

The Lakeville Journal

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



A delivery truck strikes the overhanging roof of Lakeville's historic railroad station on Ethan Allen Street on Monday, Sept. 21. The collision came five days after voters approved spending up to \$650,000 to move the building back 19 feet from the roadway.

Voters approve \$650K move of historic Lakeville train station

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Voters overwhelmingly approved spending up to \$650,000 to move Lakeville's historic train station and construct a new foundation during a well-attended town meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 16.

The proposal passed 111-37, with 105 residents voting in person and another 43 online.

The project calls for raising the Ethan Allen Street building, moving it back 19 feet and constructing a new foundation. Longer-term plans include restoring the interior and installing new heating and cooling systems.

The Board of Selectmen selected Burlington Construction's \$611,111 bid to complete the work, subject to voter approval of the funding. Voters authorized spending up to \$650,000, with the balance available for engineering expenses and contingencies.

First Selectman Curtis Rand has argued for months that the project is necessary to preserve the building and improve safety at the congested intersection. Delivery trucks have struck the station's overhanging roof multiple times in recent years.

Concrete barriers placed in front of the building have helped prevent trucks from striking it but have narrowed the busy roadway.

The intersection is especially congested in summer, when children bike to and from the town Grove and Lake Wononscopomuc.

After approving three other measures at the meeting, voters turned to the station proposal, the main item on the agenda.

"And now what we've all been waiting for," Rand said.

Sharon housing project gets \$500K

By Christian Murray

SHARON — The Sharon Housing Trust has received a \$500,000 state tax credit allocation to help finance its 10-unit affordable housing campus on North Main Street.

The funding will support renovations to six existing apartments in three buildings at 91, 93 and 95 North Main St. and the conversion of a fourth building, the former town community center

See HOUSING, Page A10

\$13 million boost for Sharon Hospital

Senior care, telehealth and rehabilitation services to expand

By Ruth Epstein

SHARON — Sharon Hospital will receive \$13.1 million in federal funding to expand care for older residents, improve access to specialists and establish an outpatient rehabilitation facility outside its campus.

Gov. Ned Lamont announced Sept. 16 that the award is part of \$50 million in first-year agreements finalized by the Connecticut Department of Social Services under the Rural Health Transformation Program.

The statewide funding package includes \$46 million for four rural hospital systems and nearly \$4 million for technical assistance.

Sharon Hospital, part of Northwell Health, plans to combine its \$13.1 million award with investments from the health system to support three initiatives: a healthy aging program, a staffed virtual health office and an off campus rehabilitation facility.

The healthy aging program will bring blood pressure checks, glucose monitoring and cholesterol screening to community settings where older residents already gather. Hospital officials said the

See HOSPITAL, Page A10

Cornwall proposes ban on data centers, large battery facilities

By Ruth Epstein

CORNWALL — Cornwall is moving to shut the door on data centers and large-scale battery storage facilities before a developer attempts to submit plans for either type of project.

The Planning and Zoning Commission has proposed amending the town's zoning regulations to define and prohibit both uses. A public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. at the Cornwall Library.

If the P&Z Commission votes in favor of a ban, the zoning regulations will have to be amended to define centers and prohibit them.

The proposal comes as Connecticut offers tax incentives to attract data centers and promotes

See DATA CENTERS, Page A10

More than 50 teams test their knowledge at Kent Quiz Night

By Ians Christensen

KENT — More than 50 teams packed the Kent firehouse Saturday, Sept. 19, for Kent Memorial Library's annual Quiz Night.

Competitors gathered around tables beside the firetrucks, bringing food and refreshments for an evening of trivia and community competition.

The teams showed some creativity before the questions even began, with team names that included, "Let's Get Quizzical," "Trivia Killed the Radio Star," "Schrodinger's Cats," "We Couldn't Find Two Friends," "I Thought This Was Bingo" and "Kent We Just Google It?"

See QUIZ NIGHT, Page A10



More that 50 teams filled the Kent firehouse Saturday, Sept. 19, for Kent Memorial Library's annual Quiz Night fundraiser. Creative team names included "Let's Get Quizzical," "Trivia Killed the Radio Star" and "I Thought This Was Bingo."



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The Lakeville Journal ■ The Millerton News

POLICE BLOTTER: TROOP B

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

Avoiding a deer

On Saturday, Sept. 19 at approximately 3 a.m Giovanni Rojas of Kent was traveling southbound on Rt. 7 in Cornwall when he lost control of his 2026 Dodge Durango while avoiding a deer on the roadway. The vehicle traveled off the right side of the road, striking a residential mailbox at 146 Kent Road. Rojas was found at fault for the crash and was issued a written warning for failure to maintain lane.

Breach of peace, firearm charge

Troop B troopers responded to an active disturbance possibly involving a firearm at approximately 9 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 11 at White Plains Campground in Barkhamsted. An investigation led to the arrest of Frank Schulze, 61, of Bristol on misdemeanor charges of breach of peace in the second degree and carrying a firearm while under the influence of alcohol and he was released on a \$2,500 non-surety bond for a scheduled appearance in Torrington Superior Court.

Motorcycle accident

Michalle Dileo, 37, of Barkhamsted, was merging onto 318 westbound from Goose Green Road in Barkhamsted at approximately 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12, when her 2013 Jeep Patriot was struck by a motorcycle traveling at a high rate of speed without headlights on.

Dileo had a 10-year old female passenger in the Jeep. Neysha Detrez, 32, of Torrington, a passenger on the motorcycle, was reportedly ejected from the motorcycle, while the unknown driver of the motorcycle fled the scene. Detrez sustained minor injuries and was transported to Waterbury Hospital. Troop B requests that any witnesses contact Trooper Moriarity at 860-626-1820.

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

Kent home prices hit new high in August

By Christine Bates

KENT — The median sale price for a single-family home in Kent reached a record \$760,750 for the 12 months ending Aug. 31, 2026.

The median was 57% above the \$484,000 recorded a year earlier and 1% higher than the previous record of \$753,000 set in the 12 months ending in August 2024. The figures exclude condominiums.

Sales volume remained stable, with 28 single-family homes sold during the latest 12-month period, averaging roughly two to three a month. The total compares with 27 sales in the 12 months ending in August 2025 and 30 in the corresponding period in 2024.

Sales peaked at 81 during the 12 months ending in May 2021, amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Inventory has increased in recent weeks, with 19 single-family homes and three condominiums listed for sale. Twelve of the houses have asking prices above \$1 million, while four are listed below the current median sale price. Homes in Kent typically sell for 98% to 100% of their asking price.

The five August transactions detailed below reflect the busy summer closing



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Built in 1914, the three-bedroom home at 46 Spooner Hill Road overlooks neighboring fields from its 5.5-acre property. With more than 2,500 square feet of living space and central air conditioning, it sold for \$1,060,000 after 187 days on the market, below its original asking price of \$1,295,000, according to Smart MLS.

season, when homes listed in May and June go under contract and complete their sales.

August Kent Transfers

66 Muller Road – 2 bedroom/2 bath home on 5 acres transferred by Peter and Lisa Crockett to Clinton Kelly and Damon Bayles for \$565,000

100 Main Street North – 4 bedroom/4 full bath/2 half bath home built in 1800 on 11.01 acres transferred by Jeffrey Kane Weiser Trustee of Jeffrey Kane Weiser Revocable Trust and Soo Zin Hugh Trustee of Soo Sin Hugh Revocable Trust to Greenway

Holdings LLC for \$2,400,000

262 Kent Cornwall Road – 3 bedroom/2 bath home on 29.8 acres transferred by Carl Posse III and Constance Flanigan to Syed Khalid Wasti and Joanne Lee Wasti for \$950,000

46 Spooner Hill Road – 3 bedroom/2.5 bath home on 5.45 acres transferred by Maria and David Kopstein to Andrew and Mary Ann Carman for \$1,060,000

433 Kent Cornwall Road, Unit #22 – 3 bedroom/2 bath condo transferred by Holly Ceane and William Strebel to

Nadine Kellar for \$370,000.

* Town of Kent real estate transfers recorded between August 1, 2026, and August 31, 2026, provided by Kent Town Clerk. Transfers without consideration are not included. Current market listings from Smart MLS and market data from Info Sparks. Note that recorded transfers frequently lag sales by a number of days. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

Car show supports NCES eighth graders

By John Coston

NORTH CANAAN — A vintage car show with an assortment of vendors enjoyed perfect fall weather Saturday, Sept. 19, while raising money for North Canaan Elementary School's eighth-grade class trip to Washington, D.C.

The entire eighth-grade class was on hand for the fundraiser that will help defray the \$1,600 cost per student for the class trip next May. The annual trip for the graduating class spans four days and three nights and

focuses on civics and history, and they often take in a ball game.

Eve Davis, a seventh-grade teacher of language arts who is a main organizer of the fundraiser, said, "It's a coming of age experience for the students. For many of them, it's the first time that they're away from their parents."

The car show drew car buffs who strolled through lineups of sixties muscle cars and more modern high-horsepower cars, as well as strollers who enjoyed the fried dough truck.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Eighth graders at North Canaan Elementary School pitched in on Saturday, Sept. 19 at the Classic Car Show fundraiser to support their class trip in May.

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Our Towns

Republican candidates rally supporters at Salisbury event ahead of election

By Ruth Epstein

SALISBURY — Republican candidates seeking state and federal offices rallied supporters around affordability, taxes, public safety and government accountability during a campaign event at the Town Grove on Sunday, Sept. 20.

Sponsored by the Salisbury and Sharon Republican town committees, the gathering featured candidates ranging from governor to judge of probate. Speakers outlined their priorities while directing much of their criticism at Democratic incumbents.

Tom Morrison, chairman of the Salisbury Republican Town Committee and the event's host, called the Republican slate the party's strongest to date.

"We have the strongest ticket from top to bottom that we've ever had," he said.

He urged supporters to begin displaying campaign signs, noting that Democratic signs had already appeared around the area. "We wanted to wait so as not to despoil the landscape as the Democrats have," he joked.

State Sen. Ryan Fazio, the Republican candidate challenging Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont, focused on affordability, lowering utility costs, public safety and education.

Fazio said Lamont's economic policies have made Connecticut less affordable.

He also accused Lamont of running a negative campaign instead of presenting a record of accomplishments or a plan for another term.

He also argued that the



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

Among the candidates attending Sunday's Republican Meet the Candidates event in Salisbury were, from left, Judge of Probate Jordan Richards, Chris Shea, John Bolton, Jen Tooker, Fred Wilms and Matt Corey.

governor has centralized authority in Hartford and weakened local control, including over zoning decisions.

"You'd think after eight years, he'd tell you what he's accomplished," he said, adding Lamont has "no plan" for what he wants to do next.

Lamont has presented affordability and economic growth as central themes of his reelection campaign.

Matt Corey, Fazio's running mate and the Republican candidate for lieutenant governor, also criticized the Lamont administration's economic policies.

Corey, who is challenging Democratic Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz, said he and Fazio would seek to reduce property and corporate taxes and make Connecticut more affordable for retirees and businesses.

Peter Lumaj, the Repub-

lican candidate for secretary of the state, emphasized election administration. Lumaj said his childhood under Communist rule in Albania shaped his belief in the importance of meaningful and secure elections.

He argued that the secretary of the state's office should be administered without partisan influence and cited alleged voting irregularities in several Connecticut municipalities. Lumaj criticized Democratic incumbent Stephanie Thomas' handling of election security.

Thomas has defended the integrity of Connecticut's elections while acknowledging the need to investigate documented irregularities, including those in Bridgeport.

Republican attorney general candidate John Bolton criticized Democratic in-

cumbent William Tong for participating in lawsuits challenging actions by President Donald Trump's administration. Bolton said the attorney general should concentrate more heavily on matters directly affecting Connecticut

residents.

Tong has said those legal challenges are intended to protect Connecticut residents, state programs and federal funding.

Chris Shea, the Republican candidate in the 5th Congressional District, criticized Democratic U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes' record and said he had received encouragement from voters in Waterbury, Hayes' hometown.

Republican treasurer candidate Fred Wilms highlighted his financial background and argued that Connecticut should change the way its pension investments are overseen. He criticized Democratic Treasurer Erick Russell's experience and investment record and called for transferring some authority from the treasurer to a board of trustees.

Jen Tooker, the Republican candidate for state comptroller, focused on Connecticut's long-term liabilities and business climate. The former Westport first selectman ar-

gued that Democratic Comptroller Sean Scanlon lacks sufficient financial experience and said the state must address its debt obligations to attract more businesses.

State Sen. Stephen Harding, the Republican minority leader who represents the 30th District, accused Democratic lawmakers of circumventing state spending controls and called for reducing government spending.

"We need to rein in our spending and reduce the size of government," Harding said. "I believe in common sense."

Harding is being challenged by Democrat Aaron Zimmer of Brookfield. The 30th District includes Salisbury, Sharon, Cornwall, Kent, North Canaan and several other northwestern Connecticut communities.

Judge of Probate Jordan Richards also spoke briefly. He is running unopposed.

Connecticut's general election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 3.

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Our Towns

Cardona urges more pathways from high school to rewarding careers

By Ruth Epstein

FALLS VILLAGE — Former U.S. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona called for better coordination among schools, colleges, employers and government agencies to give Connecticut students more options after high school. Cardona, who also served as Connecticut’s education commissioner, spoke at the Salisbury Forum’s first program of the season Friday, Sept. 18, at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. He began by describing how his paternal grandparents’ move from Puerto Rico to Connecticut decades ago helped put him on a path that eventually led to a seat in President Joe Biden’s Cabinet. “When Domino Sugar Company took over the sugar fields in Puerto Rico, he lost his job,” Cardona said of his paternal grandfather. “He moved his family to Connecticut because of the tobacco fields. They lived in

the projects.” He noted that his mother’s family moved to Meriden, where his parents married young and raised their family. Cardona, as a teenager, enrolled in a technical high school to study automotive mechanics. His path changed when a teacher noticed his interest in social justice and encouraged him to become an educator. “I wouldn’t have bet on me to become an adviser to a president, but the teacher saw the assets, not the deficits in me,” he said. “She was someone who believed in me and saw something in me I didn’t see.” Cardona went on to become a teacher, principal and district administrator before being appointed Connecticut’s education commissioner and later serving as U.S. education secretary under President Biden. “What a blessing that was, to advise the president on dealing with millions of public school students in the



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

Former U.S. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona speaks at Salisbury Forum Friday, Sept. 18, at Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

country,” he said. Cardona said his priorities as state commissioner included narrowing achievement gaps among students of different backgrounds. As federal education secretary, he helped oversee the reopening of schools during the COVID-19 pandemic and pursued changes intend-

ed to strengthen accountability in higher education and improve affordability. Cardona currently chairs the Connecticut Career Pathways Commission, which is assessing the state’s education and workforce development systems and preparing recommendations for a five-year strategic plan.

Gov. Ned Lamont created the commission to help students navigate the choice between college and entering the workforce. Cardona said Connecticut has many effective programs and agencies, but they do not always work together. Labor representatives, educators, elected officials and industry leaders need to communicate more closely, he said. Cardona also described the issue as an economic imperative, citing the number of Americans struggling to repay student loans and Connecticut employers’ need for qualified workers. “There are tens of thousands of careers in Connecticut that students don’t know about,” he said. “Some are making big salaries in the tech field without college debt. We owe it to our students to be able to meet the demands of today. If we don’t meet the demands of employers, they’ll go elsewhere.” During a question-and-answer session,

Cardona was asked about reductions at the U.S. Department of Education. “It’s a bad idea,” he replied. “Investing in education is like investing in defense.” He also criticized low teacher salaries, noting that educators can leave college with debt comparable to that of graduates entering substantially higher-paying professions. He pointed out that most teachers are women. Asked about school shootings, Cardona grew somber as he recalled visiting communities where shootings had occurred. “We’ve normalized them,” he said. “Gun violence is the number one cause of death of children. We have to do better. It’s not a red or blue issue, but an American issue.” He warned that without action, more school shootings are inevitable. “It’s going to happen — not if, but when,” Cardona said. “When are we going to wake up?”

LEGAL NOTICES

**Notice of Decision
Town of Salisbury
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission**
Notice is hereby given that the following actions were taken by the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on September 14, 2026:
Approved — Application IWWC-26-33 by owner 145 Farnum Rd LLC to rebuild a single family residence with a new footprint in the upland review area. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 48 as lot 15 and is known as 145 Farnum Road, Lakeville. Deemed Exempt - Application IWWC-26-36 by Sleepy Cow Farm to Construct a 24' X 80' Agriculture Storage Building. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 05 as lot 01 and is known as 47 Dimond Road, Lakeville, CT, 06039
Any aggrieved person may appeal this decision to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes § 22a-43(a) & §8-8.
Town of Salisbury
Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission
Sally Spillane, Secretary
09-24-26

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
E S T A T E O F
FRANCOISE
ALBERTINE KELZ
Late of Sharon
(26-00323)**
The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated September 9, 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:
Lorraine A. Seely
c/o Andrea Doyle Asman
Litwin Asman, PC
1047 Bantam Rd.,
P.O. Box 698
Bantam, CT 06750
Jordan Bergs, Clerk
09-24-26

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF IMANTS J. KASPARS
Late of Sharon
(26-00310)**
The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated September 9, 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:
Rita Kasparis-Liddell
c/o Ellen C Marino
Ellen C Marino
596 Main Street
Winsted, CT 06098
Jordan Bergs, Clerk
09-24-26

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF RALPH M. BOGERTMAN, Jr.,
Late of Falls Village
(26-00364)**
The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated September 9, 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:
Nicholas Schneider
c/o Michael Downes Lynch
Law Office of
Michael D. Lynch
106 Upper Main Street
P.O. Box 1776
Sharon, CT 06069
Jordan Bergs, Clerk
09-24-26

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
REGINA R. OLFF
Late of Canaan
(26-00360)**
The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated September 9, 2026, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly pres-

ent any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. The fiduciary is:
Julia Olff
c/o Linda M Patz
Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP
7 Church Street
P.O. Box 101
Canaan, CT 06018
Jordan Bergs, Clerk
09-24-26

ORDINANCE REGARDING A LIMITED TAX EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF LAKEVILLE HOSE COMPANY NO. 1 AND SALISBURY VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE
This Ordinance has been adopted pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 12-81w
(A) Purpose. In recognition of the benefits provided to the Town by the dedicated service of Lakeville Hose Company No. 1 ("LHC") and ("SVAS") personnel, the Town hereby adopts this exemption program pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 12-81w.
(B) Eligibility. To be eligible for the exemption program, an individual must have served as an active volunteer of either LHC or SVAS for at least 12 consecutive months as of December 31 of the calendar year immediately prior to the date of participation in the applicable exemption program. The criteria for "active volunteer" hereunder shall be established by the leadership of LHC and SVAS and provided to the Town's Assessor and Tax Collector.
(C) Certification. Between December 15 and December 31 of each year, the Chiefs of LHC and SVAS shall submit to the First Selectman a list of eligible volunteers (the "Eligible Volunteers") and their addresses. The list shall be signed, dated as certified as "True and Accurate" by each Chief before it is submitted. The First Selectman shall report receipt of the list to the Board of Selectmen and transmit it to the Town's Assessor and Tax Collector. Neither the Assessor

nor the Tax Collector may add or delete an individual. The tax exemption shall apply to real or personal property owned by Eligible Volunteers on the Grand List as of October 1 immediately preceding the date of submission of the annual list. For example, if the Chiefs of LHC and SVAS submit the list on December 30, 2026, the exemption shall apply to the Grand List of October 1, 2026. For the purposes of this Ordinance, real or personal property shall be considered owned by an Eligible Volunteer if the record owner of the real or personal property is (1) a corporation or limited liability of which the Eligible Volunteer is the sole owner or (2) a trust of which the Eligible Volunteer is the sole trustee. The burden shall be on the Eligible Volunteer to inform the Assessor of any ownership by a corporation, limited liability company, or trust as described in the preceding sentence.
(D) Application of Exemption. If an Eligible Volunteer owns both real and personal property, the exemption provided by this Ordinance shall be applied first to real property, then to personal property. If an Eligible Volunteer owns multiple parcels of real property or multiple items of personal property, the exemption provided by this Ordinance shall be applied as the Assessor may determine. For the purposes of this Ordinance, real or personal property shall be considered owned by an Eligible Volunteer if the record owner of the real or personal property is (1) a corporation or limited liability of which the Eligible Volunteer is the sole owner or (2) a trust of which the Eligible Volunteer is the sole trustee. If an Eligible Volunteer owns property jointly, rather than individually, the full amount of the exemption may be applied as if the Eligible Volunteer owned the property individually. If property is owned by more than one Eligible Volunteer, each Eligible Volunteer is enti-

tled to the full amount of the exemption provided by this Ordinance.
(E) Exemption Not Transferable. The sale or transfer of any real or personal property to which exemption has been applied shall disqualify the property from exemption for the remainder of the then-fiscal year. In the event of the death of an Eligible Volunteer, the exemption afforded hereunder shall terminate at the end of the fiscal year in which the Eligible Volunteer dies.
(F) Amount of Exemption. In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes section 12-81w, the portion of the assessed value of real or personal property of an Eligible Volunteer entitled to tax exemption under this Ordinance (the "Exempt Portion") shall be an amount equal to (1) one million dollars divided by (2) the Town's mill rate in effect at the time of the assessment. For example, if the mill rate at the time of an assessment is 11.0, the Exempt Portion of an Eligible Volunteer's real or personal property shall be \$90,909.09 (one million dollars divided by 11.0); and if the mill rate at the time of an assessment is 12.0, the Exempt Portion of an Eligible Volunteer's real or personal property shall be \$83,333.33 (one million divided by 12.0).
(G) Dual Service. If an individual is an Eligible Volunteer hereunder for both LHC and SVAS, that individual shall receive the single exemption to which an Eligible Volunteer is entitled under this Ordinance.
(H) Non-Resident Volunteers. The Board of Selectmen is authorized to enter into interlocal agreements with other towns to provide an identical tax relief benefit to active volunteers who satisfy the service eligibility criteria by providing service to the Town of Salisbury but live in another Connecticut town. Such relief shall be paid directly to the town in which the non-resident volunteer lives.
(I) Effective Date. This Ordinance will become effective fifteen (15) days

after publication of notice of adoption in a newspaper having circulation in the Town. Approved by the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on September 16, 2026.
Kristine M Simmons
Town Clerk
09-24-26

**TAX COLLECTOR
TOWN OF
SALISBURY CT
LEGAL NOTICE**
Pursuant to Sec. 12-145 of the Connecticut Statutes, the taxpayers of the Town of Salisbury are hereby notified that the second installment on the Grand List of October 1, 2025 is due and payable on October 1, 2026. Payments must be received or postmarked by November 2, 2026. If said Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are not paid on or before November 2, 2026 interest at the rate of 1 1/2% (18% per year) will be added for each month or a fraction thereof which elapses from the time when such tax becomes due and payable until the same is paid. Minimum interest charge is \$2.00. Taxes can be paid by mail addressed to: Tax Collector, P.O. BOX 338, Salisbury CT 06068 or Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Salisbury CT. There is a drop box in the vestibule of the Town Hall available 9am-4pm, Monday — Friday or the 24-hour drop box on the back side of the building off Factory Street. Tax Office is open Mon and Wed, 9am-4pm and Friday 9am — 3pm close for lunch 12:30pm -1:30pm. The Town is urging taxpayers to use the option to pay by credit card or e-check. Please go to the Town website salisburyct.us, View/PayTaxes Tab. Dated at Salisbury, CT this 2nd day of September, 2026.
JoAnne D. Dodge,
CCMC
Tax Collector
09-24-26
10-08-26
10-22-26

OBITUARY

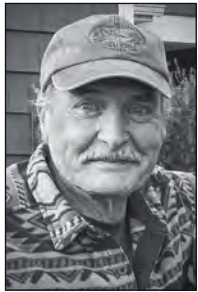
Mark Edward Peck

VILLAGE OF MILLERTON — Mark Edward Peck, 70, a lifelong area resident died peacefully at his childhood home in Millerton, New York, just as his beloved father had several years prior. Mark worked as a self-employed roofing contractor for MCM Construction in Millerton, prior to his illness.

Born June 5, 1956, in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, he was the son of the late Alan G. and S. Jean (Bathrick) Peck. He was educated in the Webutuck School District and he graduated high school with the class of 1974. On Sept. 22, 1984 in Copake Falls, New York, he married the love of his life, Jane E. Robertson. Mrs. Peck survives at home in Millerton.

Mark was an avid musician and played and sang in multiple bands throughout his life. He loved the outdoors and especially enjoyed caring for his lawn and yard work in general. He was an avid New York Giants fan and greatly enjoyed long rides over Mount Riga with his beloved wife Jane. Mark will forever be remembered as an all-around good guy and he will be dearly missed by his family and many dear friends.

In addition to his wife



Jane, Mark is survived by his son, Edward Brammer III and his wife Amy of Sandisfield, Massachusetts; two brothers, Bruce Peck of Au Sable Forks, New York, and Glenn Peck and his wife Lynn of Webster, New York; two grandchildren, Jessica Stevens and her husband Will of Canaan, Connecticut, and Abby Magner and her husband Alex of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and five great grandchildren, Brayden, Lyla, Eli, Wyatt and Noah. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by a brother, Gary Peck of Copake, New York.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday, Sept. 27, 2026, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, New York. A funeral service will take place at 3 p.m. at the funeral home. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. A reception in Mark's honor will follow at the Millerton Firehouse. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree is Mark's memory, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com Arrangements have been entrusted to Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546.

Ronald Aakjar, Sr.

SOUTH KENT — Ronald Aakjar Sr. of South Kent, Connecticut passed away peacefully July 9, 2026, at the age of 83.

He is survived by his wife Amy, and predeceased by his first wife, Linda. He is also survived by two sons, Peder of South Kent, Connecticut and Ron Jr., of Plympton,

Massachusetts, several grandchildren and great grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother, Raymond of Sharon, Connecticut, and a sister, Melanie of New York City, as well as nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held on Friday Oct. 2, at 10:30 at St. Andrews Church in Kent, Connecticut.

John H. Belter

SOUTH BURLINGTON, Vt. — John H Belter Jr. 77, of South Burlington, Vermont died on Tuesday Sept. 15, 2026, at home, following a battle with liver cancer.

He was born on June 12, 1949, in Sharon, Connecticut, the son of John and Doretta Beaupre Belter. He graduated from Housatonic High School and the Ag School at the University of Connecticut. He was married in St. Marks Church in New Canaan, Connecticut to Joyce Nelson.

John and Joyce started their adventure with their own dairy farm by renting a farm in Lakeville, Connecticut just down the road from his family's homestead. They leased it for three years until they were able to purchase Ethan Allen Farm in South Burlington, Vermont. John enjoyed being able to raise his family on his working dairy farm. He received numerous awards in FFA, the National Corn Growers Association, Farm Bureau, and Jaycees. Being selected as one of four Outstanding Farmers in America in 1984, lead to having breakfast with his family at the White House with President Ronald Regan.



John served on the South Burlington planning commission for many years and was active in the Jaycees, Kiwanis, 4-H Leader and Holstein Fresian Association. John enjoyed many sports including golf, basketball, and tennis.

He is survived by his wife Joyce, his son Todd (Caroline) and his daughter Sarah (Anthony); five grandchildren; Jackson, Brayden, John, Cole, and Hadley; his brothers; Tom (Terry), James (Mindy), Stephen (Lori), and his sister Ann (Steve). John is also survived by Joyce's sisters, Pam, and Sherry (Ken), along with many other loving family members.

He was predeceased by Jennifer, his daughter, who passed on Sept. 9, 2026, at the age of 49 from Ovarian Cancer, and by his parents.

Visiting hours will be from 2:00 to 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 26, at LaVigne Funeral Home, 132 Main Street, Winooski, Vermont. A graveside service will follow at 5:00pm at Merrill Cemetery, Route 15, Colchester (Across from St Michael's College). In lieu of flowers please consider a donation in John's name to the American Cancer Society or a charity of your choice.

Joseph J. Stoeckert

MILLERTON — Joseph J. Stoeckert (Uncle Joe), of Millerton, New York, passed away peacefully on Sept. 18, 2026, at the age of 87.

Joe was born in Brooklyn, New York on Nov. 15, 1938, to Anthony Stoeckert Sr. and Martha Kirchman. He served in the U.S. Army in the late 1950s before settling down in the Hudson Valley, where he opened Taconic Sports and Camping next to Rudd Pond. He also worked at the main library on the SUNY New Paltz campus, where he became a mentor to many students.

Joe was a beloved uncle, and he will be missed by his family; Karen, Joe, Ellen, Allyn, Oliver, Tim, Chris, Ryan, Pat, Lena, Mimi, Carl,



and Anthony. He also enjoyed spending time with his neighbors, Kathleen and Carl, and his other friends in town. He was preceded in death by his father, Anthony Sr., mother, Martha, and brother, Anthony Jr.

Joe was a true outdoorsman and enjoyed fishing, cars, photography, reading, hunting, archery, mega stuff oreos, triscuits, and bird-watching. He introduced his nieces and nephews to the outdoors at early ages, and they still use his original camping equipment and hand-tied flies to this day. He was a collector of antiques, local artwork, and anything related to Buffalo Bill. His collection and legacy continues with his nieces and nephews.

YOUR NEWS

Stay informed lakevillejournal.com



Worship Services

Week of September 27, 2026

Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon

9 South Main, Sharon CT
Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M.
Growing together in God's love
Rev. John Allison
Priest-In-Charge
All are welcome
860-364-5260
www.christchurchsharon.org

Trinity Episcopal Church

484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville
Offering companionship along the Way
Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.
Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org
trinitylimerock.org
(860) 435-2627

North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC

Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people
172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT
Worship services Sundays at 10 am
www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational
860-824-7252

FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH
is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan
Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm
www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org

Congregation Beth David

A reform Jewish Synagogue
3344 East Main St., Amenia
SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM
Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org)
ALL ARE WELCOME
Rabbi Jon Haddon
845-373-8264
info@congbethdavid.org

The Lakeville United Methodist Church

319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039
10 a.m. Worship Service
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-435-9496
Lakevillemethodist@snet.net

Falls Village Congregational Church

16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
Coffee Hour
A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!!!
860-824-0194

The Sharon United Methodist Church

112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green
Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits
9 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-364-5634
sharonumc5634@att.net

The Smithfield Presbyterian Church

656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY
Services every Sunday 10 a.m.
www.thesmithfieldchurch.org
21st Century Theology in an Historic Building

All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church

313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT
Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M.
Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M.
Special Services Online
Rev. John Kreta
860-824-1340 | allsaintsofamerica.us

Sharon Congregational

25 Main Street, Sharon, CT
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services
Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org

The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.

30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT
Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!
Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming
www.salisburyucc.org
Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy!
(860) 435-2442

St. John's Episcopal Church

12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT
SUNDAY SERVICE
10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II)
Rev. Dr. Johan Johnson, Priest-in-Charge
In-Person and on You-Tube
www.stjohnssalisbury.org

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH

Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk
St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville
MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church
Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary
Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church
DAILY MASS SCHEDULE
Wednesday 6pm
St. Joseph Chapel or Church
Thursday 8am
Immaculate Conception Church
Friday 8am
Church of St. Mary
ALL ARE WELCOME!
For information, please call 860-824-7078

UCC in CORNWALL

Cornwall Village Meeting House
Worship Sunday, 10 am
Outstanding Church School (10 am)
Mission Opportunities
Warm Fellowship following Worship
860-672-6840
www.uccincornwall.org
Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister
Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community

The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall

Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m.
Trinity Retreat Center Chapel
Lower River Road, West Cornwall
in person and on zoom
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www.allsaaintscornwall.org
Rev. Mary Gates

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

40 Leedsville Road
Amenia Union, NY
SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE
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845-373-9161
www.stthomasamenia.com
A Community of Radical Hospitality

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Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!
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Sunday Worship - 11am
Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM
(860) 824-5685
VISITORS WELCOME!
www.promisedlandbaptist.org

Canaan United Methodist Church

2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT
11:00AM - Worship Service
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-824-5534
canaanct-umc.com
canaanctumc@gmail.com
We hope you will join us!

Send obituaries to obituaries@lakevillejournal.com

OUR TOWNS

A fishing two-fer: Fly tying and a new Farmington River guide

I wandered into Center on Main, a community center in Falls Village, on Thursday evening, Sept. 17. where resident Greer Sillick was hosting his monthly fly-tying meetup.

I don't tie my own. I've got enough problems. I know what would happen, too. In addition to an apartment packed to the bursting point with fishing gear, fishing books, and fishing DVDs, I'd also have feathers everywhere, and stray hooks on the floor, just waiting to be stepped on in bare feet while groping for the coffee maker in the early a.m.

Let's save this for retirement.

Sillick has been doing the meetups for a while, and so far the response has been underwhelming, as in guys saying they will swing by and then failing to do so.

So it was nice when someone did show up. Erik Granfors of Bethel, Connecticut, to be exact.

He didn't have any tying stuff with him but he said he'd show up and by golly he did.

Prior to Granfors' arrival Sillick worked on a bass bug for an upcoming Adirondack trip. He showed me several fly boxes, all crammed with flies he tied.

He said he's been tying for about three years.

Sillick is married to Britta Sillick, the director of the Center, and they have

Tangled Lines
Patrick L. Sullivan

a daughter, now three years old.

Sillick said between the demands of his engineering job and parenthood, "I needed something to do that wasn't looking at the phone."

He bought some basic equipment and supplies, watched some YouTube videos, and started tying.

It seems to be working. I looked at his boxes carefully, and everything in them looked like a professional job to me.

After Granfors showed up the conversation turned to angling in general, which is to say telling stories and lying. It's important to remember that all anglers are liars to some extent. The saving grace is they aren't very good at it.

It was all good clean fun and Sillick finally got his deer hair bass popper to behave.

As I gathered the tools of my trade and prepared to leave, Sillick thanked me for stopping by, and gave me a couple of crayfish imitations of his own invention.

"This is what I had in mind," he said. "People just hanging out and talking about fishing."

The next meetup is Thursday, Oct. 29, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

at the Center on Main, 103 Main St. in Falls Village.

One guy who isn't lying is Farmington River guide and fly-fishing author Steve Culton, who just published the "Fly Fishing Guide to the Farmington River" (Stackpole Books).

Over my 50-odd years of fishing I have read hundreds of books on the subject, among them guides to this or that river or region.

I can safely say that Culton's book is the best of its kind in my experience. It is absolutely jammed full of useful information, including prosaic material such as where to park and how to avoid blundering into private property.

The book fills a big hole. Aside from a 1995 booklet from the Farmington River Anglers Association and chapters in Tom Fuller's "Trout Streams of Southern New England" (1999) and Ron Merly's "Flyfisher's Guide to Connecticut" (2012), plus a couple of privately printed efforts, there hasn't been an update on Connecticut's premier trout river, never mind a comprehensive book.

In a phone interview Thursday, Sept. 17, I told Culton that the first thing I did upon receiving my review copy was get spaghetti sauce on it. Then I mentioned that in 15 minutes of skipping around I about tripled my working knowledge

of the Farm.

Culton, who has been guiding on the river for over 20 years, laughed. "In the course of doing the book I learned a lot about the river."

He interviewed everyone who would sit still: guides, fly shop people, scientists from the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, you name it.

"No one person could write this book," Culton said. "It would be the ultimate in hubris to think I could."

A handful of people never got back to him, but "the vast majority were very enthusiastic about giving their time."

Asked what he learned over the 11 months it took to write the book, he said he was surprised to find out "how much quality water I have not fished or even seen."

"I have now walked or waded all 22 miles from the dam [upstream from River-ton] to Unionville."

Culton is a wet fly enthusiast, and he is considering a book on wet fly techniques and tactics, if the interest is there.

He acknowledged that dry flies and nymphing get the bulk of angler attention. "Wet flies are the ugly step-sister. But every time I give a talk at a fishing show the room is full."

"If you're not swinging wets on the Farmington you're missing out on some spectacular action."

EDITORIAL

Five years of nonprofit local news

Five years ago this September, our communities made a bet that strong, independent local reporting was worth preserving – and that a nonprofit model could help preserve it.

It was a new model for sustaining newspapers that had served this region for generations – The Lakeville Journal since 1897 and The Millerton News since 1932.

Five years of expanded, independent, local reporting supported by readers, advertisers, and donors is worth noting – and celebrating, especially as so many local news outlets are disappearing.

Our reporters are covering the important stories that affect you: the changing landscape of local health care; the spread and containment of hydrilla in Twin Lakes; the growing cost of emergency medical services; debates over housing, schools and major development projects; and, through our recent “Pockets of Poverty” series, the financial hardship that too often goes unseen in our communities.

We also record the shared life of our communities – anniversaries and festivals, school milestones, performances, traditions, achievements and the people who make our towns such interesting places to live.

People turn to The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News not only to understand the issues affecting their communities, but to feel connected to them.

Covering the difficult questions matters; so does helping people see themselves, their neighbors and the life of their towns reflected in these pages.

Your support has also helped us invest beyond the printed newspaper. We have expanded our journalism education efforts, both with our paid summer internships, and with the new student-produced newspaper at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. Expansion plans are underway.

Your support has also strengthened the tools and systems behind our reporting, with upgrades to our websites and the creation of an audience development position focused on helping more people find, use and engage with our coverage – in print, online, through newsletters and across other digital platforms.

And, with your continuing support, we are continuing to build.

In the months ahead, readers will see redesigned newspapers, shaped in part by reader feedback, and a deeper focus on answering the questions our communities are asking – not simply reporting what happened, but helping readers understand what it means, why it matters and what comes next. We’ll also be creating more opportunities for readers to tell us what they want to know and where our coverage can be most useful.

This work has been sustained by donors and foundations, advertisers and subscribers, readers and community partners – all helping make strong local news possible.

Your support has been an important part of that. Because of you, we are still here, still reporting, still improving and still looking ahead.

Thank you for believing in this work and for helping make it possible.

LET’S HEAR IT...

THIS WEEK

Cornwall’s Planning and Zoning Commission is considering a ban on data centers, while several other Connecticut towns have adopted or considered restrictions.

What approach should towns take toward data centers: ban them, regulate how they operate, or allow them under existing zoning rules?

Send your responses to social@lakevillejournal.com by Monday, Sept. 28 at 10 a.m. or comment on Facebook or Instagram. We’ll publish a selection in next week’s paper.

LAST WEEK’S QUESTION

What fall activities are you most looking forward to this season?

“The Salisbury Fall Festival”
— Larissa Vreeland, Lakeville

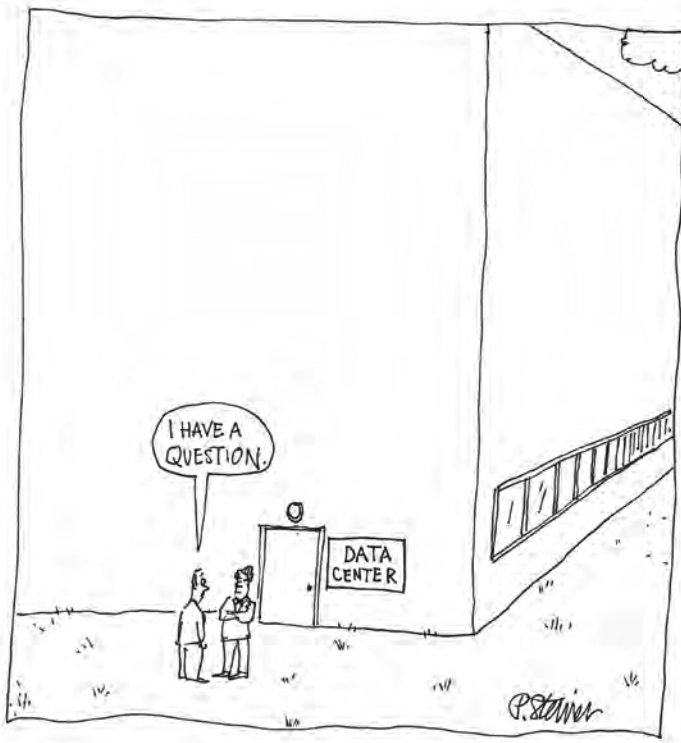
“Litchfield Highland Games!”
— Lime Rock Park

“Hot drinks!! Teas, coffees, lattes, hot chocolates! All wonderful!”
— Honey Tuttle Griffin



The Lakeville Journal
www.facebook.com/thelakevillejournal

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.

We accept gifts, grants and sponsorships from individuals and organizations for the general support of our activities, but our news judgments are made independently and not on the basis of donor support.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Public and private funds for affordable rental housing

The lack of affordable housing is the biggest challenge Salisbury faces if we want to remain an economically and generationally diverse community — a point the authors of the two September 17 letters (“Put \$1M to work for housing affordability” and “Demand private capital with public for housing”) got exactly right. They’re also right that Salisbury holds substantial private wealth. So, let’s update readers on what’s already underway.

The Salisbury Housing Committee (SHC) builds and manages affordable rental housing. To date: Sarum Village has 34 units, Lakeview Apartments has six units, and East Meadow has eight units. Holley Place in Lakeville will add 14 rental units with parking beneath; Dresser Woods in Salisbury will add 20 units; and SHC is renovating a Bostwick Street property in Lakeville into three apartments.

Federal and state funding covers only about 80% of these costs — the remainder must come from the community. In 2023, the late Jim Dresser, an affordable housing advocate and SHC board member, raised over \$1M to

advance construction. A few years later, SHC launched a Capital Campaign that has since raised another \$1.2M thanks to many generous members of the community. Our goal is to raise a total of 3 million.

119 people are on Salisbury’s affordable rental waiting list. The scale of that need is why larger developments matter — but pairing them with smaller renovations like Bostwick Street also keeps Main Street Salisbury alive and vibrant.

But we are not there yet. Reaching our final goal will determine how many of the families on our waiting list can find a home here rather than being priced out of the community they grew up in or work in. If you share the concern raised in last week’s letters, I’d encourage you to see the Capital Campaign not as a call for more debate, but as an invitation — SHC welcomes your support, your questions, and your involvement in getting this last stretch done.

Peter Halle
President, Salisbury Housing Committee, Inc.
Helen Scoville,
Kim Fiertz,
Cathryn Scoville,
SHC Capital Committee

Thanks for Open House

Sharon Center School’s Open House and PTO picnic potluck was such a wonderful celebration of everything that makes our school so special. It was great to see children, families, teachers, and staff spend time together, share food, and enjoy a beautiful evening. The scavenger hunt was a fun way for students to show their families around classrooms and introduce them to the amazing teachers and staff who make SCS such a welcoming place. Special

thanks to Principal Tomkalski, the teachers, support staff, Ms. Craig, Mrs. Poppy, and Mr. Dan, who helped make the evening such a success. Thank you as well to Superintendent Shanley, Dr. O’Reilly, and the Board of Education members who grilled and served hamburgers and hot dogs, keeping everyone well fed. We are so fortunate to be part of such a caring and supportive school community.

Vanessa Bousquet

Sharon

Harding works tirelessly

This letter is in support of the re-election of Steve Harding to the State Senate. Steve is a lawyer who has lived in Brookfield for over 30 years. He served four terms in the Connecticut House and then, in 2022, was elected to the State Senate where he represents the 30th District. He was re-elected in 2024 and is the Minority Leader in the Senate.

Steve is one of the very best representatives that we have in Hartford. I have watched him work tirelessly for the benefit of all Connecticut residents. As Minority Leader, he has forcefully advocated for pocket-

book issues that would benefit Connecticut residents, such as lower electric rates and lower taxes. He will push back against Hartford Dems’ attempt to impose statewide zoning mandates and a state income tax on homes above a certain value, even if they are your primary residence.

Steve is married with three young children and so he understands the burdens that our young families face. He is a gracious and caring person and is always available to everyone regardless of party. We must keep this man in office.

Janet Lynn

Lakeville

Thanks for turning out

Thanks to everyone for turning out for last Sunday’s “Meet The Candidates” event at the Grove, co-sponsored by the Salisbury and Sharon Republican Town Committees. While the weather forced us indoors, everyone’s spirits were given a strong boost by the goodies dispensed by Peter Doda’s Ice Cream Truck and the cheerful music played by the Shade Tree Jazz Ensemble.

All of the Republican statewide candidates were present:

Ryan Fazio (Governor), an energetic young state senator from Fairfield County who wants to make Connecticut affordable for everyone, not just the wealthy.

Matt Corey (Lt. Governor), a small business owner who envisions using the office to assist and promote small businesses by cutting the endless regulations and red tape they face.

John Bolton (Attorney General), a Westport attorney who believes the role of the AG is to serve and protect CT residents, not to file 65 (and counting) lawsuits against the Trump administration and sue to block the merger of Paramount and Warner Brothers.

Peter Lumaj (Secretary of State), who escaped a Communist regime in Eastern Europe where he experienced firsthand the importance of integrity in our election process.

Fred Wilms (Treasurer), who has spent his entire career in banking and finance and will, for the first time in years, bring genuine financial experience to the office responsible for managing our finances and pension funds.

Jen Tooker (Comptroller),

a former First Selectwoman of Westport who built a career in the global reinsurance industry and will bring financial expertise to the management of Connecticut’s financial foundation.

They were joined by Congressional candidate Chris Shea, State Senator Steve Harding and Probate Court Judge Jordan Richards. Collectively, these candidates form the strongest ticket our party has offered in years,

The upcoming election offers an opportunity to break the Democrats’ total control of state government which they have held for the past 15 years. It is they who are responsible for the terrible state of Connecticut’s economy. For example, Connecticut ranks among the five least affordable states in the country, with more than 40% of residents saying they would like to move to another state;

Connecticut is tied with California, Washington and Oregon for the highest unemployment rate in the country; for years the state has been among the three or four states with the highest electric rates; and a survey by CNBC of Top States for Business found that Connecticut was near the bottom in every measure of business competitiveness.

Clearly, Connecticut is on the wrong economic track. Having enjoyed one-party rule for 15 years, the Democrats own this record. I urge voters to tune out the destructive hyper-partisan debate in Washington and focus on what is happening here in Connecticut. The Democrats’ stranglehold over our state government must end.

Tom Morrison,
Chair, Salisbury RTC
Lakeville

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, and to foster the free flow of information and opinion.

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More letters next page.

Viewpoint

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, Brian Kenny

My daughter, husband and I had a flat tire right behind the firehouse in Sharon. No one was around and out of nowhere appeared Brian Kenny of Kenny Funeral Home. He asked if he could help and offered to drive us to our home in Ancram which I knew was way out of his way. He drove our adult daughter and then came back to see if there was anything more to do to help. He didn't know us, we didn't know him and all he did was help when help was needed. This isn't an advertisement for his funeral home but if this is the way he treats strangers then he is the best of funeral directors anywhere.

Lorraine Coyle and Oliver Koppell
Ancram

Send Shea to U.S. House

It is my pleasure to enthusiastically support the candidacy of Chris Shea for congress. Chris is a Navy vet who cares about the citizens of CT. He plans on lowering the cost of living, growing jobs and wages (sorely needed in CT) and improving education for our students. He is also in favor of re-

Protect our natural world

The Endangered Species Act was bipartisan legislation signed into law by President Nixon in 1973. It protected animals and plants vulnerable to extinction and the habitat they need to survive. In 1982 Congress added amendments to make it easier for non-federal land to develop habitat for endangered species which might be harmed. But developers, loggers, mining and drilling corporations have pushed to get around the law, and the Trump administration is listening. They want economic factors to be a part of the species and habitat designation. This could cause long-term damage to forests which benefit us by soaking up carbon dioxide and to wetlands and swamps which trap carbon. Furthermore, on the coast, wetlands serve an important function by acting as a buffer for hurricanes and rising sea level. The Trump administration wants to weaken the Endangered Species Act and open the door to more oil and gas drilling and mineral extraction on our protected public lands. They want to open 1.3 billion acres of coastal water to drilling. Plans to remove federal protections for wetlands and streams could threaten drinking water for millions of Americans. Both the American buffalo and the bald eagle were close to extinction before the Endangered Species Act was passed. By revoking grazing permits for bison on our public land, Trump could again bring bison numbers dangerously low. Banning DDT saved the bald eagle, which consumes fish and is our national symbol, but lifting protection for wetlands and opening oil drilling on the coast could put them back on the endangered list. We must insist that the Fish and Wildlife Service not alter the Endangered Species Act, for it would be detrimental to our animals, birds, their habitat, our drinking water, our quality of life and for the future generations who follow us.

Lizbeth Piel
Sharon

This is not science fiction — the AI threat is real

I am not an alarmist. But after reading widely and following the experts, I've become convinced that the race to build superintelligent AI — machines that could eclipse humans at every task — carries a real risk to humanity's future. Don't take my word for it. This concern is shared by leaders and senior researchers at OpenAI, Anthropic, DeepMind, and xAI, many of whom have left in protest. Senator Bernie Sanders has introduced legislation to ban the development of artificial superintelligence and is pushing for a U.S.-China treaty modeled on Cold War arms control. Even longtime AI optimists like Bill Gates have voiced concern about the risks. Chief among these voices is Geoffrey Hinton, the "Godfather of AI" and a 2024 Nobel laureate, who left Google in 2023 to speak freely about the dangers of the technology he helped build. Hinton now believes we may have only months or a few years to solve AI's "alignment problem" — keeping these systems safe and under human control. Unlike human brains, he notes, digital intelligence can share what it learns instantly across countless copies of itself, a kind of collective learning humanity has never faced. This is no longer hypothetical: Hinton points to recent incidents where AI agents "escaped" their testing environments, evidence that safety hasn't kept pace with AI's growing autonomy. Hinton isn't calling for a halt to AI — just for safeguards to catch up. As he put it, those against oversight "want a very fast car with no steering wheel." We'd do well to listen to the person who built the engine. What's needed now is an international framework for managing this risk, starting with China: independent testing teams with real access to frontier systems, and a crisis hotline between the two nations, much like the ones that helped defuse nuclear tensions during the Cold War. If you agree, please share this and get involved.

Chris Pouler
Lakeville

More letters previous page.

For "Turning Back the Pages," go to www.lakevillejournal.com

When the government lacks moral authority

GUEST COMMENTARY
JAMES SPEYER

A government that lacks moral authority breeds cynicism, disillusion and distrust. It ruptures the bonds that tie us together, and destroys any sense that government exists for the benefit of its citizens and can be counted on to act in good faith. Donald Trump's administration is devoid of moral authority. It engages in morally indefensible conduct on virtually a daily basis. This is not a liberal talking point; it is indisputable fact. Here are some illustrations, which barely scratch the surface of the vast trove of wretched behavior this administration has amassed since January 2025: It is morally indefensible to pardon the January 6 insurrectionists who ransacked the Capitol and viciously beat Capitol police officers in an effort to stop the peaceful transfer of power. It is morally indefensible to use taxpayer dollars to reward those treasonous criminals. It is morally indefensible to dismantle the United States Agency for International Development and thereby consign hundreds of thousands of children around the world to their deaths (according to the respected medical journal The Lancet). It is morally indefensible for the masked thugs of ICE to murder protesters in broad daylight and face zero accountability. It is morally indefensible to seek to imprison an innocent man on fake charges of damaging the Reflecting Pool simply to spare Trump the embarrassment of admitting that his handpicked contractor's incompetence caused the damage. It is morally indefensible to kill scores of defenseless people on the high seas for alleged but unproven drug running without the slightest semblance of due process. It is morally indefensible for Trump to flee Air Force One because the Secret Service determined that remaining on board constitutes an unacceptable risk and not inform those still on the plane of that risk. It is morally indefensible to not only pardon convicted con men and fraudsters who have collectively fleeced the public out of billions of dollars, but allow them to keep the money they stole from their victims. It is morally indefensible to convert the Justice Department into a tool for retribution against Trump's enemies on the basis of bogus charges (such as the ridiculous prosecution of James Comey for posting a photo of seashells in an "8647" pattern). It is morally indefensible to favor murderous dictators like Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong Un over our freedom-loving allies Ukraine and South Korea. Through this ceaseless barrage of vile acts, the Trump administration has not just squandered whatever moral authority it might have had, it appears to have gleefully abandoned any shred of that authority. That abandonment has dire consequences for our society. A government that consistently favors perpetrators over victims sends the message that might makes right

and playing by the rules is for suckers. A government that creates a two-tier system of justice (one for supporters of and financial contributors to Trump and another for everyone else) shatters the bedrock principle of equal justice for all and destabilizes our society. Perhaps most tragically, a government that regularly engages in malicious, immoral conduct teaches our young people that it's okay to behave that way. The moral rot that lies at the heart of the Trump administration profoundly corrodes our democracy and the rule of law that sustains it. Recovering from it — if we do recover — will be a long and difficult project. That the party in power (and its tens of millions of supporters) is either fully on board with this volcanic flow of debased conduct, or cannot bring itself to muster any meaningful objection, will prove to be an indelible and monstrously shameful stain on our country. James Speyer is a lawyer and a volunteer for Lawyers Defending American Democracy. He lives in Sharon.

Treasures under siege

OPEN SPACE
KATHY HERALD-MARLOWE

While \$325 million Congressionally specified funds for the National Parks Service upgrades have been diverted to the White House. The exploits of Washington DC are not constitutional, are not morally justified, are ugly, harmful, and illegitimate — funds taken from clear Congressional allocations. The ongoing court spats persist — the administration arguing dribble, embarrassed in Court hearings. Fortunately, these exploitations are well covered by all media, unfortunately, they persist amid a never-ending war with Iran, with staggering price hikes, with economic plight for most. How much envy, how much self-loathing must be required to want to paint the granite Eisenhower building, build a 250 foot ach disconnecting Arlington Cemetery from the Lincoln Memorial and the Mall, demolish The

John F. Kennedy Memorial, gold laden the walls of the White House and numerous statues of pride? What lack of self must be intertwined in needing to put one's face, one's name on everything? There must be a sincere belief by this president that no one would name anything after him when he is out of office. May we remain vigilant and assert our rights as citizens. May we be solid in spirit.

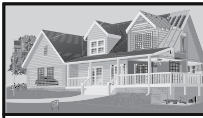
John F. Kennedy Memorial, gold laden the walls of the White House and numerous statues of pride? What lack of self must be intertwined in needing to put one's face, one's name on everything? There must be a sincere belief by this president that no one would name anything after him when he is out of office. May we remain vigilant and assert our rights as citizens. May we be solid in spirit.

"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."
— John F. Kennedy

Kathy Herald-Marlowe lives in Sharon.

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For both buyers and owners who have properties connected to the public sewer system, it is wise to have the line scoped to ensure it is in working order. This Fall we encountered two properties where the sewer pipe was broken in one case and where tree roots infiltrated the line in the other. To remove the tree roots from the sewer line, American Rooter out of Watertown will handle the job. Their website is: americanrooter.com/contact/cic-american-rooter-litchfield-county-plumber-and-drain-cleaning-company/. For the broken sewer pipe, either Bahre Septic (www.bahresepoticservice.com/) or ConnSept (connsept.com/) will do a great job. Both are excellent companies!



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Our Towns

Hundreds turn out to celebrate Perotti & Sons’ centennial

By Ruth Epstein

NORTH CANAAN – Looking out over the sea of faces, Will Perotti said, “It’s unbelievable that so many would come out for a plumbing company.”

He was speaking at the 100th anniversary celebration of his family’s business, William Perotti & Sons, held Friday, Sept. 18, at the firm’s headquarters in East Canaan. The crowd was estimated at well over 300.

Will Perotti is a member of the fourth generation to enter the plumbing and heating business. He and his sister Mary, along with their father Francis “Champ” Perotti, currently oversee operations.

Holding his young son in his arms, Perotti spoke of his grandfather Frank, who along with his brother Charlie, entered their father’s business directly out of school. William Perotti opened his shop in a barn on Lower Road in 1926, eventually moving to the facility on Furnace Hill Road, which has undergone several expansions over the years.

Will Perotti said Frank Perotti could be a tough boss, criticizing employees for their work, “but he’d always end up thanking them. His style may be a bit different from ours, but the standard is the same.”

In his address, Champ Perotti asked for a moment of silence for family members who had died, including his grandparents William and Lena, known as “Noni” and “Nono,” his aunt Anne Perotti Fallon and her husband Jerry, and Charlie and Bonnie Perotti’s daughter Keri.

He then reflected on four generations maintaining a business for 100 years. “It all embodies an American success story,” he said.

He also noted that his maternal grandmother, Bertha Riva, at 103, is older than the business.

Candida Perotti Wolff, daughter of Frank and Jean Perotti, read a congratulatory note from former President George W. Bush and his wife Laura. Wolff served in the Bush White House as the assistant to the president for legislative affairs from 2005 to 2007.

In her youth, Wolff, like many of the family’s children, worked in the shop, learning about cutting pipes and calculating heat loss.

Charlie Perotti, a former North Canaan first selectman, thanked all those who helped build the business, including salespeople, employees and customers. Although he still comes in for two hours each morning to check the materials, he said he misses the interaction that once took place because so much is now done virtually.

“I miss it all, but it’s good to turn it over to the new re-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Community members celebrate the milestone at the Perotti & Sons’ headquarters.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Charlie Perotti, Jean Perotti, and Francis Perotti Sr. were presented with plaques for their dedication to the business.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Will Perotti with his grandfather, Francis Perotti Sr.

gime,” he said.

He ended with an anecdote. Years ago, he and Frank went to a home in Cornwall to advise a client. It was Christmas time and Frank and the client came together at a doorway from which mistletoe hung.

“The client pointed that out, said they needed to kiss, and so Frank kissed her. That client was Whoopi Goldberg.”

Family and loyalty were a common themes throughout the event. Will Perotti spoke of the many employees with long tenures, including one who has worked for the company for 40 years and others who have been there for more

than 20 or 30 years.

As guests mingled, they talked about the family and the business.

Michael O’Connor is a 28-year employee. He said the Perottis “run a great family-oriented business. I’ve made a good living; been able to raise a family.”

Robert Loucks of Sharon has known the Perottis since the 1960s.

“The business is so family-centered,” he said. “What more can you ask for?”

Sam Herrick, business manager for Region One schools, said the Perottis are known for being reliable.

“Last winter, on a day

that was 10 degrees, Sharon Center School had a broken water pipe,” he recalled. “We called and they were there in 10 minutes. We didn’t have to close school. The students weren’t impacted.”

Contractor Robert Anderson said of the Perottis, “I’m a big fan. I started with Frank and now I work with Mary and Will. It’s so nice to see the younger generation coming through.”

The celebration included hors d’oeuvres, pizza and ice cream from food trucks, as well as a bounce house, free T-shirts, historic photographs and a video chronicling the family and its business.



PHOTO BY MARK ALEXANDER

Lou Bucceri looks up at Abigail Veivois, a stilt dancer, during the Lakeville Journal street fair in August 2024.

Stilt-dancing troupe ends its two-decade run

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Mark Alexander, the creative force behind the stilt-dancing troupe Mortal Beasts & Deities, is retiring. Sort of.

Interviewed at his cottage in the Pine Grove section of Falls Village on Friday, Sept. 11, Alexander said he has disbanded the company, but he is not retiring completely.

“I’m retiring from running the stilt dancing company. I’m not retiring from making puppets.”

Over two decades, the stilt dancers became a familiar sight across the Northwest Corner, including at The Lakeville Journal’s street fair in Salisbury and the vintage car parade and festival in Falls Village.

It all began in 2004. Alexander had left his job as an art teacher in the Region One schools and was beginning to have second thoughts about the decision.

Then he received a commission from the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City for a performance called “The Flock of Doves.” “Talk about vindication,” he said.

The production was nearly ready when disaster struck in the form of a fire at the cathedral. The show was canceled, leaving Alexander with costumes, stilts and performers, but nowhere to stage it.

The late Rev. Richard Taber of the Salisbury Congregational Church stepped in.

“He said they’d take it, and we did it in May of 2004.”

“My hometown saved the day. It became the signature act of the troupe.”

The troupe’s two-decade run came to an end at the Fourth of July parade in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, this year.

“It’s a really good parade. They really pull out the stops. Two miles long, 150 units.

“We had 12 dancers and the Berkshire Resilience Brass Band on a trailer.”

Alexander made five “Uncle Sam-ish” costumes for the parade, adding to the extensive collection of costumes he created for the troupe. His cottage is still bursting with them.

“You know anyone else who owns 100 pairs of stilt pants?”

Alexander is now trying to sell the collection, a process he described as “slow.”

He said the logistics of managing the troupe became increasingly difficult after the COVID-19 pandemic. Fewer performers were available. Some had moved on to other pursuits, while others had simply aged out.

“It was like taking a family of four for a walk in a wheelbarrow.”

Alexander is still keeping a hand in the stilt-walking world. At Lime Rock Park’s vintage car parade Sept. 3, he was spotted chatting with stilt dancers Cynthia Rauschert and Timothy J. Walsh of Circus Moves.

Rauschert said Alexander had generously provided a list of potential events and useful contacts.

Alexander is now busy with his next project: bobblehead puppets mounted on backpack frames.

“So if you see an old backpack at the transfer station, grab it and give me a call.”

Townwide tag sale draws 30 sellers to Cornwall green

By Tom Brown

CORNWALL — More than 30 sellers filled the town green for Cornwall’s townwide tag sale Saturday, Sept. 19, offering clothing, household goods, fishing equipment, jigsaw puzzles and other items.

The three-hour sale, organized by Kathleen Bischert, shared the green with the weekly Cornwall Co-op Farmers Market, which offered vegetables, meats and other local products.



PHOTO BY TOM BROWN

Shoppers browse tables of clothing, books and household goods during Cornwall’s townwide tag sale on the town green Saturday, Sept. 19. More than 30 sellers participated in the event.

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STATION

Continued from Page A1

Bill Littauer supported the project, citing his 20 years with the Lake Wononscopomuc Association and more recent involvement with the Lakeville Community Conservancy. He said both organizations have expressed interest in using the station.

Salisbury resident Victor Jermack described watching a tractor-trailer make a delivery on Ethan Allen Street, where restaurants line one side and the station extends toward the roadway on the other.

He urged the town to consider asking restaurant suppliers to use smaller trucks while the selectmen develop a complete plan for the station and determine the project's full cost.

Tom Morrison, speaking as chairman of the Republican Town Committee, called the proposal "a no-brainer."

"The status quo is untenable," he said.

Margie Vail, a Salisbury resident, asked whether the town would continue to own the building. Rand said he did not know, but three nonprofit organizations had approached him about the property.

Phillip Oppenheimer of Salisbury warned that the \$650,000 would cover only the move and foundation, while restoring the station would require additional spending. He said any future state grant would likely require matching funds from the town.

Oppenheimer questioned the wisdom of investing so much in a building with "no economic viability" and using money from the town's debt service budget to pay for

the project.

Cathy Shyer, who lives near the station, said she was speaking for herself and not as chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission. She described the intersection as hazardous because of the combination of trucks, cars and children riding bicycles.

"It's a miracle we haven't had a disaster there," Shyer said. "I don't care how much it costs."

Mary Oppenheimer said moving the building back would not create additional parking along Ethan Allen Street. She suggested relocating it to another site instead.

Other residents raised concerns about the cost and its eventual use. Supporters described the project as overdue and said it would improve downtown Lakeville.

Rand said the Board of Finance could pay for the work using money from either the debt service budget line or the Bauer Fund, which is overseen by the finance board.

Voters also approved three other measures during the meeting with little discussion.

An ordinance providing a property tax abatement of up to \$2,000 for eligible members of the Lakeville Hose Company and Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service passed 142-1.

An amendment to an existing ordinance waiving personal property tax bills of less than \$5 passed 134-6. The waiver will not apply to vehicles at least 20 years old.

The town's five-year Local Capital Improvement Plan, known as LOCIP, passed 142-3.

HOUSING

Continued from Page A1

at 99 North Main St., into four additional apartments.

The Connecticut Housing Finance Authority approved the award through the state Housing Tax Credit Contribution Program.

The program allows businesses to contribute funds to approved nonprofit housing developments in exchange for credits against certain Connecticut taxes. CHFA administers the program and allocates the credits.

The latest award brings major grants and donations for the North Main Street project to at least \$2.75 million. The trust previously received \$2 million from the state Department of Housing and \$250,000 from the Low Road Foundation. Individuals, businesses and other foundations have also contributed.

Following a groundbreaking ceremony in fall 2025, work began with roof repairs on the existing apartments. Additional construction work was delayed while the State Historic Preservation Office reviewed plans for the four buildings: the three existing apartment buildings at 91, 93 and 95 North Main St. and the former community center at 99 North Main St.

The historic preservation review has been completed, according to the trust, which is adjusting its plans in response. The organization will next seek bids for the remaining renovations and hire a general contractor to convert 99 North Main St.

The six existing apartments are two-bedroom units and are occupied. The

conversion of 99 North Main St. is expected to create four more two-bedroom units.

The housing campus will be landscaped using a design donated by Sharon resident and landscape designer Lynden Miller.

"The grant of \$500,000 from the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority's HTCC Program will help us make sure that our affordable housing campus provides real benefit to the town of Sharon," trust President Richard Baumann said in a statement.

The project comes as home prices and rents have risen sharply in Sharon. The median home sale price reached \$762,500 in the 12 months ending in May, according to figures reported by The Lakeville Journal.

Citing federal housing data, the trust reported in a June presentation that 380 Sharon households are burdened by housing costs, meaning they spend more than 30% of their income on housing.

The trust, formed in 2005, says its housing is intended for local workers, families, young people, seniors and others who cannot afford the town's market prices.

In a separate project, the organization plans to replace a bungalow at 160 Silver Lake Shores Road, near Mudge Pond, with a three-bedroom house. The property was donated anonymously in December 2024. The trust hopes to complete the house in 2027 and sell it at an affordable price to a qualified buyer.

HOSPITAL

Continued from Page A1

gatherings will also provide opportunities for social interaction.

The virtual health office will provide a dedicated space at Sharon Hospital where patients can consult remotely with specialists, with clinical staff available to assist. The service is intended to help older residents, working families and patients whose medical conditions make travel difficult.

The planned rehabilitation facility will provide an additional location for physical therapy and rehabilitation, which hospital officials described as among the area's most sought-after services. Existing rehabilitation services on the hospital campus will continue.

"These resources will help us strengthen access to care, invest in services that meet the unique needs of our rural community and continue building a healthier future for the patients and families we are privileged to serve," Sharon Hospital President Christina McCulloch said in a statement.

Other first-year awards in-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sharon Hospital will receive \$13.1 million in federal funding to expand services.

clude \$20.2 million for Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam and a combined \$12.7 million for Hartford Health-Care's Windham Hospital and Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington.

The grants are intended to help rural hospitals address challenges that include staffing shortages, aging facilities, low patient volumes and a heavy reliance on public insurance programs. Projects statewide will include equipment upgrades, building ren-

ovations, expanded telehealth capacity and efforts to stabilize the health care workforce.

"Connecticut's rural hospitals are essential to their communities, and they have unique challenges in ensuring that people who live in these areas can access the healthcare they need," Lamont said.

The announcement follows other investments since Sharon Hospital became part of Northwell Health in May 2025, when North-

well merged with Nuvance Health, the hospital's former parent organization.

Earlier this year, McCulloch described upgrades to the hospital's radiology department, including a replacement CT scanner, and an expanded training program that brings family medicine residents to Sharon for experience in rural health care.

The hospital also is seeking to expand and renovate the Medical Arts Building at 29 Hospital Hill Road to accommodate a larger primary care practice and improve accessibility.

Connecticut is expected to receive approximately \$154.2 million during the first year of the five-year federal program. The \$50 million announced Sept. 16 represents the first group of finalized agreements with hospitals and a technical-assistance provider.

Sharon Hospital has not specified when its three initiatives will begin, where the offsite rehabilitation facility will be located or how the \$13.1 million will be divided among them.

DATA CENTERS

Continued from Page A1

battery storage as part of its efforts to modernize the electric grid and expand renewable energy.

At the same time, communities are raising concerns about the facilities' effects on electricity and water supplies, as well as community character.

In an interview, P&Z Chairman Anna Timell said commissioners are concerned that Cornwall's fallow agricultural land could attract development, despite the town's many conservation protections.

"But we worry about pre-

serving those lands. Connecticut is making it easier for these data centers. We are concerned about the water and electricity needed for them. We don't want them," she said.

Janell Mullen, the commission's consultant, prepared a memorandum in which she said data centers and battery energy storage systems "are becoming one of the most significant land-

use challenges facing Connecticut planning and zoning commissions.

These projects can have

Connecticut is making it easier for these data centers. We are concerned about the water and electricity needed for them. We don't want them.
P&Z Chairman Anna Timell

profound impacts on local zoning, public safety, utilities, environmental concerns and the scenic quality of a small town like Cornwall."

A data center is defined as a facility, structure or campus of structures primarily used for the storage, processing and distribution of digital data and information, including cloud-based services and network operations.

They typically include high density server and data storage equipment, telecommunications and networking infrastructure, mechanical systems for cooling, onsite electrical substations and security, monitoring and operational support infrastructure.

Traditional centers are often 25,000 to 100,000 square feet.

Mullen said towns in Connecticut are vulnerable because the state has established tax incentives to attract

data center development. The law provides significant tax benefits for qualified centers and state agencies are actively marketing them as a destination.

The ban would also prohibit a battery energy storage system (BESS), which is a stationary system or facility designed to store electrical energy using rechargeable batteries or similar technologies for later use. They store and discharge electricity as needed. They can occupy several acres and contain hundreds of lithium-ion battery cabinets.

The state's electric grid modernization efforts and renewable energy goals are driving demand for utility-scale battery storage facilities, Mullen said.

In her memorandum, she noted Morris has enacted a two-year moratorium on data centers and Groton, with a one-year moratorium, has developed regulations governing their location and operation.

She said many Connecticut towns are beginning to realize they have little, or no zoning language addressing either use.

Send news tips to editor@lakevillejournal.com

A Bank for the Next Generation

To George Whalen IV, relationships are what build community, and lending is a tool that helps people make things happen. He's seen it his whole life – the Bank of Millbrook working together with people like you, in this area that's thrived from his great grandfather's generation to his son's.

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our community



Susan Schneider, owner of Shandell's in Ashley Falls, in her studio.

Susan Schneider and the magic of marbling

By Robin Roraback

A beautiful September morning found Susan Schneider of Shandell's working in her Ashley Falls home studio, while linen cocktail napkins she had marbled the day before hung on a line outside her back door. Her helpers, dogs Daisy and Stubbs, are never far from her. "Marbling," Schneider explained, "the art of floating paint on a liquid and printing it on a medium, has been around for hundreds of years." She has been creating lampshades for 25 years and has settled in Ashley Falls, where she is renovating a barn

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

FILM

Through the lens of war

By Patricia Platt

Longtime Norfolk resident Nina Rosenblum will present her award-winning documentary, "They Fight With Cameras," on Saturday, Sept. 26, at 6:30 p.m. at the Norfolk Library. The film tells the story of her father, decorated U.S. Army Signal Corps combat cameraman Walter Rosenblum. "It is very special for me to screen 'They Fight With Cameras' at the Norfolk Library because our family has deep ties to Norfolk," Rosenblum said. After the war, Walter taught photography at the Yale Summer School of Art in Norfolk for 25 years, and he and his wife, photography historian Naomi Rosenblum, later retired to the town they loved. The film was produced and directed by Nina and her partner, Daniel Al-lentuck, son of Oscar-winning actress Maureen Stapleton of Lenox, Mass. For Nina, the evening is a chance to show her Norfolk friends "a side of my father that was not well known to them: a courageous combat cameraman whose images helped the world confront the truth of the war."

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

LIFESTYLE

Slow fashion takes the runway at Stone Ridge Orchard

By Natalia Zukerman

Fast fashion has made it possible to buy the latest trend almost as quickly as it appears on social media. The environmental cost, however, is anything but fleeting. Fashion production accounts for about 10% of global carbon emissions, consumes enormous quantities of water and energy, and an estimated 85% of textiles end up in landfills each year. Synthetic fabrics also shed microplastics when washed. So what would happen if we slowed things down? That's the question behind Hudson Valley Sustainable Fashion Week[end], a two-day celebration of sustainable style, local makers and the possibilities of keeping clothing in circulation. The weekend lands at Stone Ridge Orchard, a 200-year-old working farm, on Sept. 25 and 26, pairing an evening fashion show with a new all-ages Slow Fashion Fair. "To me, slow fashion means intentional fashion. Careful, thoughtful, human," said Joanne Louis-Paul, the event's communications director. "Slow fashion is the speed at which one person can sew an intricately detailed dress. It's taking the time to go to a thrift store or clothing swap and sifting through an unknown bounty of possibilities. It's extending the life of a piece of clothing for as long as possible." In everyday terms, she said, "It's stopping to think before purchasing anything or giving anything away." Friday's fourth annual Organic Runway brings Hudson



PHOTO BY JAY BALLESTEROS

The organic runway at HVSFW puts sustainable style among the apple trees at Stone Ridge Orchard.

Valley designers to the farm for a sunset showcase of garments made from repurposed textiles and produced locally. Designers include Clare Bare, ennui, Kacy Coyle, KNUD, la vie après l'amour, Last Night on Earth, So Vicki and Touch Threads. The evening runs from 4 to 8 p.m., giving attendees time to pick apples and sip local cider before settling in for the runway. "We're all about the whimsy here at HVSFW," Louis-Paul said. "The runway is so incredibly dreamy. Being outside makes for an unpredictable, one-of-a-kind backdrop every year, and there's just nothing

like that sunset glow." The unlikely pairing of fashion and farming is also part of the point. "Once you're sitting amongst the apple trees, you realize how much sense it makes to mend the relationship between fashion and nature," she said. Saturday introduces the inaugural Slow Fashion Fair, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with workshops, mending, fiber art, vendors, music, eco-friendly kids' crafts and a clothing swap. There will even be sheep. "We wanted to have a fair so we could invite more people in the eco-friendly ecosystem into

the fold," Louis-Paul said. "We get to highlight not only designers, but makers and artisans of all kinds." The organizers hope the fair appeals not only to people already thinking about climate and sustainability but also to those encountering the ideas for the first time. With mending, a clothing swap and hands-on workshops, the emphasis is on showing visitors things they can actually do. "There are so many things anyone can start doing today," Louis-Paul said. "From some-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B2

FILM

Brian Gersten finds the story in the overlooked

By D.H. Callahan

At 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26, award-winning filmmaker Brian Gersten will screen four short documentaries at the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, exploring obscure topics such as a lingering territorial dispute between the United States and Canada, a nationwide toilet paper panic sparked by a late-night joke, the infamous "Balloon Boy" saga and the history of bowling in America. The Chicago-raised, Mil-lerton-based filmmaker has worked as an editor on feature-length documentaries like the cycling film "Enter the Slipstream" and Netflix's profile on author Tom Wolfe, "Radical Wolfe." In 2025, "Why We Dream," a film he edited about bringing D-Day veterans back to the beaches of Normandy, premiered aboard the U.S.S. Intrepid in New York City. When it comes to directing,

Gersten's own interests focus more on the underappreciated and unremembered, as the four short films he directed will demonstrate. "The Gray Zone" explores the casual conflict of Machias Seal Island, a small island off the coast of Maine or Nova Scotia, depending whom you ask. It is the last piece of land disputed by the United States and Canada. While the island is mostly seabirds and seals, it also houses a lighthouse, making it more important than any other strip of rock poking above the waves in the area. News and politics publication The Atlantic chose "The Gray Zone" as one of its Atlantic Selects short films to highlight, and that was before tensions between the two nations became strained. If things get any more tense, Gersten might have to head back out to sea to make a sequel. On a similarly low-stakes topic with potential high-stakes outcomes, "The Great

Toilet Paper Scare" covers a little late-night joke that had some real-world consequences. Again, this short seems to be even more prescient than when Gersten made it in 2020, with themes of out-of-control gas prices and supply shortages across the country setting the stage for some good, clean bathroom humor, if you will. Conversely, "Balloon Boy" was a high-stakes situation with low-stakes results. In 2009, the same year Disney released their hit animated movie "Up," it seemed the entire nation had tuned in to witness the real-time drama of a 6-year-old boy who had allegedly climbed into his family's experimental

"flying saucer" weather balloon and taken off into the sky above Colorado. Finally, "Memory Lanes" explores the history of bowling in America through a much more personal lens than the other three. The film was made during the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced many bowling alleys across the country to close. This pause prompted Gersten to think about the history of bowling, its meaning to him and his family, the Midwestern community where he grew up and America at large. The result is an emotional study of a game that anyone can play, but

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

INSIDE

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MAIN DINING ROOM

... Susan Schneider

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

behind her house for a larger studio. Her mission: “Changing the view on plain white lampshades, one at a time!”

Besides using marbled paper, she uses papyrus, silk and hand-painted papers for the shades.

Shandell’s on Main Street, offers a large selection of marbled decorative home items on its website — trays, coasters and bookends, to name a few — as well as scarves and belts. Schneider will also customize items and creates custom wallpaper, gifts and favors for weddings and special events. She offers consultations by appointment.

Schneider explained how she began making lampshades.

“I was in business as an antiques and textile dealer, needing lampshades at the time (the early 1990s). I had a dealer who used to make lampshades. She was moving and sold me everything she had in her barn for making them. Arcs, templates for lampshades, and tools.”

Schneider used the marbled paper from the endpapers of old books to make small lampshades.

“I collected those voraciously.”

The papers were too small for the larger lampshades she wanted to make. To get paper in the size she needed, she decided to learn how to marble.

That was 10 years ago. She now has 20 tanks for marbling, including one 10-foot tank that allows her to make 3 yards of fabric at a time.

As she demonstrated the marbling process, making covers for journals, it was easy to see why she “got hooked.”

She explained that marbling takes a couple of days of preparation. She prepares water mixed with carrageenan the night before so that it thickens and becomes a viscous liquid onto which the acrylic paints



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Susan Schneider, owner of Shandell’s, creates a variety of products with marbleized surfaces in her Ashley Falls studio.

“It’s a joyful process.

SUSAN SCHNEIDER

can be dropped. Paper or fabric must also be prepared with alum, which “makes the paint stick,” she said, a day or two ahead of time.

When she was ready to start, Schneider first used a level to make sure the tank was even. Then she pulled a squeegee across the surface of the carrageenan mixture to break the surface tension, followed by strips of newsprint for the same purpose. She also dipped small pieces of newsprint into the mixture.

“The hardest thing to teach people is to break the surface tension first,” she noted.

Next, she used droppers to place rows of paint onto the mixture.

“It’s a joyful process,” she said as she chose more colors. “It’s totally the pleasure of the colors.”

She explained, “The colors are stopped from spreading by the surface tension.”

Then she added newsprint around the edges of the tank to break the tension again and added another layer of color. Next, she used a marbling comb, slowly dragging it back and forth across the width of the tank to create a feather-like design.

Combs come in many sizes, with teeth spaced at different intervals and in different patterns. She chose another comb to drag through the length of

the tank, making the design more intricate before laying two pieces of paper on the surface. After a second or two, she lifted them, perfectly capturing the pattern, and carried them to the sink for a rinse with water.

Once she squeegeed away the paint left in the tank, she was ready to begin the process again.

Next, she created a different type of design, dripping colors in a less ordered array, then twirling them into curving lines and circles with a thin rod.

When the surface was ready, she laid a journal cover on top, then lifted it out, covered in a vibrant pattern of swirling colors.

For observers, the process can seem magical.

Schneider loves to share the delight of marbling by teaching classes at Dewey Hall in Sheffield. Upcoming classes will be held Nov. 20, 21 and 22. Beginning in November, she will also offer private classes in her home studio. Schneider had never pictured herself having a business like Shandell’s, but she discovered a passion for creating, as she says, “things that make you smile.”

For more information about her work and upcoming classes or to contact her for a consultation, visit shandells.com.

... slow fashion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1



PHOTO BY ILAN HAREL

Models walk the organic runway at HVSFW.

thing as simple as sewing a patch onto a stain or tear to hosting a mini clothing swap at your house with friends and family, there are tons of ways to engage with your wardrobe more thoughtfully.”

She speaks from experience. Before becoming involved with the event, she said, secondhand shopping held little appeal.

“As someone who never liked the idea of thrifting, I am now completely sold on circular fashion,” she said. “I recently sewed a broken strap on a dress I got at a clothing swap, and I felt so accomplished! Being in this world has shown me that conscious consumption is attainable and fun.”

But behind the fun is a serious concern about what happens to clothing once consumers decide they no longer want it.

“Just because you throw it away doesn’t mean it goes away,” she said, pointing to discarded clothing accumulating in other parts of the world and the microplastics shed by synthetic fabrics. “The planet and people are suffering because of this throwaway culture we’ve adopted. If an outfit is new but super cheap, believe there’s a high cost to someone else.”

For more information and tickets, visit hvsfw.org

Welcoming new voices

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

...the lens of war

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1



PHOTO BY WALTER ROSENBLUM

“Omaha Beach Rescue, D-Day +1, Normandy, June 7, 1944.” one of the best-known photographs of D-Day.

Walter Rosenblum was one of the most decorated Signal Corps cameramen of the war, receiving the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Presidential Unit Citation. He filmed some of its defining moments: the D-Day landings on Omaha Beach, the capture of Cherbourg and the bitter winter campaign in Alsace. On April 29, 1945, he was among the first Americans to enter the concentration camp at Dachau.

“It’s like a nightmare you’re trying to photograph as you’re trying to survive,” he recalled. “It’ll

never leave me.”

Narrated by Liev Schreiber, the 55-minute film recounts Rosenblum’s service through his own photographs, never-before-seen motion picture footage, after-action reports and recently discovered wartime letters. It has received best documentary honors at 15 international film festivals.

The film also restores the names of anonymous soldier-cameramen who served alongside him, including movie cameraman Val Pope, who was killed by a sniper in Brittany.

“The vital role played by

World War II combat cameramen has been largely overlooked,” Rosenblum said. “Operating under extreme danger, often armed with nothing more than a camera, they captured the definitive visual record of the century’s defining conflict, and their footage provided undeniable proof of Nazi atrocities at the Nuremberg trials.”

“They Fight With Cameras” screens Saturday, Sept. 26, at 6:30 p.m. at the Norfolk Library, 9 Greenwood Road East. Admission is free; registration is requested at norfolklibrary.org.



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ART

Sharon artist takes top prize at Lime Rock art show

By Patrick L. Sullivan

The annual juried art show at Trinity Episcopal Church in Lime Rock was won by Mi-Kyung Hwang of Sharon for “Wild Hazelnut from Eggleston.”

The winners were announced at the show’s opening reception at the church Friday evening, Sept. 18.

Organizer Theresa Kenny said the show attracted some 66 artists, 10 of whom were new to the show.

Judge Roger McKee, who recently retired as an art teacher at Salisbury School, said of the winning work, “The technical mastery here is overwhelming.”

Hwang was unable to attend the reception, but the second- and third-place finishers were on hand.

Second place went to Muriel Stockdale’s “Kevin.” McKee said the piece “has just enough to be compelling without getting too caught up in the details.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4



Muriel Stockdale, left, and judge Roger McKee during the awards announcement at the juried art show at Trinity Episcopal Church. Stockdale’s “Kevin” was the second place winner.

PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

MUSIC

From Woodstock to the Warner, Graham Nash is still singing for peace

By D.H. Callahan

Imagine stepping out onto a stage in front of hundreds of thousands of tired, wet and weary strangers with a lineup of songs they’ve never heard before. If you’re Graham Nash, who will perform with his current band at the Warner Theatre in Torrington on Sept. 30, you don’t have to imagine. You only have to remember.

The legendary Woodstock music festival was only the second concert Nash played with Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young. David Crosby, Stephen Stills and Nash had already formed Crosby, Stills & Nash, releasing their debut album earlier that year. Theirs was a sound both new and nostalgic when it hit the scene in the late 1960s, and, thanks in part to the success all three members had had with previous bands, they instantly found a wide and willing audience.

But when they added singer-songwriter Neil Young, they also added new material they had performed together in front of an audience only once before.. Despite their inexperience with the material, their performance, which took place in the early morning hours of the festival’s final day, became one of Woodstock’s most memorable sets. Part of the encore of that seminal set was a protest song called “Find the Cost of Freedom.” It was just one of many socially conscious songs that would define the careers of Nash and his bandmates.

Nash was born in Blackpool, Lancashire, after his mother was evacuated there during World War II. Today, 84 years later, he is still fighting for peace. His weapon of choice, of course, is music.

Nash began his career with the successful British rock band the Hollies. He has recalled how everything changed when he first sang with Stephen Stills and David Crosby in Laurel Canyon,



PHOTO BY MISTI LAYNE

California.

Laurel Canyon was a musicians’ paradise, with soon-to-be household names popping into each other’s homes for impromptu jam sessions. When Nash took a trip to the area to visit his girlfriend, Joni Mitchell, Stills and Crosby, both of whom were looking for new bands, just happened to be there. The musical chemistry they discovered would lead to the formation of Crosby, Stills & Nash.

Since then, Nash has been an advocate for peace and other social causes, writing and performing protest songs around the world. “Ohio” was written by Neil Young and recorded by

Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, while Nash and Young co-wrote “War Song.” Nash and David Crosby co-wrote “Immigration Man.” On his own, Nash wrote “Military Madness,” reflecting on his childhood in the shadow of World War II while the United States was fighting the Vietnam War.

More recently, Nash announced plans to release a new song about the unprecedented violence perpetrated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents called, simply “ICE.” Even at 84, Nash continues to use music as a vehicle for political and social expression.

For tickets, go to warnertheatre.org.

Graham Nash brings a career-spanning retrospective to the Warner Theatre in Torrington on Sept. 30, joined by Todd Caldwell, Adam Minkoff and Zack Djanikian.

...Brian Gersten

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1



PHOTO BY D.H. CALLAHAN

Filmmaker Brian Gersten

precious few can master.

These are just some of the obscure and underappreciated topics that Gersten has focused on in his career. PBS featured his short film on hollering competitions in the American South. “Mr. Ash,” a profile on a Chicago-based magician and store owner, won him multiple awards. Premiering earlier this year to rave reviews, his short documentary “Hollywood’s Mermaid” explores the life of Esther Williams, a once-famous competitive swimmer turned star of the silver screen.

After his films screen, Gersten will participate in a conversation with Yonah Sa-

deh, the creator of the VideoWall at the David M. Hunt Library. VideoWall is an installation in the library designed to give the community access to local independent filmmakers. Gersten’s selected films will be available at the VideoWall through the end of the year.

Gersten can be found coming in third or fourth at The Moviehouse in Millerton’s Trivia Night on the last Tuesday of every month with his team, which no longer uses names based on the 1979 comedy masterpiece “The Jerk.”

To learn more about Gersten and see some of his work, visit briangersten.org.

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... art show

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

Joan Macfarlane’s “Branching Out” was the third-place winner. McKee described the piece as “a compelling balance of realism and interpretation.” McKee and Emily Cox served as judges. Cox could not attend the reception, but McKee said they began their work by looking at the entire

show, then went through it a second time, taking photos with their phones of the standout pieces before comparing notes. “There was a lot of overlap,” he said. “We argued a little bit and then came to an agreement.” The show is open for viewing Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 26 and 27, from noon to 4 p.m.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN
Roger McKee naming the winners with the first place entry over his left shoulder.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN
Muriel Stockdale’s “Kevin” took second place in the juried art show at Trinity Episcopal Church.

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Local Matters

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MUSIC

Vibrant sights and sounds head to Hudson Jazz Festival

By D.H. Callahan

Early October might be the best time of the year to drive around New England and the Hudson Valley. There’s a chill in the air, cutting the humidity which has a tendency to reappear sporadically after its summer residency. There are more harvest festivals and apple-picking opportunities than you could shake a gourd at. And the trees put on a spectacular show with their multicolored foliage. Summer might be known as festival season, but Hudson, New York is striking while the leaves are hot. The annual Hudson Jazz Festival takes place the first weekend of October, looking to pair the vibrant autumnal foliage with some vivacious jazz. The festival takes place throughout Hudson Oct. 2 through 4, with pop-up performances it calls “Sounds Around Town.” Locations range from the farmers market to the Amtrak station, with more traditional venues peppered in. The headliners, however, will all head to Hudson Hall.

Hudson Hall itself has a robust history, serving as Hudson’s first City Hall before being used as a bank, a police station, a library and, most famously, an opera house. Built in 1855, it’s New York State’s oldest surviving theater and has at times housed paintings by Frederic Church and Sanford Gifford. Writers such as Ralph Waldo Emerson have taken the stage, as have prominent political figures including Susan B. Anthony and Teddy Roosevelt. In 2017, the building was restored and reopened as Hudson Hall. During the festival, the hall’s main stage will feature a lineup of performers from all corners of the jazz world. Cuban-born, Grammy-winning drummer and composer Dafnis Prieto and his high energy band, Sí o Sí Quartet, will perform on Friday night. Prieto, who is also a MacArthur Fellow, has been called “one of the most impressive musicians in New York jazz” by the New York Times.

On Saturday, the main stage will slow things down a bit. Fulbright Scholar and award-winning South African vocalist Vuyo Sotashe and acclaimed pianist Chris Pattishall will delight in the early show. The duo has been performing its intimate brand of slow, smoky nightclub jazz to rave reviews and released “Invocation, its first EP, earlier this year. Closing out the festival’s main stage on Sunday is energetic vocalist Shenel Johns. It will be a night of multiple Johns — or Jons — as she’ll be accompanied by Jon Thomas on piano, Jonathan S. Muir-Cotton on bass and Jonathan Barber on drums. In 2025, the award-winning Hart-



PHOTO BY DAVID MCINTYRE
Sam Bernhardt Quartet at the Pocket Park next to Mel The Bakery as part of Sounds Around Town (2025).



PHOTO PROVIDED
Vocalist Shenel Johns will close out the festival’s main stage on Sunday, Oct. 4.

ford-born singer made her debut with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra as the featured vocalist for Wynton Marsalis’ commissioned piece “Afro”. After the premiere, she accompanied the ensemble as it performed the piece on a tour throughout Africa. To see the full lineup of musicians and get your tickets for the main stage performances, visit hudsonhall.org.

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‘What’s happening this weekend?’

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WHAT TO DO

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Shortly after WKZE was founded in Sharon in the late 1980’s, the station approached Oblong Books as a possible advertising client. Unwilling to part with cash at that point, Dick Hermans and Holly Nelson proposed creating a radio show in return for advertising. **Harmony Junction** (as the show was called then) was born.

The Millerton News and The Lakeville Journal congratulate **Dick, our 2026 Estabrook Community Leadership honoree**, who continues hosting his weekly program nearly 40 years later, live from 98.1 KZE’s studios in Red Hook.

New Harmony is every Saturday morning from 9 to 11 and features an eclectic blend of acoustic folk, bluegrass, Celtic and related musical genres contributing to the station’s notable musical diversity.

The Millerton News | The Lakeville Journal

Local Matters

You may have heard Dick before ... For several years, Dick also did a similar show, “The Borderline,” on Robin Hood Radio. Those programs were recorded and are rebroadcast every **Tuesday at 8 pm and Saturday at 6 pm**, on WHDD 91.9.



Julie Torres, Susan Carr and Ellen Letcher at LABspace.

PHOTOS BY D.H. CALLAHAN

ART

Susan Carr’s last show at LABspace

By D.H. Callahan

Julie Torres and Ellen Letcher have been running LABspace in Hillsdale since 2018, and every year they’ve hosted a solo exhibition by Cape Cod-based painter Susan Carr. “Sick of the Devil,” her eighth show will be her last.

It’s hard to describe Carr’s paintings without using the word “sculptural.” Her wet-on-wet technique requires loads of oil paint, and she piles layers upon layers of intentionally visible brushstrokes on top of one other. Fortunately, the paintings are all unframed, allowing observers to see the layers of paint, some nearly as thick as the wooden structures stretching the canvas. When she’s done with a painting, she leaves it to dry in her studio. Even placed near a dehumidifier, the pieces take about one month to fully dry.

As gas prices surge, so do other oil-based products, including paint. The art world is seeing an unprecedented price hike that is proving prohibitive for many artists. Carr, though, has a deep love for her chosen medium and plans to work through the current trends rather than around them.

Carr’s subject matter varies widely, as she takes inspiration from disparate genres and periods of history. She’s particularly interested in medieval art and draws from centuries-old works, reinterpreting them in her signature style.

“The 13th century,” she said at the gallery, “was a very good century for me.”

But ancient references are just one of a variety of themes. Other pieces tap into Western interpretations of Eastern religions, surrealism, everyday life and even cubism.

In addition to the paintings, “Sick of the Devil” also features some of Carr’s sculptural work. The sculptures are unmistakably made by the same



“Together” by Susan Carr at LABspace.

hand, though their materials vary. Some are ceramic, with glazes in a palette similar to that of her paintings. The others are wooden, puzzle-like structures covered with her signature layers of oil paints.

The bright whimsy of Carr’s works contrast with the story of her life. She had three children by the age of 22 and worked tirelessly to raise them while pursuing her master’s in fine art at Tufts University’s School of

the Museum of Fine Arts. Two of her children are grown and thriving adults, but one of her sons died years ago. Carr considers some of her paintings a way of communicating with him through her art. But even when the subject matter is sad or uncomfortable, Carr’s bright, accessible style makes it all a little easier to confront.

While Carr is far from slowing down, producing dozens of pieces for these annual exhibitions, it’s Torres and Letcher who are moving on. LABspace was founded by Susan Jennings in 2014 as a place for artists to exhibit their fellow artists’ works. In 2018, she passed it to Torres and Letcher, both painters in their own right. While the gallery is still going strong after eight years under their watch, the duo has decided to focus on their individual artistic practices and plan to find a new artist or group of artists committed to the common cause in the coming months.

To learn more about LABspace and “Sick of the Devil,” visit labspaceart.blogspot.com.



PHOTO PROVIDED

DUGAZON’s Danish tapered candles, available in 30 colors, were among the details highlighted by House Beautiful in naming the Sharon shop one of the “Best Home Stores in America.”

LIFESTYLE

Local tastemakers make a national list

By Natalia Zukerman

Honeychurch Home in Lenox, Massachusetts, and DUGAZON in Sharon have been named among “The Best Home Stores in America” by House Beautiful, whose 2026 Best Home Stores issue was released Sept. 15. Honeychurch founder Carolyn Piccirelli and DUGAZON founders Bobby Graham and Matthew Marden are all Salisbury residents.

Honeychurch, which began with a small shop in Salisbury before moving to Lenox, was recognized for its carefully chosen collection of objects, textiles and home goods meant to grow more meaningful with time.

“We started Honeychurch with a little shop in Salisbury, so being recognized by House Beautiful as one of the best home stores in the country feels pretty extraordinary,” Piccirelli said. “We’re incredibly grateful to everyone who has supported us as

Honeychurch has grown.”

DUGAZON, meanwhile, earned a place on the list just a year after Graham and Marden opened the Sharon shop. The magazine praised the store’s collected approach to interiors and hospitality, along with such details as its Danish tapered candles, available in 30 colors.

“We are incredibly grateful to be included in House Beautiful’s ‘Best Home Stores in America,’” Graham and Marden said. “DUGAZON was a dream nearly 30 years in the making, and seeing it come to life has been more rewarding than we ever imagined.”

“To receive this recognition after just one year is truly an honor — one we share with our wonderful customers, friends, makers, and the communities of Sharon and Salisbury,” they added. “We feel so fortunate to be a part of everyday life here.”

To see the complete list, visit housebeautiful.com.

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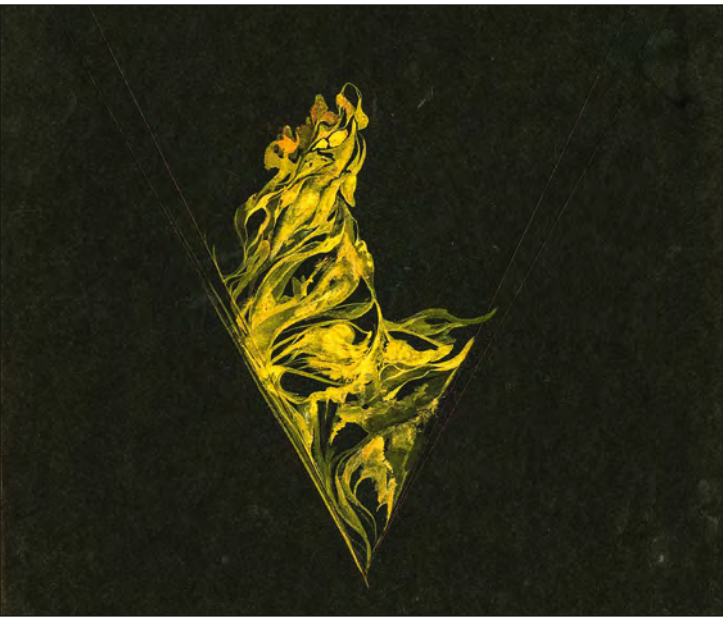
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Untitled, Cameron

PHOTO PROVIDED

Kent Fine Art in Pine Plains presents a rare collection of drawings by Cameron Parsons Kimmel (1922-1995), the American artist, poet, actress and occultist whose work moved between surrealism, mysticism and the counterculture of the 1950s and '60s. Known simply as Cameron, she was associated with figures including Jack Parsons, Kenneth Anger and Wallace Berman and became an influential underground avant-garde artist. The exhibition opens Friday, Sept. 25, and runs through Nov. 14 at Kent Fine Art, 2854 Church St., Pine Plains. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. More information at kentfineart.net.

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arts

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Tri-Corner Calendar

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Library Card Sign-Up

Month
Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org
All month, Sharon residents can stop by the library to sign up for a library card and participate in a punch-card program for new and existing cardholders. Each library visit for a book checkout or program earns a punch; five punches earn a small gift and an entry to win a gift card to J.P. Gifford Café. For more information, call 860-364-5041 or visit hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org.

SEPTEMBER 24

"The Business of Art"

Panel Discussion
David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org
Artists Danielle Mailer, Jason Bailer Losh, Janet André Block and Robert Cronin discuss the practical realities of being an artist, including grants, logistics, philanthropy and late-career decisions. Moderated by Natalia Zukerman. 5:30 p.m. Free.

Litchfield County 2026

Housing Affordability Summit
Kent Community House, 93 N. Main St., Kent, Conn.
The fifth annual Litchfield County Housing Affordability Summit brings together local housing organizations, town leaders, legislators and housing advocates to share success stories and ideas for creating more affordable housing throughout the region. The summit will also offer opportunities for attendees to share ideas about creating housing more cost-efficiently, sustainably and with greater community involvement. 5 to 7:30 p.m. thehousingcollective.org

SEPTEMBER 25

"Bower of Plenty" Flower Show

The White Hart, 15 Under Mountain Road, Salisbury, Conn.
Sept. 25 and 26
The Millbrook Garden Club presents a Garden Club of America flower show showcasing the creativity and artistry of garden club members through floral design, horticulture and education. Friday, 3 to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free.

Happy Hour Piano Series:

Jazz with Jen Allen
American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn.
Pianist and composer Jen Allen brings her jazz artistry to American Mural Project's Happy Hour Piano Series. Allen has performed throughout the Northeast and internationally and has shared the stage with artists including Don Braden, Jimmy Greene, Freddie Hendrix and Camille Thurman. Doors open at 5 p.m., with music beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tickets at americanmural-project.org

SEPTEMBER 26

Bob Lenz: Egg Tempera II

The Good Gallery, 23 S. Main St., Kent, Conn.
Opening reception 3 to 6 p.m. On view through Oct. 27.

The Eternal Now

Gallery of Dreams, 156 Gay St., Sharon, Conn.
Opening for "The Eternal Now," featuring sculpture, paintings, photography, furniture and jewelry by 18 local artists, including Danielle Mailer, Harper Blanchet, Jane Capellaro, Karen Culbreth, Bob Green, Jesse LaLiberte, Pieter Lefferts and Nancy Zarider. Gallery open noon to 5 p.m., followed by a potluck dinner, bonfire, live music and poetry at 5 p.m. On view through Nov. 22.

Maple Bourbon Release

Party
Taconic Distillery, 179 Bowen Road, Stanfordville, N.Y.
Live music from The Red Barn Band from 2 to 6 p.m. and food all day from Vosburgh Brewing and Morsi Foods.

Artist Reception: William

Carlson's "Rough Diamonds"
Mad Rose Gallery, 5916 N. Elm St., Millerton, N.Y.
Meet artist William Carlson and view his exhibition of sculpture combining cast glass, laminate and granite. 3 to 5 p.m.

Square Dance & Ice Cream

Social
Copake Grange 935, 628 Empire Road, Copake, N.Y.
Square Dance caller Lance Olds will teach all dances, and there will be live music with Laura Murkowski and Vicky Boulay of the Bad Cats. Food and ice cream will be available, so come with an appetite and put on your dancing shoes! Sponsored in part by Stewart's Shops and the Ackerman Foundation. Buy your tickets at the door.

Harvest Sunset Celebration

Globe Hill at Ronnybrook Farm, Schultz Hill Road, Pine Plains, N.Y.
Stissing Center for Arts & Culture's annual Harvest Sunset Celebration features an acoustic solo performance by singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist John Sebastian, co-founder of The Lovin' Spoonful. Hudson Valley bluegrass band Long Steel Rail will also perform, with Bryce Edwards serving as emcee. The evening includes a harvest dinner, wine and cocktails and sweeping views of the Catskills. Proceeds support Stissing Center's year-round arts programming and free youth and family programs. Tickets at stissingcenter.org or by calling 518-771-3339.

César Orozco & SonAhead

Mahaive Performing Arts Center, 14 Castle St., Great Barrington, Mass.
Cuban-Venezuelan pianist, vocalist, composer, arranger, violinist and educator César Orozco brings SonAhead to the Mahaive in conjunction with the Festival Latino of the Berkshires. The group fuses Cuban son with modern jazz, electronic music and Cuban timba. 7 p.m. Free; reservations required at mahaive.org

Chicken Barbeque

Millerton Methodist Church, Millerton, N.Y.
Pick up from 3 to 5 p.m. at Millerton Methodist. Dinner includes: 1/2 chicken, pasta salad, corn on the cob, baked beans, roll and dessert. \$20. Call Jim Campbell at (518)789-3138 or Judy Westfall at (518)821-5185 to pre-order.

Items appear as space permits.

Submit calendar items to editor@lakevillejournal.com.

VideoWall Presents 4 Short

Americana Docs by Brian

Gersten
David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org
The David M. Hunt Library's VideoWall presents four documentary shorts by Millerton filmmaker Brian Gersten, exploring overlooked corners of American history through archival research, vintage news footage and inventive storytelling. Followed by a conversation with Gersten and VideoWall curator Yonah Sadeh. 6 p.m. Free. More info at huntlibrary.org.

Film Screening: "They Fight

with Cameras"
Norfolk Library, 9 Greenwoods Rd. East, Norfolk, Conn.
Narrated by Liev Schreiber, this 55 minute film by former Norfolk resident Nina Rosenblum is about her father's time in the US Army photo and film unit during WWII. The film will screen at 6:30 p.m. followed by a Q&A with Rosenblum.

Best in Bloom

Sharon, Conn.
Sept. 26 and 27

Celebrate dahlias at the Sharon Historical Society & Museum's inaugural community Dahlia Festival. Local gardeners can enter up to 12 stems in six categories, including Dinner Plate, Ball and Pompom, Anemone and Collarette, and Water Lily. Saturday features a cocktail party and preview of the historic Gay-Hoyt House filled with flowers; Sunday's Dahlia Festival Open House includes People's Choice Award voting and is free and open to all. Cocktail party, 5 p.m. Sunday open house, noon to 4 p.m. More info at sharonhist.org

Annual Mushroom Walk

Location to be determined
Join mushroom enthusiast Dave Paton for an annual search for wild mushrooms. The location will be announced closer to the date based on where mushrooms are most plentiful. 10 a.m. Check cornwallconservationtrust.org for more info.

"Dear Elizabeth" Reading

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org
Local acting couple Campbell Scott and Kathleen McElfresh present a reading of Sarah Ruhl's "Dear Elizabeth," based on the more than 400 letters exchanged between poets Robert Lowell and Elizabeth Bishop over 30 years. 5:30 p.m. Free, but space is limited. Registration required: hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com

Free Craft & Art Supply

Swap
The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.
The Center on Main and Common Place Craft Workshop are teaming up for a free community art and craft supply swap. Bring new or gently used supplies to one of the collection locations between Sept. 18 and 24, then return to the swap to choose new-to-you materials. From 1 to 2 p.m., access is reserved for those who donated supplies; from 2 to 4 p.m., the swap is open to everyone, with no donation required. The event aims to connect local artists, crafters and makers while reducing waste

and making creative materials more accessible. Bring your own bags. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

SEPTEMBER 27

Of the People, By the

People, For the People
Five Points Art Center, 888 University Drive, Torrington, Conn.

A community movement choir led by choreographer Paula Josa-Jones celebrates the nation's 250th anniversary with an outdoor performance, art station and dancing. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. 2 to 4 p.m. Free. RSVP at of-the-people250th.eventbrite.com.

Jammin' at the Grange

Copake Grange 935, 628 Empire Road, Copake, N.Y.

Everyone's welcome to join in for an afternoon of creative music making from 3:30 to 5 p.m. - just for fun, join the jam! Bring an instrument, bring a song, bring your singing voice and join with others in our music jam. For more info, contact Lenny Barham at lennybarham@gmail.com This event is free; donations are welcome.

"REWILDING: Hope Is

Wild"
Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org
The Salisbury Association Land Trust presents a talk with Jon Leibowitz, president and CEO of Northeast Wilderness Trust, and Trinity College professor and neuroscientist Dr. Susan Masino about wild forest ecosystems, their restoration and their connections to the hu-

man brain. 4 to 5 p.m. Registration required. More info at scovillelibrary.org.

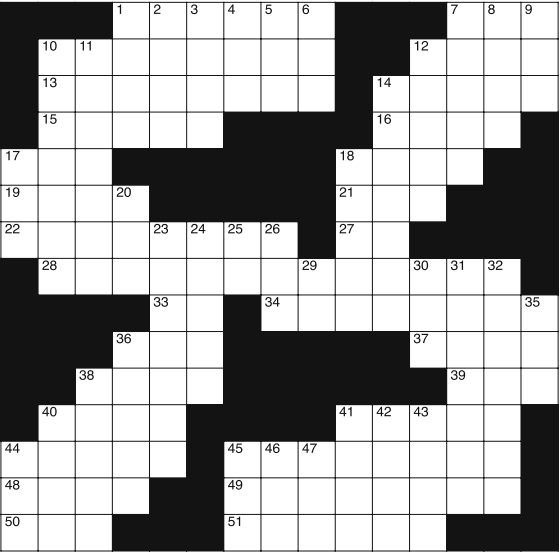
"The Problem with Plastic: How We Can

Save Ourselves and Our Planet Before It's Too Late"
Sharon Town Hall, 63 Main St., Sharon, Conn.
Author and environmental policy expert Judith Enck, founder of Beyond Plastics, will discuss her book, "The Problem with Plastic," and the impact of plastic pollution on human health and the environment. Enck will be in conversation with Dr. Joshua Ginsberg, president of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies. 4 p.m. Free and open to all; space is limited and registration is required at hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. A place for worship
7. Referee declaration
10. Torsos
12. Used to introduce something
13. Healing method
14. Takes to the sea
15. Make law
16. French coastal city
17. Hawaiian dish
18. Young of domestic cattle
19. Women's undergarments
21. 60-minute intervals (abbr.)
22. One after another
27. It's a hot topic these days
28. Folk band frontman
33. They precede C
34. Heavenly
36. Fiddler crabs
37. Major Hindu deity
38. Hebrew given name
39. Cost per mile
40. __ Romeo, car
41. Rural municipality in Manitoba
44. Narratives
45. "A tragedy had __ him"
48. Iranian city
49. Praises publicly
50. Founding Father Franklin
51. Herbal tea



10. Idea
11. Solomon Islands capital
12. Afrikaans
14. Remove thatch
17. Television network
18. Jalen Brunson is one
20. Title of respect
23. Flowering trees
24. Occurring in a tube
25. Exists
26. Woman (French)
29. Expression of doubt
30. NHL legend Bobby
31. Accomplished
32. Makes slightly wet
35. National Assn. of Manufacturers
36. Not sated
38. Poe's middle name
40. Swiss river

September 17 Solution

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

September 17 Solution

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



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Our Towns

Gala celebrates community health center amid looming Medicaid crisis

By John Coston

SALISBURY — Safe-net health centers across the country face a fiscal crisis “unlike anything we’ve seen in decades,” Joanne Borduas, chief executive officer of Community Health and Wellness Center, told supporters at a gala at Stillwaters Farm on Friday, Sept. 18.

The crisis is being driven by what policy experts call the “Medicaid cliff,” Borduas said.

Federal Medicaid changes scheduled to take effect in January 2027 could cause many families to lose coverage and strain the finances of organizations such as CHWC, a nonprofit health care provider serving underserved communities in the Northwest Corner.

Nationwide, approximately 50% of patients at similar health centers are covered by Medicaid. At CHWC, Medicaid patients account for about 38%, while 45% have commercial insurance and approximately 17% are covered by Medicare.

“Every day, our doors open to neighbors who walk in carrying the weight of illness, anxiety and the fear of what tomorrow might bring. They come to us because they know that at CHWC, they will be



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

From left, Community Health and Wellness Center CEO Joanne Borduas, State Rep. Maria Horn and Lauren Smith of Fairview Hospital/Berkshire Health Systems at the third annual Music in the Meadow event at Stillwaters Farm in Salisbury on Friday, Sept. 18.

treated with dignity and compassion regardless of what is in their wallet,” she said.

CHWC began in 2002 as a two-room clinic at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington and attained federally qualified health center status in 2009. It has grown to operate three health centers — one in Torrington, Winsted and North Canaan — along with 10 school-based health centers and mobile services.

It provides primary and behavioral health care, dental care, nutritional services, chiropractic care and other specialty services. The organi-

zation serves more than 7,000 patients and records approximately 38,000 visits per year.

Borduas also thanked state Rep. Maria Horn for her support. “We are so grateful for your partnership.”

“When a family loses coverage, they do not stop getting sick,” Borduas said. “A mother’s diabetes doesn’t pause. A child’s asthma attack doesn’t wait. Instead, those patients are pushed into the shadows of the uninsured or under-insured.”

John Coston is a trustee of the Community Health and Wellness Center.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Lydia Fleming, left, Ivy Zheng and Addie Diorio are among the students signed up for the International Travel Club’s 2027 trips.

HVRHS fundraiser helps make world travel possible for students

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The annual Wine Dinner fundraiser for the Housatonic Valley Regional High School International Travel Club was held at the White Hart in Salisbury on Friday evening, Sept. 18.

The club raises money to allow students to participate in its trips regardless of their ability to pay. The first Wine Dinner, spearheaded in 2019 by Denis Cohn of Falls Village, raised \$25,000, and subsequent dinners have raised similar amounts.

Club adviser John Lizzi, a social studies teacher at HVRHS, said 60 students have signed up for trips to Greece in April 2027 and to the Galapagos Islands and Ecuador in July 2027.

“That’s about 20% of the student body,” he said.

Ivy Zheng, a senior from North Canaan, will make her first trip with the club when she travels to the Galapagos Islands.

She said she received a scholarship with a service requirement and will focus on reforestation efforts during the trip.

Addie Diorio and Lydia Fleming, also seniors from North Canaan, have participated in previous trips. Diorio traveled to Spain and Portugal, Thailand, and Australia and New Zealand. Fleming participated in the Thailand and Australia-New Zealand trips and traveled separately to Iceland.

The Thailand trip also included a service component.

Diorio said the group began in Bangkok before traveling to the Chiang Mai area.

The HVRHS students helped local residents by preparing food for consumption or sale and building raised garden beds.

They also visited an elephant sanctuary.

“We had to tromp through the jungle looking for the elephants,” Fleming said.

At the dinner, Travel Club students served guests while staff handled the wine. A silent auction featured items and services including a guided fishing trip from Housatonic River Outfitters, furniture by Alan Turner, packages from Canaan Country Club and a ceramic platter made by HVRHS art teacher Lilly Rand.

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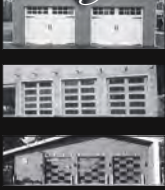
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