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The Lakeville Journal

TriCornerNews.com

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THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022 \$2.00

Celebrating Our
125th Anniversary

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

Arnold's Garage ends auto repair, emissions testing

By John Coston

NORTH CANAAN – Arnold 'Arnie' Agar had \$24 in his pocket in 1975 when he started his own auto repair business at the intersection of Rts. 7 and 44 in what was an ARCO service station.

This month, after a successful 47-year run, which included a move in 1983 to the adjacent location at 2 North Elm St., just north of the intersection, and branching out to providing auto body work and service to big trucks, even running a trucking business, Agar is closing his repair bays.

Arnold's Garage is giving up auto repair and state emissions testing, but will continue to provide towing and auto body work and will retain a separate machine shop.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Arnold Agar and his wife Diana started a service station business at the corner of Rt. 44 and Rt. 7 in North Canaan 47 years ago.

started it all in the mid-Seventies. Now, they're both in their mid-seventies.

"We're really going to miss all our customers," said Diana.

The number of auto repair shops in the Northwest Corner can almost be counted on one hand. Like many others, Arnold's Garage served thousands of customers.

"In our Quickbooks we've run out of room for new customers,"

"It just came to a point where we needed to start cutting back on doing things," said Diana Agar, Arnold's wife who was there when he

See ARNOLD'S, Page A6



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Fragle, a 13-year old beagle with owner Perry Simmons took 'Best in Show' at the Little Guild's Great Country Mutt Show on Sunday, June 5 at Lime Rock Park in Lakeville. More photos appear at www.tricornernews.com.

Remembering the rich legacy of Ed Kirby

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — On Saturday, June 4, a large crowd of people gathered at Housatonic Valley Regional High School to honor the late Ed Kirby, a true polymath who started geology classes with poetry and told future World Series champs if they didn't stop cussing they'd be kicked off the baseball team.

The HVRHS Alumni Association organized the event. Kirby, a lifelong resident of Sharon, was a student, teacher, coach and administrator at HVRHS and Region One.

He died last year.

Richard Gustafson (HVRHS Class of 1959) opened the ceremonies by noting the alumni group had raised a hefty \$152,860 for the refurbishing of the baseball field (which is named for Kirby).

HVRHS Principal Ian Strever said Kirby was known for his leadership when he was employed by Region One and for being willing to help out when needed in retirement.

Steve Blass (Class of 1960), the self-described "wise guy" from Falls

See KIRBY, Page A6



PHOTO BY HUNTER O. LYLE

Anne Kirby described her father Ed as "rich in imagination and creativity."

Little Guild's Great Country Mutt Show unleashes fun for all

By Lans Christensen

LAKEVILLE — A glorious day, Sunday, June 5, welcomed a happy crowd of dogs and their families to Lime Rock Park for the Little Guild's great event, the Great Country Mutt Show.

The infield hill at Lime Rock provided an ideal setting for the show with expansive views and a huge tent for the actual judging.

More than 100 dogs attended,

with most entered in a wide variety of groups. Ranging from "Cutest Carry-On", through "Waggiest Tail", "Best Ears" and "Best Paw Shake."

There was a group for every possible dog, and many entered several groups.

Emmy winner and CBS Correspondent Richard Schlesinger

See MUTT SHOW, Page A6

Twin Lakes

Invasive water plant prompts new alert

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY – No, you cannot roast them on an open fire, nor will you find them in your take-out order of Asian food. The kind of water chestnuts the Twin Lakes Association (TLA) last week issued a warning about are of the thorny, non-edible, invasive variety that can destroy a lake's ecosystem and put a serious damper on recreational activities.

The Twin Lakes Association

posted an alert via its newsletter June 1 about a "potential new invasive weed" that has come to its attention. On May 18, two hard and spiny water chestnut seeds were found on the dock at the marina's boat launch.

While an immediate inspection of the area by state officials did not turn up any living plants, the TLA is asking the public to keep an eye out for signs of the invasive weed or pods, which they said may have floated away and deposited seeds elsewhere.

Matthew Gocłowski, a Supervising Fisheries Biologist with the state

See CHESTNUT, Page A6

Segalla sets records in track

By Hunter O. Lyle

FALLS VILLAGE — In the final stretch of her senior year at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Sydney Segalla is once again finding success, including setting multiple records.

And she is doing this in a new sport.

Over her four years at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Segalla has focused her skill on two sports, soccer and basketball.

With soccer, she earned a Division I roster spot at Boston College. On the basketball court, Segalla recently broke

See SEGALLA, Page A6



PHOTO BY GREG BLASKO

Sydney Segalla won all three of her races in the state Class S track championship May 31.



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In The Journal this week

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Three-day forecast

Friday.....Cloudy, high 76°/low 53°
 Saturday.....Rain, 65°/57°
 Sunday.....Cloudy, 73°/54°

Online This Week

Look for these stories and more, exclusively at www.tricornernews.com.

Diplomat says Putin will continue belligerence unless stopped

Marie Yovanovitch, a former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine and the author of the recent "Lessons from the Edge" spoke as part of the Salisbury Forum series of talks.

Sharon gets proposal for second EV charging site

A proposal presented to the selectmen would add two Level 2 EV charging ports to the parking lot adjacent to the firehouse. Additionally, First Selectman Brent Colley reported on a Town Hall acoustics study.

Fun unleashed at Mutt Show

More than 100 dogs attended the annual Little Guild Great Country Mutt Show. See story Page A1 and look for more photos online.

Cornwall approves parking at Foote Fields

Access to a 107-acre preserve had been limited until the selectmen approved parking at Foote Fields.

Kent housing committee plans feedback forum for June 22

KENT — The Kent Housing Plan Steering Committee will hold its next community feedback forum on Wednesday, June 22, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

The committee will present specific goals and strategies that have been developed to meet Kent's housing needs and will be polling attendees to hear which goals and strategies they support.

To register for this meeting, go to www.townofkentct.org/home/news/kent-housing-plan-steering-committee-forum.

March to end gun violence

SALISBURY — A march to end gun violence is scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 11, at the town Green. Organizers are encouraging marchers to bring signs supporting universal background checks, enacting red-flag laws and requiring gun buyers to be 21 years of age. Orange attire also is suggested.

Books & Blooms returns

CORNWALL — The Cornwall Library's Books & Blooms garden tour will be held Friday, June 17, and Saturday, June 18.

This year, renowned garden writer Page Dickey will kick off the festivities at 6 p.m. on Friday with the presentation "Bringing Meadows into the Garden" and a cocktail reception at the UCC Meetinghouse at 8 Bolton Hill Road.

At 10 a.m. on Saturday, the garden tours will include the legendary Cornwall Castle. Transportation from the library to the castle will be provided by all-day shuttle bus service.

Tickets are \$30 for the talk, \$30 for the garden tours or \$50 for both. To register and purchase tickets go to www.cornwalllibrary.org/books-blooms-2022.

Tickets/maps for the garden tour may be picked up at the library on Friday, June 17, between noon and 6 p.m. or on Saturday, June 18, starting at 10 a.m.

Land trust sets June 11 exhibit focusing on why forests matter

SALISBURY — "Come into the Forest," a new exhibit created by Elaine and Lou Hecht with the Salisbury Association Land Trust, will open on Saturday, June 11, at the Academy Building, 24 Main St.

The public is invited to an opening reception from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

The exhibit focuses on why forests matter, from the air we breathe, to clean drinking water, to the diversity of life we depend on for well-being.

The exhibit will remain on view until Aug. 7.

Giant Tag Sale seeks donations

FALLS VILLAGE — The Friends of David M. Hunt Library are currently seeking donated items of quality for sale at their Giant Tag Sale fundraiser to be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 9 and 10, at the Center on Main at 103 Main St. in Falls Village

during Discover Falls Village Weekend.

Items should be dropped off at the Center on Thursday, July 7, and Friday, July 8, from noon to 6 p.m. For more information contact Gail Allyn at andreaallyn@gmail.com, 860-318-1065.

Send Family & Friends announcements to editor@lakevillejournal.com

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.

Two-car collision

On May 27 at approximately 1:30 p.m. on Calkinstown Road in Sharon, a 2018 Volvo XC6 driven by Florence Liddell, 76, of New York, N.Y., initiated a left turn and collided with an oncoming 2005 Nissan Sentra driven by Robin Nichols, 56. No injuries were reported. Liddell was issued a written warning for making a left turn while failing to grant the right of way to traffic. Nichols was issued a written warning for failure to wear a seatbelt.

Domestic disturbance

On May 29 at approximately 8:30 p.m. Troop B responded to a report of an active disturbance at a residence on High Street in North Canaan. Tyrus Xavier Benoit, 23, of Norfolk, was charged with breach of peace

in the second degree. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on June 6.

Hit backing into driveway

On May 29 at approximately 9 p.m. on Clayton Road in North Canaan a 2010 Subaru Forester driven by Serena Granbery, 74, of Lakeville struck a 2018 GMC Sierra driven by Jhan Bonett, 42, of North Canaan. Bonett was backing into his driveway on Clayton Road. No injuries were reported. Bonett stated that Granbery was speeding, while Granbery stated that her vision was obstructed by Bonett's headlights. Due to the conflicting reports and lack of evidence, no police action was taken.

Asleep at the wheel

On May 31 at approximately 7 a.m. on South Canaan Road in North Canaan, near Grace Way, Colton Rhodes, 32, of Sherman fell asleep, causing his vehicle to run off the road, striking a telephone pole. No injuries were reported and Rhodes refused medical treatment. He was issued a misdemeanor or summons for failure to operate a motor vehicle with insurance, failure to maintain the proper lane and operating a motor vehicle without registration.

Panicked driver

On June 1 Andrew Bishop Larson, 36, of Waterbury, turned himself in on a warrant. The warrant stemmed from an incident on Dec. 3, 2021, when Troop B responded to a report of a medical emergency that occurred

while the driver was operating a motor vehicle. Troop B found the driver of a 2012 Nissan Rogue on Salisbury Road in Falls Village sitting on the grass away from his parked vehicle. In the report of the events, Andrew Larson stated that he believed he had begun having a panic attack while driving the Nissan and expressed his fear that he was dying. Larson reportedly told dispatchers that he had eaten a Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) gummy prior to driving his Nissan. He was assisted to an ambulance and taken to Sharon Hospital. In the report, Trooper Ryan Goggins verbally explained the incident at the time as, "Andrew [Larson] requested medical assistance because he ate an edible and now he thinks he's dying." Larson was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs and improper parking. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on June 15.

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.

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

Check them out inside.
 • Ocean State Job Lot

LEGAL NOTICES

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 T DILLON,
 ATTORNEY AT LAW,
 64 BOSTON STREET,
 GUILFORD, CT 06437
 Beth L. McGuire,
 Chief Clerk
 06-09-22

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

Salisbury Zoning Board of Appeals
 Stacie Weiner, Secretary
 06-02-22
 06-09-22

BAUER FUND AND FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Through grants to colleges, The Bauer Foundation provides indirect scholarship assistance for undergraduate college education to students residing in Regional School District One based on merit and need.

The Bauer Fund operates in the same manner. However, grants from the Fund are limited to students attending either Cornell or Wellesley.

Students attending Cornell or Wellesley should apply to the Fund. All

others should apply to the Foundation.

New and returning application forms for the 2022-2023 school year are available at: www.bauerfundfoundation.org.

Completed and fully documented applications must be returned to The Bauer Foundation at PO Box 1784 Lakeville CT 06039 - postmarked no later than June 23, 2022. Scholarship awards will be announced by August 23, 2022.

05-26-22
 06-02-22
 06-09-22
 06-16-22

LEGAL NOTICE SALISBURY AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION TOWN OF SALISBURY REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT JUNE 2, 2022

The Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission, Town of Salisbury, CT, is requesting proposals from qualified consultants to create a community engagement and communications strategy and implement that strategy over the next 6 months. Information concerning this Request for Qualifications may be obtained at: <https://www.salisburyct.us/request-for->

qualifications.

Responses should be sent by email to: gpetry@salisburyct.us. The email subject line should clearly state: "Response to RFQ - Communications Consultant." Responses will be received until 4pm, Thursday, June 30, 2022. The Town of Salisbury is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

06-09-22

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF BESSIE FOIS, Late of Greece (22-00173)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 19, 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:
 Chris Manolakis
 c/o KEVIN F. NELLIGAN, THE LAW OFFICES OF,
 KEVIN F. NELLIGAN, LLC, 194 ASHLEY FLS RD POB 776, CANAAN, CT 06018

Beth L. McGuire,
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Our Towns

North Canaan passes budget; mill rate climbs

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — Voters approved both the municipal and the education budgets as recommended by the Board of Finance at a town meeting on Wednesday, June 1.

Brian Allyn was elected to serve as moderator by the 31 residents in attendance.

By a vote of 26 to 5, the municipal budget passed, carrying total expenditures of \$3,034,543, an increase of \$179,039 (6.27%) over the current year.

By a vote of 30-1, the North Canaan Elementary School budget passed, with total expenditures of \$4,451,634, an increase of \$39,458 (0.89%) over the current year.

The Board of Finance met to set the mill rate immediately following the meeting, deciding among several alternatives detailed by Board of Finance Chairman Nancy O'Connor. Each mill rate option was accompanied by a different amount to be withdrawn from the town's General Fund.

Following discussion about the alternatives, the finance board set the mill rate at 31.0, an increase of 2 mills from the current year's rate of 29.0. The finance board noted that the new mill rate anticipates withdrawing \$347,914 from the General Fund.

An estimated additional \$300,000 is expected to be returned to the General Fund

in unexpended funds from this year's budget, O'Connor announced.

To help residents understand the impact of the mill rate for 2022-23, O'Connor provided an example that if a property is assessed for \$100,000, the property owner would have paid \$2,900 in taxes last year. Under the new mill rate applied to the same assessment, the property owner would pay \$3,100, an increase of \$200.

Over the past weeks, the town has been conducting a property revaluation to determine the Grand List of Taxable Property. Connecticut towns do a reval every 10 years.

The revaluation now underway will impact the October 2022 Grand List (for taxes that will be paid in July 2023), O'Connor explained.

Contributing to this year's increase is the town's obligation to the Region One School District budget, an increase of \$745,476 (15.65%) over the current year based on enrollment, bringing the Region One cost to \$5,508,112.

Other items brought for a vote at the town meeting received unanimous approval including renewal of the Little League's lease of school property for \$1, transfer of capital non-recurring funds to support the 2022 revaluation of taxable property, and transfer of non-recurring funds to make up the balance needed for the town's purchase of a 2022 Volvo loader.



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Candlelight vigil in Kent

The Kent community gathered on Friday, June 3, for a candlelight vigil at the Kent Volunteer Fire Department flagpole to honor the memory of those killed at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, on May 24. The St. Andrew's Church bell rang 21 times, for each of the 19 children and two educators killed that day.

Food waste diversion program to expand

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Salisbury-Sharon transfer station is expanding its food waste diversion program.

The pilot program began in May 2021, with the goal of getting organic food waste out of the municipal solid waste stream. Some 120 households participated in the pilot.

Barbara Bettigole, chair of the Transfer Station Advisory Recycling Committee (TRAC), said in an email Sunday, June 5, that the program is adding another 280 households, to bring the total to 400.

"That group can start bringing organics to the station on July 1st. There is no deadline, just a cap on the number of households for this phase. Those on the waiting list from the first pilot group are first on the list for the expanded program."

For more information or to sign up, email foodwastepilot@gmail.com or ask at the transfer station.

Revamped conservation panel focuses on open land

By Matthew Kreta

SALISBURY — The newly formed Salisbury Conservation Commission met online for the first time on Thursday, June 2.

The commission will primarily focus on the study and indexing of open areas, both public and privately owned. As a non-regulatory body, however, it will also have a focus on community education, general information and recommendations for planning and zoning.

General information could range from how often to mow the lawn to what to do with certain types of pests.

The commission members are Maria Grace, Lee Potter, Zachary Sadow, Tom Blagden and Susan Rand, with

two open alternate positions. First Selectman Curtis Rand and Land Use Administrator Abby Conroy also attended the meeting as guides and advisors.

Commission Chair Maria Grace has worked in environmental science in her career, and is also on the Salisbury Inland Wetlands Commission. The commission will later select a vice chair and secretary.

The commission will hold regular meetings the first Thursday of every month, placing their next official meeting on July 7.

The commission's first official assignment is to update Salisbury's Natural Resource Inventory (NRI), which has not had an official update since 2009.

The NRI is supposed to be updated every 10 years. Grace had been actively working on it before the COVID-19 pandemic halted progress.

"We're going to pick up where I left off and start moving through it," Grace said. The commission is hoping to have an updated NRI before the end of the year.

The commission was originally created in the 1970s, and over time focused primarily on the town's wetlands. The town now has two commissions focused on the environment: Inland Wetlands and Watercourses and the Conservation Commission. For more information about the new commission's goals and public meetings, go to www.salisburyct.us.

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Photo Credit: Philippe LEVY-STAR

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Our Towns



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Taghhanuck Grange plant sale

Sales were brisk at the Taghhanuck Grange #100 in Sharon, where the traditional plant and rummage sale was held on Saturday and Sunday, June 4 and 5. Volunteers Diane Palmer and Allison Hanlon assisted customers.

Offers and arguments over old firehouse renovation

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — At a special meeting of the Board of Selectmen Wednesday, June 1, at the Senior Center, an audience of about 45 people heard two presentations from individuals who wish to buy the old firehouse at 35 Railroad St.

There was a written communication on a third offer.

And there were a lot of complaints about the process.

Stefan Wolf, a Sharon woodworker who specializes in historical architectural moldings (and brought samples), said he wants to use the building as a living space for himself and his wife, a woodworking shop, office

space for his wife's business, and to use the site as a "cultural hot spot," hosting craft fairs in the parking lot.

First Selectman Henry Todd read a letter from Seth Churchill of Lakeville, who wrote of his plans to improve the building's exterior in a historically appropriate manner, and to improve the interior for commercial uses.

Dave Jacobs said his plan is to renovate the exterior and interior for up to four commercial rental spaces.

He said he wishes to keep the parking lot open to the public, and lease it to the town for a nominal sum. He also said he is not planning to evict the current tenant immediately, should his offer prove successful.

After the presentations there was a lengthy, sometimes heated and ultimately inconclusive discussion that featured numerous complaints about how the selectmen were handling the sale.

During the discussion the selectmen announced that since the special meeting agenda was posted, two additional offers had been received.

There was another special meeting of the selectmen on Tuesday, June 7, online.

Todd and Selectman Dave Barger set the deadline for bids on 35 Railroad St. for Tuesday, June 21, 4 p.m. (Selectman Greg Marlowe was not available.) The special meeting lasted two minutes.

Sharon distributes half of federal ARPA funding

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Over the past months since receiving the first half of the town's total \$800,000 allocation of funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the town's ARPA Advisory Committee has created, circulated and collected applications for funding from local families, small businesses and organizations.

Each application described financial impact from the COVID-19 pandemic or needs for emergency services and preparedness, including the strengthening of infrastructure.

The local ARPA Advisory Committee determined that applications met the federal ARPA guidelines and brought the applications to the Board of Selectmen for discussion and decision about the amount to be awarded. The selectmen began deliberations at their meeting on Tuesday, May 24, and completed the work at a special meeting on Wednesday, June 1.

Two individuals received ARPA funds totaling about \$4,000 at the May 24 selectmen's meeting.

Additional allotments made at that meeting included \$15,000 for the Housatonic Youth Service Bureau, \$10,000 for the Greenwoods Counseling Center and \$5,000 for the Housatonic

Valley Association.

Among the approved allocations made on June 1 was \$8,000 for the American Legion Post #126 for furnace replacement. The Edward wine bar received \$28,000 for accrued back taxes, rent, payroll and insurance, and the Sharon Tavern received \$15,000 for accrued tax bills, utilities and rent. Both businesses requested the funds to offset business costs associated with the pandemic lockdown.

Deer Run Road was allocated \$33,170 toward internet access for four homes and the 57 households along Silver Lake Shores Road received \$38,000 for drainage and road maintenance, along with lost homeowners' association fees.

Demonstrating loss of revenue, the Sharon United Methodist Church received funding to cover the pastor's salary and benefits, along with utility bills and fund-

ing owed to their New York Conference.

Sharon Day Care accommodated 18 additional children during the pandemic, requiring renovations; and installed air purifiers to combat the virus, receiving ARPA funding of \$10,000 to offset those costs.

The remainder of the first half of the ARPA funds will provide \$90,000 for the purchase and installation of a new generator at Town Hall and the Sewer and Water Department will receive \$90,000 for three new generators and repair of the existing generator, all said to be vital in dealing with emergency response.

In the coming months, the town will receive the second half of the ARPA allocation and the process will continue. For more information about the ARPA guidelines and the application process, go to www.sharoncovidrecovery.org.

Firemen's Ball will be June 11

KENT — Kent has had more than 100 years of celebration with the Kent Volunteer Fire Department's Firemen's Ball. This year's ball will be held Saturday, June 11, at the firehouse, 28 Maple St.

The ball always offers an evening of dinner, fun, dancing, food and a variety of prizes offered through drawings. A reservation for a table of 10 comes with 50 raffle tickets. This is a BYOB event.

Doors open at 6 p.m., with dinner served at 7 p.m. and dancing until 11 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person in advance online at www.kentfire.org/ball and \$50 at the door. Email theball@kentfire.org for more information.

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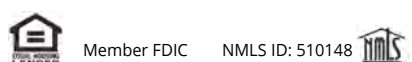
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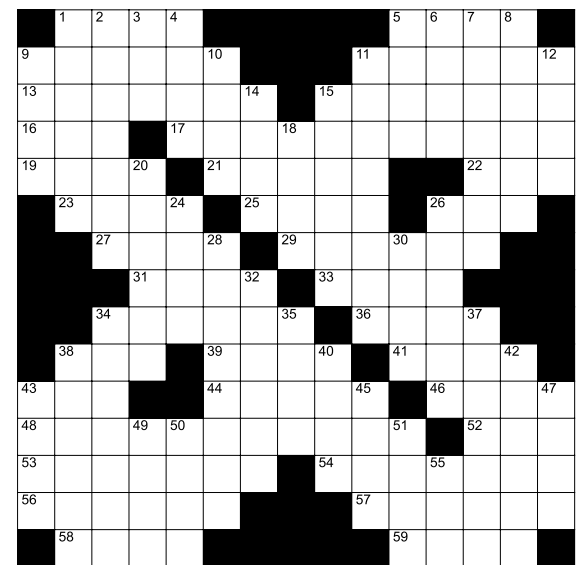


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Brain Teasers

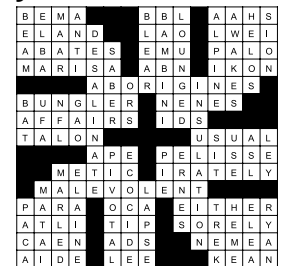
CLUES ACROSS

1. Slovenian mountain
5. Growl
9. Where things stand
11. Made a sharp sound
13. Female spirit in Irish folklore
15. Deteriorate with age
16. A way to save for retirement
17. The Big Apple
19. Intestinal pouches
21. City in New Hampshire
22. Giving a bad impression
23. Samsung laptops
25. Without (French)
26. Scientist's tool (abbr.)
27. System of one more computers
29. Captures
31. Authentic
33. Female mammal's nipple
34. Pandemonium
36. Satisfy
38. Arrived extinct
39. Shipborne radar (abbr.)
41. Network of nerves
43. Monetary unit
44. Showed old TV show
46. They help you hear
48. One who eliminates
52. Congress' investigative arm
53. Parties
54. Most supernatural
56. Takes illegally
57. Breathes while asleep
58. Sea eagles
59. German surname

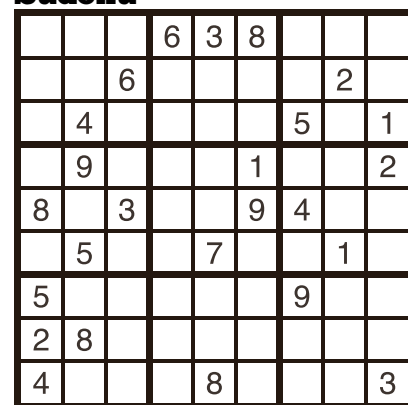


- large intestine
9. Invests in little enterprises
10. Look for
11. Unbeliefs
12. Susan and Tom are two
14. Female sheep
15. A poet writes it
18. Affirmatives
20. "Full House" actress Barber
24. Traveled rapidly
26. Long upholstered seat
28. Set wages
30. Peter Gabriel song
32. Sides of a jacket
34. More beautiful
35. Actress Kate
37. Furniture with open shelves
38. Indicate
40. The cost of a room
42. Gets rid of something
43. Impudence
45. No No No
47. Drunkards
49. Middle eastern country
50. High energy lasers (abbr.)
51. Primary component of ribosomes
55. An informal debt instrument

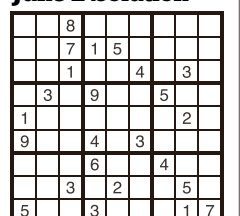
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KIRBY

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY HUNTER O. LYLE

Steve Blass, who became a star pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates, recalled his early encounters with Ed Kirby.

Village who went on to win two games for the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 1971 World Series, said he was initially scared of the man who became his mentor and friend.

Blass said as a freshman at HVRHS, he was practicing swear words with his pals one day and did not notice that Kirby was right behind them.

"He said 'If I ever hear that coming out of your mouth again you will never play baseball at Housatonic.'

"Imagine my life without baseball," said the recently retired Pirates broadcaster.

Blass said the biggest life lesson he learned from Kirby was "Don't make any excuses."

"That's carried me through my career."

Dick Paddock of Salisbury knew Kirby as a fellow historian. The two met when they were both involved with the Friends of the Beckley Furnace.

After a couple of meetings, "I figured the trick here is going to be listening to Ed, which I did for the next 20 years."

Paddock said local people had little knowledge of the history of the iron industry in the Northwest Corner.

"Ed thought we needed to change that."

Geologist Wendy Gersel (Class of 1976) recalled signing up for geology class in 1975, taught by Kirby and the late David Lindsay.

She said Kirby began the course by reading the Robert W. Service poem "The Cremation of Sam McGee."

This puzzled her, as she

ARNOLD'S

Continued from Page A1

said Melinda Reeve, Arnold's and Diana's daughter, who said she had to start to delete old customers to make room for new ones.

While the demand for auto repair is steady, labor is a chronic problem that they said was a contributing factor to the decision to exit the business.

"You can't find anybody who wants to work," said Diana. "It's tough. Everybody's got 'help wanted' signs."

"It's also hard to find experienced workers. Good ones don't want to leave where they are," said Melinda.

Diana said that when they are made aware of qualified mechanics who might be interested, those candidates might have to drive an hour or longer each way to get to work and back home because of the lack of affordable housing in the area.

Agar said that he is working the state to find a replacement for the emissions testing business and is hoping to lease some of his garage bay space.

According to the state website, the three emissions testing sites nearest to North Canaan and nearby towns are Litchfield Hills Motorsports in Goshen, Monro Muffler in Winsted, and Quiet Zone in Torrington.

CHESTNUT

Continued from Page A1

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), said aquatic water chestnuts, he said, are not to be taken lightly.

"It is definitely a real threat. Water chestnuts have the potential to cover the surface area over large bodies of water. They can make boating and fishing and all sorts of water activities very difficult," the DEEP official explained.

He said the leaves from the plants form dense mats on the surface of the water, shading out submerged plants. Its seeds can be viable "for quite a long time, about seven to 10 years" if they remain moist and do not dry out.

Spotted by a keen-eyed fisheries expert

Russ Conklin, a member of the TLA, said the two dried water chestnut seeds were discovered on April 18 by retired DEEP fisheries official Ed Machowski while stocking salmon yearlings in East Twin Lake. "No one else would have recognized them," Conklin said.

The big question, said Conklin, is "Was that the only one that got here? Our belief is that this will not present any problem," as the seeds were dried out and did not appear viable.

The lake association is asking visitors and lake property owners who find either the weed or the pod, to take a photo and report the finding to the DEEP, and to dispose of it in the garbage, not in a mulch pile where it might find its way back to the water.

Photos should be sent for documentation to DEEP-AquaticInvasiveReport@ct.gov.

"Our belief is that somebody saw this thing, which is kind of unique, picked it up and put it in the boat," and then left it behind on the dock, said Conklin.

"That's how they get in. The plants don't generally



East Twin Lake water chestnut seed.

PHOTO BY RUSS CONKLIN

get stuck to the boat, they get into the boats through bilges or bait wells."

DEEP's Gocłowski said boat owners should be diligent in checking their watercraft and trailers for signs of invasives, including zebra mussels and water chestnuts, both before going into the water and again when leaving.

According to state law, "Boaters must inspect their vessel for vegetation and aquatic nuisance species and properly remove and dispose of all vegetation and nuisance species before transporting the vessel." Offenders can be fined \$95 per violation.

Conklin pointed to an infestation of water chestnut that took place in Long Pond in Salisbury in 2019 that is still problematic today

Boat washers seen as ineffective

According to Bill Littauer, president of the Lake Wonomonic Association, so far aquatic water chestnuts have not shown up on Lakeville Lake, but the situation is being monitored.

The association bought a hot water washing machine more than 23 years ago that was installed at State Line

Car Wash in Lakeville.

"Fishermen who arrived at the town Grove launch site with boats and/or equipment that indicated they had not dried out after launching in another body of water were refused entry until they had washed their boats and eliminated any invasive species," said Littauer. "Few boaters took advantage of the washing machine and it wasted away."

TLA's Conklin said, in general, he does not support the use of boat washers when it comes to invasive species. "If you're talking about creatures, yes," he said, referring to the presence of invasive zebra mussels which attach themselves to the outside of watercraft.

The other problem, he said, is lack of enforcement.

The boat ramp is open after hours at the marina, so there is no one there to enforce cleaning before entering the water. The state launch is unmanned and there would need to be additional screening to keep whatever gets washed off a boat from entering the water, said Conklin.

"Fishermen come to the launch late in the eve-

ning and fish all night. That doesn't work with a washer, plus it's not the place to do it."

How to identify invasive water chestnuts

Water chestnuts (*Trapa natans*) are easily identified by their triangular shape leaves that float at the water's surface. The leaves form a rosette around a central point, are annual plants with hollow, air-filled submerged stems that extend a length of 12 to 15 feet. Fine roots anchor it to the soil.

Timothy Abbott, Regional Director, Land Conservation & Greenprint at the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) based in Cornwall Bridge, said the water chestnut was an incipient invader of Columbia County lakes about 20 years ago and has been spreading in our region since 1998.

"Bantam Lake first recorded it in 2002. In Sharon and Salisbury, Beeslick Pond has had it since at least 2006, and Mudge Pond since at least 2015," noted Abbott, who is slated discuss best practices for maintaining the health of the lake at the Twin Lakes Association's membership meeting on June 18.

"Water chestnuts are one of the species that is more obvious because they have a large floating portion to them and are relatively easy to remove" by yanking them out in massive clumps, said Gocłowski.

"The problem is, once you recognize you've got it, you've got it, and it's very difficult to get rid of," Conklin said.

SEGALLA

Continued from Page A1

into the 1,000 point club, becoming the 10th Mountaineer to do so.

This year however, the Mountaineer star turned her attention to outdoor track, where she runs the 100-, 200- and 400-meter dash.

"In previous years I had been committed to playing soccer, so missing soccer wasn't really an option and I could never get my ten [track] practices in to be in a meet," said Segalla, who plays for Connecticut Football Club year-round. "This year soccer is more lenient so I finally had the time."

While Segalla has the athletic ability to compete and succeed, one of the learning curves she faced was switching from team sports like soccer and basketball to an individual based sport.

"I think it's more stressful with it just being you. When you win it's that much better, but when you lose it's all on you" said Segalla. "It puts more pressure on me to want to do better."

Regardless, competing in a new sport has not tripped

Segalla up in the slightest. She was named an Berkshire League All-Star as well as not only finishing first in all three of her races, but also setting the CIAC Combined Class S Championship records for the 100-meter and 400-meter dash on May 31. Along with her accolades in Connecticut, Segalla's time of 52.96 seconds in the 400-meter dash currently ranks third across the nation.

"She's amazing. I've lost words for her. She has such finesse, and she has such athleticism, but she also has that mental toughness," said Anne MacNeil, Region One athletic director. "For example, she goes to the state track meet, wins all three of her events, sets two records and then goes and plays in a soccer game that night. Who does that? I would be home on the couch but that's just who she is."

With her success, Segalla has made her way into the State Open on Monday, June 6, where she will compete against the best athletes in Connecticut, regardless of school category (the Mountaineers are classified in Class S).

"You could tell I wanted to have fun on certain days, but when I needed to be serious I was serious and put in my effort," Segalla said of her legacy. She reflected on the people who helped make her achievements possible.

"Anne [MacNeil] has been great throughout all my sports and so encouraging. I know most schools wouldn't be so lenient and understanding with missing practices before a game to go to a different soccer practice," Segalla said. "Anne and Steve Dodge and Alan Lovejoy have all been so supportive in my whole sports career."

MUTT SHOW

Continued from Page A1

handled emcee duties with grace and humor and was ably assisted by head judge Bill Berloni. They both repeated and emphasized that "every dog here is a winner," a feeling shared by every one there whether two-legged or four.

The tent housed the judging ring and a variety of vendors and attractions: a big silent auction table, dog treats of all kinds, and the interesting "Pet Acoustics." The company has created a device that attaches to a dog's collar, producing calming sounds and music tuned specifically to dog's auditory sensitivity.

As the 10 competition categories neared completion, the "Best in Show" award

drew near. State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) was the judge for this prestigious award, and the winner was Fragle, a 13-year old beagle and his owner, Perry Simmons.

One of the memorable take-aways from this great event was that not once, all day, was there ever a growl, a snap, or a moment of any concern with these 100-plus dogs all meeting together.

Huge thanks should also go to sponsors Tito's Handmade Vodka and Hammetown and many others. The Little Guild, a shelter in West Cornwall, is an exemplary source of animal development and care and were applauded for putting on this special event.

Denial of Women's Rights here at home.

Nuvance's plan for Sharon Hospital eliminates their ability to attend to emergency gynecology events, as well as childbirth, and will further compromise all emergency care. We may bleed out being transported on winding roads, at all hours, to distant care, which is the only care that Nuvance will provide.

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

DINING: SADIE LEITE

frank.food company's New Restaurant Is Frankly Good Food

Frank Way has found success in his newest venture, called simply frank. It opened May 12 on the West Cornwall, Conn., property that was known for many years as the Pink House (although it is now a more subtle shade of cream).

The new eatery is in a barn space/carriage house behind the formerly pink building; its owner is a former New York City "branding" executive whose first food venture was frank.food on Main Street in Kent, Conn.

Previously a creative director for major brands, living in California and New York, Way decided he "wanted to do something with more integrity, something more related to being in Connecticut." So, when a friend suggested Way open a food shop in Kent, he did.

"I'd never owned a shop like that before," he said. "But, I was just building a brand, and I'd done that my whole career."



PHOTO COURTESY FRANK WAY

In 2017, frank.food company opened its doors as a breakfast and lunch place and was a wild and immediate success, with long lines out the door. The restaurant maintained its popularity even as the pandemic closed down other restaurants and put an end to "dining out." With COVID-19, Way adapted by reducing the size of the staff and by catering gourmet meals.

"We survived the pandemic by reinventing

ourselves so did not close as a result of it," Way said.

"I ended up closing the location after Thanksgiving last November because Kent became an over-saturated market. And that gave me the time to fully focus on getting the restaurant open."

MOVING TO WEST CORNWALL

In the time before frank.food closed down, the West Cornwall Development Group had asked Way if he'd like to open a restaurant in West Cornwall. He did and began planning for the new, larger eatery.

But as with all renovations during the pandemic years, there were supply chain interruptions that kept pushing back the date of the restaurant opening.

A particular refrigeration glue from China never seemed to come,

frank.food company closed its Kent, Conn., location during the COVID-19 pandemic but new larger version is now open in West Cornwall — and becoming a social hub as well as popular restaurant.

for example.

However, Way said, "I just got really patient and focused on building the space and making it beautiful." All in all, he said, "there were delays, but only for about 3 months."

When you enter the new frank.food, the space opens to a high vaulted ceiling with a welcoming 3-foot tall "HI" in carved letters. Taxidermy and hooked rugs hang on the white-washed barn walls. For Way, it's "very eclectic, homey and bright."

A walnut tree cut down during construction has been transformed into gorgeous wood tabletops. "I love the local story," said Way. "We were able to turn a tree we had to lose into something really precious."

Along with 35 seats around the walnut tables, there are eight bar seats. Outside, on a flagstone patio perched above the Housatonic River, there are an additional 36 seats.

The long-awaited opening proved worth the wait, apparently. "I'm doing probably three full seatings each a night," Way said. "Which is ridiculous."

Continued on next page

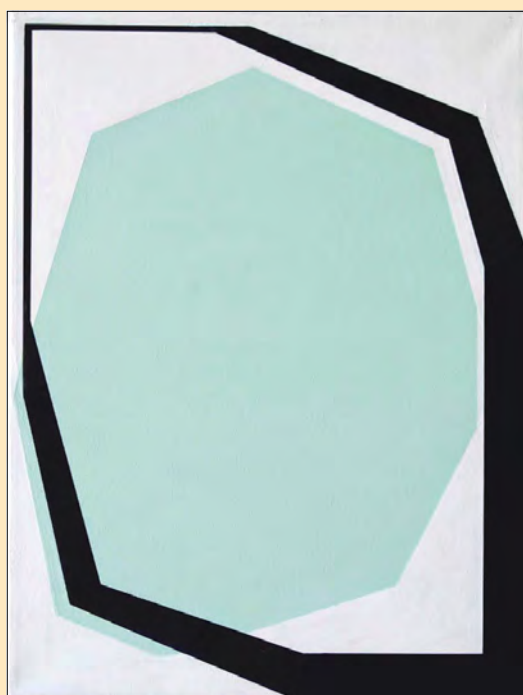


IMAGE FROM GARY STEPHAN

Gary Stephan's "Untitled" from 2021 is part of a new show at Furnace — Art on Paper Archive in Falls Village, Conn.

SEEING BETWEEN THE LINES

There will be an opening reception for a new show of work by Gary Stephan at Furnace — Art on Paper Archive in Falls Village, Conn., on Saturday, June 18, from 2 to 6 pm.

The show, called "THIS THERE" features paintings and

works on paper, all made of black tape lines of varied thicknesses — a nod to connections with Piet Mondrian and Barnett Newman, both of whom used tape in their work. Learn more at www.furnace-artonpaperarchive.com.

CALENDAR

All entries can be found in our full calendar at www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar.

ART

MASS MoCA, 1320 MASS MoCA Way, North Adams, Mass. www.massmoca.org
Aún Los Gallos Lloran (Even Roosters Cry): A Performance By Armando Cortés, June 10 and 11, 2 p.m.

BOOKS

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. www.scovillelibrary.org
Library Book Group led by Claudia Cayne, June 11, 4 to 5 p.m. (online).

MOVIES

Gilson Cafe & Cinema, 354 Main St., Winsted, Conn. www.gilsoncafeandcinema.com
See website for current showtimes.
The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. www.themoviehouse.net
Now playing: Top Gun: Maverick, Downton Abbey: A New Era, The

Bob's Burgers Movie, Jurassic World: Dominion.

MUSIC

Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, 14 Castle St., Great Barrington, Mass. www.mahaiwe.org
An Evening with Josh Ritter, June 17, 8 p.m.
Music Mountain, 225 Music Mountain Road, Falls Village, Conn. www.musicmountain.org
Misha & Cipa Dichter, Piano Four Hands and Piano Solo Program, June 12, 3 p.m.

THEATER

Sharon Playhouse, 49 Amenia Road, Sharon, Conn. www.sharonplayhouse.org
Seeking 10-Minute Plays for the 2022 Festival of New 10-Minute Plays, submission deadline June 15.

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Celebrate – Celebrate – Celebrate



Join us on Saturday, June 18th at 9 a.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Beebe Hill Road in Falls Village, for the Rainbow Crosswalk—a community public painting event to commemorate Juneteenth and Pride Month. Rain date is Sunday, June 19th, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The Rainbow Crosswalk will serve as a "welcome mat" for all visitors to Falls Village during this summer season—all are welcome! Visit www.fallsvillageartcrosswalk.org.

In these difficult times, we hope this commemoration will help remind us of our common humanity.

Did you know...

- The historical events leading to Juneteenth and Pride Month took place 104 years apart.
- **Pride** celebrations started in the 1970s with demonstrations by the LGBTQ+ community as a counter narrative to the Stonewall Riot in June 1969. These gatherings united the community, contrary to the objectives of the over-policing that took place at The Stonewall Inn in New York. To read more, go to www.them.us/story/the-complete-history-of-pride.
- **Juneteenth** has long been celebrated by the African-American community, but it is American history, as it observes the emancipation of all citizens. Juneteenth was declared an official National Holiday in 2021, in response to the social unrest and worldwide protests following the unjust death of George Floyd in 2020. The word "Juneteenth" is a mash-up of June and nineteenth, the date in 1865 that the last of the enslaved peoples in Texas were informed they were free—two years after the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation. To read more, go to www.nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/historical-legacy-juneteenth.

The Falls Village Equity Project thanks its members and all who participated in making this event possible, especially its collaborator, artist Rika Laser of Falls Village. The Rainbow Crosswalk was made possible by a grant from the CT Department of Economic & Community Development, Office of the Arts. Email fvequitygroup@gmail.com for more information.

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WBSL FM 91.7

Serving North Canaan, CT, Sheffield and South County, MA

... good food

Continued from previous page

Happily, his staff has risen to the challenge. “I’m taxing my kitchen like nothing else, and they’re really performing well.”

John Carlson is the chef for frank.food. Some of the other staff are new to the restaurant world, and are learning together. But they’ve learned enough to stay open for a Memorial Day brunch that had to end at 1 p.m., when the restaurant ran out of food.

FIRST, THERE IS PIZZA

So, what’s on the menu? Way said, “We wanted to keep the menu really accessible.”

This starts with a Neapolitan-style pizza program, featuring three \$16 pies: the classic margherita with just basil, mozzarella and tomatoes; soppressata with hot honey and oregano; and white pizza with lemon ricotta, asparagus and peas.

One favorite item on the menu is the kale salad (\$13), which has had rave reviews.

“It was kind of how I paid my rent in Kent,” Way said of the winning appetizer.

Main course choices include the burger on brioche, made with grass-fed beef from Cornwall’s Hurlburt farm (\$19); wild cod and chips (\$24); and a buttermilk brined chicken (\$24).

To finish, Way keeps his customers on their toes, often switching the dessert menu around. He said, “I’ll make devil’s food cake one week or High Five Pies another.”

Brunch keeps the local burger, adding a French toast casserole, avocado toast, a quiche of the day and an omelet of the day. Way plans to soon add a grain bowl with farro, spinach and a poached egg.

For now the restaurant is only open Thursday through Saturday for dinner; and Saturday and Sunday for lunch. The full future vision is to increase hours, and offer a coffee service, perhaps with a light breakfast or a lunch.

For now, Way is focused on establishing the restaurant’s rhythm and spreading the name.

“I feel it’s important that people understand that ‘frank food’ is not about my name,” Way said. “It’s about what it is to be sincere and honest. My food is honest to goodness food, it’s elevated home cooking.”

frank.food company is open for dinner Thursday through Saturday, 5 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Learn more at www.frankfoodco.com or call 860-248-3250.

HISTORY: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

A Sampling of Samplers at Sharon History Museum

Quilts are more obvious. You can find them at museums, at church fairs, you can find old ones and new ones, hand-sewn examples, machine-made examples. I love quilts, too, don’t get me wrong but there’s something about a child’s sampler that, to me, makes quilts seem mundane.

When I was a child myself, I became fascinated with samplers and wanted very badly to make one of my own. A combined lack of discipline, skill and motivation stood in the way of achieving that dream.

I’ve always kind of thought that my love of samplers was a personal oddity. It was, therefore, a surprise when Alexandra Peters, who lives in Sharon, Conn., emailed to tell me that the Sharon Historical Society and Museum will have a showing of her sampler collection from June 18 to Oct. 15.

A sampler collector? I felt like Robinson Crusoe finding Friday’s footsteps on the beach.

SAMPLERS AS LIVING HISTORY

Peters said she discovered samplers about 25 years ago and since then has put together a collection of 120 (there will be 55 on display in the Sharon show).

I love samplers for their rustic, almost innocent simplicity, and I love them because I love fonts and type and letters and because I like handwork, such as embroidery.

Peters is drawn to samplers because they



PHOTO BY FRANCESCA LALLY

Fifty-five samplers from the collection of Alexandra Peters will be on display at the Sharon Historical Society & Museum from June 18. Many of the classic sampler styles are represented, including ones where young women learned their alphabets and basic stitching styles; and more complex ones that show geography and genealogy.

are like living history.

“I saw one long ago in a museum and was enchanted to discover that it was made by a little girl,” she recalled. “I always wondered where the girls were in history, but here it was, an artwork by a literate girl. I started buying any sampler I saw, but I really didn’t know what I was doing until I began researching and reading and becoming obsessed with samplers.

“The internet has made doing genealogical research at great depth possible. Now when I find a sampler I like, I look up the girl, her family, her town, other samplers like it, whatever I can find, before I buy it. It’s a thrilling detective hunt, for me.”

Peters also sees a feminist angle to the samplers.

“We are so focused (understandably) on what was withheld from girls and women,” she said, “that their skills and accomplishments have been forgotten or not taken seriously.”

For many young women, samplers were a way to practice their literacy skills as well as to learn an essential domestic skill: sewing.

“These are not cute little handicrafts,” Peters said. “It was practice for the work they would be doing their whole lives. Made at school, the samplers the girls brought home were taken seriously enough that they have survived and been handed down for generations.”

Many samplers in museum collections were done by young women in affluent families — the girls whose families could afford to send them to school. But girls from poor families, the ones who would actually need to learn to sew, also made them. These simpler samplers

are often more charming and endearing than the sophisticated embroidery projects turned out by young women of leisure.

Peters said she is particularly proud to have a sampler “made by a free Black girl in about 1830. She comes from a historically important family, because her parents were active in the Underground Railroad in Maine, where freedom seekers on their way to Canada often arrived by boat. It’s a very large genealogical sampler.

“To me it is really moving that this African American family, with so many odds against them at the time, lived well, educated their children and took risks to look out for others.”

Samplers have been made in many parts of the world and from as early as the 1400s (for a detailed history of samplers, go to www.vam.ac.uk/articles/embroidery-a-history-of-needle-work-samplers).

For Peters, the samplers are very much an entry point into American history — which she is actually just learning.

“I came to the U.S. from England, when I was 10,” Peters said. “I knew nothing about American history. I had never heard of the American Revolution — that isn’t taught in British schools!

“It wasn’t until I moved to Sharon in 2005 and went to the Sharon Historical Society to research my 1794 house, that I discovered the fascination of American history. Now I collect only American samplers, and they look great in my house. I have over 100 of them. I’m very happy to bring the fruits of my research back to the Sharon Historical Society.”

There will be an opening reception for “Sharon Collects: Samplers from the Collection of Alexandra Peters” on Saturday, June 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. For museum hours and more information, go to www.sharonhist.org.

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More information is available online at: <https://norfolkart.yale.edu/>

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Let me give you some advice

Dear President Putin,

I know it's presumptuous of me, an American, to be telling you, the president of the world's largest country, how to conduct your business but I think it's time somebody did even if it's a person without proper qualifications or deep knowledge of your special circumstances.

I know that, because of your national and personal history, you feel angry and hurt because of your country's loss of its former territories and subservient states. This makes you feel like what, in the U.S., we call a "loser" (if it's any consolation, we now refer to our former President Trump as a "loser" too although it hasn't much damaged him, he still lives like a Czar if you know what I mean!).

As I was saying, you are by far the largest country in the world, nearly twice the size of either China or Canada, the next largest. Before

the dissolution of the Soviet Union your country was half again as big (and as such nearly unmanageable). In my humble opinion, Russia is so much better off having gotten rid of these ungovernable foreign states. Frankly, the "Stans" were never going to be Russian!

As for the many Eastern European countries that were, and to a limited extent continue to be, dominated by you, their departure from the Russian orbit has really been a benefit for everyone. Like the former Soviet states, the eastern Europeans just don't like Russia and they're not likely to change their opinion anytime soon.

It's not only that they speak all different languages and have very different histories. Even you must have been glad to separate from East Germany, Finland and

the Baltic states with which Russia had been at war not so very long ago. To whatever extent possible, you should develop good relations

with these and other countries with which Russia has formerly had bad relationships; but believe me, none of them want to become part of Russia, now or ever!

Despite your fear and dislike of NATO, your current belligerence has brought the U.S. and Western Europe much closer together than they have been for decades. Now, because of your uncalled for threats, both Finland and Sweden are considering joining NATO, something I cannot believe was part of your intention!

There's no other way to put it: your war (which you continue to tell your fellow citizens is a "military exercise" while threatening a prison sentence for anyone who says otherwise) is a disaster. You seemed to think the Ukrainians would welcome Russian troops and give up without a fight.

How could you have come to such a stupid conclusion? Your only hope for an optimistic outcome would have required your troops to behave like gentlemen and befriend the Ukrainians, persuading them that Russia had turned over a new leaf and would only make their lives better. But then again, after waging a quiet war in eastern and southern Ukraine for the past 10 years how could they believe that?

In a matter of weeks your military disgraced itself by its murder of civilians and its pointless destruction of lovely cities; why would Ukraine want to become part of such a barbarian nation?

And as for your threat to perhaps use NUCLEAR

WEAPONS on the battlefield, you sound like someone who has lost his marbles! Don't you remember that, even in Ukraine, the prevailing wind blows from west to east?

Your campaign has had so many missteps that I have to wonder about the skills of your military advisors. But everyone says that you are your own military advisor. If so, listen to others, particularly those who are not just "yes men." I know you don't like him but a good place to start would be your rival, Alexei Navalny. In addition to being a man of good heart he is even more popular than you, which might be of help to you when the Russian people find out what has been happening the past few months. Take my advice, Vlad: Embrace your rivals.

You must stop this war. Bring your troops home and apologize to Ukraine. I know it won't be easy but you need to do it.

You will be forgiven by the Russian people if you start immediately to implement a whole "New Deal" for Russia, starting with undoing the current police state. Next a whole new direction for the Russian economy. Cut way back on fossil fuels and the military and put much of that energy into science and agriculture. Food supply is becoming an increasingly serious world problem and climate change is making Russia ever more suitable for growing food.

Your misdeeds both recently and over the years may force you to resign or be overthrown but as one of the world's richest persons that wouldn't be so unpleasant. By doing good works at the end of your career, you may be remembered throughout Russia not as a warmonger but as a hero.

Architect and landscape designer Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville.

OCCASIONAL OBSERVER MAC GORDON



Why Numero Uno?

Years back the great Russell Baker in The New York Times said, What's wrong with being Number 17? Why do we have to be Numero Uno?

Well, we're Number One At Guns, isn't that good enough? More mass shootings. We have barely taken in Buffalo and here comes another down the interstate. Tulsa? Can't bear to write about them at the moment. Number One.

Some thoughts.

If you can't be number one, why be at all?

Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, even the accursed Jocker-vitch? Tennis, anyone? Why play?

If you can't be Elon Musk (does he smell musky?, and did you see that his mother is featured in the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue, you cannot make this stuff up) why bother being a run-of-mill Mark Cuban billionaire when your Dallas Mavericks, even with the sublime Luka, are never going to beat the Golden State Warriors. So pack it up, Markie.

I was regaling my dinner hosts with the fact that my a great friend was the proud student of Doris Lessing at Sarah Lawrence College.

Small problem. Nobel Prize winning novelist, only the 11th woman to win the award, never taught there or anywhere. So friend could not have been her prize student.

Friend says that this is what happens, people get old and make things up.

But I actually believed what I was saying. Fancy that.

Friend also says that she was never anyone's favorite student.

I remind her that in her Russian class she spent her time staring out the window and that her teacher was stunned that she had learned so much Russian. Swear.

Back to number one.

My youngest daughter, now 21, was, until 15, an exquisite tap dancer. She lived for tap and talked about starting her own company. Everyone, I mean everyone, said, The next Michelle Dorrance.

Then she suddenly lost interest. And I mean suddenly. No longer able to shoot for number one? Have not a clue.

Now doing extensive research on public housing, which started big-time in Chicago, her old man's hometown. She asked me, Daddy, when you were growing up, did you know about The Projects? Not at all. We were uptown in Slava Ukraine. Glory to it forever.

My middle daughter, 27, is taking over the New York banking world. The Times called her mother the "most powerful woman on Wall Street." Number One? Pretty good shot.

When I suggest to her that she go to law school, which I do with suffocating frequency, she looks at me as if I have two heads.

That's it! I'll be number one at having Two Heads!

O, well.

My guess is that that award has already been claimed, many times over.

More guns, anyone?

Lonnie Carter is a playwright, Obie winner and his signature play is "The Sovereign State of Boogedy Boogedy."



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

Sunset in Lakeville

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gunned down pride in being an American

"Where liberty dwells, there is my country."

—Benjamin Franklin

I use to be so proud to be an American. In my 20s, I spent a couple of years with a friend traveling the world, sleeping in third class Indian trains, squished on Turkey buses, crossing borders open one day but not the next, seeing in the distance at dawn Mt. Everest, dazzled by color rich Thailand. With the Vietnam war in full tilt, we were constantly questioned about American involvement. We were young, we grew accustomed to harsh questioning and spiked criticisms yet we were also astounded to find a large photo of JFK in a village house, in a college student lounge. We were eagerly sought by young and old to speak English, sip tea, dine at their home. We had much to be proud of being American back then, beyond blue jeans and Coke: There was a walk on the Moon, Mariner 9, fluid elections in spite of corrupt politicians, economic mobility, music, the first Starbucks, and, for us, a sense that being American was helping others, not just helping oneself.

That was 1972, before it became common for real

cable news to spend days covering the massacre of grocery shoppers, nightclubbers, 6- to 10-year-olds in their classrooms by an automatic-gun toting assassin. In the 1970s, gun ownership in the U.S. was about the same, but massacring children at school and other gun atrocities have been steeply rising the past two decades. Media and mean politics has stoked an uptick in extremism, hate rhetoric, hate crimes, and a growing belief among some Americans that the lives and liberties of other Americans are no longer sacrosanct, are not a shared right but rather at the discretion of aggrieved individuals, governors, state legislations and gun wielders — social bandits, democracy pirates, the might-is-right mafia.

To its credit, the U.S. is forging a strong democratic response with allies in Europe to counter Putin's pillaging, plundering and devastation of Ukraine. Americans and the American government are generously in support of Ukraine. American ingenuity has *rapido* produced effective COVID vaccines and anti-viral drugs, access has been expedited nationwide. Volunteers, retired doctors, and nurses have stepped into

assist the health crisis here and have taken aid overseas.

Yet it is difficult even as summer is bringing sun, warmth, flowers, birds, to get from beneath the gloom of divisiveness, the pall of willful denial and endangerment of others, the ceaseless dismissal of principles the nation has strived to attain over 250 years. Is an exuberant crew setting in place devices for the nation's implosion?

Cruz, Abbott and Trump address the NRA Conference in Dallas three days after 19

elementary school children and two teachers are gunned down in Uvalde, Texas. Only Texas Republican Sen. John Cornyn had the decency to excuse himself from such insensitive hypocrisy. Texas, six mass shootings in seven years.

"I think of a hero as someone who understands the degree of responsibility that comes with his freedom."

—Bob Dylan

Kathy Herald-Marlowe Sharon

Thanks for adding to the joy around us


Following the thread started by Charles Kelly recently in his letter about noticing and appreciating our community and finding "joy" in everyday places, I write to give a huge shout out to the Salisbury Cemetery Committee. Led by Susan Vreeland, the Committee had the tombstones cleaned throughout the cemetery. On Memorial Day, they just shone so brightly for our special and meaningful gathering of — it looked like hundreds! — residents and visitors.

Thank you so much for arranging this sprucing up of these precious symbols of the loved ones we have left behind. Thank you to Chris Williams who moderated and thank you to the Reverend Dr. John Nelson, Salisbury Congregational Church, for the thoughtful prayers. And thank you to the SVNA for ice cream!

Salisbury


The Rev. Dr. Eileen L. Epperson

More letters previous page.



Realtor® at Large

This is another banner year for an outbreak of the Gypsy Moth, now renamed as the Spongy Moth. No matter what it is called, these caterpillars have hatched and look well on their way to defoliating many acres of forest here in the Northwest corner this summer. Oaks are their favorite and after they are stripped of their leaves, they will move on to other hardwoods. Not much can be done at this point in their life cycle, perhaps the best is to understand them and what measures that can be taken to reduce their populations. The CTDEEP website has excellent information on this pest, which can be found at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Forestry/Forest-Protection/The-Spongy-Moth-Information-for-Tree-and-Woodland-Owners>. The good news is that a healthy tree can make it several seasons of infestations if needed!



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