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The Lakeville Journal

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



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

HVRHS Class of 2021 essayist Emerson Rinehart, left, with class salutatorian Mia Tittmann, center, and valedictorian Charlotte Clulow.

Celebrating our students!

The Lakeville Journal congratulates all area students on making it through an exceptionally challenging year. Coverage of the graduation of the Class of 2021 at Housatonic Valley Regional High School is on this page. Look on pages A4 to A6 for coverage of promotion ceremonies at the six Region One School District K-to-8 schools. This year, class lists and awards can be found online at www.tricornernews.com/graduation-2021.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Senior vocalists from the Housatonic Valley Regional High School Class of 2021 sang the school song, "High Above the Housatonic," at an outdoor graduation ceremony on Thursday, June 17.

HVRHS CLASS OF 2021

'We're just getting started!'

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Class of 2021 at Housatonic Valley Regional High School's (HVRHS) graduation ceremony was as traditional as could be managed, given the restric-

tions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The graduation was held under a large tent on the grass in front of the high school on Thursday evening, June 17.

HVRHS Principal Ian Strever noted that the seniors

specifically asked for the most traditional event, and contrasted this year's graduation with last year's, a drive-in event held at Lime Rock Park.

Strever praised the seniors for their adaptability and willingness to work with the administrators during the pandemic.

"Everything has been different," he said. "And they've adjusted to every challenge."

Strever said valuable lessons can be taken from the pandemic experience.

"We learned something about control. We have a lot less of it than we think."

Salutatorian Mia Tittmann said her success in high school

was not a solo endeavor.

"I did not do it without the help of many people," she said. "Our collective efforts will make change. Please keep working together to make this world — our world — a little brighter."

Region One School District Superintendent Lisa Carter started by saying how nice it was to see everybody "in 3D."

"Kudos to all of you for your perseverance and patience over the last 16 months," she said.

And she reminded the seniors that their peers have all been through the same disruptions.

See HVRHS, Page A4

The attack of the killer gypsy moth

By Cynthia Hochswender

Most years, we are inundated in summer with photos of bears. This year, my email inbox is full of photos of destructive, furry gypsy moth caterpillars. Several photos are dramatic before-and-afters, where a tree (usually an oak) is fully leafed one day, and completely stripped the next day.

The bad news is that it might already be too late to do anything about the infestation for this year (short of going out and squishing as many of the invaders as you can; this is non-scientific advice from a non-professional).

But the good news is that most trees are likely to leaf up again this season; and most trees will bounce back.

Tree experts who were questioned for this article largely referred back to an informational page from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, which can be found at www.portal.ct.gov/-/media/CAES/DOCUMENTS/Gypsy_Moth/Gypsy-Moth-Fact-Sheet-Update-2019.pdf.

The short version of the more detailed information in the informational PDF is that the gypsy moth caterpillars have been so abundant this year because it was a dry winter and spring. There is normally a fungus that keeps the population in check; that fungus was less present this year, because it was too dry.

Those who've been here for



PHOTO BY KATHY O'FLINN

There is an infestation this year of gypsy moth caterpillars, which are eating all the leaves on every tree they can find (oaks are their favorite, but they will strip any tree that is available and has leaves).

a few years will recall that it's been very dry for several years running now. And, therefore, there was also a gypsy moth epidemic in Connecticut in 2015-17.

It's probably already too late to keep this year's caterpillars from invading your trees (they prefer oaks but will infest other types as well, everything from hemlocks to blueberries). The caterpillars hatched in late April/early May. You might have seen the tan-colored egg masses all over the trunks of your trees; each of those masses can hatch 100 caterpillars.

In spring, it is possible to carefully remove the egg masses (and then completely destroy them, so there is no hatch).

Once they've hatched, the caterpillars will continue to feed on your trees until late June or early July. Then they generally disappear for two weeks and come back as moths. They only survive in moth form for six to 10 days — just long enough to mate and hatch more eggs, on

pretty much any surface they can find. Those eggs will hatch next year in spring.

If you have a gypsy moth infestation, it seems logical to assume that you will have an abundance of egg masses on your property by late July. If you want to avoid another infestation next year, you will want to carefully scrape off and remove the egg masses and drown them in a container of soapy water. Dropping them onto the ground will not kill them.

For anything that involves a strategy more complex than scraping and soapy water, it is of course best to consult an expert, either a forester or an arborist. Unfortunately, as the state notes in its extensive explanation of gypsy moth behaviour, when there is an infestation such as the one we're having this year, it can be extremely difficult to get an appointment with a tree expert.

In the meantime, it's heart-breaking to watch the caterpil-

lars destroy decades-old trees by eating all their leaves. Without leaves, trees can't perform photosynthesis, which is as essential to them as breathing is to humans.

Healthy trees can usually survive one or more gypsy moth attacks, according to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. But older trees might not be able to make it.

In the Tri-state region, there is not exactly a shortage of trees. But many of the most beautiful, stately types have been under attack for nearly a century. This area used to be famous for its elm trees, which succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease in the 1930s and 1940s.

Another famous local tree was the chestnut, which was beautiful, had edible nuts and provided a particularly perfect, rot resistant, straight wood that was used for houses and all sorts of industry. The American chestnut was almost entirely wiped out by a roughly 40-year blight period in the first half of the 20th century.

More recently, the emerald ash borer has been the cause of death of ash trees all over the region.

Trees grow back, of course. A hybrid chestnut tree is being nurtured, with the hope of eventually repopulating forests; but it has taken decades to develop the new blight-resistant strain.

The same is true with elm trees. The remaining elm trees in the region are being cared for by arborists, foresters and North Canaan's Tom Zetterstrom and the organization he founded, called Elm Watch.



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Regional/Our Towns

In The Journal this week

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Three-day forecast

Friday Thunderstorms, high 79°/low 60°
 Saturday Thunderstorms, 80°/61°
 Sunday Thunderstorms, 82°/62°

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.

Struck a fire hydrant

On June 15 at approximately 4:30 p.m. on Elm Street in North Canaan a 2011 Subaru driven by Evan Michael Martin, 37, of Pittsfield, Mass., failed to maintain the proper lane and struck a fire hydrant, causing the Subaru to roll over. Martin was transported to Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington, Mass. No police action has been reported.

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.

North Canaan Elementary honors

NORTH CANAAN — North Canaan Elementary School announces the list of academic honors for the third trimester of the 2020-21 school year.

Eighth grade

Highest Honors

Daniela Brennan, Amelia Dodge, Abigail Hogan, Harper Howe, Ellanor Karcheski, Kylie Leonard, Abigail White

High honors

Dylan Deane, Leah Drislane, Jacob Green, Diana Porcillo

Honors

Brandt Bosio, Madison DeWitt, Sophie Nason, Keira Ongley

Seventh grade

Highest honors

Katherine Crane, Richard Crane, Hannah Johnson, Madelyn Johnson

High honors

Wesley Allyn, Samantha Caranci, Christopher Crane, Shanaya Duprey, Braian Perez, Cole Simonds, Lauren Sorrell

Honors

Cohen Cecchinato, Anthony Labbadia, Alexa Meach, Suzanne Gilpatrick

Sixth grade

Highest honors

Emeline Krauz, Lydia Fleming

High honors

Natasha Dennis, Adelyn Diorio, Carson Riva, Sydney Howe

Honors

Rivers Richard, Joseph Sherwood

Fifth grade

Highest honors

Sadie Chapell, Caitlin Devino, Abigail Perotti

High honors

Luca Bascetta, Sierra Szymanski, Camdyn Tallon, Payton Wagner

Honors

Alisa Christiansen Madsen

Salisbury

Central honors

SALISBURY — Salisbury Central School announces the list of academic honors for the third trimester of the 2020-21 school year.

Eighth grade

Highest honors

Charlotte Smith

High honors

Tyler Anderson, Andy Delgado, Leontine Galvin, Neela Gilbert-Alfar, Nicole Haxo, Haley Hosier, Maya Lee, Savannah Milton, Olivia Peterson

Seventh grade

High honors

Leonardo Cajilima, Mason Wilkinson

Sixth grade

High honors

Finian Malone, David Nam

Honors

Shealin-Rose Brady, Griffin Ducey

Fifth grade

High honors

Zaira Celso-Cristobal, Shiva Marti, Tallulah Petkov

Honors

Jayden Milton

FAMILY & FRIENDS



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Housatonic Valley Regional High School golf team concluded the spring 2021 season.

High school golf team wraps season

FALLS VILLAGE — The Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) golf team finished their season with success and a record of 13-5, as well as earning second place in the Berkshire League. At the Berkshire League Tournament,

HVRHS finished second as a team and placed two players on the All-Star team. Zim McAuliffe and Will Starr were named Berkshire League All-Stars. McAuliffe was the medalist for the Berkshire League tourney.

The HVRHS golf team qualified for the State Tournament in 16th place. Zim McAuliffe

was tied for 6th place in the tournament with a 77. Other players were Will Starr, Justin Roux, Jerome Maury and Kayla Jacquier.

McAuliffe qualified for the State Open with an Index of 2.6 and at the open he was named to the Div IV All State Team.

— John McGuire

'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.

Tour historic schoolhouse

FALLS VILLAGE — The Beebe Hill Schoolhouse, located at the junction of Route 7 and Beebe Hill Road, will be open for tours in July and August on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

The schoolhouse is owned by the Town of Canaan (Falls Village); the Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society owns the contents. The Historical Society has been opening the schoolhouse for summer tours for many years and is pleased to show off its fresh coat of paint this summer.

For more information, call the Historical Society at 860-824-8226 or email fvchs8226@gmail.com.

Learn about ham radio

AMENIA —The Southern Berkshire Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual Field Day emergency drill on Saturday, June 26, and Sunday, June 27, and will be contacting other ham operators across the U.S. and Canada. Visitors are welcome and can see ham radios in action and actually operate on the air under Club supervision.

It will be held at the home of a club member in Amenia at 80 Depot Hill Road. Operations begin Saturday at 2 p.m. and continue through the night, shutting down Sunday noon. Follow the AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY signs. For further information contact Lee at 860-435-0051.

Correction

An article in the June 17 Lakeville Journal about a Cornwall Planning and Zoning meeting incorrectly identified an alternate member of the commission who spoke. It was Will Evans, not Will Berry.

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

- CVS
- Ocean State Job Lot

Check them out inside.

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June is the best month to protect your ash trees from the invasive, tree-killing Emerald Ash Borer. TreeAzin is derived from the seed of Neem Trees and is the ONLY control method that is both safe for pollinators and effective on the evil Emerald Ash Borer. For more information on finding pollinator-friendly arborists go to SharonEnergyandEnvironmentCommission.org

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OBITUARIES

Claudette (Chaber) Douglas

SHARON — Claudette (Chaber) Douglas, 84, of New Milford, passed away June 10, 2021, at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital. She was a loving wife of the late Harry T. Douglas, formerly of Sharon.

Claudette was born Nov. 1, 1936, in Bridgeport, Conn., the daughter of the late Abraham and Mary Chaber. Claudette graduated from Danbury High School.

She is survived by her niece, Elizabeth; her godson, Mark;

her stepson, Brian; two brothers; two sisters; two nephews; and several cousins.

A private service was held at All Saints of America in Salisbury. Memorial donations may be made to New Milford Animal Welfare, 8 Dodd Road, New Milford, CT 06776; or American Red Cross of Connecticut, 209 Farmington Ave., Farmington, CT 06032. Local arrangements are under the care of the Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon.

Herman Turnfelt Erickson

SALISBURY — Herman Turnfelt Erickson, 95, of Salisbury died at home peacefully in his sleep on June 13, 2021.

He was born July 22, 1925, on the family farm in Salisbury, son of Gerda (Turnfelt) and John Erickson.



Herman was a lifelong member of the Salisbury Congregational Church. He served in the United States Army as a military police officer in Germany from 1953-1955.

He spent many years working on the family dairy farm and later in the Erickson brothers' construction business before serving as the sextant of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Lakeville for many years.

If he wasn't fishing in the nearby brooks and lakes, he could be found in his wood shop building doll houses, small furnishings and Christmas crafts.

Herman was an avid jigsaw puzzler and spent hours

completing puzzles with as many as 2,000 pieces. He was well known in the community, loved by many and a friend to all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Maureen (Solan) Erickson; his son, Peter Erickson and his wife, Debra, of New Hartford and daughter, Emily Sbragia and husband, Joseph, of Plymouth, Mass. He leaves behind five grandchildren, Samuel, Oliver, Grace, Luke, and Annabelle; as well as many beloved nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brothers, John Harold, Walter and Frank Erickson.

A special thank you to Theresa Veronesi, Sharon Van Noord and Meghan Racliffe of the Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association, 30A Salmon Kill Road, Salisbury, CT 06068.

Mary Elizabeth Fitzpatrick

LAKEVILLE — Mary Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, 67, born Sept. 1, 1953, died on June 11, 2021, of natural causes at her home in Lakeville.



She had recently been working for Lakeville Taxi as a chauffeur. Previously she had been employed for many years as a bartender at The Woodland restaurant and The Interlaken Inn.

Known for her generous spirit and quick wit, Mary was always forthcoming with a genuine compliment, a playful tease and a kindhearted word for all she encountered.

A voracious reader, her brilliant mind and mastery of the English language were prominent in any conversation.

Mary, a native-born New Yorker, had much of the history and architecture of the city in her repertoire, reciting fascinating facts while driving clients to and from the area.

She attended Sacred Heart Elementary in Queens, The Mary Louis Academy in Jamaica Estates, and completed her secondary education at Manhasset High School when her family relocated to Long Island.

She continued her education and graduated *magna cum laude* from The Katharine Gibbs School in New York City and received her Associate's De-

gree from the Borough of Manhattan Community College.

After extensive years living on Staten Island and working in all aspects of restaurants in Manhattan, including those owned by family (Suspenders and T-Bags in New York City) she refocused her secretarial skills and began employment with the law firm of Gladstein & Partners.

Devoted to her family, Mary moved to Lakeville to be closer to her parents.

After the death of her father, Mary moved back into her parents' home and lovingly cared for her mother until she passed.

Mary is now reunited with her parents, Lawrence and Anna Fitzpatrick; and her two brothers, Lawrence and John Fitzpatrick.

She is survived by her sisters, Ann Boltz and Margaret Fitzpatrick; and her brothers, Andrew, Joseph, Thomas and Michael Fitzpatrick and her sisters-in-law, Susan, Eileen, Josephine, Valerie and Laura Fitzpatrick.

A Mass and celebration of life will be held at St. Mary's Church in Lakeville on July 6 at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Corner Food Pantry in Salisbury.

Janos 'John' Terdik

AMENIA — Janos "John" Terdik, 90, died peacefully on June 16, 2021, at Vassar Hospital.

Janos was born Oct. 11, 1930, in Hungary.

He married his soul mate, Terez Terdik, on Dec. 20, 1954.

He worked at the old Wassaic State School on the Grounds Department and retired in 1992.

He is survived by his wife, Terez; his daughter, Veronica Stark and her husband, Kev-

in; two grandsons, John and Peter Stark; two great-grandsons, Avery and Maverick Stark; a brother-in-law, Bela Pinczes and his wife, Rosie; a sister-in-law, Theresa Pinczes; and several nieces and nephews and great-nieces and -nephews.

Services were held June 22 at the Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. Arrangements are under the care of the Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon.

LAKEVILLE — David Livingston Orrell, 86, died June 14, 2021, at Marshall Manor in Machias, Maine, of kidney failure.

David was born Oct. 17, 1934, in Whitinsville, Mass., to Kathleen MacNichol and James Edward Orrell. From 1942 to 1949 his family lived in Eastport, Maine, where his father worked at the MacNichol Packing Company.

David attended school in Whitinsville and Eastport and graduated from Northbridge (Mass.) High School in 1953. He received a certificate from the Worcester Art Museum School (1956) and a BS from Clark University (1961).

David served in the Massachusetts National Guard from 1957 to 1963.

After graduation David worked as an art teacher in North Brookfield, Mass., where

he met his wife, Marie Benvenuti. They were married in North Brookfield in 1962.

He taught in Glastonbury, Conn. and in 1964 settled with his family in Cornwall and later Lakeville, where he taught at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Cornwall Consolidated School and Sharon Center School.

In 1993 David and Marie retired to Eastport. After retirement, David remained in contact with many of his former students to track their careers and artistic accomplishments.

David was a prolific artist. He was fluent and taught in many media including watercolor, block print and ceramic, but mostly worked in oil. He specialized in portraits, Maine and Connecticut landscapes, and allegorical and abstract subjects.

Richard Gottlieb

SHARON — Richard Gottlieb, 82, passed away at his home on the Green on June 14, 2021, surrounded by his family.



Richard was born April 21, 1939, in New York City, the son of the late Jack and Ruth Gottlieb. He graduated from the University of Vermont in 1960.

After answering an ad in the Village Voice looking for extra passengers, he traveled across the country to San Francisco, where he launched his publishing career with Wadsworth Publishing. His love for that city started then and continued to the end of his life.

In the early 1970s, Richard moved back to New York City, where he led divisions of Raytheon Technologies and Macmillan Publishing. In his free time, he took up skydiving as a hobby, performing jumps throughout the Tri-State area at special events.

In 1979 he married his beloved wife, Leslie Mackenzie, and in 1981 they moved to Upper Main Street in Sharon and never left. In 1980 they founded Grey House Publish-

ing, which has grown over 40 years from their kitchen table to a publishing house with offices in New York, New Jersey and Toronto.

Richard was a proud member of the Sharon Volunteer Ambulance squad for three decades. He was a regular at area coffeehouses with his New York Times and black coffee, always happy to strike up conversation and brag about his children.

In addition to his wife, Leslie, Richard is survived by his three children, Peter and his wife, Andrea, of Sudbury, Mass., Nicholas and his wife, Jaime, of Washington, D.C., and Caroline and her husband, David Virenius, of New York, NY.

He is also survived by his brothers, Michael Gottlieb of Lakeville and Leonard Gottlieb of Somerville, Mass. He was a proud grandfather to Owen, Darcy, Jacob, Maisie and Benjamin Gottlieb.

Memorial donations may be made to the Sharon Volunteer Ambulance, P.O. Box 357, Sharon, CT 06069.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Robert 'Bob' Skibsted

SHARON — Robert "Bob" Skibsted was a Renaissance



Man. According to his partner of 48 years, Jim Flaherty, "Bob was the ideal partner — whatever I couldn't do, wouldn't do and didn't want to learn to do, Bob did perfectly."

His parents, both natives of Denmark, met and married in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Bob was born Sept. 17, 1936, and raised in Argentina. He migrated to the U.S. (speaking only Spanish and Danish) to enter college at the University of Montana in Missoula, Mont., where his brother, Eric, lived with his wife and children.

After receiving his bachelor's degree, Bob went to Thunderbird, now called The International School of Business, in Arizona, and earned a Master's Degree and was Valedictorian of his class.

He then went to work for Reynold's Aluminum, selling tons of aluminum around the world. He lived in the Bahamas, Mexico, Brazil, Italy, Belgium, Hong Kong and Argentina. In his 30s he spoke five languages. By 1975, partnered with Jim, they bought a barn in Sharon, which they converted to a home, as a weekend getaway since both were working in Manhattan.

Then, although it was completely unplanned, they bought the abandoned English estate, Troutbeck, in Amenia, in 1978, restored it, and opened it as Troutbeck, The Executive Retreat in Dutchess County.

When they first opened, Bob was the Chef. "When he wasn't cooking, he was planning and planting the gardens at Troutbeck and everywhere."

When Jim took over the management of the inn, Bob started building beautiful homes in and around the Troutbeck community.

They had another converted barn/home in Sharon, on Mudge Pond; and lived in two homes in their residential community, and for six years, had a magnificent contemporary home right on the Hudson River, in Saugerties, N.Y. In recent years, they've occupied their third converted barn/home in Amenia.

Over the years, Bob and Jim have lived in New York City, St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Acapulco, Mexico, and have traveled a great deal to Southeast Asia and all of Europe and South America.

Although they sold Troutbeck in 2016, they have great respect and admiration for the New Troutbeck.

Bob died June 15, 2021, in Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington of complications brought on by kidney failure. He was a few months shy of 85.

Other than Jim, Bob is survived by a sister, Lili Packer; and various nephews and nieces.

Sometime in the near future, a memorial celebration will be announced. The Kenny Funeral Home has taken care of arrangements.

He was a longtime member and volunteer with the Eastport Gallery.

In July 2019 he presented a retrospective of his work at the Eastport Arts Center. For that show David remembered, "A small box of artist's oil paint given to me on my 10th birthday catapulted me into the art world. I set myself up on Wadsworth's dock and painted the red gasoline pump."

"Encouraged by this, I followed with another from the South End Bridge looking toward Shackford Cove, known then by artists as 'Motif #1.' My Grandmother was so enraptured by my effort that she hung my tiny landscape over her couch."

David was an avid actor, director and stage designer in local theater. He appeared with the Goshen Players and the Ob-long Valley Players in Connecticut, Stage East in Eastport, the film "Summerdog" (1977) and had a small role in a TV adaptation of "Maigret." His stage roles included Emile de Becque in "South Pacific," Herr Schulz in "Cabaret," Tevye in "Fiddler on

the Roof" and Hamm in Samuel Becket's "Endgame." His directing credits included "Blithe Spirit," "A Delicate Balance" and "The Female Odd Couple."

David was a parishioner of St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church (Eastport), St. Bridget's (Cornwall) and St. Mary's (Lakeville). He held many lay positions including cantor and reader. However, it was David's baritone voice that often led the parish in song.

David was predeceased by his brother, James Alexander "Sandy" (1950); father (1964); and mother (1981).

He is survived by his wife, Marie; his son, James, of Arlington, Va.; his son, Thomas, wife Jody Puller and grandson James of Arlington, Va.; his daughter, Emo Orrell, wife Laurie Rapson and granddaughter Lea Victoria Rapson of Arlington, Mass.; and his brothers, Patrick of Princeton, Mass., and Stephen of Storrs, Conn.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph's in Eastport later in the summer. Donations may be made in David's name to The Eastport Arts Center.

More obituaries appear on page B4.



Worship Services

Week of June 27, 2021

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

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SUNDAY MASSES
8 AM - St. Bernard
10 AM - Sacred Heart
WEEKDAY MASSES
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & First Friday
9 AM - Sacred Heart
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canaanctumc@gmail.com

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Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page
Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study
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(860) 435-2627
www.trinitylimerock.org

Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT
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

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Salisbury, CT
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Rev. John Kreta
860-824-1340
allsaintsofamerica.us

At North Canaan Elementary, 42 students ready for the future

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — The 42 students comprising the eighth grade class at North Canaan Elementary School (NCES) gathered with their families to bid farewell to their school on Wednesday, June 16.

They are all clearly ready for what will come next.

Parents and families were seated within family circles a distance away, on the lower soccer field.

Three students delivered welcoming remarks. Leah Drislane spoke of overcoming the struggles posed by the past school year. Ayden Veilleux spoke of a common class goal of helping classmates to shine. Ella Karcheski celebrated persistence and exhorted her classmates to embrace their future.

After the awarding of honors and certificates by faculty, students read Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken."

An ensemble of students stepped up for a vocal rendition of "Counting Stars" by One Republic, self-accompanied on ukulele.



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

Getting ready to line up for the North Canaan Elementary School procession to their promotion ceremony, students gathered under a tent to wish each other well and remember the good times.



The young women were all smiles as they enthusiastically awaited the start of their promotion ceremony on Wednesday, June 16, at North Canaan Elementary School.

Planning consultant's contract is extended for two years

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — The selectmen approved a request from the Planning and Zoning Commission to extend for another two years the town's contract with planning consultant Janell Mullen, who is an employee of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG).

NHCOG is a regional organization made up of the first selectmen of 21 Litchfield County towns. The selectmen meet once a month in Goshen to share information on areas of interest and concern, and to plan the best ways to get grants for essential work in their towns.

The selectmen met on Tuesday, June 15. The meeting, held on Zoom, attracted about 11

viewers.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said the consultant's job is to implement the 2020 Town Plan of Conservation and Development and to draft updates to the existing planning and zoning regulations.

The Town Plan is a document that the state requires. It must be updated every 10 years; if it is not, the state can withhold grant funds. The Town Plan is created by the Planning and Zoning Commission, with input from town residents. It then forms the basis of the planning and zoning regulations, which regulate all building in the town.

Responding to resident Caroline Nastro's request for compensation details, during the public comment segment of

the meeting, Ridgway reported that Mullen receives \$75 per hour and that the town budgets \$10,000 each year to accomplish the work.

In view of the loosening of COVID-19 restrictions, the selectmen agreed to return to in-person meetings at Town Hall beginning with their July 6 meeting. Due to the popularity of the remote option, however, the selectmen will attempt to still provide it, Ridgway said.

Resident Joanne Wojtusiak spoke in favor of retaining remote access, noting the aging population in town and the value of continued visibility by the wider community.

Ridgway responded, "We've got a good balance now. We like having people be able to see what's going on."



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Cornwall Consolidated School Class of 2021 celebrated their new beginning.

Persevering through COVID-19 — and cloudy skies

By Cynthia Hochswender

CORNWALL — "Perseverance" was the key word at the Cornwall Consolidated School (CCS) promotion ceremony on Tuesday night, June 15. It described what helped the Class of 2021 get through a COVID-19 year; and it described how the school community managed to come together for the planned ceremony on Tuesday night despite a heavy late afternoon rainfall.

At one point late in the day, confessed Principal Mary Kay Ravenola, she felt like packing it up and going home. But she and the school community persevered; the end result was a

gorgeous ceremony on a cool evening.

Of the 12 students in the graduating class, two had not set foot in the school building at all during this academic year. In the tent during the ceremony, they were all spaced 6 feet apart. But it was clear the students overall consider each other a small family unit that has bonded in an unbreakable way.

Student speakers were Rose Fitch and Omar Alganm, who was new to CCS this year.

The guest speaker was Ted Cheney, son of school board member Hugh Cheney. A graduate in the Class of 1997, Ted had recently returned to Cornwall with his wife and

three young children, from their home in Haines, Alaska. He told a funny story about his love for snow and skiing, and his underlying feeling that perhaps he wasn't learning anything useful in school. He realized how wrong he was when he was trapped in February on a glacier as guide on a helicopter ski expedition — and he was able to save the lives of the members of his ski party by using the cross country ski techniques he'd (grudgingly) learned from CCS physical education instructor Jo Loi.

The video of the ceremony (by Richard Griggs) can be found online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=d-NHHqA9F0.

HVRHS

Continued from Page A1

"You will be poised to rebound from this experience with confidence."

Former class president Aidan McCarthy said that looking back, her school career "feels like a sprint."

"We've had great triumphs and failures," she continued. "And we maintained a sense of community."

Class president Sara Upson said during the pandemic the seniors missed out on things like the prom and field trips.

But "this day isn't about what the pandemic took from us. It's about what we took from it."

She said there was only one way to meet the challenges of the pandemic — or anything else: "Head on."

Essayist Emerson Rinehart had the crowd laughing as he issued a "confession," admitting to damaging a ceiling tile in the auditorium, promoting a rumor that a teacher was actually a "Lizard Man," and using a bench as a toboggan, among other misdemeanors.

Commencement speaker Kianjai Huggan (HVRHS Class of 2017) told the graduates to "open yourselves up" as they move through the next phase of their lives.

She said when she first came to HVRHS from Georgia, she resisted joining the FFA.

But she did join, and counts her participation as a valuable experience.

She urged the seniors to remember that "there is so much we don't know."

Realizing this will "allow



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

Senior Jacob Ellington of Sharon accepted his diploma from his father (and Housatonic Valley Regional High School Network Administrator) Mike Ellington.

you to see the variability in people's lives."

"I am confident each of you will be an advocate for positive change."

Valedictorian Charlotte Clulow said she struggled to find the "golden words" for her remarks, only to "realize I have yet to find answers."

She praised her classmates for their hard work and accomplishments in and out of school.

"Are we there yet? No, we're not. We're just getting started."


Class of 2021 Awards

Good Sportsmanship Medal: Micah Matsudaira, Marguerite Bickford

Good Citizenship Medal: Justine Allyn and Brandon Sorrell


Chamberlain Arts Achievement Award: Cassidy Knutson and Aidan McCarthy

Community Award of Merit: The faculty, staff and administration of HVRHS (accepted by Social Studies teacher Peter Vermilyea).



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Our Towns

Students at LHK take the next step

By Alexander Wilburn

FALLS VILLAGE — The Lee H. Kellogg School eighth grade promotion exercise, held outside on the hill of the Falls Village campus, proved to be an emotional moment for Katelin Lopes. The class speaker and winner of the President's Award for Educational Excellence was moved enough by the moment to let out a few sobs before collecting her breath and concluding her speech: "Thank you, Kellogg. You are small, but you have a mighty place in my heart."

Held on Wednesday, June 16, following a weather-related delay on June 15, the ceremony ushered the members of Lee H. Kellogg School's Class of 2021 into the next chapter of their educational careers under unusual circumstances.

The evening followed a strict distance-and-mask safety policy, making clear the lasting presence of the pandemic and the way it had affected the students in their final years at Lee H. Kellogg.

But the five students in attendance (two members of the eighth grade class were unable to attend), the faculty and Principal Alexandra Juch instead chose speak on anything but their setbacks or current events.

They remained positive, looked toward the future and focused on the core values one would expect in a promotion exercise in any normal year: personal growth, the pursuit of academic goals and extra-curricular achievements, and, of course, in a town as small as Falls Village, ways to enrich and give back to the community.



PHOTOS BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

Tessa Dekker and Katelin Lopes were the dual winners of the President's Award for Educational Excellence at the Lee H. Kellogg eighth grade promotion exercise on Wednesday, June 16.



Members of the eighth grade who participated in Lee H. Kellogg's promotion exercise included, left to right, Demetri Ouellette, Austin Bachman, Katelin Lopes, Tessa Dekker and Bernice "Birdie" Boyden.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

The Salisbury Central School Class of 2021 posed in front of the school on June 16.

For 33 in Class of 2021, lessons in perseverance

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — There was an abbreviated ceremony to recognize the Class of 2021 at Salisbury Central School on Wednesday, June 16.

Reflecting ongoing concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic, the ceremony was held outside, in front of the middle school building.

There were areas outlined in chalk on the pavement and grass for the spectators to place their chairs (brought from home). Most brought folding chairs of the camping variety, although one man was spotted toting a stack of sturdier,

non-folding patio chairs.

The students began arriving at 4:30 p.m. for the 6 p.m. ceremony. They gathered together in small groups, laughing and joking and making last-minute adjustments to their outfits, until they were called inside around 5:45 p.m.

In the meantime family members arrived and settled in as best they could.

That spirit of making the best of a difficult situation emerged as the theme of the ceremony. Principal Stephanie Magyar told the students that the outdoor event, and the entire 2020-21 school year, was probably not what they expect-

ed, unless they had anticipated wearing masks, maintaining social distance, and shortages of toilet paper.

Sara Huber praised her classmates for "overcoming obstacles unlike anything we've encountered before."

Tessa Marks said that as the students worked within the limits imposed by the pandemic, "We saw ourselves as people who could accomplish anything."

Magyar said the difficult school year proved one thing about the Class of 2021:

"You will not forget the resilience and perseverance you have shown this year."

Big news: The swap shop opens July 1

By Cynthia Hochswender

SALISBURY/SHARON — Longtime residents of Salisbury and Sharon will no doubt rejoice to learn that the swap shop at the Salisbury/Sharon transfer station will open on Thursday, July 1.

The swap shop did not open when the transfer station moved to its new location on the Millerton Road. And then COVID-19 came and it seemed unsafe to open this beloved section of the waste facility: Too many products of unknown provenance. Too many people in very close contact, often lightly jostling each other while reaching for an attractive book, pair of skis or piece of kitchen equipment.

Brian Bartram, manager of

the station, gave a tour of the new (larger) swap shop space last week. The hours have not been set yet but they will be slightly shorter than the regular transfer station hours.

Patrons will be asked to enter through the garage door, follow the arrows through the room and then exit through the regular door. There are library carts for books; patrons are asked to be neat and considerate of others when dropping off and rummaging for books.

And yes, those very loud birds that you hear over the solid waste bin are not real birds; it is a recording designed to scare off scavengers and rodents.

Bartram also said the transfer station has a new website, at www.salisburysharontransferstation.com.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

A large new swap shop at the Salisbury Sharon transfer station will open on Thursday, July 1.

Voters say yes to SCS air conditioning

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — The learning environment will be more comfortable for students and teachers at Sharon Center School (SCS) thanks to the unanimous approval of installation of air conditioning at the school.

The vote was held at a town meeting on Thursday, June 17, held in person at the school and on Zoom.

Funding for the project — estimated to cost \$1,094,000 — is already largely in place. The

town is carrying over \$250,000 in surplus funds from the current year's budget. An additional \$220,000 was previously approved by voters as part of the 2021-22 budget. A grant through the American Rescue Plan is expected to bring \$190,462.

Voters also agreed to allocate up to \$515,918 from the Board of Education portion of the Capital Non-Recurring Account, as needed to complete the funding.

Barbara Prindle was elected to serve as moderator for the

town meeting.

There were no questions or comments about the project, expected to be completed during the coming months.



Forum on speeding in Sharon

SHARON — All Sharon residents are invited to a forum on speeding motor vehicles on Wednesday, June 23, at 3 p.m.

The gathering will be outdoors at the pavilion at Veteran's Field. It will also be live-streamed and recorded.

For updates, go to www.sharonct.org.

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Early Deadline

Deadline for the July 8TH issue is Thursday, July 1st, at 12 NOON for Display Advertising.

The Classified line deadline is Friday, July 2nd at 12 NOON.

Letters to the Editor deadline is Friday, July 2nd at 12 NOON.

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For KCS class, 'This is just the start!'

By Lans Christensen

KENT — Rain clouds threatened the promotion ceremony at Kent Center School on Tuesday, June 15. At 4 p.m., clouds threatened to bring showers. But right on schedule for the 6 p.m. ceremony, the sun burst through and provided a glorious early evening.

It was perhaps the perfect weather for a celebration of a COVID-19 year, when every day began with just a tinge of anxiety. In the end, it all worked out, and everyone involved got another lesson in perseverance, faith and flexibility.

The exercises were held in the school parking lot, where there was ample and comfortable space for the gathered guests. Officially not a "public" event, the graduates were able to create their own guest list of family members. The families brought colorful placards identifying their eighth grader.

After Principal Michelle Mott welcomed the families, the Class of 2021 entered and seated themselves together, facing their guests.

Essayist Irine Dumitrascu spoke of the upcoming separation of the 17 students, who have grown so close in spite of or perhaps because of the challenges they faced together. "Graduation is bittersweet," she said. "But we will all find each other."

After diplomas were presented, happy students and their families had cheerful moments taking photographs and sharing hugs. Everyone spoke with gratitude about having the ceremony under the relaxing quarantine protocols. An enthusiastic shout was heard: "We are the 21er's! This is just the start!"



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Friends forever, students in the Class of 2021 gathered together for photos before and after the promotion ceremony on Tuesday, June 15.



Students in the Kent Center School Class of 2021 processed across the lawn to the parking lot, where this year's ceremony was held.



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

The promotion ceremony for the Class of 2021 on Wednesday, June 16, was held on the lawn in front of Sharon Center School. Following the ceremony, students and their parents did a celebratory tour in motor vehicles through town.

Tears and laughter for 17 in Sharon Center's class of 2021

By Lans Christensen

SHARON — Families and eighth graders spread out in a semi circle on the lawn in front of Sharon Center School on a beautiful evening for an (almost) traditional promotions ceremony on June 16 for the 17 students in the Class of 2021.

Although it was outdoors, the usual protocols were in place, with Principal Karen Manning greeting the students and their loved ones for a day of triumph over the supreme weirdness of the past school year.

Several graduates shared

their "reflections" about the year.

Andy Delgado read his poem, "Rising From the Ashes."

Savannah Milton spoke sensitively about the mixed feelings of leaving the familiar and embarking on new journeys: "There's only one person you can be: yourself;" and "Don't be sad about what's over, take joy in what's ahead."

The students then came up one at a time and picked up their diplomas, to the cheers of their friends and families.

Awards were presented, finishing with the highest honor: the Sharon School Cup, which

was presented by John Purdy, the winner in 2017.

At ceremony's end the grads and their families got into their cars and followed Sharon Fire Department vehicles on a parade up Main Street. Sirens, bells and cheering accompanied the procession. Many of the students stood up through sun roofs and waved to the crowds along the road.

These ceremonies are always a blend of sorrow for departing the familiar and great joy and excitement for what lies ahead; no exception here, as could be seen on the teary but laughing faces of the class of 2021.

Town will work with federal government

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — First Selectman Henry Todd asked the Board of Finance to agree to use federal pandemic relief funds for a new septic system at the town-owned 107 Main St. The Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen met Monday, June 14, in person at Town Hall.

Todd said the new system will cost about \$40,000, and added that the town expects to receive some \$311,000 in federal funds, which can be used for a variety of purposes — including wastewater management. The finance board agreed.

Woods Sinclair, speaking for the Housatonic River Commission, asked the selectmen to endorse a request from the commission to seek federal Wild and Scenic River status for the Housatonic between the state line and New Milford. He explained that the river received state Wild and Scenic

status some years ago but adding federal status will allow the towns along the river to get assistance and advice from the National Park Service. Sinclair said local control will be maintained and the request does not involve any federal land acquisition. The selectmen approved the request.

The selectmen recommended to the Board of Finance that town crew chief Tim Downs use up to \$50,000 from the equipment reserve fund to purchase a new aluminum dump body.

The selectmen considered a letter from the Bornemann family (of Saratoga Springs, N.Y.; West Hartford; Halifax, Nova Scotia; and Honolulu, Hawaii) noting that their parents, Carl and Barbara, donated 10.7 acres of land at the end of Faccchin Street to the town in 1988 for the purpose of building affordable housing.

Todd said the Community Development Corporation has received a \$20,000 grant from

to determine the feasibility of building a small amount of housing on the property.

After a prolonged discussion about the Falls Village Inn, the old firehouse and the parking lot by the inn, and the ongoing problem of the old firehouse encroaching slightly on the inn's land, the selectmen approved a request from the Falls Village Inn to put down gravel in the patio area with the understanding that if it needs to be removed for town purposes the inn is responsible for the cost.

The selectmen also approved planters and a request that the bandstand, which was put up on the inn's property, be removed.

And the selectmen approved a request from Lou Timolat that the piles of dirt left over from installing new fuel tanks at Route 7 Food and Fuel be hauled away by the town crew. Todd said the dirt has been tested and is not contaminated.

Grants help protect 282 acres in Sharon, Salisbury

By Cynthia Hochswender

Two Northwest Corner properties will benefit from \$6.2 million in funding to protect open space, announced by Gov. Ned Lamont on Thursday, June 17.

A 114-acre property protected by the Salisbury Association Land Trust on Lime Rock Road, part of the Belter family's former farmlands, will be protected with \$250,000.

The press release from the governor's office describes the Belter property as having "a spring-fed stream that drains to the Salmon Kill" and "high-quality wildlife habitat including core forest, meadow, stream, and steep slopes with bedrock exposures and boulders." There are 13 State Listed Species in or near the boundaries of the property, which is also an Audubon-designated Important Bird Area.

There are plans to create a 1.8-mile loop trail on the property, which can be accessed

from Route 112 off Route 7.

In Sharon, a \$500,000 grant will help the Sharon Land Trust to protect 168 acres on the Von Ahn Farm, which is on the Western side of Indian Mountain.

"This acquisition would more than double the current protection of Indian Mountain and complete a continuous belt of protected land between Indian Lake and Mudge Pond," according to the news release.

The property has scenic views, 120 acres of "core forest," 37 acres of USDA Prime and Statewide Important Farmland soils and "wetlands and several headwater streams that drain into Indian Lake."

The Von Ahn Farm is contiguous with the Land Trust's 108-acre Goodbody/Paley Farm Preserve.

Of the grants, Department of Energy and Environmental Conservation Commissioner Katie Dykes said, "Open space is key to ensuring a bright economic future for our state.

"These natural assets are

valuable as we attract and retain residents who are increasingly looking for varied recreational opportunities where they work, play, and live. No single entity can accomplish the critical goal of protecting our lands with significant conservation values now and for future generations. We need continued cooperation of land trusts, our towns and cities, and conservation-minded citizens to build upon existing and form new partnerships and new approaches to protecting open space."

Connecticut has set a goal of having 673,210 acres designated as open space. This new round of grants brings the statewide total to more than 512,000 acres.

To qualify for a grant, there must be a funding match by the grant recipient; and "stipulations that the land be protected by a conservation and public recreation easement, ensuring that the property is forever protected for public use and enjoyment."

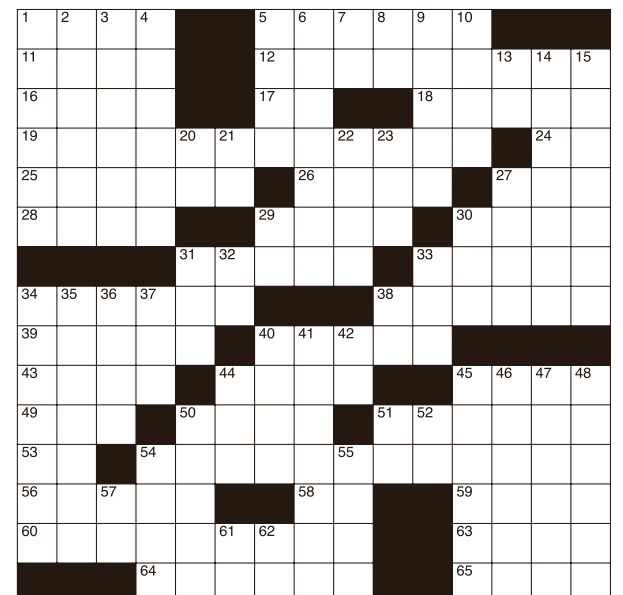
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- College group
- Small morsels of food
- Actress Dunham
- Puts a limit on
- Used for baking or drying
- Commercial
- Zookeeper Bindi
- Walk in one's sleep
- The Great Lakes State
- Winter sport
- A thin layer on something
- Peacock network
- Give birth to a lamb or kid
- "Too Scared to Cry" author
- Nose
- Friend
- Country music legend Haggard
- Curved
- More deformed
- Bleated
- Set on its end
- An aspect of Ra
- Releasing hormone (abbr.)
- Harsh, grating noise
- ___ Francisco
- Common Japanese surname
- Punish with an arbitrary penalty
- Football position (abbr.)
- Not in the know
- African antelope
- Popular tech (abbr.)
- Baseball teams get three of them
- Make up one's mind
- ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- Martens
- Susan and Tom are two

CLUES DOWN

- Excessively showy
- Put an end to
- Blood disorder
- Ingredient in wine
- Shellfish
- Made smaller
- We
- The Treasure State
- ___ Ekland, actress
- Male parent
- One hundredth of a watt (abbr.)
- Dish of minced meat
- Smothered laugh
- Article
- Atomic #12
- Small parrot
- Fictional "Star Wars" planet
- French wine grape
- Football stat (abbr.)



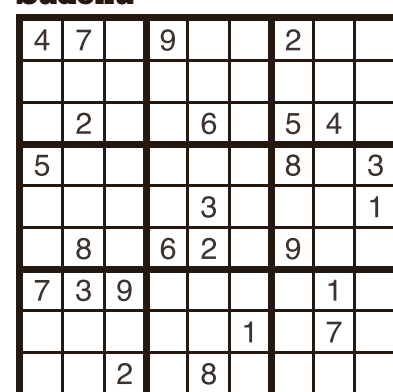
- Sound unit
- Where you sleep
- University of Dayton
- Miller beer offering
- Feel embarrassed
- Able to be estimated
- Commune in NW France
- Adult female chicken
- Intergovernmental organization
- Archaic term for until
- That which is not sacred
- Sound made in speech
- Handgun (slang)
- Fill up again
- Evoke or awaken
- Beam Me Up, ___!
- Spider wasp genus
- Headdress
- Exclamation of surprise

- Of 1
- Figures
- Men's fashion accessories
- Indicates position
- Megabyte
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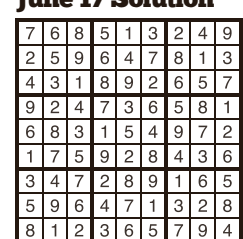
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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

AUTOSPORTS: LANS CHRISTENSEN

Racing Back To 'Normal' At Lime Rock Park

Lime Rock Park race track in Salisbury, Conn., has three premier events on the calendar for its 65th year with all promising a full weekend of racing entertainment.

As reported in The Lakeville Journal's April 8 edition, the track is under a new ownership group. Skip Barber, whose name is synonymous with Lime Rock, will remain a stockholder and will continue to be a significant part of Lime Rock's planning and future. But majority ownership is now in the hands of Dicky Riegel, Charles Mallory and Bill Rueckert.

Motor racing fans and Lime Rock devotees can rejoice, as the familiar hillsides will be fully open after a yearlong COVID-19 hiatus. Blankets and chairs are all that will be needed to see top professional racing cars and drivers doing their utmost to conquer this challenging 1 1/2 mile circuit.

Riegel, who is Lime Rock's new CEO, has been a fan of the track for years, and he feels the same way that everyone else feels after a year of quarantine: It'll be great to get out of the house again.

"Lime Rock Park," he said, "is the perfect venue for spectators to finally get outside after too many months of confinement."

Back to the races! The first event of the year was the Trans-Am races on Memorial Day weekend. Trans-Am has always been one of Lime Rock's favorite events, and has a great history of great drivers and great competition. Mark Donohue, Peter Revson and, of course, Sam Posey of Sharon, Conn., thrilled fans for many of these classic races. Posey is a Northwest Corner, Conn., native and in addition to being a respected racer and then commentator on television's Speedvision, he also designed many of the buildings that surround the track.

The Trans-Am is the big battle of "muscle cars"



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Cars vintage and new are once again competing fiercely on the race track at Lime Rock Park.

— Ford and Chevy are the two defining gladiators every year and 2021 was no exception. In addition there were Porsches, Aston Martins, BMWs and more.

Still to come is the summer's second premier event: the IMSA Northeast Group, on July 16 and 17. These are the closed-wheel, closed cockpit, prototype pure race cars, that compete in the classic 24-hour races such as Daytona and, of course, Le Mans.

Acuras, Ferraris, McLarens and Porsches will race in their respective groups while the top of the competition will be the GTLM and GTDaytona classes in a 2-hour 40-minute race.

The third event, and always a highlight at Lime Rock, will be the 39th Historic Festival on Labor Day weekend, Sept. 3 to 6. The weekend traditionally kicks off with the parade of the exquisite historic treasures around the local roads, from Lime Rock (which is one of the five villages of Salisbury, Conn.) to nearby Falls Village, Conn., giving everyone along the 17-mile route a chance to see these cars roll through the neighborhood.

Vintage marques from the 1930s through the 1950s, with many even older than that, participate in the weekend's "races."

Fierce, fender-bending competition may not be quite as evident between these drivers, many in historically significant, irreplaceable examples.

"Sunday in the Park" is one of the best parts of the weekend: Literally a thousand cars of every marque line the track and can be examined and enjoyed "up close" and with informative owners ready with history and anecdotes about their cars. The judging of the cars entered in the Concours d'Elegance takes place that day, with prizes awarded in many categories — with, of course, a "Best In Show" that is always an important and historically significant automobile.

Rest assured that all health and safety protocols are in place to ensure your enjoyment. If you're a "sports car" or motor racing enthusiast, there just is no better way to enjoy yourself than a comfortable spot on the hillside enjoying the best that Lime Rock has to offer.

For information on tickets and dates, go to www.limerock.com.

SHAKESPEARE: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

'King Lear': One For the Ages

As we go through the different phases of our lives, we identify with different Shakespeare plays. In our youth, as we try to find our way into the future, Hamlet is who we turn to. When we fall in love, but perhaps feel thwarted, we might turn to "A Midsummer Night's Dream," if all is going relatively well; or "Othello" if the undertones are more tragic.

But as we age, we turn more and more to King Lear, who will be brought to life at Shakespeare & Company's outdoor Spruce Theatre in Lenox, Mass., between July 2 and

Aug. 28 by Christopher Lloyd, the film actor known from his roles in "Back to the Future," "The Addams Family" and many others.

There will be a special performance on Friday, July 9, with drinks, food and music at 4 p.m. and the performance at 5:30 p.m. Prices range from \$250 to \$400 for individual tickets (RSVP to kmoriarty@shakespeare.org or call 413-637-1199 ext.105).

To get ticket information for regular performances, and to see the other events scheduled for this season, go to www.shakespeare.org.

ART: ANABELLE BAUM

Duncan Hannah at Troutbeck in Amenia, N.Y.

A new solo exhibition of paintings by Cornwall, Conn., painter Duncan Hannah, is on display at Troutbeck, a 250-acre hotel in Amenia, N.Y., through the end of the summer.

A native of Minneapolis, Minn., educated at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y., and New York's Parsons School of Design, Hannah has had an impressive career as an artist since his debut in 1981. His work is included in the collections of the Whitney Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He has also had more than 100 solo shows in the U.S. and abroad.

Just over the Connecticut border is the more than 250-year-old Troutbeck, which has an intimate ambience that complements the private moments in Hannah's art. The art is spread throughout the main building, creating an immersive experience.

The show displays 27 of Hannah's oil-on-canvas paintings, spanning a period from 1995-2020 — though most of the



PHOTO BY ANABELLE BAUM

works in the show were composed between 2013 and 2015. The prices range from \$2,500 to \$8,500.

While the pieces vary in size and subject matter, a common thread is the 20-by-16-inch painted "collage." Hannah is known for his collages, which include layers of tickets, magazine clippings, silhouettes and other ephemera. These oil-on-canvas "collages" are two-dimensional and flat, rather than layered with multiple media. Hannah feels that light moves more consistently across their surface than they do on

the layered originals.

In an interview last week, Hannah said he was looking for a new challenge and asked himself, "How do I make it more contemporary?" The concept he chose was to "recreate something that already exists" — thus, the concept behind his painted collages.

As an admirer of abstract elements, the painter intended to showcase the nonfigurative components of his artwork in his painted collages. Hannah's 18 x 18 painted collage from 2014 titled "Sexual Freedom in Denmark" displays his interest in abstraction through the array of different colored squares.

This gallery show at Troutbeck also features other works from his career, such as serene landscapes, Penguin book covers and mysterious women.

To schedule a visit or learn more about the show, email charlie@troutbeck.com or call the hotel at 845-789-1555.

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SAKE, SUSHI AND THE JAPANESE-INFLUENCED GARDENS AT INNISFREE

As part of Innisfree's summer exploration of Japanese arts and culture, the Millbrook, N.Y., garden museum will host a saké tasting and sushi dinner on Saturday, July 17, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Brian Polen, president of Brooklyn Kura, will lead a tasting of his sakes.

There is also a menu of Japanese foods that can be ordered ahead of time, with a variety of sushi and salads made by Kazuhiro Hidaka of Salisbury, Conn., the former sushi chef at the popular Woodland restaurant.

Hidaka attended a top culinary school in Osaka, Japan, and trained under master chefs on three continents.

He is also the creator of the Krazy for Kazu's sauces, dressings and marinades.

The gardens at Innisfree are influenced and inspired by Japanese garden design, with an aesthetic that embraces simplicity and the beauty of imperfection and change in nature.

Innisfree draws inspiration from five distinct cultures, periods and ideas: China, Japan, the Romantic Era, Modernism and nature/ecology.

Giving voice to this rich diversity, Innisfree is launching a recurring five-year cycle of special programs — Roots of Inspiration — that will focus on one key theme each year. This year that theme is Japan.

The Sunset Tasting at Innisfree Garden is \$35 for Innisfree members and \$45 for the general public.

Tasting tickets will include two glasses of sake as well as non-alcoholic beverages.

The last day to place food orders is Saturday, July 10.

Bring a picnic blanket; only limited outdoor seating is available.

If it rains, the tasting will be held in a tent overlooking Tyrrel Lake.

Unvaccinated guests are asked to wear masks until they are seated on their picnic blanket.

BOOKS: LEILA HAWKEN

Money May Talk, But Dark Money Hides Its Secrets

Two of the nation's top investigative journalists teamed up for a book talk that effectively untangled some of the mystery surrounding opposition research and the role of dark money in undermining democratic principles.

In a talk sponsored by the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, Conn., award-winning investigative journalist Brian Ross engaged with Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Barry Meier, both well-suited for this conversation. The program was offered on Zoom because of inclement weather on Thursday, June 3.

Ross moderated the program, speaking with Meier about his new book, "Spooked: The Trump Dossier, Black Cube and the Rise of Private Spies." The book shines light on a dark industry set on influencing the minds of the unsuspecting, shaping opinions, garnering votes.

"Private spying" means that operatives can be hired. And hired they are by large corporations, political parties and powerful individuals to "dig up dirt" on their adversaries or competitors. The aim is to influence and dominate and win. The source of the money is deep in the shadows and not traceable.

According to Meier, there has been an explosion of private intelligence agencies whose operatives gather all sorts of intelligence data, including using the services of hackers to gain telephone or computer data. Often these agencies provide intelligence in cases of litigation to smear opposition witnesses or principals.

Ross asked about the Trump dossier from the 2016 election, the idea of planting plausible, shocking stories in the print and broadcast media.

"Political opposition research is as old as the hills," Meier explained. Candidates for office would sling mud as a matter of course.

But during the lead-up to the 2016 campaign, the concept took a giant leap

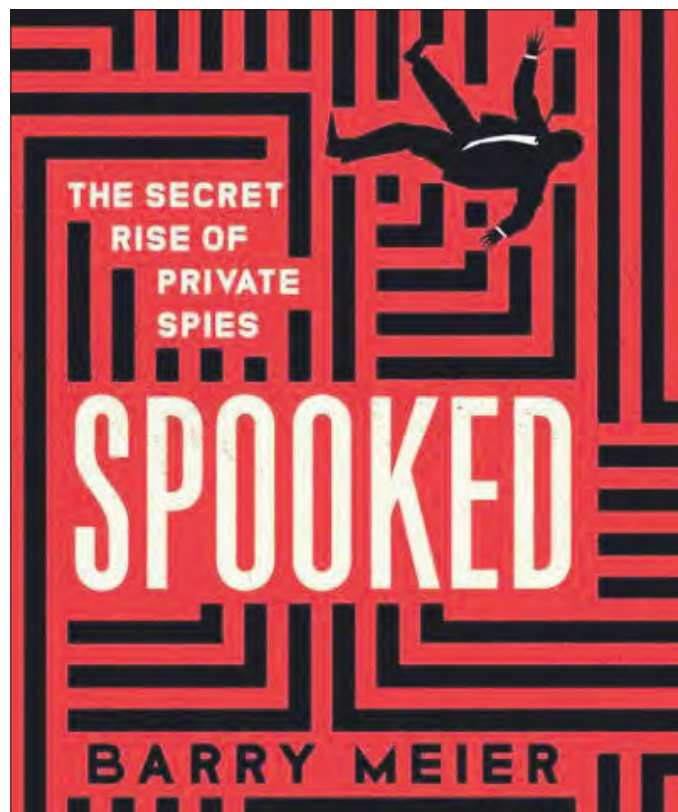


PHOTO FROM BLACKWELL

In his new book, "Spooked," journalist Barry Meier talks about the new depths that politicians have resorted to in digging for "dirt."

forward with Fusion GPS and the Republicans who contracted with them to oppose the early candidacy of Donald Trump.

Fusion founder Glenn Simpson, whose career is detailed in Meier's book, offered research on the one hand and, because of his experience as a journalist, touted his ability to flow the opposition research directly into the media.

Ross asked why people are swayed by it, why they bite. Meier replied that there had been evidence of Russian intent to interfere. Simpson invited reporters to meet operative Christopher Steele, a reputable-appearing former MI6 agent, a member of the British Intelligence Service. The press was clearly misled.

It was BuzzFeed who

rushed to be the first to post Steele's dossier on Trump. "It was now out there," Meier said. The major news outlets were in a "footrace" to promote the dossier.

The media's defense to the largely unsubstantiated material was, "Well, it hasn't yet been disproven."

"This is anathema to how we operate and should operate as journalists," Meier said. In an era of extreme media polarization, Meier added, "many

media fall prey."

To Ross' question about how good Steele's information was, Meier said, "Very little was true. The more salacious items were proven to be untrue." But it was the salacious things that gave the dossier life, Meier said.

"My motivation is not to elevate Donald Trump," Meier explained to Ross. "My concern is for my/our profession."

Meier said that Trump used the dossier as a cudgel against journalists, as he is capable of using anything as a politically purposeful weapon.

"The real firepower of the media was diverted by the Trump dossier side-show," Meier said.

Feeling that cable news is too politically charged to be a good source, Meier said that he reads three major newspapers daily: the New York Times, Washington Post and Wall Street Journal.

"We have to choose where our information is coming from," he advised.

Meier sees no basis for Fusion GPS to be protected by whistleblower status, a matter currently being pursued.

"There is a lot of stuff that goes on behind the curtains that no one ever knows about," he added.

'FALSTAFF' AND MORE AT BERKSHIRE OPERA FEST

Berkshire Opera Festival has announced it will offer three indoor events this summer, at three locations.

There will be a fully staged production of Verdi's "Falstaff" (with Verdi specialists Sebastian Catana as Falstaff and Tamara Wilson in the soprano role of Alice Ford) on Aug. 21, 24 and 27 at the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass.

The "Falstaff" cast will also perform in a free outdoor concert called "Much Ado About

Shakespeare" at The Mount in Lenox, Mass., on Wednesday, Aug. 11 at 6 p.m. The show explores Shakespeare's influence on opera.

Tom Cipullo's "Glory Denied" will be performed at Bard College at Simon's Rock in Great Barrington on July 22 and 24.

For information on tickets and times, go to www.berkshireoperafestival.org. All staff and performers have been vaccinated; audience members must wear masks while in the theater.

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To advertise your event under the Arts & Entertainment banner, call 860-435-9873 or email advertising@lakevillejournal.com



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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Look for a new calendar of events at our website, www.tricornernews.com/events-calendar. We will also include the calendar in our print edition as space allows.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Supporting local means supporting local newspapers

By Dean Ridings, CEO, America's Newspapers

As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, there's a sense of relief and optimism that things will return to normal. Long-awaited family gatherings, birthday parties and graduation ceremonies are finally happening in person. Sporting events have fans in the stands, airports are busy, and we all are in the process of reclaiming those elements of life we've missed the past year.

However, with that optimism is the reality of the impact the pandemic had on local communities. Local businesses that struggled through the past year, if they were able to stay in business at all, are still trying to recover and regain lost revenues. These locally owned restaurants, shops and services are vital to our economy and provide valuable jobs and important resources. Whenever you can, please Shop Local and Eat Local.

You can add your local newspapers to the businesses that need your support. During the pandemic, newspapers provided the critical information needed to protect the health and safety of their readers. And, that level of commitment has continued with the most relevant information about vaccines and plans for schools to return to normal in the fall.

The importance of local newspapers reaches well beyond the pandemic. Local newspapers cover the issues most important to their communities. From crime to local schools to local government, readers can rely on their newspaper to provide the latest news that will impact them directly. Without vibrant newspapers, cities and towns across the country would surely suffer.

Newspapers were hit hard during the pandemic, just like other businesses. Advertising revenue, which was already in decline, dropped significantly. While more readers turned to newspapers and their websites for information than ever before, that didn't generate enough additional revenue to bridge the gap. The result is that newspapers need your support now, more than ever.

Fortunately, the importance of newspapers is being recognized in Washington. Legislation has been introduced to help protect newspapers from the business tactics of Big Tech companies that often use newspapers' content without compensation. On June 16, the Local Journalism Sustainability Act was introduced as a bipartisan effort to recognize and protect local newspapers and the journalists who deliver valuable content.

The LJSA is unlike other bills in that it delivers benefits to readers and advertisers for supporting newspapers. Subscribers will be able to get a tax credit for their subscription, local businesses can get tax credits for advertising in newspapers and other local media, and newspapers would receive tax credits for their newsroom employees.

These legislative efforts deserve your support and the support of your government representatives. Contact your congressional representative and asked them to co-sponsor and support the Local Journalism Sustainability Act that ensures newspapers continue to serve their readers and advertisers.

And, while you Shop Local and Eat Local, we encourage you to continue to Read Local and subscribe to your local newspaper. Supporting your newspaper is one of the best things that you can do to directly strengthen your community.

On behalf of its approximately 1,500 newspaper and associate member companies, America's Newspapers is committed to explaining, defending and advancing the vital role of newspapers in democracy and civil life. We put an emphasis on educating the public on all the ways newspapers contribute to building a community identity and the success of local businesses. Learn more: www.newspapers.org. For more, contact: Dean Ridings, CEO, America's Newspapers, dridings@newspapers.org.

POETS CORNER

Sharing with the wildlife

Baby bear peeking on the deck
Thinking shall I enter? Oh what the heck!
There are goodies for me to eat
I'm always hungry and seeds are so sweet
So on the deck with my great paw
I'll grab the feeder with my claw
Then off to the woods to eat in peace
Until they are gone, I will not cease
Then maybe I'll be back for more
To put them in my woodland store

Michael Kahler

Lakeville

Letters to the editor are no more than 500 words, and must be in by 10 a.m. Monday of the week of publication on normal publishing weeks.

There will, however, be an early deadline for the Fourth of July holiday. Deadline for letters to the editor for the week of July 8 publication is Friday, July 2 at noon. Send letters to publisher@lakeville-journal.com.



TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — June 1921

SALISBURY — Lightning struck the telephone in the home of Miss Grace Sherwood on Wednesday evening, knocking the table over that it was on, tearing the bells off the wall and doing quite a little damage. William Lamson's house was struck, knocking off some plaster and slightly shocking members of the family.

— Much complaint is heard of the nuisance and disturbance caused by the gang which breaks into the Club-house nights and keeps the neighborhood from enjoying a night's rest.

SHARON — Percy Wiley has arrived home, having completed a three year enlistment in the navy.

LAKEVILLE — At the Boat House, D.L. Timmins has bought a Navy life raft and he has anchored it for the children to use while bathing. He has also painted and electric light-

ed his sign.

— Gasoline is now selling at 28 cents in this section with prospects of a still further drop.

50 years ago — June 1971

Northeast Utilities has asked permission for the Federal Power Commission to drop its investigation of the Schenob Brook Pumped Storage Project, company vice president Charles Bragg announced on Monday. The legal petition to withdraw the application for a permit to look into the Massachusetts project follows Northeast's announcement in April that it now favors the Canaan Mountain site near Falls Village for a pumped storage complex.

KENT — Hazel K. Newton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Newton, spent last week in Washington D.C. as a participant in the Congressional Summer Intern Program sponsored by Senator Lowell Weicker and Congressmen Stewart McKinney and Robert Steele.

— Lakeville firemen reversed their usual role Sunday morning when they gathered in Ore Hill to burn down a building with assistance from the Millerton department. The men worked with record speed and efficiency, according to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Arnoff who owned the building and had requested its demolition. The building in question was a former boys' club which stood close to Mr. Arnoff's storage warehouse. It had been empty for several years.

— Cornwall has a mother and daughter who both received advanced degrees this past week. Mrs. Michael J. Furlonger, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John B. Currie, received the degree of master of arts in literature from Sarah Lawrence College on June 4. At commencement exercises June 8 at the New School for Social Research in New York City, Mrs. Furlonger's mother, Mrs. Currie, received the degrees of master of arts and doctor of philosophy.

25 years ago — June 1996

LAKEVILLE — Jana Caroline Roe has been named to the Emerson College Dean's List for the 1996 spring semester. Students receiving dean's list recognition must earn a minimum 3.45 grade point average for the semester, based on a four-point grade system.

— Ever wish you could own a business in Canaan? Maybe a bank or a grocery, or even a railroad? Now is your chance. All you have to do is play "The Game of Canaan" and you have your choice of 30 businesses. All are Chamber of Commerce members taking part in a fund-raiser that is definitely different. The game is similar to Monopoly, with 30 local businesses occupying property spaces around the board.

These items were taken from The Lakeville Journal archives at Salisbury's Scoville Memorial Library, keeping the original wording intact as possible.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Good manners can be found everywhere one may look for them

I write in reference to the letter entitled "Manners are at a premium now," that appeared in your June 17, 2021, edition. In that piece a Ms. Whittlesey of Gallatin N.Y. and Lakeville, suggests that Realtors "could perhaps coach new area residents on how to behave."

It is not clear what constitutes "new" residents, but it seems that remembering the Shagroy might be the dividing line. That would make everyone who came here after 1989 a newbie.

I want to commend Ms Whittlesey for her "newbie radar." She mentions "a grim-faced stranger who unapologetically rammed her shopping cart into my path." Unless Ms W. knows personally every resident of the area, how did she know she had been cut off by a new resident? And the same

about the woman who was wearing spurs around town. Don't old-time residents ride?

Also, I have been in the deli line many times both at La-Bonne's and the Sharon Farm Market and I have never heard new residents or old, tourists or anyone refer to other people in line as "riff-raff." Indeed, I have never heard any comments at all about the other people standing in line. (And apparently neither has Ms. W. herself. She does not write that she herself heard, but that, "Other new residents have been heard referring to local workers lined up.....")

It is time to kill the chauvinistic stereotype of the courteous long-suffering local resident and the brash, uncouth, new arrival, generally from the "city."

Six months ago, my wife had

a nasty fall and fractured a hip. Since then, she gets around on a walker or in a wheelchair. We have found that just as many people on the Upper West Side of Manhattan offer to help us as do in Salisbury/Lakeville/Sharon.

That is because courtesy, kindness, considerateness, are randomly but widely distributed innate virtues among all groups of people. I have never found any correlation between good manners and race, religion, sex, national origin, or, for that matter, place of residence. Having lived your whole life—or at least since 1989—in the circulation area of The Lakeville Journal confers no special guarantee of goodness.

Lawrence Smith
New York, N.Y., and Sharon

Moving up in the royalty world

The bravery shown by Prince Harry and Meghan Markle as they speak out about the heavy burden imposed on them by the British royal family has given me the courage to do something I've been secretly contemplating

for a long time. I've decide to give up my commoner status and become a royal.

Let's you think I'm another one of those guys who decides to make a career change and expects his wife to go along without any thought to her situation I can assure you that is not the case. We have had extensive discussions and she has graciously agreed to become a Princess. In the event that position is not immediately available, she will accept the title of Royal Duchess subject to a six-month performance review leading to Princess.

We both agree that under no circumstances will she accept anything along the lines of near-royalty or, god forbid, lady-in-waiting. Even a cursory familiarity with Masterpiece Theater tells you that lesser royals always get the short end of the stick, or worse.

As much as I am inspired by Harry, my circumstances are very much different. Although I have had some experience ribbon cutting at Christmas and throughout the year with pastry boxes it is obviously nowhere near the level required of royals. I am pretty handy with a pair of scissors or shears, as the

British might say, so I'm confident that I could get up the learning curve pretty quickly.

I have no military background, which makes the uniform thing a problem. I was a Cub Scout. And I must admit that I was proud to wear the blue

and gold. I liked being a Cub Scout and had no desire to move on to the drab tan and green of the Boy Scouts. Unfortunately, I didn't understand that Scouting is like being on the partnership track at a law firm. Up or out. The den mother had to tell me that I could no longer be a Cub Scout. Apparently, I had aged-out and was headed for the distinction of "world's oldest Cub Scout."

Of course, declaring myself a royal is just the first step. I would need to join a royal family. Since I speak the language and with the opening left by Prince Harry, the British royal family would seem to be a natural fit. Although some have questioned how my version of English would translate "across the pond."

Depending on how you count them, more than 25 monarchies exist around the world so I'm not solely dependent on the whims of the House of Windsor. That said, I am not interested in joining absolute monarchies or countries with excessively hot weather. That pretty much limits me to Western Europe. Unlike Prince Harry, I'm looking for more of a ceremonial role. Someplace

manageable like Lichtenstein or Luxembourg. Monaco is always a possibility and the Scandinavian countries seem very accepting of outsiders. So I have choices.

I've reached out to Harry and Meghan for their perspective, so far to no avail. Still clinging to vestiges of royal privilege, they have routed all my inquiries to an intermediary. Some person named Oprah. Oh well, keep calm and carry on.

M.A. Duca is a resident of Twin Lakes, narrowly focused on everyday life.

NEWS OF VERY NARROW INTEREST

M.A. DUCA

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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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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OBITUARIES

John Sharpley

NORTH CANAAN — John Sharpley, 60, of Lisbon, Maine, passed peacefully at home on June 15, 2021, following a brief battle with cancer.

He was born on Jan. 6, 1961, to parents John and Rosalia “Sandy” Sharpley.

John loved to watch television. His favorite show was The Price Is Right. He loved the sunshine and just being outdoors. Fishing and riding his bike were also interests. John liked to tinker, fixing his car or just small things around the house. He worked at Food City in Lisbon and B-D in North Canaan.

John was predeceased by



two brothers, Glen Sharpley in 1988, and Tim Sharpley in 1998.

He is survived by parents John and Rosalia “Sandy” Sharpley; a brother, Peter, and his wife, Michelle Sharp-ley; a daughter, Monica, and her husband, Dillon Sullivan; a son, Justin Sharpley; a daughter, Nicole Sharp-ley; his grandsons, Quinn and Boone Sullivan; a nephew, Steven Sharp-ley and his fiancée, Amy Thibodeau; and a niece, Sabrina Sharp-ley, and her fiancé, Kadin Michaud.

Condolences may be expressed at www.funeralalternatives.net or www.facebook.com/FALewiston.

MILLERTON — John David Gilmore, 71, a 21-year resident of Millerton and formerly of Pine Plains, died Saturday, June 12, 2021, at Vassar Bros. Medical Center in Poughkeepsie.

Mr. Gilmore owned and operated Gilmore Glass Works in Pine Plains prior to moving his studio and elegant showroom to Main Street in Millerton in 2000. He retired in 2019.

Born June 6, 1950, in Alliance, Ohio, he was the son of the late Florence (Weir) and Paul Gilmore.

Following high school, John received an undergraduate degree from Denison University in Granville, Ohio, and a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

On Dec. 31, 1977, at the First United Presbyterian Church in Pine Plains, he married Jan Niederlitz. Mrs. Gilmore survives at home in Millerton.

John was a past member of the Village of Millerton

Planning Board and a founding member and supporter of TownScape, a revitalization initiative established many years ago by a group of caring business owners and citizens of the Village of Millerton and the Town of North East.

In his spare time he enjoyed reading and caring for his dogs. He was especially fond of mysteries. Over the course of many years John and Jan raised 10 litters of Labrador retrievers. John also had a deep love for orchids.

In addition to his loving wife, Jan, John is survived by two sisters, Mary Gilmore of New Windsor, N.Y., and Susan Gilmore of Winston-Salem, N.C.; a nephew, Christopher Ward; a niece, Jennifer Ward; his brother-in-law, Stephen J. Musso of Manhattan; and many dear friends. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister-in-law, Kay Niederlitz.

A memorial service will take place at a later date. Arrange-

ments have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home in Millerton.

Memorial donations may be made to TownScape, P.O. Box 835, Millerton, NY 12546; or North East Community Cen-

ter, P.O. Box 35, Millerton, NY 12546.

To send an online condolence to the family or plant a tree in John's memory, go to www.conklinfuneralhome.com.

Robert E. Kipp

AMENIA — Robert E. Kipp, 75, passed away on June 18, 2021, at his residence.

He was born in Rhinebeck on Jan. 7, 1946, to the late Alma (Funk) and Robert C. Kipp.

On Dec. 23, 1968, he married Faith Hendricks; together they shared 52 years of marriage.

Robert worked in the maintenance department at the Taconic DDSO in Wassatic for 38 years before retiring to spend more time with his family.

He enjoyed working on his cars, and was always fixing something. He also enjoyed

hunting, fishing and camping. Fox Hill campground was his second home during the summer months.

Robert was a former member of the Amenia Police Department, and was also a long-time member of the Millerton Rod and Gun Club.

Robert is survived by his loving wife, Faith; his son, Robert E. Kipp III; his grandson, Robert Kipp IV; and his brother, Rodney A. Kipp.

Funeral services will be held privately at the convenience of the family. To leave a message of condolence for the family, go to www.peckandpeck.net.

More obituaries appear on page A3.

Viewpoint

Gwen Reed: a beloved part of Hartford history

For the past several months I have shared a grant to do a play about Gwendolyn Reed, who was a migrant worker in the Connecticut tobacco fields and also an accomplished actor with the Charles Gilpin Players, a branch of the Federal Theater's WPA Negro division. Gilpin was the original actor in Eugene O'Neill's "Emperor Jones." Gilpin indeed was an accomplished actor, but the man identified with the role of the crazed Black man in the jungle was the towering Paul Robeson.

Reed was born in 1912 in Harlem and soon after, her mother "fled" her father and took baby Gwen with her. Her mother began work in the tobacco fields around Hartford. At one point, there were more than 20,000 acres of tobacco, now down to 2,000. I suspect a lot of people don't even know that Connecticut has this tobacco history, but at one time, the leaves were used in the finest cigars outside Cuba.

Cotton-picking. Tobacco harvesting. Grinding work at best. The dust from the tobacco leaves is particularly harmful to the lungs.

Mother Reed was highly literate and took to reading to the workers who weren't. From Gwen's earliest age 5, she heard her mother reading her Tennyson and Shakespeare. This would spur Gwen on to a career in the theater.

But what she is best known for is her role as Aunt Jemima, which she essayed from 1956-1974. Quaker Oats had found her in a stage play and offered her the part that would in some ways define her life. She traveled to county fairs, and Kiwanis Club events, whipping up pancakes, which she would then serve to the patrons. (In none of the articles about Reed as Aunt J did they ever mention her real name.)

Dan Dwyer, the polymath who owns Johnny-cake Books in Salisbury, Conn., has a memory as a 10-year-old going to a Kiwanis event with his father, sometime in the mid-Fifties. And there was Gwen/Aunt J. Dan says he asked his father, "Daddy, is that the real Aunt Jemima?"

And here's the kicker: "Why does she look so sad?"

In an earlier column I referenced the great Black vaudevillian Bert Williams. W.C. Fields said, "Bert Williams was the funniest man I ever saw. And also the saddest."

Sadness. "Bonjour Tristesse". Francois Sagan. Universal.

The first person to impersonate Aunt J was a

white man in drag. The first woman was Nancy Green.

And this from Wiki:

"At the age of 59, Green made her debut as Aunt Jemima at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in the guise of a plantation slave, beside the 'world's largest flour barrel' (24 feet high), where she operated a pancake-cooking display, sang songs, and told romanticized stories about the Old South (a happy place for blacks and whites alike)." Not quite, Wiki.

"After the Expo, Green was reportedly offered a lifetime contract to adopt the Aunt Jemima moniker and promote the pancake mix... This marked the beginning of a major promotional push by the company that included thousands of personal appearances and Aunt Jemima merchandising. She appeared at fairs, festivals, flea markets, food shows, and local grocery stores. Her arrival was heralded by large billboards featuring the caption, 'Ise in town, honey.'"

The grant I am sharing is with the Heartbeat Ensemble and its 77-seat voice across from the Mark Twain House in Connecticut's capital. I and the dynamic Artistic Director, Godfrey Simmons, and three extraordinary women have been meeting over Zoom and pouring over material on Gwen. She was well-known in the Hartford Community and passionately interested in children's literacy programs. She even had a TV show during which she read to children. Having none of her own, her door was always open. Her apartment in the Bellevue Square section of North Hartford was equipped with tiny furniture for kids of all sizes. There is a plaque in the Hartford Library commemorating her devotion.

The great saxophonist Jackie MacClean, who was the head of the Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford, was a close friend of Gwen's. With his Artists Collective, he was working on a composition in honor of the woman he said "was always there for him." Unfortunately, Gwen died before the work was finished. MacClean worked hard to buy a gravestone for this selfless woman who had given so much to so many. Not as the bandannaed Mammy, but for the woman with the biggest heart in Hartford.

The name of the play — courtesy of Rhodessa Jones, one of our collaborators: "The Book of Gwen."

A sonnet for Gwen's mother:

Gwen Reed and her mother

My daughter, why you coughing, is it dust?
These plants exhale before the match is even lit
Our lungs so heave, we pull and drag before the drags
Tobacco, worse than cotton, I don't know
It's all the same, they break our backs, tobac
And weevils, evils South and North we toil
My daughter, why you coughing, 'cause you must
Please have some water, almost time to sit
Don't cry, your eyes so beauteous, will get bags
Your mother sits beside you, high and low
I hug you tight, we got each other's back
This sun won't stop, some clouds would ease the boil
It's back to work, my precious darling mine
It's back to work, my precious darling fine

Chrissy Grant

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



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

Time to make hay

New buzz word to learn: UPF

Food and nutrition are being looked at in an entirely new way. It is not so much a case of what's in your food, but what has been done to it. Here's a really simple example: In the '50s Crisco used to be vegetable lard. Now it is processed vegetable lard, partially hydrogenated (to increase mouth feel and flavor boost). Crisco is now like a tub of excitotoxin or, using a word you may recognize, MSG. Partially hydrogenated anything is an excitotoxin.

If you buy anything that has a list of ingredients that a normal home-cook would be unable to use, then that product is Ultra Processed Food (UPF). Processed foods may be made of products that were deconstructed, enhanced and then put back together like barley malt found in bread, granola with nuts, pasta sauces, most cheese sold in the USA, skim milk, deli meats, whipping cream... the list is almost endless. And processed can be mechanical. Whole grain cereal or potato that is super heated, then put through shaping (Pringles, most breakfast cereals) has all its fiber structure destroyed, making the whole grain nothing more than dust. And UPFs have sweeteners, salts and partially-hydrogenated oils added back in to make them taste good or have better mouth feel like lecithin.

In many high-income countries, like the USA, UPFs make up about half of our calorie intake. And that is worrying because scientific research (principally done in national health countries where such records are quantifiable for the whole nation) shows that UPFs contribute to obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart problems, some cancers, depression and stroke. And our giant food companies are pushing hard to expand

global UPF consumption for profit growth.

And there's a kicker: UPFs are usually cheaper than non-processed foods. They store better, extend shelf-life and, as any supermarket will tell you, they are packaged to sell and advertising is blasted from every TV to make you buy them. But because they are cheaper, the lowest income people in the USA consume as much as 85% of their food in UPF form.

Listen up: If you see someone who's obese, remember that the cost of food, the lack of school training about what's in food, the power of advertising to push these foods as cheaply as possible — these obese people are not greedy or overeating, they are being fed UPFs, economically induced to buy UPFs and many UPF ingredients are addictive and very flavorful.

There's a food classification based on the needs for human health called the NOVA System. I'll leave you with what you need to know: There are four categories:

1. The least processed foods — foods like apples, fresh vegetables and eggs and steak, and actual grains, and non-frozen fish.

2. Processed culinary ingredients, like oil, butter, spices, vinegar, salt and sugar.

3. Processed foods like freshly made cheese, unbleached flour, canned fish, oatmeal and a whole host of foods made up of foods from group 1. and modified only with food from group 2., like some smoked salmon, salami, hams and popcorn (always read the ingredients).

4. Ultra Processed Foods. Here the foods from group 1. are no longer intact. UPFs are made up of disassembled, broken, ingredients from group 1. and 2., re-assembled with chemical additives and processing. The purpose here is not only to make the food last longer but taste better, and because of additives, provide the same calorie value, but for far more profit for the food processor.

You are, remember, what you eat.

Peter Riva is a former resident of Amenia Union. He now resides in New Mexico.

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Portions of the north west corner are being heavily impacted by Gypsy Moth caterpillars. Many acres of trees have been stripped of their leaves. This will last thru June until the caterpillars pupate become moths and start the process all over again for the next year. Each year is different, with this year being a large infestation. The trees will be stressed, but many will survive. To understand more about Gypsy Moths, the state has an information fact sheet that can be found at portal.ct.gov/-/media/CAES/DOCUMENTS/Gypsy_Moth/Gypsy-Moth-Fact-Sheet-Update-2019.pdf.



JOHN HARNEY
Associate Broker with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty
Office: 19 Main Street, Salisbury, CT 06068
Email: jharney@wpsir.com
Cell: 860-921-7910
Instagram: @johnharneyjr

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF RUTH ALCALA, Late of Canaan (21-00239)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated June 10, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Antonio Tomas Alcala
c/o Linda M Patz,
Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP
7 Church Street
PO Box 101
Canaan, CT 06018
Megan Williams, Clerk
06-24-21

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF HARRIET L. WOOD Late of Salisbury AKA Leila Wood (21-00229)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated June 3, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address

below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Caroline E. Wood
c/o Michael J Keenan,
Keenan Law, LLC
787 Main Street, SO
Glastonbury, CT 06073
Beth L. McGuire
Chief Clerk
06-24-24

LEGAL NOTICE

The taxpayers of the Town of Salisbury are hereby notified that I have received the Warrant and the Rate Bill to collect taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 with a levy of 11.00 Mills. Said taxes become due on July 1, 2021. If said Real Estate and Personal Property tax is over \$100.00, it is payable in four installments due: July 1, 2021, October 1, 2021, January 1, 2022, April 1, 2022. Motor Vehicle tax shall be paid in one installment due: July 1, 2021. Payments must be received or postmarked by August 2, 2021. If said Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicle taxes are not paid on or before August 2, 2021 interest at the rate of 1.5% (18 annually). The minimum interest charge is \$2.00. Taxes

can be paid by mail addressed to: Tax Collector, PO Box 338, Salisbury CT 06068. WPCA Sewer use fees for the year July 1, 2021 are also due and payable on August 2, 2021.

There is a drop box in the vestibule of the Town Hall open 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday. Other payment options: Online at officialpayments.com, jurisdiction code 1759 (there is a fee for this service) or mail to P.O. Box 338, Salisbury, CT 06068. NO CASH will be accepted. Please check salisburyct.us for additional information.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE A BILL DOES NOT INVALIDATE THE TAX OR THE INTEREST. Please contact the Tax Collector's Office 860 435-5189 or taxcollector@salisburyct.us, if you do not receive a bill. Dated this 4th day of June 2021.

Jean F. Bell, CCMC
Tax Collector
Salisbury, CT 06068
06-24-21
07-08-21
07-22-21

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF HOWARD C. DICKLER Late of California (21-00258)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 27, 2021, ordered that all

claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Alexandra Morgan
c/o Louise F Brown, Esq.
Ackerly Brown, LLP
5 Academy Street
P.O. Box 568
Salisbury, CT 06068
Beth L. McGuire,
Chief Clerk
06-24-21

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF KENT

The first installment of the Real Estate, Personal Property and the Motor Vehicle tax for the Grand List of 2020 is due and payable July 1, 2021. The first installment of the Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicle tax for the Grand List of 2020 will become delinquent on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

As soon as the tax becomes delinquent, it shall be subject to interest at the rate of 1.5% per month from July 1, 2021 until the same is paid.

Bills may be viewed on line by going to the Tax Collector's page of the Town of Kent website at www.townofkent.ct.org.

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

and Wednesday and there is a drop box at the front door of the Town Hall. Payment is also welcome through the mail at P.O. Box 311, Kent, Connecticut 06757.

Credit cards are not accepted in the office but you may pay online by going to www.officialpayments.com
Deborah Devaux CCMC
Tax Collector
06-24-21
07-08-21
07-29-21

NOTICE THE SALISBURY HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

The Salisbury Historic Districts Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 9:10am to act on an Application (#2021-007) for a Certificate of Appropriateness to repair the front porch/soffit/fascia, install new piers on front porch, install new column bases and replace lattice using the same dimensions as existing, at 63 Millerton Road, Lakeville, CT 06039. This Public Hearing will be a Remote Meeting by Live Internet Video Stream and Telephone. The Meeting Link will be posted on the Town of Salisbury website: http://www.salisburyct.us/salisbury-historic-district-commission. The application is available for review by contacting the

Salisbury Town Clerk's office:
www.salisburyct.us.

06-24-21
07-01-21

TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE, TOWN OF CANAAN/FALLS VILLAGE

Pursuant to Sec. 12-145 of the Connecticut statutes, the undersigned Tax Collector of the Town of Canaan gives notice that she will be ready to receive Motor Vehicle taxes and the first installment of Real Estate & Personal Property taxes due July 1, 2021 at the Tax Collector's office in the Canaan Town Hall, 108 Main St, Falls Village, CT on Monday's 9am-3pm and Wednesday 9am-12pm. Payments must be received or postmarked by August 2, 2021 to avoid interest.

All taxes remaining unpaid after August 2, 2021 will be charged interest from July 1, 2021 at the rate of 1.5% for each month elapsing from the due date of the delinquent tax to the date of payment, with a minimum interest charge of \$2.00. Sec. 12-146.

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

Rebecca M Juchert-Derung,
Tax Collector, CCMC
06-24-21
07-01-21
07-22-21

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TAG SALES

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

NORTH CANAAN, CT

TAG SALE: July 2, 3, 4, 10am to 5pm, 119 Granite Avenue Ext., Canaan, CT, off Route 7 (RR St.), corner Orchard St. & Granite Ave. Ext.

SHARON, CT

TAG SALE: Saturday, June 26, 9a.m. to 3p.m., 7 Rolling Hills Road. White wicker furniture, wrought iron lounge chair, twin bed frames, 10 speed men's bike, chairs, furniture and more! No early birds please.

AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE

MGB 1977: Original yellow. \$6000 or best offer. Call 860-435-0088 for pics or a visit. (Lakeville).

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MINI BIKES FOR SALE: Suzuki, RM50 and KTM-SSR. 2 helmets included. \$1500 for pair. 860-364-5019.

HELP WANTED

DRIVER: For the Lakeville Journal Company for newspaper routes, part time Wednesdays, Thursdays and some Fridays. Call Janet Manko. 860-435-9873, x201 or email publisher@lakevillejournal.com.

SMALL ANGUS FARM SEEKS P/T HELP: Duties include feeding, cleaning, fence repair, moving hay and grain daily. Will train the right person. 860-364-5019.

HELP WANTED

EXTRAS CHILD CARE CENTER IN SALISBURY CT: Looking for a Director/Head Teacher and Teachers for the Summer/After School program. If interested or for more information please contact extrasprogram@gmail.com.

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PROJECT ESTIMATOR: Established Residential construction company looking for a PT/FT detail-oriented & dependable estimator. Applicants must be able to read blueprints. Prior experience and/or education in the construction field is necessary. Please call 845-373-9539, ext. 103.

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REAL ESTATE

State of Connecticut General Statutes 46a-64c which prohibit the making, printing or publishing or causing to be made, printed or published any notice, statement or advertisement with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, physical or mental disability or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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Email your classified at Lyndee Stalter at classified@lakevillejournal.com.

Salisbury School

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Salisbury School in Salisbury, CT is looking for you if you are a friendly professional who is trustworthy, honest and on-time. You embrace our unique school culture and are ready to take initiative because you are organized and trainable and expect positive results. You've got a can-do attitude and a valid driver's license. You're observant and keeping people safe is your thing. You're a self-starter that works well alone and as part of a team. If you believe you have these qualities, then we invite you to apply! Salisbury School has full and part-time openings for Campus Safety Officers. Competitive pay and generous benefit package available. A word of warning... the Salisbury School Campus Safety Team isn't for everyone and we're OK with that. We are looking for security professionals that take pride in protecting people, property and peace of mind.

For an employment application please visit: www.salisburyschool.org/our-story/careers-at-salisbury or email mdonecker@salisburyschool.org.

EOE

Administrative Assistant Part-time

St. Thomas Episcopal Church (Amenia Union) and the Food of Life/Comida de Vida Food Pantry are seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant to support their mission. We are an inclusive "Believe Out Loud" community committed to radical hospitality in our neighborhood and beyond. The Food Pantry, which is St. Thomas' primary mission, provides fresh, nutritious food weekly to our neighbors in need.

The duties for this position include management of databases, word processing, communications support (including email, mail, and social media), record keeping, and supporting the clergy and lay leaders in their work. The ideal candidate will possess excellent organizational skills, be comfortable with email and social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram, be very proficient in Word and Excel, and enjoy attention to detail. The position reports directly to the Priest-in-Charge. Salary is \$25/hour for 8 to 10 hours/week.

Submit a resume and cover letter to:
The Rev. AJ Stack (aj@stthomasamenia.com)

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FOR ALL REAL ESTATE AGENTS/AGENCIES who see this, there will be an open house for AGENTS on 6/24 (Thursday) AT: #44 LEDGEWOOD RD, (off Wells Hill) between 10 AM and 12 PM. A sign will be out, and light refreshments will be available.



SALISBURY
SALISBURY VILLAGE LAND PARCEL: 5.9 ACRES, comprised of two (2) tax lots of wooded and open land, fronting on a trout stream, with view of Prospect mountain, and adjacent to the "rail trail" enabling a lovely walk to the village center. Partially broker owned. Offered at \$425,000.



AMENIA
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