

# The Lakeville Journal

TriCornerNews.com

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

## Cream of the crop: North Canaan dairy farms trace a rich history

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — Before daybreak over the rolling hills of the Northwest Corner, Sandy Carlson was down in the milk parlor at Carlwood Farm: the last remaining dairy farm on Canaan Valley Road.

"I don't eat breakfast until after my cows," she said. As recently as the 1960s, dozens of dairy farms lined Canaan Valley Road, with many more operating throughout the rest of North Canaan.

The farms may be mostly gone, but the ones that remain are hopeful for the future.

Against all odds, there were more milk cows in North Canaan in 2023 than ever before. Just four dairy operations remain in the small farm town: Laurelbrook Farm, Elm Knoll Farm, Canaan View Farm, and Carlwood Farm.

Combined, their barns house over 2,000 milk cows.

The federal Department of Agriculture's 2022 Dairy Data report showed that in the last 50 years, Connecticut's dairy cow population has dropped from about 57,000 in 1972 down to 18,000 in 2022.

Over 10% of the state's remaining milk cows reside in North Canaan.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Canaan History Center's Kathryn Boughton said the town's lactose legacy can be traced back to favorable land evaluations in the 1730s.

"Canaan, when it was sold at auction in New London in 1738, had the highest price-per-acre of all of the five towns here because it had the best soil," she said.

In the 18th and early-19th centuries, farming in the region was necessary for self-sufficiency. During this period, milk was highly perishable and the surest way to obtain fresh, safe milk was to own a cow.

Boughton recalled about 25 active dairy farms on Canaan Valley Road as late as the 1960s, all of which operated on a much smaller



scale than today's farms in the East Canaan section of town.

Even up to the time when I was born, there were a lot of farms," said Boughton. "My great-uncle, who farmed very much as his father had farmed at the time of the Civil War, had 12 cows and that supported a family of five people," she said.

It was not until the mid-19th century that dairy farming became a viable business venture. Large dairy

Left, Cricket Jacquier, owner of Laurelbrook Farm, showed how a newly installed plate cooler instantly reduces the temperature of milk from 100 degrees down to 36 for transport. Below, Sandy Carlson tended to her young stock at Carlwood Farm.

farms with delivery services did exist, but few found success until pasteurization was discovered in 1862.

Arguably the first successful large-scale milk business in the nation was opened in Burrville, Connecticut, in 1851 by entrepreneur Gail Borden.

Borden held a patent on "milk extract" and used this to create

See FARMS, Page A4

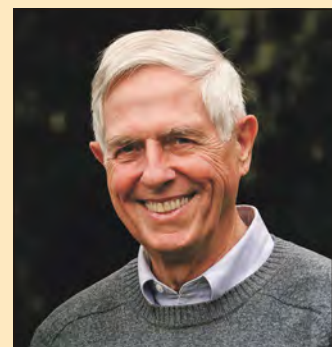


PHOTO PROVIDED

## James L. Buckley dies at age 100

James L. Buckley, who spent much of his life in Sharon as a member of a well known and influential family, died on Tuesday, Aug. 18 in Washington. He was 100.

Buckley won an improbable race for U.S. Senate from New York in 1970, served in the Reagan administration and was appointed as a federal appellate judge.

Journal coverage includes an obituary that appears on Page A5 and three stories from our archives — a 2022 interview with veteran news correspondent Brian Ross on page A6, a 2015 speech Buckley gave at the Salisbury Forum on page A7, and a 1979 interview with late Journal editor Robert Estabrook (www.tricornernews.com).

## New Kindergarten cutoff changes plans for some parents

By Sadie Leite

FALLS VILLAGE — In early summer, the Connecticut General Assembly passed a law establishing a new cutoff date for kindergarten registration.

Starting in the fall of 2024, students entering kindergarten must be five years old by Sept. 1, rather than Jan. 1, which was the previous requirement.

According to a memo released July 7 by the Connecticut state Department of Education (DOE) and the Office of Early Childhood (OEC), approximately 9,000 students will be affected by this change because they will not turn five by September.

Under the new legislation, parents can petition school districts

to admit a child under the age requirement. The school district would carry out an assessment of the child.

Before this change, Connecticut was the only state with a cutoff as late as January. Data from the National Center for Education Statistics shows that all other states have age-cutoff requirements in early fall. Maine and Colorado have the latest dates, on Oct. 1, while other states see cutoffs in August or September.

The impetus behind the change focused on the developmental readiness of children. Many educators believe kindergarteners entering school at age 4½, versus those closer to six, face a large learning gap. They say that younger children are not ready for the demands of kindergarten. The effect of the pandemic has pushed many children

See KINDERGARTEN, Page A10

## Salisbury Land Trust seeks to buy 297-acre parcel

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — The Salisbury Association Land Trust (SALT) is looking to purchase a 297-acre, environmentally sensitive tract of land on Twin Lakes Road with expansive views of Mount Tom and the Twin Lakes region which recently came on the market for \$2.9 million.

The property, listed by Elyse Harney Real Estate, is part of the

real estate holdings of Salisbury resident Robert Boyette, producer of numerous hit television shows including "Happy Days," "Family Matters" and "Full House," as well as Broadway shows.

John Landon, co-chairman of SALT, appeared before the membership of the Twin Lakes Association (TLA) on Saturday, Aug. 5, to explain that the Trust is raising funds and hopes to buy the land so that it can be protected from

development.

"From the land trust's point of view, this is extremely valuable property," he said.

The land is home to many animals and rare plants and is a key buffer for stormwater runoff. A Connecticut tract of land across the state line in Massachusetts was recently acquired by a farmer with help and restrictions from a land

See LAND TRUST, Page A10



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

## Drifting into the weekend at Lime Rock Park

Custom tuned racecars drifted around the bends of Lime Rock Park Aug. 18-20 when Gridlife Circuit Legends returned to Lakeville for the second year. For full story, turn to Page B5.



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## In The Journal this week

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## 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.

### Following too close

Two vehicles were traveling south on Route 7 in Cornwall at approximately 7:30 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 11. Alexandria Teran, 17, of Goshen, had come to a stop due to a fallen tree limb. Rebecca Malone, 42, of Sharon, did not see Teran's vehicle stopped and rear-ended Teran's vehicle. Malone was issued a written warning for following too close.

### Route 7 accident

On Saturday, Aug. 12, at approximately 8:45 a.m. Silvestre Mendez, 29, of Torrington, was traveling northbound on Route 7 in Canaan and stopped for a vehicle that braked in front of him. Justin Foster, 19, of Sheffield, Massachusetts, also was northbound on Route 7 and struck the Mendez vehicle from behind. North Canaan EMS provided treatment to Mendez and a passenger in his vehicle. Foster was issued an infraction for following too closely.

### Avoiding turkeys in road

On Sunday, Aug. 13, at approximately 6:30 a.m., Yamilex Vega, 23, of Waterbury, was traveling westbound on Route 4 in Cornwall when she tried to turn to avoid striking turkeys in the road but lost control due to wet road conditions and hit a utility pole. The vehicle was towed from the scene and Vaguilla was issued an infraction for failure to have insurance and a written warning for failure to maintain lane.

### Drug charge arrest

On Friday, Aug. 18, at approximately 7:15 p.m., troopers were sent to a River Road address in Cornwall for a report of a man passed out behind the wheel. Sean Clegg, 43, of Sharon, was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence, use of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a controlled substance, second offense.

The Lakeville Journal will publish the outcome of police charges. Contact us by mail at P.O. Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039, Attn: Police Blotter, or send an email, with "police blotter" in the subject line, to johnc@lakevillejournal.com

## Noble Horizons Book & Tag Sale Sept. 8-9

SALISBURY — The Noble Horizon Auxiliary's ever-popular Book & Tag Sale will be held Friday, Sept. 8 and Saturday, Sept. 9 in the Community Room at Noble Horizons in Salisbury from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free. On Friday only, Early Birds may pay \$10 for early buying from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

This semi-annual event attracts antiques dealers, book lovers and bargain hunters looking for treasures among the hundreds of books, furniture, china, glassware, art, jewelry, and household items.

Donations of furniture, books, jewelry, and household items are still needed. The sale's proceeds not only benefit Noble residents, but its employees as well. Recently the Auxiliary contributed \$25,000 toward Noble's Wi-Fi upgrade and a few years ago purchased a car for transporting residents to medical appointments.

Funds are also used to brighten the dining room with flowers and help residents in purchasing everyday necessities, new eyeglasses, a visit to the beauty parlor and other needs that may arise.

Similarly, the Auxiliary's Scholarship Fund focuses on Noble's dedicated employees, financially helping those who are furthering their nursing or other health care-related careers.

## HVRHS travel club fundraiser set for Sept. 22

By Lia Wolgemuth

Preparations are in full swing for the fifth annual Wine Dinner and Auction on Friday, Sept. 22. The event is a fundraiser for Housatonic Valley Regional High School's travel club, Northwest Corner: Students Without Borders.

Students are raising funds for their trips to Spain/Portugal and Iceland in 2024. They are selling tickets and finding sponsors for the dinner and auction, which is hosted by the White Hart in Salisbury on Friday, Sept. 22 at 6:30

p.m.

The evening accommodates 120 guests under a tent on the Green and includes a cocktail hour with a sparkling wine, a four-course dinner with three wines and both a live and silent auction. Over 100 items donated by local businesses will be up for auction, which include gift baskets, gift certificates, tickets to tri-state events, golf packages and more.

Students work at the event as waitstaff, greeters, decorators, cleanup crew and fundraisers.

"Before there was a fund-

raiser - before the pandemic - only six students went on a trip," said club board member Denise Cohn. "After last year's fundraiser, over 70 students were able to go on three trips to Japan, Ireland/Scotland and the Galapagos. So fundraising really opens the door to travel for many students who wouldn't be able to afford a trip otherwise."

Tickets to last year's fundraiser sold out and the event raised over \$60,000.

Tickets are \$100 each. To buy tickets, become a sponsor or donate an item for the auction, visit [winedinnerandauction.com](http://winedinnerandauction.com), email [nwcstudentswithoutborders@gmail.com](mailto:nwcstudentswithoutborders@gmail.com) or call Lia at 860-248-0269.

## Hospice volunteer training opportunities planned for fall

HARTFORD — The Hospice Volunteer Team with Hartford HealthCare at Home, an extensive volunteer program, is planning a series of training classes in the fall to prepare prospective volunteers.

Classes cover the history and mission of hospice, care and comfort of the dying,

spirituality, grief and bereavement, and other necessary topics to safely provide care to patients at end of life. For more information or to register for training, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Holly Beck at 203.321.3008 or [holly.beck@hhhealth.org](mailto:holly.beck@hhhealth.org)

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## Online This Week

### James Buckley interview from 1979

The Lakeville Journal's Robert Estabrook interviewed the Sharon conservative in 1979. Go to [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com)

### Dutchess County's solid waste plans

A 10-year draft plan for managing solid waste has been released. Go to [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com).

## Correction

John Watt, Jr., president and CEO of NBT Bank, was incorrectly identified as Tom Watt in the Aug. 17 edition of The Lakeville Journal

## Don't Miss This Week's Special Inserts! Sales and more!

Check them out inside.

• Olde Farms Furniture

## LEGAL NOTICES

### Legal Notice

The Union Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting on Sept. 9, 2023, at St. Thomas Church, 40 Leedsville Rd., Amenia, NY from 1 to 2:30 PM. If attending, please bring a canned or boxed food item for the Church's Food Pantry. Call Gail with any questions at 845-454-6641.

08-17-23

08-24-23

08-31-23

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF LINDA L. GATTI Late of Canaan (23-00324)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 8, 2023, 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:  
Elizabeth R. Worrall  
c/o Mark J Capecelatro  
Mark J. Capecelatro, LLC  
117 Main Street  
P.O. Box 1045  
Canaan, CT 06018

Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
08-24-23

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF MARTHA ANN MILLER Late of Lakeville (23-00296)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 10, 2023, 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:

Anthony Carmine Palumbo  
Anthony C. Palumbo, LLC

117 Main Street  
Canaan, CT 06018  
Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
08-24-23

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF SALLY M. HEERDT Late of Sharon (23-00308)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 10, 2023, 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:  
Laura A. Murphy  
c/o Thomas V Riley  
Grady & Riley LLP  
86 Buckingham Street  
Waterbury, CT 06710  
Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
08-24-23

### Notice of Decisions 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 August 14, 2023:

Denied Without Prejudice-Application 2023-IW-010 by Britt McGrath for dredging a pond filled with silt. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 16 as lot 01 and is known as 143 & 181 Housatonic Road. The owner of the property is Anne McGrath.

Approved - Application 2023-IW-015 by owners

Colleen and Jennifer Ventimilia for renovating an existing house, adding a screened porch and deck, and removing existing deck. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 11 as lot 30 and is known as 54 Indian Cave Road.

Modification Approved - Application 2023-IW-004 by owner 178 South Shore LLC to modify an approved planting plan in connection with an approved site plan to demolish and build a new a single-family dwelling and associated site improvements. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 60 as lot 22 and is known as 178 South Shore Road.

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

08-24-23

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF SHERRY L. AUCLAIRE Late of Sharon AKA Sherry Auclaire AKA Sherry Lee Auclaire (23-00297)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 3, 2023, 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:  
Dana M. Davis  
c/o Linda M Patz  
Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP  
7 Church Street  
P.O. Box 101  
Canaan, CT 06018

Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
08-17-23

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# Our Towns

## Methodist churches welcome their new pastor and Silver Lake Camp & Retreat gains a director

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — After a diligent search for just the right minister with just the right qualities, the United Methodist Church of Sharon and the United Methodist Church of Lakeville called the Rev. Dr. Anna Crews Camphouse to serve jointly the two growing congregations. Her service began officially on Saturday, July 1.

Rev. Camphouse and her husband, David, who has served as Pastor in Methodist Church programs in Alabama and California, have moved to Sharon's Silver Lake Camp & Retreat Center, where he was named Director as of January, 2023, looking forward to imaginative expansion to serve that constituency of summer campers and adult retreat programs in conjunction with the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Pausing for conversation on Friday, Aug. 4, shortly before Rev. Camphouse left for a Chicago conference, the couple shared their enthusiasm for the work that stood before them as well as the area towns that have become home. Both bring exuberance and imagination to their positions within their communities.

"It is an interesting topic," Rev. Camphouse said when asked about dwindling church attendance trends, sensing a shift in community centeredness. In the mid-20th century, she noted, the center of community was found in the churches. She also sees a shift from feeling connected to one's local community in favor of a wider arena of involvement, the internet responsible for more globalized thinking.

"Why go to church?" was the question, and the shift away from attendance was

the answer.

"People are still spiritual, but not religious," she said. With the trend came inability to connect and a tendency toward division, many people living with anger or apathy. "It can be overwhelming," she added.

"I believe that a faith community is a core element that we need to expand into, to create sacred spaces, to engage with others through 'meaning-making conversations,'" Rev. Camphouse said, returning to the theme throughout.

She urged people to "speak and listen well" with each other, a behavior that she personifies. "We forgot how to talk and listen. That's what I'm about," she said.

"The church needs to shift toward relationship building," she said, adding "I'm saying these things from the pulpit." She is working to create conversations and community.

Rev. Camphouse has recently returned from the Parliament of the World's Religions, an annual international conference convened in August this year in Chicago. She has now attended five Parliaments throughout the world. This year's theme was "A Call to Conscience: Defending Freedom and Human Rights."

These Parliaments assemble 10,000 participants from 80 countries who are of 200 different faith traditions, Rev. Camphouse noted. She serves as a member of the "core team" for hosting the "Women's Village." That organized group aims to empower women and promote equal voices and just treatment around the world.

Before moving to Sharon, Rev. Camphouse served at Countryside United Church of Christ in Omaha, Nebraska, as the Interim Director of



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Looking forward to serving their communities are the Rev. Dr. Anna Crews Camphouse, newly called to serve the United Methodist Churches in Lakeville and Sharon and her pastor husband, David, who started in January as Director of Silver Lake Campground in Sharon.

Engagement and Formation. She was also the Clergy Chair of the Tri-Faith Initiative in Omaha, the only place in the world where a synagogue, mosque and church intentionally shared a property to demonstrate a model of peaceful coexistence and collaboration among the Abrahamic faith traditions.

"I love living in a small town that is filled with creative, intelligent and thoughtful people," Rev. Camphouse said of her Sharon-Lakeville home. "I am relishing discovering the history, and I am drawn to meaningful conversations with amazing residents."

Anticipating challenges to be addressed, Rev. Camphouse spoke of the schisms dividing people collectively in the nation and the world, and strategies to help people to reconnect and recenter to restore and deepen relationships.

In addition to her pastoral experience, Rev. Camphouse is a registered nurse adding

a listening ear and a holistic health approach that can incorporate spiritual direction. She is also a trained World Café facilitator.

### Silver Lake

Now known as the Silver Lake Camp & Retreat Center, David Camphouse recalled that the site began in 1957 as a camp connected with the United Church of Christ. He attended summer camp as a child and as he matured, he continued in camp ministry for a 30-year career.

Camphouse said that

the COVID-19 pandemic brought significant changes to camp ministry and administration. The call to remain safe within family changed children's summer experiences.

Silver Lake Camp & Retreat Center is now equipped to serve Grade 4 through high school aged campers. This summer, Camphouse was gratified to see an increase in children enrolled in Grades 4, 5 and 6.

"This year, I've been excited to work with staff who

were campers at Silver Lake, continuing that relationship by returning," he said.

"Our gift is providing the experience for campers to be themselves at camp," he said. "They are allowed to claim all of who they are," he added.

Plans include attracting regional or national conferences to the camp, or hosting retreats, Camphouse said.

### Welcoming to all

Eager to meet members of her new communities and in the hope that some might be curious, Rev. Camphouse noted that Sunday worship at United Methodist Church of Lakeville begins at 9 a.m. and at United Methodist Church of Sharon at 10:30 a.m. Both churches have regularly updated Facebook pages to share news of upcoming special programs.

Residents are also invited to tour the Silver Lake facility throughout the fall, beginning on Monday, August 21. To find a good time to visit, explore future program opportunities for individuals or groups, call the Silver Lake Camp and Retreat Center Office (860)364-5526.

The Camphouses have three children: Sophia who will enroll as a freshman at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, and identical twins Paul and John, who will enter Grade 5 at Sharon Center School.

## Kent finance board approves school security officer funding

By Leila Hawken

KENT — A proposal from the Kent Board of Education to create a non-lapsing fund to support hiring a school security officer for the coming school year was approved by the Board of Finance at its regular meeting on Wednesday, August 16.

In a separate decision the Board of Finance voted to approve \$70,000 in funding for the non-lapsing fund, any unused excess to be returned to the town's general fund.

The decisions were made following lengthy debate that posed a variety of viewpoints, ranging from the policy decisions questioning the need for any sort of additional security at Kent Center School, to a focus on how the requested \$70,000 should be sourced in a way that offers transparency.

The value of transparency in budgetary spending was argued by Board of Education chairman Scott Trabucco in response to a suggestion that the school board could find the requested funding in its own unspent surplus accounts for this year. Members of the finance board suggested that the Board of Education would then include the position in next year's budget as an existing position to be

funded.

"We are going out of our way to create a transparent process," Trabucco said. He indicated that the Board of Education had voted unanimously to request the non-lapsing fund for the purpose.

The non-lapsing fund would bring the desired transparency and would provide for any unspent funds to be returned to the town's General Fund at the end of the fiscal year, according to the proposal.

Framework for the discussion was provided by Board of Finance chairman Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick who set out three questions to be discussed: Is there going to be a fund, how to set up such a fund, and how to fund it.

As a resident and taxpayer, finance board member Jason Wright said that he has reservations about whether he would favor the hiring of a school security officer. He also conceded that the town has no control over how the Board of Education manages its funding, noting that the education board has \$60,000 in its unspent contingency fund this year.

Trabucco responded that his board had been asked to increase the amount of funds in its contingency fund and

would be reluctant to spend it down.

O'Dea-Wyrick commented that if the education board wants to fund the security guard, then it should go ahead and spend it down.

Reminding the finance board of the issue at hand, Wright said, "Our job here is do we have a non-lapsing fund?"

"If it's that important to you, you handle it within the resources you have," O'Dea-Wyrick told Trabucco.

Trabucco noted that in a recent survey of parents and school staff, 68% had favored the addition of an armed security guard. That statistic was countered by a comment that it had not been a town-wide survey of all residents.

A resident attending the meeting said that he is not convinced of the need for a security officer.

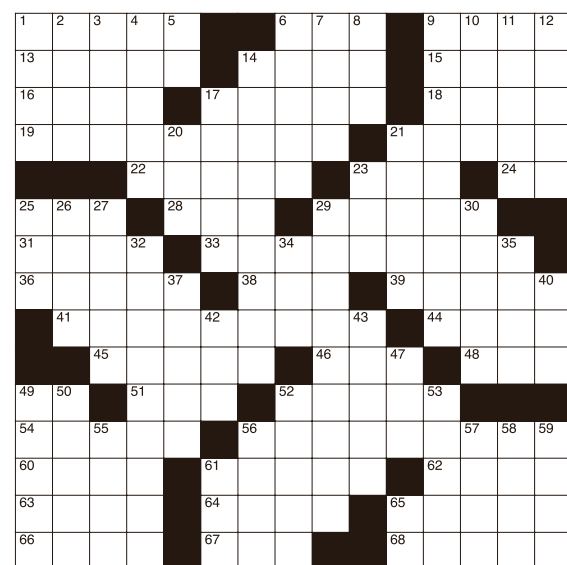
"The school is secured well," he said.

"I did not find any concrete evidence that there is a need," he said, asking for a more transparent process through public discussion. Wright agreed about the value of a future taxpayer informational forum to explore the school security issue that has brought a variety of separate opinions.

## Brain Teasers

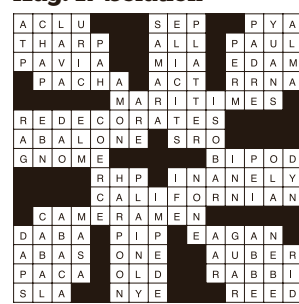
### CLUES ACROSS

- Russian painter
- Very fast jet
- Philippine municipality
- Intestinal
- Small freshwater fish
- Algerian coastal city
- Vomit
- Famed astronomer
- Ghanaian currency
- Improved the condition of
- Int'l association of interpreters
- Infections
- Dish made with lentils
- Thou
- Former CIA
- Unit used to compare power levels
- Members of Pueblo people
- Myanmar monetary units
- Polished
- Signed a contract
- Nothing
- Once-ubiquitous department store
- Neural structures
- Thick piece of something
- Slang for trucks with trailers
- Longing
- Senior officer
- Levels of frequency
- Bird's beak
- Move rapidly downwards
- Koran chapters
- Stretches out
- Top of the human body
- A Chinese temple and Indian town are two
- Fertility god
- Sea eagle
- Dry
- Zodiac sign
- "Horizon Call of the Mountain" character
- Have the ability to
- Take somewhere

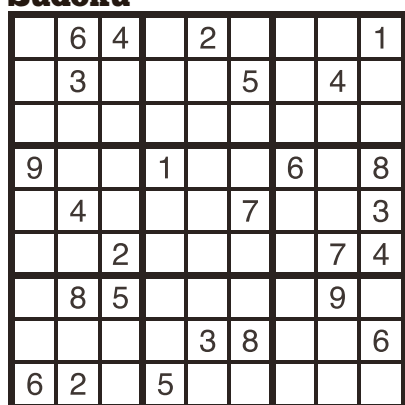


- Confines
- Colorless crystalline compound
- Unsatisfactorily
- Plant of the parsley family
- Determines time
- Causes the birth of
- Small ornament on a watch chain
- Richly decorated cloth tapestry
- Vito Corleone was one
- Igbo musical instrument
- Put in harmony
- Japanese alcoholic drinks
- Tinseltown
- Closes tightly
- Songs sung to one's lover
- One thousandth of an inch
- Small drink of whiskey
- Political divisions in ancient Greece
- Helps little firms
- Baby's eating accessory
- Very long periods of time
- Small block of wood
- Town in Surrey, England
- Enquiry
- Murdered
- Bura-\_\_: Chadic language
- Crater on Mars
- Mammal genus
- Sock
- Make
- Stony waste matter
- Partner to cheese
- Pound

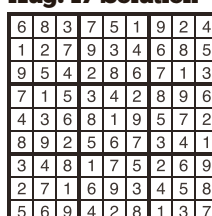
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# The last four dairy farms in North Canaan

## FARMS

Continued from Page A1

condensed milk. A journal entry made by an unidentified Shaker in June 1853, provided courtesy of the Canaan History Center, described Borden's business model and the process of evaporating milk:

*"Inventor of patent milk extract wants our folks to take up the business of making. Be kind of an agent for him. Does down a few gallons of milk in our Laboratory this eve. Pays \$7 & half dollars for the milk & privilege. The process as I understand consists in boiling away all the watery principle from the milk. Bottle it up & twill keep forever if you don't throw it away. Whenever you want it to use add 3 fourths hot water and let it cool. Makes first rate new milk!"*

Fueled by demand in the Civil War, in 1862 Borden's company was producing an average of 16,000 quarts per month. At the turn of the century, the company went public and in 1901 Borden's company opened a facility in Canaan.

Situated near Union Station in North Canaan, the location offered easy access to New York via the railroad and dozens of dairy farms in the area contributed to milk production.

The beginning of the 20th century also saw the departure of many local crop farmers who went West in search of cheaper land that was better suited to farming.

"They discovered they could make a better living on green fields than they could on New England stone," said Boughton. "They were all moving out to Ohio."

In the coming decades, the region's iron ore industry faded into oblivion and left an economic void in North Canaan. A surplus of available and affordable land created new opportunities for would-be farmers.

"The last furnace went down in '23. That was a very dirty, nasty business and the farms were fallow for a while," said Boughton. "[Farms] were selling for a dime on a dollar and so you begin to get people coming in from the city."

In the 1930s and 1940s, the opportunity attracted several new farmers to North Canaan who took up dairy farming in town. Each remaining dairy farm in North Canaan today can trace its origins to this period.

Robert and Dottie Jacquier founded Laurelbrook Farm in East Canaan with 18 cows in 1948. Today, their grandchildren Cricket and Bobby Jacquier operate the farm, which now houses well over a thousand milk cows and employs 22 non-family members.

"We milk 1,400 cows three times a day," said Cricket Jacquier. "Two guys can do 200 cows an hour."

Like the other three remaining dairy farms in North Canaan, Laurelbrook is an Agri-Mark Cabot Creamery Cooperative farm. Cricket Jacquier is chairman of the board at Cabot.

Laurelbrook grew from about 500 cows in 1991 to become one of the four largest dairy farms in Connecticut.

"In 1992, right after I graduated, we had to make a decision whether we were going to stay farming in East Canaan or we're going to move to Western New York," said Cricket Jacquier. "We made a big decision then. Our roots were from here, and we were just going to make it work."

Laurelbrook has begun

to diversify its operation in recent years with a focus on environmental sustainability.

"My brother and I now own and operate Laurelbrook Natural Resources," said Cricket Jacquier as he showed the composting tents behind Laurelbrook's corn fields. "These are manure solids. All of this composting is sold to landscapers and nurseries in the area."

To survive into the next generation, Cricket Jacquier said diversification will be key.

He credited Laurelbrook's success to adapting to a changing milk market and above all else, happy cows.

"The better you take care of your animals, the more milk they produce," he said.

Just down the road, David Jacquier, son of Robert and Dottie, owns Elm Knoll Farm. Elm Knoll houses over 300 milk cows in its barns.

After growing up on Laurelbrook Farm, David decided to pursue his own venture in 1968, while he was still in high school. His operation started in a rundown barn just down the road behind the Blackberry River Inn. He had just three cows.

"That barn up there was abandoned in the Depression, so there were no cows in there since the mid-30s," said David Jacquier. "By the time I left Blackberry in '70, I came down with 65 or 70 cows."

While still a student at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, he ran into trouble with gym coach Ed Tyburski after cutting class to tend to his cows.

"It was almost impossible for me to be there by 7:30 because I had three hours of work before, and I got a little bit torqued off at Tyburski," he said. "I told him I didn't have time to play his cow pasture pool."

He purchased the East Canaan property he is on today in 1970 and created Elm Knoll Farm. Initially, his primary source of income was from crop sales to nearby dairy farms.

"Through the 70s and 80s and almost through the 90s I could make more money selling corn silage than I could milking cows because we had a lot of farmers," he said. "Then in 1994 to 2000, a lot of farmers went out."

He said the exodus of dairy farmers in the 1990s was caused by a sharp drop in profitability, particularly for smaller operations.

"I dealt to the guys that were milking 30 to 40 or 50 cows," said David Jacquier. "[Now] everyone's got to be over 200 to 300 cows to cash flow, unless you have other incomes."

Today, all of Elm Knoll's profits are generated from dairy sales. David Jacquier and his right-hand man Logan Cables said they intend to maintain that model into the next generation.

"We're the only dairy farm in the state of Connecticut that milks cows and that's the only income," said Jacquier.

"I've been doing this my whole life so I don't know anything else," said Cables.

Cables, 20, has worked at Elm Knoll for about eight years and intends to buy Elm Knoll from David Jacquier within the next few years.

"I'm hoping I can make it another two or three years then I'm going to turn it over," said Jacquier. "But do I really want to sell him a dead horse?"



Jacquier said if Connecticut wants to maintain its dairy farmers, it will require external support. Assistance programs at the state level exist, but David said the farmers have not received their due.

"Every land sale in Connecticut, \$15 goes to the dairy farmers. But it never gets to us," he said. "Eight million dollars goes in the general fund and it never comes our way."

If dairy farming is to survive in Connecticut, help will need to come from Hartford, he continued.

"All we've got to be is honest on the money. If you want open space, every town, 169 towns say they want it. You got to get Hartford to understand 'give us the money,'" he said.

While thankful that the program exists, David Jacquier said dairy farmers need more advocates both in Hartford and on the farm. He credited Ben Freund, a neighboring farmer, for representing dairy farmers when fighting for state assistance.

"Ben Freund was the one that did 95% of the work," said David. "We wouldn't have the million and a half or two million that we're getting right now if it wasn't for Ben."

Eugene Freund, Ben's father, moved from the Bronx to North Canaan in 1949 and took up farming with his wife Esther. He bought land in East Canaan the following year and now, over 70 years later, approximately 275 dairy cows call Freund's Farm home.

"The cows in this barn have been part of my family's multi-generational legacy," said Amanda Freund. "These are the great-great-great-granddaughters of the cows that my grandfather started milking in 1950."

The Friends — Ben and his brother Matthew — sold their herd to Ethan Arsenault and his business partners, Lloyd and Amy Vaill, in September of 2022. The trio rents barn space from the Friends and Arsenault oversees dairy operations on location, renamed Canaan View Farm.

"This has always been my dream. My family's always been in ag," said Arsenault. "Personally, I'm very hopeful that we have a bright future ahead of us and that we stick around."

The Friends have taken steps to adapt to a changing industry in hopes of thriving into the next generation. CowPots is one such venture that repurposes manure into biodegradable garden planters.

"Fifteen percent of the manure is still in fibrous form and we separate that out," said Matthew Freund. He added that the final result is "biodegradable, plantable containers that replace plastic."

The Friends set environmental sustainability as a top priority and installed solar panels to power the farm's operation. They have also begun to process methane



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

**Top, a robotic feeder autonomously roamed the barns of Canaan View Farm dispensing feed to hungry cows. Above, David Jacquier, owner of Elm Knoll Farm in East Canaan, stood alongside his right-hand man Logan Cables as the duo prepared to harvest corn silage in the fields that surround the barns.**

into biogas to offset the use of propane and heating oil.

"I think that we have to start to realize that climate change is real and that we have to be very aware of what we're doing on this planet," said Matt Freund. "We want to leave the next generation, you, something better than we started with."

Canaan View also has five robotic milkers in its barn, streamlining dairy production on site and providing real-time data and metrics on herd health.

"The mantra with robots is 'let cows be cows,'" said Arsenault. "When they come in the robot it spits out grain, so that allows us to individually cater to the cow's nutritional needs."

The milking robot tests dairy as each cow is being milked and provides Canaan View with live data on the health of each cow.

"We really focus on the cow here and that's what I like about the robots and all the data I get from them," said Arsenault, who added that the time saved from robotic milking allows him to spend more time "keeping the cows clean, happy and healthy."

Of the estimated 25 dairy farms in the 1960s in Canaan Valley, an area that reaches to the Massachusetts border, just one remains: Carlwood Farm.

Carlwood began when Doug Carlson purchased a 42-acre plot in Canaan Valley in 1941. Doug's son, Doug Jr., inherited the farm at the age of 16 and expanded the

sent to Connecticut-based companies, with occasional shipments to the Agri-Mark Cabot processing plant in West Springfield, Massachusetts.

Carlwood farm is entirely family operated and Carlson's daughter, Sheri, has begun the process of taking the farm into its fourth generation.

"Sheri and her husband Greg recently purchased [the farm] and they also have a daughter, Hallie, that's three and she is around here all the time," said Carlson.

Carlson said increased regulation in recent years has made it particularly difficult for small dairy operations to stay afloat. She noted considerable documentation requirements that add extra hours to an already busy life on the farm.

"This is something new in the past five years or so. It's more paperwork. I have enough paperwork to do on a daily basis just opening my mail, paying bills, cow records, and deciding who I'm going to call to order grain from and what fertilizer. I'm just totally overwhelmed sometimes," she said.

In the winter of 2023, there were five dairy farms in North Canaan. Segalla's Farm on Allynedale Road began in the early 1900s and became a certified organic farm in 1997.

Segalla's Farm closed down earlier this year after owner Rick Segalla was faced with financial and health problems.

"I lost my organic marking during Covid, and I had a heart attack last September," said Segalla. "I was running out of feed. It just wasn't a paying proposition anymore."

The roughly 120 cows from Segalla's Farm were sent to Indiana and New York.

Segalla's Farm is the most recent North Canaan dairy operation to close the barn doors and drive its cattle West.

As for the four remaining farms, successors have already been identified in hopes of keeping the milk flowing for years to come in North Canaan.

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# OBITUARIES

## James L. Buckley

SHARON — James L. Buckley, who spend most of his life in Sharon, died in Washington, D.C., on Friday, Aug. 18. He was 100 years old. He died of natural causes.



Mr. Buckley was born in New York City on March 9, 1923, the fourth of the ten children of William F. and Aloise Steiner Buckley. He was the husband of the late Ann Cooley Buckley and the father of six children. He grew up in Sharon, received his undergraduate degree from Yale in the fall of 1943, was commissioned as a U.S. Naval Reserve officer the following April, and served in the Pacific theater in World War II.

Following his discharge, he entered Yale Law School from which he graduated in 1949.

He then worked for four years with the New Haven law firm of Wiggin & Dana and the next seventeen with a family corporation that provided a variety of services to a group of oil and gas exploration companies operating outside the United States.

In 1968 he was asked by the Conservative Party of New York to serve as its pro forma candidate for election to the United States Senate. Although he ran on a shoe-string budget, he received more than a million votes. As a result of this experience, he sought the party's nomination in 1970 and succeeded in winning election with 40 percent of the vote in a three-way race, the first third-party candidate to be elected to the Senate in 40 years.

During his six years in office, he was a member of the Republican caucus and was particularly active in the areas of the environment, foreign affairs, and energy. In 1974, he managed to upset his conservative base by calling for President Nixon's resignation during the course of the Watergate hearings; and in 1975, he outraged his constituency by opposing a federal bailout for New York City when it was facing bankruptcy. In 1976, he lost his bid for reelection to Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Mr. Buckley returned to

public life in 1981, when President Reagan asked him to serve as Under Secretary of State for Security Assistance, a position concerned with the administration of military- and economic-assistance programs. He left the State Department in December 1982 to assume the presidency of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Inc. in Munich, West Germany. Those radios broadcast in 21 languages to the Communist nations of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. In December 1985, Mr. Buckley was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, which made him one of the few individuals to have held high office in all three branches of the federal government. He continued to serve in that position until 2000.

Mr. Buckley had a lifelong interest in birds and natural history, and for many years participated in the Sharon Audubon Center's annual Christmas and spring bird counts.

In 1982, he received the United Nations Environment Programme Award for Outstanding Environmental Leadership.

In the late 1970s, he served as a radio commentator for the Westinghouse radio syndicate and National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" program. He was also the author of four books: "If Men Were Angels: A View from the Senate" (1974), "Gleanings from an Unplanned Life" (2006), "Freedom at Risk" (2010), and "Saving Congress from Itself" (2014).

Mr. Buckley is survived by his daughter, Priscilla, sons Peter, Jay, Bill, David, and Andrew, eight grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. His funeral mass will be held at St. Bernard's Church in Sharon at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 24. There will be a memorial service in Washington, D.C., to be scheduled at a later date.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the Sharon Audubon Society or the Sharon Historical Society.

## Thomas M. Pavliga

AMENIA — Thomas M. Pavliga passed away on Aug. 10, 2023, at the Vermont Veterans Home in Bennington after a long illness. He was born on April 12, 1935, in Scranton, Pennsylvania to Mary (Melish) and Michael Pavliga. The family moved to Iliion, New York, in 1945. Tom attended Annunciation School and graduated from Iliion high school in 1953 when he joined the Armed Forces being deployed to Korea.

When he returned, Tom attended LeMoyné College in Syracuse. After graduation he embarked on his long career as a math teacher at Webutuck Central School in Amenia, New York, and coaching his beloved track. After retiring he became a track official in the area. Tom

also enjoyed skiing, especially with his nephews. He was an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, placing American flags in cemeteries honoring veterans.

Tom is survived by his sister Frances Zwicklbauer and her husband Franz and nieces Liesl (Edward) Gorman and Marianne (Cliff) Belden as well as nephews Franz J. (Kelly) Zwicklbauer and Michael (Marianne) Zwicklbauer and their children.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday Sept. 5, 2023, at St. John the Baptist Church in North Bennington, Vermont. The burial will be in Saratoga National Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of the Mahar Funeral Home, 43 Main Street in Hoosick Falls, NY.

ANCRAMDAL — Avery "Prope" Dietter, 95, of Ancramdale — postman, veteran, 'Mayor of Ancramdale' — passed away peacefully on Aug. 17, 2023, in his home surrounded by his beloved family.

Born on October 26, 1927, in Ancram Lead Mines, Prope liked to tell people that he was older than Ancramdale because the hamlets name didn't change until the early 1930's. He was the 10th child of 16 born to his parents Ernest and Annabelle (Lown) Dietter. Prope would live his entire life along a half a mile stretch of County Route 8.

On Sept. 22, 1950, Uncle Sam came calling. Prope would be trained at Ft. Devens, Massachusetts, and then placed on a ship bound for Korea. He would land in Pusan, Korea, just in time for Easter Sunday services in 1951. He was a member of the Army Co. D. 17th Infantry Regiment of the Army's 7th Division, serving in its Heavy Weapons Company. He would direct fire for the 81mm mortars. In one firefight they would launch 5,096 rounds in a five-day period. The guns grew so hot that water from their canteens and then cold coffee were used to cool the mortar tubes. He would be wounded in action in June of 1951, earning him the Purple Heart. In June of 1952 he returned to Ancramdale and his family. He would continue to serve in the Army Reserves, transferring to the HQ 9th Infantry Division Fort Dix, New Jersey, until Aug. 28, 1956. In addition to the Purple Heart, he earned the Combat Infantry Badge, the Korean Service Medal with 2 bronze service stars,

## William M. 'Bill' Dougherty

SALISBURY — William M. "Bill" Dougherty, 62, of 30 Weatogue Road died Friday Aug. 18, 2023, at Hartford Hospital surrounded by his loving family. Bill was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on May 7, 1962, son of the late Maynard and Marcia (Robinson) Dougherty.

Bill owned and operated Bill's Lawn and Home Care for many years and was a very talented carpenter in his earlier working days. However, for the past 20 years he has been the Maintenance Manager at the Last Post Cat Sanctuary in Falls Village. Bill was an active member of Montgomery Lodge A.F. & A.M. in Lakeville and the former Housatonic Lodge in Canaan. He held several offices within the lodge during his time there. He was also a member of the NRA and enjoyed Thursday night poker games with his lodge brothers. However, his two greatest passions were his family and his work at the Last Post. Bill served his country as a member of the U.S. Army from 1981-1985 in which time he was awarded many achievement awards for his strong leadership skills and was a highly regarded tank operator.

Bill is survived by his

## Richard Michael Siebenaler

SHARON — Richard Michael Siebenaler, 82, of Fairchild Road, died at the Geer Nursing and Rehab Center in North Canaan. He was the husband of the late Tami Lee Siebenaler. Richard was born in Hastings, Minnesota, on Feb. 13, 1941, the son of the late Michael and Florence Pasch Siebenaler. He was a steel worker most of his life. He enjoyed fishing, playing cards and loved watching his western shows. Richard is survived by his

the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation Badge.

On Nov. 28, 1953, he would marry his beloved Irene "Renie" (Boyles) Dietter. For 69 years they were devoted to each other. Very rarely would you see Prope without his Renie. Together they began a family and lived 67 years in Prope's much loved salt box house. His meticulous lawn was the envy of all who saw it and he enjoyed nothing more than welcoming a neighbor on his front porch for an afternoon chat.

Prope spoke often about his early years working on the Niver Pitcher Homestead and then as a store clerk at the Barton and Hoysradt General Store with his dear friend Ken Barton. It was here that he began his career with the United States Postal Service. He carried mail first in Ancramdale and then in later years in Copake, serving for 31 years total. He would retire in 1986, famously delivering his last round of mail from a limo. After retirement, he settled into a life enjoying his ever-growing family, visiting with friends over coffee at the Farmer's Wife or lunch at the Moose on the Loose and mowing his lawn on his faithful Kubota tractor.

Avery was a devoted 81-year member of the Ancramdale Presbyterian church where he served many years as a trustee and worked on the construction of the church fellowship hall. He was a member of the Cadby-Shuts VFW #7552 of Hillsdale and the Pine Plains

two daughters: Karrie Rosier of Canaan, and Kristeena Thompson of West Cornwall; and his son: Donald "Donnie" Tompkins of Canaan. His brother Kyle Dougherty and his wife Laurie of Orange, Connecticut, as well as their daughter and his niece Kelly, seven grandchildren DJ Tompkins, Kyle Rosier and Robert William Baker all of Canaan and Michael William Wright, Brynn Thompson, Braelyn Thompson, and Pierce Thompson all of West Cornwall. Bill is also survived by his former wife Cindy Tompkins of Canaan. He also leaves behind many beloved cousins in Florida.

Bill was predeceased by his parents as well as the love of his life Kimberley Storti Donovan whom he spent 19 wonderful years with.

A Celebration of Bill's Life will be held on Saturday August 26 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. North Canaan, CT 06018. A Masonic Funeral Service will be held at 5:45 pm. Burial will be at a later date at the convenience of the family. Memorial donations in Bill's memory may be sent in care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home PO Box 815 Canaan, CT 06018.

## Avery 'Prope' Dietter

American Legion Post #426. In addition to his wife Irene, Avery leaves his daughters and sons-in-law, Jean and Ron Brant and Gail and Nickie Heath, of Ancramdale; two granddaughters and grandsons-in-laws, Monica and Brandon Cleveland and Amanda and Edward Bishop, of Ancramdale; one grandson and granddaughter-in-law Avery and Jennifer Heath, of Standfordville; five great-grandchildren, Sydney and Ronald Cleveland, Karlee Bishop and Lilah and Thomas Heath; and one brother Ellwood Dietter, of Millerton. In addition to his parents, Avery was predeceased by his cherished son Avery Dietter Jr, seven brothers (Stanley, Wilber, Fredrick, George, Herbert, Andrew and John), seven sisters (Pauline, Janet, Geraldine, Olive, Barbara, Hel-



en and Carol) and his cousin and his wife, James and Eleanor Hoag. A time for sharing memories and offering condolences will be held on Tuesday Aug. 22, 2023, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at Peck & Peck Funeral Homes, 7749 S. Main Street, Pine Plains. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday Aug. 23, 2023, at 12:00 noon at the Ancramdale Presbyterian Church with Reverend Jan Brooks officiating. Burial will follow at the Evergreen Cemetery, Pine Plains, NY. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the Ancramdale Presbyterian Church, PO Box 99 Ancramdale, NY 12503. In Prope's memory, we ask that you say thank you to a veteran. And take a moment to visit a neighbor, have a seat on their porch and enjoy a good chat. For directions or to leave a message of condolence for the family please visit [www.peckandpeck.net](http://www.peckandpeck.net)

### Worship Services

Week of August 27, 2023

**Call ahead or visit websites for updates on remote or in-person services.**

<p><b>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon</b> 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 <a href="http://www.christchurchsharon.org">www.christchurchsharon.org</a></p>	<p><b>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.</b> 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10:00 a.m. <a href="http://www.salisburyucc.org">www.salisburyucc.org</a> Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>
<p><b>St. John's Episcopal Church</b> 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on YouTube <a href="http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org">www.stjohnssalisbury.org</a> 860-435-9290</p>	<p><b>St. Thomas Episcopal Church</b> 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 <a href="http://www.stthomasamenia.com">www.stthomasamenia.com</a> A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p><b>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC</b> 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 <a href="http://www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational">www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</a> 860-824-7232</p>	<p><b>FISHES &amp; LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH</b> is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm &amp; Thursday 12-2 pm <a href="http://www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org">www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</a></p>
<p><b>The Lakeville United Methodist Church</b> 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 <a href="mailto:Lakevillemethodist@snet.net">Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</a></p>	<p><b>Trinity Episcopal Church</b> 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at <a href="http://www.trinitylimerock.org">www.trinitylimerock.org</a> Misa en español a las 4 de la tarde el último domingo de mes The Revs. Heidi Truax &amp; Felix Rivera <a href="mailto:trinity@trinitylimerock.org">trinity@trinitylimerock.org</a> (860) 435-2627</p>
<p><b>The Sharon United Methodist Church</b> 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 <a href="mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net">sharonumc5634@att.net</a></p>	<p><b>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT</b> The next meeting will be Sunday, September 10 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at <a href="mailto:jokialoi@gmail.com">jokialoi@gmail.com</a> All are Welcome</p>
<p><b>Falls Village Congregational Church</b> 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>	<p><b>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH</b> Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p><b>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church</b> 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. <a href="http://www.thesmithfieldchurch.org">www.thesmithfieldchurch.org</a> 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p><b>UCC in CORNWALL</b> Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am North Cornwall Meeting House 115 Town Street, Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p><b>Canaan United Methodist Church</b> 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 <a href="mailto:canaanct-umc.com">canaanct-umc.com</a> <a href="mailto:canaanctumc@gmail.com">canaanctumc@gmail.com</a> We hope you will join us!</p>	<p><b>Sharon Congregational</b> 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. Visit our website <a href="http://sharoncongregationalchurch.org">sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a> for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or <a href="mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org">info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a></p>
<p><b>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall</b> Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Email Rev. Mary Gates at: <a href="mailto:mrgates125@gmail.com">mrgates125@gmail.com</a> for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone.</p>	<p><b>Promised Land Baptist Church</b> 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! <a href="http://www.promisedlandbaptist.org">www.promisedlandbaptist.org</a></p>
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For more obituaries, turn to page A8

Send obituaries to [editor@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:editor@lakevillejournal.com)



# Buckley interview recalled Sharon childhood

Brian Ross interviewed James Buckley on behalf of the Sharon Historical Society's oral history project on Sept. 14, 2022. The following transcript has been edited for clarity and length. A longer version is available online at [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com).

Brian Ross: On behalf of the Sharon Historical Society, a warm welcome to a man who has spent much of his life from childhood on in Sharon. And for somebody who wanted to be a country lawyer went on to serve his country as a Navy officer in World War II in the Pacific, a United States senator, under-secretary of State and a federal appellate judge in the D.C. Circuit. James Buckley, thank you so much. How does one refer to somebody who's had all those positions? Judge? Senator?

Jim Buckley: As Jim, how's that?

BR: Jim Buckley, thank you so much for being here. And as we speak, you've just turned 98 years old and gone through a successful hip surgery. How are you feeling?

JB: So far ok. I'm on the right course, which could take some time for the muscles rediscover what they're supposed to be doing but I'll be getting there.

BR: And of course, you are also an esteemed member of our historical society in Sharon. Let me start by asking you, how did the Buckley family come to be in Sharon?

JB: A total oddity. My father was a Texan, from South Texas. He grew up in a small town there. My mother is from New Orleans. My father fell in love with Mexico, became a lawyer, went to Mexico, oil was discovered, and he became a lawyer for the oil companies and focused on the land and the oil business. My father was also a person of opinions, which he expressed freely - with the result that in time he was expelled from Mexico, but by that time he had created the company was involved in this area of the oil business, and there he was, newly married.

And you know, he was in his late 30s by then. What do you do? He spoke Spanish. The oil was discovered in Venezuela. Well, if you're going to put the pieces together, you need something called money. Where is money? Wall Street. So my Southern parents suddenly found themselves in New York City. In due course, I was born there, the fourth of ten children. And in my third month, they had the good sense to move to Sharon, Connecticut. And that is where Sharon came into my heart where it still lives.

BR: That's so wonderful to hear. Tell me your remembrances of being a child in Sharon. What was that like? What was it like to grow up in Sharon?

JB: The best I can do is time to talk about being a teenager in Sharon in the 1930s. That is some time ago. By that time, Sharon had shrunk to, I think about 1800 people in 80 square miles, 60 square miles. But the peculiar thing about Sharon in those days was it was divided into very different groups. There were the natives, the people who worked the farms and all the rest of it, and the summer people.

The summer people consisted of about 20 or 30 New York City families who, after schools closed in New York City, would move the entire household into one of these nice houses on South Main Street and so forth in Sharon, where they'd spend love-



James Buckley, left, with President Ronald Reagan, Sen. Barry Goldwater and William F. Buckley

ly summers, and then after Labor Day, they would disappear for whatever reason.

Although the Buckylys were in Sharon 12 months a year, I was educated in private schools the way that some of the summer people were. And so, in effect, I grew up with the summer people, although I was an honorary native. The summer people had their own social life and so forth.

Why were there so many New York families doing this? I think to get the answer to that, you have to go back to Sharon's particular history. Unlike most of the towns in that general area and Litchfield County and so forth, Sharon was not settled by people who wanted to farm.

The people were drawn there because of the discovery of iron ore, abundant around 1700 and so on, iron ore along the border between Connecticut and New York. This drew entrepreneurs into Sharon Valley where they settled.

So important inventions were made there. They made mousetraps. They also made explosive shells for the Civil War and so on. But you had a group of prosperous people who built nice homes in Sharon.

And then by the end of the 1800s, the iron played out, all of those little industries kind of died away. And there was Sharon sitting as an immaculate, pristine New England town with an inventory of nice houses that was beyond commuting distance from anywhere. Therefore, it couldn't be spoiled by all kinds of new housing developments, etc., and that, for whatever reason, seemed to draw this category of New Yorkers.

There were all the summer people who became part of Sharon in their own way and had their impact on Sharon.

One interesting impact had to do with the fact that, five or six of the New York doctors with homes in Sharon were very prominent in their professions while in New York. And during the early thirties, this Sharon doctor, I forget what his name was, felt the need for kind of a nursing home. He was able to talk it up with the New Yorkers, who provided the backing, whatever it was that it required, they gave us what is now Sharon Hospital.

BR: And what's your memory of what? What did the town look like as a teenager in the 1930s? Did it look different than it is now?

JB: The significant difference between the Sharon I grew up in 80 years ago, 90 years ago, and what we have today is no elm trees. The Sharon Green was surrounded by two columns of magnificent elms. They got destroyed when the Dutch elm disease went through there. But the buildings were almost identical. Some of them painted different colors. But that's about it visually. That is about the only change. And that's part of the charm that has brought people to Sharon.

BR: What did you and your brothers and sisters do to pass the hours during the summer? What did you do to get in trouble?

JB: There are ten of us and we made all kinds of trouble within the ten of us. We had sort of a mischievous streak that bothered some of the neighbors, I must confess. But you do what kids do in the country, climb trees and

things that children aren't allowed to do anymore.

But we were with the children of the summer people and two of the fathers organized Saturday morning baseball games on the property just to the east, on the borders of the town clock. And there we had the dirty shirts versus ... ooh, my memory. Anyway, we had the kind of fun the kids have. We had ponies, which we rode around on. We learned to ice skate and things of that sort. It was a healthy, plain country existence.

BR: And who are some of your close friends? Some or some of the other families you can recall back then?

JB: I mean, my closest friend was this fellow called Dean Witt whose father, incidentally, was a New York doctor and who built a house up in Sharon Mountain. Bill Coley, the son and grandson of another doctor. Don Emory, Bill Truax. A nice group of kids, we got along well.

And the one thing that distinguished my particular group - none of them ever smoked. And with the result of it, I never smoked. And of course, in those days, things like pot were totally unknown.

BR: During the Reagan administration, you served as Undersecretary of State. To what extent did your upbringing in Sharon shape your values as you approached that position?

JB: My upbringing in Sharon taught me the wonders of the American Constitution, the way governmental powers were distributed by the Constitution, the wonders performed by the American

experiment, and the importance of preserving its fundamentals intact.

BR: What sort of changes have there been in the character of the town of Sharon in the last 20, 30 years that you like and that you don't necessarily appreciate?

JB: Yes, when I was growing up, it was a farming community. I think there were 40 dairies. Somebody told me there are only one or two of them now. All kinds of areas that were growing corn or used as pasture and suddenly little houses are popping up here and there.

And I think there are other ways in which it changed, with the development of the Sharon Hospital and the concentration on the area of medicine. That's a very significant change in the character of the town.

BR: As a part of the Sharon Historical Society, it's been our wonderful task to talk to people who've lived

there over the years. Any other memories you want to sort of for posterity for us to think about? And what should people who are coming to Sharon now and our new to the town, what should they know about Sharon that would keep the character the same?

JB: I haven't focused on it in any way.

BR: When you left, did you have any concerns about the growth? What might become that would not be so wonderful?

JB: Oh, that's my greatest fear. Throw in big shopping malls or something of that sort. A large housing development naturally the character of the place inherently changes. Right now, it is a little piece from the past. Now I know that sentiment of that sort shouldn't control, but I'm glad it's still the way it is.

BR: And it was a difficult decision to leave Sharon.

JB: It was a necessary decision. My nearest child was three and a half hours away. I can no longer drive. My wife died, and I have a lovely son, who lives in Virginia, and so I'm happy here.

BR: Judge Jim, is there anything else you'd like to add?

JB: If you were highly social and loved dances and things, Sharon might not be the place to grow up.

But if you loved to walk in the woods and you loved to hunt and fish, and you liked to play and climb trees I can't think of a better place.

Brian Ross, a former veteran correspondent for ABC News, is a member of the board of the Lakeville Journal Foundation.



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## Our Towns

# In 2015 speech, Buckley offered an Rx for Congress

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — James L. Buckley said the solution to congressional dysfunction requires ending the grants-in-aid approach to federal spending, and restoring the proper balance of responsibilities (as specified in the 10th Amendment to the federal Constitution) between the federal and state governments.

Buckley spoke at Salisbury School on Friday, Oct. 2 (2015), as part of the Salisbury Forum series of talks.

The former United States senator and senior federal appellate judge has a book on the subject, "Saving Congress from Itself," and delivered a snappy and amusing half hour to the nearly full house.

He said that few Americans realize the extent to which the federal government reaches into state and local matters.

In the first 145 years of the republic, the United States code — the whole of federal law — was contained in one volume.

By 1970, when Buckley entered the Senate, it was 11 volumes, and today it is 34 volumes, with 235 additional supplements containing 175,000 pages of regulations "that have the force of law."

He said the federal government has become "an all-encompassing administrative state."

This complexity "undermines legislators' ability to function effectively."

Rather than bringing "informed judgment" to bills, members of Congress make decisions based on "divisive political reflex, rather than thought."

Today Congress has "little meaningful floor debate," and bills "are thousands of pages



James L. Buckley represented New York in the U.S. Senate from 1971-77.

long, and nobody has time to read them."

So responsibility has devolved from Congress to federal agencies, and the ability of Congress to exercise appropriate and effective oversight has been compromised.

He continued with the litany of woes, in a disarmingly cheerful tone.

The federal administrative state "too often exceeds its authority," he continued, and the executive branch, "whether out of frustration or imperial impulse," increasingly governs by edict.

So what is Buckley's goal? It is to reduce the federal government to a size Congress can handle.

"I have the temerity to suggest Congress abandon grants-in-aid," which he defined as subsidies to states for programs acknowledged to be the responsibility of the states.

He said he became aware of the problem when he saw a list of federal grants for "purely local purposes."

They included a sidewalk to a school in Plymouth, the Union Station in North Canaan and, most tellingly, the Amesville bridge in Salisbury and Falls Village.

He said federal grants, funneled through state governments, add layers of state administration; promote "one-size-fits-all" solutions; trigger unfunded mandates (such as prevailing wage requirements); result in a lack of accountability because state officials, questioned about cost overruns or project failures, can always blame the strings attached to the federal grants; reduce the ability of citizens to have any voice in a given project.

And, finally, doing anything via the federal grant route takes forever.

"Witness the four years on the Amesville bridge — all to get a fancier bridge than the one they wanted."

But the political culture is such that money from Washington is regarded as "free

money."

"You don't turn down Santa Claus."

And Santa's been busy. During the Johnson administration, and the start of the Great Society, there were 132 federal programs that sent money to states in the form of grants-in-aid.

Today there are more than 1,100.

Buckley said the practice adds administrative costs, as much as \$1 for every \$10 spent.

The grants are supposed to be voluntary, but state governments are loath to turn down "free money," especially in the knowledge that a rejected grant will go elsewhere.

And because members of Congress are focused on obtaining the grants — "scratching constituent backs," in Buckley's phrase — they are not spending time on those matters that are the proper job of the national legislature.

He said advocates for the status quo maintain that the

federal government is able to attract more experts, but that assumes that "academic expertise trumps local knowledge."

And he said that if redistribution of funds from rich states to poor ones is a legitimate goal, it would be better achieved by providing poor states with block grants, "without imposing the web of federal regulations."

"The only solution is to terminate all of them," Buckley said.

He said that federal grants account for 30 percent of all state revenues, so any reform cannot be accomplished overnight.

Instead, he proposed moving to single block grants for states, with no strings attached, phased in over a six-year period.

Doing so would reduce federal spending by one-sixth, rid Congress of distraction and restore citizens' ability to control what is happening in their states.

"This is a propitious time" for such a proposal, Buckley said, with highly visible scandals at the Internal Revenue Service and the Veterans Administration, to name just two, "undermining the myth that Washington knows best."

And it shouldn't be a hard sell, at least not with the public. Buckley said that Americans still believe that state and local governments are better equipped than the federal government to handle housing (82 percent), transportation (78 percent), education (75 percent) and welfare (69 percent).

But nothing will happen until enough Americans learn of the extent of the grants-in-aid programs and their cost.

Buckley was sanguine about this prospect, noting

that Congress did abolish the practice of earmarks (under pressure).

"A roused electorate can accomplish miracles."

During the question period, he was asked about term limits.

Buckley said that prior to the passage of the 17th Amendment in 1913, members of the U.S. Senate were appointed by state legislatures and very few senators served more than two terms.

"It was not viewed as a career."

But the expansion of the federal government has made being in Congress a career.

And for the member, "the natural instinct is to do whatever you can to protect it."

The grants-in-aid system is a way to keep getting re-elected.

"Term limits would eliminate careerism as the objective of entering Congress," Buckley said. He added that it was unlikely Congress would vote to impose term limits on itself, so the most feasible method of getting term limits would be by a proposed constitutional amendment from the states (not Congress).

Buckley nimbly avoided touching on current political events, but someone did ask about the so-called "outsider" candidates running for president — Ben Carson, Sen. Bernie Sanders. (The questioner did not mention Donald Trump, nor did Buckley.)

Buckley said that despite a long career in the Senate, Sanders had made "zero impression, and is thus regarded as an outsider."

He said Carson is a "genuine outsider," and that such candidates are "all appealing to an extraordinary frustration with what is regarded as unacceptable dysfunction."

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## OBITUARIES

**Margaret (Meg) E. Michalek  
Sharpley**

CANAAN—Margaret (Meg) E. Michalek Sharpley, a cherished mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, and friend, passed away unexpectedly, at the age of 62, in her home in Canaan on July 18, 2023. Meg was born in Sharon on Jan. 27, 1961. She was a daughter of the late Adam and Louise (Allyn) Michalek of East Canaan. She recently moved to 9 Shepard Road, Norfolk. She leaves behind a legacy of love and devotion that will forever be remembered by her loved ones.

Meg is survived by her two children: Monica Sullivan and her husband Dillon and their two sons Quinn and Boone of Upperco, Maryland; and Justin Sharpley of East Canaan. Her two sisters Sally Green and her husband Don of East Canaan, Amanda Lakatos and her husband Scott of Franklin, Massachusetts, and her brother Allyn Michalek and his wife Sheila of New Canaan, Connecticut, and two nieces and four nephews.

Meg graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1979 and Briarwood College in Southington, Connecticut, in 1981. She then embarked on a journey of service and dedication. Her four years in the United States Navy exemplified her unwavering commitment to her country. Meg served on the lead ship of her class, the submarine tender USS Simon Lake, stationed in Kings Bay, Georgia. It was the first tender on the East

Coast that women served on in the U.S. Navy. Beyond her military service, Meg was a dedicated employee at Becton Dickinson for over 20 years. More recently she was employed at the Berkshire School in Sheffield, Massachusetts, where she worked as a dining aide.

Meg found solace and strength in her faith, attending Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church in Sheffield, Massachusetts, as well as being active in Bible Study.

She had a passion for nurturing life, both in her garden and her family. Her green thumb brought vibrancy to her surroundings and a sense of peace and tranquility to all who visited. She loved walking and could often be found in the middle of an intense word search. Her love for her children and grandchildren was evident in the warmth of her embrace and the stories she shared.

As we bid farewell, we celebrate a life well-lived—a life defined by service, faith, and love. Meg's memory will forever bloom in the hearts of those she touched. She will be dearly missed and lovingly remembered for her cheerful smile and infectious laugh.

A funeral mass was held at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church. As well as a memorial service and burial at St. Joseph's Cemetery in North Canaan, CT. Memorial donations may be made to the Little Guild of St. Francis, 285 Sharon-Goshen Turnpike, West Cornwall, CT 06796 in Meg's memory.

For more obituaries, turn to page A5

**West Cornwall wastewater snag**

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL—Concerns over building in a flood zone have backed up progress of the West Cornwall wastewater treatment plant.

Following an environmental review of the proposed site, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) informed Cornwall that the project may not qualify for federal funding due to proximity to a flood zone.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway reviewed the situation at a Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting on Aug. 15.

"They were not keen on funding part of a project that had components in a high-hazard flood zone," said Ridgway. "It's another unfortunate hurdle that we have to get over."

Ridgway said a portion of the property that was selected to house the treatment plant in West Cornwall rests in a flood zone along Mill Brook. The proposed location of the plant itself is not in a flood zone, but underground piping and components would run through the flood zone.

Ridgway said the town has begun looking into the possibility of utilizing federal funding for the above-ground structures, which account for roughly half the cost of the project.

BOS has been in communication with U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-5) and other interested parties to push the project forward.

"We are going to be working had to set up what we call a stakeholder's meeting," said Ridgway, which would include Torrington Area Health District, DEEP, project engineers, and elected officials. "They're definitely going to weigh in to try to resolve this

"It's another unfortunate hurdle that we have to get over."

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway

issue."

Ridgway said, "the need for the project and the underlying justifications are still there," and that it would offer "huge environmental benefits."

"We've got a fairly large question mark at this point," he said. "If we do not proceed with this project, the future is fairly bleak for West Cornwall."

Heavy rains this summer have left abutments beneath two bridges in West Cornwall in need of repairs. Both bridges run over Mill Brook and, while the bridges remain safe for use, the rocks that compose the abutments have been jostled loose by raging currents.

Ridgway recently toured the damage with a team of experts including representatives from WMC Engineers, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Connecticut State Division of Emergency Management.

"The consensus of the assembled group was that there was some damage to

the bridge abutments underneath Lower River Road and there was more damage to the retaining wall on River Road on Mill Brook. You can see why they put the mills there, a lot of velocity," said Ridgway.

The group determined that the damage beneath the bridge on River Road was "more significant" because of its use as a through road for residents.

"That's their only access really to West Cornwall. It's the only access for emergency vehicles," said Ridgway. "The thought was to fix it once and fix it right. These events are getting more and more common."

WMC Engineers submitted a proposal to design the new retaining wall, conduct the land survey and boring, and delineate with Inland Wetlands Commission at a cost of \$44,500. BOS unanimously approved this proposal.

Ridgway said a town meeting will be scheduled in September to gain approval for construction of the retaining

wall, which was estimated to cost \$180,000.

FEMA has toured several towns in the Northwest corner following flood damage this summer including Norfolk, North Canaan, and Kent. If Litchfield County surpasses \$6 million in flood damage, federal funding will become available to help offset repair costs.

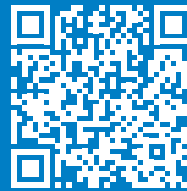
If the threshold is reached, FEMA could reimburse towns for up to 75% of the cost to rebuild structures to "pre-flood conditions" and would offer mitigation grants to help offset costs.

Ridgway said the Cornwall Highway Department has diligently documented flood damage throughout the summer to tally costs accrued in town.

"Seeing some of the damage to state roads up in Norfolk, we could hit that number and then we would be able to get some money back," said Ridgway.

The board moved to send 8 River Rd. S and 282 Kent Rd., two properties with unpaid back taxes, to be sold at tax lien sales. The auctions were scheduled for Oct. 27 and additional information will be publicized by Town Hall in the coming weeks.

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## Our Towns

# Restoring a boat and a tradition at Twin Lakes

By Sadie Leite

SALISBURY — Robert Murphy grew up at “the camp,” an escape on the bigger of the two Twin Lakes of Salisbury.

His fondest memory of the watery retreat is that of the 1933 Old Town Lapstrake Rowboat. The vessel was bought by his grandfather and grandmother Fred and Fanny Hoose and delivered by “crate and rail” to Amenia, New York in 1933. That same summer, the family launched the boat at their camp on the Twin Lakes.

The rowboat was named “Fanny,” after Murphy’s grandmother. Still, his entire family, with its many members, enjoyed it for decades. Murphy’s mother, Charlotte Murphy, grew up with it, along with her two younger sisters, Jane and Margaret.

Charlotte is now 97, living happily in Amenia.

“She’s the firstborn daughter,” said Murphy. “She was a fisherwoman. I got pictures of Mom, out fishing, and she looks 18 or 19, with this beautiful, curly black hair.”

The home of the rowboat, along with another historic craft, the 1928 Old Town canoe, was indeed “the camp,” a family property at 33 South Shore Rd., bought in 1926 by Fred Hoose, with Bill Smith of Wassaic.

The two men originally called the property “Was-samen,” then Murphy’s grandparents bought out Bill and the retreat became known as “the camp.”

However, after a long family presence at the camp, the property was sold in 2013, and Murphy’s childhood sanctuary got torn down to make way for a two-story

house.

The many family heirlooms of the camp got divvied up between surviving family. Murphy’s brother Larry got the ’28 canoe and Murphy claimed the ’33 rowboat.

During the pandemic, he restored the boat. Two weeks ago, he finally launched the refurbished piece of art at its original home, the Twin Lakes.

“I worked on it for 100 hours, said Murphy. “I used top quality marine materials. I filled cracks, sanded it all down, scraped it, caulked it, restored areas of the ribs and the floorboards. I replaced the mahogany at the stem, buffed up the brass work.”

Murphy went on in detail about the lengths he went to in order to make the rowboat a masterpiece. The ribs are made of white oak, the planks of selected cedar (which is quite rare), the knees of curved tamarack trunks, and the brass rivets and screws hold it in place.

He said, “I’m kind of a perfectionist. I like using my hands. I grew up on a farm. I know how work with metal and wood.”

The boat is now a beautiful white color, but at its start it bragged an original wood exterior. “Eventually, grandpa started painting it white,” said Murphy.

“When I was 10 years old he gave me a can of Benjamin Moore white paint and said, ‘Okay Bobby, we’re going to paint the boat, now.’”

“That was my introduction to painting the boat, and I’ve been taking care of it ever since,” said Murphy.

The preserved boat is an extension of Murphy’s childhood camp, now lost.

Murphy said, “The Twin



PHOTO SUBMITTED

A photo from Robert Murphy’s archives showing the rowboat “Fanny” in action on the Twin Lakes.

Lakes, it’s a lovely spot. There were so many trees. We had 250-year-old hemlocks, right on the property. They were massive, and they’re gone now.”

The camp was across from Camp Isola Bella’s Albert Tower. Murphy would look out at the structure from a little window, in one of the many cots splayed around the dark green, Adirondack-style camp.

The large family — Murphy’s nine-member home is only at the tip of the group — would gather at a 20-foot-long wooden table, built by Grandfather Fred. There were benches to match; they would fill up with family and friends at summer cookouts.

“He liked to fool around with woodworking,” said Murphy about his grandfather. The knack for handiwork seems to run in the blood.

“We’d carry the boats down carefully and put them in the water. It was a yearly ritual,” said Murphy. “The boat was

put in the water in 1933 and taken out in 2013. You do the math,” he said. That’s 80 years?

Another memory related to the boat is the Lilypad Pond. “The Lilypad Pond was cut off by the trestle,” said Murphy. “It’s a very shallow place with bass, and for a long time there were stocked, landlocked salmon. It was very good fishing, over 90 feet deep off the tip of that island.”

When he was 12, Murphy met an old fisherman at the pond. He taught him how to spin-cast and told him how he ferried stones to build to Isola Bella bridge.

Years later, Murphy rowed his wife Marie there. “We talked and romanticized,” said Murphy. “Marie picked lilies and put them into Fanny’s cut-glass bowl. The petals would open in the morning and close in the evening.”

Murphy’s been married to Marie since 1977. The couple relaunched the boat together, on a sunny day, at the state boat launch, just past O’Hara’s



PHOTO BY SAIDE LEITE

Robert Murphy put in 100 hours restoring the boat.

Landing. “It was a wonderful day,” said Murphy.

The boat’s inspired other artwork of Murphy. He made prints of it and wrote historical poems. Marie and Murphy even made a rope wreath, pinned together with the old

twine that used to fasten the boat to docks.

“The boat is in my blood,” said Murphy. “I know it’s just a material object, but there’s something about family legacy. It’s about the human story behind it.”

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## LAND TRUST

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY DABRA A. ALEKSINAS

**John Landon, left, and Grant Bogle spoke to the Twin Lakes Association on Aug. 5 about the Salisbury Land Trust's interest in a 297-acre parcel of land.**

trust in that state.

Time, he told the crowd of about 100 in attendance, is of the essence. His organization is hoping that a group of investors will come forth to get the property off the market long enough to allow SALT time to raise funds to acquire the property.

"People have looked at it and it just takes one person to decide this is what they want to do," Landon noted. "I know in Massachusetts, within one day, the property had an offer on it. It created a mad scramble to come up with a competing offer."

"Bob Boyette, who owns a tremendous amount of property in New York and Massachusetts, has been starting to sell it all off," Landon explained. His holdings also include a large tract of land in Salisbury.

"The Connecticut property does have a conservation easement on it, where the house is," noted Landon, but the parcel that is of interest to SALT is home to a number of endangered species and is very important for wildlife corridors.

According to the listing by Elyse Harney Real Estate, the land boasts "sprawling acreage with views of the scenic Twin Lakes region" and comprises mature hardwood forests, rolling meadows, wetland and granite outcroppings."

Landon explained that 492 acres of Boyette property at the top of Cooper Hill in neighboring Massachusetts is being protected under a joint effort by the Sheffield Land Trust, Massachusetts Audubon, The Nature Conservancy of Massachusetts and The Trustees of Reservations.

The farmland, he explained, is under contract and will have an agricultural easement to be kept in farming, and the Trustees of Reservations is negotiating to buy the 75 acres next to Bartholomew's Cobble.

"We are hoping we can do something in Connecticut in the same way," said Landon, who noted that SALT is working with Housatonic Valley Association and the Nature Conservancy in Connecticut "to find ways to purchase it," including through grants and donations. Landon said SALT has been in contact with Boyette to express its interest in purchasing the Salisbury acreage.

Send news tips  
to [johnc@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:johnc@lakevillejournal.com)

## KINDERGARTEN

Continued from Page A1

2-3 years behind average learning trajectories, and school programs demand more of their students, they said.

On the other hand, teachers find it difficult to meet the needs of all students if a large number is struggling because of age gaps. The well-being of teachers is important, as the historic strain of the pandemic affected them, too.

The downside of the change in the age cutoff is the immediate pressure put on day care. Questions have been raised about whether these organizations have enough resources to meet the potential needs of the 9,000 children who will not enter kindergarten?

Additionally, there is the fear that lower-income families will not have the funds for an extra year of early child care.

**One expert's view**

Lifelong educator Mary Lou Cobb, who founded The Cobb School Montessori in Simsbury, Connecticut, and was its head for 45 years, said, "The Montessori program... is about whether a child is academically, socially and emotionally prepared. Interestingly, this tenet seems to be at the center of the new law for public education."

Cobb, who also started Cobb Education Consulting, LLC, an advisory firm, acknowledged that her expertise sits in the world of private education, but added, "The state legislature's decisions under the Department of Education is something we pay attention to, despite our independent school focus."

The Montessori is not driven by age but by the readiness of the child, which is defined by listening, cooperation, sharing, self-help, and vocabulary skills — primarily.

Cobb said she has seen public schools become rigorous in the past decades, switching from more play-based programs. She also mentioned the effects of the pandemic and technology.

"I don't know if the pandemic had anything to do with the state's decision, but I do know that culturally our children are more exposed to computers. All teachers want to see children sit patiently through a lesson and be good listeners."

These factors are in step with the logic that, today, younger children are not ready for more challenging programs.

Cobb acknowledged the law's imposition on lower-income families. She remembered a conversation with a

local physical therapist, who was thrilled, alongside his wife, a hairstylist, that their child was starting kindergarten, as they simply couldn't afford day care.

"The Independent School sector is different because we don't follow state rules, but there is a correlation," Cobb said. "Families might say, 'I'll put my child in this private school because maybe they'll take my child at this age and not wait.'"

Still, Cobb concluded, "We want to do what's best for the child — not to exclude the family, but having the gift of time is an important thing, rather than putting children in situations where they're not succeeding because they don't have the skill-set yet."

**Early day care response**

One of the largest shifts of the legislation will be the role of day care centers. Executive director at the Canaan Child Care Center (CCCC), Fran Chapell, said, "I think it makes sense that this change happened."

Chapell taught kindergarten for many years at Town Hill School and for half a year at New Canaan Elementary School, so she's seen programs advance in private and public settings.

"Kindergarten has changed so much...everything is happening sooner," Chapell said. It's become more challenging, she said, and schools are adapting to the jump, focusing on the question of whether or not children are developmentally ready for rigor.

Chapell referred to the unique Early-K program at North Canaan Elementary School. Children who turn five in October are put in the program, so they have an extra year of preparation before kindergarten.

Chapell doesn't know what will happen to the unique Early-K program with the new legislation, but it is important as it highlights the concern schools already had for younger children. Their head, in a way, forewarned the state's decision.

Chapell's CCCC is the only School Readiness Site in the region. It has accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). As a result, CCCC develops a special curriculum and assesses children like elementary schools, to determine what education they need in terms of specific development. Chapell's teachers must have at least a bachelor's degree in education.

Consequently, CCCC re-

ceives state funding to help families afford the service. There are 20 school readiness slots; those families pay between \$10 to \$100 a week.

Chapell said, "I feel we are prepared for the change, but I know the financial piece is a big one for parents."

Accordingly, her efforts to aid the strain are transparent. She writes a lot of grants. The Salisbury Rotary Club provided a grant for school supplies, the Northwest Community Foundation provided a grant for winter clothes. The grants also extend to siblings and family members related to CCCC's students, and the center takes children from anywhere in the state.

Chapell said, "Ever since COVID, we finally have the money we need. We became an essential worker, when it was very difficult to get any

kind of recognition in our field. I can pay my staff more; we're getting equipment supplies."

Still, CCCC is a shining example of success in the field. Chapell is a consultant for child care centers that need advice on grant writing or on other avenues of advocacy.

She maintained, "The state's going to have to recognize a lot more children will be in child care centers. I believe the money's going to be there, but we will have to fight for it."

Region One Superintendent Lisa Carter declined to comment fully on Region One's response to the legislation. She said in an email that she will be working with Boards of Education on plans for the 2024-2025 school year and will publicize plans later this fall.

## Dollar General store eyed for Millerton site

By Emily Edelman

AMENIA — A site plan application before the North East Planning Board is aiming to fill the void left when the Millerton Fresh Market closed in 2019, leaving residents of the Town of North East and Village of Millerton without a grocery store.

Robert Trotta, who owns the lot east of the driving range on Route 44, is proposing to build a Dollar General store of 12,000 square feet, 3,000 of which would encompass a produce section. Dollar General's nearest locations in Amenia and Dover have approximately 10,000 and 9,000 square feet of space respectively and offer a variety of food options, though produce is not one of them.

"I think the town needs some groceries in here," said Trotta in an interview. "Big time."

At the planning board's July 12 meeting, Trotta, along with architect Ray Nelson, presented the board with the plan, which includes parking for 40 cars. Trotta said the next step is to contact the town Zoning Board of Appeals and apply for a variance and a lot line adjustment.

"We started this project five years ago," said Nelson. "They keep toying around with the idea of coming into Millerton and every time we talk about it, they make some other little change, the building's gotten bigger, a lot of things have changed. That's all prior to bringing it to the board. We've vetted it in-house and now it has to go to the planning board."

If the plan is approved, Trotta would sell the lot to Dollar General for development.

The planning board has submitted the site plan to its consultant, Will Agresta of Matthew D. Rudikoff Associates Inc., for comment and review. Trotta hopes that the plan will be up for further discussion by the planning board in September.

At a meeting on Aug. 10, the North East Town Board discussed a request from Zoning Review Committee chair Edie Greenwood for a six-month moratorium on new applications for development on the boulevard due to the committee being near completion of its rezoning project. The town board is expected to take action on the request at its September meeting.

## Summer Concerts on the Horizon

To celebrate the summer season, we will be enjoying live outdoor music from 3-5pm on

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# COMPASS

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OPERA: ALEXANDER WILBURN

## A Baritone Walks into The Berkshires

The Berkshire Opera Festival invites you the travel to a 19th century Christmas Eve in the Latin Quarter of Paris as a band of painters, poets and philosophers fight the winter chill with bottles of wine and fall in love at Café Momus. Giacomo Puccini's Italian opera "La Bohème" will be performed at The Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield, Mass., starting Saturday, Aug. 26. I spoke with baritone Ethan Vincent will be playing the role of Schaunard.

**Alexander Wilburn: Hey Ethan, thanks for taking the time in the middle of rehearsal. What's it like at this stage of the rehearsal process?**

**Ethan Vincent:** We're running through the show, fine-tuning it if you will. We start at the beginning and take notes in between the acts, and discuss what we need to fix.

**AW: Puccini's "La Bohème" is unquestionably a classic, as a performer, what do you think brings audiences back to this particular opera time and again?**

**EV:** Musically it's a beautiful piece that people connect with tonally, and on a more theatrical level, it is something that people relate to. It's a coming-of-age story of these guys, and it's a love story as well. It's a little different compared to pieces we sometimes do in opera that can feel a little archaic and in need of an update. "Bohème" always rings true musically and in a narrative way as well.

**AW: I feel like there's something about it where it's truly timeless, and each decade it's performed you might find something**

**different. Right now, you know, we're seeing a big spike in COVID in the area. So you might think of working artists in struggling conditions.**

**EV:** I think those themes of sickness and health are definitely factors when revisiting this piece, especially now, for sure.

**AW: This isn't your first time performing "La Bohème." You were Schaunard in the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, but you also played Marcello at the Columbus Symphony and the National Performing Arts Centre. Between the two roles, do you have a favorite?**

**EV:** Marcello for sure has more singing to do. So as a singer, you're able to find more moments of beauty. But at the same time, the role has its own difficulty because there are areas that are difficult to navigate as a singer. That being said, Schaunard is always a really fun role for me to play. He is sort of the glue that holds the friends together. He's the provider, he's the comic relief. But he's also the one who initiates them to go out and have fun. It's a really fun role to play in contrast to Marcello, who's the brooding, overly sensitive character.

**AW: Schaunard's entrance to the show is one of the liveliest, funniest arias the opera. I've seen it performed with a lot of varying physicality, what's your approach to the scene?**

**EV:** You want Schaunard to feel very seamless and very effortless like he's a really cool guy and he can just take over the space. He's in his own world, and he tells this story, a very



PHOTO COURTESY OF BERKSHIRE OPERA FESTIVAL  
**Ethan Vincent**

elaborate tale, but none of his friends are listening to him. He's brought all of the provisions for everyone but no one is listening to what he's saying. But I hold onto this idea that Schaunard has nothing to worry about, he's got it all under control.

**AW: You travel a ton for your work, how has your summer in The Berkshires been?**

**EV:** It's my first time in The Berkshires and it's just so beautiful. It's my second time in this part of the country. Last summer I did some work at The Bard Festival.

**AW: As part of the Bard SummerScape?**

**EV:** Yes, we did a bunch of Rachmaninoff there. We did a semi-production of his opera "The Miserly Knight," and then we did "The Bells" which was like a symphonic piece. Being back here reminds me of being a kid and getting to go to summer camp. We saw a double rainbow across the sky, just very casually. My girlfriend is here, and she spotted a bear

yesterday.

**AW: Oh you will see those.**

**EV:** I'm just surrounded by nature.

**AW: What do you have coming up for the 2023-24 season?**

**EV:** In the fall I'll be headed to The Met Opera to cover Riolo in the brand new production of "Florenzia en el Amazonas." After that, I'm going to the San Diego Opera to play Leporello in "Don Giovanni." Then I'm heading to the Washington National Opera to sing Ping in "Turandot."

**AW: I'll let you get back to rehearsal — do they say "break a leg" in opera?**

**EV:** We say "toi toi toi" or we say "in bocca al lupo" which means "in the mouth of the wolf" in Italian. It comes from peering out into the vastness of the opera house, the mouth of the wolf.

ACTIVITY: ALEXANDER WILBURN

## Let's Get Metaphysical

Starting Wednesday, Aug. 23, the sun is shifting into Virgo season, leaving behind Leo's bold impulse toward romance and creativity, and moving toward a time of self-examination. If that sentence sparks your interest, there's a hidden gem, with plenty of gems and crystals in stock, on North Main Street in Kent, Conn.

Tarot in Thyme, created by Regina Olson, a tarot and astrology reader, is awash in the soothing fragrances of the essential oil bar, the bundles of sage and the citrus-scented wood of the palo santo sticks on display.

Olson, who explained she grew up with a strict Jehovah's Witness background, became interested as an adult in other types of spirituality, studying ancient Chinese practices like feng shui, which seeks to harmonize man-made structures with the environment's natural energy, and 9

Star Ki, a type of Chinese astrology based around numbers and natural elements. Tarot is her calling, however, and in private sessions held in a calming lavender room in the back of the store clients can relax and let the cards unfold.

This is also where psychic medium Janine Mangiamele holds

her readings, for both individual and group appointments. Olsen met Mangiamele at a reading in New Milford, Conn., and was

enchanted enough to offer her a place at Tarot in Thyme. Vivacious, quick and direct, Mangiamele colorfully describes her connection to the other side as a peek into a crowded party. During a read you're almost invited to picture a boisterous reunion of your ancestors as Mangiamele communicates

what she overhears, snippets of spiritual smalltalk.

"People will pop in and say, 'Tell Bob I say hi,' and then that's it," she said. "Or other people will say, 'Do you re-

*Continued on next page*



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PHOTO BY EMMA ISAKOFF

## Wake Up To Warm Peaches

One of my favorite things about summer is stone fruit, specifically peaches!! I used to go peach picking with my grandparents in Pennsylvania when I was younger. I'd make myself sick eating out of our wagon before we even got home. My face sticky with sweet peach juice and a full belly, they would have to roll me out of the orchard, atop the peaches in the wagon. A Dutch baby is a surprisingly easy pancake to make. It's a nice change up to the more common French toast or buttermilk pancakes. Besides its cute name, a Dutch baby can be enjoyed at any time of the day, but I can't think of a better way to enjoy a summers morning than with a Dutch baby pancake filled with caramelized peaches (if you're feeling indulgent, try adding a scoop of vanilla ice cream!). I honestly can't think of anything better. Have fun, get messy, and enjoy!

peaches  
2 tablespoons butter  
¼ cup dark brown sugar  
¼ teaspoon cinnamon  
¼ teaspoon ground ginger  
1 pinch nutmeg

### DUTCH BABY

Preheat oven to 425F. Combine eggs, flour, milk, sugar, and vanilla in a blender and blend until smooth.

Place butter in a heavy 10-inch cast iron skillet (or any oven-safe skillet) and put in the oven. When butter is melted, but not burnt (watch closely), remove skillet from oven and pour batter into skillet. Return to oven and cook for 20 minutes or until pancake with puffed and golden.

Lower oven temp to 300 and cook five minutes longer.

Remove the pancake from the oven, top with caramelized peaches and powdered sugar, and

### EATS BY EMMA

EMMA ISAKOFF

serve.

#### CARAMELIZED PEACHES

Cut peaches into thin slices.

In a skillet over medium heat, cook butter and sugar until melted and bubbly.

Add peaches until juices start to release, about two minutes.

Increase heat to medium-high and cook for about 8 minutes, stirring frequently.

Add cinnamon, ginger, and nutmeg, and cook for another minute.

Remove from heat and serve with Dutch baby.

Notes: You can make peaches before the Dutch baby or while it's in the oven.

*Emma Isakoff is the pastry chef at Troutbeck, a historic hotel and restaurant in Amenia, N.Y.*

## ...tarot

Continued from previous page

member what happened twenty years ago... If someone was funny and sarcastic when they were here, they absolutely will when they're passed. A psychic, whether they sketch or use tea leaves, reads information. Loved ones don't speak to them. But as a psychic medium, it's a bit like I'm a double major in college. For me it's both."

Virgo season is a time for solving puzzles, and Mangiamele's readings,

which she invites you to record and write down, leave you with plenty of family questions and lore to uncover.

### Next at Tarot in Thyme

Janine Mangiamele will host a psychic reading group event held at Tarot in Thyme in Kent, Conn., on Thursday, Sept. 28, at 6 p.m. Spots are limited. Reserve online in advance at [www.tarotinthyme.com](http://www.tarotinthyme.com)

### DUTCH BABY WITH CARAMELIZED PEACHES

Makes one, 10-inch cast iron pancake.

3 eggs  
½ cup all-purpose flour  
½ cup whole milk  
1 tablespoon sugar  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
4 tablespoons butter

Caramelized Peaches  
3 medium/large

### FILM: ALEXANDER WILBURN

## A Celebration of Hudson Valley's James Ivory

James Ivory, the film director, producer, and screenwriter whose partnership with producer Ismail Merchant and screenwriter Ruth Praver Jhabvala practically created a genre under the tent of Merchant Ivory Productions, will step out of his early 19th-century mansion home in the Hudson Valley, N.Y., and make a rare public appearance for a series of screenings and Q&As at Hudson Hall starting Thursday, Sept. 16.

The 95-year-old director was nominated three times over the course of the 1980s and 90s by the Academy Awards, but it was not until 2018 that he received the first Oscar of his career for his screenplay for Luca Guadagnino's film "Call Me By Your Name," adapted from André Aciman's novel of the same name. At 89, he was the oldest-ever recipient of an Academy Award.

Beloved for their sensitively drawn yet emotionally accessible portraits of intellectuals tumbling headfirst into the thorny garden of love, it's strange to think that Merchant Ivory's upper-crust European romances came from an American director, an Indian producer, and a German-Jewish New York writer. Ivory, Merchant, and Jhabvala often adapted the work of English novelist E. M. Forster, including "A Room With A View" and "Howard's End." Ivory even dug up what was considered to be a minor, inferior work, published posthumously after Forster's death — he adapted the novel as the film "Maurice," a groundbreaking romance that served as Hugh Grant's first film role.

Decades later, Oscar in hand, Ivory in the last of his team. Ismail Merchant, not just a collaborator but Ivory's long-term domestic



PHOTO FEATUREFLASH PHOTO AGENCY

James Ivory at the 90th Academy Awards.



PRODUCTION STILL MOVIESTILLSDB

Ivory won his first Oscar for writing "Call Me By Your Name," starring Timothée Chalamet.

partner at his Hudson Valley home, died in 2005, and Ruth Praver Jhabvala, who won two Academy Awards for her Ivory directed screenplays, died in her home in New York City in 2013. Their intelligent, witty, and painterly-composed films redefined the genre of historical drama and have become inseparable from the novels they tenderly brought to the screen.

"The Bostonians"

(1984) will screen on Saturday, Sept. 16, at 2 p.m. followed by a Q&A with Ivory. "Call Me By Your Name" (2017) will screen that evening at 7 p.m. with a discussion between Ivory and producer Peter Spears. "Shakespeare Wallah" (1965) will be screened on Sunday, Sept. 17, at 3 p.m., followed by a discussion between Ivory and the late Ruth Praver Jhabvala's daughter, Firoza Jhabvala. For more go to [www.hudsonhall.org](http://www.hudsonhall.org)

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Supporting Brian Ohler's candidacy

When I first heard the news that Brian Ohler was running for First Selectman for the town of North Canaan, knowing him personally and knowing just how much dedication and energy he will put into the position, I couldn't help but be excited about our future. It's also worth noting that Brian didn't just announce his candidacy for the sake of having some fancy title, no, it's because his heart is the right place and he even has an unbelievably extensive 50-point action plan to back it all up. I encourage everyone to visit his website and read about all of the amazing things that he hopes to accomplish as First Selectman. Brian has been a servant leader for over 20 years. He has served in the United States Army and was wounded in combat in both Iraq and Afghanistan. He has volunteered as a firefighter and an EMT in North Canaan. He has also served quite selflessly as our State Representative, giving us all a voice in Hartford, and accomplishing so much for our vast district. Even after all of that, he aspires to continue his life mission of serving others, no matter where and no matter why. It's just who he is. The contrast between First Selectman candidates is quite clear and without question. Brian Ohler is the most competent and the most experienced when it comes to every social, civil, and political category that there is. Voting for Brian Ohler on November 7th is a vote for progress, optimism, strength, unity, trust, respect, and a prosperous future that we all can be proud of.

Derrick Caranci  
U.S. Air Force Veteran  
North Canaan

Deadline for letters is  
Monday at 10 a.m. Send  
to [johnnc@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:johnnc@lakevillejournal.com).

EDITORIAL  
Canaan's dairy legacy

Riley Klein's excellent survey of the state of dairy farming in North Canaan in this week's newspaper is a reassuring testament to the enduring nature of our agricultural sector here in the Northwest Corner. The story, which appears on Page One, also is an invaluable trip down history lane as it chronicles the origins of dairy farming in the state, and tells the story of the family dairy farm over the past half century, and even before then in the 18th and early-19th centuries when farming in the region was necessary for self-sufficiency and the surest way to obtain fresh, safe milk for the family was to own a cow.

Today, it's a striking fact that more than 10 percent of Connecticut's dairy cows live in the barns in North Canaan. Given wind conditions on any given day, a drive along Route 44 through East Canaan with the windows open will testify to that fact.

The story also conveys an upbeat outlook, despite the odds. And it highlights the smart innovations employed by our own local farmer-businessmen. It shows how they make things work through diversification and innovation. Not to be overlooked, it also tells a story about how hard our farmers work. They don't have days off. They get up before any of us. They feed their cows before they feed themselves. You can find them still working late on a Sunday evening, off-loading a truckload of fresh-cut feed for heifers who will become the next milkers. Our farmers don't have virtual schedules. They are on the ground, in the field, always working. David Jacquier of Elm Knoll Farm, who started with three cows in 1968 when he was still at Housy, doesn't ever seem to be at a standstill.

The four farms remaining in North Canaan have ideas for the future that don't include being a vanishing species. They are multi-generational farms, with plans for more generations that will continue a proud legacy that dates to our Colonial era.

The next time traffic backs up behind a slow-moving farm vehicle, it's a time to be thankful.

State labor outlook

Connecticut's unemployment rate fell to 3.6 percent in July, the lowest since September 2019 as employers added 2,900 jobs. According to the state Department of Labor, Connecticut has added 19,100 jobs so far in 2023. The economic outlook is positive, Commissioner Danté Bartolomeo says in his July report, with a lower unemployment rate, job growth, and a low unemployment weekly filing rate.

Employers have about 90,000 jobs available in the state—it's a good economic climate for job seekers with employers hiring for a wide variety of jobs and skill levels — and Connecticut's labor force participation rate remains above national levels. Still, the number of available workers is a concern for recruiters trying to fill jobs, the department reports.

It's also good news that total jobs are 98.2% recovered from the pandemic shutdown with the private sector just 100 jobs shy of full recovery at 99.9% recovered.



"Ambien! We're sleeping this winter, my friends."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The demise of democracy?

Are we watching the demise of democracy in the United States of America? The mire of corruption and political divisiveness in our country is catastrophic. The rising racism with certain politicians blatantly demoralizing Blacks and Black History, Gay and Transgender people is absolutely abhorrent.

We have Ron DeSantis spewing his thinly disguised malicious rhetoric of hate. Why is DeSantis so afraid of teaching children about Black history? Wouldn't it be righteous to show how these courageous people persevered under the most torturous circumstances? How can it be wrong to teach children about Harriet Tubman, Ruby Bridges, Rosa Parks, Thurgood Marshall and Martin Luther King to name just some.

Then we have the ex-president of the United States, Donald Trump, with more than 50 corruption charges against him, flagrantly lying and ignoring the constitution and the laws of democracy.

He removed more than 300 boxes from The White House of classified documents and stored them at Mar-a-lago. The January 6th insurrection at the Capitol left 5 people dead shortly before, during, and following the event.

Many people were injured, including 138 police officers. Clearly Donald Trump was the instigator and yet this narcissistic, misogynistic, blowhard continues to be supported by the Trumpers and Trumpettes.

The level of violence towards LGBT people has increased exponentially. They are nearly 4 times more likely to be victimized than straight people. Hate filled politics are targeting LGBT people by fueling prejudice and loathing. This propagates known lies and pseudoscience that disparages gender and sexual minorities. The stereotypes abound and are dangerous.

How did the United States democracy become so dysfunctional? Part of the reason is race. Our country has been extremely slow to address the legacy of racism. The Civil

Rights Act wasn't a reality until 1964. Unfortunately the excruciatingly apathetic path towards equality for all has caused great dysfunction.

Another reason for our flawed democracy is the backlash from a group of white Americans-many from rural areas-feel their status in society is being threatened. The feelings of resentment hit a fever pitch during the Trump years.

The inequality of opportunity has contributed to the dysfunction of the United States. Blue-collar workers feel left behind by free trade in a globalized world. Automation and AI are slowly displacing workers across socioeconomic classes. People are worried about how they will survive and support their families.

The challenges facing our country are many. I can only hope we can end the terrible political divisiveness among groups of people. Our democracy is at stake.

Gretchen Gordon  
Sharon

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — August 1923  
Robert Fowlkes has purchased a new Ford touring car of A.S. Martin.

Miss Mildred McCarrick is assisting at the telegraph office during the absence of C. Bartholomew.

A drive to secure members for the Lime Rock - Falls Village Public Health Nursing Association will start August 27th. The annual dues will be one dollar. It is hoped that every individual in the community will try to help the work by joining. The slogan of the association is: Healthy children! Happy homes! Help in sickness!

Adv: Wanted — A High School girl 16 years old, wants place to stay and work outside of school hours. Telephone 15-14 Lakeville.

Once more our much beloved and respected "Boss" is enjoying his annual vacation from the Journal Office, leaving the rest of the Force in charge, and as his farewell words were "don't forget to

put my name in the Journal", we are obeying orders to the best of our ability. Bright and early this morning (yes, that's the truth), he set out in his car on a motor trip to Lake George, Saranac Lake, Thousand Islands, and Canada, just why they all end up in Canada is a mystery. He was accompanied on this trip by Mrs. Jones, Mrs. G.A. Barnum and Miss Mame Barnum, whom it is thought, will see that he returns safe and sound in time to edit next week's Journal.

50 years ago — August 1973

Both speakers at last Friday's Free Forum in Salisbury charged that the current gasoline and heating fuel shortages have been contrived by the major oil companies. State Attorney General Robert K. Killian and Geoffrey Smith of the Canaan Oil Company both asserted that the oil companies have withheld their products from the market to increase profits.

Michael Hickey, 17, of Lincoln City Road, Lakeville, was released from Sharon

Hospital Wednesday after receiving treatment for injuries incurred in a spectacular one-car accident in Lakeville Sunday about 6:45 p.m. According to bystanders, Mr. Hickey was driving an orange MGB GT westbound on Route 44 and lost control of his car near the top of Holley Street. The vehicle reportedly careened sideways in front of the former Salisbury Bank, forced another vehicle off the road, hit the road bank in front of the Gateway Annex and somersaulted in the air, landing upside down on the left side of the road.

Many paintings that were done in Salisbury and the surrounding area of the Berkshires by Elsa de Brun Nuala were exhibited recently at the Bymuseum in Copenhagen, Denmark. During the exhibit the work of the 77-year-old great-grandmother was filmed for a world-wide TV special being prepared by the British writer Malcolm Muggeridge. Mrs. Nuala did many of the paintings in the late Ellen Emmett Rand's studio on the Edith Scoville property,

now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Gignoux on Taconic Road.

25 years ago — August 1998

Imagine walking from Georgia to Maine. Imagine trying to finish it in five months. And, oh yeah, wait until you are 79 years old to do it. Is it possible? If anyone can do it, it would be Earl Shaffer. In 1948, Mr. Shaffer became the first man ever to hike the Appalachian Trail from end to end. This summer, 50 years later, Shaffer is looking to repeat the accomplishment.

At Canaan National Bank, rather than grin and bear the regular inquiries, officials decided to make it crystal clear that they are going to remain the local "hometown" bank. A red and white banner was hung recently on the front of the Main Street bank's story, proclaiming "THIS BANK IS NOT FOR SALE." "We're just telling the world that all the other banks can sell out to the big guys, but we will still be here, taking care of our customers," said bank

president Gerry Baldwin.

These items were taken from The Lakeville Journal

archives at Salisbury's Scoville Memorial Library, keeping the original wording intact as possible.

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Mission Statement

The Lakeville Journal Company, Publishers of The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News  
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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# TRI-CORNER CALENDAR The catch-up trade

Items are printed as space permits. All entries can be found at [www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar](http://www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar). To submit calendar items, email [editor@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:editor@lakevillejournal.com)

## AUGUST 26

### Salisbury Band Concert

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. [scovillelibrary.org](http://scovillelibrary.org)

There will be a Salisbury Band Concert on the Scoville Memorial Library lawn on Saturday, Aug. 26, 5 to 7 p.m.

Since 1928, the Salisbury Band has been marching in firemen's parades and performing at concerts-on-the-green and other community events. The Salisbury Band is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing traditional band music to the Northwestern Connecticut community. Feel free to bring a lawn chair and more.

## AUGUST 26-27

### Norfolk Library's 47th Annual Book Sale — plus Free Books on Sunday

Norfolk Library, 9 Greenwoods Road East, Norfolk CT 06058

The annual Norfolk Library Book sale takes place on Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thousands of books in 30 categories on art, current fiction, biography, children's, cookbooks, history, travel, music, film and theater and gardening. There are specially selected rare books prices to sell in one day.

On Sunday from 2 to 9 p.m. all books are free.

## AUGUST 27

### Paddle Into the Past - Dugout Canoe Rides on Lake Waramaug

Warren Town Beach (26D) North Shore Road, New Preston, Conn. [iaismuseum.org](http://iaismuseum.org)

Paddle into the past with dugout canoe rides on Lake Waramaug with the Institute for American Indian Studies on Sunday, Aug. 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Warren Town Beach (26D) North Shore Road in New Preston on beautiful Lake Waramaug. You can try your paddling skills in an authentically recreated dugout canoe.

Pre-registration is required and can be made at <http://www.iaismuseum.org> or by calling 860-868-0518 or emailing [events@iaismuseum.org](mailto:events@iaismuseum.org). The Institute is asking participants to reserve time slots when signing up online.

The cost is \$10 for members of the museum and \$15 for non-members. If you are attending on the day of the event, cash and check are preferred although there will be card readers.

## SEPTEMBER 1

### Cornwall Library Labor Day Weekend Benefit Art Sale

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. [cornwalllibrary.org](http://cornwalllibrary.org)

The legendary Labor Day Weekend Benefit Art Sale returns to The Cornwall Library this year, marking the fifth anniversary of this highly popular event. The sale

will open with a cocktail reception at the Library on Friday, September 1 from 6 to 8 p.m. and will continue through the following week, closing on Saturday, September 9. Everyone is welcome. The sale and its opening reception will be at 30 Pine Street, Cornwall, CT 06753.

## SEPTEMBER 12

### Rosie the Riveter with the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. [huntlibrary.org](http://huntlibrary.org)

On Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 4 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library will host a presentation on "Rosie the Riveter" in partnership with the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History. "Rosie the Riveter" became an iconic symbol of working women during World War II. What was it really like for them? We'll look at propaganda posters, art, music, photos, and hear real-life accounts of Connecticut women who worked for victory in the war. This event is free and open to the public.

## SEPTEMBER 15

### Bluegrass in the Park

Millerton Community Park, Eddie Collins Memorial Park, 5991 North Elm Ave., Millerton, New York

On Friday, Sept. 15 from 5 to 7 p.m., come to a Too Blue Music concert with Esperanza & Mario's Kitchen, Weezy's Quick Stop. There will be children's activities.

## SEPTEMBER 16

### 3rd Annual Hudson Valley Rodeo

Kean Stud, 217 Depot Hill Rd., Amenia, NY 12501

On Saturday, Sept. 16, the 3rd Annual Hudson Valley Rodeo returns to Keane Stud in Amenia featuring an evening concert by Grammy-nominated country music star Walker Hayes, hosted in the picturesque area of northern Dutchess County. There will be barrel racing, roping, bronc riding and bull ridings.

Doors open at noon with family-friendly activities followed by the rodeo at 3 p.m. and the concert at 7 p.m.

## SEPTEMBER 22

### Housing + Jobs + Conservation: A Roadmap for Action

Salisbury Forum Salisbury School, 251 Canaan Road, Salisbury, Conn. [salisburyforum.org](http://salisburyforum.org)

There will be a Salisbury Forum event on Housing + Jobs + Conservation on Sept. 22 with a reception at 5 p.m. and a program at 6:30 p.m.

Housing is rapidly becoming less affordable for residents in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut and the surrounding region, making it difficult for those who work in local businesses, schools, and nonprofits to find a home. This forum will explore how towns and local organizations can expand housing affordability while balancing other important issues, including land

conservation.

The forum will be facilitated by Steve Rosenberg, co-convenor Hudson Valley Affordable Housing & Conservation Strategy, formerly of Scenic Hudson.

Panelists include Jocelyn Ayer, Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity (LCCHO); Michael Polemis, Chair, Land Trust Alliance; and Gordon Ridgway, First Selectman, Cornwall, Conn.

## Walking the West Highland Way

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. [huntlibrary.org](http://huntlibrary.org)

On Friday, Sept. 22 at 3:30 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library will host a presentation by local resident Jenny Law about her recent walk of the 96 mile West Highland Way in Scotland. Photos of her journey will accompany the presentation. This program is free and open to the public.

## SEPTEMBER 30

### GMF Open Forest Day

Yale Camp, 209 Chattleton Road, Falls Village, Conn.

Come to Great Mountain Forest to celebrate Open Forest Day on Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.!

Experience a day filled with fun that includes educational speakers, demonstrations, live music, and food. Visit our website for more information: [www.greatmountainforest.org/events](http://www.greatmountainforest.org/events)

## OCTOBER 1

### Haystack Mountain Challenge in Norfolk

Barbour Woods trailhead, 75 Lovers Lane, Norfolk, Conn.

Run the scenic trails of Norfolk during the 10th annual Haystack Mountain Challenge trail races Sunday, Oct. 1. Sponsored by the Norfolk Land Trust, the grueling half-marathon race, which includes two runs up Haystack Mountain, starts at 9:30 a.m. The 10-K kicks off at 10:45 a.m. and includes a summit of Haystack. The 5-K, at 11 a.m., features a traverse through Barbour Woods.

Registration for the half-marathon is \$30 and the 10-K and 5-K are \$20. All races start at the Barbour Woods trailhead at 75 Lovers Lane in Norfolk. You can register at [RunSignup.com](https://runsignup.com) or by going to <https://runsignup.com/Race/CT/Norfolk/NorfolkLandTrustTrailSeriesHaystackMountainChallenge>

## OCTOBER 14

### Clay Way Studio Tour

Litchfield County, Conn. and Dutchess County, N.Y. [clayway.net](http://clayway.net)

On October 14 and 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., see the art of 23 ceramic artists at nine local art studios for the annual Clay Way Studio Tour in Litchfield County, CT and Dutchess County, NY.

Examples of artists' works and a printable map can be found at [www.ClayWay.net](http://www.ClayWay.net).

The NASDAQ 100 index has carried the market for the first half of the year. Over the last few weeks, however, other areas of the markets have been coming back to life. Nimble traders might look at some of those sectors in the weeks ahead.

August into September is a fairly volatile period for markets historically. We could see markets suffer bouts of profit-taking, which could give investors a chance to buy stocks in certain sectors that have lagged the markets but have the potential to outperform in the months to come.

One area that is risky, but may promise higher rewards, could be the China trade. Most readers are aware of the many negative developments that have plagued the Chinese market over the last two years. Political issues between the U.S. and China including trade tariffs, microchip sanctions, national security blacklisting of certain companies, and limitations on U.S. investments in certain targeted areas have soured investor attitudes toward the Chinese stock market.

On the Chinese side, regulatory crackdowns on mega-cap companies by their central government devastated their stock market. The stock prices of many companies that had represented the best that China had to offer were decimated. All of this is well known.

At the same time, thanks to the Peoples' Republic of China's zero Covid tolerance policies, the mainland econ-

## THE RETIRED INVESTOR

BILL SCHMICK

omy was severely damaged and has still not recovered.

Chinese retail investors, who represent 60% of trading volume on China's stock market, are cautious if not downright bearish on their market. Domestic and foreign Investors have been waiting for months watching for signs that the government will begin to announce plans to jump-start this faltering economy.

Only recently has there been any indication that economic policy is beginning to change.

And while officials promise to change, they are taking their sweet time in providing any concrete stimulus measures that could do the job. Nonetheless, anticipation that change is just around the corner has ignited what I call a catch-up trade in China and its beneficiaries.

Globally, commodities, material stocks, mines and metals, oil stocks, and agricultural equities are all beginning to show some life. Why? On the margin, a growing Chinese economy will create increased demand for all these raw materials. These products have traditionally fueled China's factories and their exports. In addition, a recovering Chinese economy becomes the locomotive for dozens of emerging and frontier markets throughout the world.

All the above areas have been left in the dust this year as everyone's focus was squarely on the Magnificent Seven and lately AI stocks. As a contrarian, I am attracted to unloved areas like this. That is not to say that the technology sectors of the market will not participate. They will, just not at the same rate as those in a catch-up trade, in my opinion.

There is also a second player in the metals markets with billions in cash to spend. Saudi Arabia has decided to become a hub for the processing and trade of minerals which are vital for the energy transition. In an ongoing effort to diversify the country's oil-dependent economy, they plan to develop more than \$1 trillion in copper, phosphates, zinc, uranium, and gold.

Progress in this effort thus far has been slow so to jump-start their processing facilities, a new entity controlled by its huge sovereign wealth fund and its national mining company has begun to buy up mineral resources around the world and ship them home for processing.

I believe the prospects are attractive in the second half of the year for further gains in China, emerging markets, mines, metals, materials, energy, and other commodities.

*Bill Schmick is a founding partner of Onota Partners Inc. in the Berkshires. None of his commentary is or should be considered investment advice. Email him at [bill@schmicks-retiredinvestor.com](mailto:bill@schmicks-retiredinvestor.com).*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Explaining Hunt Library staff changes

David M. Hunt Library Children's Librarian Rita Delgado has been an incredible resource for the children of Falls Village and other Northwest Corner towns, especially during the pandemic. We are so grateful for all of the wonderful programs that Rita has implemented at Hunt Library during her 13 years here and for the special relationships she has developed with our youngest patrons, their parents, and their caregivers. We understand and acknowledge that no longer having "Miss Rita" leading Story Time will be a big change for many of the area's small children and their families. We hope that you will take the opportunity to express your thanks and appreciation to Rita for her devotion to Hunt Library and the children she has had the pleasure of serving over the years.

We also hope that you will understand and appreciate why we are making staffing changes at Hunt Library in order to best serve the needs of Falls Village residents. Our annual budget to operate the library and maintain our historic building is around \$160,000 a year. The library is currently staffed by only one full-time and three part-time employees. We have decided to combine two part-time positions (Children's Librarian and Assistant Director) into one new position to more effectively use our very limited resources. After compiling the results and listening to feedback from Falls Village community surveys and focus groups we did this past spring, after taking into consideration the thorough ex-

amination of Falls Village demographics and library program offerings as analyzed by the non-profit Libraries Without Borders, and after extensive consultations with other library professionals, we decided that the part-time position limited to children's programming needed to be eliminated in order to create a nearly full-time position to deliver expanded youth services for children from 0 to 18 and to perform assistant director duties. This action was not taken lightly and is fully supported by the Board of Directors.

By restructuring our small staff, Hunt library will be able to add services for our community, including: expanding programming for children, from toddlers to teenagers; growing our books-to-homebound delivery and outreach programs; and adding operating hours so that starting in early September the library will be open five consecu-

tive days each week (Tuesday — Saturday). We want to assure everyone that as we move forward with our new staffing plan we will continue our commitment to programming for the youngest children in our community. Our mission is to enrich lives by promoting love of reading and lifelong learning and that will not change.

We value greatly the unique combination of creativity, fun, and commitment Rita Delgado has contributed to Story Time and youth programming over the years she has been at Hunt Library. We know how much many of you will miss her. So will we.

**Meg Sher**  
Executive Director

**Roxann Steinberg**  
Whitaker  
Chair, Board of Directors

David M. Hunt Library  
Falls Village



## Realtor® at Large

We spent a wonderful Sunday afternoon up at the Music Mountain Summer Festival listening to a very talented quartet playing selections from Mendelssohn, Beethoven and Bach. The acoustics in the hall are perfect and it was like stepping back in time as the hall was constructed in the 1930's specifically for chamber music. Music Mountain's programming extends into mid September, so you still have time to experience it's magic. For more information, please visit their web page at [musicmountain.org](http://musicmountain.org) or call for tickets at (860) 824-7126.



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ADVERTISEMENT



# Sports

## Gridlife car festival drifts into Lime Rock Park

By Riley Klein

LAKEVILLE — Burning rubber, gasoline, and spirited cheers from fans filled the air when Gridlife Circuit Legends returned to Lime Rock Park Aug. 18-20.

A car culture festival celebrating the modern turning era, Gridlife drew motorheads from far and wide to take part in a myriad of high-octane events over the course of the weekend.

“We are a grassroots club racing series. We have events around the U.S.,” said Keleen Hitzel, content brand manager for Gridlife.

In order to drift a car, a driver must oversteer the car when approaching a turn, which results in a lateral slide. The driver then controls the speed and direction of the wheels to maintain the slide for the duration of a turn.

In addition to full-course drifting, on-track action at Gridlife included concours racing, touring car racing, and Trackbattle time attack. Participating cars ranged from custom tuning builds designed for big drifts to high-horsepower speed demons looking to set new lap records.

“Our whole mission is motorsports inclusion, so like let’s get all the buddies together that love cars,” said Hitzel. “You’re gonna find a crazy diverse group of people in the paddock, which is really awesome because there’s no other events that like kind of bring everyone together.”



Custom tuned cars drifted around the sharp curves of Lime Rock Park when Gridlife Circuit Legends returned to Lakeville, Aug 18-20.

Among the competitors in Gridlife’s second year at Lime Rock Park was Nate Vincent and his custom 1992 Mercedes 190E restomod racer.

“It was actually sort of saved from being junked. Two years ago it was just a car sitting next to a garage,” said Vincent.

Vincent worked with FCP Euro in Milford to rebuild the vehicle for the track while maintaining its unique characteristics that invoke memories of a bygone era of racing.

“It’s really a car that is speaking to touring car racing from the 80s and 90s, which has obviously a lot to do what Circuit Legends is all about,” said Vincent.

To keep the spirit of the



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

This Mercedes 190E was restored by Nate Vincent and FCP Euro in Milford.

past alive, the 190E was given a big spoiler and arched fenders. Under the hood was a modern AMG 4-cylinder turbo engine that was made

into a 6-speed manual gearbox.

Staying true to the 80s and 90s, the 190E has “no driver-aids whatsoever.”

“No ABS. No traction control. It doesn’t even have power steering. We’re really trying to pay homage to the truth of old racecars. It’s a lot

of work to drive, but it’s also a lot of fun,” said Vincent.

While honoring the past on-track, Gridlife’s weekend of activities included events for modern motorsports fans as well.

An esports arcade gave thrill seekers of all ages a chance to compete virtually in Corsa and Mario Kart tournaments. Nighttime karaoke also drew a crowd to belt out some melodies after a day of burning rubber.

Musician T-Pain, who became a drifter after attending Gridlife South in Atlanta back in 2018, represented Nappy Boy Racing when Circuit Legends came to Lime Rock Park.

Pro drivers and motorsports content creators joined in on the fun too, bringing some new-age star power to the venerable track.

“We have some Formula Drift pro drivers: Ryan Tuerck, Justin Pawlak will be here. We have TJ Hunt and Adam LZ, probably two of the largest YouTubers in motorsports,” said Hitzel.

Adam LZ hosted a pizza party on Aug. 18 with fresh pizzas from Sally’s APizza and an open bar merch pack.

Many attendees purchased camp passes and made a full weekend of the festival, spending each night under the stars at Lime Rock Park.

“Most racing series don’t have these big young camping parties and everybody kind of converging together,” said Hitzel. “We want it to be the full experience.”

To Place an Ad Call 860-435-9873 or visit [www.tricornernews.com/classifieds](http://www.tricornernews.com/classifieds)

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**TAG SALES**

**MILLERTON, NY**

**ANNUAL TAGSALE:** Friday 8/25 and Saturday 8/26, 17 Highland Drive, Millerton, NY 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Something for everyone, books, antique glassware, tools, music and horse related items, etc.

**HELP WANTED**

**DRIVERS WANTED:** At least 25 years old, Clean NYS Drivers License, Class E or C License with passenger endorsement. Willing to Train. Local and Long Distance. Call Watson Livery at 845-464-8178.

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**SEEKING A SKILLED INDIVIDUAL:** for a versatile role encompassing but not limited too, shipping & receiving, as well as some small assembly work. Candidates must possess the ability to lift up to 50 pounds and commit to a full 40-hour work week. Comprehensive training will be provided, while reliability in transportation and a proactive attitude towards learning and career advancement are essential as there are opportunities to advance. Familiarity with milking equipment or dairy farms would be advantageous, though not mandatory. Training wage is \$17.00. Please call Mike or Greg at 800-245-8222.

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**SMALL ANGUS FARM SEEKS P/T HELP:** Duties include feeding, cleaning, fence repair, moving hay and grain daily. Will train the right person. 860-364-5019.

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