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



PHOTOS BY DAN MURRAY

The mountain lion is a sculpture but the bear and deer are real, and very curious.

Curiosity did not kill this cat

By Cynthia Hochswender

KENT — Artist Dan Murray of Kent ought to be very proud of his work. It's so realistic that other animals have to come right up and sniff his cast bronze animals, to determine if they are the real thing.

On Oct. 30, at about 4 p.m., a large bear came up so close to the mountain lion statue that it really should have offered to buy the lion dinner.

Murray said that he snapped the excellent clear photo of the bear with his iPhone, through his kitchen window. This summer and autumn, his most frequent ursine visitors have been "a mom and

three very healthy cubs. Everyone has been well behaved."

Another visitor last week was a large buck, who also came right up to the mountain lion for a sniff.

There is of course an ongoing and vigorous debate in this part of the state as to whether or not there are any mountain lions here.

"I have seen mountain lions twice in our area of Macedonia, although not recently," Murray said. "I'm still waiting for one to investigate my work."

To see more of Murray's work, go to www.murraysculpture.com or on Instagram at [danmurray112](https://www.instagram.com/danmurray112).

The New York City Marathon: One woman's journey

By Cynthia Hochswender

CORNWALL — On Nov. 7, with only a few weeks training, Elizabeth England walked the entire 26.2 New York City Marathon, an epic undertaking. We began an inside look at what it's like to take part in one of the most famous races in the world in our issue of Nov. 18 (find it online at www.tricornernews.com). This is part two, which begins with a study of how to keep up calories during the day-long marathon.

The night before the marathon, England (who is a resident of Manhattan and of Cornwall) "carb loaded" with pasta and broccoli.

On race day, she ate peanut butter and banana on Ezekiel whole-grain bread and drank coconut water. She tucked two RX bars into her new fanny pack, along with her phone and her charger — she carried her charger because she knew that playing music would keep her motivated and moving and she didn't want her phone to die on her before the finish line.

England had hoped to begin the race at around 10 a.m. so she wouldn't be walking through possibly deserted city streets at night in the dark.

The race organizers had other plans for her, however. In some small races, the walkers start the course ahead of time. Not so at the New York City Marathon: The fastest runners leave first. After that, successive waves come to the start line. England and the other walkers were at the end of the list.



Elizabeth England, a resident of Cornwall and New York City, walked the New York City Marathon with Alice Gottesman, far right in right photo, and Marti Meyerson, center, to raise funds for Bro/Sis.

But being around all the pro marathoners, "I began to have imposter syndrome. It was traumatic."

"I was in Wave Five. Our start time was at noon."

Imposter syndrome at the Javits Center

The waves are assigned and race bibs are distributed at a preliminary event at the Jacob Javits Center, an enormous convention and events venue in Manhattan.

"You have to show your vax card and a drivers license to get in. It's like when you're in the pre board for an

airline flight. You're not really at your destination yet, and all of you are on the same overnight flight — and some of you are much better prepared for the flight. I've never been with so many fit, intense-looking people in my life."

But, she was quick to add, everyone was friendly and supportive.

"I met a guy who does 7- minute miles; I can't do anything in 7 minutes. When he saw that I was in Wave Five he said 'Whoa, when do you start?'"



PHOTO COURTESY ELIZABETH ENGLAND

And I said you'll be showered and having brunch by the time I start. He was very sweet and said, 'No, you're going to be great,' and then he got very granular about nutrition products. Everyone has booths there. Jack Rabbit had an island of snacks, the gels and potions you're supposed to eat during the race.

"It's a whole world. I'd been super excited when I'd walked in."

But being around all the pro marathoners, "I began to have imposter syndrome. It was traumatic."

What helped her overcome her

See MARATHON, Page A6

Questions for hospital on marketing, donations and stroke center

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — Representatives of Sharon Hospital met again with members of the community to discuss the hospital's plans on Thursday, Nov. 18, at the Interlaken Inn in Lakeville.

Hospital President Dr. Mark Hirko, Chief Nursing Officer Christine McCulloch and Dr. Mark Marshall were on hand with the now-familiar computer slide

presentation (and paper copies distributed around the room). This is the third such presentation made to the public.

Ten members of the public attended.

Hirko skipped the slide show and went straight to questions.

Attendees wore masks and did not identify themselves.

The first question was lengthy but did touch on what became a dominant theme of the meeting:

the marketing of Sharon Hospital.

The attendees had numerous observations and suggestions. They all agreed that marketing and advertising of the hospital is poor, and that more effective promotion would ultimately help the hospital's financial situation.

There were several questions about staffing and recruiting doctors. Hirko said the way medicine

See HOSPITAL, Page A6

For new town officials, a workshop on Freedom of Information

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — With election results counted and newly elected public officials taking their seats on various town boards and commissions, the town of Cornwall organized a forum to clarify Freedom of Information (FOI) regulations. The forum on Monday, Nov. 8, was held on Zoom, attracting 43 view-

Hennick said that FOI is not about public officials being required to answer questions; rather it is about providing access for the public to be able to view meetings.

ers from Cornwall as well as other area towns.

Presenters at the forum were Tom Hennick, state FOI Public Information Officer, and Perley Grimes of Cramer and Anderson,

the Cornwall town attorney.

"FOI is the law in Connecticut," Hennick said, since its enactment 46 years ago in the midst of Watergate. An "open government" law of transparency, the legislation passed unanimously, he noted.

"However, much is open to interpretation," Hennick added, dividing his comments into two subjects: access to public meetings and access to public records.

Hennick said that FOI is not about public officials being required to answer questions; rather it is about providing access for the public to be able to view meetings.

"All work must be done in public," he explained.

Special versus regular

There are three types of board and commission meetings. A regular meeting has an agenda that is posted in advance, although items may be added to that agenda at the discretion of the board.

A second meeting type is a special meeting scheduled for a specific purpose. That agenda cannot be added to.

The third type is a rare emergency meeting, and it is generally discouraged unless it is really dealing with some unforeseen event.

FOI does not specifically grant anyone the right to speak at a public meeting, Hennick said. The public comment aspect is at the discretion of the board.

Sharing information

While executive sessions are used for specific purposes, no votes may be taken during those closed-door sessions, which public and press are not allowed to attend. The vote must be taken in public after the executive session.

Anna Timell, chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z), asked about regulations in draft form and the point

See FOI, Page A6



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In The Journal this week

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

Three-day forecast

Friday.....Cloudy, high 41°/low 30°
 Saturday.....Rain, 43°/28°
 Sunday.....Rain, 45°/30°

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.

Crashed due to wet road

On Nov. 12 at approximately 4 p.m. on Route 44 in Salisbury a 2017 Subaru Legacy driven by Yairzinho Martinez, 38, of North Canaan hydroplaned and lost control, striking a wire rope guardrail. Martinez was driving with a learner's permit.

He was issued an infraction for failure to maintain the proper lane, traveling too fast for the conditions and operating a motor vehicle without a license.

Crashed due to fog

On Nov. 13 at approximately 1 a.m. on Route 7 in Falls Village a 2009 Nissan Altima driven by William Nadeau, 38, of Torrington landed in a ditch while driving in heavy fog. He was issued a written warning for failure to maintain the proper lane.

Crashed due to cell phone

On Nov. 13 at approximately 9 a.m. on Millerton Road in Salisbury a 2009 Ford Escape driven by Amanda Ford, 41, of Lakeville drove off the roadway, struck a traffic sign and landed in an embankment.

Ford had been checking her cell phone. She was issued a written warning for operating a motor vehicle while using a phone.

Vehicle break-in

On Nov. 14 at approximately 2:15 p.m. on Main Street in Salisbury a vehicle registered to Rich and Kristen Carty was broken into with the windows smashed and items missing. Anyone with information is asked to contact Troop B.

Crashed due to deer

On Nov. 14 at approximately 5:45 p.m. on East Street in Sharon a 2018 Nissan Sentra driven by Colin McGee Maxwell, 18, of Sharon swerved to avoid a deer and collided with an Eversource utility pole. Maxwell was transported to Sharon Hospital. He was issued a written warning for failure to maintain the lane.

DUI

On Nov. 17 at approximately 5:45 p.m. on Amenia Union Road in Sharon Troop B responded to a report of an unresponsive driver with a bottle of vodka in the vehicle. After failing a standardized field sobriety test, Scott Winchester, 66, of Portland, Maine, was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on Nov. 30.

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 cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com.

Cornwall motel owner charged with sexual assault

By Cynthia Hochswender

CORNWALL — The owner of the Hitching Post Motel in Cornwall on Route 7 has been charged by the State Police with sexual assault in the third and fourth degree and unlawful restraint in the second degree.

Natverlal "Jack" Patel, 62, also owns the Royal Inn in Torrington.

The police arrest warrant, released on Wednesday, Nov. 17, describes several incidents that happened in mid September to a woman in her early 50s who was living at the Cornwall hotel temporarily.

She told police that after arriving at the hotel, she was molested several times by Patel, who groped and kissed her and at one point pushed her onto the bed and, she believes, would have raped her if she had not screamed.

Over the course of two days, the woman said Patel also transported her to his hotel in Torrington, and told her to clean nine of the rooms there. She believes that Patel also expected her to provide sex to customers in some of those rooms, promising her \$100 per room (as opposed to the \$5 she would be paid for cleaning the other rooms), according to the police report.

The State Police investigation showed that similar complaints had been filed against Patel in Torrington in 2013 and 2017. In each case, a woman had been offered a no-fee room in exchange for housekeeping.

Patel was also charged with burglary in the second degree.

Historical Society will study farming challenges

SHARON — The Sharon Historical Society & Museum is being awarded a \$4,700 Connecticut Humanities grant for a new project, "Reinventing Farming: How Small Farmers in the Northwest Corner are Finding Niches Amidst Climate Change, Industrial Farms & Large Supply Chains."

The project is scheduled for February to May 2022 and will include 5-minute issue-based videos, an exhibit of changing farming implements including photos of local farms over time, and four moderated panels with local farmers and agriculture teachers. The films will be part of the oral history collection of Sharon Historical Society & Museum.

The project is led by Carol Ascher, an independent researcher, published author and journalist. Marel Rogers serves as videographer and project registrar. Jonathan Doster, professional photographer and videographer, serves as videographer, post production editor and video designer.

The Reinventing Farming Project extends the society's mission to collect, preserve

and share Sharon stories by presenting critical issues facing Sharon and other still largely rural communities in Connecticut's Northwest Corner.

The project will help local audiences better appreciate the complex situation facing both residents and farmers as the latter strive to keep farming alive amid the challenges of climate change, the restructuring of the food supply chain, and an ever-tightening market for the products of small farms. The programs and exhibits will be free to the public.

Apply now for scholarships offered for EMT/EMR training

The Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association is offering an educational assistance program, managed by the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation, to provide scholarships for Emergency Medical Technician, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician, Emergency Medical Response certifications, as well as other employment-related health-care certifications, up to \$1,000 each. This program is designed to support adult learners begin-

ning or elevating their careers in health care.

Eligibility is restricted to anyone who resides in (or who is a dependent of someone who resides in) the towns of: Canaan/Falls Village, Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon and Warren.

This is a rolling open invitation, there is no close date.

For more information, and to apply, go to www.northwest-ct.org/scholarship-applications.

Send Family & Friends announcements to editor@lakevillejournal.com

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following applications were approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on November 15, 2021:

Special Permit Application #2021-0145 by owners Toneisha & Troy Ramcharran for vertical expansion of a nonconforming dwelling in the Aquifer and Flood Plain Overlay Districts in accordance with sections 401, 403 & 503.2 of the regulations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 49 as Lot 116 and is located at 24 Cleaveland Street, Lakeville, Connecticut.

Application #2021-0154 by owners Kerry & Erling Madsen for 2-Lot residential subdivision. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 23 as Lot 17-1 and is located at 10 North Beaver Dam Road, Salisbury,

Connecticut. Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission Martin Whalen, Secretary 11-25-21

Salisbury Housing Committee Annual Meeting

The Salisbury Housing Committee (SHC) is holding its annual meeting to elect officers for the coming year on Wednesday, December 8 at 5:00 pm, by Zoom. Members of the public are invited to attend this meeting and may submit nominees for the board before the meeting. Nominations may be made to Anne Kremer, 28 Prospect St., Lakeville. The Zoom address will be available at salisburycthousing.org after December 1. SHC is the proprietor of Sarum Village and Faith House, affordable housing units located in Salisbury. Anyone interested in renting at any SHC location should call Tammy Broderick at 860-435-0049.

11-25-21
12-02-21

FAMILY & FRIENDS

NWCT Arts Council earns \$150,000 grant

The Northwest Connecticut Arts Council announced they have been selected to receive an American Rescue Plan grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to help the arts and cultural sector recover from the pandemic. The Arts Council is receiving \$150,000 and will use this funding to distribute grants in their community to eligible recipients to save jobs and to fund operations and facilities, health and safety supplies, and marketing and promotional efforts to encourage attendance and participation. In total, the NEA will award grants totaling \$20,200,000 to 66 local arts

agencies nationwide for sub-granting.

The funds allocated to the Arts Council will be used to provide subgrants of \$2,500 to \$5,000 to eligible organizations in its 25-town service area. The grants will also be open for teaching artists to work with local social service organizations. The Arts Council aims to award funding to 25 to 40 recipients.

For more information on the NEA's American Rescue Plan grants, including the full list of local arts agencies funded in this announcement, visit www.arts.gov/COVID-19/the-american-rescue-plan.

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

Check them out inside.

- CVS
- Ocean State Job Lot

SWSA Ski & Skate Sale on Dec. 4

SALISBURY — The Salisbury Winter Sports Association (SWSA) annual sale of new and used ski and skate equipment and clothing will be held Saturday, Dec. 4, at the Lakeville Hose Company in Lakeville from 8 to 11 a.m..

Residents can bring equipment to be sold Friday, Dec. 3, from 4 to 7 p.m. No equipment will be accepted on Saturday.

On Saturday from 11 a.m. to noon, pick up money or unsold equipment. Any remaining equipment after noon Saturday will become the property of SWSA.

Equipment eligible for sale includes downhill skis, boots and poles; cross-country skis, boots and poles; ice skates and hockey equipment; snowboards and boots and snow shoes (no clothing).

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Our Towns

Restaurant plan proposed for former Lakeville firehouse

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Planning and Zoning Commission continued until Dec. 13 a public hearing on an application to turn the former firehouse at 9 Sharon Road into a restaurant with an apartment upstairs.

The first session of the hearing on Monday, Nov. 15, raised numerous questions about parking and the impact on abutters.

The building is currently home to the Green Cafe and Studio Lakeville, a fitness center.

Capecelatro said his clients operate four restaurants in New York state. The plan calls for about 90 indoor and outdoor seats for dining and for a two-bedroom apartment on the second floor for workforce housing.

The restaurant would be run by Luciano Valdivia, who has opened Cucina in Wood-

stock, N.Y., Market Street in Rhinebeck, N.Y., and Barbaro in Millbrook, where Giovanni Scappin is chef. Scappin is also an instructor at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y., and would be the chef at the proposed eatery.

Engineer Pat Hackett appeared for the owner of a neighboring building, Pockethknife Square, and initially complained that the notice to abutters was done improperly.

Mark Capecelatro, attorney for the applicant, Firehouse Place LLC, replied that the notices were done properly, and the commission accepted that.

Hackett then spoke about possible impacts on his client's property, and tried to show various photos and maps to make his points. The commission found it confusing and Chair Michael Klemens and commission member Bob Riva both rebuked Hackett for being unprepared.

There was considerable discussion about the number of parking spaces available, how that number was calculated, and the impact on existing nearby businesses (including several restaurants).

Commission member Marty Whalen noted that the restaurant plans to hire between 30 and 35 employees. Assuming half of them are at work at any given time, he continued, the employees will require roughly 17 parking spots.

The hearing adjourned after about an hour, and was continued to Dec. 13. Klemens, Land Use Administrator Abby Conroy and attorney Chuck Andres will work on a resolution in the interim.

The commission asked the applicant for a clearer site plan that addresses questions on parking, screens and buffers for neighboring properties, loading and dumpster plans, and plans for outdoor dining.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

A new restaurant is being proposed for the former firehouse in Lakeville.

Cornwall Reads Cornwall: History Edition

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — For those who may not be totally inclined toward football, Thanksgiving weekend brings the welcome tradition of Cornwall Reads Cornwall, a chance to see and hear noteworthy local personalities interpret the writings of noteworthy local writers. This year, the event is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 27, beginning at 4 p.m., on Zoom.

This year's theme is Cornwall History. The readings will be tied together by emcee Ted Schillinger, film producer and director, who volunteered for the role last year and did so well that he was invited again this year.

The now-traditional event began in November 2019 as an in-person gathering. The ensuing pandemic has moved the event to Zoom, where it is reaching an expanding audience, Library Publicity Director Sari Goodfriend noted.

This year's line-up of readers and their chosen selections is designed to entertain and inform attendees eager to know more about Cornwall and its history through writings penned by past residents. Past perspectives speak to today's Cornwallians.

Included will be Lisa Lansing Simont reading from Katie Walker's descrip-

tion of her family's early years in 1920s Cornwall. Walker went on to create the painting of the state seal mounted on the door of the Town Hall vault.

Noted Cornwall author Roxana Robinson will read from essays written by her grandfather, Samuel Scoville, and others from the memorial edition of the Centenary of the Second Congregational Church in town.

Susan Klaw will read a letter by her father, Spencer, founder of the Cornwall Chronicle.

Peter Canby will read a 1922 letter detailing the founding of Yelping Hill. A subsequent early history of Yelping Hill, written by Caroline Kunkel, will be read by Linda MacCracken.

Dr. Ivan Miller plans to read a piece written by his father, John Miller, about Art Brean former operator of the local transfer station. His presentation promises an additional feature. John Miller, a respected journalist and a beloved Cornwall resident for many years, died in 2021.

And there will be more heartwarming surprises. While the event is free, donations to benefit The Cornwall Library and its programs are always welcome. To register for the Zoom event, go to: <https://cornwalllibrary.org/events/>.

Kent social services director resigns

By Leila Hawken

KENT — During a brief special meeting, the Board of Selectmen agreed to accept the resignation of the town's social services director and also set their meeting schedule for the coming year. The meeting was held on Tuesday Nov. 16, on Zoom, attracting 18 participants.

With an effective date of Friday, Jan. 14, the resignation of Leah Pullaro, social services director and Agent for the Elderly, led the selectmen to name a search committee to fill the vacancy. Pullaro declined the selectmen's offer to serve on that committee.

Newly elected Selectman Rufus deRham suggested designating the position as full time, recognizing that the move from part time to full time would need to be discussed with the Board of Finance. Pullaro indicated to the selectmen that the salary as it presently stands is below industry standards for the position.

First Selectman Jean Speck reported that she would look

into appropriate salary levels as well as the question of full or part time. The job description will also need review, she said, but because such topics were not included on the special meeting agenda, another special meeting would need to be scheduled. That meeting was held Monday, Nov. 22.

The selectmen also set the schedule for next year's meetings to accommodate the schedules of the two new selectmen and also to allow more time in the week for the selectmen's office to prepare information for meetings. Under the schedule of 2022, the Board of Selectmen will meet twice each month on the first and third Thursdays, beginning at 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., respectively. All agreed that the new schedule will add efficiencies.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen, the final regular meeting of the year, is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 6:30 p.m.

With no applicant and sparse information, hearing is delayed

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — A public hearing on a change of use application from the Falls Village Cafe, scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 18, before the Planning and Zoning Commission, did not occur.

A few minutes after the scheduled 6:30 p.m. start time, Chair Fred Laser said that the hearing would have to be rescheduled be-

cause the application was incomplete and the applicant wasn't there.

Laser explained that the commission should have had a hearing before the cafe began operations, but did not do so. "It's retro-active."

Adam Sarosi from the Falls Village Cafe did arrive eventually and got some assistance on the application. A hearing is now set for Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m.



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Two years later, after two highly successful appeals to our readership for contributions that saved your local community newspapers, this small media company is in a very different place. Your generosity kept us alive, even during a worldwide pandemic, and we were able to apply for and receive tax-exempt status from the IRS as a public charity. Your contributions to The Lakeville Journal Foundation are now tax deductible to the extent permitted under the law. Now it is time to regroup again and make a new plan to take this media company into a successful future.

During COVID-19 shutdowns and restrictions, this company was able to obtain two PPP grants from the U.S. government, which, combined with our readers' generous support, helped us remain in place to report the news of your communities. Your wish for local news is what drives our mission, which publishes in the newspapers every week:

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

We sincerely ask you to be a Community Contributor, donating whatever you can to support local news, to The Lakeville Journal Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization. Unlike the last two years, your donations are now tax deductible within the limits of the law.

Thank you for keeping track of your local news in our publications, and profound gratitude for your support that kept The Lakeville Journal, The Millerton News and www.tricornernews.com here for your communities.


Noreen Doyle, Chair


Janet Manko, CEO, executive director

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PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

FFA Holiday Shop expected to sell out fast

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — On a chilly Wednesday, Nov. 17, around 8 a.m., it was all hands on deck at Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) as students and staff helped unload 750 Christmas trees for the Housatonic FFA holiday store.

The trees were a mix of firs: Fraser, premium silver and balsam.

The FFA holiday store is open Nov. 27 through Dec. 23, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The store includes trees, Cabot cheese, poinsettias, trees, wreaths, roping, fresh yo-

gurt and other local products.

Last year the trees sold out in two weeks. HVRHS agricultural education teacher Danielle Melino said she expects this year to be similar.

There are two wreath production nights scheduled: Wednesday, Dec. 1, and Thursday, Dec. 9, both from 7 to 9 p.m. Masks are required for attendees. All community members are invited to come help and to learn techniques and tricks from experienced wreath makers. No experience is necessary.

— FFA Reporter Mackenzie Casey contributed to this report

Like Paddington Bear, many need a home for the holidays

By Cynthia Hochswender

SALISBURY — Paddington is the beloved bear of children's books and feature films. He arrives at Paddington Station in London with a small tag on his blue toggle coat that says, "Please look after this bear." The Brown family takes him in and all ends happily.

The Scoville Memorial Library and Hotchkiss Library of Sharon will co-host a read aloud of the Paddington Bear story on Sunday, Dec. 5, at 3 p.m. in the ballroom at The White Hart Inn

in Salisbury. Participants will receive a jar of gummy bears with a note that says, "Please look after these gummy bears." State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) will attend. Masks are required.

Be Homeful for the Holidays featuring Paddington is a project of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, William Pitt Sotheby's Realty, Connecticut Realtors and the Connecticut State Library.

Many homeless families seek warmth, shelter and safety during the day in public libraries. This campaign hopes

to keep families in their homes, at a cost of about \$1,000 per month per family. For each \$25 that is collected, a Paddington plush toy will be donated to a child living at a shelter during the holiday season.

Donations to the Be Homeful for the Holidays campaign can be made by scanning the flow code on bookmarks available at the reading and on special wreaths at the Scoville Memorial Library, the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, other area libraries and all area William Pitt Sotheby's Realty offices.

Sharon holiday Memory Tree

SHARON — The Sharon Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary is offering its annual holiday season Memory Tree.

Anyone who makes a donation of \$5 can choose a tree, star, present, wreath, ornament or Star of David to be included in honor of a loved one on the tree.

The Memory Tree will be displayed in the lobby at Town Hall from Nov. 29 to Dec. 31.

To make a donation, complete the form available from the office of the selectmen at Town Hall (860-364-5789) or mail a check payable to Sharon Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, P.O. Box 794, Sharon, CT 06069 with a note stating the name of the person to be memorialized.

For more information, call Tina Pitcher at 860-364-0486 or Helen Carberry at 860-364-0292 in the evenings.

Cornwall tree lighting Nov. 26

CORNWALL — Although there will be no refreshments at the event due to the pandemic, all are invited to the annual tree lighting in Cornwall Bridge, scheduled for dusk on Friday, Nov. 26. The solar-powered lighted tree is a holiday feature made possible by the donated electrical services of resident James LaPorta.

Tree lighting in Sharon on Dec. 4

SHARON — The holiday tree will be lit on the Green on Saturday, Dec. 4, beginning at 5 p.m.

The tree lighting at 5 p.m. will be accompanied by the singing of carols with the Salisbury Band Christmas Brass & Hot Chocolate Society Band.

From 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. there will be hot cider and cookies on the porch of the Sharon Historical Society & Museum.

Artisan sale from Nov. 26 to 28

LAKEVILLE — There will be an artisan holiday pop-up market the weekend after Thanksgiving at 346 Main St.

Vendors participating in the fair include Undermountain Weavers, Leslie O'Neill Designs, Diane Schapira Pottery, Shaari Horowitz, Danielle Mailer, Wendy Jensen Baskets and more.

The sale will be on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 26 to 28, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

The following property transfers were recorded at area town halls in 2020-21.

Kent

June 21, Old Paddock Lane from Lisa and Fred Giachetti to Marjan Hedayatzadeh and Taha Ghomi for \$91,000

June 22, Cobble Road from Joanna L. Boon Rev. Trust to Anna Maria and John Magnowski for \$180,000

June 29, Mount Mauwee Lane/Gorham Road from Christopher N. Keane to Walter Nollman and Ellen Maureen Carr for \$450,000

July 1, Main Street from Quarter Mile Company, LLC to 45 Main St. LLC for \$160,000; and Main Street North from Patricia A. Gallagher to Tracey L. Myers for \$165,000; and

Duggan Road from Audra R. and Michael G. Petrone, Jr. to Paulette Meslay and William D. Langton for \$427,500

July 6, Fuller Road from 60 Beach Drive Associates, LLC to David Kent Freeman for \$297,000

July 7, Tamshell Drive from Housatonic Valley Construction Co. to Gary L. and Karen Valentine Verna for \$645,000

July 14, Kent Cornwall Road #6 from Ruth V. Burt to Diane V. Casel for \$305,000

July 20, Segar Mountain Road from Christine J. and Raymond A. Franks to Ralph Luna Rev. Trust for \$675,000

July 21, Elizabeth Street from Maria Simanca and Christina Simanca-Proctor to Christopher Martin for \$362,000

July 27, Elizabeth Street from Leona Bell to Patricia Cox for \$155,000

Salisbury

Dec. 3, 10 Cooper Hill Road from Mark E. and Sheryl L. Knapp to Virginia Knittle for \$560,000

Dec. 4, Selleck Hill Road from Eduardo Tenenbaum to Carlos Arredondo for \$250,000

Dec. 8, 126 Sharon Road from Nathaniel M. Floyd Estate to Elaine H. and Paul David Watson for \$760,000

Dec. 10, 50 Hammertown Road from Hammertown Properties, LLC to Alexander F. and Danielle P. Mindlin for \$695,000

Dec. 11, 39 Reservoir Road from Nora B. and Robert K. Holmes to Philip Mooser for \$250,000

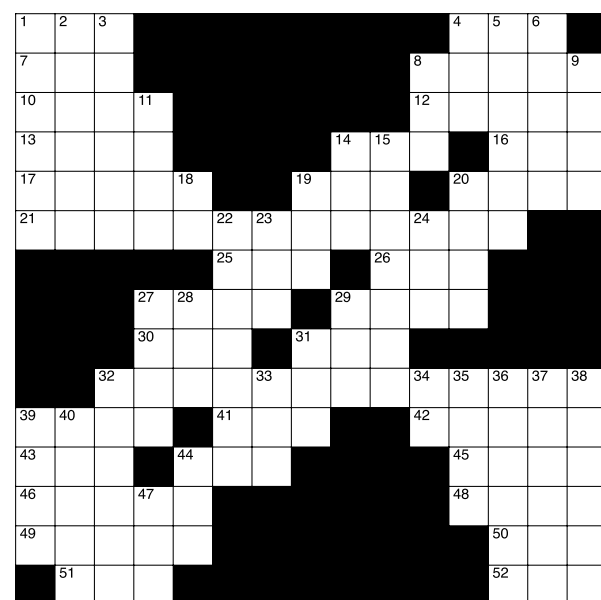
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. FDNY's union
4. Hideout
7. Trent Reznor's band
8. Old World tropics plants
10. Places to stay
12. Group of organisms from a common ancestor
13. TV character Goodman
14. Not around
16. Title of respect
17. Ceramic jars
19. British legal authority (abbr.)
20. A companion (archaic)
21. Where groups of people live
25. Indigenous person of NE Thailand
26. Red-brown sea bream
27. Ridge of jagged rock
29. Meat from a pig (French)
30. A way to save for the future
31. Opposite of bottom
32. A term of endearment
39. Weight used in China
41. You need it to hear
42. Frighten
43. Basics
44. Computer data collection (abbr.)
45. The best point of something
46. Jewelled headdress
48. Spoke
49. Mammary gland of female cattle
50. Midway between north and northeast
51. Defunct European economic group
52. Foul-mouthed Hollywood bear

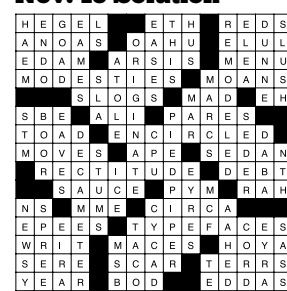
CLUES DOWN

1. In tune
2. Ending
3. Ring-shaped objects
4. Equal to 10 liters (abbr.)
5. Removes from record
6. The lowest point
8. Plant cultivated for its tubers
9. Dry or withered
11. Stony waste matter
14. Speedometer reading
15. Each of two or more forms of the same element
18. A baseball stat

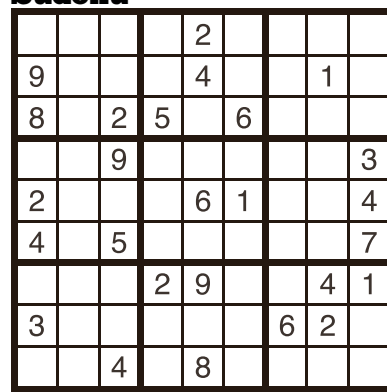


19. Corporate PR exec (abbr.)
20. Insures bank's depositors
22. Made dim
23. Uncultured person
24. Paddle
27. Currency of Cambodia
28. Pitching stat
29. A place to put mail
31. God of battle (Scandinavian)
32. 10 years
33. Resinous substance secreted by insects
34. Losses
35. S. American plants
36. Void of thought or knowledge
37. Stout-bodied moth
38. Transferred property
39. Russian pop act
40. Accept
44. A retrospective military analysis (abbr.)
47. A type of center

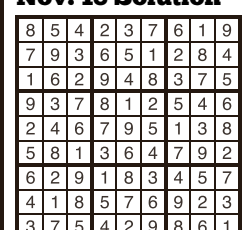
Nov. 18 Solution



Sudoku



Nov. 18 Solution



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OBITUARIES

William Harlow Merriman Jr.

NORTH CANAAN — William Harlow Merriman Jr., 74, died Oct. 31, 2021, of natural causes at his home.

He was born Nov. 10, 1946, at the family home in North Canaan, son of the late William H. Merriman Sr. and Josephine C. Merriman.

William was an icon of North Canaan and many knew him as “the Bee Man” or “Willie the Bee-Keeper” and owner of Union Square North, where he sold his honey in North Canaan. His honey was sold throughout the Northwest Corner.

He was also an avid hunter and fisherman.

William is survived by Leah Rezza, whom he called his daughter, and her husband, Michael Rezza, and their two children, Tristan and Morgan all of Massapequa Park, N.Y. William will always be “Grumpy” to Tristan and Morgan.

At this time there are no services planned, but a memorial will be held at a future date to be determined.

Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home in North Canaan.

Patricia Ann (Harrity) O'Connor

LAKEVILLE — Patricia Ann (Harrity) O'Connor, 90,



Pat created beautiful gardens wherever she lived and continued to correspond with people throughout her life the old-fashioned way, by sending thoughtful handwritten notes, often accompanied by a clipping of something she had read that she knew would be of interest.

Patricia was born Dec. 23, 1930, in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., daughter of the late Catherine (Craven) and Jeremiah Harrity.

After graduating from high school in Bayonne, N.J., Pat completed a dual degree in mathematics and political science from Notre Dame College, Staten Island, N.Y. She worked for the Atomic Energy Commission (the precursor to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission) in New York City during college, and after graduating, began a job with New York Life Insurance, where she ran the “machine room.” The machine room consisted of ENIAC computers, the first of their kind. It was at New York Life where she met her future husband, Owen “Gene” O'Connor.

Pat and Gene were married June 25, 1955. The couple settled in Bellerose, N.Y., and started a family of nine children, later moving to Garden City, N.Y., in 1969.

Upon Gene's retirement from the NYPD in 1977, the family moved to the country in Salisbury.

When the youngest of their children were old enough, Pat went back to work as a bank teller at the National Iron Bank in Lakeville, where she enjoyed working until her retirement in 1995.

In 2000, she sold the property on Smith Hill and moved into town to enjoy retired life surrounded by her children and many grandchildren.

Pat's greatest love was her family. From making baby blankets to after-school snacks, she loved every one of her grandchildren, many of whom would walk to “Grammy's house” after school, getting help with homework in addition to snacks.

H. Marshall Schwarz

LAKEVILLE — H. Marshall Schwarz, 85, of Sharon Road died Nov. 19, 2021, at his home.

He was the husband of Rae (Paige) Schwarz.

Marshall was born in New York City on Nov. 5, 1936, the son of the late Mary (DuBois) and Frederick Schwarz.

He was a 1958 graduate of Harvard. He served in the Army Reserve for several years. He worked at the U.S. Trust Company for 35 years, ending his career as chairman and CEO.

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Rae, as well as his son, Jim Schwarz and his wife, Tracy; his daughters, Serena Larson and her husband, Randy, and Paige Couture and her

husband, Jodi; and his son, Will Schwarz.

He is also survived by his grandchildren, Mary, Hayes and David Schwarz, Lily and Eliza Larson and Marshall and Amelia Couture.

A memorial service will be held on Dec. 4 at 11 a.m. at the Church of Heavenly Rest, 1085 5th Ave. in New York City. All other services are private.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to the Sharon Playhouse, 49 Amenia Road, Sharon, CT 06069.

Local arrangements are under the care of the Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon.

Send Obituaries to
cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com

Willis E. Ocain

CORNWALL — Willis E. Ocain, 96, of Cornwall passed away, surrounded by his family, at his home on Thursday evening, Nov. 18, 2021. He was the husband of the late Mary (Dunne) Ocain, who predeceased her husband in 2007.

Willis was born June 19, 1925, in Torrington, son of the late Esther (Hurlburt) and George Ocain.

Willis graduated in 1943 from Litchfield High School. In the 1950s he served as a selectman for the Town of Goshen and was a member of the First Congregational Church.

Willis owned and operated his dairy farm in Goshen for many years, until 1989 when he and his son Philip transitioned into the lumber business.

Willis held a private pilot's license and loved flying his Cessna 182. He started flying when he was 19 and continued to fly until the age of 88. He was a proud member of The International Flying Farmers, and in his 80s became a member of The United Flying Octogenarians, a group for pilots over the age of 80 who are still flying.

Never one to stop learning, Willis pursued many different

interests and was active on the farm into his 90s. He served for many years on the Board of Directors for the Farm Credit Bank of Springfield, eventually becoming chairman of the board.

Willis is survived by his two sons and their families, Gary Ocain and his wife, Kathy, of Cornwall and their two daughters, Chloe and Fiona, and Philip Ocain and his wife, Kelly, of Goshen and their son, Michael, and his wife, Zoe.

Willis was predeceased by his sister, Barbara (Ocain) Dudley.

He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Kathleen Ruzbasan of Unionville; and many nieces and nephews.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, funeral services will be held at the convenience of the family. A celebration of Willis' life will be held at a later date.

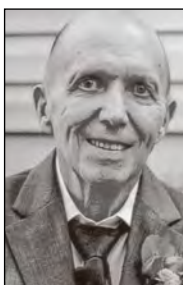
Memorial donations may be sent to the Dr. Edward P. Dunne Scholarship Fund, Inc., P.O. Box 625, Unionville, CT 06085.

Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home in North Canaan.



Carl E. Stahovec

MILLERTON — Carl E. Stahovec, 67, a lifelong area resident, died peacefully on Friday, Nov. 19, 2021, at his home in Millerton, with his loving family at his side.



Mr. Stahovec retired in August 2019 as an estimator from C A Lindell & Son Inc. in North Canaan, where he had worked for more than 20 years. He also worked as a self-employed carpenter and general contractor in the building trade for many years prior.

Born Jan. 10, 1954, in Sharon, he was the son of the late Elma (Loft) and Albert Stahovec.

He was a 1972 graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional High School and also attended Oliver Wolcott Technical School in Torrington.

On Oct. 15, 1988, in Millerton, he married Kathleen Shaffer. Mrs. Stahovec survives at home.

Mr. Stahovec served on the Town of North East Planning and Zoning Boards and also the Town Board, where he served a Deputy Town Supervisor and a Town Councilman for many years.

In his spare time, “Stovepipe,” as he was affectionately known to his close friends and family, was an avid golfer and enjoyed playing billiards and tinkering in his woodworking shop. He also had a great love

of cooking, which he passed on to his daughter, Kelsey.

In addition to his loving wife, Kathleen, Mr. Stahovec is survived by his daughter, Kelsey Kilmer and her husband, Joseph, of Hillsdale, N.Y.; his stepdaughter, Tisha Rothvoss of Copake Falls, N.Y.; three grandchildren, Carly Rothvoss of Ghent,

N.Y., and her companion, Eric Shutts, Brody Rothvoss of Ancramdale and Emiley Najdek of Copake Falls; two great-grandchildren, Lucille and Thomas Shutts of Ghent; and three sisters, Sally Swanson of North Canaan, Leah Procopio and her husband, Vincent, of Manahawkin, N.J., and Judy Loucks and her husband, Robert, of Sharon.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, Gene Stahovec; and his sister, Faye Stahovec.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, Nov. 27, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home in Millerton. A funeral service will take place at noon at the funeral home, the Rev. William Mayhew officiating. Burial will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 1260.

To send an online condolence to the family, visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com.

Catherine Evelyn Spaulding

MILLERTON — Catherine Evelyn Spaulding passed away peacefully on Nov. 10, 2021, at Danbury Hospital surrounded by her family.

She was born May 7, 1949, at Sharon Hospital to Daisy (Davis) and Elwood Cade.

Cathy graduated high school from Webutuck Central School and remained a lifelong resident of Millerton.

After graduation Cathy got married and had two boys, Steven Michael Decker and Ronald Owen Decker. She raised her boys in Millerton while working privately in housekeeping most of her life. She also worked at Noble Horizons in the dietary department for a few years.

She loved to help others, and her family always came first. She was described as loving, selfless, caring and a pillar of hope and strength by her family and friends. Cathy was a devoted mother, sister, grandmother and friend to many. She

will be deeply missed and forever loved.

In addition to her mother and father, Cathy was predeceased by her son Steven; her siblings, Barbara Rodriguez, Marie Tanner-Whyman, John Ashman, Oliver “Sonny” Cade, Marcella Wilson and Herbert Cade.

She is survived by her son, Ronald Decker and his fiancée, Tamara Cooper, of Millerton; and her granddaughter, Tiffany Brown (Decker) and her husband, Sean, along with their daughter, Elianna Catherine Decker, of Copake Falls. She is also survived by several loving nieces and nephews.

A Service of Remembrance will be held on Nov. 27 at 1 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Millerton. Interment will be in the Irondale Cemetery in Millerton. Arrangements are with the Peck and Peck Funeral Home in Copake, N.Y. Send online condolences to www.peckandpeck.net.

Evelyn V. (Shufelt) Wheeler

NORTH CANAAN — Evelyn V. (Shufelt) Wheeler, 83, died Nov. 11, 2021, at Wolcott Hall in Torrington. She was the wife of David Wheeler Sr.

Evelyn was born Aug. 18, 1938, in Windham, N.Y., daughter of the late Clara (DeLamar) and Edgar Shufelt.

Evelyn was last employed by The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville in the housekeeping department.

An avid baseball fan, Evelyn was a diehard Yankee fan. She also loved Elvis and going to bingo.

The most important thing to Evelyn was her family: her husband, David, children and especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, Evelyn is survived by her children, Trudy Dennis of East Canaan, Lois Derwin of North Canaan, Muriel Cassidy of South Carolina and David Wheeler Jr.

of Patchogue, N.Y.; her two sisters, Betty Johnson of Hudson, N.Y., and Ruth Hadsell of Falls Village; 15 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Evelyn was predeceased by three children, Robin Wheeler, Ann Sullivan and Amos Post; and her granddaughter, Margaret Derwin.

Funeral services will be held at the convenience of the family.

Memorial donations may be made to the Margaret Derwin Scholarship Fund in care of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, 800 North Main St., Sheffield, MA 01257-9503.

Evelyn's family would like all her friends and family to know that due to the ongoing pandemic, a Celebration of Evelyn's Life will be held next spring.

Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home in North Canaan.

Send obituaries
to cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com



Worship Services

Week of November 28, 2021

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!
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www.salisburyucc.org
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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
860-435-9290

North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC
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Worship services Sundays at 10 am
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Tuesdays from 5 to 7
and Thursdays from noon to 2
www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational

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

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Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mimgates125@gmail.com
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SUNDAY MASSES
8 AM - St. Bernard
10 AM - Sacred Heart
WEEKDAY MASSES
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & First Friday
9 AM - Sacred Heart

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
canaanct-umc
canaanctumc@gmail.com

Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon
9 South Main, Sharon CT
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www.christchurchsharon.org

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The Rev. Heidi Truax
trinity@trinitylimerock.org
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Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT
Join our virtual Zoom service on
Sunday, December 12 at 10:30 a.m.
For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoii@gmail.com
All are Welcome

The Lakeville United Methodist Church
319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039
9:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
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Pastor Joy Veronesi
860-435-9496
Lakevillemethodist@snet.net

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St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan
St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville
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Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary
Sunday 11 a.m.,
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DAILY MASS SCHEDULE
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Thursday 8am
Immaculate Conception Church
Friday 8am
Church of St. Mary
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and Sunday services
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Thursday, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Contact us at 860-364-5002 or
info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org

All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church
315 Twin Lakes Rd.,
Salisbury, CT
Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M.
Rev. John Kreta
860-824-1340
allsaintsofamerica.us

MARATHON

Continued from Page A1

anxiety: Remembering that, in the end, she was taking part in the marathon as a way to come to terms with her grief over the loss of her father.

Race Day: The ferry

On Sunday morning, England her two race partners “were on the last ferry to leave Manhattan, at 8:45 a.m. After that the ferry is open to the public, so if you miss that ferry you’re on your own. But we made it and got to Staten Island, where they herd you like little cows onto a bus to Fort Wadsworth.

“We got there around 10:15 a.m. and then had a long wait.”

Dunkin’ Donuts has a booth at the start, “you can get coffee and a bagel.”

The average athlete might not think of those as great things to ingest before a vigorous workout. There are, England noted, portable lavatories all along the race route but, “everyone is peeing fast. The porta-potties are gross.”

Without going into too much detail, England had selected her race pants with this in mind. “No tights.” Instead she wore comfortable athletic pants from Outdoor Voices.

Each racer is given a plastic bag, about the size of the largest zipper-seam food storage bag.

“You can only bring what fits into that bag.” England had a rain jacket in her bag. Many other people started off the morning in warm clothes that they then peeled off.

“There are blue bins there and people throw their sweats into the bins, and they’re then donated to the community.”

When Wave Five was called to the start line, “They play ‘America the Beautiful’ over the loudspeaker, there’s a cannon shot and the announcer said, ‘You’re the last wave. Go!’”

Bonking

England knew that there would be sections of the race that would be both mentally and physically challenging. Mile 16 is famously difficult. “At Fort Greene, I started to cry, I turned by 4th Avenue near BAM and I started to cry.”

At that point, the road was narrow and lined with people who put out their hands to slap five to runners to encourage them along. And everywhere there were cow bells.

“The Hassidic neighborhood was fascinating. I was told that when you reach that part of Brooklyn, the women are not allowed to be scantily clad.”

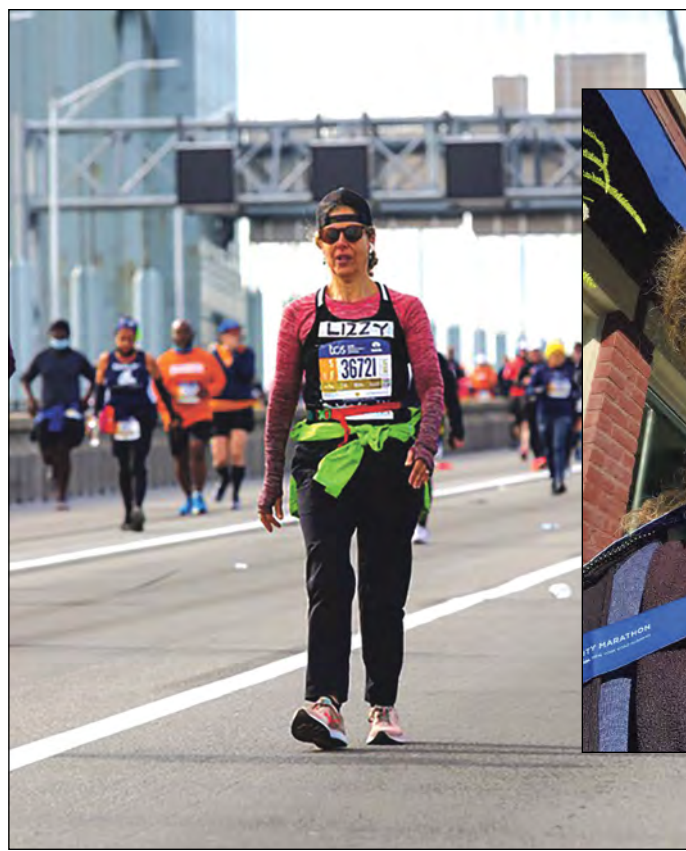
And “they can’t even look at you” if you’re a woman in running gear.

Women would turn to look away as the runners passed through; some continued to cross streets through the athletes, acting as though they didn’t exist.

“The shunning was very interesting. Everywhere else there was so much energy. I was thinking of my Dad and growing up in the Jewish Berkshires. It was interesting to be in this neighborhood that was so Jewish but so unlike my Dad.”

The sections of the race on Manhattan, as you near the finish line, are particularly challenging, of course.

Harlem was excruciating. “I definitely talked to my Dad through Harlem: ‘This



Elizabeth England kept up a steady pace as she moved through the boroughs while walking the New York City Marathon, ending her trek in under her goal of seven hours. She wore her medallion, photo at right, for the entire next day.

is hard, the top of my foot is hurting, there’s no one around.’

“But there was this little family in Harlem with a sign that said, ‘We have kisses! Do you want a kiss?’ I had my name on my shirt, and they said, ‘Come on, Lizzy, do you want a kiss?’ They were chocolate kisses. It was manna.

“It was very hard for me at about Mile 24. You have to walk along Central Park South and then re-enter the park. It’s psychologically tricky because you enter the park and you think you’re done and you’re not. You have two more miles to go.

“I’d heard of bonking, when your body loses all its energy, your body can keep moving but your mind is out of it.”

There were also runners whose bodies were barely moving. England said her instinct was to want to stop and help everyone she saw who was struggling, but she realized, “everyone is doing their own thing.” It’s not a group activity; it’s quintessentially New York City in the sense that you’re surrounded by a mass of people and yet you are very alone.

England’s husband met her at two spots along the race course, at Mile 16 and again as she entered Central Park. Her two friends had dropped behind her at the start of the marathon, and had re-entered toward the end (their names are not officially recorded).

“They were done by sunset.”

England had set a goal of trying to finish the race in seven hours. Her time was 6 hours

45 minutes and five seconds.

“At the end I got a little blue fleecy Marathon poncho; they didn’t do the silver Mylar blankets. And I wore my medal all day on Monday.”

The Motherland

More important even than the medal, though, was the journey the Marathon offered through her life.

“My mom moved down here from Berkshires and I lived with my Dad in Lenox. I was born in 1963, so in the 1970s I would travel Route 7 to come visit her. I always knew New York City, it was my mother, so I loved it. But I hadn’t been to all the boroughs; so part of the marathon was going to all the boroughs, my Motherland.”

And of course, her father.

In the end, she realized of the Marathon, “This all makes sense to me, this is how I would mourn my Dad. He was such an athlete, always moving. My Dad was my everything.”

HOSPITAL

Continued from Page A1

is practiced today means it is unlikely the hospital will be able to recruit a (for example) neurologist who stays in town until retirement.

Rather, the goal is to have doctors within the Nuvance system rotate between hospitals.

One person suggested a way to keep the labor and delivery unit open: To solicit cash donations from the community. The questioner said the community has “deep pockets.”

Hirko said he was willing to discuss that idea but added that additional funds won’t necessarily help with the larger problems of staffing, recruiting and the demographics of the area, which skew toward older people.

One questioner was especially concerned about stroke patients. Another questioned the hospital’s claim to have lost almost \$40 million over three years.

The next presentation will be on Dec. 14 at 5:30 p.m.

Send questions for the Dec. 14 forum by email to sharon-hospital@nuvancehealth.org; call 845-554-1734 (leave a name and phone number); or by mail to Sharon Hospital, Attn: Community Forum, 50 Hospital Hill Road, Sharon, CT 06069.

Instructions on how to join the virtual meeting can be found at www.nuvancehealth.org/CTForums. The recorded session and a copy of the digital presentation will be accessible on the website following the event.

To request a physical copy by mail, call 845-554-1734.

Correcting Errors

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

FOI

Continued from Page A1

at which they should be shared publicly. Hennick replied that it is not necessary to share an early draft that will undergo major revision, but once the proposed regulation reaches a stage where the changes are minor tweaks, then the document should be available for the public to see.

A few residents asked about rules governing the taking and keeping of minutes.

Illegal meetings

With 30 years of experience as the town attorney, Perley Grimes set about clarifying issues and concerns that have cropped up repeatedly over the years.

Focusing at first on the P&Z, Grimes stressed the importance of knowing the regulations and bringing a copy of the full set to each meeting for reference. P&Z regulations inform about what is allowed, but not necessarily what is prohibited, he said.

The Town Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) serves as the source of the regulations, but it does not have the force of law, Grimes noted.

Problem areas for public officials arise in ex parte conversations or communications, Grimes said, defined as contact between or among commission members outside of meetings.

Even private conversations outside of the regular meetings can be problematic for a public official. Emails, particularly in these months of working from home, can become part of the public record and therefore, the public can obtain copies of that correspondence if it concerns public business.

A conflict of interest is to be avoided where a board member has a personal or financial interest in matters being discussed. Another problem area is defined as bias or prejudice, where a board member has (even inadvertently) stated an

opinion or prejudged the issue before hearing all public opinion.

Public opinion should be considered productive and helpful.

“The more public involvement in the community, the healthier the community,” Grimes added.

Resident Joanne Wojtusiak expressed frustration with the removal of public comment from the agenda at P&Z meetings.

“Citizens are not allowed to interact with the P&Z,” she said, acknowledging that letters can be submitted through the Land Use office at Town Hall, but she said that responses are slow. She urged that there be more dialogue.

If elected town officials and members of boards and commissions have questions about FOI, Hennick invites a phone call to his office at 860-566-5682.

House of Books is back home at 10 N. Main

By Cynthia Hochswender

KENT — Newcomers to the region might not realize it but the adorable little cottage at 4 N. Main Street that has been the house of House of Books since 2019 is not the store’s actual location.

House of Books has lived for most of its life just up the road, in a tall Victorian-style building at 10 N. Main.

The shop, one of only a handful of bookstores remaining in the region, had been owned from 1991 by Jim and Gini Blackketter, who sold it in 2013 to Robin Dill, who had been the shops store manager/book buyer for about a decade.

The building itself had been purchased in 2014 by Kent Center LLC, the group that had purchased and spruced up much of Kent village, not only repairing the most aged buildings but also adding trees and plants as well as reconfiguring traffic flow.

The new building owners (and the community at large) were surprised in 2019 when Dill announced that she was



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Renovations are complete at 10 N. Main St. and House of Books has moved back in, after about two years in a temporary location just down the street.

leaving the area and needed to sell the book business.

The Kent Center LLC group felt strongly that the town should have a bookstore, and partner Peter Vaughn stepped in as manager, eventually handing the reins to Ben Rybeck.

But meanwhile, plans had begun for an extensive structural renovation of the building

at 10 N. Main. The books were moved down the street to the little red cottage. Work began and was supposed to be completed in 2020.

Then COVID-19 came along.

Like a novel with a happy ending, the renovation has now been completed and the books are back home at 10 N. Main.



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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment



PHOTOS BY GEORGE MURDOCK

The creche on Bethlehem's town Green is the centerpiece of the town's two-day Christmas Town Festival, which will take place this year on Friday evening, Dec. 3, and Saturday, Dec. 4. A highlight of the festival is the lighting of the 85-foot holiday tree on Friday night.

DAYTRIPS: DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

All Roads Lead to Bethlehem: 'Connecticut's Christmas Town'

Named after the birthplace of Jesus, Litchfield County's little town of Bethlehem lives up to its reputation as "Connecticut's Christmas Town." Each year, from Thanksgiving to Christmas, thousands of visitors from near and far converge on this quaint, rural community of about 3,500 residents to partake in beloved holiday traditions.

Bethlehem's Christmas Town Festival came about in 1980: The community pulled together to raise money to replace the Memorial Hall, which had been destroyed by fire.

The festival is run en-

tirely by volunteers, with the goal of raising money to support the town's treasured community center.

THE BENEDICTINE ABBEY

Bethlehem's history is, fittingly, steeped in religion. The first theological seminary in the country was established there, as was the 400-acre Abbey of Regina Laudis on Flanders Road, founded in 1947 as one of the first houses of Benedictine nuns living in contemplative silence in the United States.

The Abbey is home to a rare, 18th-century gem: a Neapolitan creche. The recently restored nativity scene, comprising hand-carved figures of wood, terra cotta, jute and porcelain, has been viewed by people from all over the world. It was gifted to the Abbey by artist and philanthropist Loretta Hines Howard, who also donated a similar creche to New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Unfortunately, the creche, which has been a big draw to Bethlehem during the holiday season, will be closed to the public this year, as it was in 2020,

due to COVID-19.

A spokesperson at the Abbey said tentative plans are to reopen the grounds — including the Monastic Art Shop, the Neapolitan creche and a second, charming rustic nativity scene created by Connecticut artist Lauren Ford — to the public in spring of 2022.

Visitors to Bethlehem this holiday season will still have plenty of activities to make a daytrip worth the effort.

CHRISTMAS TOWN FESTIVAL DEC. 3 AND 4

Among the planned attractions are the 40th annual Christmas Town Festival, slated for the first weekend in December; the unveiling of the 2021 limited-edition pewter Christmas ornament and visits to the Bethlehem Post Office, where generations of families have hand-stamped their holiday cards and packages with one of 83 uniquely designed rubber stamps, known as a cachet.

The festival is at the heart of the holiday festivities and is one of New England's favorite

celebrations. The two-day event around the town Green opens on Friday, Dec. 3, 5 to 9:30 p.m., and continues on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The opening ceremony and tree lighting is at 6 p.m. on Friday with Irene O'Connor, honorary emcee and WFSB Channel 3 TV personality.

There will be music, bell choir concerts, lighting of the 85-foot town Christmas tree, photos with Santa, hayrides, a book and cookie sale, craft and food vendors and craft workshops for children and their parents.

The young and young-at-heart are invited to take a roaming train ride, visit Santa's workshop or go on a scavenger hunt.

To counterbalance all the holiday fun foods, there will be a 5K "Santa Made Me Do It" road race on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 10 a.m.

Festival Committee Chairman George Murdock said as long as the weather cooperates, he expects a robust turnout, especially since the event was put on hold last year for the first time in four decades due to COVID-19. "We could see up to 3,500 people — which equals the population of Bethlehem," noted Murdock.

COVETED ORNAMENTS AND THE POSTAL CACHET

The tradition of the Bethlehem Post Office's cachet harkens back to 1938 when the late Earl Johnson, the postmaster at that time, designed a rubber stamp with the message "From the Little Town of Bethlehem, Christmas Greetings."

Since then, new designs have been created by town residents, artists and children.

Bethlehem town officials estimate that hundreds of thousands

Hip Hop Into The Holidays With En Vogue

Just because it's Thanksgiving, that doesn't mean everything you do has to have a holiday theme. For something completely different, think about going to the En Vogue concert in Kingston, N.Y., on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m. hosted by the Bardavon at the UPAC.

If you were a disco biscuit back in the 1980s and 1990s, En Vogue needs no introduction. You remember jumping onto the dance floor as soon as you heard the opening notes of "Never Gonna Get It," one of the most infectious tunes of the disco era (I think they're actually what's considered Hip Hop — or as Wikipedia describes it: "R&B soul funk new jack swing pop hip hop dance"). However you de-

scribe it, En Vogue's music gets you up on your feet and feeling frisky.

Tickets start at \$49. The Bardavon and UPAC box offices are open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (Bardavon) 845-473-5288 or (UPAC) 845-339-6088; or email at boxoffice@bardavon.org. To purchase tickets online 24 hours a day go to www.ticketmaster.com (fees will apply).

Due to the delta variant and the recent increase in new COVID cases, audiences (with some exceptions) at Bardavon and UPAC events must be fully vaccinated and wear masks at all times. Ticket holders must show proof of vaccination and government issued ID on show days. — Cynthia Hochswender

TRADITIONAL AND HISTORICAL HOLIDAY MUSIC

The Salisbury Association will offer a free concert of traditional Christmas music and carols on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Congregational Church in Salisbury, Conn.

The Salisbury Four have created a special one-hour program of music that spans periods from the Medieval to the Baroque and includes more modern eras and beloved carols as well.

The members of the Salisbury Four include Zahra Brown, soprano, Judith Dansker, recorder, Christopher Morrongiello,

lute, and Marcia Young, soprano and Renaissance harp. For more about the musicians, go to www.salisburyassociation.org.

Seating will be limited, to allow for social distancing. Face masks and proof of vaccination will be required. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. To reserve seats, email info@salisburyassociation.org or call 860-435-0566 and leave your name, number in your party and contact information by noon, Saturday, Dec. 4. Walk-ins will be permitted until the seating limit is reached.

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Send items to calendar@lakevillejournal.com. All entries can be found at www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar.

MISC.

SWSA Ski Swap Sale. Lakeville Hose Company, 4 Brook St., Lakeville, Conn. www.salisburyisjumping.com
Dropoff Dec. 3, 4 to 7 p.m. Sale is Dec. 4, 8 to 11 a.m., pick up money, unsold equipment from 11 to noon. No dropoffs Dec. 4.

Housatonic Valley FFA Holiday Store. 246 Warren Tpke., Falls Village, CT www.ffa.hvrs.org
Trees, wreaths, roping, poinsettias and more; Nov. 27-Dec. 23, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Hometown Holidays. Lakeville Firehouse, 4 Brook St., Lakeville, Conn.
Dec. 4: 11-4 Vendor Fair; 3-5 Photos with Santa; 5:30 Tree Lighting

BOOKS

Oblong Books & Music. 26 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. www.oblongbooks.com
In-Person Book Signing: Annie Leibovitz, Wonderland, Dec. 5, 10 a.m.

KIDS

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon. 10 Upper Main

St., Sharon, Conn. www.hotchkisslibrary.org
Family Movie Night!- Clifford The Big Red Dog (2021), Nov. 26.

MOVIES

The Moviehouse. 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. www.themoviehouse.net
Now playing: Belfast, Encanto, House of Gucci, Ghostbusters: Afterlife.

MUSIC

The Egremont Barn. 17 Main St., South Egremont, Mass. www.theegremontbarn.com
Karaoke! After Thanksgiving and Before Christmas!, Nov. 28, 7 to 10 p.m.

TALKS

The Clark Art Museum. 225 South St., Williamstown, Mass. www.clarkart.edu
NEW PARENTS GALLERY TALK, Dec. 3, 10:15-11:15

THEATER

Ancram Opera House. 1330 County Route 7, Ancram, N.Y. www.ancramoperahouse.org
Real People Real Stories: Taconic Hills, Nov. 30, 3 p.m.

At The Movies

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48 MAIN STREET, MILLERTON, NY

Continued on next page



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

It's never good to change up a holiday menu —but there are many reasons to make cauliflower a new holiday tradition.

**THANKSGIVING:
CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER**

Don't Panic But ... Maybe Cauliflower For Thanksgiving?

There are two things we know for certain about Thanksgiving dinner.

One is that there is usually a lot of food, and aids to digestion can be helpful.

The other is that it's important not to tinker (too much) with the traditional menu. You have roughly 360 other days of the year when you can experiment with new flavors and combinations; you should avoid doing so on Thanksgiving and other important annual holidays (Christmas, Hanukkah, birthdays).

And so I present this menu alternative with some trepidation. In my opinion, if you want to try something new this Thanksgiving and wouldn't it be great if it were an easily digestible food, then cauliflower is the answer.

There are many things to love about cauliflower for this most food-centric holiday meal. First, it's one of the most readily available starch/vegetables, sold in every grocery store in America.

And because it's not an obvious choice, you can probably buy one at the last minute.

Unlike potatoes, cauliflower is easy to cook and it mashes and purees beautifully. They are a very worthy substitute for mashed potatoes (I personally never mash my own potatoes any more, I buy Simple Potatoes, which are fantastic and actually better than homemade, IMO).

This is a vegetable that not only can be cooked the day before Thanksgiving, it absolutely should be cooked a day early. Like many members of the brassica family, it has a strong odor when it's being cooked. If you make it ahead of time, you won't have the scent hanging over your gathering.

It's extremely easy to cook a cauliflower. And if you are having a small group for dinner, cauliflower florets are excellent in a crudité plate; cook half but serve the other half raw with dip.

To cook your cauliflower, preheat the oven to 325

degrees. Put some parchment paper or foil on a cookie sheet. Cut the stem out of the bottom of the head of cauliflower; don't worry if some of the florets break up while you're doing this — in fact, if you plan to make puree, you can just break the cauliflower head into florets.

But the whole head looks very impressive when you roast it whole.

And here's another factor in favor of cauliflower: You can cook and serve it in many ways. It's like a little black dress; you start off with roasted florets or a roasted whole head and adapt them in different ways depending on your mood and energy level.

As noted, you can serve it raw with dip. You can add small florets to a crunchy salad.

You can roast the whole head for about 25 minutes, until the top is brown and you can easily insert a knife into the florets.

Before you roast, you can top the cauliflower with some olive oil and coarse salt and pepper, and a sprinkling of your favorite spice (curry is good!).

Third, you can puree your roasted florets with some cream and butter.

Fourth, you can slice your roasted cauliflower and serve it in a stir fry with bread crumbs, dried currants, slivered almonds, maybe some chopped fresh parsley left over from making stuffing.

Fifth, you can make a creamy bisque with cauliflower, roasted fennel, roasted leek and sautéed pears. This might be a good way to use any leftover cauliflower on the day after Thanksgiving because, really, no one needs soup when there's a turkey and 10 side dishes on the table. If you serve bread with your dinner, and make soup the next day, use some slices for croutons.

And as noted, cauliflower is known as a digestive aid, which is always welcome when you're eating a large meal and then sitting around watching football and old movies after (and perhaps before) dinner.

MESSIAH: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

'Hallelujah,' It's Time Once Again for 'The Messiah'

You don't have to love choral music or even classical music — or even Christmas — to love G.F. Handel's "Messiah." I would count myself as fairly uneducated when it comes to the glories of great music but even for me, "The Messiah" is a delight to listen to. Although much of the storyline (the life and death and resurrection of Jesus Christ) is not happy, it is in fact a joyful and uplifting musical experience, especially the famous "Hallelujah" chorus.

I begin singing "The Messiah" right after Thanksgiving — and I'm not the only person who loves to sing along (poorly) to the very complicated oratorio. I don't know why but there are "Messiah" sing-alongs all over the world.

Traditionally, Berkshire Bach hosts a Messiah sing in Great Barrington, Mass., but COVID-19 seems to have canceled it.

In Kent, Conn., St. Andrew's Music in the Nave will present "The Messiah" with James Sinclair conducting the Sherman Chamber Ensemble on Friday, Dec. 10, at 8 p.m. at St. Andrew's Parish at 1 North Main.

Audience members can sing the choral parts. Bring

... daytrips

Continued from previous page

of holiday greetings are stamped and mailed each season from the small East Street Post Office by people from all over the world. The Post Office will have extended hours during the days of the festival, according to Murdock. It will remain open until 8 p.m. on Friday, and until 3 p.m. on Saturday.

The 2021 Christmas Town Festival Ornament, "Nativity on the Green," sells for \$10 and is available at Town Hall. Murdock said the limited edition, pewter ornaments are sought-after collectibles.

"They are stamped with a sequential number, and only 1,150 are made. When they're done, they're done."

PARKING AND SHUTTLE DETAILS

Admission to the festival and parking at the fairground are free. The town Green is at the junction of Routes 61 and 132. Shuttle bus service will run continuously between the fairground and the Green.

Parking in town during the festival is by permit only and is limited to cars with a handicapped tag, vendors and volunteers participating in the festival. Murdock suggested that anyone looking to park in the permitted spaces at Town Hall enter town from the south, as roads will be closed around the Green. For more information go to www.christmastownfestival.com, or call 203-266-7510, ext. 400.



IMAGE COURTESY OF BRITANNICA

"The Messiah," by George Frideric Handel (shown in this 1736 painting by Thomas Hudson), has become a highlight of the holiday season.

your own score, or borrow one. Admission is \$20; book your ticket at <https://bit.ly/messiah10> and at the door. Student admission is free.

For more information,

call 860-927-3486, email st.andrew.kent@snet.net, or go to www.standrews-kentct.org/mitn.html.

In Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y., about a 40-minute drive from Salisbury,

Conn., Leon Bottstein will lead a non-sing-along "Messiah" performed by The Orchestra Now, soloists from the Bard Conservatory Graduate Vocal Arts Program, the Bard Festival Chorale and the Bard College Chamber Singers.

That concert will be on Saturday, Dec. 11, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m. You can attend in person (and not sing) or take part virtually (in which case, go ahead and sing along!).

Performances are in the Fisher Center's Sossnoff Theater on the Bard College campus. Tickets start at \$30 for in-person; it is "pay what you wish" for the virtual livestream. To purchase or reserve tickets, go to www.fisher-center.bard.edu, call 845-758-7900 (Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.), or email boxoffice@bard.edu.



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Christmas Concert and Tea

The Smithfield Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Matt Finley



The Smithfield Church
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TheSmithfieldChurch.org/concert for program details...

This event is part of *The Bang Family Concert Series*

The public is invited
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A plate will be passed during the performance for those who wish to make donations to the church. Contributions will be gratefully accepted.

Attendees are asked to wear a mask in the church, and those wishing to stay after the concert for tea are required to show proof of immunization. Thank you for your cooperation.

EDITORIAL

Gratitude, kindness and knowing when to be thankful

After a year of generally isolated holidays, with many of us keeping Thanksgiving to a small celebration, if that, in 2020, this year should feel very different for us in the Tristate region. That is, of course, if we are vaccinated and boosted as necessary. There are also families who are hosting larger Thanksgiving meals again who are requesting COVID testing pre-event. Not a bad idea, vaccinated or not.

Can we agree that another thing to be very grateful for this Thanksgiving is that very thing: vaccinations? As noted here before, without vaccinations our lives at this moment would be very different.

Yet, let's also remember our neighbors at Geer nursing facility in North Canaan, who have suffered heart-wrenching losses and repercussions from COVID's delta variant during the devastating outbreak there that took the lives of eight patients, and involved 67 residents and 22 staff since Sept. 30, as reported by Debra Aleksinas in last week's Lakeville Journal, as well as two in-depth front page articles on this Nov. 4.

The outbreak, according to Geer CEO Kevin O'Connell, seems to have turned a corner now, with all but three of the surviving 59 residents, and all of the 22 staff members, now recovered. In a Nov. 16 letter to staff, residents and family members, O'Connell wrote: "We are relieved to report no new cases of COVID-19 have been identified since last Monday, 11/8/21. The positive case that was reported in the last update (11/12) turned out to be a false positive, confirmed after 2 negative PCR tests. We are also happy to report only 3 active cases remain within the building. As stated in our previous updates this outbreak is contained within the nursing home, Geer Lodge remains unaffected. We continue to complete testing on our residents and staff bi-weekly."

But what a time of intense hardship and suffering for all those at Geer, where the sense of family and mutual support is so strong even in normal times. Such a resurgence of the pandemic, and a deadly one, must have had a profound effect on those living, working or worrying about a family member at Geer.

We in the community are now thinking of all at Geer, knowing how courageously they've faced COVID-19 and its variants since March 2020. Their efforts to keep their facility safe were relatively successful until Sept. 30, when the battle at the nursing facility took the wrong turn, the one nobody wished for. Now they have worked through it, and were successful in containing the spread to the nursing facility only, rather than the rest of the Geer campus or the community. That took vigilance on their parts, and it is another reason to be grateful. We wish them a peaceful and healthier Thanksgiving.

This Thanksgiving, let's all find charity and humility in our hearts and share it with our neighbors, families and friends, however we are gathering this holiday. The more we try to understand the hardship others are going through and use kindness instead of judgment to help them through it, the more we will appreciate those things in our own lives for which we can be grateful this year.

How to best wash dishes?

Dear EarthTalk: My husband thinks it's better for the planet to hand-wash dishes in the sink, but it seems to me using the dishwasher is more eco-friendly. Can you settle this debate for us?

—Chris B., Bowie, MD

Hands-down, the dishwasher is the way to go, not only from the standpoint of water waste and energy use but also to preserve your own sanity. Who needs to be scrubbing, rinsing and drying dishes all day when an efficient machine can do the work?

Modern dishwashers use much less water and energy than their forebears, so you can clean up after your meals and snacks quickly and without guilt just by filling up the dishwasher and hitting the "start" button.

It's not surprising that many of us still think hand-washing is better, given that the dishwashers of yesteryear used 10-15 gallons of water per cycle. But dishwashers sold today in the United States can only use a maximum of five gallons per cycle per the mandate of the U.S. Department of Energy. And to qualify for one of the federal government's EnergySTAR labels identifying especially efficient appliances, dishwashers must max out their water use at 3.5 gallons per cycle.

Meanwhile, handwashing the same number of dishes, pots and pans as you can fit in the dishwasher typically "consumes" some 27 gallons

of water, according to a study by researchers at Germany's University of Bonn. (They also found that some people can handwash a load of dishes

EARTHTALK FROM THE EDITORS OF E, THE ENVIRONMENTAL MAGAZINE

with as little as 8.7 gallons of water while others use as many as 116 gallons!)

And if you're going to use the dishwasher anyway, save yourself even more hot water by skipping the sink pre-rinse and just loading those dirty dishes right into the bottom rack.

In fact, unnecessary pre-rinsing can waste about 6,000 gallons of water per household per year.

These efficiency gains only apply to running your dishwasher when it's full. Rather than running the dishwasher with a half-load, wait until it fills up before hitting start. Of course, some items—cutting boards, silver flatware, cast iron cookware, non-stick pans—will still require handwashing, but you can always try to minimize your use of them accordingly.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

An image of autumn

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Heroic effort at Geer but poor communication

Everyone hopes that the tragic outbreak of the Covid delta variant at Geer Nursing Home in North Canaan is now over.

Of 77 residents there, 67 caught it, and eight died. In addition, 22 staff caught it while fighting it. Fortunately none of them died. Their effort was heroic.

The problem was with communication. It took a full month before any news of this deadly outbreak was reported to the public, and that only came from a private tip to the press, not from Geer. At the Lakeville Journal, it was five weeks before there was any reporting on it.

Even some of the families of Geer residents did not learn for several weeks that what had started as a minor outbreak had grown so large and deadly.

In the past, there had been numerous small outbreaks at Geer that ended without further incident. This one, in the absence of communication, seemed for weeks to be just another of those minor cases, although it was actually spreading like wildfire.

This outbreak was extraor-

dinary not only for its size and scope but because 99% of its victims were breakthrough cases of people already vaccinated.

That fact alone should have prompted Geer officials and the few others who knew about it like Canaan selectman Charlie Perotti and state Rep. Maria Horn to broadcast it immediately in order to alert area residents of the danger that could spread anywhere at any time, to warn the public that the old vaccines were wearing off, and to highlight the great need to get booster shots.

Geer itself could have and should have updated the press each week throughout this crisis. But even now, Geer says it only needs to notify "community stakeholders" — an apparent reference to the few officials it previously told.

When there's a fire or electric wires down, you don't just post something on your website or only inform people in the affected area or the town selectman. You blow the siren.

Many questions remain unanswered:

Since visitors were banned and the residents were kept in their rooms, was this outbreak

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — November 1921

SALISBURY — William Parsons badly gashed his left hand while cutting kindling wood on Tuesday afternoon. The ax came down upon his left hand at the base of the thumb, inflicting a wound that necessitated a trip to the Sharon Hospital. The cords were severed and the wonder of it is that the thumb was not completely severed.

H.R. Brinton's Garage at Salisbury was badly gutted by fire between eleven o'clock and twelve o'clock Monday morning. Mr. Brinton is of the opinion that it was caused by the explosion of the gasoline tank of the water heating apparatus which he has recently been installing in his motor caravan preparatory to taking a trip to Florida for the winter. Monday morning he had decided to try the apparatus out and while the

water was heating he went into the front office for a moment. Hearing a crackling sound he ran out into the garage just as an explosion occurred which threw him bodily out through the big doors of the garage. In a second the flames seemed to be everywhere. He made an attempt to save his books, breaking in the large window in front, and received some cuts and gashes on both hands which fortunately are not serious.

The main building was gutted, but the large ell was saved practically intact. No attempt was made to save the seven or eight autos inside as the place was an inferno. Mr. Brinton is not able at this time to state his loss but as near as he can estimate it will be at least \$20,000 partially covered by insurance.

LIME ROCK — The Pulver, Van Dyke and Roraback babies were baptized Sunday morning at Trinity Church.

Dr. Thomas Shannon has sold his "Sanitarium" building in Falls Village to Samuel Weiner of that place. It is not stated what Mr. Weiner will do with the property.

LAKEVILLE — Peter Flynn has given up the Wononsco Garage and will conduct his auto livery and sales business at his home — the Hurd place.

60 years ago — November 1961

Area residents were dismayed to awake Monday morning and find a thick, wet snowstorm in progress. After a warm Fall, and no warning from the weatherman, motorists were caught without snow tires or chains and a spate of automobile accidents occurred. Between 11:15 a.m. and 7 p.m. there were nine accidents reported in the area, four of them in the town of Salisbury with three people injured, none seriously, but damage to vehicles was high.

Trooper Alan W. Ringklib of the Canaan Barracks shot the highest score in the State Police firearms training program and received top prize of \$25 donated by an anonymous Hartford attorney. Another Canaan trooper, Fred E. Rebillard, was in the money in third place.

Mrs. David F. Duffy of Sharon has waited all this time since Halloween, hoping the pranksters who took the rocking chair off her porch that night would relent and she'd find it sitting in its place some fine morning. She has finally given up and placed an ad in The Lakeville Journal pleading for its return.

The old green rocker has a great sentimental value to Mrs. Duffy. She had very gay and

Continued next page

Truly blessed to live in this town

I just felt I needed to let you know about something that happened to me last Friday at our local post office in Lakeville! For the past 10 years I have been sending my grandchildren a letter and I mail it every Friday morning at the drive-in at the Lakeville Post Office.

Last Friday morning we had a tremendous rain and wind storm and all the mail in the box was completely soaked! On Friday afternoon I received a fabulous phone call from one of our wonderful workers who told me that she had my letter and saw that it was completely wet and ruined and you could also see that I had put some cash in there too with my letter! She asked me to come down and get it and I was so

thankful when I got there!! Can you imagine this happening in another town?

I thought of one of our first grade sayings "Thank you makes smiles grow!" and I sat down and wrote a thank you note to our workers at the Post Office.

We are all truly blessed to live in this town! Very sincerely,

Diane Mayland

Lakeville

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

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

Eversource rates rising

In response to Liz Piel of Sharon, who wrote a letter recently on Eversource's revenge on the public through tree cutting, I too have wondered that myself. But another thing that I have noticed, how the tree company trucks that are now replacing poles, which was sorely needed, have no affiliation to Eversource on the sides of their trucks.

Obviously, they are engaged by Eversource, so now I see, our electric rates are increasing in January by nearly 30%. They're high enough, but I suppose Eversource needs to pay their extra help. They realize that poverty level people, even the elderly on fixed incomes, need electric, when there are some who can't pay their bills as it is.

Well Liz, this is revenge I guess for all that criticism out there about Eversource. They must like holding a grudge.

Michael Parmalee

North Canaan

Winter clothing going from church to NECC

All Saints of America Orthodox Church would like to thank the members of our community for their donations of winter clothing these past two years. We were unable to have our annual winter clothing drive, and in order to keep the donations local, we decid-

ed to donate the clothes to the Northeast Community Center in Millerton to help with their drive.

We hope to have our own drive again next year.

John Mongeau

President, Church Council Salisbury

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

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Is carbon capture a good idea? Or adding a problem?

People are finally coming to realize that climate change is being caused primarily by the ever increasing concentration of global warming gases in the atmosphere. But what should we do about this? The obvious answer is to cut way back on the use of fos-

sil fuels which, when burned, produce these gases, especially carbon dioxide.

More and more there is discussion of collecting the exhaust from power plants and pumping it, under pressure, deep underground into depleted oil and gas wells or

other mined facilities. While this would only collect a tiny fraction of the global warming gases being emitted into the atmosphere it might show the world that we could continue to use fossil fuels for the indefinite future — or so the fossil fuel industries would like us to think. They tell us that this sequestration would also save us countless jobs and provide many new ones as well.

One factor that leaves me suspicious of "carbon sequestration" is the way its proponents speak of "carbon" and "carbon dioxide" almost interchangeably. Actual carbon could be buried in the ground without danger but not CO₂, which may trigger earthquakes and/or pollute the groundwater, creating carbonic acid, and depending on what other ingredients were in the exhaust, more dangerous chemicals. Even if suitable underground space could be found (I have my doubts), what will keep it underground indefinitely and not escaping? Giant screw-on caps? The history of leakage from oil and gas wells is not encouraging. And what about the cost of the equipment for capturing and storing the gas? Perhaps it's time to look at some other alternatives than high pressure injection of CO₂ deep into the ground.

When I was a high school

student our class used electricity to turn water, H₂O, into hydrogen and oxygen. Mightn't a similar method be used to break down carbon dioxide, CO₂, into its elements? The oxygen could escape into the atmosphere (where it might do some good) and the carbon

collected for various purposes. While there may be a limit to the number of golf clubs and tennis racquets we need, new uses for carbon are being discovered all the time, especially as a building material. And were there an enormous surplus, so what? We could bury it safely, unlike CO₂.

The real problem would be the miscellaneous ingredients in the exhaust: arsenic, sulphur, hydrogen, assorted volatile organic compounds, and whatever else had been contained in the raw material being burned. Some of these various ingredients might do significant harm were they buried deep in the ground.

Perhaps our excellent physicists, chemists and engineers could find a way to collect or dispose of these ingredients in a harmless way.

I'm an architect not a scientist and I'm sure that my

oversimplified idea has enough wrong with it to be very unlikely if not totally impossible to implement. A prominent

chemist once belittled my suggestion and said whatever else its failings it would be much too expensive to even consid-

er. But he admitted he knew of no example of anyone trying to do something like this. So how could he be so sure?

The archaic method of using plants, especially large trees, to collect carbon dioxide, consume the carbon and release oxygen back into the atmosphere seems ideal — except that in the modern world there is too much carbon dioxide being produced and not enough plant material to sop it all up.

Congressman Bruce Westerman (R, Ark.) has introduced a bill, (H.R.2639) The Trillion Trees Act, that would among other things use trees to capture greenhouse gases. The Bill currently has 68 Republican and three Democratic co-sponsors. However, nearly 100 environmental organizations oppose the bill considering it largely a public relations ploy to divert attention from Republican legislators' unwill-

ingness to curb fossil fuel emissions. Also, the trees being proposed are tiny saplings which would take many decades to capture significant amounts of CO₂. Meanwhile the bill also proposes to cut down healthy, mature trees all over the country solely for the benefit of the logging industry.

Even more significant than stopping the burning and cutting down of mature forests all around the world, in many cases turning the land into farms as is happening in the Amazon, southeast Asia, and west Africa. The colossal wildfires that have ravaged Australia and the western United States in recent years have demolished billions of mature trees while at the same time filling the atmosphere with more greenhouse gases, and toxic air.

If the Biden administration's environmental program proceeds according to plan, the US will have stopped using fossil fuels to a large extent by 2050, perhaps sooner. So engineering solutions such as breaking down or burying carbon dioxide may then be academic. The old fashioned climate control method of massive tree plantings will become the way of the future again.

Architect and landscape designer Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville.



TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

Continued from previous page

pleasant memories of the old Sharon Inn and before it was demolished, she purchased the rocker as a souvenir of the old inn. Friendly hint: Kids, why not sneak it back onto the porch some night soon. Mrs. Duffy NEVER looks out the window!

SHARON — Mr. and Mrs. William R. Kenny have just had word that their son Peter, who is attached to the Judge Advocate General Branch of the U.S. Army and is stationed at Headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany, has been promoted to Captain. Captain Kenny has been in Europe since April.

A new weekly newspaper, The Litchfield County Beacon, will make its bow on Nov. 30 and will cover the Torrington-Winsted area. Its publisher, Daniel Pranka, formerly with The Hartford Courant, says the paper will be printed in Canaan.

The Rev. Standish MacIntosh, rector of Trinity Church in Lime Rock, was discharged from the Sharon Hospital on Wednesday of last week after 25 days. Father "Mac," as he is known to many, suffered a crushed vertebra and a cracked rib and now wears a back brace. He says he wants to sing the praises of all at the hospital who ministered to him for their friendliness and competence and that "Support Sharon Hospital" has become more than a slogan to him.

Guests attending the Open House of the new Cornwall Post Office on Dec. 3 will enter the building across one of the oldest stepping stones in Cornwall. The stone is of native granite and was quarried at the old Beer's quarry which was then located across from the Cornwall Cemetery.

Russell J. Shaw, President of the National Iron Bank of Falls Village, announced today that Mrs. William Boults is a prize-winner in the nationwide Bankers Aweigh Contest sponsored by the American Express Company. Mrs. Boults, who has been with the bank since 1946, won the seventh prize in competition with bank executives and employees throughout the United States and Canada. The award, a Corning Ware Family Set, was presented to her at the bank Friday by Mr. Shaw with a message of congratulations from James A. Henderson, vice-president of American Express.

Dairy farmers in the area started a course in feeding dairy cattle last week at the North Canaan Elementary School. Dairywomen from Falls Village, Canaan, Colebrook, Norfolk and Salisbury are attending the series sponsored by the Litchfield County Extension Service.

25 years ago — November 1996

SHARON — The reward stands at \$600 for information leading to the prosecution of those who knocked over 30 or 35 gravestones at the Hillside Cemetery two weeks ago. Superintendent of the old burying ground Ed Wilbur said police are still investigating but to date no one knows who knocked over the markers, some dating back to the 1800s, some weighing as much as 600 pounds.

Owners of Canaan Union Station, the town's centerpiece and the oldest continually operated train station in the country, have put the downtown property on the market. It is not a "fire sale," according to Ross Grannan, who bought the station with Paul Ramunni 13 years ago. The partners are simply "testing the waters" to see what kind of offers they might get, he said.

Fast action and good preparation is credited with saving Cornwall Consolidated School from a major fire over the weekend. Some time very early Saturday morning, the pump that feeds water to one of the elementary school's two steam boilers stopped working. "The boiler ran out of water, and the shutoff feature failed. By the time the firefighters arrived the boiler was red hot," First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said. If the huge metal box had gotten any hotter, it might have exploded, he said. If firefighters had sprayed it with water, it would have exploded.

These items were taken from The Lakeville Journal archives at Salisbury's Scoville Memorial Library, keeping the original wording intact as possible. Go to www.scovillelibrary.org to see more historical archives.

Rebounding the historic USPS

The preventable plight of the U.S. Postal Service, with its over 30,000 post offices, is an important issue for all Americans.

When President Donald J. Trump's donor and henchman Louis DeJoy became postmaster general in 2020, he started to dismantle the agency. Thousands of citizens responded by participating in demonstrations that revealed a deep civic commitment to preserving the people's post office.

While DeJoy triggered a crisis that threatened the presidential election process, attacks on the Postal Service have been ongoing for decades. The anti-postal campaigns by corporate interests have remained a continuing source of frustration to those of us who have observed the Postal Service's decline due to unimaginative management, a deck stacked to favor for-profit rivals such as FedEx and UPS, and unfair financial obligations and delivery prohibitions (for example, on wine and beer) imposed by Congress.

The Postal Service is facing a manufactured financial crisis that is primarily the result of a congressional mandate dating back to 2006 that required the agency to pre-fund the next 75 years of retiree health benefits in one decade. This pre-payment requirement is something that no other federal government agency or private corporation attempts to do — not to mention that there is no actuarial justification for such an accelerated payment schedule.

The pre-funding requirement effectively forces the Postal Service to finance a \$72 billion retiree health benefits fund for future employees who have not even been born yet. Despite these facts, Congress has refused to correct the host of problems resulting from its requirements.

The financial pressure resulting from the burdensome pre-payment schedule has led to negative impacts on service for all postal patrons. Postmaster General DeJoy's 10-year plan proposes saving the agency money through cutting service and raising prices, which is a formula for sabotage. He already introduced service changes that have delayed the delivery of all first-class letters on a permanent basis. As a result, mail is now being delivered up to two days later than before.

Unlike DeJoy, our first postmaster general, Benjamin Franklin, was known for his can-do verve and his appreciation of efficiency and innovation. Franklin was eager to find ways to have the mail delivered more quickly. As a stand-alone structure, he never would have imagined that someday post offices would mutate into a counter or kiosk inside a Staples store — or some other big-box store or shopping mall — as recent postmasters general have urged and widely advertised.

The need for postal reform is not just a matter of endangered post offices, disappearing blue mailboxes, slow mail delivery, or the fight to maintain delivery on Saturday, important as these

issues are. Instead of disabling and eventually dismantling the Postal Service, this is the moment to expand postal services. Congress especially must act to protect rural communities, small businesses, the elderly, and the disabled, among others, by reasserting its authority over the Postal Service and putting a stop to irresponsible cut-backs. These policies not only threaten the future of the Postal Service in the long term; in the short

term, they harm the ability of small businesses to carry out their operations in a timely manner and inhibit the elderly's ability to receive essential medications by mail. They also drive ever more consumers away from the Postal Service and toward commercial delivery corporations such as UPS and FedEx.

Post offices ought to offer an honest notary service (badly needed in an era of robo-signings), sales of fishing and hunting licenses, and an option to have gifts wrapped, among other new services. The Postal Service should accept wine and beer for delivery as FedEx and UPS do, and start delivering groceries as well. In addition, there is the widespread need for postal banking, given many millions of Americans are without bank accounts.

The future potential of the Postal Service is made clear in the just published book, "First Class: The U.S. Postal Service, Democracy, and the Corporate Threat," (City Lights Books) by Christopher W. Shaw, which could not be more timely. Shaw investigates why this essential service is in danger, explains how to fight back against its dismantling and explores what can be done to improve and expand our postal system and have more consumer representation on the Postal Service Board of Governors.

Ninety members of Congress have called on the Postal Service Board of Governors to remove Postmaster General DeJoy. In addition to DeJoy's ruinous USPS policies, he is under investigation by the FBI over illegal political fundraising tactics, and DeJoy's family has financial ties with XPO Logistics, a company that in April the Postal Service awarded a multi-million-dollar contract. With the terms of two Postal Service Board of Governors expiring in one month, it's time for President Biden to appoint new members who will not behave like rubber stamps for DeJoy and his destructive time in office.

The Postal Service is a fundamental institution that binds our country together. It can and should be updated and freed from the shackles of corporations. Showing up is half of democracy, so the question for citizens today is: "Are we going to show up for our post office?" Shaw's book lights the path forward for all Americans.


Consumer advocate and former presidential candidate Ralph Nader grew up in Winsted and is a graduate of The Gilbert School. He is the founder of the American Museum of Tort Law in Winsted.



Cartoon to the editor by Pat Moore of Lakeville

Realtor® at Large

As we enter the holiday season, it is good to remember those in need. Here are two wonderful nonprofits that could use donations to help them make sure that all families have food. The first is Fishes and Loaves in North Canaan, their phone number is 860-824-7232 and their website is: www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org/p/donate-food.html. In Lakeville there is The Corner Pantry, their phone number is 860-435-9886 and website is: thecornerfoodpantry.org. Both organizations do a tremendous amount of work to support our communities year around and would appreciate our support.



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Sports

At HVRHS, fewer COVID restrictions and a new team

By Hunter O. Lyle

FALLS VILLAGE — In a season with the least restrictions in the past two years, the Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) fall sports season is coming to an end with four teams making a postseason push, multiple All-Star selections and a reformat- ted football team finding a new home.

While spectators at indoors sporting events will still need masks, restrictions on all outdoor sports were loosened for the fall season. There will be no mask or capacity restrictions for those watching outdoor athletics.

“We are fully open,” said Housatonic Athletic Director Anne MacNeil. “Obviously we ask that people socially distance themselves and be respectful, but other than the mask, we were pretty much normal.”

The Mountaineers had six sports active this season, including the newly formed football team.

After being canceled the year before, the Mountaineers started their season by joining a new co-op of The Gilbert School and Northwestern Regional High School, both of which are located in Winsted.

Housatonic has been part of a co-op team with Wamogo Regional High School for over a decade, and in recent years has joined Oliver Wolcott Technical High School as well. This year, however, the collapse of Sacred Heart High School in Waterbury, Conn., forced a reshuffling of several teams: Oliver Wolcott Tech joined a co-op with Nonnewaug High School and

Housatonic joined the two Winsted schools.

“They welcomed us with open arms,” MacNeil said. “At the end of the day, our kids are playing football; none of it really mattered as long as we were playing.”

Playing through a season marred with postponements, cancellations and COVID-19 cases, the Housatonic-Northwestern-Gilbert team has amassed a 5-and-2 record, with its last regular season game slated for Thanksgiving against the Granby-Canton co-op.

“Especially with the additions of the Housy kids, it was kind of a seamless transition,” said Head Coach Scott Salius. “We didn’t have a whole lot of activity. Last year, we continued to practice without any games, and our offseason was limited. So when the Housy kids came on board, they came on board with a whole new team.”

The girls soccer team wrapped the regular season up on Tuesday, Nov. 2, beating Nonnewaug, 5-to-2. Ranked No. 8 in the state, the Mountaineers beat No. 25 Wheeler High School 3-to-1 before being upset by the No. 24 ranked Northwest Catholic High School on Wednesday, Nov. 10, 4-to-1.

On the other side of the pitch, the boys soccer team, with former junior varsity coach Bill Gold at the helm, finished their 2-and-14 season on the same day as the girls, with a 9-to-0 shutout loss to Nonnewaug.

Eight athletes were selected as Berkshire League All-Stars, including four from the girls soccer team.

Seniors Tori Dodge and Sydney Segalla, who has committed to playing at Boston College next year, earned First Team All-Soccer accolades along with junior Melody Matsudaira. Fellow junior Lindsey Drislane was selected for Second Team All-Soccer.

For the golf team, senior Collin McAuliffe had a stand-out year, finishing first in both the Berkshire League Tournament and the DII State Championship, qualifying for the New England High School Golf Championships, where he finished ninth overall. McAuliffe, who was selected as an All-Star along with fellow senior William Sarr, will also be playing in the 2022 National Golf Championship, which will be played in July.

The volleyball and cross-country teams ended their regular season with a chance for postseason play. Finishing with an 8-and-9 record that earned them a spot in the state tournament as the No. 21 seed, the volleyball team was eliminated in the first round by Griswold High School, 3-to-0.

As for cross-country, both the boys and girls teams ran in the Fall Championships on Monday, Nov. 1, finishing 15th and 13th, respectively. Freshman Kyle McCarron, for the boys, and Harper Howe, for the girls, were selected as Berkshire League All-Stars.

While the fall seasons are all but finished, the winter sports seasons are just around the corner. On Monday, Dec. 6, just over a week from the last football game, both the boys and girls basketball teams will start their seasons.



Lindsey Drislane inbounded the ball during the home playoff game on Monday, Nov. 8. Drislane was one of two juniors to collect All-Star honors for girls soccer, the other being Melody Matsudaira.



Senior Tori Dodge, who received All-Star honors this season, drove past a defender in the Mountaineer’s first playoff game against Wheeler High School on Monday, Nov. 8.

PHOTOS BY HUNTER O. LYLE

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TAG SALES

Please be sure to wear masks and observe social distancing requirements.

FALLS VILLAGE, CT

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND INDOOR TAG SALE! Toymakers Cafe memorabilia, one-of-a-kind hand painted children’s toys and antique furniture; housewares; textiles; crystal pieces; lighting; restaurant equipment, and more. Friday November 26, Saturday November 27, and Sunday November 28, from 9 am to 3 pm each day. 85 Main Street, Falls Village, CT in the former Toymakers Cafe.

HELP WANTED

EXTRAS AFTERSCHOOL/ SUMMER PROGRAM: located in Salisbury CT is hiring staff members to work with our school-age children from 3-5:30 pm daily. Additional hours are available. Sign-on bonus given after 6 months. Contact us at 860-435-9926 for more information. To apply send a resume to extrasprogram@gmail.com.

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OPEN POSITIONS TOWN OF AMENIA: The Town of Amenia is seeking applications for the paid positions of Assessor’s Clerk (Municipal experience preferred, not required) and for Maintenance Mechanic. Letter of Interest and Resume may be submitted via email to dmklngner@ameniany.gov or via mail to Town Clerk, Dawn Marie Klingner, 4988 Route 22 Amenia NY 12501. Application Deadline: Noon, December 15, 2021.

To view all the news and Classifieds, go to our website at www.tricornernews.com

HELP WANTED

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