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# The Lakeville Journal

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

## Salisbury Affordable housing

# Suit filed against town, SHC for housing plan

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Attorney Daniel Casagrande, representing a group opposed to the Salisbury Housing Committee's plan to build affordable housing at 11 Holley St. in Lakeville, is suing the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) and the Housing Committee.

In a complaint dated June 8 and filed with the Superior Court in Torrington, Casagrande (representing 12 Millerton Road LLC, RJS Holding LLC, and William Muecke) alleges eight violations of reg-

ulations within the application.

He writes that the P&Z's approval of the application (on May 17) was "illegal, arbitrary and/or capricious and constitutes an abuse of discretion."

The complaint states that there is "no evidence" that the site is a suitable location and compatible with the neighborhood, and that the housing will not "unreasonably affect enjoyment, usefulness and value of surrounding properties."

The complaint states the loss of parking spaces will have "a severe negative impact on

See HOUSING, Page A8

## Praise and awards for FFA students, program at HVRHS

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Relative normalcy was busting out all over Falls Village on Friday, June 11. Up the hill from Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS), the D.M. Hunt Library was hosting a live trivia game, albeit outside, under a tent.

And at HVRHS, in a bigger tent, the Housatonic Chapter of the FFA held its award ceremony, with masks and social distancing. The FFA is a national agricultural education organization with an active branch at HVRHS.

FFA President Justine Allyn greeted the crowd of about 200 students, family members and alumni and said despite the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic, "our chapter has grown stronger."

HVRHS Principal Ian Strever praised the FFA members for engaging in real activities as far as pos-

See FFA AWARDS, Page A8



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Justine Allyn, president of the Housatonic chapter of the agricultural education FFA program, spoke at an awards ceremony at Housatonic Valley Regional High School on June 11.



PHOTOS BY JOE ELLIS

Joe Ellis, who is famous in the Northwest Corner for his bird photos, including these, was honored on June 10 by Audubon Connecticut of Greenwich.

## Migratory bird initiative earns Audubon honor for Joe Ellis

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — A world-changing commitment to protect hundreds of species of migratory birds earned recognition by Audubon Connecticut of Greenwich for Cornwall resident Joe Ellis, who received their 2021 Environmental Leadership Award. The award was presented at the Audubon annual banquet in Greenwich on Thursday, June 10, a gala in-person event that was also streamed live.

Described by the organization as "a steward of our natural world," Audubon Executive Director Mike Burger recognized that Ellis' impact reaches far beyond Connecticut.

"His passion for his backyard birds is pushing Audubon to pursue bird protection at an international level," Burger said. Ellis is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Audubon Society.

In accepting the recognition, Ellis said, "I am so hon-

"All you have to do is walk along any woods or pasture with a pair of binoculars, and you will see more species than you ever imagined. And knowing their calls can give you an even greater sense of place that we all treasure in this region."

Joe Ellis, 2021 Environmental Leadership Award recipient

ored and humbled to receive this award from an organization that has helped Americans everywhere in pursuing the joy of knowing and watching birds and, most importantly, preserving their future in the face of overdevelopment and environmental degradation. We are so fortunate to have here in our northwest Connecticut backyard one of the best Audubon nature centers in the country — the Sharon Audubon Center."

Eileen Fielding, director of the Sharon Audubon Center, called Ellis "an outright visionary."

### Migratory paths

Fielding said that the answer to the question, "Where does my backyard wood thrush go?" is not well detailed at present.

Ellis' work in developing and nurturing the Migratory Bird Initiative to study 460 bird species and map where they go when they migrate is a huge step forward in bird protection. An innovative platform to de-

See ELLIS HONOR, Page A8

## How coyotes got so wily, and how to outsmart them

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Paul Coburn, a wildlife specialist with the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), told an online audience that many of the same precautions used to minimize human-black bear interactions

also apply to coyotes.

Coburn spoke via Zoom on Saturday, June 12, on "Coyotes: The Facts vs. the Fiction." The talk was sponsored by Noble Horizons.

Coburn said the eastern coyote is bigger than the western version and has more wolf DNA. The animals typically

live from eight years to the high teens.

He said there is no such thing as a "coywolf," or 50/50 coyote/wolf hybrid.

Eastern coyotes were first observed in Connecticut in the 1950s; the first confirmed

See COYOTES, Page A8

## Regular legislative ends, special session begins

By Patrick L. Sullivan

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) said the \$46 billion biennial budget passed by the Legislature toward the end of the regular session last week enjoyed bipartisan support.

"That we got a bipartisan budget was pretty extraordinary," Horn said in a phone interview Sunday, June 13.

The budget passed the state

House of Representatives 116-31 and the state Senate 31-4.

Horn noted that some \$1.75 billion in federal funds related to the COVID-19 pandemic was a factor in the budget process.

She said the budget includes no new taxes, although she acknowledged that the highway usage fee increase for trucks (which was a separate bill) is considered by some to be a tax.

As for the session's output overall, Horn said she was pleased about two resolutions concerning voting access.

A resolution on early voting passed the Legislature for the second time and will be on the 2022 ballot as an amendment to the state constitution. Horn explained that resolutions for constitutional amendments re-

See LEGISLATURE, Page A8

## COG considers funding jobs to fight ongoing opioid crisis

By Patrick L. Sullivan

GOSHEN — The Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG) received a request to create two new regional jobs to help combat the ongoing opioid crisis.

At the regular NHCOG meeting (online) on Thursday, June 10, John Simoncelli, the executive director of Greenwood Counseling and Referrals, Inc.; Maria Coutant-Skinner, the chief executive officer of the McCall Center for

Behavioral Health and Help, Inc.; and Julie Scharnberg, vice president of community engagement for the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation, described their current efforts and made a pitch for the creation of two positions: a regional housing and social services coordinator, and a regional community outreach and recovery navigator.

Coutant-Skinner said Litchfield County has an opioid task force and has made progress in

tracking overdoses.

But overall awareness of the scope of the problem remains low, she added.

"This is not an issue that happens to somebody else," she said. "This is something that is happening right now."

"Every sector of every community needs to be at the table."

Simoncelli said the focus needs to be on addiction and mental health problems, which

See COG FUNDING, Page A8

## Graduation celebrations!

Graduation and promotion ceremonies at the Region One schools will be held between June 15 and 17, after this issue went to press. Look for coverage of all the ceremonies in our print edition of June 24.



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# Regional

## Kilts, pipes and cabers at Highland Games June 27

### In The Journal this week

OUR TOWNS ..... A3, B5  
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#### Three-day forecast

Friday ..... Sun, high 79°/low 50°  
 Saturday ..... Thunderstorms, 81°/61°  
 Sunday ..... Sunny, 77°/57°

### 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.

#### Accident on wet road

On June 8 at approximately 6 p.m. on Upper Main Street in Sharon a 1996 Ford F350 driven by Barrie Richardson, 30, of Sharon struck a concrete catch basin on the right shoulder of the wet roadway. He was issued a written warning for traveling too fast for the conditions.

#### Collision while making a turn

On June 11 at approximately 8 a.m. on Canaan Road in Salisbury a 2003 Mack Truck driven by John Martin O'Connor, 80, of North Canaan and a 2020 Infinity Qx50 Essential driven by Nicole Lambert, 36, of Winchester, Conn., collided when the truck was making a right-hand turn into a driveway. No injuries were reported. Lambert was issued a written warning for passing on the right.

#### Distracted driving

On June 11 at approximately 2 p.m. on Elm Street in North

Canaan a 2001 Ford F350 driven by Thomas Kearns, 53, of Cornwall pulled over onto the right shoulder of the road. A 2010 Subaru Forrester driven by Guillermo Correa, 32, of North Canaan was traveling behind and struck a trailer that was attached to the Ford. Correa was issued an infraction for distracted driving while using a hand-held telephone or electronic device.

#### Fogged windshield

On June 12 at approximately 8 p.m. on Great Hollow Road in Cornwall a 2005 Ford Taurus driven by Erin Berry, 41, of Cornwall exited the roadway and struck approximately 50 feet of wire-rope guardrail. Berry stated she had been attempting to wipe the fogged windshield with her sleeve, resulting in the accident. She was issued a verbal warning for failure to maintain the lane.

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](mailto:cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com).

LIME ROCK — The 98th annual Round Hill Highland Games will be held (rain or shine) at Lime Rock Park on Sunday, June 27, from 9 a.m. to approximately 4 p.m.

Kilts are welcome but not necessary for this full day of Scottish and Celtic competition, food, clothing and history. And yes, whisky.

Ticket prices range from \$5 to \$15 depending on age; register online at [www.RHHG.org](http://www.RHHG.org); there is an additional cost to purchase them at the gate.

The Highland Games are unexpectedly diverse, with kilted men and women from a variety of cultures participating in feats of strength, such as the caber toss and the stone put and the kilted road race. Athletic contests run all day.

The pipe band competitions in the afternoon are dazzling, with teams of a dozen or so drummers and pipers in full clan kit, marching and playing in unison.

Individual piping competitions are in the morning.

There will be food vendors with an array of British and other foods — everything from donuts to hamburgers and hot dogs to whisky to haggis.

Great Falls Brewing Company from North Canaan will have three special beers for the day: Lime Rock Park Lager, Round Hill Games (Pebbles) Beer and Blackberry River Ale.

There will also be an Across the Highlands Whisky Tasting.

There will be vintage British cars on display, and North East Ford will bring their Highland Game Tough Pickup Truck.



FILE PHOTOS

Lime Rock Park will host the 98th annual Round Hill Highland Games on Saturday, June 27. These photos are from the 2019 games.

### SNAKE WATCH

## Who's that friendly guy in your garden?

By Cynthia Hochswender

In case you were wondering, gartersnakes got their name because of their resemblance to the garters that men used to use to hold their socks up — even though to modern eyes, they more closely resemble garden hoses. This info comes from the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) web page on snakes, where we also learn that garter snakes are not only the most common snake in Connecticut, they are also the most common snake in North America.

Part of the secret of their success is that they're very adaptable and can live in a wide variety of habitats. They're also not that fussy about what they eat; they like most worms and bugs and wee animals such as frogs and toads and lizards.

They also are interested in food that's in your kitchen and can manage to crawl into your house through very small openings. The DEEP suggests that, "To discourage snakes from entering buildings, make sure all cracks in the foundation are sealed. Basement windows should close tight or be covered with screens."

If you do find one inside the house, the DEEP doesn't want you to kill it, and here's why: "All snakes will retreat from humans if given a chance. Killing a gartersnake should be avoided because 1) there is no reason to kill a gartersnake, and 2) it is difficult to distinguish gartersnakes from ribbonsnakes (even for experts). Misidentification may result in the unnecessary death of a ribbonsnake, which is a species of special concern in Connecticut."

And definitely, the DEEP warns, don't try to keep a gartersnake (or any wild snake) as a pet.

"Gartersnakes are harmless to people and are NOT venomous," the DEEP promises. "They do not constitute a nuisance or impact humans or human activity."

"However, they are often encountered in yards and around outbuildings."

This is how Lakeville Jour-



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

Gartersnakes such as this one — found in Salisbury over the weekend — are ubiquitous, friendly and not venomous. Nonetheless, don't try to pick one up. Their bite will not kill you but it will certainly hurt.

nal Co. Production Coordinator James Clark spotted a gartersnake over the weekend at his house in Salisbury.

"I found it' ... well, I practically stepped on it. They hang out on the hill behind our

house and in and around our patio stone wall," Clark said. "They're harmless, but it's no less unsettling to encounter one. We start to see them sunning about the third week in May every year."



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### Submit your child's college graduation information

In the issue of June 24 in The Lakeville Journal we will be celebrating the eighth grade promotion ceremonies of the Region One schools.

The 2020-21 school year has seen the outstanding handwork of students across all age levels who met a unique set of challenges.

The Lakeville Journal would also like to celebrate the area students who call the Northwest Corner their home, who have gone on to higher education and are now celebrating the completion of their university studies.

If you would like your college graduate to be recognized in the next issue — whether they graduated in spring 2021 or in a December 2020 ceremony — please email the following: Your graduate's first and last name, their hometown, the degree they received and the name of the university from which they graduated.

Please submit the above information only in the body of the email to [alexw@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:alexw@lakevillejournal.com).

### 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.

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# Our Towns

## Robert Parker art exhibit opens the season at the Cornwall Library

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — While an exhibit of the works of local artists is always a draw at the Cornwall Library, the current show is noteworthy for a few reasons.

First, the brilliant works of Robert Parker are on display, a must-see for any student of art or a lovely encounter for the more casual viewer.

But, a further joy is that the library chose a Parker exhibit to be the first public art showing since the library's reopening of its doors to the post-pandemic community.

An appropriately spaced opening reception was held on Saturday, June 12, welcoming the community to meet the artist and just enjoy gathering together. Appreciation for the event was palpable and sales were brisk.

The show's signature piece is a watercolor, "SMS Babenberg, 1976," painted in that year, but there is much more to see.

In a conversation on Wednesday, June 9, Parker said that the period to be covered by the exhibit largely spans the 1980s to the present, mostly watercolors of ships and waters he has known.

"They are things I have always liked to paint," he observed.

Speaking of his childhood when he was about 12 years of age, Parker recalled that his family was living in Seattle, Wash., and spent countless family hours sailing on the Pacific.

In the 1940s, before the U.S. entered the war, Parker remembered that he and his family were invited to their neighbors' home for a picnic with the entire crew of the HMS Warspite, a ship that was docked in nearby Bremerton for repairs.

"It was a jolly day in Seattle," he declared. "That ship, the Warspite, has remained on my mind ever since."

He recalled hearing that the ship had seen action off the coast of Spain, and he has always wondered about the safety of the crew he had come to know.

Parker's homage to the War spite is captured in watercolor and included in the exhibit.

Absorbing the notion of the honor of being the first artist chosen for a post-pandemic exhibit, he said that he hopes it does not happen again —



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Artist Robert Parker welcomed guests at a June 12 reception for his current exhibit at the Cornwall Library, "Works on Paper." Curator Anne Coffin, at right, assembled and hung the exhibit.

the pandemic, that is, not the exhibit.

"I'm looking forward to it," he said of the exhibit. "They always do a good job of hanging things. They look good," he said, crediting the library staff's skill at the art of hanging an exhibit.

Credited with that fine job of hanging the show, Curator Anne Coffin said that she had planned this exhibit to be held last year, but the pandemic

struck, and the show was consistently postponed until it became possible this month. As a result, this became the library's first post-pandemic event to be held.

The exhibit contains a varied collection of watercolors and sketches of ships and planes and even bi-planes, landscapes, some portraits and sketch books imagined and set to paper in watercolor and

ink. There is plenty of whimsy in subject matter with broad geographic diversity. Parker's works are found among the collections of the world's great destination art museums, and also happily now at the Cornwall Library for a limited engagement.

The Parker exhibit, "Works on Paper," will remain on display until July 24, during the library's open hours.

## Sharon's library makes temporary move to Legion

SHARON — The long-awaited and much-discussed renovation of Sharon's small, historic Hotchkiss Library will begin this summer.

"The Board of Directors is finalizing plans to renovate and expand the building," said Tom Trowbridge, president of the library's Board of Directors.

"In the coming weeks, as the process continues, we will publicize information about these changes and our plans for funding them."

During the work on the Richardson-style building on the Green, the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon will move across town to the Herbert Klebes Post 126 of the American Legion, around the corner from the firehouse, at 15 New St.

The move to the new, temporary space will begin in early July.

"While the start of construction is still months away, we recognized that we needed to make this move now and be ready well before it begins," said library Executive Director Gretchen Hachmeister.

"We will close at 4 p.m. on Friday, July 2. The library will be closed for business

the week of July 6, when the moving crews will get us over to the Legion and ready to open on Monday, July 12," she said.

"We'll have plenty of books, both traditional and digital, movies, audiobooks on CD, our outdoor book drop, our public access resources — printer, computer, and our circulation desk all set up and ready to go."

Not every book in the library will make the trip, she said, "but the robust Interlibrary Loan program will give patrons access to nearly any book, in many formats."

Library programs such as the children's reading programs and story hour, Book Groups, Tech Talks and Virtual Author events will continue uninterrupted, Hachmeister said.

The Legion Post has three accessible parking spaces on New Street, as well as access through the town parking lot behind the building.

The Legion remains in the New Street space, but has been "lightly used" since the beginning of the pandemic, Hachmeister said.

— Cynthia Hochswender

## HVRHS Academic Bowl team now ranks 13th in the U.S.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Housatonic Valley Regional High School Academic Bowl team, ranked 13th in the country, is made up of, from left, team members Emerson Rinehart, Charlotte Clulow, Jacob Ellington and Keaton Terrall.

FALLS VILLAGE — The Housatonic Valley Regional High School Academic Bowl team recently competed in the 39th National Academic Championship, a virtual event featuring more than 80 schools from across the country. The HVRHS team, featuring seniors Charlotte Clulow, Jacob Ellington, Emerson Rinehart and Keaton Terrall, finished the tournament ranked 13th in the country.

HVRHS finished the preliminary rounds of the tournament with a record of five

wins and one loss, defeating teams from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Florida and Indiana.

In the elimination round, HVRHS lost to Rancho Bernardo High School from San Diego, Calif., by a score of 375-370.

This was the fourth time that the Housatonic team has competed in the National Academic Championship.

— Peter Vermilyea, HVRHS social studies teacher and Academic Bowl coach.

## Planning for bridge repair and perhaps a median

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — First Selectman Curtis Rand reported to the Board of Selectmen at their meeting on Zoom on Monday, June 7, that the state Department of Transportation (DOT) examined the Salmon Kill Bridge and found what they expected: serious deterioration of the abutment on the east side of the bridge, while the west side is in good shape.

Rand said the state has assumed all of the cost for design of a new bridge and 89% of the cost. At the current pace the bridge could be replaced next year.

Rand said the state has no plans to close the bridge and it will remain a one-lane bridge for now.

On the Lakeville traffic front, Rand said an old plan has been located for a median isle on Route 44 west of where the highway starts to enter Lakeville proper, and the DOT is taking a look at it.

"I think that would really calm traffic down," Rand said.

Selectman Don Trayland said he has observed trucks so large they barely fit on the road going through town, and Selectman Chris Williams wondered how the trucks maneu-

ver through Millerton, with its crowded main street featuring a pronounced turn.

The selectmen didn't have to vote on the appointment of Kristine Simmons as assistant town clerk, because Rand, using his executive authority, already did it. But they indicated their approval nonetheless.

The selectmen did vote to appoint Janet Graaf and Kitty Kiefer to the Economic Development Committee and M.C. Taylor to the Historic District Commission.

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**Memorial service:**

**Roland H. Chinatti Sr.**

FALLS VILLAGE — Coach Chinatti, Roland H. Chinatti Sr. of Falls Village, loving and devoted husband of the late Dorothy Louise (Atterbury) Chinatti, died Nov. 10, 2020.

Memorial services for Roland will be celebrated at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, 246 Warren Tpke., Falls Village, on Saturday, June 19, at 1 p.m. (under

the tent in front of the school). Relatives and friends are invited to gather under the tent, prior to the service, between noon and 1 p.m. At a later date, Roland will be interred with the love of his life, Dorothy, at Grassy Hill Cemetery, Falls Village. The burial will be private and at the convenience of the family.



**Robert F. Couse Sr.**

PINE PLAINS — Robert F. Couse Sr., 88, of Pine Plains, passed away peacefully on June 3, 2021, at his residence.

Born on Nov. 15, 1932, in Livingston, N.Y., he was the son of the late Grace (Smith) and Adrian Couse. Mr. Couse retired from IBM after 36 years and also retired after 34 years as a police officer for the Town of Pine Plains. He was a United States Army Veteran having served in Korea during hostilities.

He served the Town of Pine Plains for a total of 58 years: 16 as chairman of Town Recreation, 34 years as police officer, 16 of which he was the chief of police, and 12 years as Town Councilman.

Robert was also a member of the Pine Plains Legion, life member of the Pine Plains Hose Company, founder of the Days Gone Bye Motor Club, member of the national Chiefs of Police, life member of the Dutchess County Chiefs of Police Association and an honorary member of the Pine

Plains Sportsman Association. He was also very active in sports, having played in various softball and basketball leagues for 25 years.

His wife, Joan, predeceased him in April 2011. His brother Fred and sisters Mary and Virginia also predeceased him.

Robert is survived by his son, Robert F. Couse Jr.; one daughter, Lisa Couse; three granddaughters, Alexis Reilly, Rebecca Churton and Bobbie Schlein; five great-grandchildren Aiden, Adison and Axton Reilly, Giacomo Meccariello and Lincoln Schlein; his brother James Smith; and his sister, Margaret Smith.

Graveside services will be held in Evergreen Cemetery privately at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be sent to the Pine Plains Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 100, Pine Plains, NY 12567.

Arrangements are under the care of Peck and Peck Dapson Chestney Funeral Home.



**OBITUARIES**

**Bruno Joseph Piretti**

EAST CANAAN — Bruno Joseph Piretti died at his Brookside Senior Residence home on April 29, 2021. He was 100 years old and was able to embrace life fully up until his passing.

He was an avid gardener, sports fan (especially the Syracuse Orangemen), and follower of politics and current events and a life-long Democrat.

Bruno was born in East Canaan on July 26, 1920, to Frederico Piretti and Delfina Minacci, both from the Piedmont region of Italy. As someone who was raised in the Depression Era he took nothing for granted and found meaning and value in everyday life.

He was the second to the youngest of seven children and the first to graduate from high school.

He served as a staff sergeant during World War II in the United States Marine Corp and enjoyed attending the local Veterans Day gathering each year at the Elks Club.

His time served in China opened him to different philosophies. He would often quote Confucius sayings such as "Mind like a parachute, functions best when it is open."

He married his wife, Lillian "Lonnie" Col, in 1949 after returning from the war. They raised a family of three girls while living in upstate New York.

He worked as a sales manager and in industrial sales for the Fuller Brush Company until his retirement.

He was a member of the Kiwanis Club and the Parkinson's Support Group of Utica, N.Y. He believed laughter was the best medicine and put this into practice by employing his wit. He and Lonnie moved to Uki-

ah, Calif., in 2006 to be closer to family. He loved to dance at family gatherings and sing, including his rousing rendition of Happy Birthday.

Both he and his wife enjoyed participating in church services and activities at the Unity of Ukiah and developed warm friendships with other members.

Bruno in his 90s would grow plants and hold a plant sale each year to raise funds for the church.

In his younger years he played on sports teams and participated in ski and golf competitions.

He loved to challenge his grandchildren to a game of bocce ball and would manage to win even when using a walker. In his later years he participated in the local Human Race, walking a mile to raise funds for worthy causes as well as making bag lunches for the needy through Kol Ha'Emek.

He leaves behind his three daughters, Sheila and her husband, Shawn Imanverdi, Delfina Piretti and Karen and her husband, Norman Rosen; his grandchildren, Atash and Armon Imanverdi, Haley Myer and Elena and Ari and his wife, Dawnelise, Rosen; his great-grandchildren, Serafina and Emanuel Rosen; a brother-in-law, Bob Darr of Oneonta, N.Y.; and several nieces and nephews and their families.

He was predeceased by his wife; his brothers, Bert and Peter Piretti; and his sisters, Catherine Cantele, Elizabeth Stineford, Jennie Emprimo and Olga Darr.

Donations in his honor may be made to the Arbor Day Foundation, Wounded Warrior Project, or the Unity Church of Ukiah.



**Kaye Overbye**

SHARON — Kaye Overbye, beloved wife, mother and grandmother passed peacefully on June 11, 2021, in Portland, Conn., at the age of 85 after a long battle with Alzheimer's.

Born in Middletown, N.Y., Kaye was the daughter of Lloyd and Ruth Annable.

Growing up in Johnson's Creek, N.Y., Kaye attended Royalton Hartland High School, where she was a standout cheerleader, and graduated from Alfred State College and later received her B.S. in Nursing from Dutchess Community College.

A natural, inspiring and gifted caregiver, she worked as a registered nurse at St. Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., before working at Sharon Hospital and later at Hartford Hospital.

While having an illustrious nursing career, Kaye selflessly raised seven children in Pleasant Valley, N.Y., before moving to Berkshire School in Sheffield, Mass., with her husband,

Donald, where six of her seven children graduated.

Besides her dedication to husband and children, Kaye was known as the always reliable and benevolent neighborhood Mom as "Mrs. O" opened her doors to all from neighbors' children, at risk inner city children and unwed mothers.

Wife of late husband Donald A. Overbye and the loving partner of the late Joe Radziewicz, Kaye is survived by her sister, Carol Hussey; nine children, Mark, Michael, Mitchel, Laurie, Jay, Jill, Christopher, Kim and Krista; 16 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

A funeral service was held June 15 at the Congregational Church of South Glastonbury. Burial followed in Green Cemetery in Glastonbury.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that you donate to the Alzheimer's Association.

For online condolences, go to www.mulryanfh.com.



**OUR TOWNS**

**Trivia games are back as world returns to normal**

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The question: "What classic character made \$62 a week with the Gotham Bus Company?"

The three teams sitting at tables under a tent outside the D.M. Hunt Library conferred. The answers were submitted.

And Bruce Paddock of Berkshire Trivia revealed the answer. (Ralph Kramden, played by Jackie Gleason in "The Honeymooners.")

This scenario would not be unusual in normal times. Except for the tent.

But this trivia game on a pleasant Friday evening, June 11, was the first such game run by Paddock in a year and half, he said.

There were three tables, each with roughly six players. (There was some coming and going.)



**Bruce Paddock held the first post-pandemic trivia match by his popular company, Berkshire Trivia, live and in person on June 11.**

The players, in another nod to normalcy, were equipped with refreshments.

And at the half-time mark, pizza was delivered.

**Memorial service:**

**Sister Mary Schaefer**

You are cordially invited to the Celebration of Sister Mary Schaefer's life on Friday, June 25, at 11 a.m.

Sister Mary entered into God's embrace on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2020. Our Liturgy will be celebrated in Mary's home

parish, St. Joseph Church, 4 E. Main St., North Canaan.

Our celebration will be followed by interment at St. Joseph cemetery, after which we hope all will join us for refreshments at the home of Francis and Dolores Schaefer Perotti.

**Workshop on racism June 19**

FALLS VILLAGE — Facilitator Carol Taylor will lead a workshop about social equity and anti-racism on Saturday, June 19, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the D. M. Hunt Library. The workshop is free.

All participants are required to view the documentary, "Race: The Power of an Illusion," in advance of the workshop.

Register for the workshop at www.Huntlibrary.org

In Loving Memory of our brother **David Grenville Shaffer** 06/19/1961-08/10/1978

Dear David, Gone, but never forgotten. Happy 60<sup>th</sup> birthday in Heaven.

Love you, Bubbles, Kathy, Tammi & Timmy

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**Worship Services**  
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<p><b>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.</b> 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10am www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>	<p><b>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon</b> 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>
<p><b>St. John's Episcopal Church</b> 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on YouTube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p><b>Greenwoods Community Church</b> 355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA Sunday Service 10:30 AM Kidz Connection K-6th grade (during Sun. Service) Nursery Care All Services Pastor Trip Weiler 413-229-8560 www.greenwoodschurch.com</p>
<p><b>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC</b> Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people Pastor Savage Frieze 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am AT THE PILGRIM HOUSE 30 GRANITE AVE, CANAAN: FISHES &amp; LOAVES Food Pantry and CLOSETS for clothing Tuesdays from 5 to 7 and Thursdays from noon to 2 www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</p>	<p><b>St. Thomas Episcopal Church</b> 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p><b>The Sharon United Methodist Church</b> 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:45 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p><b>Trinity Episcopal Church</b> 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock Virtual Sunday service 10:30 AM Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page Virtual Coffee Hour &amp; Bible Study Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627 www.trinitylimerock.org</p>
<p><b>Promised Land Baptist Church</b> 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p><b>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT</b> Join our next service on Sunday, September 12 at 10:30 a.m. Venue to be announced For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p><b>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall</b> Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9am Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mmgates125@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone. We hope you will join us!</p>	<p><b>The Lakeville United Methodist Church</b> 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Sunday School 9:15 a.m. "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>
<p><b>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church</b> 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p><b>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH</b> Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 am, Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p><b>SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH</b> 860-927-3003 The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge MASS SCHEDULE SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM - St. Bridget SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart WEEKDAY MASSES Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday &amp; First Friday 9 AM - Sacred Heart Face masks required</p>	<p><b>UCC in CORNWALL</b> Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am Cornwall Village Meeting House 8 Bolton Hill Rd., Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p><b>Canaan United Methodist Church</b> 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Sharon Congregational Church</b> 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for current online sermons. Bible Study Guides also available by request: info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org Or contact us at 860-364-5002</p>
<p><b>Millerton United Methodist Church</b> 6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st &amp; 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:30 A.M. 518-789-3138</p>	<p><b>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church</b> 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>



# Housatonic Valley Regional High School

# Congratulations to the class of 2021



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Daniel Agostinho



Justine Allyn



Isabella Anderson



Kaylie Anderson



Valentina Arango Escobar



Luke Arno



Peter Bautista



Marguerite Bickford



Christopher Brown



Anthony Clark



Charlotte Clulow



Kayleen Considine



Abigail Coolbeth



Elaine Dekker



Ryan Dorn



Jacob Ellington



Emma Foster



Kristen Foster



Asa Franson



Alexis Galgano



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Paige MacNeil



Kory Madden



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Micah Matsudaira



Aidan McCarthy



Patrick Merrill



Ashlee Minacci



William Murphy



Robert Murtagh



Natalie Nestler



Neve O'Connell



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# Housatonic Valley Regional High School

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Nicholas Sheltra



Samuel Simmons



Brandon Sorrell



Brooke Stampfle



Kyle Swart



Keaton Terrall



Michelle Tittmann



Sarah Upson



Juan Vanicky



Kaylyn Vogel



Emma Walsh



Abigale Wayne

**NOT PICTURED**  
Melissa Mauri,  
Elizabeth McDermott,  
Ivan Pascasio, Tristin Ralph,  
Derrick Webb



Marshall Wiley



Daniel Zapata Bonet

*Congratulations!*

*"If I must give any of you advice it would be say yes. Say yes, and create your own destiny."*  
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## HOUSING

Continued from Page A1

the viability of surrounding businesses.”

Casagrande states there are two other town-owned properties that would be a “feasible and prudent alternative” to the Holley Street site for affordable housing.

And the complaint also holds that Bicentennial Park is “an integral part of the Histor-

ic District” and that the commission acted illegally when it determined that eliminating the park to build the housing is not “reasonably likely to unreasonably impair or destroy the public trust in the historic resources of the state.”

To view the complaint or get a copy call the town clerk’s office at 860-435-5182.

## FFA AWARDS

Continued from Page A1

sible, rather than “looking at screens.”

Bruce Bennett, who recently sold the Kent Greenhouse after 48 years, urged the students to “please come back here to start your businesses and your families.

“There is opportunity here,” he said. “Forty-eight years ago there were 800 people in Kent. Starting a garden center was insane.” Nonetheless, the business survived and thrived.

### Always efficient and ready to help

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) recalled how she was rather abruptly presented with the chance to get hold of some 1,400 boxes of food in June of 2020 to help local families struggling during the COVID-19 quarantine.

She said yes, and then wondered how to distribute the food. Then it hit her.

“I’ll call the FFA.”

And so on Saturday, June 27, the 1,400 boxes of food were handed out, from trucks parked in front of the high school.

“I knew if I called you, it



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

**State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) praised the FFA program and the students who participate in it, during an awards ceremony at Housatonic Valley Regional High School on June 11.**

would get done.”

Horn praised the FFA members for their commitment and sense of responsibility — and for keeping their cool when a) the truck driver got lost and was very late, requiring b) the massive turnout of people in cars to wait, and wait, and wait some more.

## ELLIS HONOR

Continued from Page A1

fine and map migratory flight routes and destinations of the various species is set to launch in September.

Commenting in advance of the award presentation from the vantage point of the northwest hills, Ellis said, “All you have to do is walk along any woods or pasture with a pair of binoculars, and you will see more species than you ever imagined. And knowing their calls can give you an even greater sense of place that we all treasure in this region.”

“The birds and the bees are the canaries in the coal mine,” said Susan Baker, who was awarded Connecticut Audubon’s Lifetime Achievement Award in environmental education at the same event. She described Ellis as her other half in holding up the sky. “If we don’t steward, who will?” she asked.

A former colleague of Ellis during his years at Goldman Sachs, Steve Mandel described Ellis as a mentor, a transformational leader in the environment.

“It is so important to help people to enjoy birds before we can ask them to save them,” Mandel said.

“The time is now; it needs to happen now.”

### Why their travel plans matter

Ellis said our backyard birds arrive in April or May, raise their young in June and July, and then leave to spend the rest of their year (seven months) in the southern U.S. or South America, where they encounter longer periods of en-



PHOTOS BY JOE ELLIS

**Joe Ellis of Cornwall, famous for bird portraits such as these, has been honored by Audubon for his input on tracking bird migrations.**

dangerment as their habitats are routinely destroyed.

We need to know where they go, he said, as a first step toward protecting them and ensuring their survival until their next migration northward, to our forests and Litchfield County backyards.

The new migratory bird platform will bring preservation and conservation organizations together in international cooperation to share resources toward learning the migratory routes and destination sites, so that species protections can be implemented.

The resulting database of information will assist field guides, scientists and conservation-minded people into the future, Ellis noted.

Ellis provided a local example. Many of the bobolinks that live in grasslands fly 7,000 miles from Argentina and Southern Brazil to nest in Cornwall fields. But, their nests and young are often destroyed during June hayfield cutting. So, while cooperating with farmers who need to harvest the hay, we need to find ways to hold back a percentage of the fields until late July to

ensure that bobolinks can continue to thrive and complete the raising of their young.

“My hope is that, in the not-too-distant future, bird lovers here in Cornwall and beyond can ask the question, “Where does my wood thrush go? How threatened is it, and how can I contribute to its preservation?”

Ellis is also celebrated in the area as the photographer who creates the annual Cornwall Bird Calendar, a favorite among those who like to give them as gifts or keep one for themselves.

## COG FUNDING

Continued from Page A1

he described as an epidemic.

“It’s not getting worse,” he said. “But it’s not getting better.”

He said Litchfield County has been able to reduce opioid overdose mortality somewhat, but the overall problem remains.

“We need this organized regionally.”

Simoncelli asked for

\$200,000 in “seed money” from the federal American Rescue Plan funds that towns will be receiving shortly, to fund the two regional jobs for two years.

Scharnberg said having the two positions in place would make the request for using the funds for addiction and mental health attractive to the agencies that decide what the funds may

be used for.

“We can make sure our region gets its fair share.”

NHCOG Chair Don Stein (Barkhamsted) said the NHCOG’s executive committee would consider the request soon and bring it to the full membership at the July meeting (which will be in-person at the Goshen NHCOG office).

## COYOTES

Continued from Page A1

kill was in Kensington in 1963.

Coyotes are present in all Connecticut municipalities, and DEEP’s estimate is a total population of between 4,000 and 6,000.

Coyotes are resourceful, intelligent, opportunistic and have long memories, Coburn said. As a result, they are highly adaptable.

They are not naturally nocturnal, he continued. But close proximity to humans has taught them that “we are pretty quiet at night.”

So they take advantage of that.

Bird feeders, which should be taken down by this point in the spring anyway, attract the small mammals such as mice that form a significant part of the coyote diet.

Coyotes will kill domestic cats and small dogs if given the chance. He advised that cats not be allowed out at night at all, and that dogs be kept on a leash.

### Close encounters with humans

Coburn referred to a recent newspaper article about hikers in Manchester who were alarmed by coyotes. He said it is almost certain that the coy-

otes had a den in the vicinity and were acting protectively on behalf of their litter.

Normally coyotes want nothing to do with humans, but should they be encountered, Coburn said people can try chucking sticks or small rocks at them, make a lot of noise, or simply turn back.

Do not try to run from a coyote. Coburn noted that the animals can run 35-40 miles per hour for short stretches, and attempting to flee might encourage an attack.

Such attacks are extremely rare, he added, with two human fatalities recorded “since the mid 1800s” in all of North America.

### The calls and cries in the night

Coyotes are monogamous and mate for life. The yipping one might hear at this time of year is likely the youngsters testing out their vocal abilities.

Coyote yelps are not analogous to the howling of a wolf pack, but rather a means of communication, signifying direction, position or distress. “They are not delighting in a kill.”

Coyotes eat “whatever they

can chew,” Coburn said. Small mammals are a big part of the diet, but they also eat berries, acorns and, in winter, they might chase down a white-tailed deer, with the latter’s superior speed neutralized by heavy snowfall.

### How to keep them from entering

To keep coyotes out of the garden or small livestock pen, Coburn recommends sturdy fencing some 6 or 7 feet high, and extending into the ground, because the coyotes, like other canines, are diggers.

They are also climbers, so put a rotating tube (PVC is good) at the top of the fence so the climbing coyote can’t get a good grip in order to get itself over.

Coyotes are interested in the garbage. Use the same precautions used for bears, and don’t put the smelly garbage out until the morning of collection day.

“Coyotes are here to stay,” he concluded.

For more information he suggested looking up the DEEP’s webpage on coyotes: portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Wildlife/Fact-Sheets/Coyote

## LEGISLATURE

Continued from Page A1

quire either passage by simple majority of two consecutive legislatures or passage by supermajority by one legislature.

Another resolution on no-excuse absentee voting passed for the first time by a simple majority.

Horn was also enthused about the passage of an expanded “bottle bill,” which increases the deposit amount from 5 to 10 cents (in 2024), expands the list of containers covered by the law, and increases the handling fee for redemption centers.

Horn said with the rapidly increasing cost of solid waste disposal and of recycling, getting heavy, often contaminated glass out of the solid waste stream is a must.

The General Assembly isn’t done. A special session began in the Senate on Tuesday, June 15, and the House convened Wednesday, June 16.

Horn said the two big items are some form of cannabis legalization and the “imple-

menter,” which she described as setting the policies that “underpin” the budget.

There is nothing to prevent the Legislature from taking up other business during the special session.

That is what concerned state Sen. Craig Miner (R-30), who said at noon on Monday, June 14, that he and his colleagues had not seen the implementer bill (or bills) yet.

“It’s been known to be a Christmas tree,” he said, with spending requests tacked onto it.

Miner hadn’t seen the cannabis bill either. He said he has been trying to gauge the opinions and interests of his constituents on legal recreational marijuana. He said a significant number of people have indicated to him that they are in favor of some form of legalization.

But Miner said he has concerns, including: marijuana remaining illegal under federal law; the question of worker’s compensation for workplace injuries if someone involved has THC (the active ingredient in marijuana) in their system; law enforcement concerns that legal pot would provide cover for illegal pot; and whether or not people will be allowed to grow marijuana for personal use.

As for the regular session, Miner said that from his perspective, “It was a year of defense rather than a year of offense.” He said because of the pandemic’s forcing meetings and public hearings online, the Legislature’s work did not get as much attention from the public as usual.

“I think a lot of this is going to be a surprise.”

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

## An outdoor sale to thank artisans

SALISBURY — As the COVID-19 pandemic and quarantine begin to wind down, and as we return to something resembling normal life, we can take a breath and appreciate not just the contributions of essential workers (for which we all are endlessly grateful) but also the part that art plays in keeping our spirits up at difficult times.

Salisbury Family Services (SFS) helps with everything from buying back-to-school supplies to paying for winter heating fuel.

In normal times, the non-profit chooses a Salisbury artist to honor and celebrate.

This year, instead, SFS is inviting all Salisbury artists and artisans to take part in a “clothesline sale” on the Green by The White Hart. Spaces are limited so artists should get in touch by July 1 if they want to participate. There is no entry fee and artists will keep the proceeds of all their own sales.

The sale itself will be held on the Green, under tents, on Saturday, Sept. 18, between 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (with ticketed early buying at 9 a.m.)

Interested artists, crafts people, artisans and “makers of all kinds” should email [salisburyfamilyservices@gmail.com](mailto:salisburyfamilyservices@gmail.com).

— Cynthia Hochswender

## Traffic detour

NORTH CANAAN — There will be a three-day traffic detour through the center of North Canaan beginning Monday, June 21, at 7 a.m. due to work on the railway/highway crossing.

The detour on North Elm Street to Railroad Street will be in effect for all Route 7 and 44 traffic going in both directions. Local traffic will be permitted and business access will be available.

The work is expected to be completed by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 23.

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

TRIBUTES: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## Why We Love Live ‘Tribute’ Shows (And, Of Course, ABBA)

It seems that this summer there are more “tribute” shows than ever in the Tristate region. Maybe it has something to do with the COVID-19 pandemic, and ongoing uncertainty about when/where/how we can all gather in public venues. Or maybe we all just really love to hear old tunes played live in the style that sounds familiar to our ears. One of the joys of music subscription services such as Spotify and YouTube is that you can do a search for “covers” of songs you love; the fun there is that you can often hear wildly different versions of great songs (vintage as well as recent).

Tribute shows, on the other hand, are meant to recreate your favorite songs in the way they were originally performed by your favorite bands.

Take the Swedish pop super group ABBA as an example. The band’s biggest hits are covered extensively, in part because they’ve been performed onstage and onscreen in the films and plays of “Mamma Mia” — and of course, “Mamma Mia 2,” in which the band’s most famous songs are covered by the immortal Cher (who released her own album of ABBA covers when “Mamma Mia 2” came out; it’s great).

I certainly have an appreciation for higher-quality music of the classical, pop, rock and jazz varieties, but I do love me some ABBA. Somehow, my annual birthday ritual has come to include watching “Mamma Mia” at



PHOTO COURTESY DANCING DREAM

**Dancing Dream, a tribute band for Swedish super group ABBA, is one of several tribute acts performing in the region this summer. Their show will be July 10 at Sharon Playhouse in Sharon, Conn.**

home with my friend Divya every year.

This year, however, I will most certainly be attending the Sharon Playhouse ABBA tribute show that, curiously, is scheduled for the actual night of my birthday, which is Saturday, July 10.

Sharon Playhouse in Sharon, Conn., has a pretty packed roster of summer entertainment with performers from the region and from New York City.

However, there are also several tribute shows on the schedule. In addition to ABBA, look for shows featuring Electric Light Orchestra (yes, I like them too; so sue me); the music of the Rat Pack; the music of Motown; tunes in the style of the Andrews Sisters, tunes in the style of Buddy Holly and the Crickets and more. Get all

the details at [www.sharon-playhouse.org/drive-in-stage](http://www.sharon-playhouse.org/drive-in-stage).

Infinity Hall, the lovely and historic gem of a theater in the center of Norfolk, Conn., relies particularly heavily on tribute shows. There’s been quite a bit of schedule shuffling caused by COVID-19, but this summer look for shows that bring back the magic of Fleetwood Mac and the epic album, “Tusk;” Jim Morrison and the Doors; the Beatles in “Beatlemania;” and Kashmir: The Ultimate Led Zeppelin Tribute Band (yes, the ultimate!).

The band love continues all the way into autumn, with plans for tributes to Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young; and Chicago. Look for schedules and ticket information at [www.infinityhall.com/Events](http://www.infinityhall.com/Events).

For those who deeply love Led Zeppelin and aren’t satisfied with just Kashmir (the Ultimate

Led Zep tribute band), the Towne Crier Cafe in Beacon, N.Y., has The PreZence which is an “authentic Led Zeppelin tribute experience,” on July 3.

Other tribute acts there this summer include Gratefully Yours (Grateful Dead) and a YES tribute show. In autumn, look for The American Pink Floyd Show.

For details, and for information on performances by non-tribute awesome acts including Steve Forbert, Iris Dement and Sloane Wainwright, go to [www.townecrier.com](http://www.townecrier.com).

And to all the tribute bands that recreate our favorite song experiences: We salute you!



PHOTOS COURTESY CORNWALL LIBRARY

**Michael Trapp, an internationally acclaimed garden designer, opens his Cornwall garden this year for visitors to the town’s Books and Blooms tour.**

### BOOKS & BLOOMS TOUR & TALKS, JUNE 18 TO 20

Books & Blooms to Benefit The Cornwall Library in Cornwall, Conn., will be held this year on Friday, June 18, and Sunday, June 20.

On Friday at 5 p.m. there will be a Zoom talk with George Schoellkopf about Hollister House Garden in Washington Depot (a tour of the garden will be offered from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 20).

On Saturday, from

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. there will be a tour of the Cornwall gardens of John and Juliet Hubbard, Bart and Debby Jones, Roxana Laughlin and Michael Trapp.

There will also be a sale at the Cornwall Library of new and out-of-print gardening books; tea towels with the Books & Blooms signature design; and cut flowers arranged and donated by members of the Cornwall Garden Club.



**The garden of former New York Botanical Garden plant curator Juliet Hubbard and her husband, John, is on this year’s Books and Blooms tour in Cornwall, Conn.**

### BOOKS: ROB BUCCINO

## Gladwell Dives into History Of Targeted Military Bombing

Is aerial bombing a strategic weapon or an instrument of terror? Malcolm Gladwell’s new book, “The Bomber Mafia,” tells the story of how American military aviation thinking transformed from aiming to dismantle enemy industrial capability to delivering wholesale slaughter of civilians ... and how the pendulum now has swung back.

Master storyteller that he is, Gladwell brings alive charismatic historical figures who played key roles in the transition, especially Gen. Curtis E. LeMay, who in later years earned opprobrium for suggesting that North Vietnam could be bombed “into the Stone Age.”

LeMay’s personal courage and pragmatism, as well as his dedication

to excellence among the pilots and crews he led, somewhat redeem his reputation in Gladwell’s retelling.

Also depicted in depth is the more sympathetic character of Gen. Haywood Hansell, from whom LeMay took over command of bombing of Japan and who saw his more ethical strategy of targeting only military sites replaced by LeMay’s approach of mass destruction, culminating in atomic warfare.

The book does particularly well in limning the interpersonal dynamics of the mostly young, ambitious and competitive officers who formed the group to which the book’s title refers.

Gladwell makes a compelling case that LeMay was right and that propo-

nents of precision bombing were wrong, at least in terms of bringing the war to an end.

The accuracy in proving-ground tests of the legendary Norden bombsight had led a cabal of American Army aviation leaders — there was no Air Force then — to believe that precision bombing could cripple the manufacture of strategically crucial ball bearings and synthetic fuels. Such bombing required daylight missions, exposing fliers and crews to accurate enemy artillery and fighter planes.

Many lives and aircraft later, it became apparent that, under combat conditions, very few bombs were actually hitting their targets, and the damage done

*Continued on next page*

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PHOTO SUBMITTED

The July 3 Hillsdale, N.Y., flea is one of three major markets happening nearby this summer.

VINTAGE: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## Household Hunting and Gathering At Three Famous Flea Markets

Tag sales are just fine for most of us, but for the true fan of finding glorious vintage rustic home decorations there is nothing like a giant flea market.

Of course the famous such markets are in Paris and New York City but — think about it: You're here in The Country. Old adorable things are closer to their original owners here. And perhaps there will be a larger-than-average supply of amazing finds; there were no sales last year, of course, because of the COVID-19 quarantine.

I wish I could say that there is less sharp-elbowed savvy competition at these sales but that would be a lie. There will be war — perhaps over a McCoy vase or some bits of delicious silver flatware, unmatched

but enticing (I want!).

Hey, a little competition builds character and gets the blood racing.

The big market of the East Coast, and one of the most famous markets in America, is the venerable Brimfield Market in Sturbridge, Mass., which is actually an amalgam of several smaller markets with thousands (yes, thousands) of dealers and an estimated 50,000 visitors.

Three Brimfield markets have been scheduled for this year. The first was May 11 to 16. The second will be July 13 to 18 and the final sale of 2021 will be Sept. 7 to 12.

The hours vary but when aficionados talk about shopping at Brimfield, they invariably describe using a flashlight in the wee dark hours of

the morning. Get excellent details at [www.brimfieldantiquefleamarket.com](http://www.brimfieldantiquefleamarket.com).

On a somewhat smaller scale is the Elephant's Trunk flea market in New Milford, Conn., which is held every Sunday from April through December. With food trucks and other entertainment, the Elephant's Trunk is almost like an ag fair for vintage furnishing fans. Instead of cows, there are couches.

You can buy tickets for early entry online at [www.etflea.com](http://www.etflea.com). Early Buyers can enter at 5:30 a.m.; Pre-paid Buyers enter between 7 and 8 a.m.

General Admission is from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; these tickets can only be purchased at the gate. A seasoned campaigner of Elephant's Trunk sales confided to me that the

best time to go is 7 a.m. If you go during the Early Buyer slot, she said, many of the buyers are not at their booths because they're off looking at the wares of other dealers.

Coming up on Independence Day weekend, the town of Hillsdale, N.Y., will hold its annual flea market on Saturday, July 3, at Hamlet Park (at the intersection of Routes 22 and 23). The market opens at 8 a.m. for early birds with a \$10 admission fee; admission from 9 a.m. until the end of the shopping day, at 3 p.m., is free.

This sale has clothing in addition to home furnishings. And if you'd like to participate as a vendor, there are some spaces available (contact Steven Tiger at [stiger@taconic.net](mailto:stiger@taconic.net) or 518-938-1404).

STREAMING: ED FERMAN

## Great Literature Made Even Better, on HBO

My wife sometimes glances over from her book and says, "You're watching too much TV." I sometimes respond, "I'm watching an adaptation of a literary masterwork." This is occasionally true. Here are a few prestige shows guaranteed to dignify the most uninspired watch list:

Philip Roth's "The Plot Against America" is, like most of his work, partly autobiographical. Unlike most of his work, its plot is electrifying: a chilling alternative history in which Charles Lindbergh has been elected president in 1940 and the U.S. is becoming increasingly fascist and anti-Semitic. Roth's 2004 novel was made into a six-episode HBO miniseries in 2020.

The story centers on a family that mirrors Roth's own: Herman Levin (Morgan Spector), his wife, Bess, 10-year-old Philip and his older brother, Sandy. Winona Ryder plays Bess's sister, Evelyn, who falls for a Lindbergh crony, the odious Rabbi Bengelsdorf (John Turturro).

The Levins' lives are disrupted by a series of increasingly oppressive and violent anti-Semitic incidents supported by the Lindbergh administration.

This is a powerful family drama along with Roth's warning about the impact of far-right "America First" nativism promoted by Lindbergh and, recently, by Donald Trump.

"The Leftovers" is based on Tom Perrotta's novel of the same name. It takes place a few years after the Sudden Departure — the mysterious disappearance of 2% of the world's population.

It is told largely through the eyes of Kevin Garvey (Justin Theroux), police chief of a town in New York; and Nora Durst (Carrie Coon), who has lost her entire family in the Departure.

The sweeping story line

is too complex to summarize easily in this space, but a number of cults have evolved, notably The Guilty Remnant, a weird group of chain-smoking nihilists.

Although the show won critical acclaim, the audience was small, perhaps because of its somewhat surreal tone. I do not mean to suggest that watching is slow or difficult. This is a riveting and suspenseful story with some unforgettable characters, especially Carrie Coon's Nora. In my view, this is one of the two best shows of the decade (along with "Breaking Bad"). Three seasons on HBO Max.

Although I admire both the above novels, the TV treatments are superior, partly because they extend the scope of the books. Both have high-concept or "what if" story lines. High-concept work often veers into science fiction — e.g. the Roth book has a plot similar to Philip K. Dick's "The Man In the High Castle" — but this is not always the case. The ultimate high-concept work may be "Snakes on a Plane."

If you prefer a character-driven story, I have to send you again to the HBO library to watch "My Brilliant Friend," the adaptation of the novel by the mysterious Elena Ferrante.

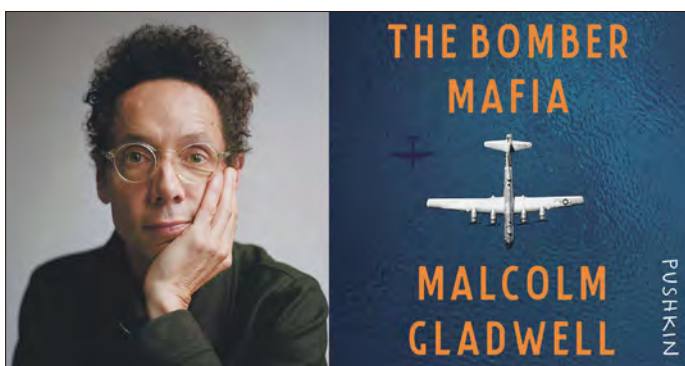
To the list of great female friendships — Gertrude Stein & Alice B. Toklas, Thelma & Louise, Betty & Veronica — we must add Lenu & Lila, who grow up together in Naples in the 1950s.

There is no plot here other than the enduring one of Coming of Age, but if you have a fondness for Italy, you will enjoy this gorgeously photographed show featuring remarkable performances by two lovely actresses.

Margherita Mazzucco plays Lenu, and Gaia Girace plays Lila. Neither had any previous acting experience and were chosen from more than 9,000 children and teenagers in the Neapolitan region.

## ...Gladwell

Continued from previous page



was minimal compared to the human cost.

Night-time incendiary raids aimed at homes of factory workers (and their families), however, could halt production of materiel effectively.

Gladwell describes how cities such as Dresden in Germany and Tokyo in Japan were turned to furnaces and cinders as pilots and crews watched in dismay.

Gladwell also takes readers to today's world, where lasers and computers make the precision attacks strategists once dreamed of a practical reality, even as nations retain vast arsenals of weapons of mass destruction.

As with all Gladwell's books, I found "The Bomber Mafia" a compelling and vivid read, though not on a par with "The Tipping Point" or "David and Goliath."

Partly to blame is that those books yielded sur-

prising revelations, often counter-intuitive, where this story is much more straightforward and unremarkable.

But I also felt that Gladwell skimmed over much that could have enriched the book. Nowhere does he mention how German, Japanese, Italian and Russian bombing strategists rationalized their own decisions to intentionally strike civilian targets.

And Gladwell occasionally gets basic facts wrong: for example, he refers to a lack of a tailwind to help a heavily laden bomber take off, when a headwind is what aerodynamics demands.

There's also a looseness, an informality at times, to his descriptions, as if he's chatting with the reader, that can be jarring at times.

Overall, though, like the bombers he writes vividly about, Gladwell delivers the goods.

## SHERMAN PLAYERS RETURN TO STAGE

The Sherman Players in Sherman, Conn., will open its 2021 season of live performances on July 9, 10, 16 and 17 with "Durang Outdoors," an evening of Christopher Durang one act plays under the stars.

The two comic one-acts are "The Actor's Nightmare" and "For Whom The Southern Belle Tolls."

Durang is an American playwright known for absurd and enter-

taining dramas. He won the Tony Award for Best Play in 2013 and won the Obie Award for Best Playwright for his first play, "Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You," in 1980.

All performances begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$23 and can be purchased at [www.shermanplayhouse.org](http://www.shermanplayhouse.org). Bring chairs and a picnic. The grounds open about one hour before show time.

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## EDITORIAL

Congratulations, Grads

## Turning the page to life's next chapter

*"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less."*

—Marie Curie

Few graduating classes, at whatever level of education, have had such a challenging and unusual final year. Whether seniors in high school or college, or eighth graders, this last year at their schools has been so limiting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. And for them, it happened just at the time that so many of them had become both comfortable in and knowledgeable about their surroundings, ready to dive deep into whatever new subject or activity has caught their curiosity and interest.

But, they surely used their creativity, as did all those in their support system, to find all they ways they could to make the most of a tough situation. After all, a big part of their mission had to be staying safe through a health crisis, not only learning as much as they could academically during their last year. The life lessons they learned by managing the threat of a pandemic will give them a kind of strength as they move on in life that they wouldn't have gained in any other situation. If they'd had a choice, of course, they may have passed on that opportunity for personal growth. But life doesn't always give us choices, and that is a lesson hard learned no matter a person's age. They have had to learn it early in their lives.

So kudos to them for coming through it, and to their parents, teachers and administrators for helping them do that. They should all be proud of their efforts, knowing they have overcome obstacles that few other generations have faced, and come through it with a worthy achievement. They finished their coursework and moved on to the next level in life! It surely wasn't easy, but worth the extra effort it took to graduate in these strange times.

Whatever their next steps in life will be, they should be ready to take them without fear, as suggested by physicist and chemist Marie Curie's quote above, and with an ability to understand more than they might have without stepping up to the challenges placed before them during a pandemic. Those challenges may still be with them as they take on the next stages in their lives, but they should feel confident that they will know what to do in the face of them.

No matter the era, new graduates breathe new life into everything they do. They bring new ideas that inspire those around them. They are truly the hope of the future, and should be welcomed into life with the same sort of energy they bring with them.

We at The Lakeville Journal thank them for the honor and joy of watching them grow, often covering their activities over the years, and wish them only the best as they move forward to new adventures and changes in life. Don't miss the photos of the graduates from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village in the pages of this newspaper this week. You will see their enthusiasm clearly. They should know they are ready for the future, whatever it brings.

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

**100 years ago — June 1921**  
SALISBURY — Mr. A.W. Pearce sailed for England on Wednesday.

LAKEVILLE — Master Clement Bauman had the misfortune to be thrown from his wheel near Roberts Store on Monday morning striking on the cement road and inflicting painful cuts and bruises about his face.

The Saturday train service on the C.N.E. road under the new schedule is the worst ever. Towns all along the line are up in arms because there is no train service west of Winsted after 1.57. Petitions protesting against the ridiculous schedule will be circulated. The railroad management puts up a big kick about jitney competition, but by such moves as that of changing the Saturday schedule they simply invite the jitneys to operate. People living along the line should kick, and kick high, hard and fast, till some attention is paid to their needs and convenience by the railway company.

LIME ROCK — Mr. and Mrs. Arnott returned Monday from their wedding trip and expect to make their home here in the near future.

**50 years ago — June 1971**  
It is illegal to "hitch" rides in Connecticut, Lieut. Richard

Day, commander of Canaan State Police Barracks, reminded residents this week.

Eighty-eight friends of Edward D. Thurston Jr. of Calkinstown Road in Sharon attended a dinner at the White Hart Inn in Salisbury to honor him for his work with child patients at the Sharon Hospital. Participants presented a projector to the children's ward at the hospital in the name of the 90-year-old Sharon resident who, for many years, has made the small patients his particular charge.

Richmond Wilcox Landon, 72, a former resident of Salisbury and son of the late Judge Howard F. Landon and Juliette (Wilcox) Landon, died Sunday, June 13, at his home in Lynbrook, Long Island. Born here in November of 1898, he was a retired advertising executive. As a Yale undergraduate in 1920 he broke the world's high jump record with a leap of 6 feet, 4 and 2/5 inches at the Olympic games in Antwerp. It was there that he met his wife, Alice H. Lord, who was a member of the Olympic high diving team. They were married in 1921.

SHARON — PTA Scholarship Award winner Melanie Aakjar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter L. Aakjar, has been accepted at the Stamford School of Nursing in Stam-

ford, Conn. She will attend the nursing school starting in September.

**25 years ago — June 1996**  
CORNWALL — Two controversial gravel mining applications were turned down last week by the Planning and Zoning Commission. But one of them, a proposal by FSB Associates to dig 50,000 cubic yards of sand and stone along the Housatonic River in Cornwall Bridge, may be back. The other proposal, from singer/songwriter James Taylor, is not likely to reappear on its own. Taylor said in a telephone interview this week he never intended to take a single rock out of the ground. "I did it to bring as much attention to the issue as possible," he said. The idea, he explained, was to dramatize the danger of approving any gravel mining in this vulnerable and beautiful landscape.

LAKEVILLE — The life of a renowned local auto mechanic killed in an accident last Thursday will be celebrated Wednesday at the White Hart Inn in Salisbury. William L. "Murph" Mayberry, 63, of Lakeville died after he lost control of a 1995 Ford F-150 pickup truck on a Route 41 curve near The Woodland restaurant. A party in Mayberry's honor will be held June 19 at the White Hart Inn from 5 to 8 p.m. No memorial service or funeral was

held because Mayberry wrote in his will that he wished to be remembered by friends with a celebratory party. Mayberry, a former racer himself in the 1950s and early 1960s, worked on race cars driven by some of the biggest names in professional racing including Roger Penske. He was also a mechanic for four teams that won the Indianapolis 500 race working on vehicles that ushered A.J. Foyt into the winner's circle in 1961 and 1964 and cars that carried Al Unser to Indy glory in 1970 and 1971.

FALLS VILLAGE — Denny Jacobs, urged on by his six-year-old son David, and Bill Beebe quit work every evening, pick up their tools and spend until nightfall scraping, torching, sawing and restoring old C621, a caboose built in 1944 for the New York, New Haven, Hartford Railroad Co. The caboose is retired now, anchored to a short stretch of track next to the Housatonic Railroad line in the center of town. The idea is to turn this side-lined railroad car into a visitors' center.

*These items were taken from The Lakeville Journal archives at Salisbury's Scoville Memorial Library, keeping the original wording intact as possible. To find more archival stories from The Lakeville Journal and other area newspapers, go to www.scovillelibrary.org.*



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

## The green fields of late spring

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Manners are at a premium now

It has been suggested that Realtors could perhaps coach new area residents on how to behave. While I think this is placing an unnecessary burden on these increasingly busy individuals, something needs to be done!

Yesterday as I was trying to depart LaBonne's (still Shagroy to some of us) in Salisbury I was forced quickly to step aside and was jammed against the wall as a grim-faced stranger unapologetically rammed

her shopping cart into my path. Other new residents have been heard referring to local workers lined up at the deli as "riff-raff." Indeed. Heck, that's not even a matter of country manners. Both are examples of rudeness and unkindness in any setting.

And a note to the woman who nearly gored me with her spurs: if you're a good enough rider to be wearing spurs you should know that one removes them after dismounting. You don't go jangling around town

and into restaurants like a fighting cock!

I think the real answer to this is to bring back Robert Osborn. While that is impossible, alas, it might behoove the current management of The Lakeville Journal to look in the archives back to the autumn of 1979 and into the next year where a number of his cartoons commented on exactly this situation.

**Marietta Whittlesey**  
Gallatin, N.Y. and Lakeville

## Making good choices matters

With each new season of the year and in life, we may reference moving on, letting go and launching into ventures with a new people, places and projects in mind. Let's not forget the hard-won lessons from the past as we transition and make the next set of choices including how we use our voices.

"On to the next but not too fast, take time to upgrade with lessons from the past."

How might we share wisdom from P.C.E. Times (Pre-COVID and Earlier Times)? There are ever more laws regulating more aspects of parenting, schooling, relationships, business, mental health and drug issues, aging and caregiving.

The gap between the laws for relationships, parents or others in custody or divorce

court and those not involved in formalities is too great. Everyone needs to tune into the idea of teamwork, integrity, and accountability.

Saying one thing and doing another, or not following through is a theme for individuals, pairs of people and larger groupings to explore. Ideally everyone could check off boxes about what their life routines and safety entails so a few others would be aware of the game plan and gray areas to prevent conflict, danger and death.

Everyone in their own families or social groups as well as in a special community group could be ready to provide support, and keep ongoing reports and reviews of allegations, injuries, neglect and fatalities. When our teen son Kaelan Palmer Paton drowned

on June 16, 2009 on his last day as a freshman at Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, no reports from parents, teachers or other students were completed. If that had been a workplace fatality in the U.S. a report would have been required.

The gratitude our family and community has for all the rescue and support people in our towns is deep. Fire chiefs gathered for an annual meeting in Falls Village on Monday, June 14th. The thanks is extended in all directions and the inspiration to gather and review every aspect of a safety and living set of plans for each age and stage of life can prevent more harm and danger.

That is a way to honor one another and those who have journeyed on to the next realm and who may be looking out for us still with inspiration and more. I am happy to network and share ideas in many forums and hope more people will opt in to being team players for a better ball game of life. Hats off to all the school and community groups one season to the next.

**Catherine Palmer Paton**  
Falls Village

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

## THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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## Mission Statement

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Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, fostering democracy and an atmosphere of open communication.

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# A premature look at the 2024 presidential race

It's far too early for any sensible observer of the political scene to be talking about presidential possibilities in the 2024 election, so let's do it anyway.

I have at least one good reason for doing this. On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of 2024, I will be into my 10th decade and can't help wondering if one born shortly after Franklin Delano Roosevelt's first Hundred Days will be doing much sensible observing by then.

But, if you also would like to question my current thinking, I'm beginning this assessment of the 2024 election by offering high praise for someone who most assuredly will not be a candidate in 2024, but should have been a dozen years earlier when he chose not to run in 2012.

I refer to the forgotten but not gone current president of Purdue University and former governor of Indiana and chairman of George W. Bush's Office of Management and Budget, Mitch Daniels. (I was reminded of this candidate when an Indiana friend shared a copy of Daniels' remarkable commencement address to Purdue's Class of '21.)

I remember being disappointed by Daniels' decision not to run after two amazingly successful terms as governor, the first during the final years of prosperity and the second following the 2008 economic collapse. In his first term, he gave his state its first balanced budget in eight years without a tax hike, transformed an inherited deficit into a surplus and reduced the state's overall debt by 40%.

Reelected in 2008 with the most votes in the state's history, Daniels lowered taxes, expanded health insurance, introduced major education reforms and left a state considered one of the most business friendly in the nation. He would have been a stronger nominee than Mitt Romney, the governor selected by the Republican Party to challenge President Barack Obama. But he didn't run because he didn't want to put his wife, whom he'd divorced and remarried, and his children through the inevitable personal attacks of a presidential campaign.

And consider this: Had Daniels been successful, Donald Trump would be just another aging playboy businessman

today, best known for questionable business practices and three wives.

But Daniels will be 75 in 2024, and I'm weary of having candidates old enough to be

## IF YOU ASK ME DICK AHLES

my younger brothers as president. I am also tired of having to choose from among talkers, also known as senators, overdoers when choosing a president and, as we will see, that's another story.

It's too early to tell what shape the country or the 80-year-old incumbent president or the 78-year-old former president will be in on Election Day 2024 but having been their age, I don't think anyone over 75 should be president. If this is ageism, make the most of it.

I would therefore like to see someone other than either of the last two presidents running for reelection the next time. As to vice presidents and former vice presidents, let's give both Kamala Harris and Mike Pence more time to grow or to show if they're capable of it. That's putting it politely, don't you think?

Unfortunately, neither party seems to have many strong governors although a few come to mind. Republicans Mike DeWine of Ohio and Larry Hogan of Maryland have been Republican stars during the pandemic, as has former Congressman Asa Hutchinson of Arkansas. I'd add former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, whose gubernatorial record was pretty impressive.

But they all lack the media razzle dazzle that Trump brought to presidential politics, which may or may not help them.

A second tier of Republican governors who may appeal more to Trump's old crowd include the occasionally demagogic Greg Abbott of Texas and Ron DeSantis of Florida but they would be challenged by an overabundance of senators, like the somewhat shopworn Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Lindsey Graham, along with the fresher faced Tom Cotton of Arkansas, Tim Scott of South Carolina and Josh Hawley of Missouri.

Talkers all, not a doer in the

bunch.

The Democratic roster of successful — and unsuccessful — governors is smaller. Ned Lamont did a good job handling the pandemic in Connecticut while generally resisting the pressures of going along with larger neighbors of New York and New Jersey. Other prominent Democratic governors do not jump out of the crowd, although ones to be avoided like Andrew Cuomo and Gavin Newsom do. The past Democratic candidates with presidential appeal are not governors, but senators like Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota and Michael Bennet of Colorado.

As I complete this exercise, you may agree it is, indeed, far too early to speculate on the 2024 race. There is no doubt the emergence an exciting new face or two would serve both parties well. But that's only happened twice in the past century — Wendell Willkie, who lost in 1940 and Jimmy Carter, who won in 1976.

*Simsbury resident Dick Ahles is a retired journalist. Email him at rahles1@outlook.com.*



# The good news on climate change

The truth is that we, you and me and everybody else, are causing climate change. We all know this. But we have a tendency to believe that our day-to-day activities don't matter, because, well, it is only one little thing. We bought the LED lightbulbs and separate out our recycling so let the government take care of the rest.

In reality every single decision we make helps or hinders. I can't afford to put solar panels on my house or buy a Tesla or Prius, but I can try to be part of the solution and not part of the problem. And most of those changes come with unexpected benefits.

Every time you walk or bike somewhere instead of driving you are helping. You are also helping yourself with exercise and saving money on gas. It might not be a lot, but it adds

up. Every time you bring along a reusable water bottle instead of buying a bottle of water you keep a little more plastic out of the oceans and landfills. And you save money.

Every time you shop locally, that is one more item that doesn't need to be wrapped in packaging and flown across the country. And the benefits are myriad. Your money goes to local businesses that hire local people and keep the money circulating instead of going to Jeff Bezos. Equally important is that you are acting as a member of the community.

Climate change is a lot like cigarette smoking. We all knew that sucking toxic smoke into

our lungs and then expelling it for someone else to breathe was unhealthy. But it seemed like all

of the beautiful and sophisticated people were doing it. Tobacco companies spent a fortune assuring us that everything would be fine,

just like the oil industry is doing now. Eventually the truth became unavoidable and smoking was banned in all public places. Smoking rates plummeted and so did cancer and emphysema rates. On top of that, ex-smokers realized that all that money they had been spending on cigarettes added up. It costs quite a bit of money to pollute your lungs. And you could taste your food in restaurants.

None of us are eco-saints. I know I have a long way to go. But I have come to understand that everything I do or don't do matters. So I use a fan instead of air conditioning as much as possible. I keep the heat lower in the winter and put on a sweater. I have stopped purchasing single-serving anything and, guess what? I am healthier and have saved money that I can spend at local businesses.

We are out of time when it comes to climate change. And if we don't make the small changes now, the big changes to come will be much more painful. Just ask an ex-smoker.

*Lisa Wright divides her time between her home in Lakeville and Oblong Books and Music in Millerton, where she has worked for nearly 40 years. Email her at wrightales@gmail.com.*

## BUT THEN AGAIN ... LISA WRIGHT

Every time you shop locally, that is one more item that doesn't need to be wrapped in packaging and flown across the country.

# Stealing fire from the gods

I know how to say I don't know in about ten languages. If you dropped me at an abandoned shipyard in Gdynia, Poland and someone said something which I would not understand, I could say, Nie wiem. It could be the answer to just about any question. Where are you? Where's the post office? Where's the loo? Who are you? Even Why are you?

What good does this do me? Arguably, as the current adverb has it, None.

Yet, as the Agnostics would have it, it could do me immeasurable good.

I could appear measured, humble, or perhaps arrogant, take your pick. Or simply stupid, unprepared, out of touch, hopeless, without a clue.

But no, the Agnostics would insist, you could just as well be deemed above the fray, Olympian, the new Zeus.

One second. Let's not tumble down, off the Promethean rock. Prometheus comes to mind, he who stole fire from the gods and gave it to man, and for that he was bound to a rock as a vulture ate out his liver day after day, he didn't even have the luxury of vodka, and yet it was restored every night, to be eaten away all over again the next day.

I am in a mythical mood these days recalling a production I saw in Drama School of Robert Lowell's adaptation of Aeschylus's "Prometheus Bound", directed by the great thinker, opera director, neurologist Jonathan Miller, who was one of the original members of the satirical British group "Beyond the Fringe", the others being Peter Cook, Dudley Moore and Allan Bennett, Bennett being the only one still alive.

Lowell, one of the premiere American poets of his or any time, did not know Classical Greek but purposely chose the worst translation he could find so he wouldn't be tempted to steal anything and wrote his own with the help of Arnold Weinstein, who had an MA in Classical languages from Harvard.

Sidebar — Princeton has recently announced it will no longer require Latin and Greek for its Classics Majors. Someone said that's like having an art department without paint.

The production had Kenneth Haigh as Prometheus. Haigh had been the original Jimmy Porter in John Osborne's "Look

Back in Anger," the play that transformed English-speaking theater in 1956, the first play that had as its principal, a working class highly articulate ruffian. When it came to the silver screen,

Richard Burton played the role, alongside greats Mary Ure (Osborne's wife), and Claire Bloom. (Allan Bates played the other male role in the stage play.)

The set was designed by Michael Annals, who was all the London rage then as well he should have been. The rock looked as if it were suspended in midair. As if you looked down and looked up forever and never saw the end or the beginning.

The magnificent Irene Worth played Io, the young maiden raped by Zeus as she toiled in a field. Hera, the great god's wife, was so incensed at Zeus that she took it out on Io and had her turned into a cow who was constantly surrounded by a great swarm of flies. Zeus was unpunished and moved on to his next rape.

Worth sat way upstage, motionless, and when it was her turn, she stood and delivered a blistering 10 minute monologue about her plight.

If the phrase Blew Us Away had yet been in currency, we would have used it to blow away those flies.

Ron Liebman, who later went on to play Roy Cohn in "Angels in America," played winged Hermes, the messenger of the gods, who came to implore Prometheus to repent. Prometheus told him to take a fly/hike.

My friend David Epstein and I stood in the back for the last performance and one of us said to the other, to this day we don't know which, "We should be allowed to see this production once a week for the rest of our lives."

Nie wiem, je ne sais pas, Ich weiss nicht, yo no se. I will now go on to practicing saying Why Not? In Classical Greek and Latin as well. Might be all I need to become a Tiger.

*Lonnie Carter is a writer who lives in Falls Village. Email him at lonniety@comcast.net., or go to his website at www.lonnicarter.com.*

## SOVEREIGN STATE LONNIE CARTER



PHOTO BY LIBBY HALL-ABEEL

## A last burst of peony pink

# Realtor® at Large

In this current market, some homes will be offered for sale in "as is" condition. For a buyer, this may present an opportunity with regards to a better price, but there is also a higher degree of risk. While the owner still has to disclose any known defects per Ct State law, the buyer absolutely should have the right to perform inspections of the property. The buyer also should have the ability to walk away if not satisfied with the inspections. An excellent primer on the pros and cons of buying "as is" properties can be found in the website of realtor.com at: [www.realtor.com/advice/buy/what-does-as-is-mean/](http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/what-does-as-is-mean/).



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# Our Towns

## In Cornwall, seeking a way to allow input to P&Z

## Forum on speeding set for June 23

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — In response to growing public interest in matters before the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z), a portion of the commission's regular meeting on Tuesday, June 8, was set aside as a workshop.

Attending on Zoom were 43 residents, but none was permitted to offer comments.

Having requested a discussion of whether to allow public comment at P&Z meetings, commission member Phillip West opened the subject by pointing out that P&Z is part of its community.

"We should have a limited set of questions and responses," West suggested, noting that the P&Z members are all volunteers and that it seems important to somehow limit how much time is given to conversation. But he felt that there should be some way for people to ask questions.

In advance of P&Z meetings, West thought that people might submit questions, and depending on the number received, the P&Z could try to respond during their meeting.

P&Z Chairman Anna Timell asked each P&Z member to comment. Christine Gray, P&Z member, felt that she could consider the idea of people submitting written questions and having the commission set aside some time at

each meeting to respond.

Member James LaPorta wondered whether the P&Z would be called upon to interpret the regulations. He was concerned about legal pitfalls, although he added, "Communication is always a better course."

Also concerned about legal ramifications, member Keith Bodwell felt that as long as the P&Z accepts written correspondence through the town offices, there is already a way for people to communicate.

"We should welcome the public whatever way they want to come," P&Z member Stephen Saccardi said, adding that P&Z communication could be better. He felt that people who come to meetings should be allowed to be heard.

Admitting that he was relatively new to the P&Z, Bruce Bennett wondered whether too many people offering opinions could be confusing to the process.

West said that while some questions might seek only clarification, people might raise valuable thoughts that the P&Z could look at in the future. Or, he said, sometimes people just come with questions about how the process works.

Member Will Berry said that a question-and-answer forum could be a good thing, and that perhaps a public comment segment is beneficial to the P&Z.

Having heard the comments, Timell said that she is seeking a communication policy. She said that a long-term goal has been to promote education.

"We need a mechanism for helping people to understand what P&Z is all about," Timell said.

To promote understanding, she suggested a system where people could send questions to Karen Nelson in the Land Use Office. As appropriate, town planning consultant Janell

Mullen or Nelson would draft an answer for review by the P&Z, or reply directly if it were merely a point of clarification.

"I would like to see the written form," Timell said, as an alternative to the public commenting at P&Z meetings.

With no formal policy arrived at, the P&Z agreed to see how the written communication approach works out.

"We still encourage people to send communication in," West said. "I always read what people send in."

## Budgets swiftly approved at town meeting

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — After months of meetings and scrutiny of expenditures to arrive at proposed town and education budgets for 2021-22, North Canaan residents at the annual town meeting on Wednesday, June 9, voted unanimous approval to adopt the proposed budgets as presented.

Approximately 25 residents attended the meeting at the Town Hall, most of whom were town officials. Other than two questions seeking clarification, no questions or comments were heard. The vote was by simple voice vote. Elected to serve as moderator was Cricket Jacquier.

Meeting immediately after the town meeting, the Board of Finance briefly discussed op-

tions surrounding setting the mill rate, choosing to establish the rate at 29 mills, an increase of 0.75 mills over the current rate of 28.25 mills. To lessen the impact of this year's budget increase, the finance board voted to move \$268,537 from the General Fund.

Under the newly approved budgets, total expenditures for the town are \$2,855,504, an increase of \$108,487 over the current year total of \$2,747,017.

On the education side, the total elementary school budget is \$4,411,561, a decrease from the current year's total of \$4,419,473. The savings this year are expected to amount to \$7,913.84, a decrease of 0.18%. However, the total Region One budget stands at \$9,174,207, up by \$387,733 (or 4.41%).

## 'Let Them Eat Cake' on July 2

SHARON — The Sharon Historical Society hosts its Let Them Eat Cake fundraiser on Friday, July 2, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. There will be a live and online auction for cakes made by talented local bakers. Tickets for the fundraiser are on sale ahead of time for \$45; they will be \$55 on the night of the event. There will be an open bar and hors d'oeuvres.

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Mitigation of speeding along a number of town roads moved a step forward as the Board of Selectmen continued discussion of the ongoing problem at their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 8.

As a result of the discussion, the selectmen agreed to hold a town-wide traffic forum on Wednesday, June 23, at the Veteran's Field Pavilion, beginning at 4 p.m.

Included will be a traffic expert's view on the current situation in Sharon, as well as information on what other towns have done to control speed.

First Selectman Brent Colley reported that Melissa Evans of the T2 Program at the University of Connecticut will attend the forum to present information on options geared to the town's needs. Evans is a member of the T2 staff with the title of Safety Circuit Rider.

The T2 (Training and Technical Assistance) program through the university's School of Engineering offers technical advice to towns in connection with their transportation needs. The program

is funded by the state Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

"We are having the discussions together," Colley said. "The more input the better."

"We are eager to keep it on the table," said Hilltop Road resident Robert Lindgren, "as long as there is a plan."

During the meeting the selectmen also agreed to prepare a letter of town support of the Housatonic River Commission's application to the federal government to gain Wild and Scenic River status. The selectmen's letter specifies the 41-mile stretch of the Housatonic extending from the Massachusetts state line southward to New Milford as seeking that status and protection as a "partnership river." The aim is to gain protection and resources from the federal government while ensuring that towns along the river can locally manage their own stretches of the river into the future.

The application is being guided by the efforts of William Tingley, chairman of the Housatonic River Commission and Sharon's representative to that commission.

## Get transfer station stickers

SHARON — Transfer station sticker forms/stickers will be available starting Monday, June 21, at Sharon Town Hall by the back door entrance or online at [www.sharonct.org](http://www.sharonct.org).

Renters must provide proof of residency.

For more information, contact Tina Pitcher at 860-364-5789 or [tina\\_p@sharon-ct.org](mailto:tina_p@sharon-ct.org).

## True tales of baseball salaries

FALLS VILLAGE — Eugene Orza, Chief Operating Officer at Major League Baseball Players Association, will host a Zoom talk on Thursday, June 17, at 7 p.m. on Zoom. The talk is hosted by the Hunt Library.

To register, go to [www.HuntLibrary.org](http://www.HuntLibrary.org) or call 860-824-7424.

## COVID-19 vaccine June 19

NORTH CANAAN — There will be a COVID-19 vaccine clinic at North Canaan Town Hall on Saturday, June 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Northwest Corner residents only.

No ID or insurance is needed. This is a walk-in clinic; no appointments are necessary.

This clinic offers the second dose of Pfizer for those who received their first dose on May 22; and the first dose (with a second-dose date in July). The J&J vaccine is also available at this clinic.

# The Lakeville Journal Company

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Fostering Democracy and an Atmosphere of Open Communication Since 1897

This letter has been enclosed in print editions of The Lakeville Journal and Millerton News and on [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com). We invite all our readers to continue to keep track of our progress and we will keep you updated regularly.

## Can you imagine a world without your Lakeville Journal or Millerton News?

Dear Reader,

Late in 2019, we came to you, hat in hand, to share with you our story within the world of vanishing local journalism. You generously supported us, to date, in the amount of \$164,975 in what was known as the "Community Membership" model and will now be known as the "Community Contributor" model.

- Your generosity made up a deeply appreciated 39% of annual General Expenses from September of 2019.
- We are happy to have qualified for a PPP loan (which we will convert to a 'grant', having met the necessary criteria), in the amount of \$146,643, contributing 35% of General Expenses during this same period.
- As they experienced their own COVID-19 cash needs, our steadfast advertisers needed to scale back their commitments to us. Our advertising revenue has dropped over 30%.
- Effective October 15, 2020, we have raised the cost of the newspaper to two dollars, the first increase since 2003.

COVID-19 has awakened an awareness of the significance of our papers, as we seek information about our world. Thanks to our Community's generosity and the unswerving dedication of our fine Team, we were able to remain fully functional through this pandemic. We love our Community partnership. We will continue our work, with your kind respect and support.

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# History

## Plane Disaster Involves Three-Day Search

Summer is here and beach passes are being snapped up with alacrity during this hot late spring. At this time, as we dive deep into the cool waters of our towns' lakes, we remember some of the amazing tales of lake history.

For some reason, Lake Wononscopomuc in Salisbury seems to have the greatest number of stories, from the time that Howard Hughes is said to have landed his seaplane on the lake, to several drownings (in winter and in summer, in what is the deepest natural lake in the state) to more modest yet still thrilling sightings of eagles and moose in and over the water.

One story that is verifiable is the tale of the plane that crashed into the lake in September 1970. This story and these photos (including many that were never published) are from the Sept. 24, 1970, issue of the paper, which can be found in our online archive at Salisbury's Scoville Memorial Library at <http://scoville.advantage-preservation.com>.

The accompanying photos were recently scanned for us by volunteer (and History Hero) Perry Gardner of North Canaan.

By John Parker

State Police, Salisbury town officials, and local volunteers combined resources in weekend search-and-recovery operations following a tragic airplane crash in Lake Wononscopomuc last Friday.

The searchers' efforts resulted in the recovery of much of the aircraft on Saturday, and of the bodies of its two passengers on Sunday afternoon. The two victims of the crash were identified as: Vincent A. Nastasi, 39, of 135 Beverly Terrace, Yonkers; and Jonel E. Jorgulesco of S.W. 13th Terrace, Miami, Fla.

The aircraft, a two-engine Cessna Skymaster, was en route from Westchester County Airport in White Plains to Glens Falls, N.Y., when the accident occurred. A report of fire in the plane's cabin had been received by the airport prior to the crash, and the two men were apparently attempting an emergency landing on the lake.

According to investigators at the scene, one of the wings caught the surface of the lake during a sharp turn, forcing the plane, nose down, into the water.

Within seconds, the aircraft had disappeared below the surface, breaking apart under the force of the collision.

Frank Markey, who was in charge of the Town Grove facilities, saw the crash and alerted the Lakeville Hose Co., who arrived at the scene a minute or two after the call.

Mrs. William Pulver also saw the plane hit from her home on the eastern edge of the lake and called in. Other witnesses to the crash were William Lawroski and Ottar Satre, who were fishing from boats about halfway from the Grove to the opposite shore. Both men stated that the plane came in from the west, circled the lake, banked, and then hit the water nearby. Other fishermen, Larry Unson and his son, Larry Jr., were almost hit by the plane, which crashed no more than 50 feet from their boat.

Peter and Eric Morrow of Sharon rushed to the lake and paddled a borrowed canoe to the scene, minutes after the crash. Immediate recovery attempts were made, using grappling hooks lowered from the town boat.

Stanley Szczesniul, resident state trooper, aided by William Flynn, James Lamson and Frank Markey, managed to secure a hook and line to the tail section of the plane, after spotting large patches of oil escaping from the wreck.

Jeannette Axelby and John Barnett, both of Lakeville, donned scuba gear Friday evening and dove to investigate. They were able to spot sections of the plane at depths of from

60 to 80 feet. Observation, hampered by darkness and severe cold, revealed no bodies in the wreckage. Small pieces of the aircraft and papers from its cabin floated to the surface earlier in the day. As a result the owner of the plane was identified as Neil S. Hochman of the International Aviation Service in White Plains.

The recovery of the plane, and the search for its occupants, resumed early Saturday morning. Captain Louis Marchese, head of the Western Division of the State Police, was in charge of some half dozen state troopers on Friday, Saturday and Sunday; with Sgt. Victor Keilty assisting with direction of field operations on the three days.

Following the suggestion of Fred Romeo, assistant at the Town Grove, use was made of the town float. A winch and cable were rigged under the direction of George Cleaveland, an engineer who is Salisbury's building inspector and superintendent of roads. Much-needed equipment, including a tripod, chainfalls and "comealongs" were donated by George Wright of Great Barrington.

With the aid of Francis Gomez, Trooper Szczesniul, and several other volunteers, the winch was installed, and the float was towed to the site of the wreck. A cable was lowered through a hole in the float and divers succeeded in attaching a hook to the tail section, and to the landing gear of the plane, which was then raised to a depth of about 40 feet. The float and plane were towed to the edge of the beach, the cables loosed and attached to the town's payload, which was manned by Joe Francis, Fire Chief.

After several unsuccessful tries, in which the steel hook tore through the light metal of the plane, large sections were dragged onto the beach. Both engines, the tail section and much of the fuselage were recovered; but no bodies were found until the following day.

**Volunteers Aid Search**  
Volunteer divers were involved in the work of search and recovery throughout the weekend, as State Police divers were not authorized for depths of more than 35 feet. Local volunteer divers working on Saturday with the tacit approval of the police were Jeannette Axelby; John Barnett of Falls Village, son of Salisbury's First Selectman, who went down the full 80 feet; and Edward Davis, a teacher at The Hotchkiss School who has been leading an underwater study of the lake.

Joining them were Kit and Darryl LeFebvre from Enfield, and James Narducci of Colebrook. The volunteers were trained for dives of more than 50 feet; and kept deep dives brief, with rest intervals between each effort. Especially exhaustive efforts were made by Jeannette Axelby and Edward Davis, who were on hand throughout the weekend. Local boat owners provided invaluable assistance throughout the search. Among these were: Richard McCue, a selectman of Salisbury; Mitchell Finlay, who donated his catamaran as a diving platform; and Frank Knickerbocker of Canaan, who brought power boats from Twin Lakes.

The town boat, a police boat, and the Hotchkiss School Research Craft were used extensively. Many local men turned out during the weekend to aid in the recovery of the plane and its passengers.

Among them were: Alan Marks, Joe Roueter, and Earl and Joe Bonhotel of the Salisbury road crew, Joseph Francis, fire chief and assistant Robert Smith, Richard Ulin and Ricky McCue. First Selectman William Barnett was present at the scene, and authorized use of town equipment. Stanley Segala, a pilot from Canaan, helped



to identify the wreckage from the plane. Art Wilkinson of Salisbury operated search craft throughout much of the operation. Women of the Firemen's Auxiliary supplied coffee and sandwiches on Saturday. Mrs. Gordon Reid provided sustenance for searchers on Friday with refreshments left over from the Democratic Rally of the previous night.

### Victims Recovered

As the search for the two victims of the crash resumed for the third day on Sunday morning, troopers again used small boats and grappling hooks in deep water near the spot where wreckage had been found. The body of Vincent Nastasi was recovered at 12:30 in deep water near the wreck. Seven volunteer divers from the Gilman Diving Club in Hartford arrived shortly after noon to help with the search, after conferring by phone with Jeannette Axelby and Winsted State Police. The group is affiliated with the Hartford YMCA. Dives near the site of the wreck proved fruitless. After returning to the shore for a rest at about 2:30, the Gilman divers, acting on an intuitive suggestion by Jeannette Axelby, searched the shallower water near the beach where the plane had been towed on Saturday. At 5:20 p.m., the body of Jonel Jorgulesco was recovered in about 40 feet of water near the beach.

Dr. Alfred Brewer, Salisbury Medical Examiner, was on hand for examination of the bodies.

A large crowd of spectators gathered at the Grove throughout the search, but were kept from the immediate area by state troopers. The GOP Rally slated for Sunday afternoon was held as scheduled.

### Experts At Scene

Several aviation experts were called to the scene after the accident occurred, and aided recovery while they attempted to learn the causes of the crash. Officials present were: Leo B. Rothermel, of the Association of Aviation Underwriters; Walter Brigida from Westfield, acting for the Federal Aviation Authority; Luther G. Gatlin of the National Transportation Safety Board, and Leon H. Moquin, State Inspector for the Bureau of Aeronautics.

After careful examination of the wreckage, the officials stated to the Journal that, in their opinion, a short circuit in a wire leading from the transformer in the rear of the panel to the instrument panel caused a fire in the carpeting of the plane. The two men had then radioed for help, and had apparently attempted a landing on the lake. The experts also stated that they thought most of the damage to the plane was caused by impact, rather than by any explosion before or after the plane hit the water.



PHOTOS BY PETER SCHLESSINGER

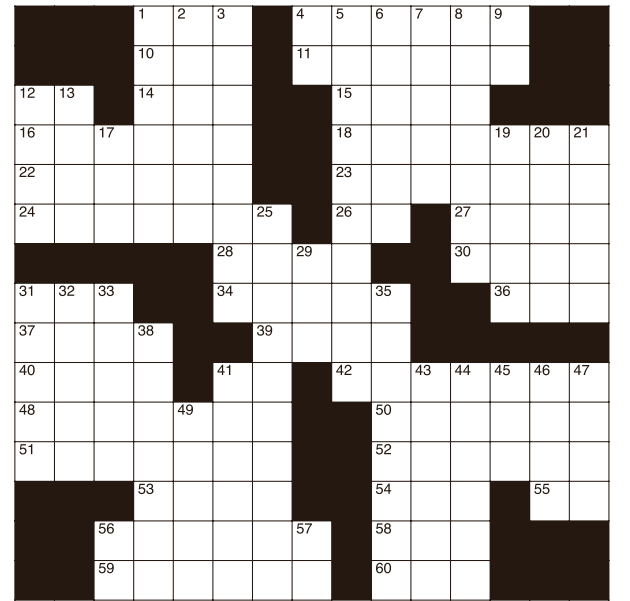
## Brain Teasers

### CLUES ACROSS

- "Sleepless In Seattle" actress Ryan
- One of Santa's reindeer
- Before the present
- Type of butter
- Location of White House
- Motion
- Tree part
- Regions around the North Pole
- Fits on a boat's gunwale
- Discuss after it's happened
- Milk substitute for coffee
- Describes one who believes in supreme being
- Equally
- Famed director Forman
- Popular apartment style
- British School
- Advanced degree
- Order of architecture
- Investment account (abbr.)
- Snakelike fishes
- Children's tale bear
- Norse personification of old age
- Atomic #58
- Moving your head
- 1878 Kentucky Derby winner
- Frankfurter
- Small, seedless raisin
- Device in papermaking machine
- Go
- Open payment initiative (abbr.)
- "Westworld" actor Harris
- Saturated with salt
- Marry
- Report on
- Midway between north and northeast

### CLUES DOWN

- Rays
- Self-centered person
- One you look after
- Prosecutor
- Portion
- Speaks ill of
- Formal system for computer programs
- To make angry
- Rural delivery
- Group of languages
- Large First Nations group
- Circulating life force in Chinese philosophy



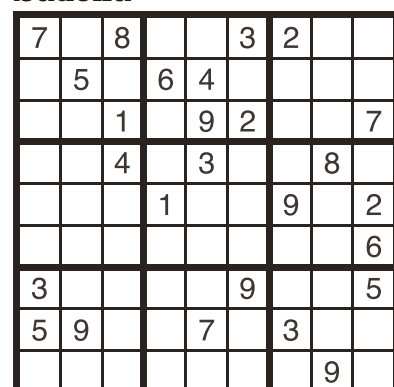
- Excludes
- Body cavity of a metazoan
- Swedish monetary unit
- Works with
- Partner to "to"
- Rewards (archaic)
- One of Caroline Islands
- Type of alcohol
- Eat a lot
- Nuns
- Dog
- Become more serious
- Choose
- Newspapers use it
- World's longest river
- Commanded to go faster

- Cabs
- Mr. T's "A-Team" character
- Document signed (abbr.)

### June 10 Solution

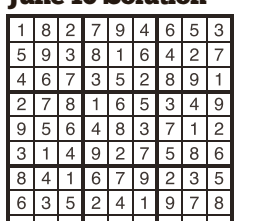


### Sudoku



Level: Intermediate

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# Millerton Wine & Spirits slides smoothly into summer

By Kaitlin Lyle

MILLERTON — Christopher Jeans, co-owner of Millerton Wine & Spirits at 34 Main St., is hoping for a summer of strong sales after a rather tough initial opening in the midst of a global pandemic.

Prior to opening his shop on Main Street, Jeans owned Casa Bacchus, a wine shop in Litchfield, Conn., for many years.

He first became involved in the Little Gates wine shop on Main Street in fall of 2018, when former co-owner Chris Kennan called to ask if he could help out.

Co-owner William Little (who is an owner and executive committee member of The Lakeville Journal Co. LLC) decided to close Little Gates last November after 14 years in business. Jeans and his friend Paul Harney (a member of the Harney Tea family) decided to take over the space and are now partners in a new shop, which they've named Millerton Wine & Spirits.

Believing "there's an adventure in these four walls, where wine should be fun," Jeans said what has gone into the store is "tasting literally a thousand wines to get a few 100 that have

made the cut."

A lot of attention to detail goes into each bottle, he said.

"We are adventurous in our selections because we want to make sure the right candidates are here for all tastes," Jeans said. "We encourage customers to tell us what they're looking for and what they want; we're creating an environment that fosters that."

Indeed, standing out against the ocean blue walls sit shelves upon shelves of carefully curated wines from France, Spain, Portugal, California and other regions of the globe. There is also a selection of local wines,

spirits and brews.

In the back is a space that Jeans anticipates using as a tasting room.

Casting his eyes around the varying sections of wine and other drinks, Jeans said Millerton Wine & Spirits wants to be involved in every occasion.

Offering in-person shopping and curbside delivery, Millerton Wine & Spirits is open Sundays and Tuesdays from noon to 5 p.m.; Wednesdays from noon to 6 p.m.; Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and closed Mondays.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Millerton Wine & Spirits, now open on Main Street in Millerton in the space that was most recently Little Gates, has a wide variety of beverages and price points, with something for all tastes and occasions.

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### CORNWALL, CT

**TAG SALE:** Saturday, June 19 and Sunday, June 20. 10 to 4. 238 River Road, West Cornwall. "Something for Everyone" from tools to toys. Large Free table.

### SHARON, CT

**TAG SALE:** Tools, kitchen, art work, lots of books and other small stuff. Eames sofa, Klipsch speakers. Saturday, June 19, 9-3, Sunday, June 20, 9-2. Cash, PayPal or Venmo. No checks. No early birds. 115 Jackson Rd., Sharon CT.

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Events

June 17, 2021



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PHOTO COURTESY OF AMP



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# LIVE MUSIC & SHOWS ALL SUMMER LONG! *Something For Everyone*

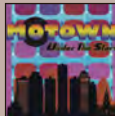
## DRIVE-IN STAGE



Saturday, July 3  
@ 8pm  
**AMERICA'S  
SWEETHEARTS**



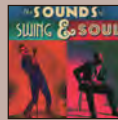
Saturday, July 10  
@ 8pm  
**DANCING DREAM**  
ABBA Tribute



Saturday, July 24  
@ 8pm  
**MOTOWN UNDER  
THE STARS**



Saturday, August 7  
@ 8pm  
**SWINGIN' WITH  
THE RAT PACK**



Saturday, August 21  
@ 8pm  
**THE SOUNDS OF  
SWING & SOUL**



Friday, August 27 &  
Saturday, August 28  
**ELO LASER ENCOUNTER**  
Both Shows @ 8pm



Saturday, September 11  
@ 8pm  
**THE RAVE-ONS**  
Buddy Holly Tribute



Saturday, September 18  
@ 8pm  
**CONNECTICUT  
VIRTUOSI CHAMBER  
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## PATIO STAGE



Saturday, July 17  
@ 8pm  
**CACOPHONY  
DANIELS**



Sunday, July 25  
@ 2pm  
**THE EMERALD  
TRIO**



Friday, July 30  
@ 8pm  
**WALKIN' AFTER  
MIDNIGHT with  
CARTER CALVERT**



Friday, August 6  
@ 8pm  
**HUGH PANARO**



Friday, August 20  
@ 8pm  
**MICHAEL  
BROWN**



Sunday, August 22  
@ 3pm  
**JOHN  
DAVIDSON**



Friday, September 3  
@ 8pm  
**MARIA B.  
HICKEY**



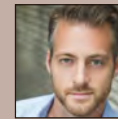
Friday, September 10  
@ 8pm  
**KERRI LOUISE**  
Comedian



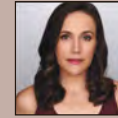
Sunday, September 12  
@ 2pm  
**JALYNN STEELE**



Friday, September 17  
@ 8pm  
**WANDA  
HOUSTON**



Sunday, September 19  
@ 2pm  
**TREVOR  
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Friday, September 24  
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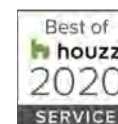






PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

America's Sweethearts will return to the outdoor stage at Sharon Playhouse this summer — but the stage will be bigger and better and the shows will be (even) grander than before.

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**THEATER: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER**

# Sharon Playhouse Offers Something for Everyone This Summer

The motto of Sharon Playhouse Artistic Director Alan M-L Wager and Managing Director Robert Levinstein might just be, “That worked well, let’s try it again but go even bigger this time!”

And thus the 2021 season of theater and education will be similar to the 2020 season — but bigger (and, of course, even better, although 2020 was pretty great).

COVID-19 kept audiences and performers away from the main stage last summer. But Levinstein and Wager took to heart the classic summer theater motto: We’ve got a barn, let’s put on a show!

The shows actually took place outside the barn, on a stage specially constructed to hold a small number of performances that ranged from live music to film screenings.

Socially distanced parking spaces were created in the parking lot, including a hilltop area at the back where socially distanced tailgate parties offered a fun way for theater patrons to visit with each other before the shows commenced.

This summer, the stage will be larger, and will be covered. The shows themselves, therefore, will have a little more space and the performers can be more expansive.

There is also a plan to put a screen behind the stage, so there can be visuals and graphics to enhance the performances.

The stage is the setting for only one portion of this summer’s entertainment at the Playhouse: the Drive-In Stage shows (which include tribute shows dedicated to Swedish super group ABBA, the super cool Rat Pack of the 1960s, the Detroit sound of the Motor City aka Motown and more).

For the Drive-In performances, audiences reserve a parking space and arrive in/watch the show in their vehicles (trucks in back, smaller cars up front). Last year, tickets were sold for the Drive-in Stage on a per-vehicle basis; this year, tickets will be sold per person.

There will also be more intimate performances on the patio next to the main stage building. Three of the performances are daytime brunch shows; the rest are dinner theater. Meals will be provided by two local restaurants.

Among the shows scheduled for the patio are local favorites Wanda Houston and Michael Whitney Brown; drag artist Cacophony

*Continued on page 4*

## COMPASS

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## ... Sharon Playhouse

*continued from page 3*

Daniels performing show tunes; heartthrob/actor/singer/game show host John Davidson; and the return of a Playhouse favorite, Amanda Lea Lavergne doing a cabaret-style show.

Don't wait to order tickets for the Aug. 6 patio performance starring Hugh Panaro, who has performed multiple times in multiple roles (including the title role) in the Broadway production of "The Phantom of the Opera."

There is also a robust schedule of programming for children, including theater education programs led by Director of Education Michael Baldwin and choreographer Sarah Cuoco (both are Salisbury natives).

The youth programs will culminate in performances of "Frozen Junior," "Seussical Kids" and,

for teens, "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

The big question for 2021 (and beyond) is of course: When will the main stage open again? The Playhouse team announced on June 3 that they will follow the example of Broadway and open the main building in autumn with a BIG EVENT.

They promise that details will be available soon.

*The Sharon Playhouse season begins July 3; tickets went on sale on June 3.*

*For more information on shows, dates and tickets go to the Sharon Playhouse website at [www.sharonplayhouse.org](http://www.sharonplayhouse.org). Keep an eye on the website; new programs and more information are added often.*

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SHOOTING: LANS CHRISTENSEN

# Bustin' Clays as A Way To Entertain Yourself This Summer

Summer entertainment doesn't have to involve restaurants or dance parties or going to the theater.

Your favorite sport can be your summer's entertainment. For me, that sport is sporting clays, but for you it might be fly-fishing. Either way, I heartily recommend Orvis Sandanona in Millbrook, N.Y., as a relatively affordable place to pursue or learn to fish and shoot.

As a sporting clay devotee for more than 20 years, I have spent many entertaining, challenging and happy days at Orvis. It is "the oldest permitted shotgun shooting club in the U.S." and their facilities are the equal of any club anywhere, in my opinion. Seasoned wing and clay shooters can try two clays courses, both with a variety of

target presentations.

But perhaps the best offering at Orvis is instruction for the first-time shooter or fly-fisher. The instructors for both "games" are highly experienced and qualified "pros."

Chief Shooting Instructor Paula Moore is a five-time member of Womens World Team USA, who holds many championship titles. The fishing instructors, like Mark Searle, can boast equal accolades and achievements.

Clay shooters always say to new shooters "when you see your first clay break, you're hooked." You can see this proven daily at Orvis Sandanona.

*Information about sporting clays, wingshooting and fly-fishing instruction and curriculums can be found at [www.orvis.com/sandanona-shooting-grounds.html](http://www.orvis.com/sandanona-shooting-grounds.html).*



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN


Paula Moore, at right in photo, teaches a first-timer how to shoot sporting clays at Orvis Sandanona.



Instructor Mark Searle, far left, with a fly-fishing class.

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## CINEMA: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

# The Moviehouse Comes Back to Life — With an Elevator and an Ice Machine

The region enjoyed a collective sigh of delight and relief over Memorial Day weekend as the new owners of The Moviehouse in Millerton, N.Y., enjoyed a successful soft opening (showing the films “A Quiet Place 2” and “Dream Horse”).

Carol and Robert Sadlon were the creators of The Moviehouse, which opened on Memorial Day weekend in 1978 — which was the reason new owners Chelsea Altman and David Maltby pushed hard to open on the same holiday weekend this year.

After Robert died in 2019, his widow and partner began making plans to turn the theater to new owners — and felt very fortunate to have found Maltby and Altman earlier this year.

Ownership changed hands in March; and in a perhaps ironic twist, the COVID-19 pandemic became kind of sort of a good thing. It allowed them to get in quickly with construction crews and do updates to the interior and, of course, add the elevator that theater patrons had been asking for (and making donations toward) in recent years.

“And we have an ice maker now,” Altman said in an interview by phone

*“From an operations perspective, we can open slowly and see how it goes, and not be overwhelmed with four theaters and the bar, all at once.”*

on May 10. “Apparently that was something people really wanted.”

Ice will come in handy for more than soft drinks from the concession stand. Maltby and Altman both have backgrounds in the entertainment and hospitality industries and they will be part of a new trend toward making movie theaters more like entertainment centers.

Of course it will still be possible to come and just see a movie; but there will be options for making it more of a Night Out.

The small upstairs theater that was in recent years a screening room will be available for parties and events. It’s possible that patrons will someday be able to enter by a separate door that takes them right upstairs to have a glass of wine, even if they’re



PHOTO COURTESY THE MOVIEHOUSE

**Moviehouse owners David Maltby and Chelsea Altman, left and center, and manager Casey Lehman.**

not seeing a film, Altman said. The logistics on that are still being calculated out.

Altman did not expect the upstairs space to be open by Memorial Day weekend — and in fact it wasn’t.

“We had wanted to do a soft opening on Memorial Day weekend, with just the two downstairs theaters open,” she said.

“There were some construction delays upstairs, it’s an old building and this is a big job. And from an operations perspective, we can open slowly and see how it goes, and not be overwhelmed with four theaters and the bar, all at once.”

The expected grand opening date will be July 4 weekend.

Altman and Maltby feel fortunate to have found a general manager, Casey Lehman, who moved here from Ohio for this job, which he learned about from an online careers website.

“He wanted to hear about any film job, anywhere, and then he saw

this one,” Altman said. “He’s been the perfect guy for the job, charming and intelligent and knowledgeable about films and also about the service industry. He found a place to live, easily. It feels very Meant To Be.”

Changes small and large are in evidence at The Moviehouse, with fresh paint and new carpet and even a new sign outside.

“But we’re not changing the name,” Altman promised. Nor will she and Maltby swerve dramatically from the high-quality film offerings that area cinema fans have traditionally found and loved at The Moviehouse.

Even the website will remain the same, at [www.themoviehouse.net](http://www.themoviehouse.net), although the site will get updated and spiffed up this summer. For now because of COVID-19, but possibly on into the future, moviegoers will have to reserve their seats online ahead of time. Tickets will also be sold at the door, but at that point there will likely be fewer seats to choose from.



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Tesla Quartet

August 8  
Ulysses Quartet

August 15  
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*Benjamin Hochman, Piano*

August 22  
Jupiter String Quartet

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*Oskar Espina-Ruiz, Clarinet*

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*Ursula Oppens, Piano*

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PHOTOS BY GARY DODSON

The Esopus Creek in Phoenicia, N.Y., is a dream spot for fly-fishermen.

**ANGLING: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN**

# Why I Fish Where I Fish

*Patrick L. Sullivan is The Lakeville Journal Company's award-winning fishing columnist (in addition to being the newspaper's senior reporter).*

*Every year when fishing season begins, Sullivan again journeys to his Prized, Secret A1 Litchfield County angling spots (and no, we won't tell you where they are).*

*But as summer comes, he begins to disappear to Phoenicia, N.Y., where he fishes in the Esopus Creek.*

*In this article, he explains the differences between his two favorite destinations.*

My trout fishing is centered around the Housatonic watershed in Litchfield County, Conn., and that of the Esopus Creek in Ulster County, N.Y.

These systems have some similari-

ties and some important differences.

Both rivers are on the big side and wading can be tricky.

Both rivers have abundant public access.

Both rivers have a good network of tributaries that in turn provide good access to anglers.

And as a general rule, if something's hatching in New York, it's probably hatching in Connecticut, too.

The differences start with water temperature. The Housatonic gets warm in the summer and is full of bass, pike and other warm water species.

The Esopus below the Shandaken Tunnel (aka "The Portal") is a tailwater and has more in common with Connecticut's Farmington River than the Housatonic. A steady flow



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of cold water comes from the north through a long tunnel and empties into the Esopus in Allaben. The 11 or so miles between the Portal and the Ashokan Reservoir remain cold (or coldish) throughout most of the season. You might find some dinker smallmouth down by the reservoir, but nothing like the Housatonic's abundance of bronzebacks.

The Esopus has wild trout — rainbows, to be specific. They are known locally as “silver bullets.” They are small and fiesty.

And they are about to become the dominant species, because New York state has finally listened to anglers and agreed to stop stocking the Esopus with hatchery browns.

Without these interlopers competing for the same food, the rainbows will thrive.

There will still be brown trout, but they will run up from the reservoir in the fall to spawn. So after a few years Esopus trout of any sort will be, if not wild in the strictest sense, at least wild-ish. What they won't be is fresh from the hatchery.

There are other significant differences.

Phoenicia and environs have far more **Buddhists** than the Region One School District in Connecticut's Northwest Corner. There's a Buddhist retreat center next door to my place,



in fact, and another one downstream in Mount Tremper, N.Y.

**Cell service.** If you think it's spotty in the Tri-state area, consider that it is essentially illegal to build anything like a proper cell tower within the Catskill Park. It's not completely devoid of service, but if you are traveling west on Route 28 it conks out around Boiceville and doesn't return until you get near the Delaware County line, a distance of some 17 miles.

**Hipsters.** Like Marlin Perkins on “Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom,” I observe from afar, and send Jim in to actually wrestle the alligators or buy the small-batch heritage vintage artisanal whatever. I have concluded that the eastern Catskills have more hipsters than the Northwest Corner.

However, the Northwest Corner has more art galleries and retired investment bankers.

Things have gotten livelier in Ulster County in recent years. The Phoenicia Diner on Route 28 used to be the greasiest of spoons, but the new own-

ers fixed the joint up and it is always packed. With hipsters, but still.

Phoenicia also has not one but two fly shops, which has not been the case for decades.

The Esopus has several prominent hatches. The Hendrickson hatch. The sulfur hatch. The isonychia hatch.

And the rubber hatch.

Because the flow in the 11 miles between the Portal and reservoir can be easily manipulated, the Esopus has for years been home to whitewater events — kayaks, mostly — and to a tubing industry.

The COVID-19 pandemic took out the oldest and most prominent tubing concern, but I have no doubt that sometime this summer I will have to stop fishing and watch as a flotilla of pleasure-seekers bobs by in their rented tubes, intent on sunburn and hypothermia.

The Housatonic's recreational boaters tend more toward the raft, canoe and kayak.

So which watershed do I prefer? The one I have time for.

**ART IN THE OPEN**

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PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

A hatchery brown trout

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ART: DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

# Work Continues On the Epic Ode to American Workers

The lengthy process of assembling and installing the massive mural at the heart of the American Mural Project (AMP) in Winsted, Conn., continues, under the direction of artist Ellen Griesedieck.

The mural, which is about 80% complete, offers a salute to American workers and how they have defined this nation, which is appropriate in scale and topic to the setting it is in.

The 120-foot long, 48-foot high and up to 10-foot-deep three-dimensional painting is so large that two former mill buildings on Whiting Street in Winsted had to be renovated just to house it and the adjacent visitor's

center.

After years of effort, with help from artisans, craftsmen and school children, the mural is expected to open to the public in spring of 2022. So far, the artist has traveled to 17 states to create pieces of the mural with groups in each of those states.

Griesedieck still has several large sections of the mural to install, as well as additional three-dimensional pieces and components that will be displayed in the ramp gallery.

As work on the mural continues, AMP staff, including Executive Director Amy Wynn, have been holding Open Mill Tours. To check for an-



PHOTO COURTESY AMP

**Ellen Griesedieck is close to completing the American Mural Project.**

nouncements on upcoming dates, go to [www.americanmuralproject.org/open-mill-tours](http://www.americanmuralproject.org/open-mill-tours). The tours offer visitors a first-hand sneak peek into the installation process.

In the meantime, programming is being offered for schools, teachers, after-school partnerships, summer enrichment camps and an apprentice-style internship program.


The Summer Enrichment Programs for kids, tweens and teens, ages 7 to 17, run from June 29 through July 30.

Each week features a different theme and runs Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The programs are led by teaching artists

and art educators, and each program offers indoor and outdoor music, art, work and play.

Weekly themes include Latin, jazz and Afro-Cuban music; art projects using materials inspired by Robert Smithson's "Spiral Jetty" (water and stone), Maya Lin's "Wavefield" (soil and grass), and Ugo Rondinone's "Seven Magic Mountains" (painted stones); and "dabbling," with freeform projects such as decorating a treehouse, creating a board game, drawing a comic book or writing a poem.

To learn about available programs and to register (available spots fill up quickly), go to [www.americanmuralproject.org/summer](http://www.americanmuralproject.org/summer).

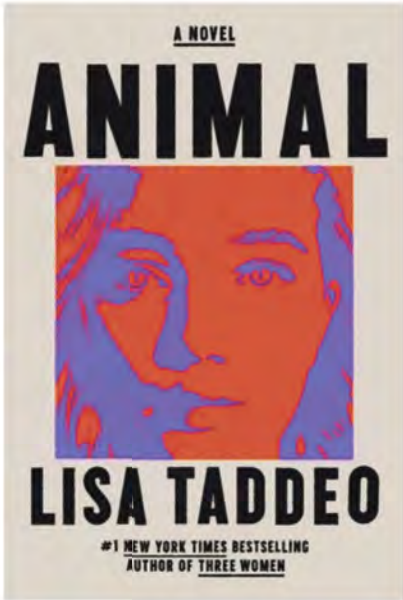













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**The mural is a larger-than-life tribute to the American worker.**



**RAILROADS: ROB BUCCINO**

# Making Tracks To Admire and Enjoy Railroad History

There's something about railroad trains — from the way their horns scald the hillsides with sound, to the searing brilliance of their headlights at night, to the trembling of the earth as they roll by — that can't help but stir the soul.

It's not just our awe at the size, length and mass of these leviathans of the land, but also the window they open into a large part of America's history. Whenever we wander down abandoned rights-of-way or climb aboard mothballed locomotives at rail museums, we can envision what it took from the (mostly) men who labored to open up our continent.

Imagine, for example, that it's a blistering mid-August and you're shoveling a ton of coal by hand into a steam locomotive's fiery furnace. Think about what hands it took to drill into solid rock using hammer and steel. John Henry-style, in all kinds of weather. You'll start to appreciate how different life was a scant century and a half ago, and the tremendous work it took to link an expanding America's borders.

Because we live where three railroad-pioneering states join together, we're blessed with many opportunities here to marvel at train history. If you or your children are amateur ferro-equinologists (a fancy name for people who study the "iron horse"), one way to slake your curiosity is to start at the North Canaan, Conn., Union Station, first built in 1872.

## **CANAAN UNION STATION**

A century ago, trains westbound from Hartford on the Central New England line crossed tracks there with the New Haven Railroad's Berkshire line (which still shoulders the Housatonic Railroad's freight traffic several times a day). The Victorian-style station was rebuilt at great expense after near

demolishment in a 2001 arson-related fire, and today houses a small museum with rail memorabilia (for more info, go to [www.canaanunionstation.com](http://www.canaanunionstation.com); museum hours are Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) as well as a brewery and offices. Look skywards for the steam-train weathervane on the station roof.

And if you're interested in purchasing a piece of history, the station is for sale.

## **THE HOOSAC TUNNEL**

Artifacts of bygone railroads pepper the area, from crumbling bridge abutments visible from Salisbury's Weatogue Road and a pergola on a causeway in Twin Lakes to the massive Hoosac Tunnel in North Adams, Mass.

Completed in 1874 after two decades of stop-and-go work, the tunnel was the second-longest in the world at that time. More than 190 men perished building it, earning it the sobriquet "the bloody pit."

It's still the longest active transportation tunnel in the U.S., east of the Rockies. An active freight corridor, it's closed to visitors, but its entrance is visible from the Florida, Mass., end, near Pittsfield. A free museum in a former railroad yard at 115 State St. in North Adams documents the history of the Hoosac Tunnel and related railroad lore.

The North Adams Museum of History and Science at Western Gateway Heritage State Park is temporarily closed because of COVID-19; go online to [www.mass.gov/locations/western-gateway-heritage-state-park](http://www.mass.gov/locations/western-gateway-heritage-state-park) for information on its reopening.

## **CAMA IN KENT, CONN.**

If hands-on contact with steam engines beckons you, a visit to the Connecticut Antique Machinery Association museum in Kent, Conn., might



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

**You can ride an antique narrow-gauge steam engine train at the CAMA Fall Festival in Kent, Conn.**

be what you crave.

Narrow-gauge locomotives and steam machinery there bring the Industrial Revolution to vivid life.

CAMA reopened quietly in May and, for now, will only welcome visitors on weekends. Usually, the best times to visit are the opening and closing weekends, in spring and autumn. There was no reopening weekend this year because of COVID concerns but the Fall Festival is scheduled for Sept. 24 to 26.

During the festival, the massive historic steam engines are powered up; there are swap shops on the lawn, with small bits of antique machinery for sale; and steam engine fans bring their most beloved antiques and either drive them around the grounds or put them on display under tents.

## **RAILROAD AND RAILWAY MUSEUMS**

For visiting a treasure trove of full-scale locomotives, passenger cars, freight stock and track utility trains, the Railroad Museum of New England at the 1881-vintage depot in Thomaston, Conn., reopens in July. They occasionally offer excursion rides on the Naugatuck Railroad.

Danbury Railway Museum also has several diesel locomotives, passenger and freight cars, and a 1907 steam engine that once ran on the Boston

and Maine line.

## **WALKING THE LINE**

No tracks remain on the CNE right of way, but walking trails in Salisbury, Conn., and Farmington, Conn., invite strollers and bicyclists to amble along level pathways where trains once ran.

It's fun to stop by the Poetry Tree on the 1.7-mile Railroad Ramble off Route 44 in Salisbury and peruse what local poets have posted.

A longer (18-mile) path, the Farmington River Trail, follows the former CNE right-of-way, connecting with the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail at Tunxis Meade Park in Farmington and at Drake Hill Road in Simsbury.

In nearby Millerton and Amenia, N.Y., there's easy access to the ever-expanding Harlem Valley Rail Trail, now paved from just north of the (still-operating) Wassauc Metro-North train station all the way to Ancram.

Farther west, the Walkway Over the Hudson State Historical Park lets you enjoy spectacular views as you walk across the Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge. When completed in 1889, it was the second-longest bridge span in the world.

There's far more rail history in the area than this article can list, but these sites can give you a place to start. Check internet listings for opening hours and travel directions.





PHOTO SUBMITTED

**The Lantern (located at 10 Main St. in the hamlet of Wassaic) is open at 2 p.m. Fridays through Sundays, enticing customers with wood-fired pizzas, homemade pasta and other culinary delights — and a beautiful garden space in which to dine.**

**ARTS AND FOOD: KAITLIN LYLE**

# Summer Arts and Edibles for all Ages

I've visited the hamlet Of Wassaic (in the town of Amenia, N.Y.), countless times — both as a reporter for The Millerton News and as cyclist on the Rail Trail.

I've come to love the stories behind the little collection of buildings in the valley behind the Metro-North train station, many of which are part of The Wassaic Project, an arts colony created in 2008 by (at that time) recent college graduates Bowie Zunino, Jeff Barnett-Winsby and Eve Biddle.

The buildings in the center of the hamlet, which is bisected by a still-active train track, are an important part of the region's agricultural history, the marketplace where farmers would sell their livestock

at auctions held in the Luther Barn, which is now home to studios for artists taking part in the Wassaic Project residency program.

The former Maxon grain mill that towers over the hamlet and the train tracks is now a multi-story art gallery.

I tell the tales of these and the other buildings again and again to family and friends and anyone who will listen, about Wassaic's notable buildings, and the many community activities that have helped bring the hamlet back to life after decades of dormancy.

**SUMMER ART IN THE HAMLET**

Wassaic Project Executive Co-Director Jeff Barnett-Winsby said two



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art exhibitions are in the hamlet this summer.

The first is in the Maxon Mills building and is called, "If You Lived Here You'd Be Home By Now."

The second exhibition will be in the form of a book, "Secret of the Friendly Woods." The new tradition of doing a print publication began last summer, when COVID-19 restrictions kept visitors from seeing art in person. The show is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. until Saturday, Sept. 18.

There will be a limit on the number of people who can see the show at one time. There won't be any reservations, it will be first-come-first served. Find out more at [www.wassaicproject.org](http://www.wassaicproject.org).

### PARTIES AND OUTDOOR DINING

The Wassaic Project has been notable for its efforts to become part of the surrounding community. Two "Block Parties" are being planned for this summer, plus a party on

the Maxon Mills porch on Monday, June 26, with tours of the summer exhibition and a talk by New York magazine art critic Jerry Saltz.

Across the train tracks from the art-dedicated buildings is The Lantern, a bar that was once a popular spot for weekly meetings of area billiards leagues. The Wassaic Project founders have maintained some of the character of the old bar but have added upgrades including an outdoor eating area with picnic tables at which to enjoy the now-famous wood-fired pizza, fresh pasta, salads and weekly cocktail specials.

The Lantern opens at 2 p.m. on Fridays through Sundays. For now, dining is outdoors or by takeout; check the website to see what the new protocols will be as COVID-19 guidelines change ([www.wassaiclanterninn.com](http://www.wassaiclanterninn.com)).

### FOOD PUBLICATIONS (AND FOOD) AT NEWSSTAND

Another draw on weekends is the Newsstand, a tiny structure designed

to look like an actual newsstand by architect Matthew Schnepf. The stand sells food-themed publications and actual food (often including pastries by Ari Paradise, baker at the nearby Troutbeck hotel in Amenia).

Installed by Ten Mile Table last summer, the idea behind the pop-up is to "highlight and support diverse, thought-provoking voices in food/wine/art print publishing, and makers in food, art and hospitality."

Find the Newsstand schedule (which might include a hamlet-wide clambake) at [www.tenmiletable.com/wassaic-newsstand](http://www.tenmiletable.com/wassaic-newsstand).

Another draw to the hamlet is the green barn purchased last year by Schnepf and his wife, Munawar Ahmed, which is now home not only to a shop selling everything from maple syrup to sheepskin rugs to furniture made by local artisans; but also a small bike rental shop, for visitors who want to use Wassaic as the stepping off point for cycling on the Rail Trail.

### CHILDREN WELCOME IN WASSAIC

Wassaic is a particularly welcoming destination for families with children. There is an active streetlife in the hamlet now, with many families milling around and visiting with each other on weekends.

The Wassaic Project also offers summer arts programs for children and teens.

Varsity Arts Camp is for rising ninth through 12th graders; a Junior Varsity Arts Camp is for rising fifth through eighth graders; and an Art Scouts program is for rising first through fourth graders.

The arts campers visit the exhibitions at Maxon Mills and work on their own projects, which are shown in a mini-exhibition at the end of the week of their program. The camps are in August, with separate weeks for each age group.

To find out more, go to [www.wassaicproject.org/education](http://www.wassaicproject.org/education).



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PHOTO BY SOPHIE ZHAI

Live performances, including concerts by the Shanghai Quartet, return to Music Mountain.

## CHAMBER MUSIC: FRED BAUMGARTEN

# Chamber Music, Jazz and The Thrill of a Shared Music Experience

A year ago, many arts organizations in our region were staring into the abyss of a COVID year without live audiences or performances, and an uncertain future as a result. Many found creative ways to keep their audiences engaged through virtual means.

Music Mountain, for example, produced a dozen “Live from Music Mountain” livestreamed programs of music and interviews that found a ready audience. Somehow, it emerged stronger and even found the resources — with some help from local friends and businesses — to make some much-needed upgrades to Gordon Hall, its main concert venue.

Now entering its 92nd season, the Falls Village, Conn.-based summer chamber music festival is ready to welcome back live audiences and ensembles for an exciting and eagerly anticipated concert series.

The shortened season will open on July 4 with the Shanghai Quartet, a perennial Music Mountain favorite, playing works by Beethoven, Smetana and Chinese composer Zhou Long.

It concludes on Sept. 5 with the Cassatt String Quartet, joined by pianist Ursula Oppens, featuring works by two women composers, Amy Beach and Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel (sister of Romantic-era composer Felix Mendelssohn), as well as a Mozart string quartet.

All of this is part of a season-long emphasis on diversifying the repertoire and combining the lesser known with the more familiar. Works by Florence Price, an African American woman, and William Grant Still, an African American man, will be heard; the Harlem String Quartet, another Music Mountain favorite, will perform a varied program including

jazz-infused pieces by Billy Strayhorn, Wynton Marsalis and Dizzy Gillespie.

From the Western “canon,” some of the compelling pieces on tap include Janacek’s String Quartet #2, titled “Intimate Letters,” which, as its name implies, is achingly beautiful and intimate; Dvorak’s breezy “American Quartet,” composed while he was living in Iowa; and Ravel’s Impressionist masterpiece, his String Quartet in F Major, the only quartet he wrote.

This summer, Music Mountain will also be making audience safety its highest priority. While the rapidly evolving easing of restrictions may change the situation, for now plans are being made for limited, socially distanced seating in Gordon Hall, with quiet fans, open doors and other accommodations for extra ventilation.

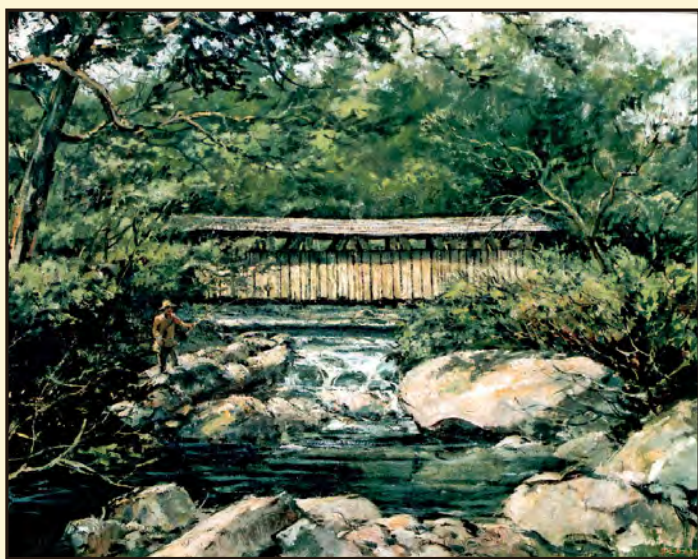
Outside, for the first time in its history, Music Mountain will formally offer lawn seating, with monitors and speakers. And concerts will continue to be available via livestream for those who feel at too great a risk being in a group.

A series of Saturday “Jazz and More” concerts is still in the planning stages. Announcements will be made on the Music Mountain website, [www.MusicMountain.org](http://www.MusicMountain.org).

For all of us, the prospect of enjoying live, in-person music again feels like emerging into the light after a long, dark journey.

Music Mountain’s chamber music series — 10 concerts from July 4 through Sept. 5 — will take place, as always, on Sunday afternoons at 3 p.m., in air-conditioned Gordon Hall, 225 Music Mountain Road, Falls Village. For tickets and schedules, go to [www.MusicMountain.org](http://www.MusicMountain.org) or call 860-824-7126.

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Old Bridge Near Washington, Connecticut Oil on Masonite, 22.5”x 28.5”

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**DANCE: JENNY HANSELL**

# Jacob's Pillow: Live Dance Is Back

The beautiful grounds of the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, Mass., will be alive with art again this summer, literally: All of the live performances will be held either on the outdoor stage formerly called Inside/Out and now known as the Henry J. Leir Outdoor Stage, or around the grounds in site-specific works.

All last year, the Pillow found ways to keep people connected to dance, through online events, short films and, eventually, COVID-safe residencies for choreographers and companies. Now, an abbreviated season will include some returning favorites, cutting edge innovators and new voices, with a special emphasis on BiPOC creators.

Highlights include Dorrance Dance (June 30-July 4), Michelle Dorrance's tap company, which will perform on the outdoor stage in a world premiere featuring jazz trumpeter Keyon Harold. Dancers will also conduct "tap takeovers" around the grounds.

The Dallas Black Dance Theatre will premiere a new work by Darrell Grand Moultrie, who has worked with Alvin Ailey, Dance Theatre of Harlem and American Ballet Theater (Aug. 4-8).

The post-modern Brian Brooks/Moving Company performs alongside the wonderful Williamstown-based vocal ensemble Roomful of Teeth (July 21-25.)

In their Pillow debut, Los Angeles-based Contra Tiempo, which per-

forms work rooted in salsa, Afro-Cuban, hip hop and contemporary dance, will present an evening-length work called joyUS justUS, about making joy the center of a more loving world (July 7-11.)

Among the site-specific events to be performed around the ground, a group of local Indigenous dancers, coming from the Mashpee Wampanoag, Seneca, Cayuga and Nipmuc nations will come together for a performance called Easter Woodland Dances (July 17.)

Each of the performances will also stream starting about 10 days after the in-person event concludes. Performances by international companies are online-only. The Nrityagram Dance Ensemble, an Indian classical

dance company from Bangalore, and the Paris Opera Ballet featuring Crystal Pite, are some of the companies featured online-only.

The Ted Shawn theater will remain closed — it is undergoing significant renovation to be ready for next summer — and the Doris Duke burned in a catastrophic fire in November 2020 (cause undetermined, according to statements from the Pillow).

*Seating is planned for 25% capacity and so tickets are very limited. Sales for the general public open on June 1. As of now all patrons are required to wear masks on-site, but check the website, [www.jacobspillow.org](http://www.jacobspillow.org), before you go, for the latest guidance, as well as for tickets, information on live-streaming, and any schedule changes.*

*Among the site-specific events to be performed around the ground, a group of local Indigenous dancers, coming from the Mashpee Wampanoag, Seneca, Cayuga and Nipmuc nations will come together for a performance called Easter Woodland Dances (July 17.)*

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## PERFORMANCES: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

# A Tasting Menu of Uncommon Delights at Bard

It's 40 minutes from my front door in Lakeville, Conn., to Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y., also known as the town of Red Hook (not to be confused with the one in Brooklyn).

It's a bit of a drive, but the ride is exquisite, especially at sunset. The famous Mercato restaurant in Red Hook has closed down, but its chef/owners Michele and Francesco Butroni (descendants of award-winning Italian pasta makers) have now opened GioBatta in nearby Tivoli, N.Y.

That might not be enough to tempt you deep into the heart of the scenic Hudson Valley — but then there is Bard SummerScape.

Anyone who thinks of New England and the Hudson River Valley as being home to more traditional

*Anyone who thinks of New England and the Hudson River Valley as being home to more traditional music hasn't checked out the college's eclectic and experimental summer offerings in theater and music.*

music hasn't checked out the college's eclectic and experimental summer offerings in theater and music.

"Eclectic and experimental" might be off putting, but when you combine them with the third E — entertaining! — then you have something worth a 40-minute drive.

There are several stages and venues at Bard including of course the Sosnoff Theater in the undulating, metal-clad Frank Gehry-designed building, which is worth a trip to Annandale-on-Hudson in its own

right.

There is also a new stage at Montgomery Place, the historic Hudson Valley estate just down the road from the main campus that was purchased by Bard a few years ago.

Montgomery Place this summer will host some of the younger, kickier events, including three performances from July 15 to 17 by transgender artist Mx. Justin Vivian Bond in "Your Auntie Glam's Midsummer Flutter."

For those who are not connoisseurs of the world of drag: The New Yorker magazine calls Bond "the greatest cabaret artist of this generation."

Other dance and theater programs on the schedule for the summer fall somewhere between Mx. Bond and the more traditional, classical end of the spectrum.

A highlight, for me at least, of this year's SummerScape will be the first fully staged North American production, at the Sosnoff Theater, of one of only three operas composed by Ernest Chasson, called "Le Roi Arthus."

This French-language opera tells the story of King Arthur and his betrayal by his best friend and his wife (and eventually his son, but that's not in the opera).

At the helm for this production (performed between July 25 and Aug. 1) is Bard's president as well as the SummerScape festival founder and artistic director, Leon Botstein. Botstein is eccentric, creative and talented and loves to put on worthwhile shows that are only rarely produced.

Sometimes, of course, there's a reason why no one has ever produced a

show before. "Le Roi Arthus" is a very long opera (the Gramophone recording is 2 hours and 47 minutes long). But Botstein is on record as being a huge fan of the opera, which has passages that are described as rich and gorgeous. The whole show might not be outstanding but (and this might be the theme of all SummerScape shows), what is life without a little experimentation.

For those who fear that nearly three hours of an opera they've never heard before might be too much, the production will also be streamed, allowing the viewer to wander in and out.

Also at Bard between Aug. 6 and 15 will be the Summer Music Festival, built around the career of Nadia Boulanger and the musicians who influenced and taught her.

The list is long and, according to the preview statement of the festival, includes "music by her teachers and mentors, including Gabriel Fauré, Louis Vierne and Charles Marie Widor; her Parisian contemporaries, like Claude Debussy, Olivier Messiaen, Francis Poulenc, Maurice Ravel, Erik Satie and expats George Gershwin, Cole Porter and Igor Stravinsky; her male students, including Jean Françaix, Astor Piazzolla, and illustrious Americans Marc Blitzstein, Elliott Carter, Aaron Copland, Philip Glass, Walter Piston and Virgil Thomson; her female students, like Marcelle de Manziarly, Thea Musgrave, Julia Perry and Louise Talma; other women composers, Germaine Tailleferre and Lili Boulanger, Nadia's celebrated sister, among them; and some of the bygone composers whose music she vociferously championed, like Monteverdi, Bach and Brahms."

*For full information on Bard SummerScape and the Summer Music Festival, go to [www.fishercenter.bard.edu](http://www.fishercenter.bard.edu).*



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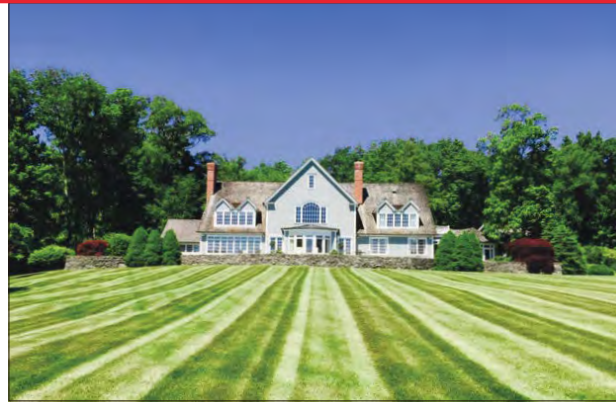
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CINEMA: CYNTHIA AND KATHARINE HOCHSWENDER

# Cult Films and Craft Cocktails with Boondocks

In the film “Pat and Mike,” Spencer Tracy famously if coarsely praised co-star Katharine Hepburn’s figure, saying, “There isn’t much meat on her but what’s there is cherce” (cherce being a colloquial pronunciation of “choice”).

Similarly, there aren’t a lot of listings on the Boondocks Film Society schedule for this summer, but what’s there ... is choice.

Boondocks is a cult film screening/event programming enterprise run by Cornwall, Conn., residents Jeff Palfini and Cindy Heslin.

Events are scheduled about once every month. They center around a cult film classic, which is screened at a venue that is usually offbeat and/or unexpected. Usually there is some kind of food or cocktail element to the evening. Often there is some other form of entertainment, sometimes

musical.

As the explainer on the Boondocks website says, “We’re talking full-fledged events, not just nights out at the movies.”

It goes without saying that COVID-19 messed with the past year’s schedule. But there have already been three 2021 screenings (“On Her Majesty’s Secret Service,” “Empire Records” and “Serial Mom”).

Coming up on Wednesday, June 23, at 7 p.m., the featured film will be “Ghost World,” which is a favorite in my household — and which, like “Empire Records,” stars a young actress who will soon go from indie star to Hollywood Sensation (Renee Zellweger in “Empire Records” and, in “Ghost World,” the young Scarlett Johansson).

But the big draw, for my daughter at least, is star Thora Birch’s love

interest in the film, the actor Steve Buscemi, playing yet another seedy but kindhearted loser (his specialty). Birch’s character and Buscemi meet at a tag sale, where Buscemi is selling vintage vinyl records. Romance and complications ensue.

The screening of “Ghost World” will begin at dusk, at an outdoor art park called Turnpark Art Space in West Stockbridge, Mass. Until the film begins, DJ MAC will spin old records (78 RPM, so in fact quite old).

The food will be provided by SOMA catering. At the pre-film happy hour there will be themed craft cocktails made with Bully Boy spirits and craft beer from Collective Arts Brewing. Tickets are \$16.

The other film on this summer’s Boondocks schedule is Sam Shepard’s “Paris, Texas,” directed by Wim Wenders, and starring Harry Dean

Stanton, Dean Stockwell and the very beautiful young Nastassja Kinski, who was possibly one of the most famous starlets in the world at that time.

This very indy film made from Shepard’s play will be shown in a fairly conventional venue: the drive-in theater at Four Brothers in Amenia, N.Y.

The evening begins on Thursday, July 15, at 7 p.m. (there will be live music with William Lawrence) and the screening begins at dusk.

For anyone who has not yet been to the drive-in, it is enormous fun and there is usually a great deal of car-to-car socializing before the screenings begin. The ticket price had not been set when this issue went to press, but it’s likely to be between \$15 and \$20.

*For more details on these Boondocks events, and on future evenings out, go to [www.boondocksfilmsociety.org](http://www.boondocksfilmsociety.org).*

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Nikolai Astrup, *Growing Season at Sandalstrand* (detail), linoleum and woodblock, 1923; print, 1923. Savings Bank Foundation DNB / The Astrup Collection / KODE Art Museums of Bergen.

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