demographic. These movies include kids movies, action movies, and comedies.

On Thursdays we do throwbacks that include Indie films and classic movies from the past. Occasionally, we will do special screenings if the demand is high enough.

We run seven nights a week with a double feature every night, and occasionally a triple feature on Thursdays.

Will you be doing anything new in the upcoming year?

We are focusing on bringing in larger pre-show events including a hot air balloon, a chain saw wood carving event, and stunt/magic show.

We have also added to our layout. This year the drive-in will include an arcade, a lounge area with swings and chairs surrounding a fire-pit, as well as an exclusive cabana-like seating arrangement. •

To learn more about Four Brothers Drive In and restaurant you can visit them at 4957 NY-22, Amenia, NY, or visit them online at www.playeatdrink.com.



Above top: The drive-in staff are ready to take your order. Above: Nothing beats a soft-serve ice cream at the movies! Photos courtesy of John Stephanopoulos.

Landscaping & Excavating

Domenick Lopane Jr.



LANDSCAPING
 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE
 SPECIALIZED STONE WORK
 TREE INSTALLATION

Call for free onsite estimates
 Licensed & insured
 30 years experience

(845) 518-0632 • DLOpanejr@gmail.com • 700 McGhee Hill Road, Millerton, NY

Hussey Painting



DECORATING & WALLPAPERING
 Interior & Exterior
 Residential, Commercial & Industrial
 State Licensed Home Improvement Contractors
 Insured & EPA Certified

Family Owned and Operated Since 1978

www.husseypainting.com
 emmethussey@gmail.com

Emmet Hussey
860.435.8149




Open Thursday through Monday, 7am-9pm • Call: 518-592-1313

W.B. CASE

PLUMBING HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
 LLC.

15 years in business • Oil, Propane, Solar Thermal, Geothermal and Biomass heating systems • HVAC system design and installation • HS Tarm and Froling wood boiler dealer and installer • New construction, renovations and service of all Heating, Air Conditioning, Plumbing systems and well services

Williston B. Case III, Owner

SHARON, CT 860 364-2169
Fully Insured / License # P1 0280455 SI 0390683 STC 0000179 HIC 0634668

KOHLER Generators POWER FOR TODAY. AND EVERY DAY AFTER.



ELECTRICAL
BERLINGHOFF
CONTRACTING, INC

Certified Authorized dealer for
KOHLER® GENERATORS

**Service your generator
 this spring**
 Generator sales, installation, servicing & repairs.

We service all brands of generators including
 KOHLER, Briggs & Stratton, Generac, Katolight,
 Winco, Siemens, Honeywell, & GE.

(518) 398-0810 • 40 Myrtle Avenue, Pine Plains, NY • Berlinghoffelectrical.com

Quality Electrical Services

Residential & Commercial Electric
 New Construction & Renovations
 Generator Installation

Bankers. Neighbors.

Friends

We are all of the above. Always.

Litchfield Bancorp 1850

EVERY CUSTOMER COUNTSSM

Visit our Lakeville office today!

860.435.9828

www.LitchfieldBancorp.com

MLO #510070

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender



Hollis Gonerka Bart LLP

The law firm for businesses, entrepreneurs, executives and foundations.

Thorough • Tactical • Trusted

Pine Plains, NY | (518) 771-3031
New York, NY | (646) 398-0066

www.hgbllp.com

John Goudreault

Cabinet work & fine furniture



845-705-5288

www.johngoudreault.com



High Quality
Commercial Printing.

SNYDER



PRINTER

- Digital & Offset
- Newsletters
- Brochures
- Catalogs
- Stationary Packages
- Pocket Folders
- Calendars
- Invitations
- Direct Mail

691 River Street
Troy, NY 12180

P 518.272.8881

F 518.272.8935

www.snyderprinter.com

Steinbau Enterprises



Complete Farm Facility
Design & Construction

Stables, Indoor arenas, sheds,
composting systems

Restoration of existing facilities
and Post & Beam structures

837 Freedom Rd., Pleasant Valley, NY 12569 • www.SteinbauEnterprises.net

Office: 845-635-2265 • Email: SteinbauDJ@aol.com

Over 30 years of Equine Building Experience in the Hudson Valley

= MADSEN = OVERHEAD DOORS

Fast, friendly service since 1954

Mention this ad and receive

**\$50 off single door or \$100 off
double door purchase & install
\$25 off a new electric operator, too!**

valid now through July 31, 2016



Madsen Overhead Doors offers numerous door options to fit any budget!
Residential, Commercial & Industrial Doors, Electric Operators,
Radio Controls, Sales & Service.



Phone (518) 392 3883

info@madsenoverheaddoors.com

www.MadsenOverheadDoors.com

673 Route 203, Spencertown, NY 12165

Car show season is here!

By John Torsiello
info@mainstreetmag.com

Americans love their cars. It goes without saying that the automobile dramatically altered the socioeconomic structure of the country, opening up roadways to a new mobility and way of life for millions.

Americans also love to go fast in their automobiles.

While highways, roads, and streets have posted speed limits to help us control the need for speed, there are no such signs posted at the nation's raceways, where brave men and women push the peddle to the metal in their quest for nerve tingling acceleration.

The Rhinebeck Car Show

If you go to the Rhinebeck Car Show in May (6-8) you can get a look at some very cool, and historic, stock cars that once roared around the Dutchess County Fairgrounds, former home to the Rhinebeck Speedway.

"Racing through History!" is a joint presentation of Historic Red Hook and the Rhinebeck Historical Society, in collaboration with the Hudson River Valley Antique Auto Association. The program opens in the grounds' Arts and Crafts building at 10am and closes at 5pm. Admission is free with the purchase of tickets to the Rhinebeck 2016 Car Show and Swap Meet.

According to Rhinebeck Historical Society president David Miller, there will be as many as a dozen cars



on display, including two mint-condition "midget" racers – smaller versions of the familiar open-wheeled "Indy" cars.

"The cars are great, but the Rhinebeck Speedway veterans are best. They'll be there to tell it like it was – the speed, the chills, the thrills."

How it began

Rhinebeck Speedway's heyday of hometown heroes arrived in 1956 with the introduction of a "sedan" class of stock cars to the Saturday night races. Affordable for all, the

cars were off the street or out of the junkyard, and required only to have a seat belt and roll bar. First prize was a whopping \$15 and a trophy.

"This is living history," says Claudine Klose, Historic Red Hook president. "Where else can people meet and mingle with the people who made history, right here in our backyards."

From the 1940s through the early 1960s, Rhinebeck reverberated to the roar of engines, squealing tires, and cheering crowds. "Those were the junkyard days: dirty hands and skinned knuckles," fondly recalls Dick Hansen, 76, who won many a race at Rhinebeck Speedway. "Old cars were cheap, parts available, and everyone could participate." Hansen and other drivers, the owners, and their cars return to the Fairgrounds to tell their stories.

Continued on next page ...

Above: Aerial view of Rhinebeck Speedway's 1/5 mile paved oval inside the old half-mile horse track at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds, circa 1948. Courtesy Roger Liller. Below, left: Rhinebeck Speedway Poster. Courtesy Bob Hicks.

EVERY
SAT.
NITE 8:30

STOCK CAR RACES

RHINEBECK SPEEDWAY

FREE
PARKING

NATIONALLY FAMOUS DRIVERS U.S.C.R.C.

Russ Truelove

Another driver who will be there will be 91-year-old Russ Truelove, who was track champion at the Rhinebeck Speedway in 1958 and 1959. After being discharged from the U.S. Navy in 1946, he began racing in New England and along the East Coast, including Rhinebeck Speedway. In 1956, he qualified fifth at Daytona (128.205 miles an hour), and had two top ten finishes during his Grand National career.

Truelove got out of racing for 30 years until, in 1989, when his wife presented him with a four-cylinder Spec Racer kit car for Christmas, and he was off and running with the Sports Car Club of America.

He finally stopped racing when he was hit from behind and knocked into a wall. “The doctor told me my racing days were over,” he related.

He added, “Rhinebeck was a small track at he Fairgrounds, it went around a baseball diamond there. But we had some great crowds and it was fun racing. I really enjoy going to events with the old race car and telling people, especially the younger ones, about the way racing was back then. It’s so different now, with all the new technology (speeds on the track can reach well over 200 miles an hour). But it still comes down to one person trying to beat another.”

The (inglorious) origins of stock car racing

It is said that stock car racing had its

origins in a rather inglorious way.

In the 1920s, moonshine runners, especially in the deep South, during the prohibition era would often have to outrun the authorities, although this is not written down in any factual histories of the evolution of stock car racing in the United States. Reportedly, moonshine haulers had to juice up their vehicles, in addition to carrying the juice, to beat the police on their runs along miles of back country roads, and finally began to band together with fellow runners to make runs together. They challenged one another to see who could get the job done the fastest, and their personal battles evolved into organized events in the

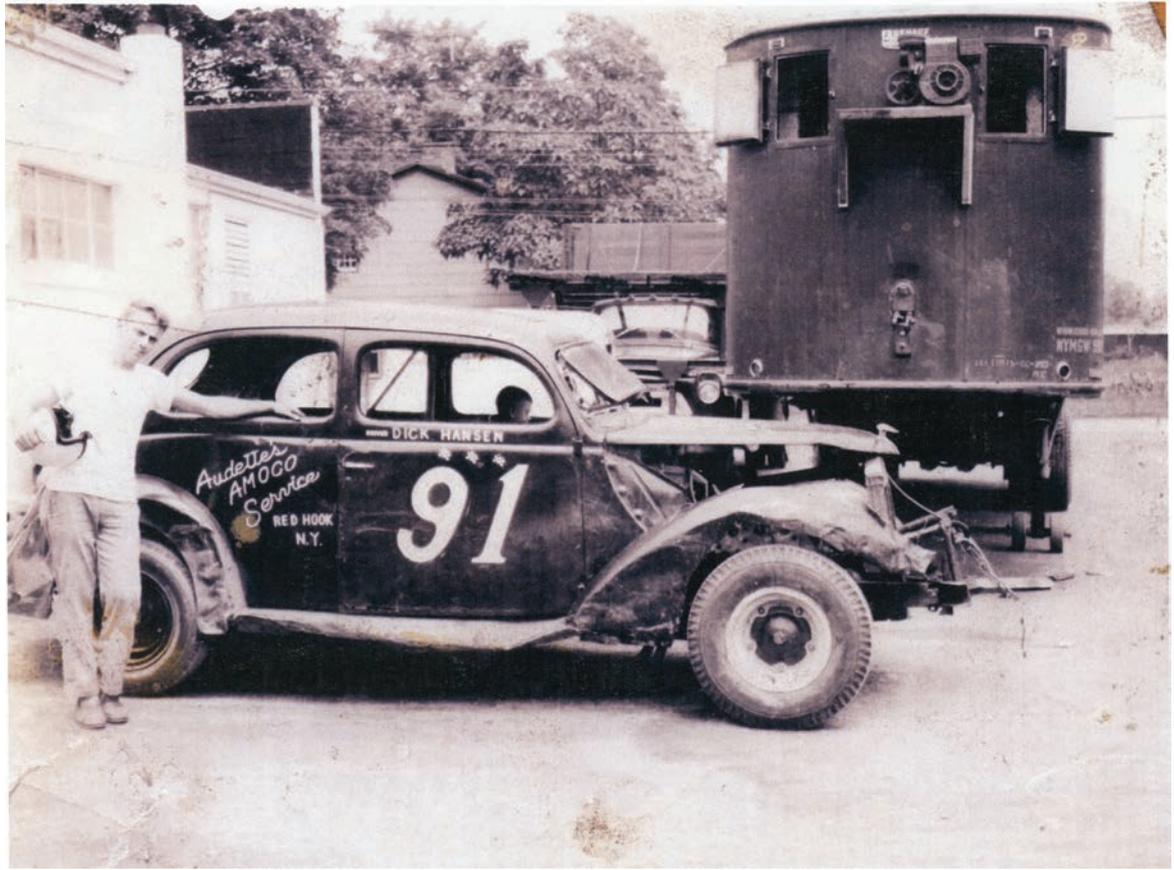
early 1930s.

NASCAR was first formed by Bill France, Sr. in 1948 to regulate stock car racing in the US, and it was required that cars had to be made entirely of parts available to the general public through automobile dealers, hence the term “stock.” The cars also had to be models that had sold more than 500 units to the public.

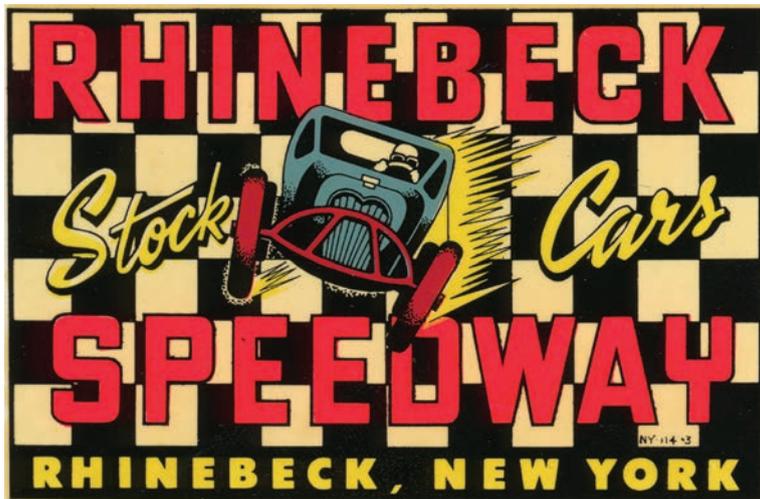
Often, drivers competing in events raced the same vehicle they drove to the track. It is this egalitarian genesis of the sport, and the fact that you could buy a car that at least looked like the ones that were roaring around Daytona and other famous tracks, that appealed to the masses. People found visceral pleasure in watching what looked like the automobiles they were driving to and from work bump fenders and hit speeds well in excess of 100 miles an hour.

In addition to the display of stock cars, the Rhinebeck Car Show features hot rods, custom built cars, antique, and classic autos. There’s a swap meet scheduled to open May 6th at noon. The Fairgrounds are located off spring Brook Avenue. Parking is free. •

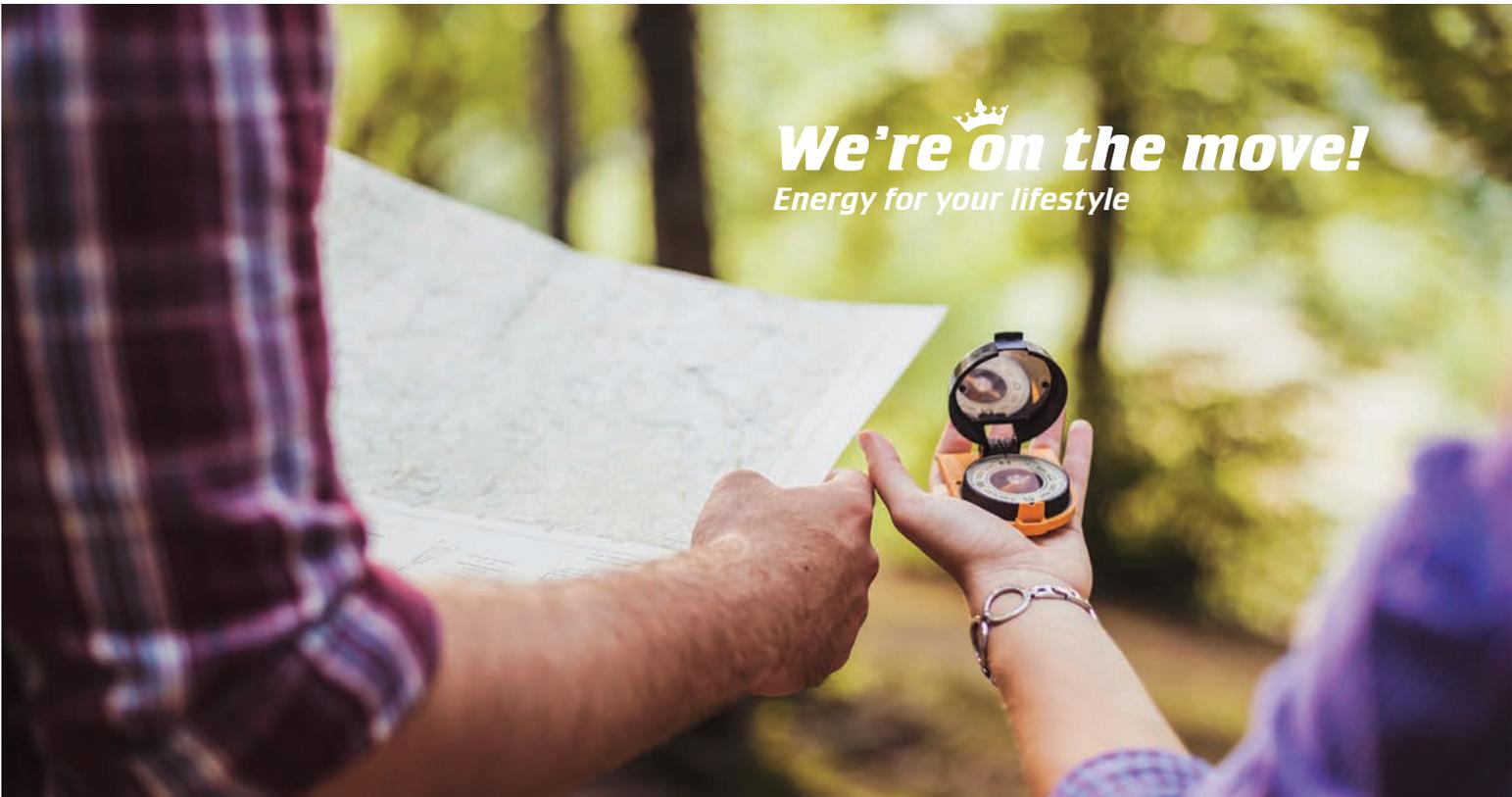
For further information visit their website www.rhinebeckcarshow.com.



Above: Local stock-car racing champion Dick Hansen and his first car, sponsored by the Amoco Station in Red Hook. Courtesy Dick Hansen. Below, left: Rhinebeck Speedway Window Decal. Courtesy Joy Doyle.



CROWN **ENERGY CORP.**



We're  on the move!
Energy for your lifestyle

Outdoor living dreams: your ideal outdoor kitchen & patio area...

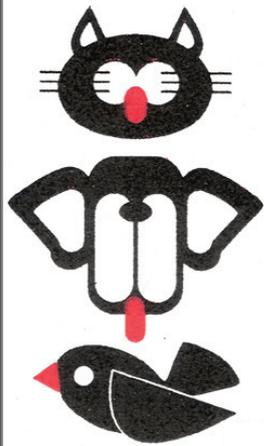
When it comes to your outdoor living needs they may include the likes of a propane fire pit, grill, searing station, pizza oven, infrared heaters, and mosquito exterminator, Crown Energy Corp. is here to help!

Our Comfort Consultant, Gary, can help you make these dream appliances a reality with set-up assistance, hooking up your propane, and much more. Call today to learn about all of Crown Energy Corp.'s outdoor living services.

SERVICES:

Propane • Heating Oil • Diesel Fuel • Gasoline
Kerosene • Heating Systems • Service
Installations • 24 Hour Service

1 John Street, Millerton, NY 12546
(518) 789 3014 • (845) 635 2400
www.crownenergycorp.com



Catering to the needs of the well-loved pet since 1993

Petpourri

We love your pets.

SUPER PREMIUM PET FOODS • RAW DIETS • QUALITY TOYS, TREATS & ACCESSORIES FOR YOUR DOG & CAT – MANY MADE IN USA

Hours: Monday-Friday 9-5:30, Saturday 9-5:00
333 Main Street, Lakeville, CT • Phone: 860-435-8833

George Lagonia Jr, Inc.
FINE HOME BUILDERS & CUSTOM CABINETRY

WWW.LAGONIACONSTRUCTION.COM
E-MAIL: GEORGE@LAGONIACONSTRUCTION.COM
PHONE (518) 672-7712 • FAX (518) 672-7578 • P.O. BOX 201 • SPENCERTOWN, NY



Complete site construction • Homes, pole barns & sheds • Specialty work: tiling, flooring, stairs & railings, kitchens & baths • Refinishing • Woodworking • Carpentry • Ice & snow damage • Fully insured

NAILED IT

Building & Construction

518.929.7482 • WWW.NAILEDITBUILDING.COM

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1983 BY CARL MARSHALL.

HOURS: MONDAY-THURSDAY 9-5, FRIDAY 9-6 & SATURDAY 9-12

FEATURING: LAFONT, SILHOUETTE, RAY-BAN

860 364 0878

26 HOSPITAL HILL ROAD
SHARON, CONNECTICUT
SHARONOPTICAL@ATT.NET
WWW.SHARONOPTICALCT.COM

100% organic
BARK MULCH:

Choose from all natural regular or reground bark mulch with no additives. Bulk quantities and delivery available.

Meltz
LUMBER CO. OF
MELLENNVILLE, INC.

518.672.7021 • MELTZLUMBER.COM • 483 RT. 217, HUDSON, NY

Finding your own (nature) paths

By Ian Strever
info@mainstreetmag.com

Tonight on the radio, I heard the downstate NPR station report on a multi-car pileup that had closed the southbound lane of I-95 in Madison, Connecticut. In an instant, I was transported back to the daily commute I made along I-84 from Waterbury to Danbury, where I witnessed all manner of carnage: cars in accidents, cars on the median, cars on top of guardrails, cars on fire.

One day, a flatbed semi started to jackknife toward me from the adjacent lane and I knew it was time to find a quieter commute.

Movin' on up north!

Within a month of moving to Salisbury, I had made all the necessary arrangements to be able to ride my bike to work each day. In addition to a new light, I secured a spot in our locker room for a quick shower and a change of clothes, and after a test ride to gauge my timing, I embarked one morning on my new eco-friendly routine.

I would warm up on the rolling hills of Farnum Road, watch deer and turkeys grazing along the Salmon Kill, and descend into Falls Village just as the sun began to rise over Barrack Mountain. It was less than seven miles, one way, but it beat my old commute by a mile, every day.

The health benefits of nature

Transportation literally means to carry over or across, and while my bike was a new means of conveyance, it carried much more than my body from home to work. I began to notice that my mind was sharper and my days better when they started with a ride. I had more patience, energy, and clarity.

Henry David Thoreau once said “I am alarmed when it happens that I have walked a mile into the woods bodily, without getting there in spirit,” and recent studies have confirmed his observation. Researchers in Europe have measured the impact of natural environments on psychological traits such as self-esteem and mood, and several studies demonstrate the role that nature plays in restoring attention, reducing stress, and even lowering heart rate.

We can't all retreat to a one-room cabin by a pond or commute by bike; it just isn't always practical. Even during the most temperate stretches of summer, I can never quite get my act together to ride to work every day. But one day on the bike or on foot is one less in the car, one less gallon of gas, one more day before an oil change, one less plume of carbon monoxide.

Go on, go outside and play!

We can all find time to be in nature each day, even for a few minutes. Instead of going to the gym, we can hit the trails and allow our natural surroundings to push us to new levels of fitness. Most indoor



aerobic machines mimic outdoor exercises, but without the stress-reducing benefits of the outdoors. Treadmills are poor substitutes for running and walking outdoors, stationary bikes pale in comparison to rolling through the countryside, stair climbers can be replaced by a steep hike, and elliptical machines will never come close to cross-country skiing. Even resistance exercises such as weight lifting can be replicated by chopping wood or rock climbing.

Some of the best locations for outdoors workouts are the ones that are nearby and easy to access. Just

Above and to the left: Ian's transportation sign encounters announce their attractions during a March thaw.



Continued on next page ...



Above and to the right: Ian's transportation sign encounters announce their attractions during a March thaw.

off of Route 44 in Salisbury, Dark Hollow Road is a dirt road that features a pair of trails, one that runs along a small ridge and one that descends into a vibrant meadow. These are short paths, but they are situated perfectly to allow both ease of access and the illusion of being miles into the woods. Divided by the road, they offer a microcosm of our region's ecosystems, including both forest and field, although the meadow walk is not advisable without taking precautions to thwart deer ticks.

If you have only a few minutes, however, even Dark Hollow Road itself or the nearby Railroad Ramble bike path allow for a quiet stroll through bucolic surroundings.

If you're looking for more of a workout, Stissing Mountain, in Pine Plains, is a great after-work hike. It's a bit more remote than Dark Hollow, but the steep, rocky trail leads to a 90-foot fire tower with 360-degree views of the surrounding hills. Skip the stair climber and come here: in addition to the mountain itself, the climb to the top of the tower keeps the heart pumping. If that's still not enough, the blistering winds up top will add a few beats per minute to your heart rate, especially in the winter.

The railroad

Perhaps the most transformative conveyance that our area has ever known, however, is the railroad. Over time, railroad cars have carried iron, lumber, ice, and a number of different products from our area, leaving our citizens both richer in funds and poorer in resources. While rail lines still run along the Housatonic and Harlem valleys, their impact now is less pronounced.

In the case of the Harlem line, however, progressive minds had the

foresight to turn the abandoned northern terminus of the line above Amenia into a rail trail that currently stretches 26 miles towards Hillsdale, with plans to extend it another 20 miles to Chatham, which would make it one of the longer rail trails in the region.

Instead of rails, the parallel tracks of cross country skis work best here, where miles of flat, smooth terrain and snow-laden limbs provide the perfect conditions to learn the sport, with enough distance to exhaust the most ambitious athlete.

Riding through Millerton last week, I spotted the sign for the Round Ball Conservation Area, which I had seen before but forgotten. A few miles later, I passed Rudd Pond, and then another trailhead on Shagroy Road that leads into a supply pond. Places like these pepper our landscape, and the best part is discovering them.

Alternative transportation can come in many forms, and opting for a different mode of travel does not mean opting for an alternative lifestyle. While Thoreau may have walked for several hours each day, anyone who has daydreamed knows the power of even a few minutes to transport us to another world – even a walk to the mailbox will do some days.

Take the road less traveled, and see what is around the bend. •



♥
Come and visit us
Love, Millerton ♥



In Millerton you can eat, drink, shop, & be entertained!

Come to Millerton: we have it all! Visit one of these businesses to shop to your heart's content, be entertained for hours, dine and drink!

By shopping locally you support not only the local economy but specifically you support the local businesses that provide our services, feed our stomachs, quench our thirsts, entertain us, clothe us, and are the fabric of the communities that we live in.

Millerton's businesses welcome you!



Eat & Drink

- 52 MAIN
518-789-0252
52main.com
- HARNEY & SONS TEA
518-789-2121
harney.com
- IRVING FARM COFFEE HOUSE
518-789-2020
irvingfarm.com
- LITTLE GATES & CO. WINE MERCHANTS
518-789-3899
littlegateswine.com
- OAKHURST DINER
518-592-1313

Entertainment

- THE MOVIEHOUSE
518-789-3408
themoviehouse.net

Shopping

- BW's EAGLE EYE
518-789-4109
bwseagleeye.com
- COPPER STAR ALPACA
914-924-9197
copperstaralpaca.com
- DAVE'S TV
518-789-3881
daves.tv
- GILDED MOON FRAMING & GALLERY
518-789-3428
gmframing.com
- HUNTER BEE
518-789-2127
hunterbee.com
- JENNINGS ROHN MONTAGE
860-485-3887
- MILLERTON'S NAPA AUTO & TRUCK SUPPLY
518-789-4474
napaonline.com
- OBLONG BOOKS & MUSIC
518-789-3797
oblongbooks.com
- TERNI'S STORE
518-789-3474

Services & much more

- ASSOCIATED LIGHTNING ROD
518-789-4603
alrci.com
- CHAD'S HAIR STUDIO
518-789-6007
- CROWN ENERGY CORP.
518-789-3014
crownenergycorp.com
- HYLTON HUNDT SALON
518-789-9390
hyltonhundtsalon.com
- LESLIE HOSS FLOOD INTERIORS, INC.
518-789-0640
lestlifefloodinteriors.com
- MAIN STREET MAGAZINE
518-592-1135
mainstreetmag.com
- MARTINA GATES FOTOWORKS
631-662-7755
martinagatesfotoworks.com
- MILLERTON VETERINARY
518-789-3440
millertonvet.com
- OVERMOUNTAIN BUILDERS
518-789-6173
overmountainbuilders.com
- SALISBURY BANK & TRUST CO.
518-789-9802
salisburybank.com
- TAYLOR OIL INC.
518-789-4600
gmtayloroil.com
- THORUNN DESIGNS
518-592-1135
thorunndesigns.com



BAR • TAPAS • RESTAURANT

518.789.0252 • 52 Main Street, Millerton • 52main.com

Lindell Fuels, Inc.

Fuel Oil • Propane • Heating
Air Conditioning

CT Registration # HOD.0000095
CT License # HTG.0690604-S1 | CT License # PLM.0281220-P1



P.O. Box 609 | 59 Church Street
Canaan, CT 06018
860 824 5444
860 824 7829 fax

— SHARON — AUTO BODY

Jim Young
OWNER

jim@sharonautobody.com

28 Amenia Road | PO Box 686 | Sharon, CT 06069
T: 860 364 0128 | F: 860 364 0041

sharonautobody.com

Jim Mauri 860-801-1224

Brett Mauri 406-581-3014



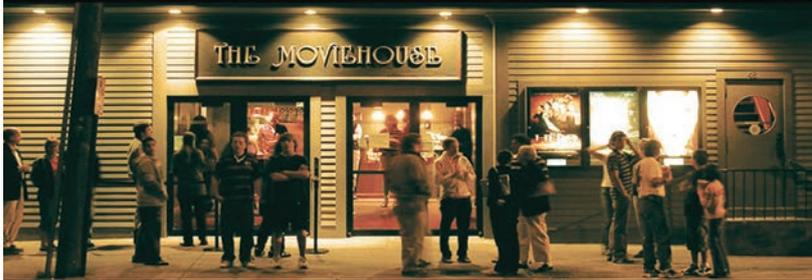
Authentic Timber Frame and Log Post and Beam Construction
Since 1985



Site Assessment Project Programming
On Budget Design Solutions Construction Management
Custom Homes • Guest Cottages • Barns
bitterroottimberframes.com

THE MOVIEHOUSE

Main Street, Millerton, NY



Your Portal to a World of Arts, Culture & Entertainment

YOUR TICKET IS AT WWW.THEMOVIEHOUSE.NET



5916 North Elm Avenue, Millerton, NY
518-592-1700
518-592-1701

COZZY'S FAMILY SPECIALS:

- Large pizza, 2 order of wings & 2L soda \$28.00
- Large pizza, large salad & garlic knots \$ 19.50
- Large pizza, french fries, chicken fingers & 2L soda \$21.50
- Three large pizzas & 30 wings \$60

TUES., WED., & THURS PICK-UP ONLY!

- Large pizza \$10.00
- Medium pizza \$8.00
- Personal pizza \$5.00
- Toppings extra.
- Taxes not included.

HOURS:

- Tues-Fri: 11am-9pm
- Sat: 12pm-9pm
- Sun: 12pm-8pm



Pick up or dine in!

Like us on Facebook: Cozy's Pizzeria!

Tax not included in price. Toppings extra. Cannot be combined with other offers.
Pick-up or delivery. Free delivery within 7 miles.



Ruge's GMC

GMC sales, service, and parts. 7916 Route 22, Copake Falls, NY, 12517. (518) 329-4181. rugesgmc.com

Ruge's is a family-owned and operated car dealership dating back to 1935. They have two locations, one of which is in Copake Falls. That location opened in 2004. Just like the other Ruge's Subaru and Dodge located in Rhinebeck, at this location you'll also find a friendly and low-pressure sales staff that are always happy to help you purchase a new or used GMC. They also have an extremely knowledgeable service and parts team! Their technicians specialize in everything from minor to major automatic, light duty and heavy duty truck service and repairs for your personal and commercial vehicles. Conveniently located on Route 22, just outside the center of Copake, they are easy to find and proudly serve the Hudson Valley and portions of CT and MA as well. Just like all other car manufacturers, GM continues to improve their vehicles and Ruge's thinks GM will continue to evolve; better fuel economy, cleaner running vehicles, and continued emphasis on the environment. Everyone at Ruge's would like to thank their customers from the bottom of their hearts for supporting them over the years and they look forward to working with repeat and new customers. They hope to continue to take care of you in the years to come, as you have done for them.



The Connecticut Antique Machinery Association Museum

Museum for Industrial Age technology. (860) 927-0050. 31 Kent-Cornwall Rd., Kent, CT 06757. ctmachinery.com

The Connecticut Antique Machinery Association is a 501 c-3 non-profit museum located at 31 Kent-Cornwall Road in Kent, CT. It was founded in 1984 by a group of antique engine enthusiasts. The museum is located on 8+ acres leased from the Connecticut DEEP. Over the years, twelve buildings have been constructed to house a variety of Industrial Age technology that includes working giant industrial steam engines, early farm tractors and equipment, oil field machinery, a sawmill, a blacksmith shop, and an operating steam railroad. Also on the property are the Cream Hill Agricultural School (1830's-1860's), and the Connecticut Museum of Mining and Mineral Science. What sets them apart from other museums of this type is the diversity of the exhibits and that the machinery is operational. "We like to be considered the 'Sturbridge Village of Industrial History.'" Four shows are held yearly. "We begin with the Spring Power-Up to mark our opening at the beginning of May, followed by a gem and mineral show in June. In July an antique engine show is held. We end our year with the annual Fall Festival held the last full weekend in September. During our Spring Power-Up and the Fall Festival our giant engines and steam trains are in operation." This is a great place for the entire family to visit!



Brick Block Auto Parts

Auto parts in store and for delivery. (518) 789-3696. 12 Main Street, Millerton, NY 12546. brickblockautoparts.com

Start your engines! Spring is here and so is automobile fever. Brick Block Auto Parts opened in 1983 on the site of the previous Brick Block Hotel, which is how it got its somewhat unusual name. Brick Block sells auto parts and accessories, tools and equipment, paints and lubricant to businesses and individuals. Delivery is available within 25 miles of Millerton to your repair garage or business. Their emphasis is on high-quality brand name merchandise, with availability of less expensive items when price is a factor. The counter staff is experienced and knowledgeable and always available to answer your questions. They are "car people" willing to help with automobile problems. Harry, the owner of Brick Block since 1996, takes pride in his completely restored 1968 Pontiac Bonneville, which is a 428 four speed convertible. If you are lucky you might catch Harry driving it to work once a year! Mike Lilley, the store manager and Camaro enthusiast, has worked at Brick Block since 1984, Harry since 1996, Bill since 2005, and Kevin since 2009. Whether you are accessorizing a new vehicle, fixing up your old car or hot rod, or just doing routine maintenance, stop in and compare their service and prices. They are sure that you will become a regular customer.



North East Muffler Inc.

Custom exhausts and standard automotive repair work. 5642 NY-22, Millerton, NY 12546. (518) 789-3669.

There's nothing like the rumble of a custom exhaust system! Luckily for you, North East Muffler got started in 1987 and specializes in custom exhausts. But that's not all they do: they also offer general repair work on all makes and models of foreign and domestic vehicles, towing services, and U-Haul rentals. They are very reputable and their clientele goes to show for that. Clients come from as far as NYC and even from further away for custom exhaust jobs. Automotive manufacturers are always coming out with new technology, but not to worry: no matter the year, make, or model of your car, North East Muffler has computers updated twice a year, they utilize the internet on a regular basis, and take training classes. With a staff of 5-6 people, your ride is in the best hands possible as they take pride in their work and caring for new and repeat customers. Remember: a well maintained car will last a long time. Not only should you have your oil checked on a regular basis, but North East Muffler recommends checking your air tire pressure and the air filters, too! Don't rely on "idiot" lights to remind you to do these things. Sometimes it can be too late. But if they do appear, make sure you call right away to avoid further mechanical issues.

INSURING YOUR WORLD

Good weather is upon us and some of the most beautiful old vehicles are traveling the roads, meticulously restored as well as maintained. These, along with motorcycles, are collectors' items which should be insured under special collector car/motorcycle policies! Remember that the standard personal or commercial auto policy only provides ACV (actual cash value) coverage for physical damage which means that a vehicle loss will be depreciated. Obviously a collector wants to protect the investment that he/she has put into their vehicle so it is important that their vehicle is insured on a Stated Value Policy so the value is agreed upon prior to a loss such as fire, theft, or if you hit a deer while out on that leisurely drive. Such a policy may also provide coverage for spare parts that you may have in the garage, yet be assured that the rest of the Statutory Coverage is in compliance with NYS requirements such as liability, uninsured motorists, and personal injury coverage. Take time to ensure that your pride and joy is insured correctly!

Kirk Kneller
Phone 518.329.3131
1676 Route 7A, Copake, N.Y.



Brad Peck, Inc.

SUMMER CAR SAFETY TIPS

As summer approaches, making sure that your vehicle is in top shape is important. Long summer road trips full of fun and adventure should not be burdened with preventable breakdowns. Having your vehicle regularly serviced will help you catch any foreseeable issues you may have on the road. Also performing big schedule maintenance items like timing belts and tune-ups can help preventable breakdowns. Scheduling a checkup for your vehicle before you leave for a long trip is also a good idea, your mechanic will be able to top off fluids, and just generally check the vehicle over for you.

Besides your regular maintenance, making sure that your car is packed for emergencies is also very important. It is a good idea to keep extra water, a snack, jumper cables, and a first-aid kit in your car. You should also have a blanket, flashlight, and extra batteries – just in case. A car charger for your cellphone is also useful and will come in handy when and if you need to call for help.

For the unexpected breakdowns, like a tire blow-out or accidentally locking your keys in your vehicle, it's a smart idea to have an emergency road side service program like AAA. AAA is a national program and they have contracts with local towing companies to come rescue you at any hour of the day or night! As an AAA customer, you will also get discounts at many major vacation spots, rental cars, hotels, and much more!

Have a fun and safe summer!

(845) 373-9757
www.jacksautoservice.com
4228 Route 22 Wassauville, NY



Against Distracted Driving

For most of us, the thought of being involved in a collision is simply terrifying. The truth is, operating a motor vehicle is a divided attention task all on its own. Factor in talking navigation units, cell phones, satellite radio, flashing warning lights, and more, and you have distracted drivers everywhere.

An alarming survey conducted by State Farm Insurance showed that 48% of drivers, ages 18-29, accessed the internet while driving a motor vehicle. All of these distractions are making the once occasional "fender bender" now seemingly inevitable. Whether you are the driver or the vehicle that has been hit, a collision caused by distraction can be traumatizing and stressful.

We ask that you take these simple, proactive steps and pledge against distracted driving:

- Use a hands-free/Bluetooth device during a phone conversation
- Avoid viewing or responding to text messages
- Set the destination in your GPS before the vehicle is in drive
- Safely pull off the road to make GPS changes or view a text message
- Stay alert and attentive to other drivers on the road

Visit the National Safety Council's website for more information and tips against Distracted Driving.

— SHARON —
AUTO BODY

28 Amenia Road | PO Box 686 | Sharon, CT 06069
T: 860 364 0128 | F: 860 364 0041

sharonautobody.com

MOWER PROBLEMS?

You invited family and friends over for a cookout and activities in the yard. You decide to mow the lawn, but you walk to the shed and hop on the seat of your John Deere tractor, turn the key and all you get is click...click. The battery seems to be dead, and you dread the thought of anything else being wrong, too.

Next you call your authorized John Deere dealership to schedule a maintenance on your lawn and garden tractor. The service manager explains the battery will not take a charge and will have to be replaced, and recommends taking the battery out after the season and bringing it in the house to prolong the battery life. The mower blades would not turn due to grass packed around the mower blades and because of this the deck belt had a lot of strain on it, resulting in being prematurely worn out from the excessive heat caused by the friction. The air filter was packed with grass, which is the reason for the lack of engine power due to starvation of air. The engine oil is black and should be changed every 25-50 hours, but your tractor has 155 hours on it, and the tractor's engine has been harmed from the lack of maintenance. The steering is stiff from not being greased.

These engines are like us human ... we all need maintenance. Proper maintenance of lawn and garden equipment is recommended by every manufacturer and their supporting dealers. Lack of maintenance will result in costly repairs down the road.

It is highly recommended that you set up a yearly maintenance schedule with your local dealership so that you don't find yourself in a situation like the one described above.

Now you have your tractor back and it runs like it did when you first purchased it!



JOHN DEERE

STANTON EQUIPMENT

2 Gandolfo Drive, Canaan CT 06018 • 860.824.1161 • www.stantoneq.com

WHAT'S YOUR SIGN?

ARIES (March 21–April 19)

Cooperation is what is needed to finish the job. Examine things from more than one perspective. Show others that you care.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20)

For some reason you're in the spotlight. Take advantage of the optimism, with the right people around you, you can achieve anything.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20)

The way to the top can be long and hard. But keep your eye on the prize.

CANCER (June 21–July 22)

Something that you view as a problem can also be viewed as an opportunity. Think about it.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22)

Your work is important and can make a difference. Those who don't look out for you are destined to be stuck in their same old ways.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22)

The rescue squad has enough to do without coming to your rescue every time. Take charge of your own life and be your own hero.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22)

No one can help you unless you are willing to accept the help. But don't stress! You both have the know-how and stamina to complete the job.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21)

Your need to be creative is strong. Use this to do good deeds, otherwise your gift could be taken.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22–Dec. 21)

Self-pity results in you telling yourself that you're tired and that your burden is too great. Wake up and stop feeling sorry for yourself!

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22–Jan. 19)

You need to think about the future and secure your position. Don't dismiss the needs of others. Seek help if you need it and help those who also need help.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18)

Short trips are fun, but you feel the best when you're at home. Bring up the lingering questions, then sit down and listen.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20)

People are bound to disagree with you, and you tend to take this in a bad way. Work on it, because the input of others can be important.

DRIVING SAFETY BY BOB GREEN

Your Driving and Your Safety (The Iceberg Did Not Hit The Titanic!)

By Bob Green, Director SurvivetheDrive.org.

We live in an automotive culture. Each of us takes to the road 2.6 times daily, or more. Our cultural and personal identity is shaped by the cars we drive. More than an expense or a useful tool, the brand, color, options, trim, tires, and the sounds of our cars are often a defining personal statement. The Camry, Jeep, Hummer, Lexus, and Ferrari . . . and the collector's Model 'A' Ford demonstrate our appreciation for the products, engineering, design, and the value of our independent mobility. Driving can be a purposeful task, some is for enjoyment.

For some daily commuters, the autonomous, self-driving car will be a welcome relief from the time consuming, tedious chore of their daily routine . . . fighting the traffic. Don't want to ride the train or bus? Few commuters count themselves as contributing to the seething metropolitan throng. What if the car would pilot itself amongst all of those 'others' in comfort and security, knowing the technology and engineering is totally dependable? (You can tell I'm glad I live in Lakeville).

If only 'they' can make it 100% safe.

If the car is moving, we're never 100% safe. The car has projectile trajectory. Few of us have not put a scratch or dent into our cars over the years, or worse (the government keeps meticulous records). Worse still, the difference between damage and injury is whether what got hit is/was alive. The statistics aren't numbers, they're people. Staggering.

I'm an optimist. If some of this description sounds morbid, it is not me . . . just the facts. I'd like to be part of the solution. This is too tragic to ignore.

So, what to do?

You've seen the crash tests on car commercials showing how 'safe' the car is . . . wow! Getting several car companies to improve their products is easier than to improve 200+ million drivers. Autonomous technology in cars is that aim. Take the driver out of the equation? A totally autonomous car will drive itself, not requiring your conscious effort.

Yes, the driver has always been considered the 'weak link' in the traffic safety, crash prevention scenario. Cars seldom crash themselves.

Yet out of the 384 words listed above, I have not used the word 'accident'. It is a sign of convenient denial from fault or blame. Forensic analysis finds the mistake, perhaps inadvertent or unintentional.

Your driving and the attention you devote to the job is defined by conscious effort. It has been proven that intrusive electronic interruptions make you as dangerous as being 'drunk, blind or asleep' . . . and that those folks who have 'self-certified' themselves as 'expert drivers' may have, what I call, 'delusions of adequacy' (D.O.A., sic).

We owe it to ourselves and others to drive with alertness and attention, being focused and precise.

The Titanic wasn't, had a whole ocean to miss it.

NO MATTER YOUR FORM(S) OF TRANSPORTATION...



BE CAUTIOUS AND STAY SAFE.

It doesn't matter if you're flying high up in the sky, are cruising along a highway or back road, or if you're enjoying the freedom of the open road or open ocean, safety is number one. After that, you can focus on enjoying your chosen mode of transportation – such as some of the ones depicted here in these photos by Lazlo Gyorsok.

discover the key to
personalized banking in
Millerton



At Salisbury Bank, our key ingredients for success are: local, local, and local.

- ✓ **local** employment means we live and work in Millerton - you probably know one of us!
- ✓ **local** decision making and personalized service from lenders who understand our local and regional economy and business climate
- ✓ **local** commitment to support, sponsor and volunteer in our community - our Millerton branch is a "green" certified building!

it's easy to switch!

Simply stop by our Millerton branch at 87 Main Street, Millerton or call our branch manager, Lana Morrison at 518.789.9802 x1820 today!



3 states | 13 branches | tri-state service

salisburybank.com