



# The Lakeville Journal

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**Celebrating Our  
125th Anniversary**

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

## Nursing homes rethink operations



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

A Geer-owned apartment building near its campus.

**"We feel that a restructure better allows us to focus on the nursing home and the lodge."**

*Kevin O'Connell, CEO of Geer Village*

## Geer closes outpatient PT, to sell rental housing

By Debra A. Aleksinas

dent financial hardship.

NORTH CANAAN — The Geer Village Senior Community, like other nursing facilities in Connecticut, has been battered by COVID-19, posing unpre-

cedented financial hardship. Three years into the still-active pandemic, the road to stability for Geer requires a restructuring, according to ad-

See GEER, Page A10

**"We are not reducing our beds. We are just trying to condense the population that we have."**

*Bill Pond, administrator of Noble Horizons*

## Noble adjusts to severe staffing shortage

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — Pummeled for two and a half years by a severe staffing shortage and declining patient census, the Noble Horizons Senior Community has announced that it has "carefully adjusted" the number of patients it admits in order to continue to provide a quality level of care.

Administrator Bill Pond said while the details are still unfolding, the intent is to consolidate patient areas to make more efficient use of staff at the non-profit, 91-bed nursing facility, which has a current occupancy rate of 68.

"We have reviewed a number of options and if we can temporarily run our operation

on a smaller scale, it would go a long way toward reinforcing the staffing patterns that we have."

Pond noted that Noble's independent living cottages are at full capacity and are not affected by the decision.

"Nursing home staffing has been a significant challenge," said the administrator. "I think we've hired one or two people through the typical process since last Thanksgiving." A lack of new hires, he said, has taken a severe toll on existing staff.

Pond said he is concerned for his staff's well-being.

"We have gone an entire two and a half years dealing with COVID and people are beginning to get tired. The burden

See NOBLE, Page A10



PHOTO BY TERRY COWGILL

Rebelle Dispensary is one of several cannabis outlets in Great Barrington.

## Towns consider cannabis options

*This is the second in a series on the legalization of cannabis in Connecticut.*

NORTH CANAAN — As towns across the Northwest Corner have struggled to adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic and change the way they do business, they can add another major challenge: how to handle private business interests that want to enter the retail cannabis sector or grow it for the wholesale market.

Connecticut legalized adult-use marijuana sales last year, and the state has put in place some guideposts and incentives with potential revenue streams that could be game-changers for cash-strapped towns.

Municipalities are free to regulate cannabis businesses — medical or recreational — as they would just about any other businesses. According to an analysis by the nonpartisan state Office of Legislative Research, towns may prohibit them from opening, reasonably restrict their hours and signage, restrict their proximity to religious institutions, schools, charitable institutions, hospitals, veterans' homes or certain military establishments.

According to the Litchfield firm of Cramer & Anderson, which provides legal services to several Northwest Corner towns, a key provision of the new law stipulates that cannabis establishments must be zoned just as similar businesses would be unless municipalities regulate them through their zoning codes or ordinances.

Under Connecticut's law, possession of 1.5 ounce of cannabis is legal. Since October 2021, medical marijuana patients have

**NEWS  
ANALYSIS  
TERRY  
COWGILL**

See CANNABIS, Page A10

## Region One releases pandemic protocols for new school year

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — When Region One opens Monday, Aug. 29, for the start of the 2022-23 school year, masks will not be required, but they will be encouraged in some circumstances.

Region One Superintendent Lisa Carter sent a letter to parents Friday, Aug. 19, that details how the regional school district will handle the COVID-19 pandemic.

Carter wrote that "wearing a mask, while not re-

See PROTOCOLS, Page A10

## Surviving intensifying heat waves

When I tell people that I study ecological modeling for a living, the typical response is a wide-eyed stare and some variation of the question, "What on earth is that?"

Assuming most people don't want to hear about differential equations and population dynamics, I've developed an abbreviated response: "Math about plants."

"Math about plants" is a bit of an oversimplification — I also do math about animals — but it's an accurate enough description of the research I do as a graduate student in ecology.

My daily work revolves around using equations to understand what is happening in the natural world and why. The questions we ask with those equations are key to the management and use of the environment around us; they range from predicting outbreaks of invasive insects (like the spongy moth) or infectious diseases (like COVID-19), to determining how much carbon is stored in a tree or how many black bears live in Connecticut.

Ecological modeling cov-



PHOTO BY ALISON ROBEY

**NATURE'S  
NOTEBOOK  
ALISON ROBEY**

**Green frogs hide from the sun under duckweed in a frog pond at the Sharon Audubon Center.**

ers all that and more, but a childhood of canoeing on the Housatonic River and exploring the stonewall-studded forests of Kent has provided my specific equations with a clear central goal: figuring out how to best support these natural places as they face the novel challenges of a changing world.

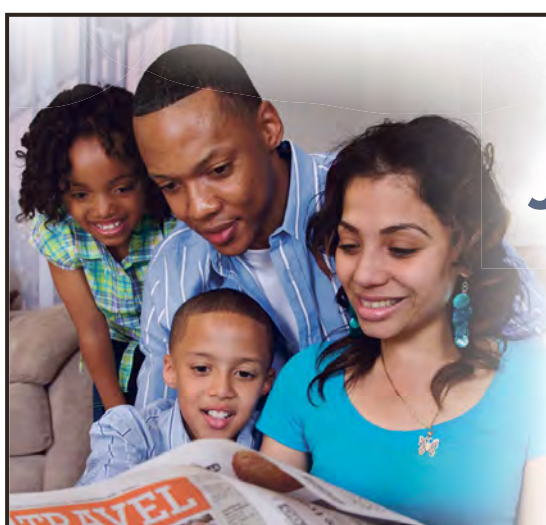
Right now, we are all recovering from one of those challenges: heat waves.

Long stretches of unusually warm weather can be very disruptive to wildlife. Heat-induced worries for our songbirds and garden toads have

See NOTEBOOK, Page A8



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# Regional

## In The Journal this week

LEGALS.....A2	COMPASS.....B1-2
OUR TOWNS...A4-7, A9	OPINION.....B3
OBITUARIES.....A5	VIEWPOINT.....B4
SPORTS.....A8	CLASSIFIEDS.....B5-6

### Three-day forecast

Friday.....Thunderstorms, high 87°/low 61°  
 Saturday.....Cloudy, 85°/60°  
 Sunday.....Cloudy, 89°/60°

## 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.

### Deer in the road

On Aug. 14 at approximately 4:50 p.m. on Indian Mountain Road in Lakeville a 2015 Subaru Outback driven by Geoffrey Sherrill, 64, of Lakeville swerved off the roadway to avoid a deer. The Subaru traveled into the grass off the road, struck a branch of a tree and came to a final rest. No injuries were reported and Sherrill was issued an infraction for failure to maintain the lane.

### Struck a mailbox

On Aug. 18 sometime between 6 and 11 a.m. on Route 7 South in Falls Village an unknown vehicle swerved off the road and struck a mailbox belonging to the property of Jeffrey Lehman, 66. The vehicle evaded the scene of the accident. Anyone with information is asked to contact Troop B.

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.

## Sharon Hospital sets community roundtable held at Geer Village

Sharon Hospital will host an in-person community roundtable on Thursday, Sept. 8, at Geer Village in North Canaan.

The session will be limited to 20 participants due to COVID-19 guidelines and requires advance registration by the public. It will run from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Hollenbeck Room at The Lodge at Geer Village, 77 South Canaan Road.

Christina McCulloch, the hospital's new president, will discuss the hospital's plans as announced in September 2021, which include among other things the closure of the labor and delivery unit and changing the intensive care unit to become a progressive care unit.

Advance registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Masks are required and social distancing will be enforced.

To register, email SharonHospital@NuvanceHealth.org or call 845-554-1734 with your name and phone number (TTY/Accessibility: 800-842-9710). The event will be recorded, and available for viewing at a later date.

## All hands on deck for HVRHS travel fundraiser

By Lia Wolgemuth

FALLS VILLAGE — For the past three years, Housatonic Valley Regional High School Principal Ian Strever and Assistant Principal Steven Schibi have donned white gloves and served a fancy lunch in Strever's office to four lucky students.

"It's a pretty formal affair," said Strever, "with linens, silverware, china and the finest sparkling cider, all prepared and served by yours truly."

Not to be mistaken as a reward for good behavior, the lunch is an auction item from a fundraiser for the school's travel club, Northwest Corner: Students Without Borders. Strever will auction off his culinary skills again at the club's Wine Dinner and Auction, hosted by the White Hart in Salisbury

on Friday, Sept. 16.

The evening accommodates 150 people under a tent on the Green. It includes a cocktail hour with sparkling wine, a four-course dinner with three wines and a live and silent auction. Auction items feature a Berkshire Aviation scenic flight, a time-share in Myrtle Beach, S.C., golf packages and tickets to Tristate events, as well as many baskets and gift certificates from local businesses.

The club raised \$30,000 last year and hopes to reach \$50,000 this year. Students visited Costa Rica and Ecuador in 2021, and a group recently returned from Greece. In 2023, trips are planned to Japan, Ireland/Scotland and the Galapagos.

"I think it's really amazing what this club has done to ensure the opportunity for any student to travel internationally," said Strever. "All schools have international trips, but fewer have international travel clubs. Still fewer raise the kinds of funds this club has."

After many months of gathering sponsors and auction items, students also play a large role in the evening.

"The kids put in a tremendous effort," said Dan Winkley, hotel manager at the White Hart. HVRHS graduate Joe Brennan, who recently returned from Greece, worked at last year's dinner.

"Everyone was there for the same purpose, so everyone was focused on doing a

good job," he said. Winkley added, "I always tell the students to appreciate that everyone is there for them."

"People get a great meal, try some wine and enjoy the auction. But at the end of the day, the people are really there to support the students."

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## Online This Week

Look for these stories and more, exclusively at [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com).

### Gov. Lamont names Heaton to task force

SHARON — Nancy Heaton, founder and CEO of the Foundation for Community Health, has been tapped by Gov. Ned Lamont to serve on a task force looking at state health strategy processes.

### Augustfest at Hunt Library in Falls Village

FALLS VILLAGE — The annual Hunt Library fundraiser took place on Sunday, Aug. 21, with music, food and a silent auction. See Riley Klein's video at [www.tricornernews.com/multimedia](http://www.tricornernews.com/multimedia)

## Emissions tests to return to North Canaan

NORTH CANAAN — Emissions testing will return to North Canaan at Northwest Auto LLC at 32 Railroad St.

Richmond Shirlock, manager at Northwest Auto, said the state Department of Motor Vehicles has begun to install the necessary equipment for emissions testing, but timing of the start of testing depends on hiring a tech to operate the equipment and complete certification and training.

In June, emissions testing ended at Arnold's Garage, located at Routes 7 and 44 in North Canaan, when the business dropped testing and auto repair, though maintaining its towing service and machine shop.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2022-0195 by Gleeson-Ryan Funeral Home for change of use to funeral home and residence at 255 Main Street, Lakeville, Map 50, Lot 17 per Section 205.1 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The property is owned by Patricia Gomez Revocable Trust. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at [www.salisburyct.us](http://www.salisburyct.us). Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to [aconroy@salisburyct.us](mailto:aconroy@salisburyct.us). Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission  
 Martin Whalen, Secretary  
 08-25-22  
 09-01-22

### Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2022-0196 by owner Ateptaya Rakpraja to convert an accessory building to contain a detached accessory apartment on a single-family residential lot at 30 Indian Mountain Road, Salisbury, Map 40, Lot 24 per Section 208 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at [www.salisburyct.us/agendas](http://www.salisburyct.us/agendas). Written comments

may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to [aconroy@salisburyct.us](mailto:aconroy@salisburyct.us). Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission  
 Martin Whalen, Secretary  
 08-25-22  
 09-01-22

### Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following actions were taken by the Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on August 15, 2022:

Approved—Special Permit Application #2022-0190 by owners Paul and Judith DePaolo, to convert a detached home office into an accessory apartment on a single-family residential lot in accordance with Section 208 of the regulations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 10 as Lot 11-1 and is located at 18 Burton Road, Lakeville.

Any aggrieved person may appeal these decisions to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §8-8.

Town of Salisbury  
 Planning & Zoning Commission  
 Martin Whalen, Secretary  
 08-25-22

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF RODNEY CHARLES FOX Late of Lakeville (22-00290)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 11, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciaries are:  
 Samuel J. Fox and  
 James P. Fox  
 c/o Edward Mason  
 Barron  
 Charter Oak Law Group,  
 LLC

34 Jerome Avenue  
 Suite 120  
 Bloomfield, CT 06002  
 Megan M. Foley  
 Clerk  
 08-25-22

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF CLAIR C. COHEN AKA Clair Catherine Cohen Late of New York (22-00319)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 5, 2022, 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:  
 Brian Christopher Cohen  
 c/o Timothy M Costello  
 Costello and Associates,  
 P.C.  
 90 Fawnfield Road  
 Stamford, CT 06903  
 Megan M. Foley  
 Clerk  
 08-25-22

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF BERNARD M. DUNN, Jr. AKA Bernard M. Dunn Late of Canaan (22-00287)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 12, 2022, 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:  
 Michelle J. Hewins  
 11 Greene Avenue  
 Canaan, CT 06018  
 Dawn W. Pratt  
 Clerk  
 08-25-22

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# Community Programs at Sharon Hospital

*Caring for the community*

## Stroke Support Group

A stroke (also known as a "brain attack") occurs when a blood vessel carrying blood and oxygen ruptures or is blocked by a blood clot, halting the supply of nutrients to the brain. It is a medical emergency that requires immediate attention.

Signs of a stroke can include sudden loss of vision, numbing of the face, arm or leg on one side of the body, difficulty speaking and loss of balance.

Join members of Sharon Hospital's rehabilitation team and stroke survivors for a group discussion on your journey to recovery, your experiences and local services and resources available to you. Guest speakers and health professionals also participate to encourage lifelong healthy habits.

**Days:** Friday every week

**Time:** Noon–1 pm

**Location:** Sharon Hospital, Board Conference Room 2

*To register or learn more, contact the rehabilitation department at (860) 364-4065 or email [Katja.Schultz@nuvancehealth.org](mailto:Katja.Schultz@nuvancehealth.org)*

Sharon Hospital

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## Our Towns

## Salisbury Trust to renovate house for affordable housing

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — It's rare that a single-family home hits the market in Salisbury for \$250,000. But it did, after originally being priced at \$450,000, and members of the Salisbury Housing Trust, Inc. felt it was too good a bargain to pass up.

In early August trustees of the private, nonprofit group voted to purchase the three-bedroom, two-bath single-family home at 70 East Main St., which they plan to renovate, subsidize and sell as affordable housing.

As happenstance would have it, the property is also situated contiguous to eight other homes in the area — three older houses and five modular homes — that were purchased or constructed by the Housing Trust between 2002 and 2008 and hailed by co-president Leo Gafney as its "most successful venture."

"We had to get this house before the usual real estate flippers got to it," said John Harney, who also serves as the group's co-president and is a Salisbury real estate agent. Appraised at \$250,000, "It's the cheapest house in Salisbury," said Harney.

Trustee Lenore Mallett, who joined Harney and Gafney on a recent Saturday morning visit to the multi-level, dove gray, circa-1900 home, noted that the purchase is in line with the group's mission of investing in houses for affordable home ownership.

"Both John and I are in real estate, and we know that

the trust is struggling to find affordable housing, so when we locate a house like this, we know that we have to snap it up, renovate it and keep it."

The goal, noted Harney, is to invest another \$100,000 to \$150,000 to update the aging structure "and then subsidize it so that someone can buy it for around \$200,000," depending on their income.

It's a lofty goal, and fundraising is a key component, but trust members said they aim to have the home fixed up and ready to welcome a family within four to six months. The closing is scheduled for Sept. 22. In the meantime, said the trustees, their focus will turn to fundraising.

**Turning home-ownership dreams into reality**

Since its inception in 2000, the Salisbury Housing Trust has built or renovated 13 homes in six locations that are owned and occupied by Salisbury residents. The homes are primarily single-family, two- and three-bedroom structures that are priced to sell below the current median home sales price.

The mission of the trust is to make home ownership a reality, through private, non-governmental funding, for the town's municipal workers, residents and volunteers. That includes young families as well as seniors looking to downsize and age in place in their community, according to Jennifer Kronholm Clark, a member of the Housing Trust who also serves as chair of the Salisbury Affordable Housing

**"We had to get this house before the usual real estate flippers got to it."**

**— John Harney, co-president of the Salisbury Housing Trust, Inc.**

Commission (SAHC).

Each applicant, she said, is screened to ensure a good match. "We want to make sure we are putting them in a situation where they can succeed."

The quest to increase the town's stock of affordable housing is picking up steam. A town meeting vote on July 28 overwhelmingly granted permission to another private, nonprofit entity, the Salisbury Housing Committee (SHC), for a right-of-way over a former railroad corridor on East Railroad Street for construction of a driveway leading to a proposed 18- to 20-unit rental housing development.

**New consulting firm, focus on fundraising**

The Salisbury Housing Trust also recently voted to hire a consulting firm, Danosky & Associates of New Milford, which works with nonprofits, according to Gafney. "We do have some funding, and a line of credit," he noted, but the trust needs to beef up its assets for current and future projects.

"We look forward to working with them because after 20 years, so much has changed and we really need a fresh start to review our methods of fundraising and approaches," he noted.

The red-hot real estate market has also made affordable acquisitions difficult to find. "There's been so much



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

**Salisbury Housing Trust members, from left, John Harney, Leo Gafney and Lenore Mallett at the East Main Street home that was recently purchased by the trust for affordable housing.**

of this flipping that our model just doesn't work anymore. I give a lot of credit to John Harney. He moved on [the East Street property] pretty quickly."

Clark noted that while the bulk of donations come from individual donors, "We have also received small grants from the town's Affordable Housing Fund over the years. We are just at the beginning phases of a fundraising campaign and are in conversation with a consultant who will help us refine our case statement, set a goal, and develop a fundraising strategy."

Clark said while a fundraising goal has not yet been set, "at the moment our thinking is to create a campaign to raise funds for several of the projects coming down the pike," including 70 East Main St., 17 Perry St. and the 59-acre former Pope property on Salmon Kill Road.

"Salisbury is generous in terms of donations. The generosity is there," noted Harney.

**'An exciting time'**

The housing trust is working with the town to build several homes on a vacant,

one-half acre lot at 17 Perry St., the site of the former Decker's Laundry.

"The town just voted to sell it to the Housing Trust," said Clark. Once final groundwater testing is complete, she said the group will then move forward with the construction of homes on the site.

"It's definitely an exciting time. It's been a long time where it seemed like nothing was happening and then all of a sudden," Clark noted, "things are finally coming to fruition. People have been working on them for years."

## Salisbury Housing Trust seeks new members, donations, applicants

The Salisbury Housing Trust, Inc., which grew out of the Salisbury Forum — a series of well-attended town meetings sponsored by the Salisbury Association in the fall of 2000 — welcomes a "new generation" of members, including those who may have expertise in real estate or various facets of home renovation, according to the group's co-president, John Harney.

Motioning to fellow trustee Lenore Mallett, who joined the group of volunteers about 18 months ago, Harney noted that "she and

the other new members are the Housing Trust of the future."

Anyone interested in supporting the trust's efforts, either by joining, monetary donations or through gifts of property or land, can go to [www.salisburycthousing.org/how-can-i-help](http://www.salisburycthousing.org/how-can-i-help), email [salisburyhousingtrust@gmail.com](mailto:salisburyhousingtrust@gmail.com) or call 860-435-2173.

Individuals interested in becoming a homeowner can fill out an application form on The Salisbury Housing Trust's website, [www.salisburyhousingtrust.org](http://www.salisburyhousingtrust.org).



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### Free Library Programs

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Saturday, September 10, 10-11:30am

#### BASIC BICYCLE MAINTENANCE

Shepherd Myers will demonstrate changing a tire, chain installation, basic gear maintenance and bike fit. At 10:30, Myers will offer six one-on-one sessions of about 10 minutes each; please sign up in advance on the SML website. Walk-ins are welcome for the introductory demonstration and to observe the individual sessions.

Saturday, September 10, 4-5pm

#### CURRENT FICTION BOOK GROUP LED BY CLAUDIA CAYNE

The fall reading program begins with "Infinite Country" by Patricia Engel, a story about an adolescent girl who urgently needs to leave a correctional facility in the forested mountains of Colombia after committing an impulsive act of violence.

Tuesday, September 13, 6-7pm

#### THE WHITE HART SPEAKER SERIES: RINKER BUCK, LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI, READING AND BOOK SIGNING

Join us at the White Hart Inn to hear master storyteller Buck present his latest, an epic blend of history and adventure in which he builds a wooden flatboat from the grand "flatboat era" of the 1800s and sails it down the Mississippi River. Presented by Oblong Books and Music in collaboration with The White Hart Inn and SML.

What a great idea.

#### Families @ Scoville

Every other Thursday starting  
September 15, 9:30am\*

#### DANNY SINGS ABOUT EVERYTHING!

Danny Tieger brings a bi-weekly music enrichment show into classrooms and living rooms across the Northwest Corner. "Danny Sings About Everything" is a 35-minute musical romp with singing, dancing, and a whole lot of great ideas from the viewers.

Saturday, September 17, 3pm

#### SHARON AUDUBON CENTER PRESENTS BIRDS OF PREY

Learn about bird ecology, biology, and adaptations with a visit to SML from live birds of prey from the Audubon Center in Sharon, CT.

Wednesday, September 21, 10:30am

#### STORY TIME RESUMES!

After a brief break, we will again gather to sing songs, learn rhymes, engage in crafts, explore our surroundings and read stories. Join us just beyond the Buttons Garden; if raining, meet inside the children's library. For children from 0-6 years, but all ages are welcome!

\*Activities subject to time change.  
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This advertisement has been made possible by donations to the Scoville Memorial Library.



# OBITUARIES

## John Buchanan Allyn

FALLS VILLAGE — John Buchanan Allyn, fondly known as “JB” passed away suddenly at his home on Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2022. He was born Oct. 1, 1956 in Brooklyn, New York. John is predeceased by his wife, Dawn (Morgan) Allyn and parents Leslie Allyn and Marjorie (Felter) Allyn. He is survived by his four children, Megan, Jonathon, Sarah, and Christy; and his brothers, William and Kent Allyn.

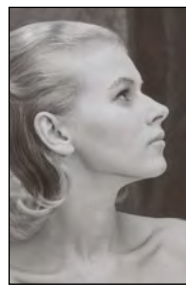


to his numerous feeders. JB was very proud, but humble. He was not one to ask for anything, but was willing to help others in any way possible. John was an active and loyal member of his community, made apparent by his 47 year tenure with the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department.

Services will be held Saturday, Sept. 10 at 11 a.m. at Sand Hill Cemetery, Falls Village. Celebration of life to follow at the Falls Village Fire Department. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made out to the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department.

## Mariana Honig-Sarfo

NORTH CANAAN — Mariana Honig-Sarfo, 82, of 99 South Canaan Road, passed Aug. 12, 2022 at the Geer Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in North Canaan. She was born February 23, 1940 in Katrineholm, Sweden daughter of the late Ture Phillip and Margot (Bjuhn) Phillipson.



Magalhaes and her husband Jorge of Mililani, Hawaii; her son Alexander Honig and his wife Malinda of Edgewater, Florida, her grandson Jakob Honig of New Haven; and grandchildren Ana and Tiago Magalhaes of Mililani, Hawaii. Mariana is also survived by her sister, Barbro Ödman who resides in Sweden.

A Celebration of Mariana's life will be held on Saturday Aug. 27 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main St., North Canaan, CT 06018. Memorial donations may be sent in Mariana's memory to Kittyquartets.org, 1188 New Litchfield St., Torrington, CT 06790

Mariana was a registered nurse and earned her MBA at UCONN. She also was a bestselling author, 'Breads of the World', a fashion model and business owner. Her interests included; Egyptology, fine art, music, gourmet cooking, all animals (except snakes), driving fast and an infectious lust for life. She is survived by her daughter Amanda

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

## Barbara Helen Conklin

DANFORTH, Maine — Barbara Helen Conklin, 94, a thirty-nine year resident of Danforth, Maine, and a thirty-six year resident of Wingdale, New York died peacefully on Friday, August 19, 2022 at Madigan Estates Nursing Home in Houlton, Maine.

Mrs. Conklin began her career with New York State in 1947 at the former Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center in Wingdale, where she worked as a Supervising Pharmacy Technician in Building H for over 36 years. She retired on her birthday in 1983.

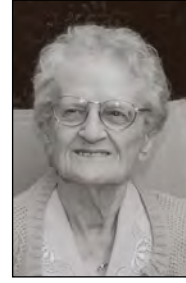
Born January 11, 1928 in Greenfield, Massachusetts she was the daughter of the late Erving and Mae (Simonds) Fiske. She was a graduate of Berlin, Connecticut area schools. Following the Second World War, she married PFC William Douglas Conklin in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Their loving marriage lasted nearly forty-nine years. Mr. Conklin died on March 23, 1995. Mrs. Conklin was a longtime parishioner of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Pawling, and

Weston Community Church in Weston, Maine. She was also a member of the CSEA. She enjoyed spending the winter in Florida with her husband for many years and summering at her home in Danforth and her camp on East Grand Lake in Weston. She traveled extensively with her family and extended family when her children were young and loved to sunbathe on the beach. She also enjoyed riding her Ski-Doo on winter vacations in Maine, Partridge hunting with her trusty .410 shotgun and fishing for landlocked salmon on the waters in Maine. She loved visiting her family in New York every Thanksgiving and would often stay with her grandson for weeks at a time.

She loved a good Hires root beer float and was never far away from her ever present glass of ginger ale or cup of tea. In her later years she enjoyed crossword and word search puzzles and watching

the New England Patriots on television. WE ALL LOVE YOU “BUNGE”.

She is survived by three sons, Douglas J. Conklin and his wife Maureen of Wingdale, Brian K. Conklin and his companion Charissa Hagerty of Bangor, Maine, and Jeffrey E. Conklin and his companion Lynn Daniels of Danforth; her grandchildren, Scott D. Conklin and his wife Robin of Dover Plains, New York, Brad J. Conklin and his wife Melissa of Dover Plains, Christopher J. Conklin of Wingdale, Shannon Conklin and her companion Matt Eliott of Salisbury, Christa M. Brenner of Pine Plains, Jennifer Conklin-Wiles and her husband Jamie of Weston, William Conklin of Patten, Maine and John Shaw and his wife Missy of Weston; her great grandchildren, Tyler and Colton Conklin, Logan Conklin and Alexis Barton, Cody Wiles and Parker El-



liott and Alexandria Edwards and Erica Shaw and several nieces and nephews and many friends. In addition to her parents and husband, she was predeceased by her loving nephew, Charles “Bits” Fiske and his wife Marie of Charleston, Rhode Island, and her siblings; Betty, Evelyn, Doris, Dorothy, Olive, Ruth, Mildred, Robert, Brenton, Gordon, Stanley, Charles and Herbert.

Calling hours will take place on Saturday, Aug. 27 from 10 to 11a.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, New York. A funeral service will be held at 11a.m. at the funeral home. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. Burial will follow at South Dover Rural Cemetery, Wingdale, New York. Memorial contributions may be made to the J.H. Ketcham Hose Company, P.O. Box 706, Dover Plains, NY 12522. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit [www.conklinfuneralhome.com](http://www.conklinfuneralhome.com)

## William Farnham

WEST CORNWALL — William Farnham, 83, of West Cornwall, passed away Aug. 13, 2022 at Geer Village Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. He was a lifelong partner to Lucille Tyler for 36 years.

William was born February 5, 1939 in Burlington, Vermont. The son of the late Earl and Sarah (Blackmore) Farnham, he was the oldest of seven children. While in Vermont, William worked in a talc mine and was a farmer. He later became a mechanic and worked for Brewer Brothers in Canaan for 29 years. Beside his life partner

Lucille, he is survived by his son William Farnham of Vermont, his two brothers Fred Farnham of Maine and Edward Farnham of Vermont, and several grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He is predeceased by his two sons Randall and Mitchell Farnham, his daughter Linda, his brother Earl Farnham, and his three sisters Patty, Shirley, and Marie.

All services are private. In lieu of flowers please make donations to The Little Guild, 285 Sharon-Goshen Turnpike, West Cornwall, CT 06796.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.



# Millerton man travels to help Ukraine

By Whitney Joseph

MILLERTON — André Wlodar returned two weeks ago from a fortnight in his homeland of Poland, traveling to Medyka to cross the border into western Ukraine on foot, which is still the fastest way.

The Millerton resident brought with him much-needed aid raised through his United for Ukraine effort, geared in part to help refugees fleeing the war-torn nation since Russian troops invaded on Feb. 24.

Wlodar has been fundraising to assist those affected by the war.

Children are among those who have been hardest hit, with more than 3 million Ukrainian refugees fleeing to Poland. Wlodar has helped many of those young refugees find housing and schooling.

During his most recent trip abroad, he also delivered approximately 100 life-saving tourniquets for Ukrainians fighting on the front lines for their freedom and their democracy.

“These are combat tourniquets that save lives,” said Wlodar. “It’s amazing this is what’s in short supply. Because of the artillery barrage by Russian forces, a lot of these soldiers are losing limbs, so at least if they have tourniquets they don’t have to lose their life. One tourniquet can save a life. It’s very difficult, you cannot get them

in Europe.” Wlodar said the tourniquets sold online as CAT Combat Application Tourniquet — GEN 7, are the “best ones” because they’re the sturdiest. Amazon.com describes the product as “Official Tourniquet of the U.S. Army.”

“I started a little campaign, that instead of money, people can go to Amazon, go to a link, and if they want to help, they can buy it, send it to me, I will make sure it gets delivered,” said Wlodar.

Although Wlodar was not among the bullets flying across the battlefields when in Ukraine — he did get to visit with some soldiers while in his hotel in Lviv. They told of the very real dangers they face daily.

Those soldiers, many everyday Ukrainian citizens who volunteered to defend their country, expressed deep thanks to those sending support.

Whether aid sent is in the form of monetary donations or food and supplies — it all makes it possible for the Ukrainians to resist Russian forces, they said.

Wlodar shared a text he received from one of his soldier friends on the front, though he was not allowed to divulge his name for security reasons.

“This is from our dear friend in Lviv,” prefaced Wlodar, noting the rest of the message was written from a war zone.

“Hello André and Kim!



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Ukrainian soldiers display donated CAT tourniquets.

Tourniquets have reached their destination! Thank you very much for help!!”

As Wlodar has said all along, the war is unlikely to end quickly. It’s therefore essential the Ukrainian people are not forgotten, and that efforts to help them likewise remain a priority for the rest of the free world.

“I feel like people’s attention span has moved on,” he said. “They’re more worried about the heat wave.”

Contact Wlodar to make a donation or to buy tourniquets and donate them, at 786-282-2495, or mail donations directly to United for Ukraine to P.O. Box 537, Millerton, NY 12546.

## Sanitation Service

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## Worship Services

Week of August 28, 2022

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

<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>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon</b> 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 <a href="http://www.stchurchsharon.org">www.stchurchsharon.org</a></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> 860-824-7252</p>	<p><b>Trinity Episcopal Church</b> 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock In person services on Sundays 8:00 and 10:30 A.M. Livestream at 10:30 on <a href="http://www.trinitylimerock.org">www.trinitylimerock.org</a> The Rev. Heidi Truax <a href="mailto:trinity@trinitylimerock.org">trinity@trinitylimerock.org</a> (860) 435-2627</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>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT</b> Join our virtual Zoom service on Sunday, September 11 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>The Lakeville United Methodist Church</b> 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:50 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Pastor Joy Veronesi 860-435-9496 <a href="mailto:Lakevillemethodist@snet.net">Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</a></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 <b>MASS SCHEDULE</b> Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church <b>DAILY MASS SCHEDULE</b> 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 Sharon United Methodist Church</b> 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer Pastor Sun Yong Lee 860-364-5634 <a href="mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net">sharonumc5634@att.net</a></p>	<p><b>UCC in CORNWALL</b> Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am Canaan United Methodist Church 8 Bolton Hill Rd, 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>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>	<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 current online Bible studies and Sunday services In-person Bible study will resume in the fall. Contact us at 860-364-5002 or <a href="mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org">info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a></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>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:canaanumc-umc.com">canaanumc-umc.com</a> <a href="mailto:canaanumc@gmail.com">canaanumc@gmail.com</a> We hope you will join us!</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.thsmithfieldchurch.org">www.thsmithfieldchurch.org</a> 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</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:mmgates125@gmail.com">mmgates125@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>SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH</b> 860-927-3005 Rev. Robert Landback The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge <b>MASS SCHEDULE</b> SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM - St. Bridget SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart WEEKDAY MASSES Monday &amp; Friday 9 AM - Sacred Heart Tuesday 9 AM - St. Bernard</p>	<p><b>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church</b> 315 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 <a href="http://allsaintsofamerica.us">allsaintsofamerica.us</a></p>



# Our Towns

## Forum airs Comcast's \$1.6 million internet solution

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — The Sharon Connect Internet Task Force (SCITF) held a hybrid forum on Monday, Aug. 15, for residents to hear Comcast's proposal for a public-private partnership to extend broadband service to every home and business in Sharon.

The forum was organized by SCITF Co-chairs Meghan Flanagan and Jill Drew, who directed the meeting for the more than 100 residents attending in person at Town Hall or remotely on Zoom.

Representing Comcast at the forum was Matt Skane, manager of Government and Regulatory Affairs, who has been developing details of the proposal in conference with town officials.

"We've been discussing this for nearly 10 years," said First Selectman Brent Colley in opening the forum, the culmination of a decade of town consideration and three years of weekly meetings by the SCITF.

Colley reported, however, that the Comcast option

ly, offering a partnership with the advantage that it would take only six to eight months to complete the work.

"You are all here because you care," Colley said. "We are trying to make a better community by bringing broadband to the whole town."

The SCITF was created in November 2019 to define and explore options for high-speed internet, meeting once a week ever since, Drew recalled.

Looking at the numbers, Drew reported that 234 homes standing along 27 miles of road need connection to the internet in Sharon. Those homes are widely spread out with a lot of ledge along the way, Drew added.

To complete the project, the town would need to contribute \$1.6 million, and Comcast would pay the rest of the cost of installation and bringing the service to the homes who agree to subscribe for service.

Those homeowners who do not wish to have the Comcast service will still



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Residents gathered at Town Hall and via Zoom to learn details of a proposed partnership between the town and Comcast to expand broadband coverage throughout Sharon. The information session was held on Monday, Aug. 15.

have the service available on nearby poles. Where lines are currently below ground, the new lines would also be below ground.

Colley noted that the necessary funding exists in the town's Undesignated Fund, indicating no impact on property tax rates, nor would borrowing be necessary. At the time of the contract signing, \$800,000 would be due, and the other

half would be due when the project is completed.

Comcast would be responsible for all project management, from obtaining required permits to utilize some poles owned by Frontier or Eversource Energy and on to project completion.

Alternatives pursued by the task force included contacting Frontier Communications, other companies offering satellite communications services, cell phone service in WiFi hot spots, and a town-owned broadband utility, the latter estimated to cost \$12.5 million.

### Next steps

Following the Sharon Connect recommendation to proceed with Comcast's proposal, the Board of Selectmen will decide at an upcoming regular meeting

whether to recommend approval and determine how it would be funded.

The selectmen will then send their recommended proposal to the Board of Finance.

If the Board of Finance agrees, the project moves on to a town meeting for the voters to decide.

Many residents' questions sought clarification of the project. Others spoke of the need for service to support working from home and for all children to keep up with schoolwork.

Skane said that if the project is approved, there will be sign-up events as progress reports as each street comes online. He noted that no one would be required to subscribe.

Several questions ensued about pricing, as Skane indi-

cated a basic service (internet only) would cost \$39.99 monthly, but many package plans are offered, including some to assist families with affordability.

"From a project management standpoint," Skane said, "we're going to do all we can to get the program rolling."

Residents concerned that rates might rise in the future learned that the state regulates rates.

One resident who said that he currently has internet service at his home felt that town funds should not be spent to assist a relatively small number of homes.

Flanagan responded, "It's to help your neighbor," adding that it also brings economic benefit.

"It's for your neighbor," echoed Selectman Dale Jones, "but it's also good for the town economically."

Discussion focused on reliability and service during storms and obsolescence as new technology comes along.

Drew replied that according to the federal government, wired communication is the most reliable.

Pointing out that Comcast is not an altruistic organization, Skane said, "As a business, we want to advance with the advancements." He added that the project is more about growing Comcast's business over time.

"This is a really good option," Colley said. "It's affordable and it's now."

To view a video of the informational meeting, go to [www.sharonconnect.org](http://www.sharonconnect.org).



PHOTO BY TONYA ROUSSIS

### For literacy

The Housatonic Child Care Center in Salisbury held a literacy night at the Scoville Memorial Library on Thursday, Aug. 11, when Kendra Percy read "Harold and the Purple Crayon." The event was funded through EdAdvance of Litchfield.

## Support Local Journalism In Your Community

### 2022 Marks the 125th Anniversary of The Lakeville Journal

The first issue was August 14, 1897; William McKinley was President. Spanning three centuries, The Lakeville Journal has been an enduring witness to events in northwest Connecticut and adjoining New York towns. That's historic, especially since over 2200 newspapers in the US have shut down since 2005.

As one of the oldest weeklies in the country, we have survived. Times change, and we've changed with the times. The Lakeville Journal is now a non-profit institution, one of the first weekly newspapers in the country to make the transition.

As we look forward to our 126th year of publication and beyond, we will need to:

- Preserve the tradition of grass-roots reporting on the people and events involved in local organizations vital to town life.
- Hire more reporters. With new support the Journal can bring in reporters to cover important regional issues like Covid, drug abuse, Sharon Hospital, affordable housing and our environment and climate.
- Dig deeper into local issues, good news or bad. Take a closer look at the local controversies and the colorful characters involved in them in town and in government.
- Expand digital presentation of local news reporting.
- Advocate for full broadband access, to achieve optimal access to news and information for all.

How can you help? For \$125 become a **Friend of the Lakeville Journal** and commemorate the Lakeville Journal's role in our communities since its founding 125 years ago.

2022. The year to celebrate The Lakeville Journal's history and plan its future. Together. Thank you for your continued support.

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Any contributions made to The Lakeville Journal Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, will be tax deductible according to the law.

To subscribe to The Lakeville Journal or The Millerton news, go to [tricornernews.com/subscriptions](http://tricornernews.com/subscriptions).

Mail to The Lakeville Journal Foundation, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, Connecticut 06039  
To donate by credit card, please go to [www.tricornernews.com/contribute](http://www.tricornernews.com/contribute)

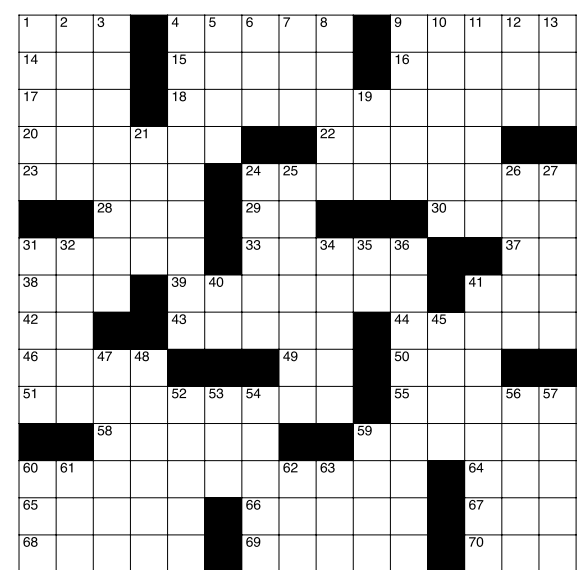
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In support of our local Paper, enclosed please find my check/money order in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, made payable to The Lakeville Journal Foundation.

## Brain Teasers

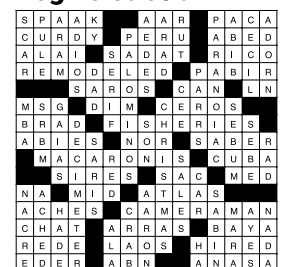
### CLUES ACROSS

- One point north of due west
- Indigenous peoples of northern Scandinavia
- Popular California/Nevada lake
- Go quickly
- Fatty acid in soaps
- Brand of fuel stations
- State of fuss
- Romance novelist
- Members of a household
- Asserts to be the case
- Type of infection
- With metal inlays
- Chinese philosophic principle
- Early multimedia ownership plan
- He investigated Clinton administration
- Shells
- Six
- Snakelike fish
- Capital of Kenya
- Influential group (abbr.)
- Used to chop
- It comes as a case
- Challenges
- Small amounts
- The Golden State
- Peyton's little brother
- For walking in Alaska
- Buddhist honorific titles
- Lively ballroom dance
- Capital of Albania
- Late night host
- Draw from
- A way to utilize
- One who is not native Hawaiian
- A power to perceive
- Bulky
- Horse mackerels
- Proclaim out loud

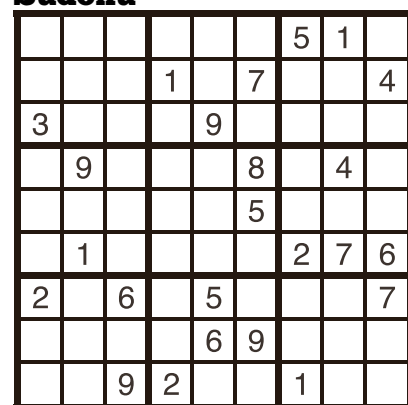


- Steeds
- Having eight
- Greek goddess of the dawn
- Mature reproductive cells
- Armadillo species
- Ancient country in what is now Romania
- Extreme greed
- Stars
- Poems
- Places to sit
- One from the Lone Star State
- Small rails
- One quintillion bytes (abbr.)
- Where coaches work
- Indicates position
- Mammals
- Resembling a wing
- Beliefs
- Hindu male religious teachers
- Mischievously
- Where athletes want to end up (abbr.)
- Large, deep-bodied fish
- Horned squash bug genus
- Excessively sentimental
- Shared verbally
- You can put it on toast
- Data mining methodology (abbr.)
- Resinlike substance secreted by certain insects
- Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian volcano

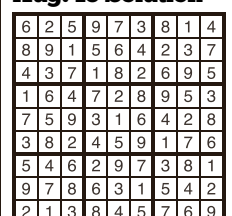
### Aug. 18 Solution



### Sudoku



### Aug. 18 Solution



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# Our Towns

## Studio Lakeville to move fitness to Interlaken Inn

By Moira Kelly

LAKEVILLE — Studio Lakeville is a beautiful building at the intersection of the roads to Millerton, Salisbury and Sharon, in Lakeville. Once the old firehouse, with three large opening doors, now windows, the building was refurbished by contractor Seth Churchill.

Its current use is as a gym, physical fitness center and café. As Studio Lakeville and the Green Café, the 2,000-square-foot facility opened in 2018 under the direction of Leslie Eckstein, as a gym and personal training center also offering spin classes and massage therapy as well as the café's wholesome food and beverages.

All went well until COVID-19 hit. Eckstein, a veteran of personal training, had to close the gym and the classes ceased. Undeterred, Eckstein introduced online classes, 95% of which are still in operation. She used a truck to rent out her equipment to locals. At the time the gym had approximately 300 members.

This was not to be the end of her problems. Last year a consortium from New York City bought the Lakeville building, intending to use it as a restaurant. So far, no details have emerged as to what use the building is to be put to, but Eckstein tenaciously held onto her lease.

The gym is to remain open until the end of September, though the café will close at the end of August.



PHOTO BY MOIRA KELLY

Studio Lakeville and Green Café owner Leslie Eckstein, shown in her Lakeville gym, plans to relocate operations to the Interlaken Inn and Resort.

With a strong sense of determination, Eckstein is going to re-open the gym at the Interlaken Inn and Resort in Lakeville. She has held fast to her dream of fitness training since the age of 15 when, at high school, she led a class in step aerobics. She is dedicated to her community. Most of those she takes for personal training sessions are elderly.

"I want to keep people

feeling young, maintaining the quality of life and to be able to age gracefully" she said, adding she's training to be an aesthetician and to offer facials and skin care to her clients.

Eckstein's facility at the Interlaken will be open to the public as members or for a daily fee and will include classes, personal training, a regular gym and massage. It will open in October.

## Voters approve solar plan for Sharon Center School

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — After two and a half years of study and meetings, a solar energy project adjacent to Sharon Center School was approved by voters at a town meeting on Thursday, Aug. 18.

About 14 voters attended the five-minute meeting to approve unanimously the town entering into a power purchase agreement with the Connecticut Green Bank program.

Through the Solar Municipal Assistance Program, an array of solar panels would be installed on land the town owns, standing adjacent to the school, but out of sight of neighboring residents.

The Power Purchase Agreement would be in effect for 20 years but could be extended by renewal.

Elected to serve as moderator for the town meeting was Selectman Dale Jones.

Based on the outcome of the town meeting, the Board of Selectmen will approve a resolution on the project, clearing the way for the contractors to create a site plan to be considered by the Planning and Zoning Commission and, if warranted, the Inland Wetlands Commission.

First Selectman Brent Colley projected that the solar panels could provide 85% of the school's power needs, resulting in substantial reduction in energy costs for the town.

The annual energy savings that could accrue to the town are estimated to total \$29,744.

The area where the panels would be located receives full sun all day, he

noted, adding that the area has been little used.

About 15 feet of trees and shrubbery effectively screen the area from neighboring properties, said Lyn Mattoon, chairman of the Sharon Energy and Environment Commission.

Information provided by the Solar Green Bank, a public-private entity, indicated that current supply chain deficiencies are causing delays in procurement of solar panel parts, and bringing rising construction costs. Increasing wages are also driving up project costs.

Under the agreement, the Green Bank would engineer, install, own and maintain the panel array that would be generating the energy. The town would purchase that energy, but at a greatly reduced cost.

## Learn colored-pencil drawing with workshops at Hunt Library

FALLS VILLAGE — The David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village will host three Saturday workshops in colored pencil with artist Collette Hurst on Thursdays, Sept. 8, 15 and 22, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Participants will learn to capture nature subjects in textured and vibrant drawings using the easily portable medium of colored pencils, and learn drawing basics in a

class presenting composition, creation of shapes, shading, layering and blending techniques.

Students of all levels are welcome. A supply list will be provided prior to class. A fee of \$75 covers all the three sessions and is payable to the instructor, Collette Hurst. The class is limited to 10 people. To register, call the library at 860-824-7424.

Do you have a family member or friend in the military who would be interested in the news from home?

### Remember

The Lakeville Journal Company offers free online subscriptions to our website, tricornernews.com, for active duty military personnel from the Tri-state region. For more information or to set up a subscription, contact Sandra Lang at circulation@lakevillejournal.com or 860-435-9873, ext. 301.

With thanks to those who serve.

## Beer & brats at Hunt Library

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The beer flowed, the brats sizzled, and the music wafted over everyone at the David M. Hunt's August-fest fundraiser on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 21.

Kane Clawson and Country Jam entertained the crowd while Lou Timolat and Karl Munson worked the grill.

Small children tore around and adults bid on silent auction items such as the complete Far Side cartoons and a sleepover at the library with children's librarian Rita Delgado.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Kane Clawson and Country Jam entertained the crowd at the D.M. Hunt Library's Augustfest fundraiser Sunday, Aug. 21.

## Cornwall's wastewater project begins with panel's oversight

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — A nine-member Wastewater Management Committee, formerly the Wastewater Study Committee, has met for the first time to oversee the construction phase of the West Cornwall village sewer project, according to a report heard at the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Tuesday, Aug. 16.

The committee recently elected Todd Piker to remain as chair and Don Bachman to serve as vice chair.

Most members of the former study committee are remaining to serve on the new committee that will oversee design and construction phases.

Newly appointed to serve on the committee was Bruce Whiteford of West Cornwall.

The selectmen voted unanimously to continue the service of WMC Engineers and that of Engineer Stephen McDonald in view of past work to bring the project through its study phase, including completing detailed applications for federal funding.

"We have a well-rounded committee," First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said of the group that brings "a variety of members with appropriate expertise."

"We've been working with the state Housing and Urban Development office," Ridgway said, adding that before that office can release the \$3 million grant to the town, an environmental impact report must be submitted.

### Colts Foot Valley

A request from the Conservation Commission to

the selectmen to approve the preservation of about 32 acres near Quarry Hill was approved, clearing the way for the Conservation Trust to apply for state funding.

Property owners in the area are asking that the properties be preserved as they stand within the viewshed east of Colts Foot Valley.

Ridgway commented that the acres are on a steep, unbuildable slope and the land is contiguous to other preserved land.

### Food and Fuel Fund running low

Ridgway announced that the Cornwall Food and Fuel Fund is running low, showing a current balance of \$10,000.

Although the food pantry is working with the Food Share program to good advantage, he said that residents should know that the need still exists.



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# Gridlife drifts into Lime Rock

By Lans Christensen

LIME ROCK — A new motorsports association, Gridlife, made its first appearance at Lime Rock Park in Salisbury on Friday, Aug. 19, and Saturday, Aug. 20.

Based largely in the Midwest, Gridlife had its first event in 2014, and has visited tracks countrywide including Road Atlanta and Willow Springs in California.

This first visit to Lime Rock was met with enthusiasm from participants and watchers.

A much different look than Lime Rock's typical Sports Car Club of American (SCCA) or International Motor Sports Association (IMSA) races, this is a "grass-roots" association, making cars and competition much more available to hopeful drivers.

Gridlife Director Adam Jabay describes it as "a home for every budget, where you can build the car of your choice."

It's not so much Porsches, Lamborghinis and factory-supported racers. Instead, the fields are full of Honda Civics and Fits, Subaru and Mitsubishi, some with modifications and roll bars, others looking like they stopped by on the way home from the



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN  
Cars drifting at Lime Rock on Saturday, Aug. 20, as part of a Gridlife event at the park.



supermarket.

Competitions include the "Track Battle," which is strictly for lap time, and "Touring Cup," which allows wheel to wheel racing.

Car classification is done with a power-to-weight formula that gives all competitors equality.

The highlight event is surely "Drifting," a technique that involves turn entry with acceleration, spinning the rear wheels and a full four-wheel "drift" through the turn — steering out of, not into, the turn — with lots of smoke and blasting exhaust notes.



Adam Jabay, Gridlife director

## Fishing for panfish in the grim mid-summer

In case you haven't noticed, we're having a drought.

Take a look at your nearest babbling brook. Pretty low, isn't it?

Or check out the Housatonic River. Better yet, get in it without waders. It's bathtub warm.

At least Mother Nature has cheated it with the super-hot weather.

We've seen this before, and we'll see it again. But it still stinks.

So what does the fly-rod-der do?

You can still fish the West Branch of the Farmington, from the dam upstream of Riverton down to the Church Pool in Barkhamsted. It's low but it's cool, and mornings are going to be better than evenings on average.

This situation presents an opportunity to do two things: First, wade to places that would normally be out of range, and work on dry fly skills.

You'll want a long rod with a fairly light line. A 10 foot 4 weight would be my starting point, and I would be prepared to go lighter if possible.

The flies don't have to be tiny. Just minuscule.

This is also the time to test that Tenkara rod you bought in a moment of weakness and have been avoiding ever since.

With a basic 12-foot Ten-



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN  
They may not look like much in the bottom of a giant net, but panfish provide excellent sport during low flow, high water temperature conditions.

### TANGLED LINES

PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

kara rod you can keep all of the line off the water and just present the fly and the tip-pet, and in theory achieve the ideal drift.

For the fly rod I recommend long leaders (12 feet and up) tapered to 5X, and be ready to add 6X or lighter tippet if the trout go into "Yeah I'll eat that no on second thought let's just torment the poor slob at the other end of the line" mode.

On the Housatonic, mornings are definitely your best bet. And when I say "morning" I mean "dawn."

Once the sun hits the water the small-mouth go into witness protection.

I've had the best success with smallish topwater flies — panfish poppers, size 10 gurglers — and big hairy dry flies, such as hoppers and really chewed-up Stimulators.

Try a soft hackle wet fly tied to 18 inches of fluorocarbon tippet and attached to the bend of the hook of whatever you're using on the surface. Soft hackle wets are

### Correcting Errors

We are happy to correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention. We are also happy to correct factual and/or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning.

generically buggy and while the floating fly might get the smallies' attention, they will often pass on it in favor of the less-gaudy thing right behind it.

Lakes and ponds have more water in them than rivers, even during a drought. But that water is still going to be warm.

So forget about trout for now, and try light fly tackle or a fixed-line rod for panfish.

Bluegills, pumpkinseeds, and whatever else falls under the vague heading of "panfish" don't seem to be bothered by water temps at or around 80 degrees.

And these species will take just about anything in nymph form, so deploy that popper-dropper method again. If they can't get their little mouths around the popper, they will opt for the nymph.

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## NOTEBOOK

Continued from Page A1

real urgency, because while most humans are focused on issues of comfort, like sweaty skin or body odor, these creatures face a real risk of dying.

Most species have spent thousands of years carefully adapting to the very specific temperature ranges in which they usually live. When their internal temperature increases too far above the range they've adapted to, their cells become less efficient and more error-prone — problems that are exacerbated by other stressors, like water scarcity, as caused by this summer's persistent drought.

Luckily, most species have a few tools to deal with uncomfortable heat. Some simply change their behavior, reducing their temperatures by hunting at dusk instead of midday or moving into "temperature refuges" of shady forest canopies and cooling bird baths. Those that cannot capitalize on such refuges rely on much smaller helpers: proteins.

The tiny proteins found in every living organism are both the problem and the solution of overheating. At the microscopic level, our cells build new proteins all the time. However, as cells heat up, they get much worse at making proteins that are the right shape. Misshapen

proteins cannot perform their vital functions of building, regulating, and maintaining our anatomy — meaning that, left unchecked, flawed proteins eventually render their cells useless and their overheated organism dead.

Given the prevalence of this problem, cells experiencing heat stress evolved a defense. They produce a new kind of proteins — called "heat shock proteins" — that specialize in fixing or removing the misshapen proteins before they make a mess.

Here's where the math comes back in. A key goal of climate scientists is predicting how changing conditions on our planet will affect future temperature patterns. For many places around the world, including our corner of Connecticut, those predictions indicate more intense and frequent heat waves in our future.

If we want to know how those predicted heat waves will impact the ecosystems that experience them, then we must know how likely that ecosystem's organisms are to survive the higher temperatures. To make this prediction, we need to know how high temperatures can get — and how long they can stay there — before heat shock proteins are no longer a match for the heat's devastating impact on an organism's cells.

Better foresight about how future temperatures will impact different species helps us make informed decisions about which species to plant while restoring natural areas or as street trees. It also tells us when and where creating and maintaining temperature refuges, like cooling forest canopies or shady ponds, will be most important for protecting plants and animals from the hottest weather.

So as heat waves roll through, provide some shade and water in your greenspaces; your local wildlife appreciates it!

Alison Robey is a volunteer at the Sharon Audubon Center and a second-year PhD student in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Yale University.

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# Our Towns

## Multi-generation Perotti Farm

# Another local family farm faces sale

By Judith O'Hara Balfe

MILLERTON — The multi-generation, long-standing Perotti Farm at 5 Homestead Farm Lane is a familiar sight to all in Millerton, and to most who drive along Route 22 while traveling through the small, rural community. With its recognizable worn-and-torn white silo and its faded red wood barn, the farm that is often used as a landmark is for sale.

With an asking price of \$5,490,000, it has been on the market for nearly two months, according to Realtor Andrew Gates of Houlihan Lawrence, Inc. in Millbrook, who said the family has hopes of selling the 348-acre farm quickly. With its prime location and scenic views, Gates is hoping it will appeal to a lot of buyers.

"The historic Perotti Farm is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to acquire one of the last remaining unrestricted working farms in the Hudson Valley," he added. "There are choice estate-quality building sites with panoramic views and seclusion, and yet convenient to New York City, the Metro North commuter train, and nearby amenities including Millerton, Troutbeck Inn and Silo Ridge [in Amenia], Millbrook, and Litchfield County, Connecticut."

Putting the former dairy farm with views of the Berkshire and Catskill mountains up for sale was not an easy decision for the family, said Gates. The farm has been passed down through three generations of the Perotti family since it was first pur-



PHOTO BY NICHOLAS DOYLE

The grandeur of the Perotti Farm in Millerton can be seen from this aerial photograph. The multi-generation farm was recently put on the market, with an asking price of \$5,490,000.

chased by John Perotti in 1913.

The Perotti family saw children born and raised there, among the green pastures and moos of dairy cows. But things change, times change and people's needs change, all of which contributed to the family's decision to sell.

Bob Perotti said he recalls that Italian immigrants originated the farm. He said they were hard workers who

put all of their energy and investment into creating a sustainable family business.

The work paid off, and once the farm was bought by the Perotti family, it provided good lives for numerous generations. While Perotti said his family never became wealthy from owning and operating the farm, his family was afforded a comfortable life.

That life demanded a lot. Perotti remembers the rou-

tine: eating, working, paying bills and growing up appreciating the value of hard work and of small-town ethics, morals and friendships.

Perotti said his family was active. His father took part in local politics and served on several boards; he also belonged to the Agway Co-op. His brother, Jim, has ties with the Millerton Fire Company and American Legion Post 178 while his brother John served on the Webu-

**"It's hard for us, but it's time to move on. We need to do what the land deserves."**

**Bob Perotti**

tuck Board of Education for years as well as on the local Planning Board.

Perotti reflected on some of the changes that have taken place. He remembered fondly when the farm was surrounded by other family farms, when everyone knew everyone else.

"Quieter times," he called that pastoral past now long gone. One by one, most of the farms in northeastern Dutchess County and its environs have been sold off. Perotti Farm is one of the few remaining in Millerton, he said.

He is pleased that people recognize its tall white silos, the green expanses of grass.

"It's hard for us, but it's time to move on," he said. "We need to do what the land deserves."

Spoken like a true farmer who respects the beauty and the bounty of the earth. Perotti knows the future of the site is uncertain.

According to the Realtor, the land may be subdivided, potentially paving the way for a housing development. Local zoning laws prevent it from being used for large-scale commercial use, said Gates.

While the Perotti family hopes the farm can remain intact, they realize in today's world that may not be realistic or even feasible.

## DIY flower arranging at Hunt Library on Sept. 10

FALLS VILLAGE — On Saturday, Sept. 10 at 3 p.m., Maria Grusauskas of Blue Monday Flowers will lead a DIY flower arranging event at the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village.

Grusauskas will supply participants with her Falls Village-grown, pesticide-free flowers and provide information on varieties and tips on arranging.

Participants should bring their favorite flower vessel and clippers or scissors. This event costs \$25 per person and is limited to 10 participants. Registration is required by calling 860-824-7424 or emailing the library at dmhuntlibrary@gmail.com. Payment can be made by Venmo (Maria-Grusauskas) with "library event" in the memo line, or by bringing cash or check to the event.

## Salisbury Family Services

### offers back-to-school aid

SALISBURY — Salisbury Family Services is sponsoring a back-to-school program effective immediately. Gift cards for school clothing will be provided to children in the town of Salisbury. Families who are in need should call Patrice McGrath at 860-435-5187.

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## CANNABIS

Continued from Page A1

been able to grow up to three mature and three immature plants at home starting, with a cap of 12 total plants per household. By July 1, 2023, all adults will be able to grow at home under the same rules.

In neighboring Massachusetts, the cultivation, sale and use of recreational cannabis-related products was legalized through a 2016 ballot initiative.

Cramer & Anderson says it's also worth noting that, unlike in the Bay State, municipalities in Connecticut that allow micro-cultivators and adult-use cannabis stores "are subject to a cap that limits operations to one retailer and one micro-cultivator for every 25,000 municipal residents until July 1, 2024." In addition, successful applicants must obtain a special permit from the town for both retail and cultivation uses.

But we're still in uncharted territory with implications that are controversial, and towns are scrambling to craft appropriate regulations, ban cannabis operations altogether or enact moratoriums on cannabis applications to give planning and zoning commissions time to amend zoning codes that match this challenge.

Hearst Connecticut Media conducted a survey early this year and found that, of Connecticut's 169 cities and towns, 22 have established bans on sales and cultivation, while 53 have enacted moratoriums on applications.

In Kent, retail stores are prohibited from selling recreational cannabis.

In January, Sharon passed a six-month moratorium. Danbury passed a one-year moratorium last July. In Norfolk, a public hearing was held earlier this month to allow public input on several zoning proposals, one of which would regulate the retail sale of cannabis, Tom Fahsbender, chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z), told The Lakeville Journal.

But perhaps the most interesting case lies in North Canaan, where the Planning

**"We have a rare opportunity for revenue in North Canaan and in light of rising costs, especially education costs, we need to take a serious look at putting a dispensary here."**

*Susie Clayton, former North Canaan selectman*

& Zoning Commission held a public hearing in May on a proposed temporary moratorium on cannabis applications.

"We have a rare opportunity for revenue in North Canaan and in light of rising costs, especially education costs, we need to take a serious look at putting a dispensary here," said former Selectman Susie Clayton.

The town's taxpayers are frustrated over a steep increase this year of \$745,000 in the town's Region One assessment, placing what officials feel is an undue burden on Canaan.

Though by comparison North Canaan's population is lower than Salisbury's, it still has to pay substantially more to the regional school district because it sends more than twice as many students to Housatonic. In addition, Salisbury's weighted voting power on the Region One Board of Education is higher because North Canaan's population is lower.

The higher tax burden is compounded by the fact that North Canaan's tax rate is

**"Kicking the can down the road isn't the purpose of a moratorium. It buys you time to do your due diligence, to educate yourself as a commission."**

*Tim Abbott, North Canaan P&Z chair*

higher because its property values are generally lower than Salisbury's. North Canaan Selectman Craig Whiting said last fall that the Region One assessment is "bringing our town to its knees."

Its unknown how much revenue the cannabis industry could bring to North Canaan.

Twenty minutes to the north, Great Barrington, which has about twice as many full-time residents as North Canaan, took in

more than \$1 million in the first six months after Theory Wellness, the town's first recreational cannabis store, opened in January 2019 to long lines that snaked almost around the corner to the Price Chopper. Half a dozen others have since opened.

Great Barrington's finance director said 12 months ago that since 2019, the town had taken in \$6.7 million in cannabis revenue, though officials expect the numbers to decline should sales begin in Connecticut and in New York, where the state Legislature also legalized adult-use last year.

For some perspective, in 2019 Great Barrington's annual budget was a little more than \$30 million, including its assessment to fund the regional school district.

"This will never turn into Great Barrington," North Canaan resident Ed Capowitz said at the hearing. "We're allowed one facility. Why turn down that revenue?"

"Our tax bills are getting higher and I know that the ... selectmen are having trouble even trying to get the budget raised whatsoever because there's just not enough money to go around," added Ruth Adotte. "So what I'm saying is it would help with the taxes."

The Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection, which regulates cannabis, has laid out the taxing scheme for retail cannabis sales: the standard 6.35% sales tax levied on most retail items, a 3% sales tax dedicated to the city or town where the sale occurs, and a tax based on THC content that will cost approximately 10 to 15% of the sale price.

The state estimates the total cumulative taxes paid on cannabis purchases to be roughly 20% of the retail price.

Tim Abbott, who chairs the North Canaan P&Z, said no applications have been received yet. Weeks after the public hearing in May, the commission voted unanimously to enact an eight-month moratorium on cannabis applications to give the panel time to draw up regulations, such as which parts of town are appropriate for cannabis, hours of operation, signage and recovering costs for additional policing.

"These are the areas where we have some control," Abbott said, who said he is neutral on whether to allow sales and cultivation of the product.

A townwide referendum on whether to allow cannabis sales and/or cultivation is tentatively slated for November. If it passes, Abbott expects the regulations should be ready for review by March 2023.

Abbott emphasized that, "Kicking the can down the road isn't the purpose of a moratorium. It buys you time to do your due diligence, to educate yourself as a commission, to know the law, to see what it might look like in the event that the new change happens."

The sentiment among Canaanites could spur action. Some residents at May's public hearing objected even to a moratorium. Lyle Kloke said he thought the commission was "negligent" in not addressing the issue even sooner.

## GEER

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

**A Geer rental property along Route 7 in North Canaan near its campus entrance.**

administrator Kevin O'Connell, who announced on Tuesday, Aug. 16, the closing of its outpatient physical therapy effective on Friday, Aug. 19, and a new partnership with an outside vendor to replace its in-house pharmacy services.

In addition, Geer is looking to sell several rental properties totaling 20 units along Route 7 near the entrance to its campus. The housing was originally intended for employees, but the units are now primarily occupied with tenants from the community, according to O'Connell.

"The problem is, we are still in the middle of a pandemic, or endemic, and are dealing with all the financial challenges that go with it," said the Geer CEO. "Any responsible organization would do the same and we feel that a restructure better allows us to refocus on the nursing home and the lodge."

Referring to the planned sale of the rental properties, "Our core business is not being a landlord, so it makes sense in a decent real estate market to sell the property," he noted.

A decline in resident occupancy, rising inflation and energy costs, an increasingly complex regulatory environment and inadequate reimbursement from insurance plans, particularly Medicare and Medicaid, have all taken a toll on the North Canaan facility, which traditionally operated on narrow margins.

O'Connell said positive signs are on the horizon. Occupancy at the nursing facil-

ity, he said, is "climbing back up to 87," from pre-pandemic occupancy of around 100. Residency at the Lodge, too, he said, is slowly returning to its prior 110 count.

Geer was also hit with procedures and expenses on a scale that did not exist pre-pandemic, such as procuring critical PPE supplies, ongoing testing of residents and staff, isolating infected residents and caring for those who contracted the virus.

"Like any other business that experiences a loss in income, we must adjust what we spend. That means we must focus on our core mission, increase efficiencies and improve cash flow," said O'Connell.

#### A 'restructuring' of physical therapy

The outpatient physical therapy department has been part of the continuum of care that Geer has provided since the early 1990s. The program was provided by two full-time therapists and one part-time therapist who together handled between eight and 14 appointments daily, said O'Connell.

Access by the public to the service was discontinued and all current active patients received notice of the decision. Residents of Geer, however, will continue to have access to physical therapy.

"We are not closing physical therapy, just restructuring it so we can focus on the people who live on campus.

If we close it to community access, we don't have to hire expensive therapists.

We need to realize the cash savings."

O'Connell said staff will work with community patients to help them transition to new providers over the coming days and weeks and do everything they can to minimize the impact on those affected.

#### Outsourcing the pharmacy

Geer also announced that it plans to enter into a partnership with Hancock Pharmacy to run the on-campus pharmacy, a decision he said will benefit residents and the community. The transition for filling prescriptions will be gradual, and periodic notices will be sent out to those utilizing the service, according to Geer officials.

"We are only one or two of [Connecticut] nursing homes that still have our own pharmacy. Every other nursing home outsources," explained O'Connell. "I have to spend \$70,000 a month just to buy medication."

The new partnership with Hancock, he said, is a win-win situation for all involved. Future benefits could include longer hours of operation, including weekends; expanded service into the local retail market, even in Massachusetts and New York; home delivery service and sales of medical equipment such as walkers and wheelchairs.

He did not dismiss the possibility of layoffs due to the restructuring, noting that there could be up to half a dozen, although officials are hoping to "rework people into the company."

## NOBLE

Continued from Page A1

is on their shoulders to fill the extra slots and hours," the Noble administrator explained. "The staffing is spread throughout all our units of the nursing home."

Noble is not an anomaly. Nursing homes are facing a historic workforce crisis. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the industry has lost nearly 230,000 caregivers since February 2020, the most significant job loss among all health-care sectors.

In a notice in the senior community's newsletter on Thursday, Aug. 18, Pond explained that while recruiting efforts continue, Noble plans to temporarily relocate patients from its Whitridge unit, which houses the Memory Care Program, to the Wagner and Riga units "once all safety precautions are in place."

Pond said the transfer will allow Noble to "better assess the Whitridge space for a needed renovation and, at the same time, Noble's direct care services and oversight will nearly double, all residents will live in private rooms and all staff members will stay on.

Pond said the number of licensed beds at the facility will remain at 91, and that the reduction of patients is short-term to make better use of staffing.

"We are not formally reducing our beds. We are just trying to condense the population that we have," the administrator explained. "We notified our ombudsman

already and the regulatory agencies. This is just a temporary solution as staffing stabilizes."

Pond stressed that there will be no layoffs, no discharges and no reduction in services, and that the facility's outpatient and inpatient physical therapy services are not affected.

"I think that the key at this point is being able to provide the level of care that

our people are accustomed to receiving, and if we can create a stronger nursing ratio" that is mission accomplished, he said.

The Noble administrator said family members will be involved in the transition through meetings and discussions "to allow them to be part of the process and provide input and feedback. If a family member is opposed, we will not go forward."

## PROTOCOLS

Continued from Page A1

quired, remains an effective means of stopping the communal spread of the virus. This being the case, many of our staff and students may choose to wear masks during the school day throughout the school year.

"We ask that you speak to your children about your preference with respect to them wearing a mask; however, as was also true last year, we cannot mandate that they comply with your guidance if they choose not to wear a mask at any time while at school. Additionally, we would like everyone to review the guidelines that we expect everyone to follow with respect to individual choices to wear masks in school."

There are guidelines for when students and staff don't feel well.

Those who experience "mild respiratory disease symptoms, e.g., infrequent cough, congestion, runny nose, sore throat" may attend school in person if "they are fever free (lower than 100F) and feel well enough to participate, they do not live with anyone who has had COVID-19 in the past two weeks, [and] they test negative for COVID-19 prior to reporting to school in per-

son every day that they have symptoms, as well as one final test on the morning their symptoms have completely resolved.

"Individuals who test positive should contact the school nurse and remain at home for five days. They can return to school on day six as long as: symptoms have improved, and they have been fever-free for 24 hours."

Those with "respiratory disease symptoms and a fever greater than 100 F, [who] live with a person who has recently tested positive for COVID-19 (within the past two weeks)," should not come to school "until their fever has resolved for at least 24 hours (without the use of medication).

"They should remain at home for five days and can return to school on day six as long as they test negative prior to reporting to school, symptoms have improved, and they have been fever-free for 24 hours. Wearing a mask in school is recommended from days 6-10 when returning to school after being sick with COVID-19."

Carter noted that the nurses in each of the seven Region One schools will have a supply of COVID-19 home test kits available on request.

*Celebrating*

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

MUSIC: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## Robert Parker and Jive by Five Return to Music Mountain

In recent years, Robert Andrew Parker has been best known locally for his world-famous art, which he generously shares at area fundraising art shows (to the delight and good fortune of his legion of fans).

Parker used to be equally well-known as drummer for the jazz group Jive by Five, which has been fairly quiet for the past couple of COVID years.

The band is out of retirement now and will perform this weekend, on Saturday, Aug. 27, at 7 p.m. at Music Mountain in Falls Village, Conn., which is normally home to intimate chamber music performances.

"Bob is 95 years old and he still swings like crazy," said Scott Heth, piano player with Jive By Five and formerly the director of the Audubon Center in Sharon, Conn.

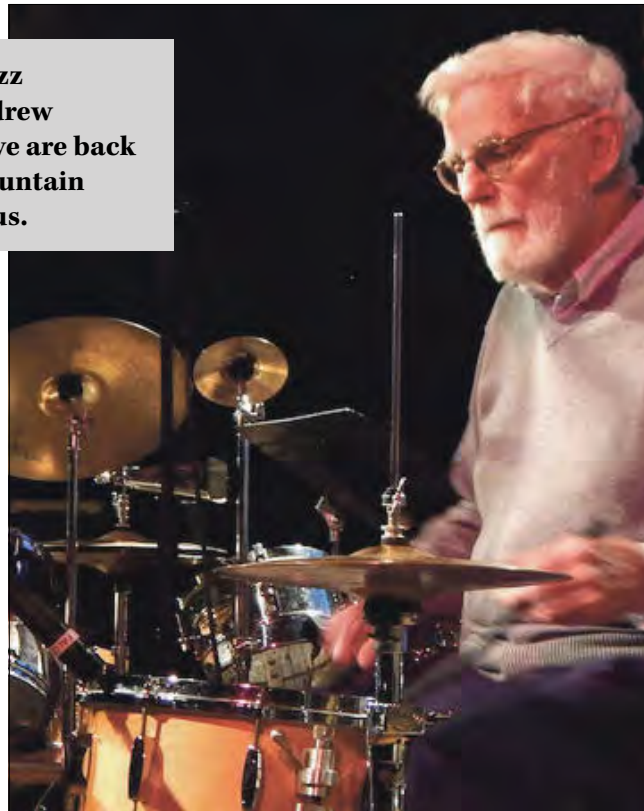
"I was playing steady with Bob for over 20

years, mostly at the Interlaken Inn in Lakeville until COVID hit," said Heth.

"I am very excited to be able to play with him again, especially at Music Mountain."

Sharing the stage with them is another local favorite, the singer Wanda Houston, who is known for her performances with her HBH band — and for recordings and performances with greats including Barbra Streisand and Celine Dion.

And there's more! Another beloved local on the small Music Mountain stage will be trombonist Peter McEachern, who is chairman of the music department at the Salisbury School when



Beloved artist and jazz musician Robert Andrew Parker and Jive by Five are back on stage at Music Mountain after a two-year hiatus.

PHOTO COURTESY SCOTT HETH

he isn't touring with Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, Lamonte Young and the Thomas Chapin Trio.

It's no surprise that Parker's son inherited his love of jazz. Christopher Parker is a respected and renowned jazz drummer,

and will join his father and the rest of the band on Aug. 27, as will saxophonist Kris Jensen and bassist Adam Coté.

This is a concert not to be missed by jazz fans. Tickets are available at [www.musicmountain.org](http://www.musicmountain.org) and are \$35.

## FOR FANS OF THE AUTHOR HENRY JAMES & HIS NOVELLAS

What would the author Henry James think if he knew that his books were still being discussed in the year 2022 — and that the discussions were being held "virtually," on Zoom?

The person who is probably best qualified to answer that question is Mark Scarbrough, who has gained a large following of devoted book lovers, who join him for book clubs and discus-

sion groups held all over the Northwest Corner of Litchfield County, from Norfolk in the north to Washington, Conn., in the south.

Those book fans will perhaps be delighted to have the chance to discuss the works of one of America's earliest great authors and to be able to do it from the comfort of home.

The four discussion sessions on James will be hosted by the Hotchkiss

Library of Sharon, Conn., beginning with "The Europeans" on Tuesday, Sept. 20, at 7 p.m.

The other three books in the series will be "Washington Square" (Oct. 11), "The Turn of the Screw" (Nov. 8) and "The Awkward Age" (Dec. 13).

To get the first Zoom link, register at [www.hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org/event/the-europeans-by-henry-james/](http://www.hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org/event/the-europeans-by-henry-james/). The group is limited to 25 participants.

Address your calendar entry to [calendar@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:calendar@lakevillejournal.com) by Friday at noon.

BOOKS: PETER B. KAUFMAN

## Big Lies Are Everywhere: In Case This Summer Isn't Hot Enough for You

Philosopher Lee McIntyre, a Research Fellow at Boston University, opens his book, "How to Talk to a Science Denier: Conversations with Flat Earthers, Climate Deniers, and Others Who Defy Reason," with his account of visiting a Flat Earth Convention in 2018 — where people committed to the idea that the Earth is flat gather to exchange their particular shade of knowledge.

McIntyre goes about talking to Flat Earthers and finds them pretty unshakable in their beliefs. And why not, after all? Very few of us have actually seen the Earth curve (you have to go much higher than most airplanes do to detect it); and fewer of us still have been to space. I mean, show me some evidence!

"How to Talk to a Science Denier" could just as well have opened where it ends (on the National Mall on Jan. 6) — or at any other wacky hootenanny devoted to promoting other big lies. There is, McIntyre says, a long pedigree of organized, well-funded, truth-denial. We could take it back thousands of years in human history, but McIntyre is interested in tracing our modern efforts of "how to wage a successful campaign of misinformation," back to the original "blueprint" of the tobacco industry's

systematic assault on the science linking smoking to cancer (the topic of one of the great books on this field, Naomi Oreskes and Erik Conway's 2010 "Merchants of Doubt").

"What ended in violence in Washington" on Jan. 6, he says, "began at the Plaza Hotel in New York" in 1953, when tobacco company executives first got together to confabulate a strategy that kept people in the dark about the lethal poison in cigarettes.

Indeed, there have been, by this count, 60-plus years of "largely unchecked science denial." Every decade and every issue tied up with greed and power has had its showcase. The sham American Petroleum Institute — a cover for Exxon Mobil, BP, Chevron, and Shell — started to fight the global warming debate and the responsibility of extractive energy in the wake of the 1997 Tokyo Protocol.

Two other books also cover in fascinating detail these information campaigns against climate science, biology, history, medicine and, within medicine, the chemistry addressing COVID-19. The last campaign is particularly relevant today — given the presence of a pandemic that has now taken millions of lives worldwide. The title of one of these books ("The Info-

Continued on next page



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8:00am - Gates Open	8:00am - Gates Open	8:00am - Gates Open
9:30am - Dairy Goat Judging	9:00am - Junior and Open Dairy Show <i>Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Milking Shorthorn</i>	9:00am - Junior and Open Dairy Show <i>Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey</i>
10:00am - Opening Ceremony	10:00am - Horse Show	9:30am - Judging of Oxen
10:00am - Poultry Judging	10:00am - Swine Judging	- Draught Oxen Exhibit
10:00am - High School Timber Teams Contest	10:00am - Sheep Judging	- Dairy Goat Judging
11:00am - Beef Junior Obstacle Course	11:00am - Antique Tractor Pull	10:00am - Sheep Judging
12:00pm - Rabbit and Cavie Judging	11:00am - New England Lumberjack Show	10:00am - Garden Tractor Pull
2:00pm - Dairy Cattle Showmanship	11:00am - Angus, All Other Breeds and Hereford Open Breed Show	11:00am - Junior Beef Steers and Heifers Show
2:00pm - Jackpot Steer Show	1:00pm - Horse Draw Exhibit	12:00pm - Woodcutting Contests
2:00pm - Professional and Street Outlaw Pull	4:30pm - Skillet Throw Contest	2:00pm - Apple Fritter Eating Contest
3:00pm - Jackpot Heifer Show	9:00pm - Gates Close	6:00pm - Gates Close
3:00pm - Frozen T-Shirt Contest		
4:30pm - Hay Bale Toss Contest		
9:00pm - Gates Close		

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Jimmy Sturr and His Orchestra, 4pm (M) - Neal and the Vipers, 7pm (M)

**SUNDAY, September 4** | Bristol Old Tyme Fiddlers, 11am (G)  
Dan's Roadhouse Country, 12pm (M) - Northwest Connecticut Band, 2-5pm (G)  
Rich Badowski Blues Band, 4pm (M) - Soul Sound Review, 7pm (M)

**MONDAY, September 5** | Country Steel, 12pm (M)  
Northwest Connecticut Band, 1-5pm (G) - Apricot Brandy, 3pm (M)

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# ...big lies everywhere

Continued from previous page

demic: How Censorship and Lies Made the World Sicker and Less Free," by Joel Simon and Robert Mahoney) draws out a parallel between the ways in which viruses and lies infect our bodies and our minds.

The other book is "Cheap Speech: How Disinformation Poisons Our Politics – and How to Cure It" by Richard L. Hasen.

These books tell us in various ways how all of us have cognitive biases that have evolved over hundreds of thousands of years (that's of course if you, like me, believe in human evolution).

Some 50 million Americans routinely believe in a conspiracy theory, about 9/11; the Obama birther thing; the Federal Reserve orchestrating the 2008 recession; or, for liberals, multinationals hurting us with genetically modified food (would you believe there's no evidence?).

McIntyre reminds us that "conspiracism" (Hasen's word) is a coping mechanism for people dealing with anxiety and loss of control. Most deniers — of whatever stripe — have spent years "marinating" in their "misinformed ideology." For some, their version of reality is now less a belief system than a whole soup-to-nuts identity.

What do you do to shake people free of misinformation? This is a question that these authors apply on a personal level and a societal level — the authors being a

mix of academic, lawyers and journalists.

On a personal level there are different levels of engagement. First, you might have to inoculate a denier, then you might have to intervene, and only after that can you try to "overturn belief."

On a societal level, new regulations, new laws, new and more money to fund honest information purveyors, and "constant work to strengthen civic institutions" all are needed — another long view.

Simon and Mahoney in "The Infodemic" look at the challenges to press freedom around the world — in places where dictators and would-be despots call free media the enemy of the people — and call for dismantling censorship as a first step toward living in truth.

What's clear is that facts alone are not enough when your goal is to try to get science deniers to try to change their minds — to, as one writer puts it, "try on a new identity." But facts and spotlighting breadcrumbs on the evidentiary trail — as the Jan. 6 hearings are proving, when it comes to the big Big Lie that we're now trying to rectify — may be where you have to start.

People may be fact-resistant, as one researcher puts it in one of these books, but we are not fact-immune.

*Peter B. Kaufman works at MIT and is the author of "The New Enlightenment and the Fight to Free Knowledge." His new book, "The Fifth Estate," comes out in 2023.*

THEATER: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

# Humor and Theatrical Fun on the Cutting Edge with 'Shear Madness'

Not everyone loves musical theater but apparently everyone loves "Guys and Dolls" — or at least, everyone seemed to love the Sharon Playhouse version staged this summer, which made tap dancing an era-appropriate part of the beloved All-American show.

Word on the street was enthusiastic; it seemed like everyone you spoke to at a cocktail party had either just gone to see it or was on their way.

"Guys and Dolls" was actually the highest grossing production over the past 10 years at the Playhouse," reported Interim Artistic Director (and tap dance master) Justin Boccitto. He added at the end of his email report: ":) Yay!"

In a time when it seems like every local business is struggling, it's wonderful to see Sharon Playhouse topping off several excellent years with a summer season that is even more excellent.

To return to the first sentence of this article, not everyone loves musical theater, and yet Sharon Playhouse's July musical did gangbuster. Now, in my opinion, everyone in fact does love a murder mystery, and Sharon Playhouse will follow up the success of "Guys and Dolls" with a theater cult favorite called "Shear Madness."

First performed in the U.S. in the 1970s, "Shear Madness" is based on a German play called "Scherenschnitt," that was written by Paul Port-



PHOTO COURTESY SHARON PLAYHOUSE

**Michael Kevin Baldwin, who was in the cast of the Washington, D.C., Kennedy Center performance of "Shear Madness," stars again in the show at Sharon Playhouse opening Aug. 26.**

ner and first performed in 1963.

A decade later, two actors named Marilyn Abrams and Bruce Jordan rewrote the show, made it more daffy, and performed it in a theater in Lake George in upstate New York. It then moved to Boston and eventually ended up on the stage of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. It now holds a record as one of the longest running non-musical shows in the world.

Like a Gilbert & Sullivan light opera, part of the fun of "Shear Madness" is that it is constantly evolving and every production has local references. It of course takes confident experienced performers to be able to pull off those kinds of improvisations and script

changes. Fortunately for audience members at Sharon Playhouse, they are in outstandingly good hands: The show is being directed by one of its creators, Bruce Jordan; and one of the star performers is Michael Kevin Baldwin, a native of Salisbury, Conn., who is now

the Playhouse director of education — and who also performed in the Kennedy Center show. "Shear Madness" is about a death in a hair salon (for the Playhouse show, it will be the former salon in the Sharon plaza shopping mall). The audience helps the cast to solve the mystery — which means of course that every performance is slightly different.

Appearing along with Baldwin in the show are Patrick Noonan, Soneka Anderson, Gil Brady, Sandy York and Will Nash Broyles.

Anyone who wants to try and catch each performance in its Sharon Playhouse run from Aug. 26 (which is a preview night) to Sept. 11 should go to the website at [www.sharonplayhouse.org](http://www.sharonplayhouse.org). If "Guys and Dolls" is an indicator, then it seems likely that tickets will be sold at a brisk pace for "Shear Madness" as well.

There are evening shows and matinees; go to [www.sharonplayhouse.org](http://www.sharonplayhouse.org) for ticket information.

## CALENDAR

Items are printed as space permits. All entries can be found at [www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar](http://www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar).

### ART

**MASS MoCA**, 1320 MASS MoCA Way, North Adams, Mass. [www.massmoca.org](http://www.massmoca.org)  
**GLENN KAINOIN: THE LIGHT OF A SHADOW**, through Sept. 5.

### BOOKS

**Oblong Books & Music**, 26 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. [www.oblongbooks.com](http://www.oblongbooks.com)  
**Rhinebeck Writers Retreat: LOST CITY RADIO** - Joel Perez & Benjamin Velez, Aug. 27, 4 to 6 p.m.

### KIDS

**Berkshire Botanical Garden**, 5 West Stockbridge Road, Stockbridge, Mass. [www.berkshirebotanical.org](http://www.berkshirebotanical.org)  
**Family Fridays: Birds of Prey**, Aug. 26, 11 a.m. to noon.

### MOVIES

**The Moviehouse**, 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. [www.themoviehouse.net](http://www.themoviehouse.net)  
**Movies Make The News, News Makes The Movies Film Series**, Aug. 15 to Sept. 18.

### MUSIC

**Music Mountain**, 225 Music Mountain Road, Falls Village, Conn. [www.musicmountain.org](http://www.musicmountain.org)  
**JIVE BY FIVE**, Aug. 27, 7 p.m.; **Jupiter String Quartet**, Aug. 28, 3 p.m.

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EDITORIAL

School begins, with even more openness

The past three (or really, two-and-a half) school years have surely been the most challenging in any educator's, parent's or student's memories. COVID-19 restrictions meant that there were times children in Region One schools could not take part in face-to-face learning, but rather only be remote. And for those families who had challenges with technology or simple access to the internet at their homes, the situation could seem impossible to manage.

And of course there was, and continues to be, the possibility of students and educators contracting the illness, which has changed year to year according to the strains of COVID-19 that have been prevalent at any given time. While parents and children learn how to cope with childhood sickness, no one really wants to deal with COVID-19 if they can avoid it.

Now, with a school year beginning with an openness that hasn't exactly been the norm since 2020 (see the front page story this week), there will still be a need to be aware of challenges for both students and educators. This is the year when those students who need extra help with their grade level proficiency must find it.

But it should also be the year when teachers are given extra support in their quest to bring knowledge and the joy of learning to their students. During the pandemic, teachers have been among the most stressed of all professions. Many have left education and gone on to less emotionally demanding work, which can nonetheless often offer better compensation.

What work, though, is more important than educating and caring for our youngest citizens? They are the future of our society, and should have every opportunity to learn during their formative years. The pandemic has affected the natural flow of their education for the past three school years.

Another point of high importance: It's been harder and harder to find school bus drivers, who are also at risk if COVID-19 is present among the students. This could mean the need to restructure how we get our children to and from the school buildings where they need to be to have the full educational experience year to year.

There are no guarantees with a public health crisis like the one we've all been living through the past few years. How do we continue to manage it all? There are preventive protocols, which recently changed from the CDC. The tools used most since 2020 included mask-wearing, distancing and sanitizing hands and surfaces in public places like schools. Vaccination made for a safer environment for all who came in contact with others. This year, masks will not be required from the beginning of the school year for Region One students. But like the past few years, if there are outbreaks, any and all of these tools can be used again.

Let's all hope that the variations of the pandemic have now begun to run their course, and that the strains that remain can be managed by annual vaccines/boosters.

Region One schools begin Aug. 29. Here's to a good year at all grade levels, one that will help students and educators get over some of the effects of the pandemic.

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This candidate is worth your vote for 5th

Neighbors, we are in unprecedented times. Two million and counting illegals have crossed our southern border. Subsequently, fentanyl is flowing into our very neighborhoods and destroying our citizenry. Our U.S. attorney general refers to parents as "domestic terrorists" when they express concern about what is being taught and how it is being taught. The California ports show pictures of a tanker parking lot out into the Pacific.

This issue was not laid at the feet of the incompetent transportation secretary. Did you know that independent truckers who were there and ready to transport where held up for days by the Union? When inappropriate locker room and bathroom accommodations exposed young girls to indecency, school boards shut the parents down and had them removed by the police.

Rising costs in food, fuel, transportation, heating, etc. are not a temporary or transitory issue as Washington keeps telling us. What is our congressional leadership doing? The job of a congressional legislator or U.S. senator was never meant to be a job for life. We need a fresh look in our U.S. Capitol serving you and me.

This November, send George Logan, who represents a diversified Republican party. Across America, the Republican Party continues to send women, minorities and candidates from non-traditional backgrounds to our Capitol to represent and serve us.

Running for the 5th District in Congress is George Lo-



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

Glads and veggies at Grand Pa's

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Climate issues are nonpartisan

Maureen Bateman wrote last week about our country's need for more oil and gas to keep the economy going in the same old way, and our local 5th District's need to maintain our habitual use of heating and cooling and transportation. Indeed, we are creatures of habit, and once we've got our routines down, we are disinclined to change and can even feel mildly threatened. However, the real threat that we face is the huge uncertainty, discomfort, loss of life and livelihoods worldwide due to ecosystem collapse that we'll all be experiencing from oil and gas-induced climate change. It's too late to reverse course, so we must start making adjustments.

I was recently in Europe, and being curious about attitudes there towards the climate crisis in the face of Russian aggression, I engaged with scores of ordinary middle-class people (mostly

German and Swiss) on the politics of energy and economy. They surprised me by expressing a real willingness and determination to make short-term sacrifices for long-term gain. They feel it is their civic duty that they must make changes now to maintain their communities. They support their federal and local energy conservation measures, are adjusting their thermostats, and are carpooling much more than before where public transport is not an option. In other words, they are organizing themselves at a local level to achieve energy savings.

My question to Maureen and others in my community is: how can we organize ourselves, our lives and our communities to conserve energy now and lobby for a faster transition to renewables (more employment, not less) and a circular economy?

We need to organize. Is it too much to ask that we think

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — August 1922

SALISBURY — John H. Greer has purchased the house he has been occupying of Reed Johnson. It is a matter of satisfaction that lately several of our citizens have become able to own houses instead of renting, through the application of Mr. J. Cox Howell's loan plan.

It looks as if old king coal is going to be a rare old soul this winter, and as if some work with the ax in the forests may be necessary if we are to keep warm.

The work of lowering the cement sidewalk in

front of Farnam Tavern and Eggleston's Garage in conformity with the grade of the new cement roadway has been started. The new level will afford a much easier approach to both the Inn and garage.

50 years ago — August 1972

Owners of property bordering Long Pond near Lakeville have decided on a "major reclamation project" in an effort to save the dying lake. Full-scale dredging is proposed to remove weed and algae which experts believe will otherwise close the pond to recreation in eight years.

Two Salisbury Republicans, W. Rees Harris and John Harney, were reportedly among that busload of Connecticut delegates, alternates and friends which was assailed by young demonstrators Tuesday evening in Miami. Lillian Ludlam of New Hartford, Republican State Central Committee secretary and an alternate delegate in Miami, telephoned The Lakeville Journal Wednesday to say that both men had been on the bus and both escaped unhurt. Though several windows on the bus were broken, no personal injuries to its passengers were reported.

The year-old search for a Falls Village sanitary landfill site is still "at dead center," according to First Selectman Miles L. Blodgett. He told the Falls Village Planning Commission this week that efforts to secure all three of their preferred sites have now fallen through.

Sam Posey of Sharon, now in second place in the L & M Continental racing series, will be looking for a win Labor Day on his "home track" at Lime Rock.

about how we can carpool? What about using bikes and e-bikes more? Could we make use of the new federal incentives to make our next vehicle an electric one and replace our old oil heating with a heat pump? What about community solar? At the very least, Town Hall could reinstall the bike rack on the Main Street in Salisbury and install one near the Lakeville restaurants and coffee shop.

Our town could also take advantage of federal funds to subsidize the installation of EV stations for electric cars and trucks. We can all reduce, re-use, and recycle. These are nonpartisan issues. Future generations will care a whole lot less about how we voted and a whole lot more about what we did to save the planet for them.

Janet Graaff

Lakeville

Message of the movie still resonates

It does not take a great movie to remind us of the continuing importance of investigative journalism, but remind us it does, this movie about the unraveling of the Watergate debacle by two young reporters Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward of The Washington Post. Their work, supported by the editor and the publisher of The Post, resulted in President Richard Nixon's decision to resign rather than face impeachment.

"All the President's Men" was at The Moviehouse in Millerton as part of a movie

tribute to great journalism during the 125th anniversary of The Lakeville Journal. It is a compelling adventure story of how an ill-conceived break-in of Democratic National Headquarters in the Watergate Hotel led finally to the desk of President Nixon. The buck stopped there, it turned out.

Woodward and Bernstein doggedly picked at one tiny corner of the break-in story and then followed the treads that eventually led to Nixon's presidential demise. It's a clear and thrilling dramatization of how good jour-

nalism uncovers facts, and in this case, helped to preserve our democracy.

We need such investigative journalism now more than ever as our country faces unprecedented attacks by you-know-whom on the constitutional and federal laws that sustain that democracy.

Kudos, too, to the continuing presence of The Lakeville Journal and the important role it plays in keeping us aware of the important happenings in our own particular neighborhood.

Barbara Maltby

Lakeville

Kenneth Lowell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Lowell of North Elm Street in Canaan, encountered a rattlesnake on the railroad siding running from the center of town toward North Elm Street last Thursday afternoon. Kenneth reported that the snake crossed the tracks about two feet in front of him. Both Kenneth and the snake executed strategic withdrawals; the snake into a marsh, Kenny towards his home. His mother placed a call to the State Police but efforts to relocate the snake

Continued next page

Deadline for letters is Monday at 10 a.m. Send to publisher@lakevillejournal.com. More letters next page.

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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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Marie Barnum

Salisbury



## Viewpoint

## Urgency on climate change as viewed by the Dalai Lama

When the Dalai Lama held an international conference on climate change in April, he opened the proceedings by blessing a block of ice that had been brought down from Ladakh, on the Indian side of the Tibetan Plateau. As he spoke of the urgent need for humanity to act, the ice was melting — symbolizing the change occurring in the Himalayan region.

The conference was titled “Dialogue for Our Future,” and, while it was going on, a record spring heat wave, with temperatures reaching 112 degrees, was sweeping North India. Forests around the seat of the Tibetan government-in-exile in the mountain town of Dharmasala were being ravaged by wildfires. The Dalai Lama has been living in exile in

India since the Chinese annexation of his homeland 65 years ago, and his concern was not just what the climate crisis was doing to his homeland, but how it will affect more than a billion people living downstream in Asia.

Tibet, called the “Roof of the World,” is a vast plateau that lies at an average elevation of 15,000 ft. and is rimmed by all 14 of the world’s highest mountains: the Himalayas. Also called “The Water Tower of Asia,” they constitute the largest repository of water stored as ice outside of the planet’s polar regions.

Like the two poles, the Tibetan Plateau is warming faster than the global average due to climate change. This is causing glaciers to shrink, the snowline to recede, and the permafrost to melt — and it is already affecting the flow of

Asia’s mightiest rivers originating there.

A recent paper prepared for the Scottish Parliament by the Scottish Centre for Himalayan Research noted: “The plateau is filling up like a goblet. Its cryosphere is already undergoing a catastrophic and irreversible ecological shift, and the current direction of climate change in the next 50 years will directly impact the region and the world.” The Scottish report estimates that up to 1.4 billion people in northern India, Pakistan, southeast Asia, and 23 percent of the population of China depend on dry season meltwater from the Tibetan Plateau before the rainy season starts. And it warns that “the thawing of the cryosphere on the Tibetan Plateau presents a fundamental threat to human carrying capacity in many parts of Asia.”

The Himalayas and the Tibetan Plateau are hot spots not just because of global heating, but also because of disputed borders between India and China, India and

Pakistan, Bhutan and China and Nepal and India. This is preventing meaningful cooperation between Himalayan nations to mitigate the impact of the climate crisis on the mountains, and jointly address the impact on their common rivers. Without regional cooperation, there is a threat of water wars in the future.

Spring melting of Himalayan glaciers keeps rivers that originate there flowing, when water is needed most for household consumption, irrigation and hydropower. But the glaciers are melting fast, so there is less and less water during the spring thaw.

A 2019 study by the Kathmandu-based International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development predicted that the Himalaya and Hindu Kush region is warming

2 to 4 times faster than the global average and, if global carbon emissions are not curbed, the mountains will lose two-thirds of their snow during this century.

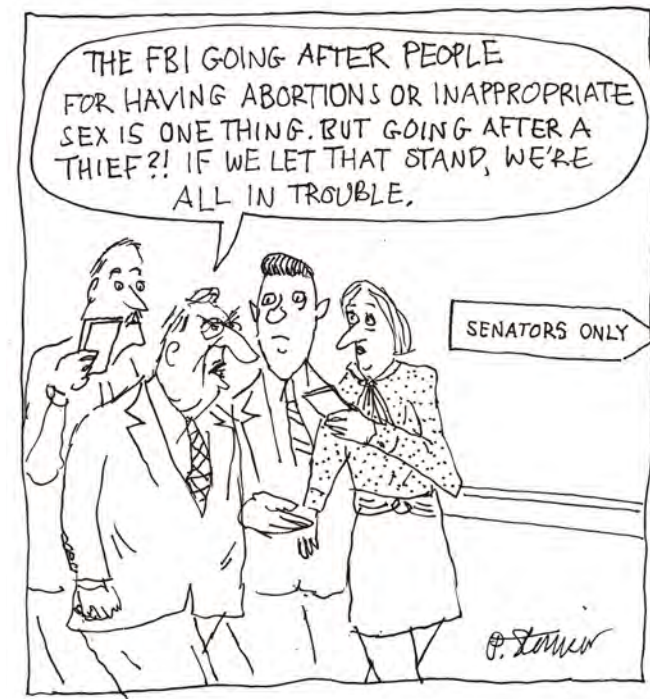
Even in the best-case scenario of emission curbs, one-third of the ice mass in Himalayan glaciers will have melted by 2050.

The main driver for these changes is, of course, the warming of the planet’s atmosphere because of fossil

fuel burning, but that is exacerbated by the deposition of “black carbon” pollution particulates, which makes the ice lose its reflectivity and melt even faster.

As water dripped from the block of ice before him, the Dalai Lama told delegates at the conference: “I am 87 years old, and this piece of melting ice reminds us that time is running out.”

Kunda Dixit (@kunda-dixit) is co-publisher at Himalmedia, which produces the weekly Nepali-language magazine *Himal Khabar-patrika*, and chief editor of the English-language weekly newspaper, *Nepali Times*. He was recently honored at the 2022 International Media Conference: “Connecting in a Zero Trust World” in Honolulu, Hawaii.



As water dripped from the block of ice before him, the Dalai Lama told delegates at the conference: ‘I am 87 years old, and this piece of melting ice reminds us that time is running out.’

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Public service: endangered species

“Maybe I should just go home and ride my tractor.”

— Chuck Grassley

Charles Grassley won his Republican Iowa primary this summer at 89. Chuck, U.S. Senate President pro tempore 2019-2021, is a familiar face and voice for those of us tuned to national politics. Grassley was elected to the Iowa legislature in 1959, the U.S. House in 1974 and to the U.S. Senate in 1980 — at the rise of Ronald Reagan.

Grassley, as a Republican, voted along with his party 12 times to repeal the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). Yet in 2017, Grassley spoke counter to these repeal efforts: “You know, I could maybe give you 10 reasons why this bill shouldn’t be considered. But Republicans campaigned on this so often that you have a responsibility to carry out what you said in the campaign. That’s pretty much as much of a reason as the substance of the bill.”

A Reagan man, a prominent if not welcomed voice by folks like me, Grassley’s life is public service. Yet campaigning last week, Grassley invoked 2022 Republican rhetoric regarding the IRS:

“Are they going to have a strike force that goes in with AK-15s already loaded, ready to shoot some small business person in Iowa with these, because I think they’re going after middle class and small business people ...”

Grassley as member of the Senate Committee for Taxation for decades (three times Chair of the Finance Committee) is the oversight for the IRS — yet knowingly he put a target on public service employees, for a Fox audience he puts AK-15s in the hands of IRS accountants. Rick Scott, senator from Florida, shoos young job seekers away from the IRS as it will be defunded if the GOP takes Congress in the midterm elections.

The highest echelon of Republican public servants spin false, dangerous accusations of employees in government agencies they once revered, gave their staunch support to — of professionals plying their medical, judicial, educational knowledge and commitment. On Fox News, both Sen. Rand Paul and former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich accused the FBI of “planting evidence” in their search at

Mar-a-Lago. GOP-dominated state legislatures and 2022 GOP candidates have made election employment and volunteering a high risk to self and family. Loud, bawdy, vitriol 2022 Republican rhetoric is either propagated by or silently consented to by the party’s leadership.

GOP rhetoric no longer centers on governmental policies, differences in the role of government, a choice of big or little. Today’s rhetoric is of conspiracies, the targeting of individuals, calls for retribution, insurrection.

JFK spoke of having courage to engage in public service never thinking public service was to be combat duty in a society weaponized with language and lethal arms. Public service remains esteemed by the American majority — defunding, diminishing, destroying its providers is a bad thing, imprudently ignorant. Let’s fix it. Overwhelm the ballot box with democracy: Vote.

“Stopping bad things is a significant public service.”

— Ted Cruz

Kathy Herald-Marlowe Sharon

More letters previous page.

## Five-Star care at Sharon Hospital, third year

This year, once again, Sharon Hospital earned a five-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). We were one of just three Connecticut hospitals to receive the agency’s top-quality rating, a hallmark of Sharon Hospital’s commitment to provide quality, personalized care to all who enter our doors.

Today I wish to congratulate the entire Sharon Hospital team who made this recognition possible. Please join me in taking this opportunity to thank them for their continued dedication to our community hospital and — most importantly — our patients. It takes a truly remarkable combination of skill and compassion to earn this federal CMS honor three years in a row.

maintain this top rating as we undergo a transformative plan for the future.

I remain confident that this legacy of nationally recognized care will continue under the leadership of Christina McCulloch, who recently transitioned into her role as president of Sharon Hospital following five dedicated years as our chief nursing officer.

As Christina and I work with our leadership team, board, and staff to continue planning for Sharon Hospi-

tal’s future, our shared commitment to maintain five-star care remains at the core of everything we do.

Once again, congratulations to Sharon Hospital’s talented workforce for your commitment to service above self. To our patients and community supporters, thank you for making our work so rewarding.

Mark J. Marshall, DO, MA, FACB, FHM

Sharon Hospital Vice President of Medical Affairs Sharon

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

Continued from previous page

were fruitless. Rattlesnakes and copperheads have been spotted and killed in many places in the area, but never within the town confines prior to last Thursday.

Unusual and complex construction of a “bridge within a bridge” will solve the dual problem of preserving one of Cornwall’s historic landmarks and serving modern highway needs, according to plans released last week by A. Earl Wood, state transportation commissioner. Calling for bids on the restoration of the 131-year-old covered bridge between Sharon and Cornwall on Route 128, Mr. Wood explained that an “orthotropic” steel deck bridge made of thin, high-strength steel plates would be pre-fabricated, then installed within the old wooden structure.

The town of Kent has acquired a “gift horse” in the form of a used Army truck, which First Selectman Eugene O’Meara describes as a “very sound” beast. The town paid nothing for the truck,

but must insure and operate it for five years. “It’s an odd-looking thing,” O’Meara reports. Olive drab with six big wheels and tandem axle and all-wheel drive, it is a powerful machine that can run even through four-foot streams of water.

25 years ago — August 1997

An insect that has been slowly killing off red pine trees for the past 60 years has reached this area, spurring a massive harvest at the Great Mountain Forest to salvage the valuable wood affected there. About 50 acres of decades-old trees in the 6,800-acre forest atop Canaan Mountain will be cut down in a two-month period, according to forest manager Joel Bronson. The all-out effort began two weeks ago with the arrival from Maine of a harvesting contractor who uses fully mechanized equipment to clear an average of three acres per day. “That’s incredibly fast,” Mr. Bronson said. But speed is necessary if they are to stay

ahead of red pine scale, the insect’s common name.

KENT — Cyberian Outpost is experiencing exponential growth as the multi-million dollar firm prepares to expand its office space, staff and product offerings as the largest computer retailer on the Internet, company president/CEO Darryl Peck said this week. The Internet World Wide Web site retail “store,” which went on-line in 1995 with a five-person staff and small warehouse/office facilities in Sharon, now employs 40 staff members at its administrative headquarters in the town center where a Planning and Zoning application to add 18,000 square feet to its existing 8,000-square-foot office space is pending this week.

These items were taken from *The Lakeville Journal* archives at *Salisbury’s Scoville Memorial Library*, keeping the original wording intact as possible. Go to [www.scovillelibrary.org](http://www.scovillelibrary.org) for more.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Thank you for LJ 125th event

To the Lakeville Journal: sharing your celebration with local nonprofit organizations was a great idea.

As a member of the board of the 21st Century Fund for HVRHS, I especially appreciated having the opportunity to explain what our Fund does for the high school and to speak with students and parents who had received grants for their programs. I was also pleased to see other hardworking volunteers get a chance to show what their organizations do for

our community. Being a new member of Rotary International, I am very glad they had a chance to talk with community members about the amazing ways in which Rotary contributes to life around the globe.


As a reader of *The Lakeville Journal*, I am grateful to have a source of news that lets me know what’s going on here in the Northwest Corner, and to hear what people think about politics, theater, books, food, the environment and especially the

bears. Needless to say, I am glad *The Journal* will be celebrating more anniversaries in the future.

Although next year is not a milestone year, I would urge *The Lakeville Journal* to sponsor this event again. I believe the nonprofits benefited greatly from the interaction with the community, and I know that the visitors enjoyed the festivities as well.


Carol D. Schulz

Secretary, 21st Century Fund board of directors Canaan



## Realtor® at Large

Despite the heat, winter will come and it may be good to arrange for assistance to secure heating oil ahead of time if needed. There are several options. The state has the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program that offers financial assistance and payment plans etc. Information on the Program can be found at: [https://portal.ct.gov/heatinghelp/Connecticut-Energy-Assistance-Program-CEAP?language=en\\_US](https://portal.ct.gov/heatinghelp/Connecticut-Energy-Assistance-Program-CEAP?language=en_US). Also, each Town has a social service office that may help. In Salisbury, information can be found at <https://www.salisburyct.us/salisbury-family-services/>. The key is that there is a lot of assistance available in our communities of northwest Ct that will help everyone make it through the winter months for heating oil.



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**ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR:** for adults wanted. Classes meet at Housatonic Valley Regional on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm starting Sept. 12. Instructor needs a Bachelor's degree and some relevant teaching experience. \$30.28/hr plus planning time. Very rewarding work, perfect for a retired teacher. Contact [adadvance.org](mailto:adadvance.org).

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## REAL ESTATE

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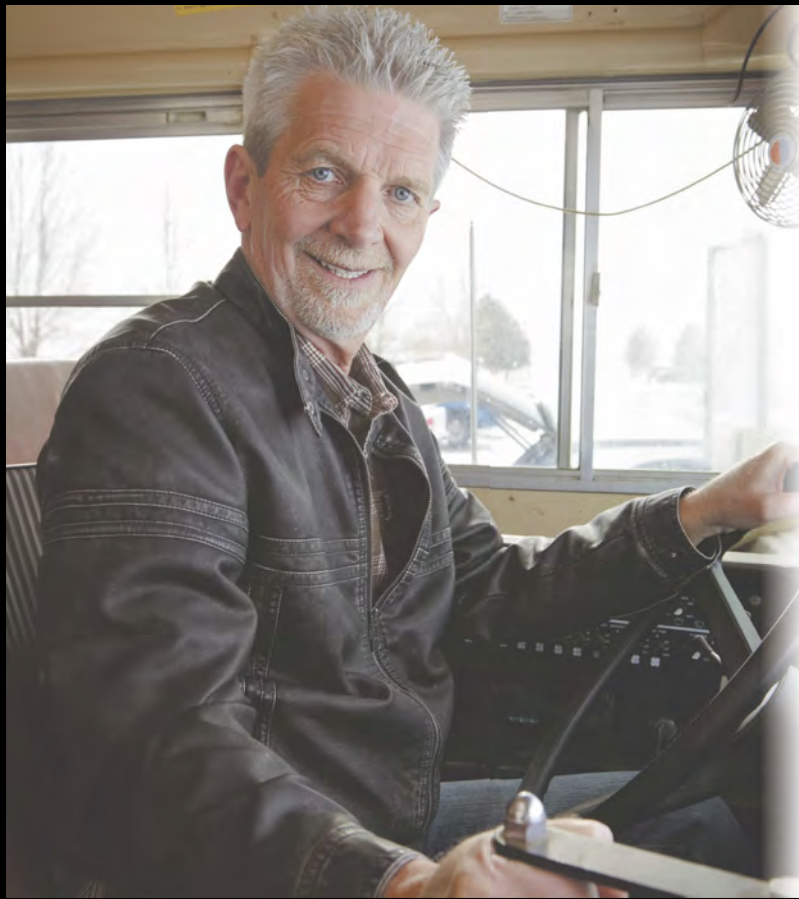
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