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Covering The News In Connecticut's Northwest Corner And Its Environs Since 1897

Lawmakers reject federal election interference, discuss tax cuts

By Ruth Epstein

GOSHEN — Local state lawmakers delivered a unified message at Saturday's League of Women Voters breakfast: keep the federal government out of Connecticut elections.

The six representatives in attendance were Sen. Paul Honig (D-8); Rep. Karen Redington Hughes (R-66); Sen. Stephen Harding (R-30); Rep. Maria Horn (D-64); Rep. John Piscopo (R-76); and Rep. Jay Case (R-63).

The league holds the forum annually to provide constituents with an opportunity to hear from lawmakers about current issues and to raise questions and concerns.

The discussion opened with a question from Sharon resident Jill Drew, who asked whether there was any possibility November's election in Connecticut could be canceled and what steps were being taken to ensure it would proceed as sched-



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

Connecticut lawmakers attend the League of Women Voters' annual breakfast in Goshen on Saturday, Feb. 28. From left: Sen. Paul Honig, Rep. Karen Redington Hughes, Sen. Stephen Harding, Rep. Maria Horn, Rep. John Piscopo and Rep. Jay Case.

uled later this year.

The question was prompted, in part, by recent concerns among state officials about possible federal interference in election administration, including efforts to safeguard voter data.

Honig said he sees no emergency and called the notion of canceling an election "insane." While acknowledging isolated issues such as the absentee ballot incident in Bridgeport, he said Connecticut's system works well and lawmakers are pursuing legislation to streamline it.

"President Trump saying our elections are corrupt is nonsense," Honig said. "It's more that he doesn't like Connecticut because he didn't win here."

Meanwhile, Redington Hughes

See **LAWMAKERS**, Page A8

Housy beats Gilbert on senior night

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — Housatonic Valley Regional High School's eight senior boys basketball players closed out their varsity careers with a 64-54 victory over Gilbert School on senior night Thursday, Feb. 26.

Prior to the game, the seniors — Anthony Labbadia, Anthony Foley, Nick Crodelle, Owen Riemer, Simon Markow, Tyler Roberts, Henry Berry and Wes Allyn — presented flowers to their parents in a brief on-court ceremony.

"It's been a great season," said center Simon Markow. "I wish I could've gotten a dunk in, but I'm so happy about these guys I've been playing with for four years. And I'm so happy with the new guys. I think the team's gonna be great next year."

Housatonic built a 15-point lead in the first quarter, fueled by momentum from a few slam dunks in front of the home crowd.

Anthony Labbadia said, "I'll remember this game more than all the other ones."

See **SENIOR NIGHT**, Page A8



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Wes Allyn dunks it to start the game against Gilbert on senior night Thursday, Feb. 26.

See **FFA WEEK**, Page A8

Snow days disrupt FFA Week, community service continues

By Kellie Eisermann

FALLS VILLAGE — At the end of every February, the Housatonic Valley FFA celebrates National FFA Week alongside chapters across the country. The week highlights the importance of agricultural education and the impact it has on students and their communities.

Although a full slate of activities was planned at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, winter weather disrupted the schedule. School was closed Monday through Wednesday, Feb. 23 to 25.

Activities resumed later in the week. On Thursday and Friday, Feb. 26 and 27, students participated in a scavenger hunt, searching for ducks hidden throughout the building in a friendly competition among grade levels.

See **FFA WEEK**, Page A8



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

Jeff Kennedy visits the 20-foot-high snowman located in the Golden Falcon lot in Kent that was created in honor of his late brother Robbie Kennedy.

Kent's towering snowman honors Robbie Kennedy

By Ruth Epstein

KENT — Snowman Robbie stands prominently in the center of town, just as its namesake — long-time Kent resident Robbie Kennedy — did for so many years.

The 20-foot-high frozen sculpture pays tribute to Kennedy, who died Feb. 9, at the age of 71. A beloved member of the community,

he was a familiar sight riding his bicycle along town roads waving to all he passed.

Many people knew him from his days working at Davis IGA, the local supermarket. He was embraced by the Kent Fire Department, where he was named an active emergency member and whose members

See **ROBBIE KENNEDY**, Page A8



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Hannah Johnson and Riley Mahaffey, vice president and president of the Housatonic Valley FFA, serve eggs and sausage during the FFA Breakfast on Thursday, Feb. 26.



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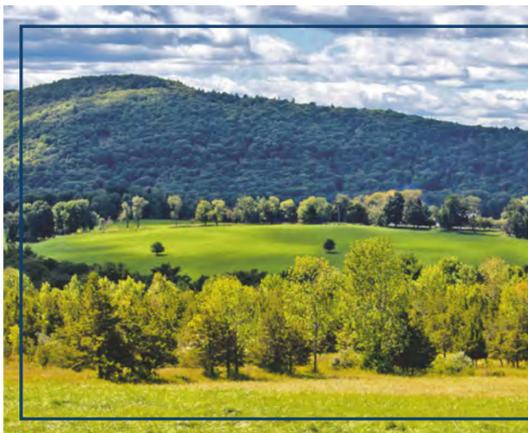
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Online This Week

Bingo night benefits Chore Service

The Interlaken Inn hosted Bingo night to raise money for the Chore Service. More at lakevillejournal.com

POLICE BLOTTER: TROOP B

The following information was provided by the Connecticut State Police at Troop B. All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Collision at intersection

On Tuesday, Feb. 24, at approximately 9:15 a.m. James Dorizzi, 70, of Falls Village was traveling westbound on Route 44 in North Canaan in a 2009 Jeep Liberty Sport and proceeding through the intersection with Route 7 when his vehicle was struck by a 1993 Chevrolet Suburban. The driver of the Suburban, Trinity Fields, 21, of Torrington, was negotiating a left-hand turn northbound onto Route 7. The Suburban was found to be unregistered and uninsured. Fields received a citation for violating traffic signals, operating an unregistered vehicle

and failure to have minimum insurance. There were no injuries reported.

Hits DOT barrels

Kyle Hurlburt, 32, of West Cornwall, was westbound on Route 44 near Ashpohtag Road in Norfolk on Thursday, Feb. 26 at approximately 7:30 a.m. in a 2005 Chevrolet Silverado. The vehicle exited the roadway on the right and struck a rock wall, rolling over into Department of Transportation barrels. Hurlburt reported no injuries but was transported to the hospital as a precaution. He was issued a citation for failure to maintain lane.

The Lakeville Journal will publish the outcome of police charges. Send mail to P.O. Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039, Attn: Police Blotter, or send to editor@lakevillejournal.com

Local lawmakers target early voting changes, tax relief plans

By Patrick L. Sullivan

As the 2026 legislative session moves forward, State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) and State Sen. Stephen Harding (R-30) are advancing distinct priorities they say will shape the direction of the state.

The regular session, which convened in Hartford on Feb. 4 and is set to adjourn May 6, comes amid uncertainty over federal funding, debate over housing policy and continued scrutiny of state spending.

Horn said one of her top priorities this session is to maintain “fiscal and program stability” in Connecticut in the face of rapidly changing federal policies.

“We are in a position to mitigate the chaos,” she said in a phone interview Friday, Feb. 27.

Horn is the chair of the legislature’s Finance Committee.

One item she is keeping an eye on is elections. Horn said that small-town first selectmen and registrars have complained that the 14 days of early voting requires too much effort and money for what amounts to a handful of voters taking advantage of the policy.

There is also a move in Connecticut to create “no-excuse” absentee voting, which would allow any regis-



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

State Sen. Stephen Harding (R-30) and State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) attend the annual breakfast of the League of Women Voters held in Goshen Saturday, Feb. 28.

tered voter to request a mail-in ballot without providing a specific reason — aligning the state with most others and potentially achieving the same access as extended early voting at a fraction of the cost.

Horn is also working on changes to Connecticut’s “bottle bill,” which raised the deposit on bottles and cans from five cents to 10 cents in 2024. However, because neighboring states such as New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island did not follow through on similar increases, some people have been bringing containers purchased out of state into Connecticut to redeem them at the higher rate. That practice has prompted lawmakers to pursue stricter enforce-

ment and penalties to curb cross-border fraud, which has left beverage distributors absorbing the costs.

Horn said the state needs more redemption centers and better enforcement and accountability.

In a phone interview Feb. 27, Harding, who is the state Senate Minority Leader, said his top priority is to take advantage of a General Fund balance of some \$4 billion to provide tax relief for residents.

Tax relief could come in the form of eliminating the car tax and reducing state income taxes for some taxpayers.

Harding said he and fellow members of his caucus

are pushing back against what they describe as “state-wide zoning” proposals. He argued that efforts to expand affordable housing — including measures that allow developers in certain cases to override local zoning — pose a threat to the open space that residents of the Northwest Corner value.

“Open spaces get eaten up by developers under the current rules,” he said.

While acknowledging the state faces an affordable housing shortage, Harding said solutions should not come at the expense of local control.

“I understand there’s a problem with affordable housing in the state, but we shouldn’t bypass local zoning,” he said, adding that housing policy is best addressed at the local rather than state level.

Harding said there is a problem with easements granted by the state Department of Agriculture in the past. The easements were written years — and sometimes decades — ago, and developers have learned how to exploit ambiguities in the legal language.

“Some of these easements are 30 or 40 years old, and they are not worded properly.”

Gov. Lamont proposes ‘CT option’ for affordable health care

By Katy Golvala
CT Mirror

Gov. Ned Lamont has made health care affordability a cornerstone of his policy agenda. In his reelection campaign launch and during his State of the State address, he touted a long-term goal to develop what he’s calling the “Connecticut option” — a health plan that would bring universal, affordable health care to the state.

What would the Connecticut option offer and when could residents enroll? Here’s everything you need to know about what’s been proposed so far.

How would it work?

This session, Lamont proposed legislation that would direct the state Office of Policy and Management to study the feasibility of a “Connecticut option.” The bill states that the plan would be designed by the state, but run by private insurers.

Small businesses, nonprofits and individuals would be able to purchase the coverage. Lamont said the state will aim to make insurance more affordable by creating a “preferred network” of providers that offer high-quality, low-cost care, and then incentivizing plan participants to go see them for care.

That network would probably start with the state’s own University of Connecticut Health Center, as well as Waterbury Hospital — its newest acquisition, Lamont said. But, eventually, the state would negotiate a cap on the cost of care with any hospitals willing to come to the table, he added.

“A big piece of what the Connecticut option is about is paying for high-quality, low-cost care, and drawing people towards those networks,” Sean Scanlon said. As state comptroller, Scanlon runs the state employee



PHOTO BY SHAHRZAD RASEKH / CT MIRROR

Gov. Ned Lamont delivers an opening address on the first day of the legislative session on Feb. 4, 2026.

health plan. He’s also playing a leading role in the development of the Connecticut option.

Scanlon said the broad structure currently conceived for the Connecticut option is a “cousin” of the Colorado option program, which launched in 2023. A study published in January 2026 found that the program has, in many cases, offered residents lower premiums for similar coverage when compared with non-Colorado option plans and 15% lower out-of-pocket costs on average.

Is Connecticut’s plan to create a public option?

Even though the state is still figuring out what the Connecticut option will be, Lamont is clear on one thing: It will not be a traditional “public option,” where the government administers the plan and bears the financial risk.

In 2019 and 2021, Scanlon, who served as co-chair of the Insurance Committee at the time, was part of an effort to propose legislation to launch a more traditional “public option” that would allow small businesses and

nonprofits to buy into the state employee health plan. (Similar legislation was proposed in 2020, but COVID cut the legislative session short). In 2021, Lamont effectively killed the effort when he threatened to veto the bill if it passed the General Assembly.

In the case of the Connecticut option, the state would design the plan, but a private company — or companies — would run it, meaning the state wouldn’t bear the risk if people end up getting more frequent or higher-cost care.

“This is privately managed. They take the risk, not the taxpayers,” Lamont said.

When would this new option take effect?

Not for a few years, at least.

If Lamont’s bill to look into a Connecticut option passes this session, Scanlon said the state would spend the rest of the year studying the details of what the Connecticut option should look like, including researching what other states have done.

The aim would be to propose legislation in 2027 with a “fully baked and studied plan” for the Connecticut option.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sharon Hospital installs new CT scanner

The radiology team at Sharon Hospital added a new Aquilion Serve SP CT scanner in February. The redesigned CT scanner offers a large, flared gantry bore of 80 cm that improves comfort, accessibility and may help reduce claustrophobia for patients. Pictured above is Ken DiVestea, Director Imaging Services at the hospital, with the new scanner.

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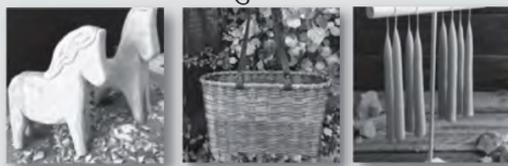
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Space is limited, so register soon!



Our Towns

Students give glimpse into Troutbeck Symposium projects

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — A group of Salisbury School students provided a preview of their history projects at the Scoville Memorial Library Thursday, Feb. 26.

The students will present the final versions April 22–24 at the Troutbeck Symposium, a student-led historical education forum held each spring at Troutbeck in Amenia, New York.

Teacher Rhonan Mokriski reminded the audience of about 20 people that the projects are still works in progress and emphasized that the students are seeking feedback ahead of the symposium.

The students and topics covered were:

Connor Wambach and Liam Gregory on the Salisbury iron industry and the environment.

Rocco Famularo on Alexander Hamilton in Salisbury.

Ben Van Wormer and Luke Feller on Sherm Chase's horizontal windmill at the South Kent School.

Charlie Merk on indige-



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

From left: Connor Wambach, Rocco Famularo, Ben Van Wormer, Liam Gregory, Luke Feller, Charlie Merk, Oliver Ayer, teacher Rhonan Mokriski and Karen Vrotsos from the Scoville Memorial Library.

nous whaling

Oliver Ayer on midwifery.

Wambach and Gregory showed a clip from a video interview with Star Childs of Great Mountain Forest. Audience members noted that the audio was very faint, offering that as feedback.

Van Wormer and Feller

had a video interview with historian Marge Smith, who has childhood memories of the horizontal windmill, placed on the hillside overlooking Hatch Pond.

Famularo recounted how, with help from Salisbury historian Jean McMillen, he has been able to place Alexan-

der Hamilton in Salisbury in 1797, possibly working as a surveyor or on a real estate transaction.

The audience offered constructive criticism, everyone posed for a group photo, and then turned their attention to the pizza that had materialized during the presentation.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

119 Amenia Union Road — A four-bedroom, 2.5-bath home built in 1872 on 4.42 acres recently sold for \$522,500.

Sharon median home price climbs to \$710,000

By Christine Bates

SHARON — The 12-month trailing median price for a single-family home in Sharon increased to \$710,000 for the period ending Jan. 31, 2026 — its highest point since September 2024 as home values across much of Connecticut continued to edge higher.

The figure represents an increase from the \$560,000 median recorded for the 12 months ending Jan. 31, 2025, and from \$645,000 for the comparable period ending Jan. 31, 2024. While January is typically a slow month for sales activity, the 12-month rolling figure reflects longer term pricing trends.

The number of single-family home sales in Sharon over the past year remained slightly below its historic range. A total of 38 single-family homes sold in the 12 months ending Jan. 31, 2026, compared with 41 sales in the period ending Jan. 31, 2025, and 41 sales for the 12 months ending Jan. 31, 2024. Historically, annual sales of single-family homes in Sharon typically range between 40 and 50 transactions.

Inventory remains limited. At the end of February, there were 11 single-family homes on the market. Of those, nine were listed above \$1 million and none were listed below the current \$710,000 median price. Nine parcels of land were listed for sale on the MLS ranging from \$139,000 to \$585,000. Summer furnished rentals began hitting the market for \$8,000 to \$25,000 a month.

Transactions

15 Herrick Road — 3 bedroom/2.5 bath home on 2.32 acres sold by Jesus Desantia-go and Carol Haug to David and Mary Kathleen Fowler for \$2,100,000.

96 Knibloe Hill Road — 2 bedroom/2 bath home on 2.05 acres sold by Marcel and Claudia Antonietta Vittoria Saucy to Ruth Godbout for \$710,000.

10 Surdan Mountain Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath ranch on 2.09 acres sold by Nicholas Louis Terzo to Peter Scott Navario and Travis Blakeslee Jones for \$615,000.

287 Amenia Union Road — 3 bedroom/1.5 bath cottage built in 1800 sold by Thomas Casey Sunderland and Charlotte Cohen Sunderland to Aiden Bowman and Joshua Metersky for \$703,500.

9 Holland Drive — 3 bedroom/1.5 bath Cape on 3.05 acres sold by Arthur Hagedorf to Michael and Patricia Collins for \$375,000.

119 & 121 Amenia Union Road — 4 bedroom/2.5 bath house built in 1872 on 4.42 acres and 2 bedroom/1.5 bath barn on 4.42 acres sold by 32 Railroad LLC to CJMD 2 LLC for \$522,500 for each property.

* Town of Sharon real estate transfers recorded between Jan. 1 and Jan. 31, 2026, provided by Sharon Town Clerk. Transfers without consideration are not included. Current listings from MLS. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.

Swift House panel learns of potential buyer

By Ruth Epstein

KENT — The fate of the Swift House is once again front and center after the newly formed Swift House Investigation Committee held its first meeting Tuesday, Feb. 24 — and learned that a local attorney is interested in buying the historic property.

At the meeting's outset, committee member Marge Smith said local attorney Anthony Palumbo has expressed interest in purchasing the building. "He loves it and said he'd be honored to buy it and maybe lease part of it back to the town. He would be OK with a conservation easement." She said he supports several previously proposed uses, including a welcome center and exhibition space.

In response, Jason Wright, a committee member and representative of the town's Board of Finance, said he would favor "anything that keeps it off our financial statements. That sounds like a sweetheart deal that needs to be explored. An aspiration for me would be to see the house restored and be a gateway to the town."



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

Swift House in Kent.

But committee chairman James Anderson urged caution. "I don't think we should focus on one deal," he said. "We have an obligation to do something with that space. We shouldn't overrate this proposal. That's a bad process in my mind."

The historic building on Maple Street dates back to the mid-1700s and changed hands several times before being acquired by the town in the 1970s. Its first floor has been used over the years by civic organizations, including the Kent Historical Society and the Kent Informal Club. But with funding needed for upgrades and to make the building compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, questions have resurfaced about whether it should be retained or sold.

A Swift House Task Force was established several years ago. Members conducted a

town survey and hired the firm Silver Petrocelli to draw up restoration plans, which were estimated to cost more than \$2 million. The previous administration later disbanded the task force, leaving decisions about the house's future to the current Board of Selectmen, which established the new committee.

Members are charged with providing input and assistance to the selectmen on a redesign, updated construction plans and ADA-compliant upgrades, as well as developing a secondary comprehensive plan to sell the building if the town decides to dispose of the property. The committee is authorized to represent the town but may not enter into contracts without approval. It was given a deadline of April 30 to present its findings.

The committee includes Selectman Lynn Harrington;

Board of Finance representative Jason Wright; Marge Smith and Christine Adams of the Kent Historical Society; and James Anderson, William Reihl and Margie Austell. Anderson was named chairman.

Committee members also discussed possible uses, including a visitor center, meeting space for local organizations and exhibition space. Harrington said the group must identify uses the broader community supports if it expects to secure funding.

Adams, the newly appointed executive director of the historical society, said securing a conservation easement in perpetuity — and determining who would hold it — should be a top priority. She added that listing the building on the National Register of Historic Places could help attract visitors. Adams said a consultant she knows has successfully guided other organizations through the process, with fees ranging from \$2,000 to \$5,000.

Wright also suggested that the building's possible connection to singer Taylor Swift could generate interest. Smith said the artist is a descendant of the brother of Jabez Swift, who built the original portion of the house. Wright said he knows members of Swift's family and would attempt to make contact.

The committee will meet again on March 10 at 6 p.m. to discuss a potential easement, Palumbo's interest, and any contact with the Swift family.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

The Falls Village Board of Selectmen approve a new yoga studio Feb. 27.

Yoga studio coming to Falls Village

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Monica Zinke will be opening a yoga studio this month at the town-owned 107 Main St. in the space that was previously occupied by Furnace Art on Paper.

The Planning and Zoning Commission approved a change of use application Thursday, Feb. 26, and the

Board of Selectmen voted to approve the lease the next night.

The lease is for two years, \$650 per month plus 15% of the heat and electric bill.

Selectman Judy Jacobs said when proposals for use of the space were evaluated, it was clear that Zinke's was the best fit for the space, which does not have water and occupies a walled-off corner of

the ground floor along with the Off the Trail Cafe.

Jacobs said an added bonus is that the cafe owners, Liz and Howie Ives, know Zinke.

Zinke will be offering therapeutic yoga, in private sessions and small groups.

First Selectman Dave Barger said, "I think this is something well worth coming to our town."

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Audubon talk promotes upside of dark skies

By Ruth Epstein

SHARON — Leo Smith believes everyone has the right to look up and see a sky full of stars. But that is not always the case, and he spends his time working toward that goal for future generations.

Smith gave a talk on Thursday, Feb. 26, titled "Light Pollution: Its Adverse Impact on the Ecology and Ways to Minimize It," as part

of Sharon Audubon's Policy Potluck Education series, the first of this season.

He began by noting that he had once lived in an 1859 farmhouse in Suffield and had great concerns about the glare that might be emitted when the turf farm behind his property was sold for development.

It was then that he got involved in the nonprofit Dark Sky Connecticut, which ad-

vocates for reducing light pollution through policy, education and lighting regulations. Members promote sustainable, shielded outdoor lighting to protect wildlife, improve human health and restore the night sky, often collaborating with local Audubon societies.

"Everything needs light, and darkness is as critical as light," he said. "We're working to get the state legislature to understand that natural darkness is a natural resource."

Misdirected light results in glare, he said, diminishing visibility. Overlighting is also a problem, often driven by regulations that require more illumination than necessary. In most cases, he said, it is not intentional but stems from a lack of awareness.

"Light pollution has consequences for all wildlife," said Smith. "Artificial light causes them disorientation."

Birds migrate at night and use the moon and stars to help avoid predators. Many



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

Leo Smith of Dark Sky Connecticut speaks at the Sharon Audubon Center on light pollution.

are nocturnal and need darkness to thrive.

Trees, as well as human health, can be affected by light pollution, with studies showing that lower light levels can reduce melatonin levels. There are also connections to light and Alzheimer's and heart disease, said Smith.

He encourages the use of timers and sensors to extinguish lights with regularity.

Streetlight plans for municipalities should be encouraged, but most standards are put in "willy-nilly," Smith said. He explained that Connecticut was the first state to enact light pollution laws

along state roads in 1999, but there is a need for stricter enforcement.

The state's Building Code has a light pollution control amendment for all buildings other than one- or two-family homes.

One hundred and four of the state's 169 towns have planning and zoning regulations that deal with outdoor lighting.

"Once again, it's about enforcement," he said, "but most developers will comply since they want approval of their applications."

Smith works with other similar organizations, including Lights Out Connecticut and the Alliance to Reduce Light Pollution in Connecticut.

The next in the Audubon series will be on March 19, when tick-borne diseases will be the topic.

Sharon seeks input for 10-year plan

SHARON — A community survey has been launched to gather resident feedback as Sharon updates its Plan of Conservation and Development.

The POCD serves as the town's long-range planning document, outlining goals and priorities for the next decade. Connecticut law requires municipalities to

update the plan at least once every 10 years.

As work begins on Sharon's next POCD, the survey is intended to help officials better understand community priorities, explore opportunities, and identify the town's strengths and challenges. For more information, contact landuse@sharonct.gov.

Housatonic releases honor roll

FALLS VILLAGE — Principal Ian Strever announced the second quarter marking period honor roll at Housatonic Valley Regional High School for the 2025-26 school year.

Highest Honor Roll

Grade 9

Katelyn Holst-Grubbe (North Canaan), Ava Humes (North Canaan), Noell Laurry (Kent), Lola Miller (Falls Village), Elexis Petkovich (North Canaan), April Puerto (Salisbury), Solomon Schmidt (Salisbury), Alastair Schnepf (Wassaic), Olivia Simonds (North Canaan), Gia Torzilli (Gaylordsville), Marisol Vaughn (Kent).

Grade 10

Max Bochnovich (Salisbury), Eliana Lang (Salisbury), Lily McCabe (Salisbury), Alison McCarron (Kent), Katherine Money (Kent), Sadie Morales Chapel (Salisbury), Mira Norbet (Sharon), Abigail Perotti (North Canaan), Owen Schnepf (Wassaic), Schuyler Thompson (Falls Village), Emery Wisell (Kent).

Grade 11

Adelaide Almeida (Salisbury), John DeDonato (Salisbury), Adelyn Diorio (North Canaan), Carmela Egan (Salisbury), Jonas Johnson (North Canaan), Finian Malone (Sharon), Meadow Moerschell (Kent), Ishaan Tantri (Salisbury).

Grade 12

Lily Beurket (Cornwall), Genesis Bravo Guilcashina (North Canaan), Ryder Conte (Falls Village), Evelyn Flores-Hernandez (North Canaan), Kierra Greene (North Canaan), Madelyn Johnson (North Canaan), Alexa Meach (North Canaan), Ibby Sadeh (Falls Village), Alex Woodworth (Salisbury).

High Honor Roll

Grade 9

Anna Ayer (Salisbury), Jessica Davis (North Canaan), Stefany Delgado Rosales (Warren), Lainey Diorio (North Canaan), Lyla Diorio (North Canaan), Emma Duffy (Sharon), Carter Finney (North Canaan), Patrick Hafner (Falls Village), Joanna Haratyk (Torrington), Ryan Hinman (North Canaan), Meriel Hughes (Salisbury), Tyler LaPlante (North Canaan), Braydon Majette (Sharon), Keely Malone (Sharon), Grace O'Brocki (Salisbury), August Olson (Falls Village), Donald Pollak (Cornwall),

Mason Routhier (North Canaan), Justin Sorrell (North Canaan), Scarlett Visconti (North Canaan), Jaxon Vissockis (Salisbury).

Grade 10

Krystin Ackerman (North Canaan), Paige Beeman (North Canaan), Mia Belter (Salisbury), Nico Bochnovich (Salisbury), Jackson Brammer (Sharon), Lucius Bryant (Cornwall), Zaira Celso-Cristobal (Sharon), Winter Cheney (Cornwall), Alisa Christiansen Madsen (North Canaan), Louise Faveau (Salisbury), Luca Floridis (Salisbury), Samuel Garcia Pulido (North Canaan), Beatrice Gifford (Kent), Angel Gonzalez (Salisbury), Addison Green (Kent), Kartel Henry (North Canaan), Aryanna Horton (Salisbury), Marlow LaPointe (Falls Village), Dany Martinez (North Canaan), Wyatt Merwin (Salisbury), Logan Miller (Falls Village), Nova Pratt (North Canaan), Karmela Quinion (North Canaan), Vilija Salazar (Kent), Juliette Trabucco (Kent), Federico Vargas Tobon (Salisbury), Payton Wagner (North Canaan), Olivia Whitney (North Canaan).

Grade 11

Hayden Bachman (Falls Village), Byron Bell (Cornwall), Sophia Camphouse (Sharon), Olivia Claydon (North Canaan), Georgie Clayton (Salisbury), Sophia DeDominicis Fitzpatrick (Sharon), Natasha Dennis (North Canaan), Kellie Eisermann (Salisbury), Levi Eliott (Millerton), Guadalupe Flores-Hernandez (North Canaan), Grace Graney (Falls Village), Alexa Hoadley (Kent), Sydney Howe (North Canaan), Aiden Krupa (Torrington), Makenzie Lidstone (Salisbury), Daniel Moran (Norfolk), Jackson Olson (Falls Village), Logan Padelli (North Canaan), Gustavo Portillo (North Canaan), Rivers Richard (North Canaan), Darwin Wolfe (Falls Village), Nathan Zani (Ashley Falls), Ivy Zheng (North Canaan).

Grade 12

Peter Austin (Kent), Hayden Bell (Cornwall), Olivia Brooks (Salisbury), Victoria Brooks (Salisbury), Christopher Crane (North

Canaan), Mia DiRocco (Cornwall), Shanaya Duprey (North Canaan), Anthony Foley (North Canaan), Mollie Ford (Falls Village), Anna Gillette (Salisbury), Nicolas Gonzalez (Salisbury), Adam Hock (Kent), Sara Ireland (Salisbury), Hannah Johnson (North Canaan), Eric Lopez Espinosa (Salisbury), Simon Markow (Cornwall), Francisco Mendoza Ratzan (North Canaan), Daphne Paine (North Canaan), Phurba Sherpa (Salisbury), Cole Simonds (North Canaan), Celeste Trabucco (Kent), Silas Tripp (Falls Village), Ayden Wheeler (Amenia).

Honor Roll

Grade 9

Maria Arango Agudelo (North Canaan), Phoebe Conklin (Salisbury), Connor Crane (North Canaan), Isabella Curtis (Norfolk), Ciri Dean (North Canaan), Aubrey Funk (North Canaan), Violeta Londono (North Canaan), Sawyer Margerelli (Salisbury), Autumn McKone (North Canaan), Sabrina Murtagh (North Canaan), Jerron Nirschel (Falls Village), Tanner Spear (Falls Village), Tallulah Truby (Sharon), Jenaveeve Wagner (North Canaan).

Grade 10

Lyla Banffy (Kent), Robert Boyden (Sharon), Niki Clark (Salisbury), Caitlin Devino (North Canaan), Clark Farr-Killmer (Amenia), Ayva Fenn (Torrington), Kailyne Foley (North Canaan), Kogan Lawrence (Amenia), McKenzie Lotz (Ashley Falls), Nassim Nirschel (Falls Village), Giovanni Solorzano-Lemus (North Canaan), Nathan Young (Cornwall).

Grade 11

Selena Black (Cornwall), Christian DeDonato (Salisbury), Lydia Fleming (North Canaan), James Flores (Kent), Jasper Oyanadel (Falls Village), Marlene Perez (North Canaan), Carson Riva (North Canaan).

Grade 12

Katherine Crane (North Canaan), Steven Delgado Buni (Salisbury), Elizabeth Forbes (Wassaic), Maureen Graney (Falls Village), Taylor Green (Kent), Abram Kirshner (Kent), Zachary Martin (North Canaan).

Salisbury summer camp scholarships available

SALISBURY — Salisbury Family Services, a local nonprofit serving residents of the Town of Salisbury, will offer summer camp scholarships to

children from qualifying families.

Financial assistance is available for resident and day camps, as well as special needs, arts and sports

programs. Funding may also be used for approved camp-related expenses.

Contact Patrice McGrath at 860 435- 5187 to apply.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2026-0309 by owner David Mabbott for a detached apartment on a single-family residential lot and a new structure that cannot be placed in a buildable area at 1 Elman Drive, Salisbury, Map 25, Lot 12 per Sections 208, 302.5 and 302.6 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Monday, March 16, 2026 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at www.salisburyct.us/agendas/. The application materials will be listed at www.salisburyct.us/planning-zoning-meeting-documents/. Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to landuse@salisburyct.us. Paper copies of the agenda, meeting instructions, and application materials may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM at the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Salisbury CT. Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission Robert Riva, Secretary 03-05-26 03-12-26

and 403.4.d of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Monday, March 16, 2026 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at www.salisburyct.us/agendas/. The application materials will be listed at www.salisburyct.us/planning-zoning-meeting-documents/. Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to landuse@salisburyct.us. Paper copies of the agenda, meeting instructions, and application materials may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM at the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Salisbury CT.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission Robert Riva, Secretary 03-05-26 03-12-26

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on February 23, 2026:

Approved-Application IWWC-26-7 by owner Anne Fredericks to demolish and rebuild single-family residence on the same footprint. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 64, lot 07 and is known as 29 Morgan Lane, Salisbury.

Any aggrieved person may appeal this decision to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §22a-43(a) & §8-8.

Town of Salisbury Inland Wetlands and

Watercourses Commission Sally Spillane, Secretary 03-05-26

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF WALTER E. DEMELLE, JR.

Late of Salisbury (26-00071)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated February 17, 2026, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is: Susan S. DeMelle c/o Michael Downes Lynch

Law Office of Michael D. Lynch, 106 Upper Main Street

P.O. Box 1776, Sharon, CT 06069

Carlee Lemieux Assistant Clerk 03-05-26

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF CAROLYN G. MCCARTHY Late of Salisbury (26-00077)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated February 19, 2026, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is: Sean Patrick McCarthy c/o Michael Downes Lynch

Law Office of Michael D. Lynch, 106 Upper Main Street

P.O. Box 1776, Sharon, CT 06069

Megan M. Foley Clerk 03-05-26



The Lakeville Journal
www.facebook.com/thelakevillejournal

OBITUARIES

Darrel Scott Miller

SHARON — Darrel Scott Miller, 48, of Sharon, Connecticut, passed away peacefully at his home on Feb. 17, 2026.

Darrel was born in Sharon, on Oct. 28, 1977, the son of Delores (Williams) Drobilics and the late Donnie Miller.

A graduate of Housatonic Valley High School in Falls Village, Darrel was employed as a painter.

He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, and traveling. Darrel's greatest happiness was found in the company of his family and friends, and in extending kindness and help to those in need.

In addition to his moth-



er of North Haven, Darrel is survived by his two sons, Evan Miller and Aiden Miller, both of Salisbury; his brother, Christopher Miller (Regina Miller) of North Haven; and his sister, Brianna Howard of Fruitland, Maryland. He is also survived by his nieces, Olivia Miller and Khloe Howard; and his three nephews, Christopher T. Miller, Nathaneal Miller, and Bryson Howard.

Funeral arrangements will be held at the convenience of the family. Arrangements are under the care of Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main Street, Canaan, CT 06018.

of travel together. Settling on Manhattan's Upper West Side, Erica and Hector raised their children, Alex, Merida, and Olivia within a few blocks of a tight circle of friends. This group founded the West Side Montessori School, which their children attended and where Erica taught art. For the kids, it was like being raised in a small village in a big city.

Erica Child Prud'homme

WEST CORNWALL — Erica Child Prud'homme died peacefully in her sleep on Jan. 9, 2026, at home in West Cornwall, Connecticut, at 93.

Erica was born on April 27, 1932, in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, the eldest of three children of Charles and Fredericka Child. With her siblings Rachel and Jonathan, Erica was raised in Lumberville, a town in the creative enclave of Bucks County where she began to sketch and paint as a child.

The Child family spent summers on Mount Desert Island, Maine. Starting in 1939, they lived there in tents and hand-built a log cabin on a rugged point of land overlooking Blue Hill Bay. Her father Charlie was a painter and writer who wrote and illustrated "Roots in the Rock", a memoir of building the cabin. Her mother, Freddy, was a founder and costume designer at the Bucks County Playhouse, and a gifted cook, gardener, and book binder.

Erica had a successful career as an artist. Whether painting a rhubarb stalk or carving faces out of wood, creating art was her passion. She was exceptionally skilled in watercolor, oils, pastels, ink, drawing, printmaking, and sculpture. "My work has always been driven by a love of the natural world, its forms, colors and light," she said.

"The order and grace of natural forms, both living and dying, are captivating." Much of her inspiration came from Cornwall, Maine, and travel. She studied at the Art Students League in NYC, was a member of Blue Mountain Gallery, and had many shows in both New York and Cornwall. A sample of her work can be found here: <https://www.ericaprudhomme.com/cgi-local/content.cgi>.

In 1954, Erica graduated from Middlebury College with a BA in American Literature. She spent a year in New Mexico working with archeologists and was inspired by the dramatic desert landscape. After this she worked as a draftsman and secretary at an architectural firm in Philadelphia.

In May of 1958, Erica and Hector Prud'homme, a banker at Brown Brothers & Harriman, were married at the Child house in Lumberville. They honeymooned in Italy, the beginning of a lifetime



of travel together. Settling on Manhattan's Upper West Side, Erica and Hector raised their children, Alex, Merida, and Olivia within a few blocks of a tight circle of friends. This group founded the West Side Montessori School, which their children attended and where Erica taught art. For the kids, it was like being raised in a small village in a big city.

Erica worked as a graphic artist at the American Museum of Natural History, where she helped create numerous exhibits — including one of her own, "Shrimps, Crabs and Lobsters." She was the voice of the Glass Woman (a glass mannequin revealing organs and bones), illustrated invitations, and helped organize parties and auctions. Erica was a supporter and/or board member of Goddard Riverside Community Center, the Town School, and the Wooster School.

Erica and Hector loved to travel — visiting cousins in Italy, Ireland and India, touring the USSR in 1968 and China in 1980, trekking in Nepal, sightseeing in Cuba and Central America, dude ranching in Wyoming, and against wars in Washington, and sailing with friends.

In 1971, Erica and Hector bought an old farmhouse in West Cornwall, Connecticut, which they renovated over decades. Erica was an inspired cook, and she and Hector took pride in their remarkable vegetable and flower gardens. Welcoming a stream of guests, they hosted parties large and small, weddings, and legendary square dances in their barn. They were actively engaged in town affairs, put much of their property under conservation easement, and donated a sizable portion to the Cornwall Land Trust. They moved to Cornwall permanently in 2014.

Hector died in 2021. Erica is survived by her brother Jon and sister-in-law Julie Winter; her three children, six grandchildren — Rosetta, Asa, Hector, River, Jules and Didi and one great grandson, Silvester.

A private memorial will be held in the spring. In lieu of gifts or flowers, the family invites donations in Erica's memory to the Cornwall Public Library, the Cornwall Chronicle, and the Cornwall Conservation Trust.

REGIONAL

Schools weather snow closures with safety-first approach

By Aly Morrissey
The Millerton News

Winter has made its mark this year in the northeast, with local schools enduring record-long closures as crews have worked to manage cleanup efforts.

In Webutuck Central School District, six snow days have already been used this academic year, including a recent three-day stretch triggered by heavy snowfall, ice and wind. Superintendent Raymond Castellani said this season has been one of the more challenging in recent memory.

"Winter is winter in the northeast," Castellani said. After consulting the Farmer's Almanac and preparing for the unpredictable nature of the season in this region, he said he and his team had a feeling this winter could be "a tough one."

While he said snowfall totals fluctuate year-to-year, the combination of heavy snow, icy conditions and unfortunate timing has made this winter particularly disruptive. Several storms hit just as buses were scheduled to be on the roads, forcing the district to err on the side of caution.

"For us, it's about safety first," Castellani said. "When buses are running and students are driving, that will always be my top priority."

Early-morning decisions
Snow days are rarely simple decisions, Castellani said. In the Webutuck Central School District, the process often begins the night before a storm, followed by a 4 a.m. check-in between town and county highway depart-



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Schools had three consecutive snow days last week.

ments, school transportation staff and neighboring school districts. By 4:30 or 4:45 a.m., a final decision is typically made, and a mass notification is sent via text, email, phone and social media.

Throughout his 18 years serving as a school superintendent, Castellani said he has often been asked about the hardest part of his job. Spoiler alert: snow days are among his top challenges.

"It's one of the most difficult parts of the job," Castellani said. In a rural district like Webutuck, road conditions can vary dramatically across the region, he said, adding to the complexity of the decision. "You're balancing safety, missed instructional time and the impact of families who may have to miss work."

With Webutuck's most recent closure — three days and two hours, to be exact — elementary school parent Jennifer Tiso-Garvey said she and her family felt the pressure.

"I understand the emphasis on safety," Tiso-Garvey said. "But it's not just the snow days. The pressure parents felt last week is indicative of a broader issue within the United States that forces working parents to make judgment calls when it comes

to expensive childcare and crucial income."

Tiso-Garvey, who is an English teacher and registrar at The Millbrook School, said she considers herself one of the luckier parents. "I'm thankful that I have a job where my kids can be with me at work, but the burden really falls on working parents."

Asked how he manages the criticism, Castellani said he is guided by safety. "I learned a long time ago there's no winning — so you err on the side of safety."

Arthur Joseph Tanner, Jr.

MILLERTON — Arthur Joseph "Junior" Tanner, 87, a lifelong area resident died peacefully on Feb. 26, 2026, at Sharon Hospital in Sharon, Connecticut with his family at his bedside. Mr. Tanner worked as a truck driver and warehouse manager for Arnoff Moving and Storage in Lakeville for 35 years before starting his own business, Tanners Home Services, LLC in Millerton, which is still in operation today.

Born June 13, 1938, in Sharon, he was the son of the late Arthur Joseph and Bertha (McCauley) Tanner, Sr. Mr. Tanner was educated in Millerton schools. On Sept. 24, he married Roberta Gladys Twing. Mrs. Tanner survives at home in Millerton. Mr. Tanner was an avid hunter and fisherman and he enjoyed logging and spending time at his cabin. Mr. Tanner was a life member of the Millerton Gun Club and the North American Hunt Club as well.

In addition to his wife, Roberta, he is also survived by four children; Arthur Tanner III and his wife Dorothy, Sheila Stickle and her husband Thomas, Joanne Sweeney and her husband Donald all of Millerton and Rita Ezersky and her hus-

band Pat of Lakeville; three sisters, Gloria Stickle of Pine Plains, New York, Diane Baker of Dryden, New York, and Virginia Whitbeck of Lakeville; his brother, Charles Tanner of Cambridge, New York, his daughter-in-law Molly of Norfolk, Connecticut, twelve grandchildren, twenty-one great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews and many friends. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his son, James A. Tanner, Sr., on July 13, 2020; six sisters, Alice Tweed, Lena Francis, Ceil Ralph, Carol Call, Bev Stickle and Shirley Rivard and one stepbrother, Robert Mayhew.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, March 6, 2026 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. A funeral service will take place at 12 p.m. at the funeral home. Pastor Jan Brooks will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Millerton Gun Club, Inc., P.O. Box 720, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree in Mr. Tanner's honor, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com



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

Send obituaries to obituaries@lakevillejournal.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Housing, land use, community

On Thursday, Feb. 26, I attended a collegial conversation, a tour and a luncheon offered by the Salisbury Housing Trust at its Open House held at Town Hall. The Trust has been working to find possibilities for affordable homeownership options in Salisbury.

The entire event was generated by John Harney, President of the Salisbury Housing Trust. Speakers were Abby Conroy, Salisbury's Director of Land Use, and Kayla Johnson, Salisbury's Assessor. In addition, there were other presenters: Janina Siller, Director, Adamah Farm; Jocelyn Ayer of the Housing Collective; Mirna Martinez, Executive Director of the Southeastern Connecticut Community Land Trust; Karmine Aybar from the Naugatuck Valley Project. Miles Todaro who works with Abby in Land Use managed the Power Point slides.

The slides clarified how the different community trusts function. The Salisbury Housing Trust retains the land and leases it to the homeowners to reduce property taxes and ensure that the house deed is restricted and the property remains affordable. The Southeastern Con-

necticut Community Land Trust also does this but in addition, has a community farming component and a house for teens to continue their education and develop work skills. The Naugatuck Valley Project is a faith- and labor-based organization supporting fair housing in Waterbury. We heard about the challenges and opportunities of rural versus urban affordable housing initiatives.

On The Run in Lakeville graciously supplied coffee and pastries as well as a delicious lunch which we enjoyed while seeing the new 26 Grove Street home. The spirit of the meeting was positive and energizing for three hours. People wanted to keep talking at the end of the event at Town Hall. We continued to meet each other, sharing ideas and accomplishments and just having fun while have a chili/wrap lunch at 26 Grove Street. This new home is beautiful and the family who moves in will be fortunate. Kudos to John Harney who organized this event. Frosting on the cake was the gift bag from Harney Tea for each participant. Thank you, Mike Harney.

Eileen Epperson
Salisbury

Youth basketball program impressive

I'd like to compliment everyone involved in organizing and coaching the youth basketball program at the High School. My granddaughter participated at the 6 year old level, and I've had the chance to attend a practice a couple of months ago and again this past Saturday morning. The improvement in all of the participants in that short a time is remarkable!

It's terrific to see both male and female coaches working with the kids. Even at this young age, when a whistle blows, every child immedi-

ately stops and looks to the coaches for instruction — a real indication of the structure, respect and positive environment they've created.

I couldn't be more impressed. If this level of enthusiasm and development continues, the elementary schools, Housatonic, or whatever teams these kids eventually join — will be incredibly fortunate to have them.

Thank you so much to all of you for your dedication and hard work!

Dave Beaujon
Canaan

They also serve

Maybe it's just a question of balance. According to Newton's Third Law of Motion: for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. We are inundated by stories of avid outdoorsmen, community activists, and people who "give back" after a long journey of finding themselves. As an avid indoorsman and inactivist I realize that my accomplishments are largely unnoticed and certainly not celebrated. There were no up close and personal segments during the recent Olympics of grainy videos of future gold medalists sitting around the house quietly reading. If anything, they looked like stealth advertisements for Ritalin as children bounced off the walls and exhausted parents tried to find safe activities that didn't involve jumping off the roof or falling out of trees. Apparently, the kids that survived stood a good chance for an Olympic medal down the road.

The implication that people who are involved will "do good" has been debunked time and again. We all know someone who would benefit the community by being less

NEWS OF VERY NARROW INTEREST M.A. DUCA

involved. Successful giving back requires that someone is taking. It's the natural order of things and there is no shame in grateful and appreciative acceptance. But giving back also implies that someone is taking and not giving back. It is uncomfortable because it borders on being selfish, which of course everyone is to some extent but no one will admit to it. Again, we need to keep things in balance. Is it selfish or self-centered? Hard to know. Is it psychopath or sociopath? Easier to know. One often ends up as a murderer and the other has a chance of getting elected president. Instead of selfishness let's call it constructive self-centeredness. Sort of like the "constructive criticism" from your boss that you are forced to listen to during the annual review.

The life of the inactivist is not glamorous. It is thank-

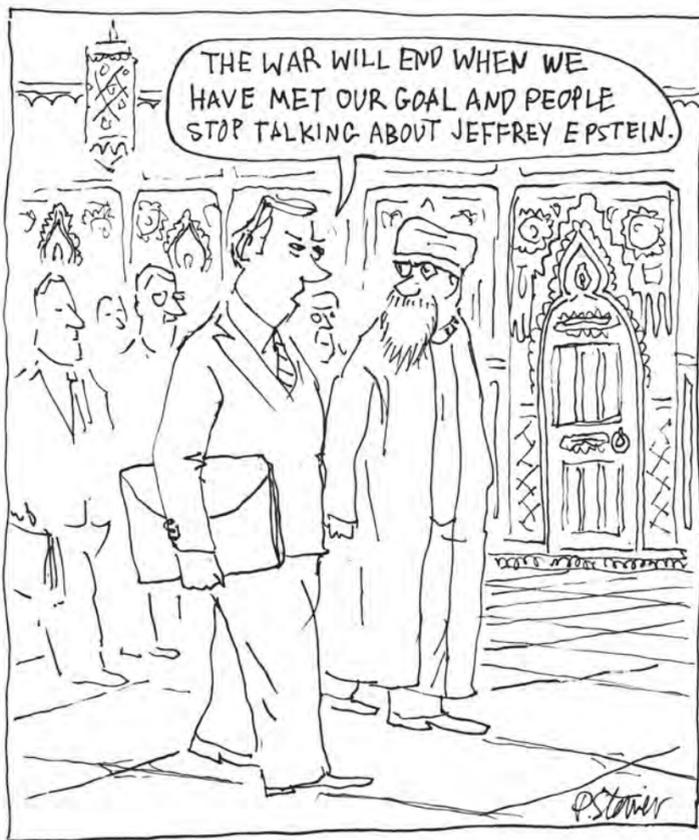
less and sometimes embarrassing. And some are just not cut out for it. Unlike the avid outdoorsman, the avid indoorsman does not spend years building endurance and lung capacity. There is no journey to the couch or easy chair. You bury your nose in a book under the glare of an LED, not the national spotlight.

Most of us do not grow up to be Olympians performing on a world stage or community activists basking in the glow of local celebrity. Our modest contributions and subtle rewards stem from leading ordinary and unassuming lives.

I'm sure it's disappointing when some children don't pursue the dreams their parents have and resist joining travel teams and professional coaching. They aren't excited about passing out campaign leaflets or glued to the TV watching election night returns in preparation for a future run for public office.

With apologies to Sir Isaac Newton, sometimes the apple does fall far from the tree.

But it's still an apple. *M.A. Duca is a resident of Twin Lakes, narrowly focused on everyday life.*



The views expressed here are not necessarily those of The Lakeville Journal and the Journal does not support or oppose candidates for public office.

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Send to publisher@lakevillejournal.com Include name, town and phone number. Keep letters to 500 words or less.

The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. each Monday. You may email letters to publisher@lakevillejournal.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rail Trail care, signage needed on bridges

July 23, 2025, was a beautiful summer morning. I loaded my bicycle and headed for Harlem Valley Rail Trail. I was on one of the narrower wooden bridges when I heard someone say "On your left."

I had never had a cyclist pass me from behind on the bridges before. I pulled my bike closer to the side of the bridge. I was out for a leisurely ride, but the gentleman that came up behind me was all business.

There were vines growing over the side of the bridge so I rode back toward the center of the bridge after he passed. Another cyclist, who did not announce himself, came up on me quickly. I pulled back to the right, and when I did

my handlebar caught the fence.

I fell down. The cyclists came back as I lay on the bridge, with the bike wrapped around my legs. They got the bike off me. I grabbed the fence and pulled myself up. My helmet still sat on my head. In shock, I stumbled around the bridge. My right arm was bleeding and my left leg was badly bruised. My neck hurt — like a really bad stiff neck. I called my husband and told him where to meet me.

Unable to walk, I rode my bike the last mile as the two cyclists followed me. My husband took me directly to the hospital. A CT scan showed I had broken my neck at C2, called the "Hangman's Frac-

ture." I was transported to Hartford Hospital. The break appeared stable so I was put in a neck brace, told I was very lucky not to be dead or paralyzed, and that I needed to follow up with an orthopedic surgeon.

That began the longest six and a half months of my life. The neck brace was a 24/7 fixture. If I didn't heal I'd need surgery to put rods and screws in my neck. The whole experience was traumatic and grueling.

By the grace of God, my 66 year old neck decided to heal eventually. My body will never be as it was before, and I lost over six months of life. I tell this story because my life was forever altered in a second by the behavior of

others.

Many people use and enjoy the Rail Trail. If you see an elderly person on a leisurely ride, or a family with children, please take a moment to respect their right to do so without being placed in life-changing danger. I know that the cyclists who passed me did not want to harm me, but a moment's impatience and disregard for me nearly cost me my life. I hope Dutchess County Parks will at least put signs up at the bridge approaches asking cyclists NOT to pass from behind. Sometimes we just need a little reminder to be considerate of others. Is it really so much to ask?

Rachel Lamb
Lakeville

Primary care shortage needs bold leadership

Yes, we really need primary care doctors. Attracting potential candidates to the Northwest Corner has always been problematic, as more candidates are drawn to more populated areas with larger

teaching facilities. However, we will continue to have a shortage of primary care doctors unless other larger issues are addressed: managing debt among primary care physicians and the effects of our for-profit healthcare system.

I was the only Family Medicine physician in Sharon during the period 1994 to 2011. I was one of the few residency graduates that, even then, opened up a solo private practice. My practice was successful with many wonderful patients. In 2011, I made the decision to move to the Savannah, Georgia, area to work as a civilian for the Department of Defense, taking care of Army families and retirees, which I did until 2019, just prior to Covid-19. The difficult decision to close my practice in Sharon and move was almost entirely a financial decision.

In the past, most physicians could be entrepreneurial and open up a private practice. Very few physicians choose that pathway today. Medical school students are graduating with \$300 to \$400 thousand in loans. Primary care physicians are chronically underpaid by health insurance companies for their services. The implementation of the "One Big Beautiful Bill" in 2027 will result in hospital and nursing home closures and has already resulted this year in non-sustainable double digit increases in private and subsidized health insurance premiums. The additional \$500 billion in Medicare cuts will

certainly exacerbate insurance underpayments and more closings.

We have a broken healthcare system that cannot be fixed piecemeal. The U.S. spends the most on healthcare by far of any industrialized country, accounting for 18% of GDP. Yet we have the lowest life expectancy, the highest infant mortality, the highest suicide rates, the highest rate of preventable deaths and the highest rate of chronic disease and obesity. Clearly, we are not getting

what we pay for.

It is time for bold leadership to create a not-for-profit National Healthcare System that is accessible to everyone, placing more emphasis in healthcare on wellness and prevention, using evidence based scientific principles. And it is time to end putting individuals not well-trained in science and medicine in charge of the U.S. health system.

Richard F. Hanwacker, MD
East Canaan

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Viewpoint

Will historic winter weather disrupt the economy?



PHOTO BY CAITLIN HANLON

Ice drops

The winter storms of ice and snow that buried much of the U.S. in January and February were large enough to impact the economy. It will be months before the final tallies are in, but many economists expect the price tag to be over \$100 billion.

That seems like a lot of money. I guess if you take into account the indirect and longer-term costs, like business supply chain disruptions and even medical costs, then maybe. Sure, there was some disruption. On those minus-degree days, we only took the dog out for a few minutes to do its business. And yes, we may have curtailed our trips to the grocery store a little, or to a restaurant, but how does that add up to that much money?

I mean, I could understand if we were discussing a series of hurricanes or tornadoes, which have now become commonplace under climate change. The high cost of damage from such disasters is usually attributed to infrastructure. But how can a spate of reduced shopping hurt the

THE RETIRED INVESTOR
BILL SCHMICK

economy that much?

Well, airline cancellations come to mind. When you cancel as many as 11,400 flights, there is significant lost revenue for both airlines and their passengers. Then there are power outages, which also impact businesses, sometimes for a few days. Trucks also find it more difficult, if not impossible, to make deliveries at least on the actual days of snowfall.

One area that could see some significant losses is in vehicle sales. The January 2026 vehicle report seems to bear this out. Last week, the Bureau of Economic Analysis indicated that sales really took a nose-dive, hitting a three-year low. That does make sense, since not only would buyers need to drive to the showroom in snowstorms, but they would also want to test-drive a new car before buying it.

Most consumers may not realize it, but natural gas prices also surged. The week ending Jan. 30 saw the largest invento-

ry drawdown since the Energy Information Administration began record-keeping in 2010. Wholesale prices rose 81%. Since then, the EIA has raised this year's price forecasts by 25%.

Housing construction also took a hit. As one small example, the guys building a spare room in our condo could not cut the lumber needed outside, so they had to ferry the wood back and forth from their shop. Imagine putting on a new roof or laying cement in 2 feet of snow! Some analysts are now predicting a 3% decline in residential investment growth in the first quarter.

The early February bomb cyclone that hit the lower East Coast, combined with the ongoing deep freeze that has covered parts of central and south Florida, could cause as much as \$15 billion in total damage and economic loss. The citrus groves and other crops were damaged extensively.

If I step back and look at the overall impact on most Americans, it seems clear that our heating costs are going up this year. The average family spent almost \$1,000 to heat their home last year. We should expect that cost to

rise 9%. If you use electricity to heat, tack on another 3% to that. Fixing water damage from burst pipes can cost as much as \$30,000, and many insurance companies won't pay unless you can prove that your thermostat was set on at least 65 degrees.

And then there are the "panic buyers." Even here in New England, grocery stores and supermarkets are often packed in the days before a winter storm. Of course, prices are higher because retailers know they can mark-up groceries and supplies the most.

The good news depends on the weather. Just this week, Boston, New York and other parts of the Northeast saw record snowfall levels. If storms and icebox temperatures persist, it will take longer for the economy to recover. If not, and we get a break, most economists expect any lost output could be made up quickly in this first quarter of the year.

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

Goodbye, East Potomac Park

At the turn of the 20th century the Potomac River in downtown Washington was clogged with mud and sewage that made it unnavigable. The US Army Corps of Engineers, called in to rectify the situation, created a more than 400 acre island in an open part of the river, built of the enormous amount of material excavated from the river bottom. The resulting crescent shaped island was developed into a park, finally opened to the public in 1916. At the west end was the Jefferson Memorial, at the east end a large picnic garden, a bunch of tennis courts and around the periphery a scenic bicycle path. In the middle was a modest 18 hole golf course. Thousands of trees and shrubs were planted throughout; also hundreds of cherry trees, a present from the Mayor of Tokyo were planted in 1912. The park including its golf course has been in operation for more than a century.

Last December at the behest of President Trump, the National Park Service (a subsidiary of the Interior Department) cancelled the long term lease held by the National Links Trust for the East Potomac Links saying that the non-profit had failed to meet the terms of the lease, citing inadequate maintenance.

Trump plans to have a luxury golf destination. "We're going to make it a beautiful, world class, U.S. Open caliber course", Mr Trump said when asked about this last month. "Ideally we're going to have major tournaments there and everything else, It's going to bring in a lot of business into Washington".

Recent construction in the East Potomac park started with the dumping of debris from the demolition

OCCASIONAL OBSERVER
MAC GORDON

of the White House's East Wing right in the middle of the golf course.

Although no designer has been chosen and there are not even very preliminary drawings to look at, many people knowledgeable about this particular island and golf courses in general have speculated about design considerations and their thoughts are not very positive. The scenic bicycle trail around the perimeter might have to be scrubbed to increase the size of the new golf course. To accommodate spectators, parking, restaurants, a service road or roads and a host of supporting services would require much more space than Trump and his subordinates have contemplated. The single access to the island, a bridge would be a bottleneck. The entire island from the start sits atop a soft, wet base and its edges at the river are showing increasing signs of eroding and need to be firmed up, especially should the development President Trump envisions occur. And the island is flat, topographically uninteresting even with the estimated 30,000 cubic yards of fill (mostly construction debris) from the demolition of the East Wing.

The park at present is kind of shabby, suffering from decades of inadequate funding and maintenance. But even so it retains considerable charm and looks delightful when the millions of tiny cherry blossoms are blooming. For well over a century it has been a pleasant park for Washington's

ordinary citizens. How many of them will be able to afford the astronomically high prices for hot dogs, let alone at least \$100 to play a few rounds of golf at the deluxe Trump golf facility?

Unfortunately, President Trump's involvement with the East Potomac Park shows a continuation of his self-centered approach displayed in his remodeling of the White House and its grounds. The paving over of the Rose Garden, the gaudy gold-plated interior decorations, the demolition of the Jackie Kennedy Garden and the grossly oversized planned Trump Ballroom are depressing harbingers of what's probably in store for East Potomac Island.

Although the existing facility was in the middle of a fifty year lease, Trump had Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum cancel the lease thereby giving direct control to the President who then illegally ordered the dumping of the construction debris from the (also illegally) demolished White House East Wing right in the middle of the existing public golf course. A major golf enthusiast, Trump also considers himself a champion of the people. But in this case, he is planning to take away a public golf course made for, and actively used by, "the people" and remake it for elite, professional golfers and expensive commercial interests.

A bunch of lawsuits, filed by two private citizens and a non-profit environmental group, The Preservation League, are represented by a pair of well-known Washington law firms. They hope to stop Trump's takeover but considering the way things go in Washington, Trump's fantasy may become a reality before the case is resolved.

The redo of the entire East Potomac Island for top level golf exhibitions would likely cost much more than renovating several other existing, but somewhat dilapidated public golf courses similar to East Potomac that need work but still are enjoyed by thousands of ordinary Washingtonians.

Architect and landscape designer Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

125 years ago —
March 1901

Several of our horsemen have had their trotters out on the ice last Saturday afternoon. A.B. Landon seemed to be master of the situation. Abram Martin took second.

CHAPINVILLE — Charles Fuller the hunter that lives under mountain killed a wild cat this week Wednesday that weighed 32 pounds. This makes the second one he has killed this winter.

100 years ago —
March 1926

At Ottawa, Sunday, John Satre won the Canadian championship in the cross country race. His brother, Olaf Satre, was second, three minutes and fifty nine seconds behind.

Editor Freeman of the Connecticut Western News was a fraternal visitor at the Journal Office on Tuesday.

50 years ago —
March 1976

John Fitch of Lime Rock is an inventor who likes to tinker with concepts and ideas that interest him. Fitch gained acclaim for his inventiveness in 1969 when the "Fitch Inertial Barriers" were demonstrated at Lime Rock and proved to minimize the impact of automobile crashes. Fitch, a tall, thin 58-year-old, didn't stop churning out ideas and inventions with the successful marketing of the highway safety barriers. In an interview Monday he said "I usually have two or three things going at once." His latest developments are a fireplace stove that he says will better use heat from burning logs and a design for a solar energy heated house. Inventing is a natural penchant for Fitch. One of his forefathers, also named John Fitch, made nautical history when he launched the first steamboat on Aug. 22, 1787. Some 18 years after Fitch's ancestor propelled a boat by steam, Robert Fulton put a steamboat on the Hudson River, and won praise and publicity. Fulton is generally credited with inventing the steamboat. "He had all kinds of trouble," Fitch says of his predecessor.

SALISBURY — The ringing of a bell rather than the banging of a gavel will open future Salisbury town meetings. The town has acquired a Bicentennial copper bell mounted by a wrought iron hanger on a black walnut plaque with each piece hand-crafted by members of a senior citizens group.

25 years ago —
March 2001

In anticipation of St. Patrick's Day, Lillian Pitkin, who is 103 years old, joined students at Town Hill School in Lakeville Tuesday morning and told them of her childhood in Belfast, Ireland, as well as her youth in Brooklyn, N.Y. "Can you imagine a street without cars or house without a phone?" she asked the children. "I was seven years old when electricity first came in."

FALLS VILLAGE — John Mauer resigned from his position as chairman of the Region 1 Board of Education Monday night, calling the board "dysfunctional." In an interview Tuesday morning he said the board can't seem to agree on anything and he is tired of personal attacks from reporters who misquote him and take his comments out of context.

LAKEVILLE — A fundraising drive has been started to help Kelly Allison pay medical expenses incurred after her car crashed Mon-

day morning into a Peterbilt truck on Route 44 in Salisbury near Ore Pond. Ms. Allison is known to many area residents because she works at the Scoville Library in Salisbury, Lakeville Wine and Spirits and the Douglas Library in Canaan.

BIRMINGHAM, United Kingdom — Championship Auto Racing Teams Inc. and Skip Barber Inc. have merged a proven training and scholarship system with three internationally renowned racing series to create a training-development-realization cycle that is unprecedented anywhere in motorsports. The Barber Dodge Pro Series, which will race at the Dodge Dealers Grand Prix at Lime Rock May 25-28, is now the "Official Entry Level Professional Race Series of CART."

CANAAN — One of two mysterious portraits discovered recently in the basement of the Douglas Library has been identified. Cornwall resident Helen Tennant called the library about two weeks ago to say, without a doubt, that one of the portraits is of poet John Greenleaf Whittier.

These items were taken from The Lakeville Journal archives at Salisbury's Scoville Memorial Library, keeping the original wording intact as possible.



Realtor® at Large

We had a wonderful meeting of housing providers and Community Land Trusts at the Salisbury Town Hall last Thursday. I wish to thank Emily Egan who helped arrange having the meeting at the Town Hall and the following speakers: Abby Conroy of our Land Use office, Kayla Johnson, our assessor, Jocelyn Ayer of the Housing Collective, Mirna Martinez of the Southeastern CT Community Land Trust, Karmine Aybar of the Naugatuck Valley Project, Janna Siller the director of the Adamah Farm project of Camp Isabella Freedman and Bridget Clark Saylor who will be our new Board member with the Housing Trust. Also Miles Todaro saved the day by presenting the Powerpoints flawlessly and Ryan and Erica Cooper, owners of On The Run, catered all the delicious food to be with so many people who work hard to make their communities a better place, so thank you all!



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LAWMAKERS

Continued from Page A1

said she is confident the elections will go ahead as planned, “but we need to respect the process.”

Harding said having the federal government oversee the Connecticut voting process would make no sense. “I’m 100% against canceling the election. No elected official should support that.”

Horn said she worries about federal intimidation when it comes to voting. She favors the implementation of early voting, but realizes the 14-day early voting system can be costly and difficult to administer in a lot of ways.

“I would oppose Washington interfering with elections and any Hartford influence,” said Piscopo. “We’re good at running our own elections.”

He would like to see early voting reduced to four days, pointing out it cost Thomaston \$1,600 per vote in the last election. “There’s no need for same-day registration. That should be phased out,” he added.

Case agreed with his colleagues that there should be no fear about what will be seen in the November election.

When asked whether the U.S. Department of Justice should sue states for access to voter rolls, all six lawmakers responded no.

One attendee defended early voting, arguing it should

be viewed as an investment in democracy rather than an expense, particularly in light of low voter turnout.

The conversation later shifted to taxes and social services.

Harding said he fully supports eliminating state taxes on Social Security and pension income. “The state can take its hand off these taxes.”

Horn noted that individuals earning \$75,000 or less and couples earning \$100,000 or less already pay no state tax on those benefits. However, she said taxpayers exceeding those thresholds “fall off the cliff,” an issue lawmakers are discussing.

A man who operates several group homes said low reimbursement rates have made it difficult to retain staff, leading to chronic shortages and increasing financial strain.

Case responded that supporting the state’s most vulnerable residents — including those in nursing homes, group homes and experiencing homelessness — is a top priority for him.

Honig raised concerns about private equity firms acquiring care facilities primarily for profit. “That can cause serious problems and something needs to be done,” he said.

Concerns about Medicaid, SNAP and other federal pro-

grams also surfaced.

Case noted those programs are federally funded, but Drew responded that federal cuts inevitably shift financial pressure onto states. Case said Connecticut is examining what options it may have.

Piscopo said he supports certain federal spending cuts. “Some cuts by the federal government I agree with,” Piscopo said. “If someone is able-bodied, they should go to work.”

Horn countered that approximately 80% of Connecticut Medicaid recipients are employed but often struggle with added bureaucratic requirements. “The cuts are hurting education, finances, housing and family planning,” she said.

Honig added, “People are struggling to make ends meet. Federal cuts on top of that make it harder.”

Education funding drew attention as well.

Flora Lazar, a member of the Region One Board of Education, said school districts are seeing health insurance costs ballooning. “Ultimately, that will result in cutting out programs for kids.”

Honig noted that Educational Cost Sharing funds have not increased in 12 years, shifting the burden to local taxpayers.

Piscopo said he supports

increasing ECS funding for municipalities.

Horn also stated that Connecticut sends more money to the federal government than it receives in return. “We are net losers. We give more than we get back.”

Childcare affordability emerged as another major concern.

A young mother said she and her husband are struggling with daycare costs. Horn said a childcare trust fund is set to begin in July 2027, which would make care free for families earning \$100,000 or less, or capped at 7% for those earning more.

Immigration enforcement and housing instability rounded out the discussion.

An audience member asked the legislators to be sure the Department of Homeland Security doesn’t put large detention centers in the state. Honig said there is a bill proposed to prevent such a move.

A man who runs a shelter program at Trinity Church in Torrington said funding shortfalls will force 13 women — several elderly or disabled — out of housing in April, putting them at risk of returning to homelessness. “Give me a break,” he said. “We need to help these people once they get into houses or they’ll be back out on the street.”

ROBBIE KENNEDY

Continued from Page A1

chipped in to buy him a new bike, and by the Kent School football team where coach Ben Martin made him his assistant. At Templeton Farms senior apartments, he was the helpful tenant, always eager to assist his neighbors.

Last week, Gary Kidd, Dan Greenbaum and Loghan Bennett decided to build a snowman on the Golden Falcon lot to honor Kennedy. The site was chosen because it is right across the street where his brother Jeff and family live and from where they operate their business, Foreign Cargo. Leaning against the creation is Kennedy’s bicycle. The snowman is holding flags that wave in the wind.

“Robbie was a cheerleader for the town, and we thought the flags were a way to show that,” Kidd said, who

acknowledged that the trio didn’t start to make it that big, but it just grew.

“It’s dedicated to Robbie in the spirit of childlike enthusiasm at any age,” Greenbaum said on Facebook.

The creature, with its large eyes, plaid scarf and top hat, has become a great attraction in town. It was featured on a WFSB-TV segment, throngs of people have stopped to snap photos, and Kidd has talked to Kent Center School classes who have come out for field trips.

Among those who like to visit is Jeff Kennedy. “The outpouring for Robbie from townspeople has been amazing,” he said. “At one time there was talk of maybe having him move closer to other family members, but I said Robbie has to stay here. He belonged in Kent.”

FFA WEEK

Continued from Page A1

The annual FFA staff breakfast took place Feb. 26, with advisors and student officers preparing and serving breakfast as a gesture of appreciation. Milkshakes were also served during lunch.

That afternoon, students traveled to Northwestern Regional High School to take part in the District One Community Service Event. FFA members from

Housatonic, Northwestern and Woodbury collaborated to assemble hygiene kits for donation.

In addition to the service project, students showcased their talents during a district talent show. FFA Week recognizes students’ hard work and celebrates the opportunities and leadership experiences the organization provides beyond the classroom.

SENIOR NIGHT

Continued from Page A1

Labbadia led HVRHS in scoring with 22 points. Anthony Foley scored 18, Owen Riemer scored 9, Nick Crodelle scored 6, Simon Markow scored 5, Tyler Roberts scored 2 and Wes Allyn scored 2.

Foley made the All-Berkshire League 2nd team.

Allyn, who missed the season due to a knee injury, scored the first basket of the game — a ceremonial two-handed jam — before

exiting the court. He said he expects to be fully recovered by the first week of April, just in time for baseball season.

Gilbert was led in scoring by Trevor Rich with 16 points on five 3-pointers. Noah Holmes scored 13, Avian Tejada scored 10, Hayden Dileo scored 6, Jackson Decker scored 2, Logan Arthur scored 2, Jordan Higgins scored 2, Michael Rivera scored 2 and Channing Incillo scored 1.



The HVRHS cheer team performs a halftime show.



The eight HVRHS senior boys basketball players, from left, are Henry Berry, Tyler Roberts, Owen Riemer, Anthony Foley, Simon Markow, Nick Crodelle, Wes Allyn and Anthony Labbadia.



Simon Markow defends Noah Holmes.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Anthony Labbadia elevates for a jump shot in front of the home crowd Feb. 26.

Promoting public speaking

By Kellie Eisermann

FALLS VILLAGE — The Housatonic Valley FFA held its annual Prepared Public Speaking Event on Feb. 27, challenging students to research a current agriculture-related issue, write an original speech and deliver a six- to eight-minute presentation.

The event gives students an opportunity to build confidence, strengthen communication skills and sharpen critical thinking abilities. Participants selected topics they felt passionate about, researched complex issues and learned to explain them clearly. After delivering their speeches, students also fielded ques-

tions from judges, requiring quick thinking and a deeper understanding of their subject matter.

Eleven students participated in this year’s contest. Hayden Bell placed first with “Pesticides: Use, Misuse & Abuse.” Christopher Crane earned second place with “United States Land Ownership,” and Madison Melino took third place with a speech on the plastic “crisis.”

Bell and Crane will advance to the district competition at the end of March.

Other participants included Beatrice Gifford, Nicholas Gonzalez, Owen Schnepf, Caitlin Devino, Alisa Christiansen-Madsen, Avery Hutton, Logan Padelli and Alex Wilbur.

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PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Francesca Donner

Persistently amplifying women's voices

By Aly Morrissey

Francesca Donner pours a cup of tea in the cozy library of Troutbeck's Manor House in Amenia, likely a habit she picked up during her formative years in the United Kingdom. Flanked by old books and a roaring fire, Donner feels at home in the quiet room, where she spends much of her time working as founder, editor and CEO of The Persistent, a journalism platform created to amplify women's voices.

Although her parents are American and she spent her earliest years in New York City and Litchfield County — even attending Washington Montessori School as a preschooler — Donner moved to England at around five years old and completed most of her education

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

MUSIC

A grand finale for Crescendo's 22nd season

By Sally Haver

Crescendo, the Lakeville-based nonprofit specializing in early and rarely performed classical music, will close its 22nd season with a slate of spring concerts featuring international performers, local musicians and works by pioneering composers from the Baroque era to the 20th century.

Christine Gevert, the organization's artistic director, has gathered international vocal and instrumental talent, blending it with local voices to provide Berkshire audiences with rare musical treats.

"The biggest event of this part of our season is our April 25 and 26 concerts, with the US premiere of 'A Jewish Cantata' and the iconic 'Misa a Buenos Aires,'" said Gevert. "The composer, an internationally renowned musician, will come and share the podium with me."

Among the other season highlights are concerts showcasing the works of two trailblazing female musical innovators, Francesca Caccini, the early Baroque composer, poet and singer;

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

WRITER'S NOTEBOOK

Living art takes center stage in the Berkshires

By D.H. Callahan

Northwestern Massachusetts may sometimes feel remote, but last weekend it felt like the center of the contemporary art world.

Within 15 miles of each other, MASS MoCA in North Adams and the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown showcased not only their renowned historic collections, but an impressive range of living artists pushing boundaries in technology, identity and sound.

MASS MoCA is known for its 20th-century holdings spread throughout a sprawling complex of industrial brick buildings. Installations by Sol LeWitt and James Turrell have permanent homes there. Just down the road in Williamstown, the Clark features masterworks by Winslow Homer, Frederic Remington, John Singer Sargent and Claude Monet.

But what visitors might not immediately associate with those established names is how deeply both institutions invest in art happening right now.

On Saturday afternoon, a panel of young artists discussed their relationships with art, identity and technology as part of MASS MoCA's "Technologies of Relation" exhibition, which opened that evening. The artists represented a broad range of cultural backgrounds, drawing on ancestry while exploring the future of art and technology.

The work itself ran the gamut: wax relief paintings, stained glass, interactive video and sculptural installations. One



PHOTO BY D.H. CALLAHAN

Contemporary chamber musicians, HUB, performing at The Clark.

immersive piece automated the traditional Armenian practice of reading fortunes from coffee grounds. Particularly striking were Roopa Vasudevan's hand-drawn QR codes and Taeyoon Choi's large-scale weavings of binary code.

Opening the same night was Zora J. Murff's "RACE/HUSTLE." Through photographs, paintings and installations, Murff explores the wide-ranging and sometimes violent implications of being Black in America today. Each piece — whether confronting the rise of

white supremacy or examining stereotypes imposed on Black communities — carries razor-sharp visual commentary designed to unsettle.

On Sunday, the Clark continued the contemporary thread. A small exhibition of work by Raffaella della Olga, titled "Typescript," features intricate patterns created using a typewriter on varied paper surfaces. The effect seems almost impossible until viewers watch a video of della Olga loading her typewriter with 140-grit sandpaper and typing in a hypnotic

rhythm. Though the typewriter is considered obsolete technology, she continues to find new applications for it, completing some of the works in recent months.

Next door in the Clark auditorium, HUB New Music performed works written specifically for its unusual instrumentation: violin, cello, clarinet and flute. While that combination may not stand out to casual listeners, relatively little classical repertoire ex-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

MUSIC

Jarrett Porter on the enduring power of Schubert's 'Winterreise'

By Natalia Zukerman

On March 7, Berkshire Opera Festival will bring "Winterreise" to Studio E at Tanglewood's Linde Center for Music and Learning, with baritone Jarrett Porter and BOF Artistic Director and pianist Brian Garman performing Franz Schubert's haunting 24-song setting of poems by Wilhelm Müller.

A rejected lover. A frozen landscape. A mind unraveling in real time. Nearly 200 years after its premiere, "Winterreise" remains unnervingly current in its psychological portrait of isolation, heartbreak and existential drift.

Porter, praised by Opera News for his "imposing baritone" and "manifest honesty," has built his career on major European opera stages, including Oper Frankfurt. But recital work, he says, is closest to his heart.

"I love to recital. If I were to pick my career, I would be doing some opera and mostly

recital," he said. "I think there can be difficulty with grabbing an audience in a recital, but this is one of the greatest pieces to do so because it is so psychological, so powerful, so universally moving."

Unlike opera, there are no sets in a recital, no costumes or lighting cues to lean on. "The singer with no sets or costumes is left to create a kind of one-man show," Porter said. His

solution is internal. "The way that I process learning something like this and having the responsibility to hold an audience without set or costumes or lights or props is to stage it in my mind. Each song has an identity."

Schubert's writing, Porter insists, needs no adornment. "Schubert does an amazing job at setting the scene, and for me, you don't need anything else. I

feel like anything added to it would be almost subtracting. I'd rather just see the singer and the pianist the way that Schubert intended it to be."

At the center of "Winterreise" is the wanderer, an unnamed figure moving through snow and memory after a failed love affair. For Porter, the character is both specific and uni-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

INSIDE

SPORTS

New Milford hockey ties Shepaug 4-4

SPORTS

Housy girls reach BL semifinals





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

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

... Francesca Donner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

there. Her accent still bears the imprint of what she describes as a traditional English schooling.

Today, she and her family call Sharon, Connecticut, home. While she still travels frequently to Manhattan, she embraces the contrast between city and countryside.

“For me, it’s all about the contrast,” she said, adding that she is friendly and curious about people here in a way that doesn’t feel natural in the city. “I want to know who you are, what you do, and why you’re here. You end up meeting these really interesting people.”

As a longtime editor in newsrooms like The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times and Forbes, Donner said she began to notice something unsettling about how stories were framed, and whose voices were missing.

“It’s just the way news is done,” she said. “It’s the DNA of what we deem newsworthy and important in mainstream media.”

The problem, she explained, isn’t that women aren’t covered at all. It’s that when women are covered, it’s often in a stereotyped way. Women are frequently framed through familiar narratives – the gender pay gap, unpaid labor, caregiving – important issues that persist, she said, but are often treated as repetitive or secondary. Meanwhile, the stories deemed front-page worthy tend to revolve around power, economics, war and politics — and men.

“If we don’t make a deliberate effort to cover women, women won’t be covered,” Donner said.

The issue isn’t unique to any outlet, she stressed. “It’s just the way news is done.”

But that DNA — who gets quoted and whose experiences are centered — has consequences.

And for Donner, that realization demanded a response.

Enter The Persistent.



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Francesca Donner, founder and editor of The Persistent. Subscribe at thepersistent.com.

“If we don’t make a deliberate effort to cover women, women won’t be covered.”

FRANCESCA DONNER

Founded in 2024, The Persistent was built around what Donner calls a simple but deliberate premise.

“Women don’t get covered in the same way men get covered,” she said.

The goal isn’t to exclude men or create a siloed “women’s section.” Instead, Donner said, it’s about correcting an imbalance by putting women at the center of the story.

Describing the approach as a reframe, this means expanding who is quoted as an expert. It means spotlighting women in business, politics, culture and global affairs. It also means examining major news stories through a lens that mainstream outlets often overlook.

“What we can add,” she said of The Persistent, “is perspec-

tive.”

Now approaching its second year — a milestone that will be celebrated next month — the publication operates with an all-women team of writers, editors and illustrators based across the world. The team meets regularly over Google Meet.

“They’re awesome,” Donner said of the editorial meetings. Some of her staff are mothers, some are not. All bring lived experiences to the table. Donner has intentionally created a newsroom culture that balances rigor with support.

“If your writing doesn’t measure up, I’m going to tell you,” she said plainly. “But it’s not a battle. It’s a partnership.”

Beyond publishing stories that matter, Donner wants contributors to be seen.

“I don’t just want people to read the story and forget who wrote it,” she said. “We can do a lot better if we amplify each other.”

As a woman, Donner rejects the idea that success is finite. She wants everyone to have a slice of the pie.

“Just make the pie bigger,” she

said. “Bring more seats to the table. Make it richer.”

Donner credits her “mum” for articulating what would become her professional identity.

“You are what you can’t help doing,” her mother used to say.

Today, without hesitation, Donner said she can’t help being an editor. “My identity as an editor is very strong,” she said. Editing, she explained, is less about correcting typos and more about building and shaping ideas.

“Sometimes I imagine this physical movement of cracking something open,” she gestured.

That instinct traces back to childhood. She recalls sitting in a classroom around age 10, listening to a classmate read a short story aloud. For Donner, that moment crystallized something fundamental.

“Someone else’s words made me just sit up straight in my chair and think, wow, that is so good.”

Today, whether she’s in a historic manor house in Amenia or on a Google Meet with her team across the globe, that instinct remains the same: crack the story open, elevate the unheard voice and reframe the narrative.

... Jarrett Porter

CONTINUED FROM B1



PHOTO BY TIM GERSTEN

Baritone Jarrett Porter to perform Schubert’s “Winterreise”

versal. “There’s so much ambiguity in the piece,” he said. “We don’t know all of the answers in the first song. We don’t really know who this person is. There are tidbits of information dropped throughout each song. And I think the tendency is to put a narrative on that and to try to connect the dots rather than embracing what it is. The ambiguity is actually where the beauty is.”

That ambiguity extends to the cycle’s ending and the encounter with the eerie hurdy-gurdy player in “Der Leiermann.” Does the protagonist die? “I think one could make that argument,” Porter said. But he resists a neat conclusion. “Death is right in front of him. Death is actually the most peaceful answer to his problem and it’s not given to him. There’s something more, a deeper level.”

Rather than a literal death scene, Porter sees a reckoning. “For me, he’s not granted the easy way out. He has to sort of come to terms with being nothing and having no real skill as a songster or a poet or a wanderer.” The winter landscape, he suggests, mirrors the psyche: “The winter is sort of the mirror of his heart.”

In shaping the emotional arc across all 24 songs, Porter leans into uncertainty rather than resolution. “What I relate to in this piece is that in life, you don’t know what’s going to happen. And you don’t know the next day. Even in tragedy—especially in tragedy—there’s so much question.”

Porter performed Gounod’s “Faust” at BOF in 2024 with Garman conducting but this will be the first time the two will be collaborating with Garman at his instrument. “I love making music with Brian,” said Porter. “I’m a huge fan of his musicianship. I think we’re sort of bitten by the same bug that Schubert is, and so I was super honored that he asked me to do this with him.”

For tickets, visit berkshireoperafestival.org

COMMUNITY

Millbrook dance party draws nearly 80 to Village Hall

By Leila Hawken

Nearly 80 residents filled Village Hall on Friday, Feb. 27, for a two-hour community dance party organizers hope will become a recurring event.

The gathering, dubbed “Club Friendly,” transformed Village Hall into a lively dance space with colorful décor, upbeat lighting and a steady mix of tracks spun by local DJ Christopher James. Serving as emcee, James kept the energy high and encouraged dancers of all ages to take to the floor.

Young children also got into the spirit, tossing countless balloons that were scattered throughout the hall.

Pizza and light refreshments were served in the Village Hall meeting room, offering a place for attendees to recharge between songs.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Impressive dance moves were displayed by Village Trustee Shannon Mawson who added a visual flair of fabric in motion at Club Friendly, a community dance at Village Hall on Friday, Feb. 27.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4

At The Movies

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BOOKS

Leopold Week honors land and legacy

By Jennifer Almquist

In his 1949 seminal work, “A Sand County Almanac,” Aldo Leopold, regarded by many conservationists as the father of wildlife ecology and modern conservation, wrote, “There are some who can live without wild things and some who cannot.” Leopold was a forester, philosopher, conservationist, educator, writer and outdoor enthusiast.

Originally published by Oxford University Press, “A Sand County Almanac” has sold 2 million copies and been translated into 15 languages. On Sunday, March 8, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Great Hall of the Norfolk Library, the public is invited to a community reading of selections from the book followed by a moderated discussion with Steve Dunsky, director of “Green Fire,” an Emmy Award-winning documentary film exploring the origins of Leopold’s “land ethic.” Similar reading events take place each year across the country during “Leopold Week” in early March. Planning for this Litchfield County reading began when the Norfolk Library received a grant from the Aldo Leopold Foundation, which provided copies of “A Sand County Almanac” to distribute during the event.

Aldo Leopold, born in 1887 in Iowa, was educated



PHOTO BY ROBERT C. OETKING

Aldo Leopold in 1942, seated at his desk examining a gray partridge specimen.

at Yale University, where he studied in the newly formed forestry school, graduating in the class of 1909. His then-radical concept of a “land ethic” states that land as a whole — soils, water,

plants, animals and humans — should be understood as one community. Leopold explained, “A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community.

It is wrong when it tends otherwise.”

For a small town of roughly 2,000 people, Norfolk has an abundance of conservation land, including the 6,000-acre Great Mountain Forest and Aton Forest, a 1,300-acre research forest. It is a community where many share a sense of responsibility to live sustainably on the land. Sharing Leopold’s essays at the Norfolk Library honors his legacy.

... living art

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1



PHOTO BY D.H. CALLAHAN

Pelenakeke Brown’s “Reverb” (detail) at Mass MoCA.

ists for it. The ensemble regularly commissions composers to expand the possibilities.

The results were striking. From the opening notes of Francisco del Pino’s “Passacaglia,” the quartet’s command and layered repetition pulled unexpected emotion from the audience.

After three pieces came the world premiere of Daniel Wohl’s “Mirage,” a roughly 25-minute work accompanied by digital blips, static and electronic textures evoking radio transmissions and UFO lore. Hearing four virtuoso musicians extract entirely new sounds from traditional instruments echoed the weekend’s

larger theme: old tools made new again.

Like della Olga’s typewriter, Vasudevan’s QR codes or Murff’s charged imagery, the performances demonstrated that contemporary art often grows from familiar materials — reimagined.

The old masters will always draw visitors to these institutions. But when living artists command equal attention, this quiet corner of the Berkshires feels less like the middle of nowhere and more like a creative epicenter.

D.H. Callahan is a voice actor, creative director and trail steward. He lives with his artist wife in West Cornwall, Connecticut.

... Crescendo

CONTINUED FROM B1

and Wanda Landowska, the 20th-century virtuoso who single-handedly brought the harpsichord back from obscurity. Also not to be missed is the May

30 concert, Bach’s Motets in Concert, featuring all six of Johann Sebastian Bach’s surviving motets, sung by four eight-part double choruses and accompanied by

period instruments, widely considered the pinnacle of Baroque choral music.

For a schedule of concerts and tickets, visit crescendomusic.org



PHOTO BY STEPHEN POTTER

Christine Gevert, artistic director, brings together international and local musicians for a season of rare works.



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PHOTO PROVIDED

Isle of Klezbos brings its high-energy, all-women klezmer to the Stissing Center in Pine Plains on Saturday, March 7. Touring internationally since 1998, the ensemble blends neo-folkloric originals and reimagined Yiddish classics in a style dubbed "cutting-edge klezmer" by New York Magazine.

Tri-Corner Calendar

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

MARCH 5

Come See Me In The Good Light

The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. 6 p.m.

A complimentary community screening of 2026 Oscar-nominated documentary that follows poets Andrea Gibson and Megan Falley. Presented with East Mountain House, followed by a Q&A with co-founders Craig Davis and Keavy Bedell. Seat reservations required at themoviehouse.net

MARCH 6

Galen Pittman Jazz Quartet

The Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y. An evening of jazz standards and contemporary selections. 7:30 p.m.

Tickets at thestissingcenter.org

Banned Book Club

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org Discuss "Nineteen Minutes" by Jodi Picoult with the Falls Village Equity Project; copies available. Open to high school age and up. 4 p.m.

First Friday Music

Congregational Church of Salisbury, 30 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. The Meeting House will open at 11:30 a.m. This month's performance will be four-hand piano music. Works from Paul Hindemith, Amy Beach, Leonard Bernstein and George Bizet will be performed by David Baranoski and Jesse Goldberg.

MARCH 7

Twelve Moons Coffee House featuring The Red Dirt Girls

The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. 6 to 9 p.m.

Doors open at 6 p.m., open mic begins at 6:30 p.m., and featured act The Red Dirt Girls performs from 8 to 9 p.m. The Americana trio blends country and folk with original songs and eclectic covers. At-will door donations appreciated. Guests may bring their own dinner and beverages or enjoy light refreshments.

Points of View Landscapes by Donald Bracken

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. cornwalllibrary.org An exhibition of process-oriented landscape works

by Cornwall artist Donald Bracken, featuring paintings and mixed-media pieces created with soil, clay, sand and other natural materials drawn from the land itself. Artist's reception 4 to 6 p.m.; registration requested at cornwalllibrary.org/events.

Hoodies and Woodies: Two Dynamic Ducks You'll Want to Know

Miles Wildlife Sanctuary, 99 West Cornwall Road, Sharon, Conn. Join a Sharon Audubon Center naturalist to learn about hooded mergansers and wood ducks—Connecticut's most colorful cavity-nesting ducks—and observe spring mating displays at the pond. 10 to 11 a.m. Registration required at act.audubon.org.

Isle of Klezbos

The Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y. All-women ensemble performs traditional and contemporary works rooted in Eastern European Jewish musical traditions. 7:30 p.m. Tickets at thestissingcenter.org

Learn to Knit with Katharyn Crippen Shapiro at Shop BES

BES, 50 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. March 7, 14 and 21 @ 3 p.m.

A three-session course for absolute beginners and anyone looking to refresh their knitting skills. Start with a skein of yarn and finish with a knit hat (optional pom-pom). Needles included to keep. Pre-registration required at www.shop-bes.com/classes

Crescendo Presents Solo Recital: "La Cecchina—The Songbird" at Trinity Lime Rock

Trinity Lime Rock, 484 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville, Conn. 4 p.m.

Discover the groundbreaking work of 17th-century Italian composer Francesca Caccini, the first woman to compose opera, in a program of her vocal works performed by Salomé Sandoval (soprano, lute) and Christine Gevert (virginal, organ). Tickets: www.crescendomusic.org

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

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org Join Christian Murray and James Clark for a dialogue

about local journalism and coverage of our community's news and issues. Ask questions, suggest stories, and stay on for refreshments and a chance to meet and greet after the program. 4:30 to 6 p.m. Registration required at scovillelibrary.org

Berkshire Opera Festival Presents "Winterreise"

Tanglewood's Linde Center, Studio E, Lenox, Mass. Baritone Jarrett Porter with pianist Brian Garman perform Schubert's "Winterreise." Sung in German with English translations. 2 p.m. Approx. 75 minutes. Tickets: bit.ly/49TeQ5P

MARCH 8

Clarion Concerts Presents Amir ElSaffar

The Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y. Amir ElSaffar returns to Clarion Concerts with his New Quartet, performing music rooted in Iraqi maqam. Rich in nuance, color and emotional depth, this masterful performance offers a rare chance to experience a powerful musical tradition beyond the Western classical canon. 7:30 p.m. Tickets at thestissingcenter.org

Les Misérables, Live Broadcast from London

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org Join us for a live broadcast at 3 p.m. of the musical phenomenon "Les Misérables" filmed from London's Gielgud Theatre in celebration of 35 years on the West End. Registration required at scovillelibrary.org

Crescendo Presents Solo Recital: "La Cecchina—The Songbird" at Saint James Place

Saint James Place (Great Hall—limited seating), 352 Main St., Great Barrington, Mass. 4 p.m.

Discover the groundbreaking work of 17th-century Italian composer Francesca Caccini, the first woman to

Last week's Word

Q	U	I	L	L
A	L	O	H	A
L	A	B	O	R
S	O	L	A	R
P	O	L	A	R

Word of the Week

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

1. Wall timepiece
2. Basketball's shape
3. To feel anxious, uneasy
4. Rising above the rest
5. Strength in physics or politics

... dance party

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B2



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Young dancers surveyed the scene at Club Friendly, a community dance at Village Hall on Friday, Feb. 27.

The event was organized by the Millbrook Library and the Millbrook Arts Group, and was used as a pilot program to gauge interest in hosting future community dance nights.

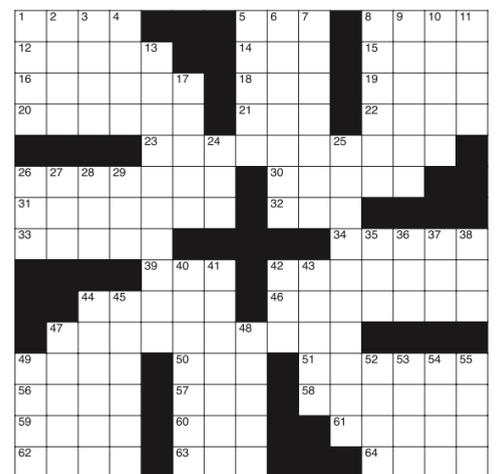
"It could continue with different themes," said library director Courtney Tsahalis, adding that participation by other sponsoring organizations would be welcome.

Tsahalis said the turnout shows there's interest in holding more dances.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. Unit of dry measure
5. One who defies authority
8. Social media giant
12. Render holy
14. "Much ___ about nothing"
15. Computer manufacturer
16. Creed
18. Immoral act
19. Mountain pass
20. Winged nut
21. Don't know when yet
22. Elected officials
23. Corrupt tendencies
26. Popular adult beverage
30. Made a mistake
31. Morally correct
32. Type of whale
33. Portable conical tent
34. Native people of the Congo
39. More (Spanish)
42. Classroom implements
44. Cognizant of
46. One who tells
47. Free from bondage
49. Thick piece of something
50. Containing two adjacent nitrogen atoms
51. Removed from the record
56. Legendary singer Turner
57. Broke up the earth
58. Hunting expedition
59. Contributors
60. Unit of work or energy
61. Wreckage on the seabed
62. Affirmative! (slang)
63. Witness
64. Scrape (Archaic)



11. Humanities
13. Someone who serves in the armed forces
17. Labor (Spanish)
24. Zero
25. Shared by involving three parties
26. Queens ballplayer
27. Consumed
28. Rest here please
29. Men's fashion accessory
35. American time
36. Sound unit
37. They ___
38. Soviet Socialist Republic
40. Places to play video games
41. A sudden attack of illness
42. When you hope to arrive
43. Charges
44. Actress Seyfried
45. A tributary of the Ohio River
47. Omit when speaking
48. Armored fish
49. Remain
52. From a distance
53. Adventure story
54. Geological times
55. Eat dinner

February 26 Solution

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

Sudoku

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

February 26 Solution

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

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Sports

New Milford co-op hockey team ties with Shepaug 4-4

By Lans Christensen

WASHINGTON — Hockey teams from New Milford High School and Shepaug Valley High School met at The Frederick Gunn School's rink Wednesday, Feb. 25.

The two sides proved to be evenly matched and ended the game in a 4-4 draw.

Both teams are co-op programs, including players from multiple schools. This occurs when a school lacks enough players to form its own team, so interested athletes team up with other school players for the love of the game.

New Milford's hockey team contains two Housatonic Valley Regional High School players: Logan Miller and Melanie Rundall.

The game with the Shepaug started fast. New Milford's Jonathan DeRoberts scored after only 30 seconds, which was followed minutes later by a goal from Joshua Shook.

The 2-0 lead didn't last long as Shepaug's Jameson



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Above, Jonathan DeRoberts attacks. Below, Melanie Rundall pre-game.

McTamney and captain Gunnar Ough scored.

The goal of the day came in the second period when Ough took the puck from the length of the ice and scored a high-powered slap shot.

Back and forth, both teams played very hard and traded goals. The third period ended with a 4-4 tie.

An eight-minute sudden death overtime period was added, but neither side was able to find the back of the net.

The game ended officially with a score of 4-4.

The result moved New Milford's season record to 4-12-3 and Shepaug stood at 10-7-2.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Hayden Bachman runs a fast break in the Berkshire League quarterfinal against Northwestern Feb. 24.

Housy girls reach BL semifinals

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — Housatonic Valley Regional High School's girls varsity basketball team advanced to the Berkshire League semifinal game for the third year in a row.

Finishing the regular season ranked 4th in the league, the girls hosted Northwestern Regional High School in the quarterfinal round Tuesday, Feb. 24. HVRHS won 46-36.

Despite the absence of senior captain Victoria Brooks, who broke her wrist in the previous game, HVRHS led from start to finish and held off a late run by Northwestern.

In the quarterfinal, HVRHS was led in scoring by Olivia Brooks with 14 points. Maddy Johnson scored 11, Aubrey Funk scored 8, Hayden Bachman scored 7 and Carmela Egan scored 6.

HVRHS advanced to play top-ranked Thomaston in the semifinals Friday, Feb. 27.

The Mountaineers took an early lead and put pressure on the Bears. Thomaston was able to overcome the deficit through lockdown defense and ultimately won 59-27.

After the game, HVRHS coach Jake Plitt commented on the effort his team displayed all season long. "We are markedly improved now compared to where we were at the beginning of the season because the kids show up every day, they're very coachable. It's been a real pleasure to coach them."

In the semis, Olivia Brooks led HVRHS in scoring with 7 points. Grace Graney scored 6, Maddy Johnson scored 6, Olivia Simonds scored 4 and Carmela Egan scored 4.

Brooks made the All-Berkshire League 1st team.

Thomaston advanced to play Lakeview High School in the tournament title game Monday, March 2. Thomaston won 36-31 to become league champions.

Hotchkiss wins national squash title

The Hotchkiss School's boys varsity squash team won the Division 1 national title Feb. 22 in Philadelphia. Simrith Gaddam, Class of 2028, won the final match for the Bearcats against St. Andrews School, located in Delaware. It was the first D1 nationals win in Hotchkiss School history. At the same event, the Hotchkiss girls varsity squash team finished as runners up behind Greenwich Academy.

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