



**Classes of 2022**  
Pages A3,A4



**Blues Project is back**  
*Compass,*  
Page B2

**Obituaries,**  
Page A5

**Juneteenth: Change is needed**  
*Letters, Columns*  
*Opinion,*  
Pages B3-4

**Tag Sales, Help Wanted, Services, Real Estate**  
Pages B5-6

# The Lakeville Journal

TriCornerNews.com

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**Celebrating Our 125th Anniversary**

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



PHOTO BY HUNTER O. LYLE

Members of the Class of 2022 at Housatonic Valley Regional High School cheered their classmates during the commencement ceremony on Thursday, June 16.

**"We will be the ones to change the world, which is in desperate need of reform."**  
*Salutatorian Avery Tripp*

## Fiery speeches mark HVRHS graduation

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The 90 members of the Class of 2022 heard passionate speeches from their classmates as they celebrated the 83rd commencement at Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) on Thursday, June 16.

The ceremony took place under a very large tent on the grass in front of the school. The graduates, faculty and some family members filled the tent and many more spectators brought chairs and watched from outside the tent.

HVRHS Principal Ian Strevver noted that the graduates had spent a significant part of their high school years "in a mask, as the COVID-19 pandemic caused disruptions in school procedures.

"Two years of the pandemic could not suppress the indomitable energy of teenagers."

And presaging what was to follow, Strevver praised the graduates for exercising "their First Amendment rights on an unprecedented scale."

He also noted the Class of 2022 set a new record, with over \$500,000 in scholarships and awards.

Salutatorian Avery Tripp's speech was a true stemwinder.

Flatly contradicting the stereotype of her generation as "lazy and phone-addicted," she said "We will be the ones to change the world, which is in desperate need of reform."

She described the probable

See HVRHS, Page B5

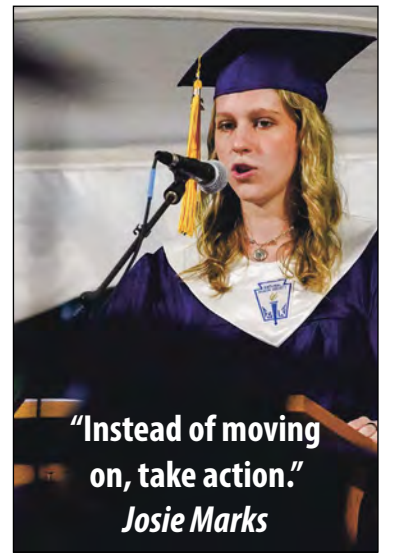


PHOTO BY HUNTER O. LYLE

Valedictorian Josie Marks urged her classmates to take action against hypocrisy and injustice.

**"Instead of moving on, take action."**  
*Josie Marks*

## Year two of spongy moth devastation

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SHARON — For the second year in a row, an invasion of spongy moth caterpillars has caused significant defoliation of trees in the Northwest Corner, causing concern among state and local foresters and environmentalists who said a repeat next year could cause mass mortality to stressed trees.

"Sharon, Salisbury, Kent, Cornwall, Norfolk and parts of Goshen just got hammered again for a second year," said Christopher Martin, Director of Forestry for the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), in an interview Thursday, June 16.

It's hard to miss the brown areas lining the upper ridges of the landscape, he said. "It looks more like fall and winter than spring and summer. It is uncanny and unnerving," said Martin, who also serves as president of the National Association of State Foresters.

Spongy moths, formerly called gypsy moths, have also hatched in the Berkshires and upstate New York, wreaking havoc on outdoor enthusiasts and homeowners, although not to the extent of the destruction in the northern reaches of Connecticut.

Normally, the spongy moth population is low and the damage it does is fairly restricted. However, when it enters into outbreak status, as has happened over the past two years, it is a significant problem.

See SPONGY, Page A6



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

Spongy moth caterpillars feed on many species of trees and shrubs.

## Sharon's Hotchkiss Library

### Long-awaited construction starts

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Celebrating the successful completion of the \$3.5 million capital campaign, Hotchkiss Library officials announced on Thursday, June 16, that construction has begun.

The long-anticipated project, first imagined in 1993, will bring the landmark library building into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act to enable full access for handicapped patrons.

Plans include extensive renovation and restoration of the historic interior.

When the project is completed, the library, built in 1891, will serve its 21st-century community by offering 21st-century amenities.

"Honoring the Past, Forging the Future" was the theme of the capital campaign that got underway in 2020 and concluded recently, having raised \$3.5 million, compared to its initial goal of \$1.5 million.

Tom Trowbridge, president of the library's board, opened the June 16 press event with a welcome.

"Everything went smoothly," Trowbridge said of the campaign, noting that the project earned ready approval from the Planning

and Zoning Commission. He reminded listeners that there are two thrusts for the library's fundraising: the capital project and the annual appeal to fund library operations.

"We blew by the initial goal of \$1.5 million with the help of the board," Lorna Edmundson, chair-

See LIBRARY, Page A6

## Sharon Hospital opposes Sharon cutbacks

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Joining with area towns in opposition to a proposal by parent company Nuvance Health to reduce services at Sharon Hospital, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to sign a resolution in support of maintaining the hospital's vital services at their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 14.

In recent months, the towns of Cornwall, Kent and Salisbury have signed similar statements opposing Nuvance's plans to eliminate or reduce vital services at Sharon Hospital.

See HOSPITAL, Page A6

## Ellsworth Farm's new owners value land restoration, community

Expecting to write a new chapter in the history of the Ellsworth Farm, Kristy Foss and Graham Stanton are the new stewards of the 76 acres of land that comprise the old farm.

"It's been a family farm for a long time," Foss said during an interview on Monday, June 13, remembering past generations of owners.

The farm originally belonged to the Dunbar family of Dunbar Road. For about 20 years, the farm was owned by Bill Vitalis, who operated the farm as a com-

### NW CORNER PROFILE

LEILA HAWKEN

mercial apple orchard, shipping nationwide.

In 1978, the first year of apple sales, 340 bushels were sold. By 1980, the yield had grown to 4,800 bushels, and 11 tons of strawberries were harvested from its fields.

More recently, over the past two decades, the farm was owned

by Michael Bozzi, who expanded the berry operation and welcomed the public to visit the farm.

The landmark property had become a significant destination for its orchards, pick-your-own berries and a variety of other produce, featuring hayrides and other autumn favorites for children and families, including the pumpkin patch and corn maze.

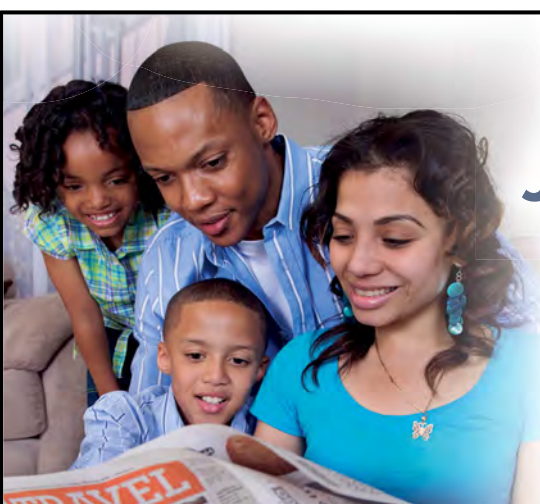
Situated just across Dunbar Road from their home, Ellsworth Farm was for sale for a few years,

See ELLSWORTH, Page A6



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# Regional

## In The Journal this week

OUR TOWNS.....A3-4 OPINION.....B3  
 OBITUARIES .....A5 VIEWPOINT.....B4  
 COMPASS.....B1-2 CLASSIFIEDS.....B5-6

### Three-day forecast

Friday.....Rain, high 78°/low 61°  
 Saturday.....Cloudy, 84°/59°  
 Sunday.....Rain, 83°/63°

## Online This Week

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

### Sharon selectmen consider EV charging stations at firehouse

The Board of Selectmen discussed a recent proposal to install electric vehicle charging stations at the Sharon Fire Department parking lot, but concern was expressed about parking space.

### Camp Isola Bella will greet summer campers with a rich history ripe for the retelling

Beginning Saturday, June 25, a popular summer camp for deaf and hard-of-hearing youth is returning on East Twin Lake following a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Part-time lake patrols aim to keep peace on Twin Lakes

In response to noise complaints from lakefront property owners, the town has reinstated a part-time police patrol headed by Salisbury Resident State Trooper Will Veras and aided by two retired law enforcement officers.

## 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.

### Found on warrant

On June 12 at approximately 4 p.m. State Police conducted a traffic stop at Stop & Shop in North Canaan. The driver, Nicholas Brewer, 41, of Millerton was found to have an active arrest warrant for criminal mischief in the third degree and the violation of a protective order. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on June 13.

### Intoxicated at Walgreens

On June 13 at approximately 6:45 p.m. Troop B responded to a report of an intoxicated white woman and man in the parking lot of the Walgreens Pharmacy on Main Street in North Canaan. According to the report, during the investigation the white male became uncooperative. Jason Edward Arnold, 51, of Salisbury was charged with resisting an officer and breach of peace in the second degree. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on June 27.

### Hit a stopped car

On June 14 at approximately 8:45 a.m. on Main Street in Falls Village a 2013 Toyota 4runner driven by Pat Mechare, 76, of Falls Village turned left onto Beebe Hill Road and struck a 2011 Ford Mustang driven by Keith Marsk, 51, of Lakeville that was stopped at the stop sign. Both vehicles sustained minor damage. Mechare was issued a written warning for making an improper turn.

### DUI

On June 16 at approximately midnight State Police responded to a report of

a one-vehicle crash on Long Pond Road in Salisbury. During an investigation, the driver, Bryson William Zanghi-Clark, 32, of Salisbury failed the standardized field sobriety test. He was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs and failing to drive in the proper lane resulting in an accident. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on June 30.

### Hit a mailbox

On June 16 at approximately 1:15 p.m. on Cornwall Bridge Road in Sharon a 2020 Ford Transit van registered to Courier Express Inc. and driven by Martin Keane, 38, of Ellington, exited the roadway and struck a mailbox. Keane was issued a written warning for failure to maintain the proper lane.

### Risk of injury

On June 16 Chrystellemarie James, 27, of North Canaan turned herself in on an active warrant for risk of injury to a child. The warrant stemmed from an incident that occurred on May 12 when a neighbor found James' 2-year-old child had wandered out of the house while James was asleep. Following an investigation by the Department of Children and Families, James was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on June 16.

### Domestic disturbance

On June 16 at approximately 5 p.m. Troop B responded to a report of an active disturbance at a residence on Kent Road in Cornwall. Following an investigation, Vera Carrea, 58, of Cornwall was charged with disorderly conduct. She was scheduled to appear in

Torrington Superior Court on June 17.

### Domestic disturbance

On June 18 at approximately 1 a.m. Troop B responded to a report of a disturbance on Belgo Road in Salisbury. Troop B discovered a vehicle traveling at a low speed on Belgo Road due to two flat tires. The vehicle matched the description from the call reporting the disturbance, and the driver was found to be violating a protective order. Fawn Rosier, 31, of North Canaan was charged with violation of that order and refusing to be fingerprinted. She was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on June 20.

### Plastic water bottle causes accident

On June 18 at approximately 8 p.m. on Sharon Road in Salisbury a 2017 GMC Sierra driven by Peter Lorenzo, 40, of Salisbury struck a utility pole. Lorenzo stated that a water bottle had fallen near the pedal and while retrieving it he lost control of the vehicle. The GMC was towed and no police action was reported.

### Failure to appear

On June 18 Chad Levi Peterson, 35, of Sharon was charged with failure to appear in court in the second degree. He was scheduled again to appear in Torrington Superior Court on June 20.

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](mailto:johnc@lakevillejournal.com).

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF KENT

The first installment of the Real Estate, Personal Property and the Motor Vehicle tax for the Grand List of 2021 is due and payable July 1, 2022. The first installment of the Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicle tax for the Grand List of 2021 will become delinquent on Tuesday, August 2, 2022.

As soon as the tax becomes delinquent, it shall be subject to interest at the rate of 1.5% per month from July 1, 2022 until the same is paid.

Bills may be viewed on line by going to the Tax Collector's page of the Town of Kent website at [www.townofkentct.org](http://www.townofkentct.org).

The Tax Collector's office will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. There is a red drop box next to the front door of the Town Hall for payments.

Payments are also welcome through the mail at P. O. Box 311, Kent, Connecticut 06757.

Beginning July 1, 2022 bills may be paid by credit card in the office or online using Point and Pay.

Deborah Devaux, CCMC  
 Tax Collector  
 06-23-22  
 07-07-22  
 07-28-22 #653709

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF  
 LEE ANN BREHM  
 Late of Canaan  
 (22-00253)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated June 14, 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:  
 Barry J. Brehm  
 c/o Linda M Patz  
 Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP  
 7 Church Street  
 P.O. Box 101  
 Canaan, CT 06018  
 Beth L. McGuire  
 Chief Clerk  
 06-23-22

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF  
 MARY C. ADAMS  
 Late of Sharon  
 AKA Mary Peterson  
 Adams

Mary Catherine Adams (22-00158)  
 The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated June 14, 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:

Alan Peter Peterson  
 c/o Linda M Patz  
 Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP  
 7 Church Street  
 P.O. Box 101  
 Canaan, CT 06018

Jenna Nimchek  
 Assistant Clerk  
 06-23-22

### Legal Notice

The Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Application #2022-0185 by Todd and Veronika H. Bromberg for a Variance, 130 Cobble Road, Salisbury Map 55, Lot 17 per Section 304.1 and 300.2 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 5, 2022 immediately after the regularly scheduled business of the meeting or at 5:30PM, whichever occurs first. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom (Remote Meeting by Live Internet Video Stream and Telephone), where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at [www.salisburycyct.us](http://www.salisburycyct.us). Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office before 4:00PM on Thursday, June 30, 2022, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to [aconroy@salisburycyct.us](mailto:aconroy@salisburycyct.us). Paper copies maybe reviewed, by appointment, Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00AM and 3:30PM.

Salisbury Zoning Board of Appeals  
 Stacie Weiner, Secretary  
 06-23-22  
 06-30-22

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF  
 MARK J. MURAD  
 Late of New Hampshire  
 (22-00190)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 24, 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:  
 Michael Girdley  
 c/o John Dillon  
 Attorney at Law  
 64 Boston Street  
 New Guilford, CT 06437  
 Beth L. McGuire  
 Chief Clerk  
 06-23-22

### TAX COLLECTOR TOWN OF SALISBURY CT LEGAL NOTICE

The taxpayers of the Town of Salisbury are hereby notified that I have received the Warrant and the Rate Bill to collect taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2021 with a levy of 11.00 Mills. Said taxes become due on July 1, 2022. If said Real

Estate and Personal Property tax is over \$100.00, it is payable in four installments due: July 1, 2022, October 1, 2022, January 1, 2023, April 1, 2023. Motor Vehicle tax shall be paid in one installment due: July 1, 2022. Payments must be received or postmarked by August 1, 2022. If said Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicle taxes are not paid on or before August 1, 2022 interest at the rate of 1.5% (18% annually). The minimum interest charge is \$2.00. Taxes can be paid by mail addressed to: Tax Collector, PO Box 338, Salisbury CT 06068. WPCA Sewer use fees for the year July 1, 2022 are also due and payable on August 1, 2022. Tax office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-4pm. There is a drop box in the vestibule of the Town Hall open 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday and a 24 hour drop box on the Factory Street back side of the Town Hall. Please check [salisburycyct.us](http://salisburycyct.us) for additional credit card payment information. FAILURE TO RECEIVE A BILL DOES NOT INVALIDATE THE TAX OR THE INTEREST. Please contact the Tax Collector's Office 860 435-5189 or [taxcollector@salisburycyct.us](mailto:taxcollector@salisburycyct.us), if you do not receive a bill or have questions. Dated this 10th day of June 2022.

Jean F. Bell, CCMC  
 Tax Collector  
 Salisbury, CT 06068  
 06-23-22  
 07-07-22  
 07-21-22

### TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE, TOWN OF CANAAN

Pursuant to Sec. 12-145 of the Connecticut statutes, the undersigned Tax Collector of the Town of Canaan gives notice that she will be ready to receive Motor Vehicle taxes and the first installment of Real Estate & Personal Property taxes due July 1, 2022 at the Tax Collector's office in the Canaan Town Hall, 108 Main St, Falls Village, CT on Monday's 9am - 3pm and Wednesday 9am - 12pm. Payments must be received or postmarked by August 1, 2022 to avoid interest.

All taxes remaining unpaid after August 1, 2022 will be charged interest from July 1, 2022 at the rate of 1.5% for each month elapsing from the due date of the delinquent tax to the date of payment, with a minimum interest charge of \$2.00. Sec. 12-146

Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the taxpayer of his/her responsibility for the payment of taxes or delinquent charges. Sec. 12-130.

Rebecca M Juchert-Derungs,  
 Tax Collector, CCMC  
 06-23-22  
 07-07-22  
 07-21-22

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 This Week's  
 Special Inserts!  
 Sales and more!

Check them out inside.

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# Our Towns

## Kellogg graduates say goodbye

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Lee H. Kellogg (LHK) School Principal Stacey Calo described the Class of 2022 during the commencement ceremony Wednesday, June 15, as “spunky, cohesive and so kind.”

Calo said the nine graduates “really embraced change over the last couple of years,” and praised them for “standing up to every challenge and being role models” for the rest of the school.

Marc Hafner, trying hard not to grin, thanked his teachers for turning him into a “paragon of scholarly excellence.”

To his classmates, he added: “I look forward to not seeing you for three months.”

Ibby Sadeh spoke of the unity of the class. “My class has never failed to make me



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

**Lee H. Kellogg School Principal Stacey Calo praised the Class of 2022 for its leadership abilities during the commencement ceremony Wednesday, June 15.**

laugh.”

Haylen Sincovic said she came to LHK a little later than some of the other graduates, and had been either home schooled or in much bigger schools.

She said she was initially nervous, but was quickly made to feel at home.

As far as high school goes, “I feel very prepared and I credit Kellogg for that.”

Each graduate was the subject of remarks from a favorite teacher. After the ceremony, as per tradition, each graduate received a copy of “The Little Engine That Could.”

## Sharon Class of 2022 celebrates

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Under perfectly sunny skies and with beaming families and friends looking on, the 10 members of the Class of 2022 each accepted Sharon Center School diplomas well prepared for the next phase of educational achievement. Their promotion ceremony was held in front of the school on Tuesday, June 14.

Following the traditional class photo, the Class of 2022 paraded from their school entrance to the tent where they joined their families for the ceremony. Bouquets of red and white balloons bobbed in the breeze while bubble machines added to the festive look.

Speeches of reminiscences of their time at Sharon Center School were delivered by students Samantha Caranci and Lillian MacMillan. They each crafted a different approach to their personal reflections but represented a shared experience with their class as a whole.

“I never imagined being up here today,” Samantha Caranci said. “There are so many memories I will carry



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

**Members of the Sharon Center School Class of 2022 bid farewell at a reception that followed their promotion ceremony.**

with me.”

Caranci offered her advice: “You make the rules in your life; chase your dreams.”

About to join her classmates in receiving their certificates, Lillian MacMillan offered a different perspective, singling out familiar moments and images of her years at the school, from flash cards in kindergarten to a year that saw her making puppets. And then there was the pandemic.

“In eighth grade we were

finally all back in person,” she recalled, adding that one of the highlights was the recent art show at Troutbeck in Amenia that featured some of the works of Sharon Center School students.

After the presentation of awards and the distribution of diplomas, the class honored Hal Tingley, retiring as psychologist after 33 years of service to Sharon Center School.

A reception followed in celebration of the class.

## A bittersweet farewell at KCS

By Lans Christensen

KENT — Twenty-three seniors formed the Class of 2022, at Kent Center School (KCS) and promptly at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14, they filed in for their graduation ceremony.

Held in the school’s central quadrangle, under perfect blue skies, family, friends and guests gave the grads a warm welcome.

After the Pledge of Allegiance and national anthem, Taylor Green spoke, echoing a shared sentiment, saying “I don’t really want to leave KCS; it is a place of comfort and friendship.”

Each of the 23 graduates was then called up to receive their certificates.

Kaelyn Darrin, the grad-



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

**Members of the Kent Center School Class of 2022 celebrated on Tuesday, June 14.**

uation essayist, concluded the ceremonies with heartfelt words about her time at

KCS, “Too many branches have grown on my tree to count.”



**Rising Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Graders  
You’re invited to join us as we celebrate**

## 125 Years of The Lakeville Journal

Dear Rising Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Graders,

A long time ago... August 14, 1897... to be exact, the very first issue of The Lakeville Journal was hot off the printers and ready to be delivered. **That was 125 years ago.** This summer we’re celebrating this big anniversary for our small town newspaper.

On Sunday, August 14, 2022, the birthday of the paper, The Lakeville Journal is hosting our **Anniversary Day Summer Fair** on Academy Street in Salisbury, and everyone’s invited to join in and celebrate with us!

Along with the street fair, we’re also opening a museum exhibit, “**Life of A Community: The Lakeville Journal Celebrates 125 Years**” at The Salisbury Association. The exhibit opens August 13 and runs through September. It’s about the history of this newspaper, from the old-timey printing press all the way to the present day — but it’s also about **you**, and **us**, and **everyone who came before us** in these small towns we call home.

Newspapers are most of all about people. People make the stories, and those stories change the way we see the world — even just the little world of Litchfield County.

So we want to know the next chapter. We want to know **your story.**

This summer write us one page on your life being a kid in a small Connecticut town in 2022. What makes it unique? Is growing up in such a rural place where everyone knows everyone strange? Special? Or even spectacular? Use your honesty and observations to give us the scoop from a reporter (that’s you) so close to the story that only you can tell it right.

We’ll choose **Three First Prize winners — One rising Sixth Grader, one rising Seventh Grader, and one rising Eighth Grader** — and their winning essays will be featured in the **125 Exhibit at a special honorary opening night.**

The three winners will also get to be **Honorary Youth Chairs (basically summer fair royalty)** at the Anniversary Fair and each will receive the **Mystery Prizes** that awaits them...

Consider this invitation your Golden Ticket.

*So get writing!*

Completed one-page essays can be turned in at your town library  
Scoville Memorial Library  
Hotchkiss Library of Sharon  
David M. Hunt Library  
Cornwall Library  
Kent Memorial Library  
and Douglas Library

Label them with your name, grade, town and one parent or guardian’s email address.  
Essays can be turned in at any time before July 24.

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# Our Towns



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

The Class of 2022 from Salisbury Central School moments before the commencement ceremonies began on Tuesday, June 14.

## Salisbury graduates look ahead

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The annual commencement exercise at Salisbury Central School (SCS) on Tuesday, June 14, was held outside, in front of the lower building.

The assembled family members could hear whooping from inside before the 27 members of the Class of 2022 emerged and took their seats.

Eloise Prinz quoted Eleanor Roosevelt, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams," and said she believes that "every member of our class has the

ability to change the world in a positive way"

Annabel Prinz quoted Malcolm X: "Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."

She praised her generation for being aware and involved in current events, even if it meant grappling with difficult subjects.

"We have turned that anxiety into fuel."

The graduates received their certificates from SCS Principal Stephanie Magyar and Board of Education Chair David Valcin. Barrett Prinz, school board

member and proud father, asked the graduates to take a few moments to appreciate where they've grown up.

"I didn't make it here until I was 40," he said.

"I love living in Salisbury. I couldn't think of a better place to call home, because it's a true community. People really appreciate where they live and go out of their way to share their time and talent."

As if on cue, the moment Prinz began talking about the spirit of volunteerism in town, the siren at the all-volunteer Lakeville Hose Company firehouse went off.

## North Canaan students move on

By John Coston

NORTH CANAAN — The skies threatened with dark clouds in the minutes before the North Canaan Elementary School eighth graders began their procession to a graduation ceremony on Wednesday, June 15.

But at 6:59 p.m. the sun broke through as the nearly 300 in attendance stood to watch the 27 graduates of the Class of 2022 march along a path in front of their friends and families with "Pomp and Circumstance" filling the evening air.

Alicia Roy, principal, told the graduates: "What you can now do is remarkable. What you can do in the future is even more incredible."

"You are ready for the next four years of your life," Roy said, after thanking the families who have supported the students from kindergarten on.

Awards and scholarships were presented, followed by the awarding of diplomas. Lisa Carter, Region One su-



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Shanaya Duprey held two bouquets as her mother, Danielle, beamed with pride at North Canaan Elementary's graduation on Wednesday, June 15.

perintendent, congratulated each student as they received their diploma.

The class sang a song, "Best Days of My Life," and read a poem, "It Couldn't Be Done."

Shanaya Duprey, a grad-

uate, who received an award for exceptional achievement in science, also delivered a powerful farewell to everyone, saluting the teachers and parents and concluding: "We leave this building with confidence and pride."

**Building confidence, changing lives.**



**MARVELWOOD SCHOOL**

www.marvelwood.org Kent, CT

## Time to Unify.

**In Oct 2021 we learned:**

- 96% of the doctors are in opposition to the transforming plan for the Sharon Hospital created by Nuance, citing the dangers to the community.
- Once again the Sharon Hospital Board approved the plan without consulting with the doctors, without discussing it with the local elected officials and this time in full knowledge that in doing so they would be in violation of an agreement made with the State of Connecticut.
- Nancy Heaton, of the Foundation for Community Health, is a CT rural healthcare expert. She is prepared to convene stakeholders.

**Since then we have learned:**

- The dreadful statistics around these closures and watched as 2 hospitals on the west side of the state ended many services.
- There are as many solutions as there are states who are experiencing this problem.
- CT does the bare minimum required by Federal Law in support of rural healthcare access.
- Nuance needs more money to operate the services we need.

Let's band together for the welfare of our community, ask the Governor and all our elected officials to find a path forward for access to healthcare in all the rural communities of CT.

Ask all those who seek our votes in November to help us find solutions today.

**Your town officials**

<b>State Senator</b> Craig Miner 860 240-8816	<b>State Rep</b> Maria Horn 860 240-8500	<b>Govern</b> Ned Lamont 800 406-1527	<b>Public Health Commissioner</b> Manisha Juthani 860 509-7101
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The Committee for Rural Reproductive Rights. ADVERTISEMENT

## 19 students advance from Cornwall

By Janet Manko

CORNWALL — Master of Ceremonies at the Cornwall Consolidated School eighth grade graduation Simon Markow let it be known he relished his role, and hopes to continue it into his future, "as host of the Oscars one day."

More than 150 attendees under a big tent behind the school on Tuesday evening, June 14, laughed and applauded for his vision of what was to come.

Three of his classmates spoke of their appreciation of what they had learned during their time at the school, and guest speaker Marina Matsudaira Muench, CCS class of 2012, shared a theme of

kindness to others dominant among their remarks.

Their principal, Mary Kay Ravenola, spoke of the ups and downs of the 2021-22 school year, ending on a high note for the graduating class. "You persevered to be the best you can be every single day," she said. "You made some great memories this year. You are our future, and we believe in you."

Eighth grader Alexandra West spoke of seeing her class grow over the years, from just six students, up to 11, and finally up to its current 19. She also spoke of the major challenges the class met throughout the time of COVID restrictions. But, she said, that time helped her and her classmates to "learn how

to deal with change: Accept it and enjoy it as much as you can."

Guest speaker Muench also spoke of the transitory nature of being "cool" in school. "Trends come and go," she said. "Go into high school not playing into the popularity game. Change what is cool in school: Be kind. Be respectful to teachers. Sit with the student who sits alone in the cafeteria. Kindness leaves a mark. Love and kindness can have an eternal impact. Being kind to people around you is so much cooler than anything else."

The diplomas were then handed out to the 19 graduates as tributes from their teachers were read for each individual student.



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

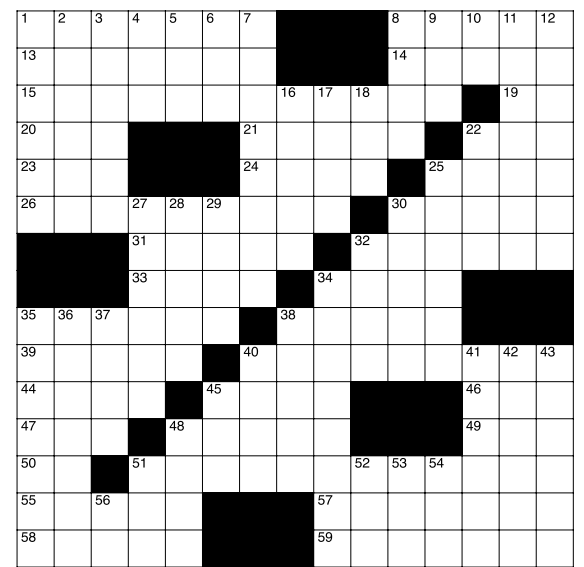
The Cornwall Consolidated School Class of 2022 tossed their graduation caps into the air, their last act of mutual solidarity as they moved on to high school.

For more promotion/graduation ceremonies, see pages A3 & B5

## Brain Teasers

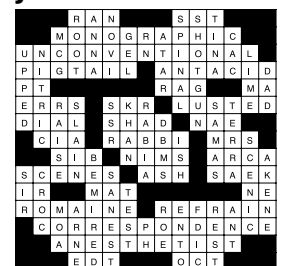
### CLUES ACROSS

1. Half-conscious states
8. Unnatural
13. Deep regret
14. Rogue
15. Took without permission
19. An alternative
20. After B
21. Partner to "flowed"
22. The best day of the week (abbr.)
23. Helps you hear
24. Egyptian river
25. Lake \_\_, one of the Great
26. Make free from bacteria
30. Indigenous peoples of central Canada
31. Sanctuaries in Greek temples
32. Most unclothed
33. NJ senator Booker
34. Tibetan lake
35. Desecrate something sacred
38. John \_\_, English educator 1467-1519
39. Obtains in return for labor
40. Views
44. Rugged cliff
45. Not quiet
46. Body part
47. Newt
48. German city
49. A way to save money
50. NBC's Roker
51. Dire Straits frontman
55. Actress Lathan
57. Most meager
58. Poems
59. Companions

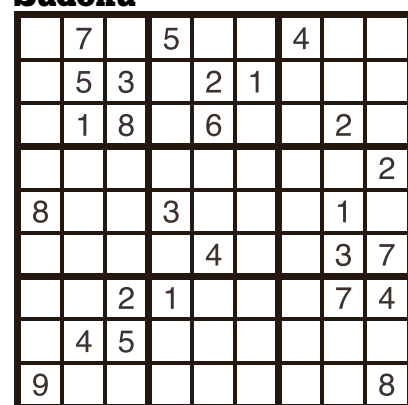


10. Dorm worker
11. Bones
12. Most unnatural
16. Spanish island
17. The skill to do something
18. Where golf games begin
22. Untethered
25. Print errors
27. The sport of engaging in contests of speed
28. Ones to look up to
29. Stringed instrument
30. Gives whippings
32. Type of tie
34. Make more concentrated
35. Die
36. Part of a winter hat
37. Young men's club
38. Bathrooms need it
41. American novelist
42. Take into custody
43. Hurts
45. Type of gibbon
48. American actor Lukas
51. Partner to cheese
52. Some are covert
53. Political action committee
54. To and \_\_
56. Atomic #28

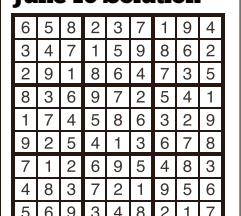
### June 16 Solution



### Sudoku



### June 16 Solution



**50**  
YEARS  
1972-2022

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### Ardys Mae Carter Walrath

NORTH CANAAN — Ardys Mae Walrath of North Canaan, died on January 4, 2022, at Noble Horizons. She was 100 years old. Born on September 5, 1921, in South Haven, Michigan, Ardys was the first daughter of Alvah H. Carter and Edith Roman-sCarter.

The Carters eventually settled in Cedar Falls, Iowa, where Ardys began taking piano lessons at the age of 7. She studied throughout her school years working at a drug store in Cedar Falls earning money to take piano lessons with Dr. Louis Crowder, who then taught at Iowa State Teachers College (now University of Northern Iowa). Her father traveled extensively during Ardys' childhood for work, often taking her with him. She credits these experiences with instilling in her a love of travel.

In the early 1940s the Carters moved to Perry, Iowa, where Ardys met the love of her life, Ray M. Walrath. They married on July 23, 1944, while Ray was in Basic Training preparing to be deployed to Italy as navigator on a B17 bomber in WWII. Their first child, Larry Carter Walrath, was born while Ray was overseas. After the war, the young family lived in Ames, Iowa while Ray earned his college degree in chemical metallurgy. Their second child, Pamela Jo Walrath Sunderland was born in Ames. In 1954 Ray accepted a position at New England Lime Company-Nelco Metals in North Canaan, moving the family to Falls Village and, in 1956, to the house on Killawee Street in North Canaan. Their third child, Penelope Rae Walrath Cole, was born in Connecticut.

Ardys began accompanying singing groups when she was in the eighth grade and had her first job as a church musician while in high school. She would continue both activities throughout her life. Ardys was the organist and choir director for the Falls Village Congregational and Methodist churches from 1955 to 1966, after which she became the music director for the Canaan United Methodist Church, a job from which she retired, twice. After her

first retirement Ardys created an ecumenical singing group, the Harmoniques, who gave at least 2 concerts a year and sang for special occasions. Ardys also taught private piano lessons for many years.

Ardys joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa when she was twelve. She remained active in the Methodist Church for the next 88 years, taking part in youth activities, attending church camp, and later, teaching Vacation Bible School, serving on multiple committees, singing in choirs, directing the music, becoming a lay speaker, and working tirelessly with the women's organizations of the church. She went to the United Methodist Women's School of Mission several times, becoming involved in the organization on both the district and conference levels as an officer and enjoyed teaching the courses sponsored by UMW on the many different peoples, faiths, and cultures of the world.

Ardys and Ray traveled extensively across the US. Packing up their van they would head for parts west to visit their far-flung family and friends as well as every National Park, National Monument, National Recreation Area, Historic Park, Memorial and Site, and Scenic Trail they could find.

Ardys lived a full life, one of much love, laughter, faith, and discovery. When physical travel became more difficult you could always find her with a book in her hand as she traveled with authors such as Louis Lamour, Tony Hillerman, and Diana Mott Davidson. She never stopped learning and caring about her family, her friends, and this world of ours. She is survived by her daughter and husband, Penny and Ted Cole of Golden, Colorado, 10 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.

Celebration of Life service to be held July 9, at 11 a.m. at the Canaan United Methodist Church, Canaan. Reception following at the family home.

Donations may be made in her name to UMCOR-Global Ministries or to the National Park Foundation.

## OBITUARIES

### Allison J. 'Al' Andrews

MILLERTON — Allison J. "Al" Andrews, 71, a lifelong area resident died peacefully on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at Sharon Hospital in Sharon, surrounded by his loving family. Mr. Andrews had a thirty year career with New York State retiring in 2006 as a locksmith from the Taconic DDSO Campus in Wassaic.



Born December 29, 1950, in Albion, New York, he was the son of the late William Miller and June Reetz (Miller) Jenks. He was a 1970 graduate of Webutuck High School. He immediately entered the United States Army during the Vietnam War and served our country from 1970 -1972 when he was honorably discharged from the United States Army. On November 24, 1973, at the Millerton Methodist Church, he married Beth Lynn Crawford. Mrs. Andrews survives at home in Millerton. Mr. Andrews was a life member of the Millerton Fire Company and served as Fire Chief from 2000-2005. He also served as fire company treasurer for many years and held many other firematic offices throughout the years. He was a life member and Past-Commander of the Millerton American Legion Post No. 178 and served as an American Legion Commander of Dutchess County. He was a past member of the Millerton Gun Club and enjoyed hunting and fishing. In his spare time he enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren "work-

ing" and wood working and completing jigsaw puzzles in addition to being an avid reader.

In addition to his loving wife Beth, Al is survived by two daughters, Amy Slater and her husband Nick of Millerton and Carolee Andrews and her companion Jim Murphy of Millerton; three grandchildren, Holden and Camden Slater and Allison Breen all of Millerton, his brother-in-law David and sister-in-law Rosemary and several nieces and nephews and many dear friends and his dog Emma Lou. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, Roger A. Miller and two sisters, Donna Kaplan and her longtime companion Sal Carrubba and Esther Gray.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, June 18, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton. The Millerton Legion Post No. 178 and the Millerton Fire Company will conduct services during visiting hours. A funeral service will be held at 12 p.m. at the funeral home. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. Burial with standard military honors will follow at Irondale Cemetery, Route 22, Millerton.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Millerton Fire Company, P.O. Box 733, Millerton, NY 12534 or Millerton Legion Post No. 178, 155 Route 44, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit [www.conklinfuneralhome.com](http://www.conklinfuneralhome.com)

### Pierre-Alexander deWindt Low

SHARON — Pierre-Alexander deWindt Low, age 27, of Greenwich, died June 6, 2022, at his family's farm in Norfolk. He was the son of David N. Low and Dominique G. Lahaussois.

Pierre-Alexander was born April 3, 1995, in Greenwich, Connecticut. Pierre-Alexander graduated from Amherst College in 2017. He was diagnosed with a rare cancer, thymic carcinoma, in January 2020. Pierre-Alexander faced his disease with fortitude and grace, continuing to travel to favorite places, including San Francisco and Corsica

(France), and to spend time with his many friends. Easter Weekend, 2022, he was able to enjoy a special week-end skiing Alta with a close friend.

He is survived by his grandfather, parents, uncles, aunts and cousins including his extended family in France, and his many friends.

A memorial service will be held at the Church of Christ, Congregational in Norfolk, on Friday, June 24, at 12 p.m. All other services are private. The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

### Memorial Service

#### Marian Schwaikert

A memorial service for Marian Schwaikert will be held at St. John's Church in Salisbury at 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 2. Those unable to attend may view the service online at St. John's Episcopal Church at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=6c-2DqkrqTAg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6c-2DqkrqTAg)

## Worship Services

Week of June 26, 2022

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

**The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.**  
30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT  
Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!  
Online worship, Sundays at 10:00 a.m. [www.salisburyucc.org](http://www.salisburyucc.org)  
Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT  
Rev. Paul Christopherson  
SUNDAY SERVICE  
10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II)  
In-Person and on YouTube [www.stjohnssalisbury.org](http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org)  
860-435-9290

**North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC**  
Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people  
172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT  
Worship services Sundays at 10 am [www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational](http://www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational)  
860-824-7252

**FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH**  
is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan  
Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm  
[www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org](http://www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org)

**The Lakeville United Methodist Church**  
319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"  
Pastor Joy Veronesi  
860-435-9496  
[Lakevillemethodist@snet.net](mailto:Lakevillemethodist@snet.net)

**The Sharon United Methodist Church**  
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  
[sharonumc5634@att.net](mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net)

**Promised Land Baptist Church**  
29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT  
Where you will find: A Warm Welcome!  
Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!  
Sunday School - 10am  
Sunday Worship - 11am  
Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM  
(860) 824-5685  
VISITORS WELCOME!  
[www.promisedlandbaptist.org](http://www.promisedlandbaptist.org)

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

**The Smithfield Presbyterian Church**  
656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 85, Amenia, NY  
Services every Sunday 10 a.m. [www.thsmithfieldchurch.org](http://www.thsmithfieldchurch.org)  
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860-927-5005  
Rev. Robert Landback  
The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge  
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SATURDAY VIGIL  
4 PM - St. Bridget  
SUNDAY MASSES  
8 AM - St. Bernard  
10 AM - Sacred Heart  
WEEKDAY MASSES  
Monday, Tuesday & First Friday  
9 AM - Sacred Heart  
Wednesday  
9 AM - St. Bernard

**Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon**  
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  
[www.christchurchsharon.org](http://www.christchurchsharon.org)

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
40 Leedsville Road  
Amelia Union, NY  
SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30  
IN-PERSON AND ONLINE  
Visit our website for links  
Rev. AJ Stack  
845-373-9161  
[www.stthomasamenia.com](http://www.stthomasamenia.com)  
A Community of Radical Hospitality

**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock  
In person services on Sundays  
8:00 and 10:30 A.M.  
Livestream at 10:30 on [www.trinitylimerock.org](http://www.trinitylimerock.org)  
The Rev. Heidi Truax  
[trinity@trinitylimerock.org](mailto:trinity@trinitylimerock.org)  
(860) 435-2627

**Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT**  
Join our virtual Zoom service on Sunday, July 10 at 10:30 a.m.  
For information, contact Jo Loi at [jokiauioi@gmail.com](mailto:jokiauioi@gmail.com)  
All are Welcome

**ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH**  
Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk  
St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan  
St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville  
MASS SCHEDULE  
Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church  
Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary  
Sunday 11 a.m.,  
Immaculate Conception Church  
DAILY MASS SCHEDULE  
Wednesday 6pm  
St. Joseph Chapel or Church  
Thursday 8am  
Immaculate Conception Church  
Friday 8am  
Church of St. Mary  
ALL ARE WELCOME!  
For information, please call 860-824-7078

**UCC in CORNWALL**  
Congregational  
Worship Sunday, 10 am  
Cornwall Village Meeting House  
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

**Sharon Congregational**  
25 Main Street, Sharon, CT  
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
Visit our website [sharoncongregationalchurch.org](http://sharoncongregationalchurch.org)  
for current online Bible studies and Sunday services  
In-person Bible study will resume in the fall.  
Contact us at 860-364-5002 or [info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org](mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org)

**Canaan United Methodist Church**  
2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"  
Rev. Lee Gangaware  
860-824-5534  
[canaanctumc@gmail.com](mailto:canaanctumc@gmail.com)  
We hope you will join us!

**The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall**  
Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m.  
Email Rev. Mary Gates at: [mngates125@gmail.com](mailto:mngates125@gmail.com)  
for an invitation to the Zoom service  
If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone.

**All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church**  
313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT  
Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M.  
Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M.  
Rev. John Kreta  
860-824-1340  
[allsaintsofamerica.us](http://allsaintsofamerica.us)

### Sharon transfer station stickers

SHARON — Transfer station stickers are available and forms can be downloaded from a link on the town website, [www.sharonct.org](http://www.sharonct.org).

Residents may also use the drop box behind Town Hall or come in person to complete the form.

The stickers are \$140 for the first residential vehicle sticker with \$60 for each additional vehicle in the same household. The selectmen's office will be open Saturday, June 25 from 9 a.m. to noon for the purchase of stickers.

### Vaccine clinic planned on July 7

LAKEVILLE — Griffin Healthcare will hold a COVID 19 vaccine clinic at the town Grove Senior Center, 43 Ethan Allen Street, from 1 p.m. to 5 on July 7.

All 3 vaccines and booster shots will be available for ages 5 and up. Bring your COVID 19 card, photo ID, and insurance card. For further information email [lmcauliffe@salisburyct.us](mailto:lmcauliffe@salisburyct.us) or call Lisa McAuliffe at 860 435-5186.

A celebration of the life of

### Bettie L. Snyder

will be held at  
the Sharon Playhouse, Bok Gallery  
on June 26, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.

*Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.*

### North Canaan Family Fun Week

NORTH CANAAN — First Selectman Charles Perotti reminded residents and their friends of Family Fun Week that continues until Saturday, June 25, offering various family-oriented events.

On Thursday, June 23, Family Fun Nite, begins at 6 p.m. at Lawrence Field. A pool party is scheduled at the town pool on Friday, June 24, beginning at 5 p.m.

Wrapping up the festivities will be Family Fun Day at Lawrence Field, on Saturday, June 25, beginning at 2 p.m. and concluding at 4 p.m. All events are free.

### HVA kicks off Explore-a-thon

SALISBURY — The Housatonic Valley Association's (HVA) inaugural Explore-a-thon event kicked off this month and runs through June 30th with the goal of getting people outside to appreciate the Housatonic River Watershed and raise awareness about supporting environmental health.

People can register anytime throughout the month and venture out solo or as a team anywhere throughout the 2,000 square-mile, tri-state watershed.

All events are listed on

the Explore-a-thon website.

To learn more about Explore-a-thon and register, visit [www.hvatoday.org](http://www.hvatoday.org).

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Master Automotive &  
Heavy Duty Truck Technician      2 North Elm Street  
N. Canaan, CT 06018

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

## LIBRARY

Continued from Page A1

man of the Capital Campaign said, noting that by August 2021, \$2.7 million had been received. While celebrating the ultimate success, she cautioned that construction can bring unforeseen costs brought by building complications or fluctuating prices for materials.

Celebrating that the campaign attracted 80 new donors, among them many new residents who moved to town during the COVID-19 pandemic, Edmundson said that if there is excess funding, the balance will be deposited into the library's endowment fund.

David Moore, chairman of the Building Project Committee, described plans for the project, noting that the community's generosity allowed the project to be expanded to include even more improvements to two floor levels.

Initially, Moore explained, a chairlift was planned to carry patrons up from the new rear entrance to the main level, but now that same chairlift will be able to descend to access a redesigned lower level as well.

Large windows will provide light to enhance the low-



RENDERING SUBMITTED

The Hotchkiss Library in Sharon shown in an architectural rendering.

er level, Moore said, making the area ideal for meetings and gatherings. That public area will be able to be used even when the library is closed, because it will have an independent entrance. The circulation desk will be moved from its current location.

Construction work is being done by Kronenberger and Sons, Middletown, Moore said. Work is

expected to be completed during the winter, with final grading and planting slated for the spring. An outdoor reading area will be added to the north lawn.

"We're expanding our reach in new ways," said Gretchen Hachmeister, the library's executive director, describing improvement and expansion of library services. With enhanced WiFi, virtual meetings will be possible.

New laptops will be available, along with self-checkout of library materials.

"The interior spaces will be returned to the patrons," Hachmeister said, referring to plans to relocate the office and staff workspaces to other areas within the library building.

A community-wide celebration is scheduled for Saturday, July 2, beginning at 11 a.m.

## ELLSWORTH

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

The new owners of the landmark Ellsworth Farm in Sharon are Graham Stanton, at left, and Kristy Foss and their daughter, Lieve.

Foss noted.

"Our number one priority was protecting the land," referring to the expanse of land on both sides of Route 4. They purchased the farm property in late 2021 for \$2.7 million.

"One of the reasons we wanted to move here was the

community," Foss said, adding that she and Stanton had been coming to the area for six years, first in Falls Village and then in Sharon.

Their professional lives as technology entrepreneurs, specializing in tech startups, are centered in New York City, but along with daughter Lieve, who is 5, they are spending substantial time locally with home improvements and overseeing natural rejuvenation of the land.

While they are coming to know more about the property, Foss said that there has already been one pleasant surprise.

"We knew the barn was nice, dating back to the 1700s," but they have come to discover that the upper part of the solidly constructed old barn is a huge open space with exposed timbers. "It was being used for storage, but it has amazing potential,"

"We're taking time to restore the barn and the land," Foss said, adding that they want to take that time to understand what's best for the land within its environs.

"A moment to pause," put succinctly by Stanton, "and to assess," Foss said in agreement. "We are evaluating everything about the land, and letting the land rest," she added.

"Graham and I are big on natural maintenance of the land," Foss said, having realized that they and the land are part of a community. During the summer months, they plan to become better connected within the Sharon community.

"We're thrilled to have bought it," Foss said.

"History is important to us," they both agreed. "We don't want this story to end."

## SPONGY

Continued from Page A1

The energy required to re-foliate puts significant stress on trees, increasing the risk of tree mortality with each consecutive outbreak.

### CAES aerial surveys

Annual forest pest and disease aerial surveys conducted by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) documented that spongy moth caterpillars defoliated 156,000 acres in 2020, mostly in the eastern half of Connecticut, and 45,548 acres in 2021, mostly in Litchfield County. (The result of the 2022 annual survey by CAES has not yet been released.)

Martin said that 2021 was the first year of widespread defoliation in northwest Connecticut and most healthy trees re-foliated, in part due to sufficient summer rains, which activated a naturally occurring soil-borne fungus that is lethal to only spongy moth caterpillars and normally keeps their population in check.

In outbreaks, the larvae, or caterpillars, emerge in great numbers. By the end of June, they will have stripped bare a majority of trees in forests and yards.

When entering an area being ravaged by the dark and hairy insects, said Martin, you can hear the frass, or caterpillar poop, raining down. "It's disgusting, quite frankly. You can hear the frass falling. It sounds like rain. It's just gross."

Just ask Eileen Fielding, executive director of the Sharon Audubon Center, where "the oaks are getting



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Eileen Fielding, executive director of the Sharon Audubon Center, on Friday, June 17, stood next to a stately oak at the society's entrance that for two years has been stripped of leaves by spongy moth caterpillars.

slammed," she recently reported.

Fielding said she is especially heartbroken by the defoliation, two years in a row, of a stately oak that graces the entrance to Sharon Audubon.

"We have a magnificent, huge oak tree at the entrance to the center; there was not a leaf on it last year. Same thing this year. It's completely bare. We are worried that some trees that got hit two years in a row might be weakened and will not survive."

### Helping trees recover

Spongy moth infestations are difficult to control over wide areas and while the state has no plans for widespread aerial spraying, individuals are encouraged to consult with arborists or a licensed pesticide applicator to protect their trees prior to the emergence of caterpillars, or to help trees recover from defoliation.

Tom Zetterstrom, a tree preservationist, environmental activist and fine-arts photographer in North Canaan, noted that one egg mass can contain as many as 500 eggs, resulting in "an exponential expansion, and suddenly we have a dramatic increase in defoliation."

He said he has not wit-

**"We've started seeing caterpillar mortality, which is super important, because they have to die before they pupate and lay eggs for 2023."**

*Christopher Martin, DEEP Director of Forestry*

nessed this level of defoliation in decades. "My observation is that it is as bad as the gypsy moth explosion in 1981, when I remember losing trees in the higher elevation of my woodlands."

The spongy moths, said Zetterstrom, have their most favored foliage, which are white oaks. "They were immediately and heavily defoliated, followed by red oaks, white oaks, birches, and now they are going on to the elms."

On a community level, Zetterstrom credited Lisa Carter, superintendent of the Region One School District, for taking proactive measures early in the outbreak. She consulted with local arborist Fred Scoville and sought emergency approval for the treatment of trees at the high school and various grade schools.

"They came up with a strategy of injecting the campus trees, with good success," Zetterstrom said.

For those trees that do become defoliated, he said, it is important to feed them nutrients and keep them watered "to encourage new leaf pull-out" during the summer.

### "Some mortality" expected at GMF

Jody Bronson, a fourth-generation land manager and forester at Great Mountain Forest (GMF), said while he expects that "there will be some mortality" among the stands of red oak and other trees throughout GMF's 6,000 acres of contiguous forest in Norfolk and Falls Village, he predicted that "once the gypsy moth completes its life cycle, the stands of oak

should be OK."

Many of the oak trees at GMF, he explained, are between 110 and 150 years old. "They have experienced gypsy moth infestations before. Last year we had record rainfall; therefore, the trees were not under stress," he noted. However, Bronson said all bets are off on that optimistic outlook, "if the Northwest Corner goes into a drought situation this year, it could raise a concern."

### The fungus to the rescue?

As of mid-June, said DEEP's Martin, it looks like there has been enough rainfall to halt the caterpillars' feasting spree.

"It does appear that the fungus in the soil has activated. We were nervous that the rains weren't going to be sufficient, but we've started seeing caterpillar mortality, which is super important, because they have to die before they pupate and lay eggs for 2023."

He said all signs point to an end to the leaf-munching caterpillars by the end of June.

## HOSPITAL

Continued from Page A1

Seeking the selectmen's action, Dr. David Kurish attended the meeting to appeal for support and emphasize the necessity for action.

In mid-May, First Selectman Brent Colley had sent an official letter to the Office of Health Strategy in Hartford requesting a public hearing on the Certificate of Need filed by Nuvance that, if approved, would allow a reduction in hospital service.

Colley argued that rural areas demonstrate a critical need for full hospital services and that it is in the public interest to protect those services.

Sharon Hospital plans to phase out labor and delivery services and to consolidate its intensive care services into a progressive care unit.

The state Office of Health Strategy began an investigation into Sharon Hospital's parent company, Nuvance, citing discrepancies between a 2021 settlement agreement and comments from members of the community.

Colley said that he wants the hospital employees to know that the town cares and supports them.

"If we lose the hospital, it will create a major hole," Colley said.

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

DAY TRIPS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## In a Topsy-Turvy World, the Highland Games Bring a Taste of Tradition

For most people, it won't make much difference that this year's Round Hill Highland Games will be slightly different than they are in a normal year.

First of all, who really knows what normal means in a COVID-19 world.

And second, how can you really use the word "normal" when you're talking about a day-long event at a race track that is dedicated to bag piping, throwing curling stones and tossing wood cabers the size of telephone poles.

"This year the athletic events are going to be a little smaller than usual," said event organizer Cathy Sutherland (who was in quarantine with COVID at the time of this interview, just in case anyone thinks the pandemic is over).

Happily, it isn't illness that's taken the top caber tossers and shot putters away from these, the 99th annual Round Hill Highland Games (the

games have been at Lime Rock Park in Salisbury, Conn., for about the last five years). The top competitors will be away at the U.S. Strongman Nationals that weekend.

Really, though, part of the charm of the Round Hill Games is the efforts of newcomers and amateurs to learn, with seriousness and determination, how to spin and throw heavy lead balls on chains and how to heave a lead shot putt from their shoulder.

It isn't just burly Scotsmen in kilts taking part in these shows of strength and grace; the participants are unexpectedly diverse, including many women and many people of different colors and cultures, all joined together by the patterns of their tartans.

So don't worry that the top national caber tossers won't be at Lime Rock Park this Sunday, June 26. The gates open at 8:30 a.m. and activities continue until 4:30 p.m.

The schedule of



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

events is a little bit loose-y goose-y but mid to late afternoon is an excellent time to go and see the pipe band competitions (my favorite). In the morning, there are individual pipers and drummers who are performing, and being judged. In the afternoon, though, you can witness the truly lovely and inspiring spectacle of the pipe and drum bands

marching in formation, clad in their dressiest tartans and twirling their tasseled drum sticks.

At the end of the day, around 4 p.m., all the bands will come together for a mass parade.

Although the piping is my personal favorite part of the Highland Games, there is more (much more!) to do.

There will be demon-

**The Round Hill Highland Games return to Lime Rock Park in Salisbury, Conn., on Sunday, June 26, with caber tossing, a 1-mile kilted run and many other exotic delights.**

strations of Scottish arts and culture, including live music and Highland dancing. Members of the Norfolk Curling Club will have a tent on the grounds, and will bring their portable stones, so visitors can try a hand at curling.

There will be a variety of libations, including iced teas from Harney & Sons of Millerton, N.Y., and craft beers from Great Falls Brewing Co. in North Canaan, Conn.

There will be a whiskey tasting; you can either come and purchase individual samples, or pay a flat fee and

attend an educational talk about how to drink whiskey properly.

Food will be served alongside the whiskey, and there will also be food trucks at the park.

"There won't be any haggis this year," Sutherland said, with regret, referring to the classic Scottish dish of sheep innards stuffed with oatmeal.

"There is a supply chain interruption and we can't get sheep stomachs," she explained.

Which takes us back to our original point: Our world continues to be abnormal, but the Highland Games are not exactly normal anyway — and yet they are rooted in centuries-old traditions.

Come on down to Lime Rock Park on Sunday, June 26, and be transported to another place and time. Learn more and order tickets at [www.rhhg.org](http://www.rhhg.org).

### TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

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#### PATTERN AND TIME

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May 7<sup>th</sup> to June 25<sup>th</sup>  
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## A Bloody Good Bloody Mary Mix

The history of the Bloody Mary cocktail is vague, with no one really certain how it got its name or who invented it in the first place.

But one thing we do know is that Salisbury, Conn., native Andy Williams has invented a particularly delicious base mix for the cocktail, which is now being sold at the LaBonne's markets, including the one in Salisbury.

Williams has been working at area bars

since 2001, starting when he was 16 at The Boathouse in Lakeville, Conn., when it was still owned by Danny O'Brien. Williams is now on duty at Lakeville's Black Rabbit Bar and Grill on weekends, where he serves up his very tasty tomato-based beverage with or without vodka (the tamer version is, of course, known as a Virgin Mary).

The perfect Bloody Mary mix took about a decade to perfect, Williams said. It has nine ingredients, including tomato juice and celery salt (and the requisite stalk of celery — no one seems to know how that cocktail tradition got started either, in case you're wondering).

He's very specific about his vodka — he likes to use Tito's, which adds some smokiness to the drink.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

**Come taste Andy Williams' award-winning Bloody Mary mix at LaBonne's market on June 25, where the mix is now being sold in bottles.**

Other ingredients include citrus juices, A1 sauce, Worcestershire sauce, horse radish and Tabasco — but Williams promises that he's found a happy balance between too hot and not hot enough.

The ideal Bloody Mary, he said, is one that can help cure you of a hangover without scorching

your windpipe.

One ingredient you will not find in a Williams Bloody Mary: filet mignon.

"I've been to many competitions where there will be an entire steak in the Bloody Mary."

Williams sticks to more modest garnishes: a pimento-stuffed green olive, some fresh citrus, perhaps a cocktail onion.

"And if it's for a contest, sometimes I'll add a couple of grilled shrimp."

The mixture is popular enough that LaBonne's (where Williams is also an employee; and in his spare time he does a blog called Simply Sports) is now selling the mix at all its stores.

Continued on next page

## Dining



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MUSIC: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

# Blues Project Is Back, and Taking it on the Road

Out of the ashes of Blues Project — one of the most influential bands of the mid 1960s — rose another amazing and influential band of that era: Blood, Sweat & Tears, started by Blues Project founding members Steve Katz and Al Kooper.

Katz and Kooper remained with BST for its early glory years (including the band's performance at the original Woodstock). They then went their own ways, though the band continues to tour — with all new and much younger members.

"It's essentially a tribute band now," said Steve Katz, politely, sitting in his music studio/home office in Kent, Conn., where he lives with his wife, the ceramic artist Alison Palmer.

Make no mistake: Katz isn't sitting around at home strumming his (many) guitars and talking about The Good Old Days. He keeps busy, making music, doing live solo shows (where he feeds his audience's nostalgia for the exciting early days of rock and roll in Greenwich Village). He recently wrote a well-received autobiography, "Blood, Sweat and My Rock & Roll Years."

And now he's getting his old band back together — but that band is Blues Project, not Blood Sweat & Tears. Katz still speaks weekly with Blues Project drummer Roy Blumenfeld, who now lives in California. More than a half century after they first began making music together, they decided that now was the time to do some live shows and record an album.

The new Blues Project band also includes Chris Morrison (vocals and lead guitar), Ken Clark (piano and vocals) and



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

**Steve Katz, a founding member of Blues Project, can still spend all day noodling around with his guitars in his home studio in Kent, Conn. His band, Blues Project, returns this summer with a concert June 25 and a new album.**

Scott Petito on bass. All three are younger than Katz and Blumenfeld — but old enough to have experienced live music in a pre-computer age.

Referring especially to the drum machines that have added a more machine-made element to music, Katz said, "Drum machines lack soul. Today's records lack soul." He isn't talking about soul as a musical genre; he's referring to the spontaneous magic that occurs when a bunch of musicians come together on a stage or in a studio and unexpected things just ... happen.

Blues Project itself is largely electric, not at all an unplugged throwback to the early days of American roots music.

Rob Buccino, who writes about music for Compass arts and entertainment, described the band as, "anchored (like Cream) in high-volume cover versions of blues classics. Blues Project was also among the first bands to blend jazz themes with rock instrumentation, an early forerunner to jazz-rock fusion, at a time when psychedelia/acid rock was washing over the country."

The new Blues Proj-

ect began touring last year, and they will meet up in a couple weeks at Petito's recording studio in Woodstock, N.Y.

True to the roots of Blues Project, the plans for the album are not exactly set in stone.

There is no definite list of songs. All the musicians are coming up with ideas; some of the final choices will probably get made on Saturday, June 25, at 7 p.m. when the band is doing a live gig at The Falcon in Marlboro, N.Y. ([www.liveatthefalcon.com](http://www.liveatthefalcon.com)).

No one is overly stressed out about what the album will eventually become. Part of the fun of Blues Project and of live music in general, Katz believes, is the unique chemistry that happens when a bunch of musicians get together.

"I'm as curious as anyone else might be as to what will happen," Katz said happily. "That's the thing about Blues Project: We never know how it will turn out, but we know it will be fun."

Buccino agrees that this fluid approach to making plans lies deep in the DNA of Blues Project.

"They were among the first 'jam bands,' inspiring others to break out of the then-dominant 3-minute popular song mold," he said.

Also true to the legacy of Blues Project, much of what the band plays will be electric — but not all of it, Katz said, noting with understatement that, "We're pretty eclectic."

Blues Project will continue to tour this year, primarily in the Northeast. A West Coast tour is a possibility next year.

And this October, there will be a new album — pressed on CDs.

"CDs still seem like a new thing to me," Katz sighed. He assumes the album will eventually become available on streaming.

The band is also using a modern innovation to raise money for studio time: They need \$12,500 and have started a Kickstarter campaign. Anyone who would like to contribute can go to [www.kickstarter.com/projects/bluesproject/the-blues-project-the-new-album-and-tour](http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/bluesproject/the-blues-project-the-new-album-and-tour).

## ...Bloody Mary

Continued from previous page

There will be a tasting at LaBonne' in Salisbury on Saturday, June 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The mix costs \$9.99 for 32 ounces (enough for about five Bloody Marys).

Look for it at the store in the front cooler, next to the fruit juices. It sells out quickly. Williams said he generally makes eight or nine bottles every Thursday.

"I make it in small batches, so you can taste the freshness. "Once you taste

it," he promises, "you will never want to try another Blood Mary mix."

You can place individual orders for the mix by calling Williams at 860-318-5800.

And as for the history behind his signature drink, Williams subscribes to the idea that bartender Ferdinand Petiot mixed the first Bloody Mary in Paris at what would become Harry's Bar. The drink debuted in 1921, which Williams notes is 100 years ago.

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EDITORIAL

The time for lasting change is now

Juneteenth has just passed, the second since it became a national holiday in 2021. Connecticut has made it a state holiday as well, which will take effect next year. More than 150 years after emancipation of all the slaves in the United States happened, it's about time there has finally been some national recognition of it.

For Black Americans, this is a time of acknowledgment of their long heritage in this country, which began in chains but evolved into their persevering in a continually racist environment to achieve so much against the odds. The strength and courage of their ancestors in fighting for their rights as citizens and humans should be inspiring to them, and to all. That fight continues, and all Americans should be part of it.

White Americans on Juneteenth should have paused their preconceived ideas of what their Black and brown neighbors contend with in society every day, and understand that they must encourage and take part in civic and social action to achieve a larger measure of change to lift all Americans up in a real way now.

All Americans need to think hard about how to change the way our systems are set up, and how they are stacked against Black and brown people. Because if change doesn't take hold now, across waves of entrenched racism such as mass incarceration, abuse and violence by law enforcement and others, inequity in ability to borrow money, ability to own or rent homes, bias in employers' hiring, equal access to higher education and on and on, it could be a last defining moment for our society.

While incremental change has made a difference in the lives of many Black and brown people and their families, such change is not enough. The future needs to be hopeful and hold promise for all Americans if this nation is to achieve lasting success in its third century of existence.

Hearings are just

Liz Cheney is a hero  
Proving Trump is a zero  
The hearings are a must  
The accusations just  
Once and for all  
We see his gall  
He needs to go to jail  
Or justice is a fail.

Michael Kahler

Lakeville

The effect of pet waste on the environment

Dear EarthTalk: Does all the pet waste American dogs and cats leave behind outside have an effect (positively or negatively) on the environment?

— Mary C., Seattle, Wash.

Dog and cat waste may seem harmless, but the reality is that your pet's poop can be very problematic for ecosystems where it accumulates. Think of an ecosystem as a closed box. Within that closed box is everything that makes up an ecosystem: the dirt, the

However, if you were to add waste that was derived from an outside source to that box (ecosystem), say a dog-food factory where the ingredients (and therefore the chemicals) are chosen in abundance to provide the best possible diet, then you would be upsetting the balance of that ecosystem.

The chemicals found in pet feces that are the most problematic are nitrogen and phosphorus, which in overabundance can cause certain organisms to thrive, and others to falter. Algae blooms, for example, thrive when nitrogen and phosphorous levels are high. These blooms can spread very quickly across waterways, sucking the oxygen from aquatic ecosystems and suffocating wildlife.

So, what are we supposed to do with all this poop? Throwing it in the trash unfortunately just moves the problem to another location. Our best option would be to naturally compost it, but if your options are limited, flushing it down the toilet to be processed at a sewage treatment facility is considered the most convenient and greenest option today.

EarthTalk® is produced by the 501(c)(3) nonprofit EarthTalk. Send questions to: [questions@earthtalk.org](mailto:questions@earthtalk.org).



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Peonies in bloom on the lake

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Crosswalk in Salisbury has been made safer now, thanks to so many

This is a thank-you to the many people involved in obtaining for Salisbury the pedestrian-operated blinking lights at the village's often-perilous crossings of Routes 41 and 44, one at the crosswalk on Main Street and another near the White Hart. A third has been installed at the Salmon Kill Road bike path.

This victory for community safety is the result of years of diligent work by First Selectman Curtis Rand, plus advocacy by The Lakeville Journal, and a September 2019 petition campaign by John Pogue and me. John

had lost his wife to a speeding car on Main Street, and I had been badly injured in the crosswalk by an SUV. Our petition drive, announced in this newspaper, rather quickly amassed several hundred signatures in support of putting in such lights.

The signed petitions were presented to Curtis Rand, whose efforts to obtain such lights for Salisbury (as had been done previously for Lakeville) had for several years been blocked by the requirements and entanglements of state government agencies, patent disputes, etc. The petitions' evidence

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — June 1922

Mr. and Mrs. George R. Belcher and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Amundson of Lime Rock are enjoying life this week at the Amundson camp at Cornwall Pond.

ORE HILL — Terence Solan, Stephen Meehan and James Moore and other members of the Lakeville High School Graduating Class motored to Springfield, Mass., last week Wednesday.

50 years ago — June 1972

With this week's \$184,692 purchase of 492 acres of Falls Village wetland from William R. Knowlton, the State took the first step in assembling a

major Northwest Connecticut wildlife management area embracing perhaps 2,000 acres. A Department of Environmental Protection spokesman confirmed Tuesday that parcel-mapping and active negotiation on adjoining properties in the Robbins Swamp area are already in progress.

— There was standing room only Friday night as 183 seniors, largest graduating class in the school's history, received their diplomas at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. Rain and the threat of more rain forced the 33rd annual commencement ceremonies indoors, where a crowd of 850 overflowed the school's auditorium.

— Penn Central is formally petitioning the Interstate Commerce Commission for abandonment of nearly 70 miles of track on the Harlem and Berkshire Divisions. The abandonment would mean the end of freight service on the 35.1 miles of track between New Milford and Canaan; and on the 32-mile stretch from Millerton to Ghent, N.Y.

— Getting to know and understand other cultures and languages is the chief aim of the Summer Abroad Program of the American Field Service. Two AFS students from Housatonic Valley Regional High School have been awarded a Summer Abroad scholarship. Sheree Jackson of Sharon and Ben Freund of East Canaan will "get away from it all" via air travel; Sheree to Costa Rica and Ben to Turkey.

— Larry Casey, formerly associated with the Lakeville Food Center, is now in charge of the meat department at the new Falls Village Market on Main Street, according to Dana Shores, Falls Village Market proprietor.

25 years ago — June 1997

About 100 people packed the Town Hall meeting room last Thursday night, the majority obviously there to vote in favor of town ownership of the "corner lot" at the intersection of routes 7 and 44.

— Salisbury taxpayers will save more than \$60,000 during fiscal 1997-98, thanks to the efforts of William Willis of Wagner McNeill Inc. insurance company in Lakeville. Mr. Willis, a Salisbury resident, helped the town to find a less expensive health-care plan by joining a consortium with the Region 1 schools.

*These items were taken from The Lakeville Journal archives at Salisbury's Scoville Memorial Library.*

Better late than never

"We cannot expect that everyone, to use the phrase of a decade ago, will 'talk sense to the American people'. But we can hope that fewer people will listen to nonsense."

— John F. Kennedy

JFK was headed to the Dallas Trade Mart when he was cut down, fully exposed to the public, in a convertible—a vision deeply etched in American memory. What we don't recall or never knew is that JFK's speech that day at the Dallas Trade Mart was to be centered on the spread of ignorance and "misinformation" damning to the US. In 1963, the danger was to US security, foreign affairs, not to the unraveling of our democracy.

We, today, also hope that fewer people listen to nonsense, that the January 6 Committee's hearings widely available and tuned into by millions will steer not off-the-cliff conspiracists on to terra firma but reach folks neither flaming red or deep blue who are listening, considering, reappraising - Americans who hold the balance. A cadre of Trump appointees, including the Mueller-busting AG, Bill Barr, have flamboyantly defamed Trump and his BS claims of fraud, his shaky grasp of reality.

These Republican men are to be thanked for coming forward now to tell how they stepped up to Trump in late 2020 and early 2021, how they provided "guard rails" for our democracy. Yet, what a long gestation for truth, 16 months for substantial evidence to be given to the American public, for men who were under oath to the Constitution, who by their positions and power were assumed to be honorable, kept silent while a raging lie was intentionally, dangerously spread like wild fire across the nation — was wasting resources, was endangering lives, and was enabling a coup set to overturn the US system of governance: a democracy, law and order, and truth.

Several of these Trump appointees wrote books, sold their stories while they refused to offer testimony, provide evidence of crimes to justice officials, a congressional commission — crimes they called out, confronted Trump about "to his face", in the oval office. They offered up their resignations but not their honesty, their commitment to the nation, their oath. Silence is a potent antidote to truth. Will a bombardment of Committee evidence, presented by persons of the toxic Trump wave after 16 months of journalistic pounding have impact?

Can the American public stand up at their kitchen tables to pledge allegiance, to demand adherence to national values, law and order? Will voters vote to deny the theft of their basic right to choose, to have their voice suppressed, superseded by state would-be autocrats?

Will the attention span and staunch resolve of the American public go far enough, deep enough to truly matter? Will gas prices and the potential forfeiting of a vacation trump the principles, structures, foundations of a republic — supersede land of the free and home of the brave?

"A republic, if you can keep it."

— Benjamin Franklin  
Kathy Herald-Marlowe

Sharon

**Deadline for letters is Monday at 10 a.m. Send to [publisher@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:publisher@lakevillejournal.com). No more than 500 words, and letters aren't published from the same writer two weeks in a row.**

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

of community support was reason to try anew, and this time, the attempt was successful.

After a further two-year delay due to state resources being taken up in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, the blinking lights were installed in May, and are now in use, the button on the Main Street crosswalk often pressed by elderly pedestrians. An added value comes from the lights slowing vehicular traffic into, through, and out of the village.

Tom Shachtman  
Salisbury

A welcome celebration

The COVID pandemic took away years of traditional fun and recreational activities for many families just about everywhere. Here, in Connecticut, the Sharon Day Care was finally able to revive a traditional June BBQ with all the trimmings, great food, amazing grill masters, and a crowd of well wishers consisting of families, staff, and board members.

Sharon Day Care is proud of its "family" of supporters and thanks one and all for coming together to enjoy the beautiful weather that crowned the occasion.

May this event be a harbinger of more fun outdoor activities to come for all to enjoy this summer.

Janet Nickson  
Sharon Day Care Board  
Sharon

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Mission Statement

The Lakeville Journal Company, Publishers of

The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News

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

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## Our Home, Our Future

Voices from our Salisbury community about the housing we need for a healthy, vibrant future

### Keeping a multigenerational community

If you think about aging in place or finding a place for your parents or grandparents to be nearby, we have a number of good local options.

Geer Village Senior Community offers: apartments for seniors seeking independent living, assisted living and memory care apartments, a nursing home, HUD supportive housing and outpatient physical therapy. Geer is one of the largest employers in our area, employing over 280 people.

Noble Horizons offers skilled nursing care, memory care, in and outpatient rehab and independent living in cottages and two-room suites. They are another major employer in Salisbury with 130 employees.

In 2020, the Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association merged with Foothills Visiting Nurse & Home Care and VNA Northwest to form Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County, which is a state-licensed and Medicare-certified home health and hospice agency.

SVNA Home Assistance enables people to live independently in the comfort of their home, whether it's providing an extra helping hand with personal care and housework or 24-hour care.

These vital organizations all require the services of properly trained staff from doctors, registered nurses and nurses' aides to personal care assistants. They all struggle to recruit and retain staff. A significant impediment is the lack of affordable housing in our area. Kevin O'Connell, CEO of Geer Village, said in an interview recently, "Employers like Geer must recruit employees from further away than ever before. It is becoming impossible to find people willing to commute 30 to 60 minutes one way for work. Geer Village could hire an additional 30 people TODAY if we could attract them to the area. Even when we offer significantly more than the going rate, we still can't attract the staff we need."

Noble Horizons Administrator Bill Pond said, "Our ability to recruit and retain staff is very challenged and the lack of affordable housing plays a role. We depend on people who live as far away as Winsted, Torrington and the other side of Waterbury. In order to attract staff with long commutes we are in the process of trying to secure an on-site day care program."

Michael Caselas, Executive Director of Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County, is also routinely

searching for therapists, RN's and personal care assistants. He said, "99% of our current staff live in Litchfield County or in very close proximity. Recruiting qualified staff from out of the area is almost non-existent. We believe the addition of affordable housing would be a catalyst to both retain current staff and bring in new candidates to northwest Connecticut."

According to O'Connell, "Having access to local affordable housing options (ownership and/or rents) is the long-term solution to resolving these challenges. As people age across northwest Connecticut, they will search for nurses, aides and services they need to 'age in place' at home. Communities like ours cannot continue unless they support and encourage young families. We need young, skilled workers to provide nursing care, work in our businesses and run our schools. We need people to work in our local restaurants, care for kids in day care and stock shelves in our stores. Our towns face a bleak future unless we can encourage young families to live locally and call the Northwest Corner home. Affordable housing is foundational to building sustainable communities."

Mary Close Oppenheimer is a local artist who has been part of the Lakeville/Salisbury community for 30 years.



### Stop letting union contracts override right-to-know law

Government cannot use union contracts with its employees to nullify its basic obligations to the public, a federal appeals court ruled last week in a case about the Connecticut state police union contract.

The contract has allowed troopers to prevent disclosure of misconduct accusations against them, thereby facilitating the state police department's own concealment of misconduct on the job generally. But two years ago the murder of George Floyd by police in Minneapolis called critical attention to police misconduct, prompting Connecticut's Black state legislators to break free of the General Assembly's usual subservience to the state employee unions, the mercenaries of the state's Democratic Party.

Thanks to the Black legislators, a law was enacted to nullify the misconduct concealment provision in the state police contract and restore the public's right of access to misconduct complaints. Whereupon the troopers union sued, and plausibly so, since the U.S. Constitution prohibits government from impairing the obligations of contracts.

But the courts also have found that contracts with the government are unenforceable when they impair the public's rights to basic government functions, and the two federal courts that have considered the Connecticut trooper contract issue have decided that letting contracts supersede the public's right-to-know law so misconduct can be concealed indeed goes too far.

The court decisions may be arguable law but their policy result is welcome. For the misconduct concealment provision in the state police contract is grotesquely subversive of democracy.

After all, laws ordinarily are made after deliberation in public that involves the public at hearings and conversations with legislators. But state government's labor contracts are negotiated in secret by the governor's aides and submitted for the legislature's approval on an all-or-nothing basis, and sometimes the contracts take effect automatically, without the legislature's approval and

without any public deliberation by the legislature at all.

Of course that is exactly how the government employee unions like it. For the unions, the less that is known about what they are extracting from the government, the better. The unions want the public kept ignorant.

The two court decisions don't fully resolve the troopers union's lawsuit. While the union may keep pressing the case, even if it continues, the new law nullifying the misconduct concealment provision should discourage the state administration from agreeing to future contracts with similar provisions.

But amazingly state law still allows Connecticut's government employee union contracts to supersede and nullify the right-to-know law in other respects. So the federal court decisions in the trooper union case suggest that other union contracts with concealment provisions might be fairly challenged in court by advocates of accountability.

The situation shouldn't have to get so complicated. Accountability in government is basic and there should be no obstructions to it. Connecticut's law letting union contracts trump the right-to-know law should be repealed and the unions should be reminded that they work for the public and not the other way around.

Unfortunately the public's

control over its own institutions is about to be curtailed again in Connecticut and throughout the country because of a loophole in federal military law.

While federal law prohibits unionizing by federal military personnel on active duty, the prohibition doesn't apply to members

of state units of the National Guard that have not been called to federal service. So last month the U.S. Justice Department conceded to a law-

suit brought in Connecticut on behalf of National Guard members seeking to unionize.

This settlement is being construed as an invitation to unionization by National Guard members in every state.

Unionization may devastate the chain of command in state militias. It's bad enough that police agencies are unionized, impairing civilian authority over officers authorized to use force on behalf of the government. With so much misconduct in the military and police, more accountability is needed, not less.

So Congress should extend to state National Guard units the ban on unionization and Governor Lamont and the General Assembly should enact such a prohibition for Connecticut.

Chris Powell is a columnist for the Journal Inquirer in Manchester.

#### THE CHRIS POWELL COLUMN

### To the mothers of Uvalde

The horrific shooting at Robb Elementary in Uvalde has already been obscured by the January 6 hearings, the frightening drop in the stock market, the Russian capture of most of the Donbas and all the other bad news that crowds my inbox.

But it has not been eclipsed in my mind. I continue to feel intensely the throbbing bite at my soul these monstrous mass killings produce.

Because I know what it is to lose a child.

As do the mothers of Stoneman Douglas, Sandy Hook, Columbine, Buffalo, Pulse, Ukraine, and yes, even Russia—they are mothers after all—how I imagine we are all thinking of you, Uvalde mothers—feeling with you, anguishing with you over the loss of our children.

Our lives have changed in ways we never could have imagined.

Some of us have long known these changes. Uvalde mothers, raw and stunned with sudden agony, you are just discovering how this assault on your existence will characterize your coming days, weeks and months. You will soon find out who your real friends are. Some will back away from you, and you will be surprised. Your naked emotion is too hard for them to handle, it touches off reactions in them they are too frightened to touch.

Some of them will say appalling things to you, like "Only the good die young," "God needed another angel," "Well, at least you have

another child," "Everything happens for a reason," "There are no accidents," "I know how you feel," and my personal favorite of all these dreadful cliches, "God never gives us more than we can handle."

Really? Yet we go on, somehow, limping into a future empty of our child. Our lives, so ruthlessly sliced into "before" and "after," become too hard for others to comprehend.

Grief gets into our bloodstream, a partner for life.

Some imagine that we will return to the selves we were before the loss of our child and relate to us in that way. Friends chatter about their children and grandchildren, showing us pictures on their phones, speaking of the graduations, proms, birthdays and weddings our dead child will never have. We attend some of these events, celebrating with friends and relatives with quiet anguish in our hearts.

Somehow, some day, dear mothers of Uvalde, you will learn to carry your grief in a way that doesn't crush you daily. You will struggle to find the tool that will allow you to do that. It might be a garden, a scholarship fund in memory of your child, a crusade for gun rights, a community of fellow grievors, the comfort of religion or a renewed spiritual life, volunteering for a cause, starting again in a new home or area of the state or country.

It might be just the profound struggle to learn, day by day, how to be alive in

your strange new world.

Your heart has been broken; your former life shattered. Respect that absolute new fact.

Tend your grief carefully as it is part of you now. Stay with it, get to know it, let yourself feel it fully. Try not to push it away, numb yourselves with alcohol or drugs, frantic activity, or all the other unhealthy panaceas so readily available in our crazy consumer culture. Attempts to silence it will only backfire, produce extra pain. Embracing your heartbreak keeps you connected to your lost child.

Do not listen to people who say, "You'll get over it." You won't.

But you will someday laugh again, though a current of loss and memory will always course beneath that laugh.

And in time, you will summon the strength to fully love your other children and your spouses. You will learn to work at keeping them from drowning in your grief, understanding that they need to mourn their own losses, that they may grieve differently from you.

And know it's possible to survive, even though you cannot now imagine how you will do that.

I have. Dearest mothers of Uvalde, I'll be with you in spirit, a sister in sorrow, as you find your way.

Sharon Charde's son Geoffrey died 35 years ago in an accident in Rome, where he was finishing his junior year abroad. Her seven collections of poetry and new memoir celebrate his life and her journey through loss.

#### GUEST COMMENTARY SHARON CHARDE

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Private wells can be prone to having coliform, which is a naturally occurring bacteria in the water. Over 25% of wells tested in CT have the presence of coliform in the water, usually due to a repair or ground water getting into the well etc. It is best to address the issue by either shocking the well with chlorine or an ultraviolet light filter. While shocking the well will clean up the well, it is a temporary solution and it would be good to discover the source. CTDEEP has an informative pamphlet on this subject at: [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/environmental\\_health/pdf/04BacteriainPrivateDrinkingWaterWells0409pdf.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/environmental_health/pdf/04BacteriainPrivateDrinkingWaterWells0409pdf.pdf).

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**HVRHS**

**Continued from Page A1**

reversal of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion as “mind-blowing and devastating.”

“We have made far too much progress to regress in such a drastic manner.”

Tripp said if the abortion decision is overturned, that would open the door for restrictions on or abolition of same-sex marriage, interracial marriage and the availability of contraception.

She was equally voluble on the subject of gun control and school shootings.

“Education does not matter if the process of education gets you killed.”

She urged her classmates to “stay angry until the change you want actually occurs.”

Essayist Hayley Considine remembered her ninth grade embarrassment when, after an uneventful first day of high school, she accidentally broke a bottle when getting

on the school bus. She said she was scared that she would be judged and laughed at then, and later, because of her sexual orientation “as a bisexual woman.”

“I will not let the ignorance and hatred of those who know nothing about me bring me down again.”

Guest speaker Michael Baldwin (Class of 2000), clearly a favorite with the graduates, began by mentioning he had just got married the previous weekend. This got a loud cheer.

Baldwin said when he arrived at HVRHS, “I had no idea who I was.

“I felt unbelievably average.”

He was also coming to terms with his sexual orientation.

He described “an intense amount of shame and self-loathing. I had a secret that could not be voiced.”

“High school is just the beginning,” he continued. “I didn’t know that I’d marry a man and then tell everyone

about it at the Housatonic commencement ceremony!”

“Give yourself permission to ride the voyage of self-discovery,” he urged the graduates. “I failed Life Skills, and years later was asked to be the graduation speaker — so anything really is possible!”

Valedictorian Josie Marks said her class grew up “sheltered by the privilege and safety of the Northwest Corner.”

She said it is her generation’s turn “to combat our country’s hypocrisy as it claims to stand for equal pro-

tection under the law”

Among the things she vowed to fight for was abortion rights, saying abortion had never been an issue until white male doctors and the Catholic Church made it so.

She issued a “rallying cry,” saying the “liberties of all mi-

norities are at stake.”

“As a woman and a member of the LGBTQ community, I am petrified.”

She urged her classmates not to be indifferent to such issues.

“Instead of moving on, take action.”

**A Colorful Crosswalk**

Meg Sher and Rika Laser worked on the new crosswalk at Beebe Hill Road by the David M. Hunt Library on a cool, brisk Saturday morning, June 18. The crosswalk features motifs celebrating the town’s natural beauty and inclusive attitude. The crosswalk painting was organized by the Falls Village Equity project to commemorate Juneteenth and Pride Month and to serve as a welcome for all visitors to the town.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

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**TAG SALE:** June 25, 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 47 Maple St. Ext., Kent, CT. Gardening supplies, books, pet supplies, household items.

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**HELP WANTED**

**COOK:** Sharon Health Care Center- Full time, part time, per diem 11am-7pm. 27 Hospital Hill Rd. Sharon, CT (860)364-1002 administration @sharonhcc.com.

**GARDENER & CARETAKER:** Part-time. For Private Residence in Lakeville. \$25/hour. 20 hour/week, year round. Send experience history to: jobctfl@gmail.com.

**HELP WANTED:** Digital news producer, to create stories and visual content that will be dual-purposed for publication online and in the print edition of The Lakeville Journal. 25 hours per week and requires occasional work on weekends and evenings. Must have own transportation to travel in the Northwest Corner. Contact Lakeville Journal Editor John Coston, johnc@lakevillejournal.com.

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**OPEN POSITIONS:** TOWN OF AMENIA is seeking applications for a PT-Temporary File Clerk. Letter of Interest and Resume may be submitted via email to townclerk@ameniany.gov or via mail to Town Clerk, Dawn Marie Klingner, 4988 Route 22, Amenia NY 12501. Application Deadline: Noon, June 30, 2022.

**OPEN POSITIONS:** TOWN OF AMENIA is seeking applications for the following DAY CAMP positions: Camp Counselor, Camp Health Officer, Recreation Program Assistant, Recreation Specialist. Letter of Interest and Resume may be submitted via email to townclerk@ameniany.gov or via mail to Town Clerk, Dawn Marie Klingner, 4988 Route 22 Amenia NY 12501. Application Deadline: Noon, June 30, 2022.

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