

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



The hauler of two-time NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series champion Ben Rhodes, of ThorSport Racing, rolls past The White Hart on Thursday, July 9, as spectators cheer along the route.

*Pedal to the Metal*

# Storm-damaged White Hart presses on with NASCAR Pit-Stop Party

By Annie Prinz

SALISBURY — Days after the July 4 storm left the White Hart Inn and much of Salisbury without power, electricity was restored just 24 hours before the NASCAR CRAFTSMAN Truck Series Hauler Parade on Thursday, July 9, giving staff just enough time to salvage the

inn's planned pit-stop party.

Staff, community members and clean-up crews worked around the clock to clear storm debris from the White Hart lawn, allowing the inn to deliver on its promise of prime parade viewing.

Although the storm claimed one of the property's signature trees, the lawn was ready by Thursday after-

noon as fans gathered with drinks and popcorn to watch the haulers pass by at 4:30 p.m.

The inn opened its outdoor bar and indoor taproom, while Lime Rock Park sponsors, including Coca-Cola and Foolproof Brewing Company, served beverages to the crowd.

White Hart Inn Hotel Manager Dan Winkley said the experience underscored how much the community can accomplish when people come together.

"It's definitely been challenging, and yet at the same time so rewarding to see the communities, our team, our neighbors and private and public companies come together and really work to get this town cleaned up," Winkley said.

The July 4 storm brought down one of the inn's largest trees, pulling

See NASCAR PARTY, Page A12

# Businesses recover after devastating July 4 storm

By Mia DiRocco

SALISBURY – A freezer filled with gallons of melted ice cream. That's what Grassland Dessert Cafe owner William Colgan discovered after an unexpected storm caused widespread power outages throughout northwest Connecticut on the evening of July 4.

Salisbury was among the communities hit hardest by the storm

# Three rescuers suffer heat-related illness after rescuing injured hiker on Appalachian Trail

By Alec Linden

KENT – An injured hiker was rescued from a rugged section of the Appalachian Trail on Thursday, July 9, but the extreme heat took a toll on rescuers as well, leaving three first responders with heat-related illnesses. All four individuals were in stable condition Friday morning.

The hiker, who was with at least one other person, was found to

be dehydrated and suffering from heat-related illness on a section of the trail between the Schaghticoke campsite and Mount Algo campsite. The rescue drew about 75 emergency responders from Connecticut and New York. Responders were dispatched at 12:30 p.m. after a 911 call was placed, and crews had completed the rescue by around 7:30 p.m.

See RESCUE, Page A12



Bill Packer of Sheffield demonstrates the grain tailgate on his 1955 Ford F250 truck at the Falls Village Car and Motorcycle Show on Sunday, July 12.

# Annual car show packs Falls Village streets

By Ruth Epstein and Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE – Cars and motorcycles revved into town Sunday for the 17th annual Car & Motorcycle Show, the largest annual event in Falls Village.

More than 700 cars and motorcycles were registered to take part in the show, with vehicles of all models, years and colors lining the tiny downtown streets as far as the eye could see, offering visitors close-up looks at the entries.

Judy and Denny Jacobs, owners of Jacobs Garage, have organized the event since its inception in 2010, when it served as a celebration of the business' 80th anniversary. The event was so popular they decided to make it a tradition.

Standing among a huge crowd of onlookers strolling down Main Street to the music of the Last Good Bender band from Millerton, N.Y., Denny Jacobs quipped, "It's a perfect day. So far, it's controlled chaos."

The event raises money through vehicle entry fees, merchandise sales and other activities. About a

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Our Towns

Governor's Race

Republicans gather to hear candidate Ryan Fazio speak in Kent

By Ruth Epstein

KENT — Republican gubernatorial candidate Ryan Fazio pledged to cut taxes, lower electric bills and return more authority to local communities during a campaign stop Thursday, telling more than 50 supporters that Connecticut's problems stem from what he called failed state leadership.

Speaking at the Kent Community House, Fazio outlined a platform centered on a proposed \$2 billion middle-class tax cut, reducing government spending, lowering energy costs and rolling back state policies he said have eroded local control over issues such as zoning.

Fazio, 36, represents Connecticut's 36th House District and is challenging Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont in November. The event was hosted by the Republican town committees of Kent, Salisbury and Sharon and moderated by Salisbury Republican Town Committee Chairman Tom Morrison.

He said the first step, if elected governor, would be limiting the growth of state spending, arguing that Lamont's budgets have grown by about 8% annually while Connecticut continues to take on

more debt.

"I'm proposing a \$2 billion middle-class tax cut," he said.

Second, Fazio said he would work to reduce electric bills.

"We have the second highest bills in the country ahead of Hawaii and California," he said. "The fault is in our state policies and the governor." He criticized the public benefits charge on electric bills, saying while some of the programs it funds have merit, the costs have grown beyond what taxpayers should bear.

Fazio also argued that Connecticut's tradition of home rule has been undermined by the governor, pointing to zoning policies as an example.

"I believe we need more housing, but developers and the governor shouldn't override decisions by those who know their towns best," Fazio said, drawing applause from the audience.

"This state could flourish like nothing else," Fazio said. "Yet Connecticut is struggling. Why? Because of the failure of state leaders and their policies."

He talked about citizens hurting due to what he deemed high taxation, making it difficult for them to put down roots, purchase homes or retire. "This election rep-



PHOTOS BY RUTH EPSTEIN  
Ryan Fazio, the Republican candidate for governor, addresses supporters Thursday in Kent. The event was moderated by Tom Morrison, chairman of the Salisbury Republican Town Committee.

resents a turning point; gives us a chance to change the trajectory."

Morrison, the moderator, asked Fazio a series of questions, including why he thought he could achieve his goals if the General Assembly is under Democratic control.

Fazio, who touted his ability to work with elected officials from across the aisle, replied, "We can always find common ground. For example, everyone can agree taxes

and electric bills are too high."

He also noted the governor has veto power for leverage, "but I will not promise anything that is not realistic."

Asked to talk about education, Fazio said current reading scores among certain grade levels are unacceptable. He called for higher expectations, getting back to basics and more instructional time in the classroom.

Fazio touched on the Trust Act, a state law that limits local and state law enforcement from cooperating with federal immigration authorities (ICE), which Lamont supports. "Legal immigration is good and necessary, but we need laws to protect our safety," Fazio said, stating if he became governor he would repeal it.

Morrison mentioned a recent poll showing Fazio trailing Lamont by 13 points and asked for his reaction. Fazio dismissed the survey, saying it did not accurately reflect the state of the race.

On a lighter subject, Morrison asked Fazio if Connecticut should have participated in the recent National Fair on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. "I regret he didn't participate," he replied.

The event concluded with questions from the audience.

during the discussion. Horn said workforce housing is needed to help young people find affordable places to live, raise families and help stabilize school enrollment.

"We'll do everything we can to make housing happen," Lamont said, while noting that 80% of state housing funding goes to Connecticut's 10 largest cities.

Looking ahead, Lamont said he is most concerned about healthcare when President Trump's "Big Beautiful Bill" takes effect, estimating it could cost Connecticut \$400 million. While some hospitals — including Sharon Hospital, he said — do a good job controlling costs, many residents could face large medical bills.

Lamont ended his visit by crossing Route 7 to greet the "No Kings" protesters who are on Main Street every Saturday afternoon. While sipping on a coffee milkshake, he praised them for their efforts, informing them that 18 of the Declaration of Independence signers were immigrants.



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN  
Crowds gather along the banks of the Housatonic River in August 2025.

Kent swimming hole shut down for weekend due to crowds, trash

By Alec Linden

KENT — A popular swimming hole was closed over the weekend following reports of overcrowding, litter and other problems during the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

First Selectman Eric Epstein announced in an email Friday that the eastern section of North Kent Road, which provides access to a scenic bend of the Housatonic River just downstream from gentle rapids, would be closed from 3 p.m. Friday, July 10, through 8 a.m. Monday, July 13. Epstein said the closure was intended to protect the site from litter and pollution after neighbors reported loud music and parking concerns.

The order is the first closure of the spot since it was shut down for several weeks at the end of last summer following similar incidents that left the riverbanks and parking area strewn with trash.

On Friday afternoon, Epstein said the closure was a temporary measure while the site's stakeholders work toward a long-term solution that protects the area while preserving it as a community recreation resource.

Epstein said more than 100 people were reportedly in the water at times during the Fourth of July weekend, though that number is unofficial. Beyond the crowding, Epstein said the site was impacted by trash, human waste, traffic and parking congestion, loud music and emergency vehicle access blockages.

"There's a host of issues,"

he said.

Regulating the site has been difficult due to the patchwork ownership of the river and the surrounding land. Organizations with ownership interests or management responsibilities include the town of Kent, the Wildlife Management Division of the state's Department of Energy and Environmental Conservation, the Kent Land Trust, Eversource Energy, the Housatonic Railroad Company, the Housatonic Valley Association, the Housatonic River Commission, the Appalachian Trail Association and others.

Epstein said the various stakeholders have been meeting weekly to discuss a long-term plan for the site. "The overall consensus among these groups is that we want it open and we want people to be able to enjoy the area," he said, "but not at this expense."

Epstein noted that beyond swimming and leisure, the spot is valued for its fishing, boating and other outdoor activities.

While the weekend closure is temporary, Epstein said it could be reinstated for subsequent weekends if further problems arise. A total closure of the access road for the summer isn't out of the question, either, though he said he wants to avoid that outcome.

"If we can come to an agreement and figure out a solution so that everyone can enjoy it and be respectful of the area, then I hope [access] can continue," he said. "But we haven't been able to come to that conclusion yet."

Lamont visits Kent, answers residents' questions over ice cream

By Ruth Epstein

KENT — Politics and ice cream shared the spotlight Saturday as Gov. Ned Lamont, a Democrat who is seeking reelection this fall, stopped at 45 on Main after a visit to Lime Rock Park.

The governor chatted with supporters who gathered at the popular Kent ice cream shop and treated them to ice cream or cold drinks, a gesture that was especially welcome in the hot, humid weather.

Accompanied by state Rep. Maria Horn, D-64, of Salisbury, Lamont fielded questions on a wide range of topics, including immigration, energy costs, housing and healthcare.

Referring to Republican gubernatorial candidate Ryan Fazio's pledge to repeal the Trust Act — a state law that limits when local and state law enforcement may cooperate with federal immigration authorities — Lamont said the measure originally received bipartisan support before Republicans later backed away from it. He added that the law keeps ICE agents away from courthouses and schools.

"It's called a Trust Act for a reason," interjected Horn.

Energy costs also drew questions from the attendees. Lamont said Eversource's operations were "a disaster" a year ago and believes the utility has become more responsive to public concerns, though he acknowledged the need to bring electric rates under control.

"The big problem is that there is not enough generation, but we're making slow progress."

Asked about nuclear power, Lamont said the Millstone nuclear power plant, owned by Dominion Energy, would like to increase the price of its power. "It's clear you have to pay for overruns."



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN  
Gov. Ned Lamont chats with residents outside 45 on Main in Kent during a visit Saturday, July 11.

He also discussed the growing number of large data centers around the country.

"They would use more power than Litchfield County times two," Lamont said.

Mary Weber of Washington, a local activist and chair of the Board of Education, said Lamont's Democratic primary opponent, state Rep. Josh Elliott of Hamden, wants to eliminate local property taxes and replace them with a single state income tax. She said that would mean owners of multimillion-dollar weekend homes would pay nothing, shifting the burden to local residents. "That's insane," she said.

Lamont responded, "You can make up stuff when you're running for office."

Turning to another proposal aimed at helping homeowners, Lamont said towns have the ability to adopt a homestead exemption, which protects up to \$250,000 in equity in a homeowner's primary residence, or \$500,000 for married couples, from forced liquidation by judgment creditors. The protection applies to real estate, cooperatives and mobile homes.

"I want to really drill down on that to help all-year residents and others," said Horn.

Asked about outward

migration from Connecticut, Lamont said he would not pay large corporations to relocate to or remain in the state, as some of his predecessors had done.

"My focus is to grow small businesses. They create most employment," Lamont said, adding that they are continuing to grow. He also said Connecticut ranks No. 12 in the nation for economic growth.

Housing also came up

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# Children tour Hotchkiss’ Fairfield Farm, meet chickens

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE – A group of parents and curious children took a guided tour of The Hotchkiss School’s Fairfield Farm Friday, July 10 to learn how vegetables are grown using sustainable farming practices and to see the chickens in a program sponsored by the Scoville Memorial Library.

Farm Manager Bridget Lawrence-Meigs, carrying her daughter Alana, and the library’s Kyla DeRisi got the children started creating artwork with construction paper, glue and dried beans.

Cousins Wynter Landau and Jack and Charlotte Swanner took to this activity with enthusiasm, using plenty of glue.

The completed artworks were put on paper plates to dry, and the group of 16 headed off to see the farm.

The children were anxious to see animals. Lawrence-Meigs explained that apart from the occasional cow in a nearby field, the farm does not have a lot of livestock. Except for the chickens.

She explained that this batch of chickens was still young and had just recently been transferred to a large coop.

She cautioned the young-



Children gather outside the chicken coop during a tour of The Hotchkiss School’s Fairfield Farm on Friday, July 10.

sters to be quiet, as loud noises disturb the chickens, and not to touch the fencing around the coop until she turned off the electrified part.

En route to the coop the group stopped by an unmowed area, dominated by milkweed and meant as a haven for monarch butterflies, bobolinks and kestrels.

Then it was chicken time. The children raced to the coop but heeded the warning about the electric fence.

The children suggest-

ed names for the chickens. “Henry” was popular. The chickens didn’t seem to mind.

Back under the shade behind the farm’s Grange building, the children admired their now-dry artworks and ate fresh cucumber slices.

Fairfield Farm was established in 2008 under the direction of Charlie Noyes. The farm grows 35,000 pounds of vegetables on 287 acres each year. Lawrence-Meigs said that 90% of that is con-

sumed at the school’s dining hall, and 10% donated to local food pantries.

Lawrence-Meigs said she has an assistant and summer crew of five students. During the school year a larger contingent of students work on the farm.

The farm is open to the public, and there is a self-guided tour kiosk.

And if the timing is right, “We’ll probably send you home with a couple of cucumbers.”

# Lifelong Sharon resident launches business to help families navigate aging

By Aly Morrissey

SHARON – Meghan Kenny is on a mission to support an aging population with the launch of a new company, Alumni Care Advisors. From small day-to-day tasks to major life transitions, Kenny’s vision is to become a trusted resource for families and individuals navigating the challenges of aging.

Kenny, a lifelong Sharon resident, is no stranger to caregiving. After serving as the director of the Salisbury Visiting Nurses Association Home Assistance (SVNA) for more than a decade, she said the time to start her own venture became evident as a growing gap in the market emerged.

“We’re in a rural area, and geriatric care management is essential in alleviating emotional, financial and physical worries,” she said. “But you really have to know what’s going on.”

Her business helps older adults and their families navigate the challenges of aging by coordinating care, assisting with insurance and Medicare paperwork, advocating with healthcare providers and connecting clients with resources.

Kenny grew up in a funeral home and eventually earned her degree in mortuary science in college. She said growing up in that atmosphere and being exposed to uncommon situations as a child and teenager prepared her for a lifelong commitment to supporting an aging population.

“It was extremely common for somebody to knock on the door when I was home, and I had to learn how to respond to different types of situations,” Kenny said.

One day, she recalled, a distraught man visited the funeral home and told Kenny that his wife had just died. “It really gave me an idea of what people go through



Meghan Kenny, left, and Taylor Miller founded Alumni Care Advisors to fill what they perceive as a gap in the market when it comes to geriatric care management.

during such an emotional and confusing time.”

Today, Kenny brings that compassion to Alumni, providing personalized geriatric care management and patient advocacy services “because no aging journey is the same.”

To date, she has supported clients with long-term care planning, insurance and Medicare paperwork, and medical bill management. But the support doesn’t stop with logistics, Kenny said. For a dementia client, Kenny recently toured a memory

care facility and designed the resident’s room based on color or psychology.

“Different colors and different shapes can be more calming than others when it comes to dementia,” Kenny said, “so we designed the room based on her diagnosis.” She continues to visit that client once a week to check in and communicate with the family.

The company’s name was chosen intentionally out of a deep respect for the aging community, Kenny said, and was inspired by the way high

school and college alumni are often honored.

“They are the alumni of life,” she said. “They deserve the best, they deserve every option available to them and they should be given that same respectful treatment.”

Kenny launched the business alongside co-owner and senior care advocate Taylor Miller, whom she met while working at SVNA. The two spent five years working together before deciding to build Alumni.

“Taylor came in green, but she molded into this field quickly,” Kenny said. “Our morals and ethics are completely consistent, and we work really well together. Having a partner allows us to serve people around-the-clock.”

Although the business officially launched just weeks ago, Kenny and Miller already have their sights set on a larger goal.

“We want to eventually create a senior hub here in the Northwest Corner,” Kenny said. “A place for exercise classes, crafts, and opportunities for people to socialize and come together.”



Tom Windas and Betsey Mauro try to decide on a price for a houseware item in preparation for the Cornwall Woman’s Society Rummage Sale that will be held July 18-20.

# Century-old rummage sale returns with rare finds and old treasures

By Ruth Epstein

CORNWALL – Residents are already sorting, pricing and arranging hundreds of donated items at the Mohawk Mountain Ski Area lodge as preparations begin for the Cornwall Woman’s Society’s annual Rummage Sale, a community tradition dating to 1924.

But this event is so much more than racks of clothing, tables of dishware, trays of jewelry and toys and crafts. It represents generations of Cornwall residents who have come together to support local students and nonprofits while bonding with one another to ensure the sale’s success.

Scheduled for July 18 to 20, the Rummage Sale has been held since 1924. The major event is held at the ski area, but there are satellite sale locations at Town Hall, where bargain hunters can find furniture, lamps and fine art, and the United Church of Christ Parish House, often stocked with books, small electronics and stationery.

Many volunteers sorting donations, pricing merchandise and hanging clothing shared stories of their families’ history with the sale.

Lory Bevans has vivid childhood memories of her grandfather giving her \$20 and leaving her to shop for three or four hours. For years she would arrive at 5 a.m. when tickets were distributed so she could receive #1.

“I always would buy an antique suitcase to store all my purchases in,” Bev-

ans said. “One year I was so excited to buy a calico dress. When I got home, my grandmother told me she had donated it.”

Betsey Mauro said the sale has been part of her life since infancy. Her mother, Cilla Mauro, and Thalia Scoville ran the event for many years. “I was in a playpen when I came to my first sale,” she said.

Spencer Markow also began attending the sale at a young age. His mother, Jennifer Markow, said he was born during one of the sales and spent many of his childhood birthdays there. For many years, Jennifer Markow brought cupcakes for everyone to celebrate his special day.

Cheryl Thibault is the current organizer and another who has taken the baton from her mother, Patricia Thibault, who ran it for years. It’s a real family affair with her mother, daughter and grandchildren helping out this year.

“I love being here,” she said, looking around at all the volunteers busy at work. “We raise money for important causes. This year we’re giving 10 educational gifts to students who have graduated from Cornwall Consolidated School, as well as money to a list of nonprofits.”

She spoke of the wide popularity of the sale. Many people schedule their summer vacations around it, she said.

The sale will be held Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (half priced), and Monday from 9 a.m. to noon (fill a bag for \$5).

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OBITUARIES

Elihu Carlson

NORTH CANAAN — Elihu Carlson, 95, of North Canaan, passed away peacefully on July 8, 2026. Born in Winsted, he was predeceased by his beloved wife and the absolute love of his life for 60 years, Doreen Carlson.

A proud Korean War veteran, Elihu was one of the oldest, if not the oldest, members of the Canaan VFW post. He was a man of immense work ethic, working alongside his brother David on the family dairy farm, owning and operating D&E Carlson Excavating & Trucking for over 40 years, and proudly wrenching on countless cars at “Carlson’s Garage.”

Elihu’s greatest legacy is his family. He is survived by his children; Bryon (Cindy) Carlson of North Canaan, Larry Carlson of North Canaan, Mark (Stephanie) Carlson of Southfield, Massachusetts, and Sharon (Don) Oldenburg of Noblesville, Indiana. He also leaves behind his cherished grandchildren; Shane, Lance, Catherine, Bryon Jr., Michael, Tanya, Justin, Kyle, Jordan, and Zachary, as well as several great-grandchildren.

Together, Elihu and Doreen were pillars of the community. They spent many years volunteering at

the Fishes and Loaves Food

Pantry and dancing with the Mountain Laurel Square Dance Club. When he wasn’t with family, Elihu was in his workshop crafting Christmas ornaments, birdhouses, and game pieces. He passed his love of games down through generations, famously teaching anyone willing to learn how to play Setback, Chicken Foot, and Pay Me.

He will be fondly remembered for cruising Canaan Valley in his beloved blue van, always carrying dog treats in his pocket, and offering his signature “pointer-finger wave” to everyone he passed. The family extends their sincerest gratitude to the staff at Fairview Commons for their exceptional care of “Pop.”

Family and friends are invited to gather for a Graveside Service on Sunday, July 19 at 1:00 p.m. at Carlson Cemetery, Moses Meade Rd, North Canaan, CT. Afterwards, all are welcome to join us at 20 Carlson Road, North Canaan.

In lieu of flowers, please consider honoring Elihu’s legacy of giving by donating to: Fishes & Loaves Food Pantry, PO Box 30, North Canaan, CT 06018 and VFW Post 06851.



John Francis Homan

CORNWALL — John Francis Homan IV has passed away. He was a professional, dapper gentleman personified with indescribable kindness. He told me a story once of being in a terrible place and finding the one positive thing to focus on, the one piece of beauty to hold onto. That is what we have to do in this moment of such a tragic loss.

In 1970, the coldest day recorded on Earth, John was born in Dearborn, Michigan, uphill in the snow, barefoot... ‘course he slips and slides all over the ice, and a couple of perfectly cadenced and coordinated notes later discovers his city, New York City. Luckily, he thaws out in time to find the love of his life, Gregg Hubbard. Together they made a pact to visit every state; they were committed to it, and were one state shy of completing that pact.

John’s dad, aptly called “Big John”, and his brother, Joe Homan, were his anchors – They, along with mom, Marilyn, managed to stoke a gracious nature within John that was beyond measure. John’s heart also pointed North to Connecticut. I have a history degree now from listening to him tell me of Mohawk Mountain’s importance, George Washington on Bull’s Bridge, and the founding six along with all they accomplished.... down to their heirs sitting on the Supreme Court or herding cattle today. He took enormous pride in this region – he exemplified it and cherished it. For him, finding a house here, with Gregg, was everything, along with the foundation they fostered, community they grew with-

in, and obviously... a pool to forever fix.

I am glossing over quite a few important facts, but I can tell you outlines of John’s whole picture: like his incredible adoration for his family and friends, all the relationships he built up, and the immense joy he encompassed – from belting out Broadway tunes like a pro, to the job he revered, to the way his nieces lit him up with rainbows and sunshine every day.

He often spoke through Rumi, Jung, Aurelius – even Jalen Brunson was in the mix – always a similar theme: confidence within yourself, spiritual resilience, and empathetic compassion when facing the worst life can throw at you. That’s John; he supported and nurtured those around him without judgment or fear, and did so with unwavering respect – unless you were a slow driver, that’s a whole other story.

He loved work, and a tailored suit, as much as the rodeo and a thirst trap tank. He was complicated, deep, and one of the most adventurous, out-of-this-world people I’ve ever encountered.

The world won’t be the same without him, and it wasn’t nearly enough time.

The one piece of beauty I can hold onto is that he is, and always shall be, my friend.

The Memorial Service will be held at UCC of Cornwall, 8 Bolton Hill Road on Aug. 8 at 3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers we ask that people donate to the Church UCC of Cornwall; they do fabulous outreach in the community, and my friend John was quite involved in that.



REGIONAL

Millerton kicks off 175th celebration

By Nathan Miller

MILLERTON, NY — The village’s 175th anniversary celebration kicked off Saturday, July 11, with a full day of activities for children, families and attendees of all ages.

Millerton will spend the next week celebrating its anniversary, commemorating the village’s history since the arrival of the Harlem Valley Railroad in 1851, a moment that the village’s founding fathers and historians have long heralded as the birth of the community.

Saturday’s main event was the parade, which rolled down Main Street around 4 p.m., marking the official start of the nine-day celebration. About 200 people gathered along Main Street’s sidewalks and beneath the shade trees in Veterans Park to watch.

More than two dozen craft vendors set up shop in Eddie Collins Memorial Park on Saturday, selling a myriad of handmade goods ranging from decorative to practical including pottery, jewelry and soaps.

Also taking up residence in the park was a community flea market. Millerton and North East community members peddled gently used items at the park, and two residents in the village signed up to have yard sales put on a map of the town for interested shoppers to go visit.

The day included a dedication ceremony at the Town of North East’s Highway Garage, where town officials dedicated the building to the late Bob Stevens. Stevens served as the town’s Highway Superintendent for more than 20 years at the time of his death in March.

Millerton resident Tim Watson was sitting in his wheelchair underneath the shade at Veterans Park around 2:45 p.m., waiting for the parade to start. He said the week-long celebration coming to fruition and the crowd downtown that came out to celebrate demonstrated a strong sense of community.

“This is a perfect example of community support,” Watson said.



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER

Joey Duncan decorates his bicycle at the Irontdale Schoolhouse on Saturday, July 11, in anticipation of wowing visitors and spectators as part of the kickoff parade for Millerton’s nine-day 175th anniversary celebration.



Millerton residents battle on the basketball courts during a tournament in the park Sunday morning, July 12.



Local tractor enthusiast Roger Ellwood in his vintage Ford 871 tractor.



Community youngsters ride their bikes in the Saturday afternoon parade that kicked off the event.



Worship Services  
Week of July 19, 2026

**Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon**  
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www.christchurchsharon.org

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info@congbethdavid.org

**The Lakeville United Methodist Church**  
319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039  
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

**Falls Village Congregational Church**  
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The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse  
860-364-5634  
sharonumc5634@att.net

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**Sharon Congregational**  
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Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
Visit our website  
sharoncongregationalchurch.org  
for Sunday services  
Contact us at 860-364-5002 or  
info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org

**Millerton United Methodist Church**  
6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812  
Millerton, NY 12546  
Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday  
of each month at 3:00 P.M.  
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Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary  
Sunday 11 a.m.,  
Immaculate Conception Church  
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The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse  
860-824-5534  
canaanct-umc.com  
canaanctumc@gmail.com  
We hope you will join us!

LET'S HEAR IT...

THIS WEEK

In small communities like ours, volunteers make up so much of our foundation. From fire departments and EMS, to food pantries, animal shelters and town events.

What organizations do you volunteer for and why?

Send your responses to social@lakevillejournal.com by Monday, July 20 at 10 a.m. or comment on Facebook or Instagram. We'll publish a selection in next week's paper.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Who are the unsung heroes helping our community recover? Whether it's a neighbor, utility worker, volunteer, first responder, road crew, or local business, give them a shoutout and tell us why they deserve the recognition.

"We are so grateful to the numerous crews who came from afar to pitch in and get Salisbury back on its feet! Everyone was so courteous and helpful, there was a real sense of us being buoyed up by a wider community." — Montage Antiques, Millerton

"Shout out to Cole Leibrock Tree Service! A tree fell on our house during the storm. I called Cole the next morning and was pleasantly surprised when he not only picked up the phone call right away, but came immediately to inspect the situation. He was there the next day with his crew removing the tree from our house." — Eric and Donna Stoezner, Salisbury

"Jay Savage who works at the White Hart stayed and helped take care of dozens of alarmed and bewildered guests after the storm devastated the town leaving the inn without power. He remains unsung and unacknowledged but helped many people that night." — Andres Vialpando, Millerton

TURNING BACK THE PAGES  
NORMA BOSWORTH

125 years ago — July 1901  
LIME ROCK — Emil, the fourteen-year-old son of Alfonso Ruet, was severely burned Sunday afternoon by falling into a burning coal pit on one of the wood-jobs south of Lime Rock station. The boy walked up on the pit to see if the fire was feeding properly and broke through into the burning coal.

100 years ago — July 1926  
This is the time of year when many have to get back on the job to take a rest after their vacation.

Some of the automobilists who run around late at night with their muffler cut out wide open evidently imagine that they are "Hot potatoes from Cripple Creek", in fact they feel they are regular "gol darn hot sports, by heck". The truth of the matter is that they lack a lot of filling above the ears.

50 years ago — July 1976  
The murder charge against Peter Reilly was dropped by Judge Luke F. Martin in Litchfield Superior Court Wednesday. Reilly can still be tried for manslaughter but State's Attorney John F. Bianchi must now file a motion of intent if he wishes to try Reilly on that charge. On Tuesday, Reilly's lawyer, T.F. Gilroy Daly, had filed a motion asking for dismissal of the murder indictment against the 21-year-old Canaan man.

An iron salamander, believed to be from Ethan Allen's furnace, was lowered into place in Lakeville Bicentennial Park recently. Weighing over a ton, it is believed to be over 200 years old.

By fall, citizens band radio buffs across the state will no longer be able to pick up police broadcasts on their scanners as they are presently equipped. The state police commissioner's office this week confirmed reports that the two channels now used for police communications will be abandoned and the 12 state

barracks will talk to their patrol cars on four new higher-frequency channels. The new numbers are "classified information," according to a Canaan Troop B spokesman.

SALISBURY — Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Corroon of Wilmington, Del., have announced the engagement of their niece, Susan Brannack Skakel, to Curtis Gordon Rand, son of John A. Rand of Salisbury and Mrs. Harrison E. Salisbury of Taconic and New York City.

SALISBURY — Although there have been few reports of "lake bites" in the past week from swimmers at Lake Wononscopomuc, samples of lake water and snails will be tested by the state Department of Health in Hartford. First Selectman Charlotte Reid said Monday she personally will take the samples collected by Dr. Henry Gallup to Hartford Tuesday for examination, although, she added, she did not expect analysis results immediately.

KENT — Templeton Farms Apartments, Kent's 24-unit project for senior citizens, will be dedicated this Saturday at 3 p.m. The project, first discussed by local organizations in 1973, has been completed in less than three years.

25 years ago — July 2001  
The Sharon Laundromat at the shopping center closed its doors last month. Owners Barbara and Norman Johnson owned the business for 20 years. "We just got tired and wanted to relax,"

Shannon Perotti, daughter of Bonnie and Charles Perotti of Canaan, has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2001 semester at St. Joseph College in West Hartford.

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

Opinion



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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time for storm response and recovery plan

The July 4th storm was a powerful reminder of both nature's force and our community's resilience. First, credit is due where it belongs. Utility crews, the Connecticut Department of Transportation, local public works departments, first responders, and countless contractors worked tirelessly under difficult conditions. Roads were reopened, power was restored, and dangerous situations were addressed remarkably quickly. Their efforts deserve our thanks. At the same time, the storm raises an important question that extends beyond this event: What if the damage had been even more widespread or the outages had lasted longer? Many residents have emergency generators. Many do not. Some can weather several days without electricity; others depend on refrigerated medications, well pumps, internet access, or electrically powered medical equipment. If roads remain blocked, how do people reach a hospital in an emergency? How do residents know which roads are open? Where can they charge a phone, access Wi-Fi, or receive reliable information when normal communication breaks down? Perhaps it is time for our towns to develop a simple Community Storm Response

& Recovery Plan, a practical framework that can be activated whenever a major storm strikes. Such a plan might include regular updates on road closures and conditions through multiple channels, a designated information officer, a charging and information center for residents without power, guidance on shelters and available assistance, lists of licensed contractors and debris disposal procedures, and outreach to neighborhoods that have suffered the greatest damage. It could also identify volunteers and community organizations willing to assist older adults, people with disabilities, and others who may need extra help. This is not about expecting local government to solve every problem. It is about ensuring that residents know where to turn, what resources are available, and how communities can work together during and after a disaster. The July 4th storm showed us how quickly dedicated professionals can restore essential services. Now is an ideal time to ask an equally important question: before the next major storm arrives, do we have a shared plan to help our communities recover? David Becker Salisbury

Shoutout to Lorenzo, Marks for cleanup effort

I am writing this email in response to your post about the unsung heroes. The damage to Salisbury was incredible but I truly do not think a lot of people know exactly just how much damage was done to Factory Street in town. The entire roadway was blocked with numerous trees down, wires down, transformers down, making it impassable by any sort of vehicle, ATV and almost to the point of impassable by foot. Anyone who owned a house from the bottom of Factory street up to Bunker Hill were trapped from any access to the town. There was a 7 month pregnant woman alone, a man with a 9month old baby, elderly, an entire family with small children trapped with their driveway blocked. Pete Lorenzo who owns III Generation Tree Service in Salisbury went out there



first thing with Gary Marks. They showed up with a chainsaw and an excavator and cleared the entire road, only the two of them all the way to Bunker Hill. The road was filled so many trees that required finesse and proper knowledge of cutting and balancing weight that your average joe would not be able to cut through. Prior to that, Pete was driving home Factory street in the middle of the storm when everything came down. His friends who were in the Jeep Wrangler (the picture circulating) were 75 yards in front of them. There has been a lot of footage and photos circulating of the storm damage in town, but I have yet to see anything shared about Factory Street and just how bad the destruction was. I really believe Pete and Gary deserve a shout out for their hard work. Molly Lorenzo Lakeville

A generous leader and dedicated volunteer

On July the 7th, our friend, colleague and Chairman, Stacie Weiner passed away after a year and a half battle with cancer. She was the quintessential chairman, always patient, always willing to explain and always focused on the job in hand. As a leader, she provided a fair and open forum that was enhanced by her generous personal warmth. Additionally, Stacie was the type of person who volunteers and whom small towns like Salisbury rely upon. In addition to chairing the Zoning Board of Appeals, she was one of the two Salisbury representatives to the Housatonic River Commission (HRC), was at one time the Salisbury representative to the Region 1 High School Board of Education and served on the investment board of the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation. To Danella Schiffer, her spouse and partner of fifty-one years, we send not only our heartfelt condolences but also our thanks for having been given the opportunity to share Stacie with us. Peter Menikoff On behalf of Members of the Salisbury Board of the Zoning Board of Appeals



PHOTO BY RACHEL BERG

Good fences make good neighbors, and the other way around as well We are deeply grateful by all the supports Salisbury and Lakeville neighbors gave to one another in the aftermath of the Storm of July 4th. Repair work is of course ongoing as we all know. Pictured, Chris Ohmen, Assistant Fire Chief, and Skyler Ohmen, Junior Firefighter and Rising Freshman at HVRHS, repair a neighbor's fence.

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# Viewpoint

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Health care safety net under strain

For nearly ten years, our community fought to keep labor and delivery(L&D) open at our local hospital. Once a hospital loses maternity services, it quietly loses something even larger: the capacity to provide 24/7 emergency surgical care for not just for birthing mothers, but anyone facing a life-threatening crisis. That is not a theoretical risk for NWCT: it is our lived experience.

Sharon Hospital has been under Connecticut’s Certificate of Need (CON) oversight since its sale to for-profit Essent Healthcare was approved in the early 2000s. Since then, the hospital has repeatedly used the CON process for major decisions, including the recent attempt to terminate inpatient labor and delivery. The Office of Health Strategy (OHS) ultimately denied that closure request because the hospital could not show that eliminating the only rural maternity unit in this region would improve quality, access, or cost-effectiveness.

In 2025, lawmakers advanced SB 1539, “An Act Concerning Certificates of Need,” which would require state review of private equity investments that give controlling power over a health care facility and would direct regulators to deny applications to terminate L&D services unless another hospital with those services is within 25 miles. For communities like ours, this proposal shows

what many advocates believe is needed: strong oversight of ownership changes and service closures that can create “maternity care deserts.” But those protections have not yet been fully enacted.

As of July 1, Connecticut is dissolving OHS, the agency that has overseen these CON decisions and enforcement of agreements. The process we used to stop the closure of our hospital’s services is changing, and it is far from clear where CON authority will reside or how SB 1539-style protections will be implemented.

This uncertainty comes as rural hospitals and clinics already face serious financial pressure. Sharon Hospital has been identified in research as one of hundreds of rural hospitals endangered by potential Medicaid funding cuts. Federally Qualified Health Centers across Connecticut are also struggling with historically low Medicaid reimbursement rates and federal funding freezes. Our new FQHC in North Canaan has become a “healthcare oasis” in what was a medical desert, but it cannot thrive if reimbursement and grant support fail to cover the real cost of care.

Taken together, this means our safety net in the Northwest Corner is under strain from both sides: rural hospitals that are one CON decision away from losing L&D and community health centers that cannot sustain expanded access if funding

and Medicaid support lag behind reality.

As we enter an election season in which Governor Lamont, Representative Maria Horn, Senator Stephen Harding and others seek new terms ahead of the January 2027 legislative session, the voters of Northwest Connecticut deserve clear answers:

- Will they commit to enacting and enforcing strong CON protections—like those proposed in SB 1539—for labor and delivery closures and private equity control?
- Where will CON authority live, and how will rural communities be guaranteed a meaningful voice in decisions that affect our hospitals?
- How will they stabilize Medicaid reimbursement and use new rural health funds to keep essential services and the North Canaan FQHC fully staffed and fully open?

Our region has shown that we are willing to organize, testify, and negotiate to protect maternal care and emergency services. What we need now is a firm public commitment that the rules will not be changed in ways that weaken community protections, and that rural hospitals and clinics will receive the reimbursement and oversight they need to remain true lifelines, not just names on a sign.

**Deborah Moore**  
Sharon

### Looks like Democrats oppose any immigration enforcement

Democrats in Connecticut are always looking for opportunities to deplore the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency. But this week they jumped on what looked like an opportunity before determining what it was really about. They might have been embarrassed if journalists followed up about it.

It began when U.S. Rep. John B. Larson called a rally outside West Hartford Town Hall in support of a local businessman, Seyo Cecunjanin, who had been arrested and taken away by ICE agents nine days earlier as he exited a doughnut shop with his sons. Larson, joined by U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, some state legislators, and a few others demanded Cecunjanin’s release, and Larson and one of the arrested man’s sons described the arrest’s circumstances, which included guns and big black cars with covered license plates.

But WTIC-AM1080 talk show host Reese Hopkins also had shown up and unlike everyone else had brought a critical question: Did anyone know exactly why ICE had arrested Cecunjanin?

No one did -- not Larson, not Blumenthal, and none of the rally participants, including former Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin, who is challenging Larson in the Democratic primary for the party’s nomination in the 1st Congressional District, charging that Larson is too old and tired even as the

#### THE CHRIS POWELL COLUMN

rally was another proof that Larson is furiously running circles around him.

As good Democrats, they didn’t care why Cecunjanin was arrested. They came to the rally on the principle that any arrest by ICE is to be protested and in the confidence that as more illegal immigrants are admitted to the country or exempted from immigration law enforcement, the next census will lead to the creation of more Democratic-leaning congressional districts and fewer Republican-leaning ones. (It doesn’t matter that non-citizens aren’t supposed to vote; the Constitution requires that they be counted in the federal census for apportionment of congressional districts, and illegal immigrants concentrate in the Democratic “sanctuary” cities and states that subvert immigration law, states like Connecticut. With enough illegal immigrants, Democrats will have a majority in the U.S. House of Representatives forever.)

But if the rally had been postponed until Cecunjanin’s arrest was clarified, the Democrats might have not been as strident about it. ICE is usually slow to explain itself, but by the end of the day WFSB-TV3 had gotten a response. The agency said Cecunjanin, a native of Montenegro, was arrested because he came to the United States in March 1997 using a fraudulent Dutch passport and six months later an immigration judge had issued a final order of removal for him. Cecunjanin apparently had been vio-

lating the order for 29 years until last July, when he left for Serbia, returning two weeks later despite the removal order. In the meantime he racked up a conviction for drunken driving.

“Cecunjanin has made a mockery of our immigration laws on several occasions for more than two decades,” ICE said.

What do Larson, Blumenthal, Bronin, and the other rally participants think about that? What do they think ICE should have done about Cecunjanin’s repeated violation of immigration law? Should ICE have ignored them because the people at the rally say Cecunjanin is a good guy, or because they think all immigration law violations should be ignored until the violators are convicted of mass murder?

There was plenty of journalism about the rally. But it is unlikely to extend to critical follow-up questions. For critical follow-up questions about illegal immigration are politically incorrect in Connecticut.

No one would have needed any explanation from ICE to put a critical follow-up question to Blumenthal at the rally. He remarked that the immigration system is “gridlocked and dysfunctional.” He wasn’t asked why the system is overwhelmed and whose control of the federal government overwhelmed it with millions of illegal entrants and for what purpose.

Another follow-up question might be why the Democrats don’t just attempt candor and admit that their preferred solution to the problem they created is another mass amnesty, along with permanent Democratic control of the House.

*Chris Powell has written about Connecticut government and politics for many years.*

### Lessons learned from Brexit

It has been ten years since Brexit took center stage in the politics of the Western world. The populist furor of an unhappy electorate triggered Great Britain’s exit from the European Union. How has that worked out for the Brits?

The populist rhetoric of a “Global Britain,” their answer to MAGA, was supposed to secure their borders by reducing immigration. Bureaucracy would be jettisoned; regulations and the budget would finally be restored after 14 years of Conservative Party mismanagement.

It would be the first populism-led attempt to overhaul one of the world’s oldest and wealthiest democracies. A decade later, it appears the nation is up to its ears in chaos. Prime Minister Keir Starmer resigned this month after serving less than two years despite a landslide Labor Party victory. He was supposed to save the country from years of successive Conservative Party prime ministers.

Instead, the country is struggling with low growth, higher inflation, faltering public services and an electorate that is every bit as angry and partisan as our own. Over the past decade, the country has had six prime ministers. David Cameron, Theresa May, Boris Johnson, Liz Truss, Rishi Sunak and now Keir Starmer are some of the names you may recognize. Brexit itself, scandal, market panic, immigration, and electoral rejection are just some of the factors that have sunk Britain’s leaders.

Back when, many economists were predicting an immediate recession if the country left the EU. It didn’t happen. What happened was that, over time, the British

#### THE RETIRED INVESTOR BILL SCHMICK

economy grew far less than it might have if it had stayed in the trade bloc. At the same time, business investment and productivity slumped as trade suffered. The typical family is worse off by thousands of pounds per year.

The pound dripped sharply after the Brexit vote, collapsing by 10%, the largest one-day drop in its history. That triggered a sharp increase in import prices, leading to an inflation shock that affected everyone across the board. The exit from the EU also involved erecting trade barriers that hit goods exports, since the EU was still the UK’s largest trading partner until last year.

The problem deepened since no one in government had a clear plan on what to do once the votes were counted. This led to years of political infighting and indecision. A weaker currency should have led to a surge in exports, but the uncertainty around Britain’s future clouded business judgment and investment. Investment is estimated to be almost 18% lower and productivity 4% lower than it would have been if a plan had been forthcoming.

The currency has never recovered.

The Office for Budget Responsibility, the independent watchdog of the UK Treasury, predicts that the UK is on track to suffer a 4% hit to national income over a 15-year period. A U.S. National Bureau of Economic Research report claims that the country’s GDP per head is between 6% and 8% low-

er than it would have been without Brexit.

As for unemployment, that fell dramatically in the initial Brexit days to the lowest rates since the 1970s. However, Covid took its toll on the labor market. The employment rate has never really recovered and remains between 3% and 4% below what it would be under a “remain” decision.

Can I extrapolate from the UK’s experiences to the present immigration, trade, and tariff policies of the Trump administration? Not really, at least in the short-term. Equity markets in both countries recovered quickly after the referendum and Trump’s Liberation Day. Both countries’ economists initially predicted a steep decline in economic activity, and both were wrong. However, over the long term (a decade in the UK), large trade policy shocks seem to lead to lower investment, productivity, and employment growth as supply chains and trade patterns unravel.

Not surprisingly, public support for Brexit has fallen since the 52% versus 48% leave vote. Today a majority of voters (56%) would back rejoining the EU, according to YouGov, and 70% of Britons support a closer relationship with the EU. Support is strongest among Labour and Green Party voters and weakest among Nigel Farage’s right-wing, Reform UK party. Reform UK members oppose rejoining the bloc by 83%. That party has gained support as immigration and affordability have become major issues for voters.

The next candidate for PM, at least among the Labour Party, is Andy Burnham, a Manchester mayor with authentic populist appeal. In a special election,

Burnham beat the Reform Party, which pundits believe will clear the way for him to head his party and win the PM title in Britain. The question is how long he can last, given the issues and the populism in his country and around the world.

Readers may recall several of my past columns in which I have explained the populist wave of discontent in the U.S. and worldwide. I wrote that, here at home, over a twenty-plus-year period, no single president survived to serve a second term, except Richard Nixon (who was impeached without completing his second term).

Populist voters have a very short fuse. Promises are made, but unless real progress is made within four years, the electorate has no patience for incumbents who can’t or won’t deliver. Overseas, beyond the UK, France, Germany, and Hungary, several other countries are facing populist challenges to incumbent parties.

We are seeing this here in the U.S. as we head into the midterms. Promises made but not kept have sent President Trump’s approval ratings into the 30s. Within the Democrat Party primaries, a war is already brewing between a growing populist wing of the party and the more conservative incumbents. Established Democrats, their critics say, offer failed forty-year-old policy solutions that have been rejected out of hand by younger generations of disenfranchised voters.

*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.*



PHOTO BY CAITLIN HANLON

#### Gerbera Daisies



### Realtor® at Large

Thinking about purchasing a lake property in the Northwest corner? If so, it may be of interest that the State has conducted extensive research on most of our ponds and lakes for water quality and the presence of invasive plants. By reviewing this information, you will know the current status of the lake and what to be aware of in the future, making you a more informed buyer. To start, please go to the main page of the Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station website at [portal.ct.gov/caes](http://portal.ct.gov/caes) and search for the Office of Aquatic Invasive Species which will have all the information and mapping.



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THURSDAY,  
JULY 16

CANAAN CARNIVAL  
6 to 10 p.m.  
Bunny McGuire Park

OLD TIME BINGO  
6 to 10 p.m.  
Bunny McGuire Park Pavilion

FIRE TRUCK RIDES  
6 to 10 p.m.

FRIDAY,  
JULY 17

CANAAN CARNIVAL  
6 to 10 p.m.  
Bunny McGuire Park

OLD TIME BINGO  
6 to 10 p.m.  
Bunny McGuire Park Pavilion

FIRE TRUCK RIDES  
6 to 10 p.m.

SATURDAY,  
JULY 18

4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FLY-IN  
*CANCELLED*

NEW ENGLAND ACCORDION MUSEUM  
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Canaan Union Station

CANAAN UNION DEPOT MUSEUM  
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Canaan Union Station

CANAAN CARNIVAL  
3 to 10 p.m.  
Bunny McGuire Park

BARBECUED CHICKEN DINNER  
5 p.m. until sold out  
St. Martin of Tours  
4 Main St.

CANAAN FIREMAN'S PARADE  
6 p.m.

BED RACE  
Following parade  
Main street in front of  
St. Joseph's Church

FIREWORKS  
Around 9 p.m.

SUNDAY,  
JULY 19

AMBULANCE BUFFET BREAKFAST  
8 to 11 a.m.

NEW ENGLAND ACCORDION MUSEUM  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Canaan Union Station

CANAAN UNION DEPOT MUSEUM  
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
Canaan Union Station





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Old Time Bingo 6-10pm  
Fire Truck Rides 6-10pm

**THURSDAY, JULY 16**  
Carnival 6-10pm  
Old Time Bingo 6-10pm  
Fire Truck Rides 6-10pm

**FRIDAY, JULY 17**  
Carnival 6-10pm  
Old Time Bingo 6-10pm  
Fire Truck Rides 6-10pm

**SATURDAY, JULY 18**  
4th Annual Fly-In 8am-3pm  
New England Accordion Museum 9am-8pm  
Canaan Union Depot Museum 10am-6pm  
Carnival 3-10pm  
St. Martin of Tours Chicken BBQ 5pm til sold out  
Parade 6pm  
Bed Race to follow parade  
Fireworks at Dusk

**SUNDAY, JULY 19**  
Ambulance Buffet Breakfast 8-11am  
New England Accordion Museum 9am-6pm  
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Our Towns

BUSINESSES

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY MADI LONG

Grassland is back in business after a 48-hour power outage forced it to discard most of its ice cream inventory.

the power comes back within that window, we're good."

However, Grassland was without power for roughly 48 hours, until service was restored on Main Street in Lakeville on July 6. Without a working generator to keep its freezers running, the recovery process quickly became complicated.

"We ended up throwing out about 50 to 55 gallon tubs of ice cream," Colgan said. Unable to receive deliveries until the following Wednesday, the shop lost virtually its entire inventory.

Grassland serves ice cream from Gifford's Ice Cream in Maine.

Yet even without any product to sell, Grassland kept its scheduled Make Your Own Sundae Night on Tuesday, July 7, for 30 students from a nearby private school.

"We went out and got some of our ice cream, not the three gallon tubs, but the same ice cream, and that went very well," Colgan said.

Colgan purchased ice cream from a local market to avoid disappointing the group.

Grassland received a delivery from its supplier on the morning of July 8 and reopened later that afternoon.

Other businesses faced different challenges as they worked to recover from the storm.

After losing power and internet service and watching its signature front-lawn tree come down, The White Hart Inn and Provisions fully reopened July 10.

"Most of the damage structurally was done to the cottage we have on property called the Gideon Smith House," said White Hart General Manager Daniel Winkley. "The landscape has just completely changed."

The Gideon Smith House, a four-room guest cottage on the inn's property, suffered a five-foot hole in its roof after heavy branches crashed onto the building. The damage has forced the cancellation of roughly two months of reservations.

The White Hart has been a community fixture in Salisbury for more than a decade. "We lost days of revenue," said Winkley. During the outage, hotel reservations, dining service and events, including the inn's weekly pizza night, were put on hold.

"It's a bit like when Covid first happened," Winkley said. "Going to work for four or five days without guests kind of reminds you why we're in this business, it's to take care of the people coming through."

Despite the damage, cleanup was completed in time for about 80 people to gather on the inn's lawn for the NASCAR Hauler

Parade on July 10. While repairs continue to the Gideon Smith House, the inn has resumed normal operations.

For some local businesses, recovery was a much simpler process.

At Roaring Oaks Florist in Lakeville, owner Terence Miller noted that while power was lost, there was no property damage and only minimal loss of flower inventory. "We were very thankful to get power back Monday afternoon," Miller said. "Much longer and would have needed to throw everything out."

At Off the Trail Cafe in Falls Village, power was lost, but no damage to property or inventory occurred. The cafe remained closed the following Sunday due to lack of internet, but was able to reopen that Monday as usual.

But on their way to check on the cafe the morning after the storm, cafe owners Liz and Howard Ives came across an Appalachian Trail hiker hoping to get out of the rain. They brought the hiker back to the closed cafe for a break from the harsh weather and made him a sandwich.

The July 4 storm was one of the most damaging to hit the Northwest Corner in years. After days of cleanup and utility restoration, businesses across Salisbury and neighboring towns have largely returned to normal operations.

"The support from the community for us has been tremendous," Winkley said. "We're thrilled to be back."

Cornwall selectmen praise Emergency Management Team

By Allison Gollenberg

CORNWALL — The Cornwall Board of Selectmen outlined the town's response to the July 4 storm, discussed plans for pickleball courts and provided an update on last winter's firetruck purchase at its July 7 meeting.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said the storm impacts could have been much worse, but thanks to the town's system for filing road-closure tickets with utility companies, officials were able to get roads reopened quickly. At one point, he said, about 15 roads in the northeast corner of town were blocked and 25% of the town was without power.

Ridgway said that if there's a silver lining when it comes to storms, it's the work of Cornwall's Emergency Management team. The two-person team, Diane Beebe and Jane Hall, was responsible for filing road-closure tickets with utility companies to help get roads reopened.

"Thanks again to all the volunteers who came out, the highway department, emergency management people, first responders that had been out for a while that night and went to Pawling," Ridgway said, referring to local crews who assisted with a fire at a CVS in New York. "It was quite a Fourth of July and July 5th event. I think things worked out pretty well considering the situation we were in."

The first priority after a storm is getting roads back open, Ridgway said, and power restoration comes second. A primary concern during the July 4 storm was whether parts of town would be cut off from emergency response teams due to service outages and fallen trees.

To monitor that, he said, a local resident lent use of a drone to see the extent of damage beyond where roads were blocked. Ridgway said some trees were still coming down in Cornwall on Tuesday, but for the most part, everything reopened.

In parts of town, Cornwall Bridge in particular, it barely rained, according to Selectman John Brown. While there's little recovery left to be done in Cornwall, Ridgway said, "we'll continue

to monitor the needs of our neighbors and neighboring towns to see if we can be of assistance that way."

He said he heard stories of locals taking in stranded motorists during the storm.

During public comment, local resident Tom Barrett praised the town's use of email updates to keep residents aware of road conditions over the weekend.

"It was really nice to get Jane's emails. You could follow the progress of what was happening," he said.

Barrett said he was also curious about a different agenda item: plans to pave new pickleball courts in town.

There's room for two courts on the site that formerly housed the Little Guild's temporary trailer kennels during its renovations, Ridgway said. The site would need to be leveled and paved, and exercise equipment could be added if the budget allows.

Jane Hall, who serves as the Town Hall administrative assistant, beach director and assistant emergency management director in Cornwall, said plans for the project haven't been finalized, but will be updated after the town's paving bid closes on July 21. The bid covers the 64' by 64' courts and three roads.

Ridgway said a regular Thursday night crowd frequents the pickleball courts on Foote field, and he expects work on the addition will be underway soon.

"That's until somebody tells us no, but so far it's been enthusiastic," Ridgway said. "I mean, a crowd in Cornwall is not a crowd anywhere else, but we've had some nice support."

In other news, the two new firetrucks purchased for the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department still need to be outfitted before they make their way to town, Ridgway said.

"They are in line, on order and will hopefully be here by

next July," Ridgway said.

The trucks, a mini pump-er and a custom rescue pumper, cost \$438,957 and \$861,451 respectively, Hall said in a phone call after the meeting. The town was given a \$100,000 discount from the seller, Massachusetts based Greenwood Emergency Vehicles LLC, by purchasing the trucks as a pair with an upfront payment, bringing the total cost to \$1,200,408.

Last fall, fundraising efforts made replacing the previous, outdated equipment a possibility.

In other business, Hall and the board discussed summer programs at Hammond Beach.

Hall said a new kayaking program takes place at Hammond Beach every Tuesday morning. The board noted that other programs, like free swimming lessons, are running smoothly, and emphasized the beach's importance during the recent heatwave.

"It's a great gift, especially great to have during our batch of super hot weather, to have that resource for people to go up there and cool down and relax," Ridgway said. "The lifeguards are enthusiastic, attentive, and the kids are splashing. That's what it's supposed to be about."

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE of a SPECIAL MEETING of the SALISBURY DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE

Please take notice a Special Meeting of the Salisbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC) will take place on July 21, 2026 at 7 PM, in person at the Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main St., Salisbury, CT 06068, or by Zoom.

The sole purpose of the meeting is to fill a vacancy in the office of Chair of the SDTC occasioned by the resignation of its former Chair, Albert Ginouves. All Members of the SDTC are asked to be present in person, or electronically by Zoom. The new Chair will be elected by a majority of the Members of the SDTC who are present and voting (in person, or via Zoom). The meeting is open to the public and all registered Democrats; however, only currently serving Members of the SDTC may vote. Dated July 10, 2026.

By Order of  
Charlie Kelley,  
Vice Chairman,  
Salisbury Democratic  
Town Committee  
07-16-26

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF JOHN E. MARKEY Late of Canaan AKA John Markey AKA Jack Markey (26-00245)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated June 25, 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:  
Loretta A. Maintanis  
c/o Linda M Patz  
Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP  
7 Church Street

P.O. Box 101, Canaan, CT 06018

Jordan Bergs  
Clerk  
07-16-26

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF MICHAEL CARABINE Late of Sharon AKA MICHAEL J. CARABINE AKA MICHAEL JOSEPH CARABINE (26-00280)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated June 25, 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:  
Caitlin Carabine McLean  
c/o Michael Downes  
Lynch  
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Sharon, CT 06069

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07-16-26

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF ORSON NOAH BENEDICT Late of Norfolk AKA Orson N. Benedict (26-00248)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated June 25, 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:  
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c/o Douglas K O'Connell  
Howd Lavieri & Finch.

LLP, 682 Main St. Winsted, CT 06098

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07-16-26

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF PETER S. ESTES, Late of Sharon (26-00196)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 26, 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:  
Theresa M. Walla Kelly  
c/o LINDA M PATZ,  
DRURY, PATZ & CIT-  
RIN, LLP, 7 CHURCH  
STREET, P.O. BOX 101,  
CANAAN, CT 06018

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Clerk  
07-16-26

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF VICTOR M. FILLOW Late of Sharon (26-00227)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 26, 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 fiduciaries are:  
Gregory M. Fillow, 5 Little Valley Road, Oxford, CT 06478  
Tracy E. Fillow, 62 Tamarack Road, New Milford, CT 06776

Jordan Bergs,  
Clerk  
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Our Towns

Salisbury, Falls Village rebound after July 4 Storm

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY – Days after the July 4 storm left roads impassable and thousands without electricity and water, recovery efforts continued across the Northwest Corner. By Friday, Salisbury and Falls Village — two of the hardest-hit communities — had made significant progress, though crews were still clearing trees, repairing power lines and reopening roads.

In Salisbury, the large trees that fell at the Academy Building and the Scoville Memorial Library had been cleared, and traffic on Route 44 was flowing with only occasional delays as tree service crews removed fallen trees from private homes.

Crews, however, were still working on Cobble Road and Route 41, and Cobble Road was only accessible from Route 44.

Factory/Washinee Street at Town Hall also remained closed as of 11:30 a.m. Friday. A car was still beneath a tangle of downed trees in the Town Hall parking lot. Town Hall itself, however, had reopened.

The large tree that fell on the White Hart lawn had been removed by Wednesday, July 8, and Salmon Kill Road had reopened.

The improvements marked a dramatic change from earlier in the week, when much of Salisbury remained clogged with fallen trees and downed power lines.



PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Crews working on Factory/Washinee Street by Salisbury Town Hall Tuesday afternoon, July 7.



A crew working on a downed tree and utility pole in the westbound lane of Route 44 east of Cobble Road on Tuesday, July 7.

Salisbury clean-up efforts

On Tuesday, July 7, under cloudy and rainy skies, crews lined Route 44 through Salisbury and Lakeville, replacing poles, clearing fallen trees and restoring power lines.

Among the workers on Brook Street were Eversource crews from Quebec who came to the U.S. as emergency backup. Additional crews worked just east of the Lakeville Hose Company firehouse, west of the Scoville Memorial Library at Conklin Street, and east of the entrance to the Lion's Head condominium complex.

Work continued on hard-hit Salmon Kill Road as far as the eye could see from Route 44. The road was closed from both the Route 44 entrance and the Farnam Road entrance.

Other crews worked on

Factory/Washinee Street by Town Hall.

After debris was cleared from the library lawn, it became clear that several large trees had fallen across Wachinocastinook Brook.

Route 41/Undermountain Road was also closed Tuesday from the intersection with Route 44, by the town Green and the White Hart. Undermountain Road was particularly hard hit in the storm.

Crews were also deployed along Dugway, Brinton Hill Road and Farnam Road.

Falls Village clean-up efforts

Falls Village also continued its recovery from extensive storm damage.

At Town Hall on Tuesday afternoon, July 7, Emergency Management Director Michelle Hansen, who also

serves as town treasurer, provided a timeline of the town's response to the July 4 storm.

On July 4, around 7:30 p.m., right after the storm hit, Hansen said she made it to the Emergency Services Center on Route 7 with difficulty.

"It took an hour to get an eighth of a mile," Hansen said.

She said she deployed town crews to cut up whatever trees they could — which excluded anything touching a wire. Responders worked until midnight, before returning six hours later.

The hardest hit roads were Warren Turnpike, Route 7 from Beebe Hill to Route 112, and Johnson Road.

No injuries were reported. "We were very lucky," she said.

Initially there were 714 Falls Village households without power. By Tues-

day afternoon, that number was down to eight and by Wednesday the power was fully restored.

The EMC was open Sunday and Monday for people to charge devices, get water, and use the showers. Housatonic Valley Regional High School opened temporarily offering similar services following the storm.

On the night of the storm, the EMC briefly hosted stranded travelers, who were trying to get to Salisbury, New Milford and points beyond. Hansen said the motorists stayed long enough to get directions on which roads were passable or to call friends and arrange to spend the remainder of the night.

Eversource started working in town Sunday afternoon. Earlier on Sunday, as the fire department volunteers and town crew employ-

ees made their way around town, they reported the locations of downed trees and wires to Hansen, who entered the information in Eversource's municipal database, so the Eversource crew were properly briefed when they arrived.

Hansen declared a local state of emergency Sunday afternoon, which was lifted on Wednesday, July 8.

First Selectman Dave Barger said he had received offers of help from other towns, beginning with Kent First Selectman Eric Epstein, who offered the fire department or town crew help as early as 6 a.m. Sunday.

First Selectman Jesse Bunce of North Canaan followed with a similar offer a few minutes later, as did First Selectman Gordon Ridgway of Cornwall and First Selectman Henry Tirrell of Norfolk.

STORM RECOVERY



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Pedal to the Metal

Thousands pack Lime Rock for NASCAR Truck Series return

By Madi Long

Lime Rock — Thousands of fans packed Spectator Hill for the second annual LiUNA 150 at Lime Rock Park on Saturday, July 11, as the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series delivered an action-packed race featuring multiple lead changes, numerous restarts and an 18-minute stoppage late in the event.

The race was stopped for 18 minutes after the No. 1 Toyota driven by Thomas Annunziata caught fire while he was running second. Annunziata was transported for further medical evaluation before being cleared and released.

When racing resumed, Grant Enfinger in the No. 9 CR7 Motorsports Chevrolet held off Landen Lewis by 0.483 seconds to take the victory. The field also featured several notable drivers, including NTT IndyCar Series driver Louis Foster.

Fans had the opportunity to get up close to the trucks during Lime Rock Park's open paddock on Friday, July 10, one of the track's signature attractions. The

Coca-Cola Fan Zone also offered racing simulators, giveaways, food trucks and other family-friendly activities.

The weekend also hosted the ARCA Menards Series, a feeder series for the national touring series of NASCAR, and the USF Juniors presented by Continental Tire, an open-wheel series that prepares young drivers for eventual entry into the NTT IndyCar series.

Lime Rock Park CEO Dicky Riegel said discussions with NASCAR are underway about bringing the Truck Series back to the track in 2027.



PHOTO BY MADI LONG

Drivers battle for position during the LiUNA 150 NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series race at Lime Rock Park on Saturday, July 11. Thousands of fans attended the event, which featured multiple lead changes throughout the race.

RESCUE

Continued from Page A1

Kent Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tim Sneller said the injured hiker was rescued on “steep and rocky” terrain about two miles from the nearest road access.

“I think this is the roughest part of the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut,” Sneller said. He added that this was the second trail rescue his team had performed this year, but the terrain and weather conditions made the effort on Thursday afternoon especially complicated, with high temperatures in the low 90s and a high heat index.

Two first responders were treated on scene, he said, while the third was

hospitalized but later released.

“I spoke to him and he’s doing well,” Sneller said.

The KVFD was aided in the rescue by teams from the Gaylordsville Volunteer Fire Department, Sherman Volunteer Fire Department, Warren Volunteer Fire Company Inc., Sharon Fire Department Inc and Sharon Ambulance, New Milford’s Water Witch Hose Co. No. 2, Roxbury Fire and EMS, Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department, Bantam Fire Company, County Coordinator, Northwell Medic Nos. 4 and 5, Washington Volunteer Fire Department. J.H.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KENT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF TIM SNELLER

An injured hiker was rescued from the Appalachian Trail by about 75 responders from 15 agencies on Thursday, July 9. Three rescuers also suffered heat-related illnesses but have since recovered.

Ketcham Hose Company, Amenia Fire Company and Empress Medic.

Some of the responding crews were dispatched as backup after several firefighters began experiencing heat illness and had to be removed from the rescue effort and treated.

Sneller advised any who go hiking during the hot summer months to “bring plenty of fluids and a charged phone.” In an emergency, “call us sooner rather than later,” he said.

power lines with it and leaving the property, its guests and neighboring residents without electricity and internet service for several days.

Winkley said power was restored Wednesday, just one day before the pit-stop party, allowing staff to finalize plans for the event and determine what they could realistically offer guests.

Thursday’s sunshine was a welcome change after days of rain and cleanup efforts.

Adding to the atmosphere, Foolproof Brewing Company of Bridgeport offered samples of its Lime Rock Park brews, including Lefthander Lager and Race-Day IPA. Spencer Churchill, director of operations at the Bridgeport location, said the company has created a special-edition can for every race since partnering with Lime Rock last year. For the NASCAR weekend, Foolproof served Stock Car IPA.

NASCAR drivers stopped by the lawn around 4:45 p.m. to sign autographs as fans lined up to meet them. One fan, Carl from Long Island, who also attended the NA-

SCAR weekend last year, said the return of the series was worth the trip.

“For me at least, last year was like a dream weekend,” he said, adding that the now 30-year-old has been a NASCAR fan since he was four. “I always thought the Truck Series would be perfect for Lime Rock, and it was everything I could’ve hoped for. As long as they keep coming back, I’m gonna keep showing up.”

The event was a preview of the weekend to come. Lime Rock officials, who also worked around the clock to clean up significant storm damage to the track, said they were ready for the race.

Chief Marketing Officer Jamie Kistner said they received “incredible help” from volunteers and sponsors, including Housatonic Racing Development, Geoff’s Equipment, Green Acres Landscaping and Segalla Construction. He also expressed gratitude to Lime Rock’s maintenance staff for all their hard work in getting Lime Rock race-ready.

RENOVATION

Continued from Page A1

and concerns raised by the commission about the condition of the driveway would be addressed, Yates said.

Dainius Virbickas, an engineer from Artel Engineering Group LLC, a Connecticut-based civil engineering firm, said, “The intention is not to just patch it, but to make it all nice.”



PHOTO BY ALLISON GOLLENBERG

The Planning and Zoning Commission has tabled a proposal to expand and renovate Sharon's Medical Arts Building pending an independent engineering review.

Commission member Larry Moskowitz agreed. “I think the 100-year storms are becoming 50-year storms,” he said.

Virbickas acknowledged that stormwater runoff currently flows over the property from its eastern edge to its western edge, and said the proposal includes systems to mitigate that concern.

The plans call for subsurface infiltration systems that would redirect runoff through grading, catch basins, pipes and pumps before allowing it to infiltrate the ground or flow downstream.

In the ground, runoff is filtered by the soil, removing pollutants like sediment, phosphorus, nitrogen, metals and bacteria, according to the engineering report. The systems are also designed to reduce erosion.

Tree removal, he said, would also increase the site’s

impervious area by 6.51%, from a total of 29.03% to 35.54%. Impervious areas can’t reabsorb runoff into the ground and can lead to erosion without support from root systems. Virbickas said plantings will be added around the new lot once it’s complete.

MacMillan also raised questions about bear-proofing the new garbage cans.

“Several people have asked me about trash management. The resident bear also made an inquiry,” MacMillan quipped.

Bennett said they’re familiar with the problem.

“Yes, that bear takes the trash out every day,” he said.

Virbickas said the plans can be revised to address the commission’s concerns before discussion of the application resumes at its next meeting on July 22 at 4:30 p.m.



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Our Towns

Annual car show packs Falls Village streets

Continued from Page A1

half-dozen food trucks were also on hand.

Jacobs expressed appreciation to the Housatonic Valley Regional High School chapter of FFA and the Falls Village Fire Department, whose volunteers provided assistance with parking and shuttle rides. The two organizations receive proceeds from the event. This year, for the first time, a professional safety company was hired to help with traffic at the Route 7 intersections.

Carl Van Deusen of nearby Sheffield came with his 1969 Camaro. He bought it 25 years ago and it needed a lot of work, but it reminded him of his '68 Camaro he got right out of high school. "It's like my second childhood," he laughed.

He fixed it up enough to drive it on the road, as well as participate in some races. When he was done racing, he restored it. The condition was worthy of a mention in

Muscle Machine magazine 20 years ago. "I'm not famous, but the car is," Van Deusen said.

He gave a top review to the car show, saying, "It's one of the best; definitely one of the best, if not the best."

Daryl Robinovitz's 1940 Model Business coupe, which he has dubbed "Fat Forty," has also appeared in magazines: Rod & Custom and Street Rodder. He was quick to point out the frosted artwork etched into the car's windows — a scenic design on the rear window and a rose on the side window. "At night, when the brake lights go on, the etching turns red," said the Ludlow, Mass., resident.

He and his wife were attending the show for the first time and were impressed. "We're loving it. I can't stop oohing and aahing," he said.

An attention getter was Bill Packer's 1955 Ford F250 long bed truck that came from a Kansas farm. The Sheffield resident bought it

for his 55th birthday seven years ago. He saw an ad and asked a friend in Kansas to check it out. "The advice was: 'Grab it.'" Much of it is original, other than the seats, brakes, suspension and headliner, he said, adding, "It's basically how it came, including the dents."

Packer was anxious to show off several features, including the grain door on the rear of the truck.

Beyond the rows of classic vehicles, the event also featured local vendors.

Eli Sher, 11, showing his entrepreneurial talents, had a stand at which he sold homemade dog treats consisting of bananas, oats and peanut butter. He sold bags for \$5 that contained 30 treats. The money earned will supplement his income from dog walking.

"I love that this showcases our town," said Jacobs. "People are always saying what a beautiful town this is. Sometimes we take it for granted."



PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

The crowd on Main Street at 12:30 p.m. during the Falls Village Car and Motorcycle Show Sunday, July 12. Organizer Judy Jacobs said there were over 700 vehicles registered, and "thousands of spectators."



It was the first trip to the Falls Village event for Daryl Robinovitz, who said he and his wife were "oohing and aahing."



Last Good Bender played a mix of blues and country rock at the car show.



Daryl Robinovitz of Ludlow, Massachusetts, came to the car show with a 1940 Dodge Business Coupe, painstakingly restored and sporting custom etched windows.



Spectators ranged up and down Main Street admiring the motorcycles and cars, including Carl Van Deusen's 1969 Camaro (right). Van Deusen, from Sheffield, gave the car show a rave review.



Show cars stretched along Railroad Street and into the grass by the Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society building on Sunday, July 12.

"The atrium is a beautiful spot to read, enjoy the plants and socialize—there's nearly a party here almost every week."

— Resident Doug D.

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# New sugaring and skincare spa coming to Salisbury

By Annie Prinz

SALISBURY- Years before Sarah March opened her first spa in Seattle, a facial she received as a teenager in Salisbury showed her how restorative an hour of personal care could be.

“It was the most comforting, transformative time,” March said.

That experience stuck with her as she moved across the country and eventually built a career as an esthetician. Now, the Falls Village native is returning to the Northwest Corner to create that experience for others through March Esthetics, Home + Body, a new retail and skin-care business on 19 Main St.

March plans to hold a soft retail opening on Friday, July 24, followed by a larger opening in August. Facials and other esthetic services are expected to begin later once plumbing work and required inspections are complete.

A Falls Village native and Housatonic Valley Regional High School graduate, March left the area and has lived out West for more than 20 years. She went to school for esthetics, eventually settling in Seattle, where she opened Sweet Haven Spa in 2017.

March continues to travel between Connecticut and Washington, but eventually plans to leave the Seattle business to focus fully on the Salisbury location. Her decision to return was motivated in part by a desire to live closer to her parents and become more connected to a smaller community.

“Every time I came home, I was like, ‘I do love this,’” March said. “I want to have a garden. I want to be close to my parents and be in a smaller community. There’s a lot more connection here.”

March had initially assumed she wouldn’t find a storefront available in Salisbury. After considering locations in North Canaan and Falls Village, a friend happened to connect her with a local Sotheby’s real estate agent. March described the timing as “kismet.”

Situated next to Sweet Williams Coffee Shop & Bakery in the space formerly occupied by Rosemary Rose Finery, the location’s walkability was part of its appeal. March hopes that



PHOTO ANNIE PRINZ

**Sarah March stands outside March Esthetics, Home + Body at 19 Main St. in Salisbury, where she plans a soft retail opening July 24.**

people visiting Salisbury’s cafés, restaurants and other businesses will discover the shop as they move through town.

The Salisbury business will draw from March’s experience running Sweet Haven Spa, but it will not be an exact copy. While the Seattle business was initially built around lash and brow enhancement and body sugaring, the new location will place greater emphasis on retail, facials, and brow and sugaring services by request.

March has curated the retail selection around the routines people incorporate into their days, including morning, bathing, and sleep rituals. The store will carry skin and body care products alongside items such as bamboo pillowcases, sleep masks, teas, and chocolates.

The goal, March said, is not to carry the widest possible assortment, but to offer carefully selected products associated with comfort and everyday care.

“I curated the shop around the idea of what we ritualize in our day,” she said.

Eminence Organic Skin Care, a Hungarian skin-care company whose products March has used throughout her career, will be the shop’s primary skin-care brand. She is also seeking products from smaller companies that are environmentally conscious, women-owned, or give back to their communities. She plans to rotate seasonal products into the store while continuing to carry the products customers respond to most enthusiastically.

The esthetics menu is still being finalized but is expected to include a signature facial and custom facials tailored to each client’s specific skin-care goals. She also plans to offer sugaring, a gentle hair removal method that uses a paste made from sugar, water, and lemon juice. Some services she plans to offer, such as brow and lash lifts and tints, are pending confirmation of licensing requirements in Connecticut and may not be immediately available.

The July soft opening will allow March to introduce the retail store, see which products interest local shoppers, and make adjustments before the larger opening. She expects the store to operate Thursday through Sunday at first, although the hours remain tentative and may expand based on demand. Once services begin, appointments will be booked online through Square. She also hopes to hire and train another employee as soon as possible.

More than any particular product or service, March said she wants the business to offer customers a space to step away from the demands of their day. After leaving the store, she hopes clients will feel relaxed and pampered and see a noticeable change in their skin.

“I want them to feel like they’re coming in and getting something out of this. Be it relaxation, be it skin care, be it just an hour and a half away from their day, they can take a break,” March said. “It’s wonderful.”

# Library tag sale draws crowds to Falls Village

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE – Bargain hunters turned out at the Center on Main in Falls Village on Saturday, July 11, for the first day of the David M. Hunt Library tag sale.

Outside the Center, shoppers browsed tennis rackets, outdoor chairs, flower pots, baskets, camping equipment and a hedge trimmer.

Inside, visitors had to make their way past a maze of chairs and sofas to get to the long tables inside.

Sheila Moore, a Salisbury summer resident who is from Arlington, Virginia, was there with a troop of grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She clutched a set of seat cushions for outdoor chairs in triumph.

“I’ve been looking all over for something like this.”

Kim Allen of Falls Village eyed a set of white women’s gloves. “This takes me back.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

**From left, Garth Kobal, Amy Wynn and Mary Priestman looked over the china for sale at the Hunt Library tag sale Saturday, July 11.**

All my aunts wore these.”

Other offerings included a beer-making kit, several coffee makers, assorted artwork, china, and a dog raincoat and booties set, which was snagged by Zoe Fedor-jaczenko.

Garth Kobal of Friends of the Scoville Library said the

tag sale typically raises between \$5,000 and \$7,000 for the library. “It’s hard to say,” he said. “Depends on what people bring in.”

The sale ran from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and again on Sunday, July 12, during the Falls Village Car and Motorcycle Show.

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Local Matters

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James H. Clark, CEO/Publisher, publisher@lakevillejournal.com

Our Towns

Preparing to pass the torch

Colonial Theatre owners hope history lives on

By Aly Morrissey

NORTH CANAAN – Untouched and dust-covered in the attic of the Colonial Theatre are fading spools of movie tickets, retro popcorn buckets, yellowed bowling score sheets and wooden armchairs from the building’s original movie seats. Frozen in time, the relics tell the story of more than a century of community gatherings as the theater’s current owners celebrate its past, reflect on their three-year stewardship and prepare to pass the torch.

Now for sale, the 10,000-square-foot venue and parking lot is up for grabs for \$695,000 and the owners say they are looking for the right buyer with an interest in preserving its history and charm.

The Colonial Theatre has been a part of North Canaan’s downtown since 1923. Its

latest chapter began in 2023 when Lenore and Mark Mallett joined Dave and Stacy Fiorillo to purchase the long-vacant building with a vision of restoring it as a gathering place.

“We wanted to pay honor to its past,” Lenore Mallett said. “It was such a lovely gathering space for so long that we all felt a calling to bring that back to the community because it’s such a gem and it should be shared.

The owners’ vision was clear – revive the building’s exterior and get people in the doors.

Their first order of business was to provide the theater with what they described as a much-needed facelift.

From the street, the building appeared neglected, Mallett said. Peeling paint and a faded marquee masked an interior that she said was surprisingly well preserved



Co-owner Lenore Mallett

after a major renovation in the early 2000s.

Focusing on curb appeal, they repaired the marquee, painted the whole building, and brought back some of the “vibrancy.”

The result, Mallett said, was a transformation that

brought a diverse range of vendors, renters and tenants to the building and its two first-floor retail spaces. Since reopening, the building has housed a bakery, a photography studio and a children’s arts and crafts center while hosting movie nights, birthday parties and private events.

**The history**

The Colonial Theatre’s history is as interesting and diverse as the many nooks and crannies within the building itself.

Built in 1923 by hotelier Seth Moseley as a gift for his wife, the building was originally known as “The Casino.”

Mallett said his wife often traveled from New Ha-

ven and grew bored of rural living, prompting Moseley to build her a three-level entertainment space.

“Downstairs had the bowling alley, the main floor had the theater, and upstairs was a dance hall,” Mallett said, adding that the main floor had air conditioning, a rare luxury at the time.

The bowling alley had eight alleys and advertised a “fully equipped soda and snack shop to refresh you.”

The Casino was sold in 1929 to businessman Anthony Boscardin, who modernized the building, changed its name, and created the art-deco interior that The Colonial Theatre is still known for today.

Old ticket stubs can still be found in the attic showing movies that cost between 15 and 25 cents during the early days.

The theater struggled financially and closed in 1997. After undergoing a roughly \$1 million renovation in the early 2000s, it shuttered its doors in 2010 and remained closed for a decade until the Mallett and Fiorillo families purchased it.

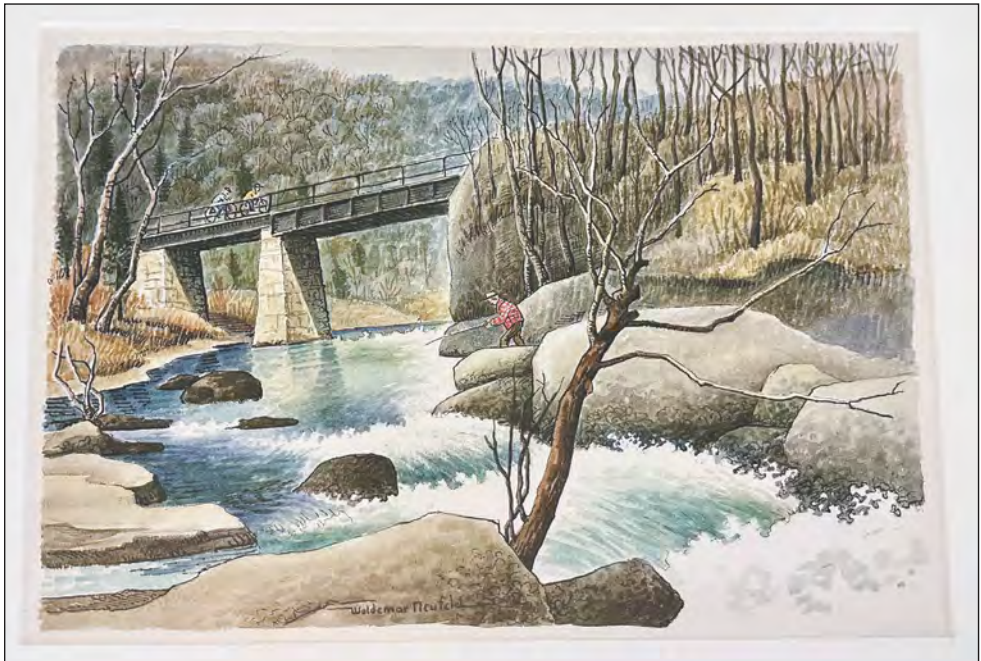
**The future**

Although the owners are ready to step aside, they hope the building’s next chapter builds on the foundation they’ve laid.

“We think the next steward, if they came in and were passionate about entertainment or food and beverage, this could certainly get taken to the next level,” Mallett said.

The theater will continue to operate with its regularly scheduled sponsored movies and private events while the owners search for a buyer.

“We’ve greased the wheels,” Mallett said. “We opened the doors, launched the business, created a website and built a booking and ticketing system. We have all the nuts and bolts, so if there was someone willing to take it on, it could really be something special.”



Woldemar Neufeld’s Cascade Bridge in Kent is among the watercolor and ink paintings featured in the Bridges Across the Housatonic exhibition opening July 17 in West Cornwall.

Cornwall exhibit to showcase historic bridge paintings

By Debra A. Aleksinas

WEST CORNWALL — Fifty years after artist Woldemar Neufeld completed one of the most ambitious artistic tributes ever devoted to the Housatonic River, a selection of his celebrated paintings will return to public view this summer, offering visitors a rare glimpse into the river’s history and the enduring landmarks that have long connected communities throughout the valley.

The exhibition, called “Bridges Across the Housatonic,” will open July 17 at the Housatonic River Commission and Cornwall Conservation Trust offices, located at 7 Railroad St. It will feature 10 original watercolor and ink paintings depicting bridges along the federally designated Wild & Scenic stretch of the Housatonic River in Northwest Connecticut.

The works, which mark the first public display of the collection since 2004, are part of the artist’s personal mission to document every bridge crossing the 149-mile Housatonic River. Beginning in 1974, Neufeld and his wife spent three years painting 65 automobile bridges and two pedestrian bridges stretching from the river’s headwaters in Massachusetts to Long Island Sound.

The resulting collection became both an artistic achievement and an important historical record, preserving scenes that in many cases have since changed dramatically through infra-

structure improvements, environmental restoration and shifting patterns of land use.

Neufeld’s paintings capture not only the bridges themselves, but also the everyday relationship between people and the river — fishermen casting from its banks, farmers working nearby fields and travelers crossing structures that became familiar landmarks in communities from the Berkshires to Long Island Sound.

Today, many of the bridges depicted in Neufeld’s paintings remain cherished landmarks, while others have disappeared or evolved with the passage of time.

Presented by the Cornwall-based Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) in partnership with the Housatonic River Commission and Cornwall Conservation Trust, the exhibition also includes original sketches, reference photographs Neufeld took while creating the series in the 1970s, and contemporary photographs showing how many of the same locations have changed — or remarkably remained the same — over the past half century.

The public is invited to an opening reception on Friday, July 17, from 3 to 5 p.m.

**About Neufeld’s works**

Born in 1909, Neufeld established a national reputation as a painter, printmaker and sculptor whose work is held in collections including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Library of Congress, the New Britain Museum of American Art and Memorial

Sloan Kettering Hospital.

“Neufeld was a realistic and sensitive portrayer of the connections between the built environment and the natural world,” said Tim Abbott, executive director of the Housatonic Valley Association.

“He understood that even mundane structures with a functional purpose like highway bridges had a form and elegance that not only help convey us over the river but become part of how we experience the landscape.”

**Continued stewardship**

The exhibition also celebrates the ongoing stewardship of the Housatonic River.

In 2023, a 41-mile stretch of the river through Northwest Connecticut received federal designation as part of the National Park Service’s Wild & Scenic Rivers Program, recognizing its exceptional scenic, ecological and recreational value.

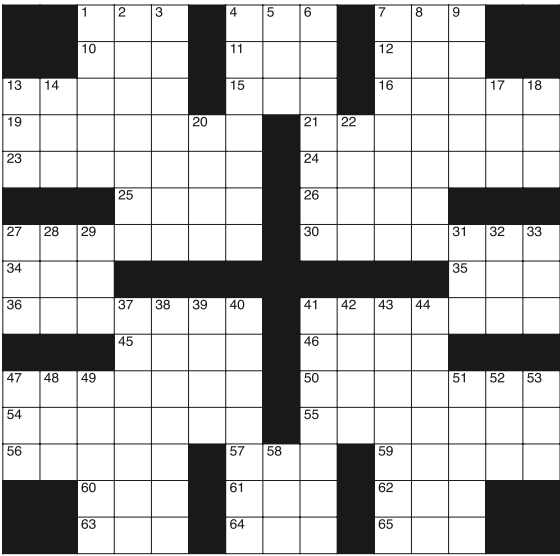
Both HVA and the Housatonic River Commission played key roles in securing that designation and continue working alongside local conservation partners to protect water quality, wildlife habitat and public access throughout the watershed.

For residents who have seen renewed conservation efforts focus on the Housatonic River, including a \$1.5 million state grant announced recently to keep a 245-acre parcel from development, the exhibition offers a look at its past and a reminder of why protecting its future remains a priority.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

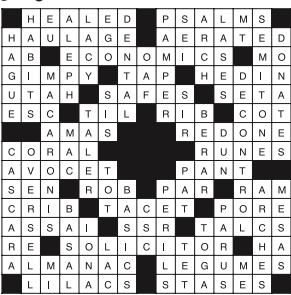
- 1. Tire pressure measurement
- 4. Request
- 7. Clairvoyance
- 10. 007’s creator
- 11. Adult male
- 12. God of battle (Scandinavian)
- 13. Cloths spread over a coffin
- 15. Breeze through
- 16. Ladyfish genus
- 19. We all take them
- 21. Earl’s jurisdiction
- 23. Members of U.S. Navy
- 24. Rummy-like card game
- 25. Affected by injury
- 26. Member of a Semitic people
- 27. Withdrew from a union
- 30. Woman’s cloak
- 34. Spanish river
- 35. Prohibit
- 36. Something you can take
- 41. Dish soap brand
- 45. Ottoman military commanders
- 46. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- 47. Makes somber
- 50. Discuss again
- 54. A tool to inject
- 55. Support
- 56. Informal term for money
- 57. Catch doing something wrong
- 59. Prehistoric people
- 61. Vehicle
- 62. Georgia rockers
- 63. High resolution microscope
- 64. Pitching statistic
- 65. Attempt



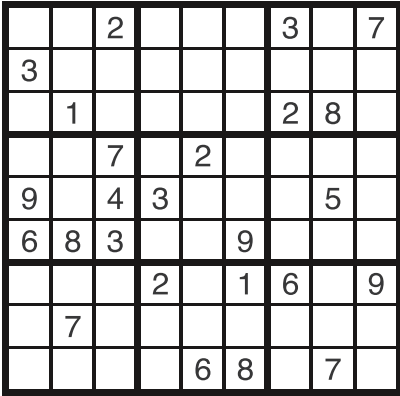
- 14. They \_\_
- 17. Cooking material
- 18. Investment account
- 20. Iron-containing compound
- 22. Swiss river
- 27. Small coin (French)
- 28. Electronic countermeasures
- 29. Taxi
- 31. Helps little firms
- 32. Unhappy
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Glowing
- 38. Item to be addressed
- 39. An informal body of friends
- 40. Intrinsic nature of something
- 41. Neural structures
- 42. Brews
- 43. A place for ships
- 44. One who sings holiday songs

- 47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 48. Scottish town
- 49. The most worthless parts
- 51. Sticky
- 52. Put to work
- 53. Precursor to the EU
- 58. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)

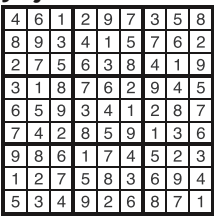
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# TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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## JULY 17

### Bridges Across the Housatonic: Revisiting Woldemar Neufeld's Bicentennial Art, 50 Years Later

HRC and CCT Offices, 7 Railroad St., West Cornwall, Conn.

Opening reception at 3 p.m. for HVA's Wild & Scenic collection of Woldemar Neufeld's paintings. In the 1970s, Neufeld set out to capture every bridge across the Housatonic in celebration of America's 200th birthday. 50 years later, the paintings are a reminder of how himan interactions with nature change over time.

## JULY 18

### Author Talk: Rebecca Chace, "Talking to the Wolf"

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. cornwalllibrary.org

Novelist, playwright and screenwriter Rebecca Chace discusses her new novel, "Talking to the Wolf," in conversation with Franny Taliaferro, former literary critic for The Wall Street Journal. The event begins at 5 p.m. and includes a book sale and signing. Registration is required. More information and registration at cornwalllibrary.org or 860-672-6874.

### Summer Portals Piano Concert Series at Hotchkiss: The Frank Gala Concert

11 Interlaken Road, Lakeville, Conn.

7:30 p.m. featuring Fabio and Gisele Witkowski, Phillipe Raskin and the Fine Arts Quartet playing Brahms: Piano Quartet in C Mino and Piano Quintet. There will also be a Young Artist Concert at 4:30 p.m.

## JULY 24

### Summer Portals Piano Concert Series at Hotchkiss: Grand Finale Concert

11 Interlaken Road, Lakeville, Conn.

Young Artists and Guest Artists share the stage for a celebratory final performance at 7:30 p.m.

## JULY 25

### Film Screening: "Rally Caps"

Stissing Center for Arts & Culture, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains, N.Y.

Celebrate the hometown

return of "Rally Caps," an independent coming-of-age baseball film shot in Pine Plains. Starring Judd Hirsch, Carson Minniear and Amy Smart, the film follows a young ballplayer's journey back to the game after a serious injury. The 7:30 p.m. screening will be followed by a Q&A with director and Pine Plains native Lee Cipolla, producer Katherine Borda, cast members Calee Nowak and Joseph Mazelli, and second assistant director JJ Hickey. Members of the Hudson Valley baseball community receive 50% off tickets with the code BASEBALL26. Tickets and information at thestissingcenter.org or 518-771-3339.

### The Magic of Moths: Celebrating National Moth Week

Sharon Audubon Center, 325 Cornwall Bridge Road, Sharon, Conn.

Celebrate National Moth Week with an evening of moth observation and community science from 7:30 to 10 p.m. The program begins with a one-hour introduction to iNaturalist led by ambassadors Abby Sesselberg and Steve Mayo, followed by guided moth identification and data collection at the center's moth stations. The free program is open to all ages. Advance registration is required. More information and registration at sharon.audubon.org or call 860-364-0250, ext. 115.

### Nature Weaving with Flowers from Crooked Oak Farm

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

1:30 to 4 p.m., weave fresh flowers and herbs from Crooked Oak Farm into a rustic loom made with branches and twine. Materials and natural looms provided. You're also encouraged to bring your own natural items

to weave. Register at scovillelibrary.org

### Concert: Sweet Petunia

Random Harvest, 1785 New York 23, Craryville, N.Y.

Sweet Petunia, the folk duo of Mairead Guy and Maddy Simpson, met at Berklee College of Music in 2018 and bonded over a shared love of traditional folk. Twice nominated for Boston Music Awards' Best Folk Act, they blend bluegrass roots with indie, punk and DIY influences. Their debut album, "Foggy Mountain Mental Breakdown" on Ani DiFranco's Righteous Babe Records, explores heartbreak, identity, friendship and self-discovery through rich harmonies and contemporary folk songwriting. This is a benefit concert for Random Harvest. 8 p.m.

## JULY 28

### Preparing an Advance Directive with Brenda Fife & East Mountain House

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

Learn why and how to prepare an advance directive for yourself or someone you know using The Five Wishes, the most popular advance directive tool in the U.S. Receive free materials and learn from East Mountain House colleagues about end-of-life care. 5:30 to 7 p.m. Registration appreciated at scovillelibrary.org

## AUGUST 1

### Jorge Glem & Sam Reider

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

Latin GRAMMY nominees Jorge Glem and Sam Reider — Venezuelan cuatrista and American accordionist — together for the magic of two musical traditions coming together. 7:30 p.m. Tickets at thestissingcenter.org

## AUGUST 2

### From Roots to Promise: Singing America at 250

Battell Music Shed, Norfolk, Conn.

5 p.m.

The Litchfield County Choral Union presents its summer concert celebrating the nation's 250th anniversary. The program traces America's musical journey from William Billings' "Chester" and the LCCU anthem "Sweet Is the Work" through Carol Barnett's "Bluegrass Mass," Cecilia McDowall's "Everyday Wonders: The Girl From Aleppo" and Paul Halley's "Freedom Trilogy." Under the direction of Gabriel Löfvall, the concert explores themes of identity, displacement, hope and freedom through a diverse and ambitious choral repertoire. Tickets at litchfieldcountychoralunion.com

## AUGUST 3

### Make a Book with Lilly Rand

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

Aug. 3 and 4

Join artist Lilly Rand to make a book of your own design and fill the pages with whatever inspires you. Materials will be provided. You're also welcome to bring your own materials. Two sessions: 1 to 4 p.m. Registration required at scovillelibrary.org

## AUGUST 4

### Grow With Us: Flower Pressing

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org

Participants will pick flowers from the garden, press them, and explore creative ways to use dried flowers in art and craft projects. All ages welcome. 4:30 p.m.

## AUGUST 6

### Boondocks Presents: Over Your Dead Body with In-person Q&A with Director Jorma Taccone

Four Brothers Drive-In 4957 NY-22, Amenia, N.Y.

Film-inspired food, themed cocktails and more. 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets at playeatdrink.com

### Summer Book Group

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

4 to 5 p.m., join Julia Hobart to discuss "The Collected Regrets of Clover" by Mikki Brammer. No registration required. A limited number of copies are available for loan at the Scoville Library.

## AUGUST 8

### Norfolk Chamber Music Festival Celebrates America's 250th Anniversary

Music Shed, Yale Norfolk School of Music, Norfolk, Conn.

Concert at 8 p.m. celebrating the nation's 250th birthday with works by Aaron Copland, William Grant Still, Antonín Dvořák and the world premiere of *Dust and Clover*, a new commission by Nahre Sol. Performed by Festival Director Melvin Chen, James Austin Smith, Jesse Mills, Ole Akahoshi and Norfolk Festival Fellows. Pre-concert events begin at 6 p.m. with a conversation featuring Nahre Sol

and Emily Adams Bode Aujla, followed by complimentary drinks on the patio at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35-\$70; free for children under 19.

## AUGUST 18

### Book Launch: "Mobsters in the Mansion"

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

(rescheduled from July 7)

Author and media executive Scott Siegler joins veteran journalist Brian Ross for a discussion of Siegler's new book, "Mobsters in the Mansion," a collection of stories tracing a prodigal son's journey from Midwestern affluence to the inner circles of California's entertainment industry. David Chase, creator of "The Sopranos," has called the book "fearless and funny ... so knowledgeable, so true." The event takes place from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., followed by a reception and book signing. Registration is required. More information and registration at scovillelibrary.org.



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Our Towns

Community Health and Wellness Center expands reach

By John Coston

NORTH CANAAN — The federally supported healthcare safety net in the Northwest Corner that offers sliding-scale payments continues to expand its reach in the community.

The Community Health and Wellness Center, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), reported 36,235 visits in 2025, up from 33,750 in the previous year.

CHWC, which has medical office facilities in Torrington, Winsted and one in North Canaan that opened in the spring of 2024, reported that 65% of patients served last year were living at or below the poverty level.

In 2025, the organization served a total of 7,212 patients, compared to 6,746 the year before.

“We offer primary care, dental, behavioral health and much more,” said Joanne Borduas, chief executive officer. “We provide a local comprehensive medical infrastructure.”

The Northwest Corner continues to experience a shortage of primary-care doctors, compounded by the fact that some physicians no longer accept new patients, and others have long lead times for an appointment to see a doctor. FQHCs receive enhanced Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement and serve medically underserved areas.

In addition to primary care, CHWC has a long list of medical services that include women’s health, pediatrics, telemedicine, behavioral health, dental, pharmacy, home visits and others, as well as providing transportation for those in need and even a food pantry. The agency operates in 24 towns in the Northwest Corner and in seven Torrington schools, three Region One schools and has a mobile health clinic.

Though CHWC accepts insured and uninsured patients, Medicaid recipients, comprising low-income adults, children, pregnant women, elderly adults, and people with disabilities, made up 48% of CHWC’s patient base last year.

The organization has struggled to get reimbursement from the state for its Medicaid expenses. It also has faced the threat of Medicaid cutbacks from Washington and disputes with Connecticut’s Department of Social Services to make the state’s 17 Federally Qualified Health Care Centers whole with respect to their Medicaid costs. Last July, after lengthy negotiations, an agreement was reached to increase reimbursements over three years that will bring reimbursements to 2023 levels.

In May, CHWC announced a fundraising campaign in anticipation of federal Medicaid cuts.

Le Gamin reopens Le Bar with year-round plans

By Phoebe Tobin

SHARON — Le Bar, the space next door that is part of Le Gamin, has reopened for the summer with a new menu, a new bartender and plans to become a year-round destination for drinks, good food and community events.

The bar first opened last summer as a seasonal extension of Le Gamin before closing for the winter. This year, owner Robert Arbor decided to bring it back with a more permanent approach, adding a new, and locally famous bartender, a different menu and a space that stands apart from the French café next door.

“We opened the bar last year just for the summer and closed it in the winter,” Arbor said. “This year we will run the restaurant from the bar all winter because it’s much cozier, warmer.”

The idea of Le Bar, although connected to Le Gamin, was to offer something different, a different vibe, to the community of Sharon and beyond. While the restaurant offers the experience of a classic French café, with crepes and quiche, the bar creates a darker, more intimate feel, with seating at the bar and tables throughout the smaller space.

The menu also separates the two spaces. Le Bar offers a slightly more American-style menu, featuring items like burgers and chicken sandwiches.



PHOTO BY MADI LONG

Le Bar, adjacent to Le Gamin in Sharon, has reopened for the season with a new menu, new bartender and plans to remain open year-round.

These changes and re-vamping were made possible by bartender Ryan Andrade, who previously worked at the White Hart Inn in Salisbury, garnering a local reputation as a talented bartender and, in 2021, was the Connecticut Restaurant Association Bartender of the Year Finalist. Arbor gave Andrade the freedom to shape the bar’s menu and overall feel.

“Those are all my own recipes, and I curated the food menu,” Andrade said. “The cocktails are my babies so it’s kind of hard to pick a favorite”

In the future, Ryan is looking to establish Le Bar as a gathering place. Recently, it has been hosting world cup watch parties and dance nights, including a U.S. match that packed the space from wall to wall.

Andrade hopes Le Bar brings a different energy to

Sharon, describing the goal as bringing “kind of a Brooklyn side to Sharon” while cultivating a speakeasy atmosphere.

As Le Bar embarks on its first full year, Arbor and Andrade are looking forward to creating a regular destination for Sharon and Connecticut residents to gather.

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