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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 KAITLIN LYLE

"Steady Eddie" is hiking a 700-mile stretch of the Appalachian Trail.

AT season has begun

A steady trickle of Appalachian Trail hikers is already coming through the Northwest Corner. Some are doing short distances, some are doing day hikes, but the ones with large packs and walking sticks are likely making the pilgrimage from the head of the trail in Georgia to the terminus of the trail in Maine.

Most hikers choose a trail name. "Steady Eddie" was spotted resting on a bench next to LaBonne's Market in Salisbury last week. Having already hiked the entire trail in spring 2015, "Steady Eddie" this year is working on a 700-mile stretch, from West Virginia to Vermont. He started his journey on Wednesday, April 14.

— Kaitlin Lyle



PHOTO BY TOM BROWN

Covered Bridge race is back!

After a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 quarantine, the Covered Bridge Slalom in West Cornwall, a beloved annual ritual, returned on Sunday, May 16. Among the competitors were, in this photo, Linda Basilicato and Clayton Cole, who had traveled to the race from Maine. More photos and a story are on Page A6.

2021 expected to be a record-breaking year for ticks

By Debra A. Aleksinas

Part I

State and local health officials are warning that there is an uptick this year in populations of potentially disease-carrying ticks.

A combination of several months of snow cover this winter followed by warm temperatures in early spring have contributed to an uptick in these "very adaptable

and durable arthropods," said Thomas Stansfield, Deputy Director of Health for the Torrington Area Health District (which provides health services and information to 20 communities in Litchfield County, including most of the Northwest Corner towns).

"We are most concerned about the blacklegged tick, also known as the deer tick," Stansfield said. "We associate most of the Lyme and Lyme-like disease

to this particular tick."

Signs point to record infestation

Jamie Cantoni, Research Assistant with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's (CAES) Department of Entomology, has been work-

"Already 20% more adult ticks have been collected from Housatonic Meadows and 66% more from Great Mountain Forest."
Jamie Cantoni, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

ing with Station researchers at the Active Tick Surveillance Program (ATSP), which was established in spring 2019.

She said signs are pointing to a tick season that could surpass the 2017 season, which was the heaviest infestation on record in recent years, based on research at statewide sampling sites including Housatonic Meadows State Park in Sharon and Great Mountain Forest in Norfolk and Falls Village.

"Already 20% more adult ticks have been collected from Housatonic Meadows in the first round of sampling than in the combined total of the first two rounds sampled in 2020, and 66% more from Great Mountain Forest so far."

She said there is expected to be a high rate of outdoor recreational activities this summer, in part because of the end of the COVID quarantine; and there is an abundance of "reservoir host rodents, particularly white footed mice."

As a result, she said, "I suspect more Lyme cases will be reported."

The outlook for autumn: concerning

"Ticks are on the move year-round, but springtime and warmer weather herald their lurking presence most noticeably, as folks who were bundled up indoors during winter shed their bulky layers and make their way to the great outdoors," said Cantoni.

Tick activity, she said, varies from year to year based on

a variety of ecological factors that synchronize to make some years better or worse than others. That abundance of reservoir hosts, for example — supported in part by a healthy acorn harvest that feeds the deer and rodents, which supply a bloodmeal for ticks that allows them to lay their eggs.

With the 2021 adult tick season winding down, Cantoni said, "we can anticipate the rise of the nymphs" throughout May and lasting through June.

"It is uncertain at this time just how abundant the nymphal count will be for their upcoming season, but if their numbers are also higher, then we can expect higher adult numbers in the fall as these springtime nymph feed, molt and become the adults we see in the fall months."

May and June are the danger months

The nymphal stage, said Cantoni, is also the most likely stage in which Lyme is transferred, "as the ticks are so much smaller than the adult females and therefore are more difficult to detect. So by the time they are noticed, it is likely too late and the pathogen has been transferred."

It takes 24 to 36 hours of tick feeding/attachment for transmission, she explained. "So while adult activity has so far been bad this year, the rise of the nymphs is coming and that will be a big indicator as for just how bad the Lyme cases are and will be."

Search continues on Housatonic River after man disappears at Falls

By Patrick L. Sullivan and Cynthia Hochswender

AMESVILLE— State Police are continuing to search for a man described as a 38-year old white male, who went missing in the Housatonic River on Saturday, May 15.

As of Tuesday morning, May 18, the police said they had temporarily stopped searching the water but that the Dive Team would return on Friday, May 21. They gave no reason for the delay, but simply said it was the decision of the Dive Team.

Lakeville Hose Company Assistant Fire Chief Jason Wilson said on Sunday, May 16, that the Lakeville Hose Company, the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department, North Canaan Volunteer Fire Department and Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service responded to the 2:30 p.m. call of a man lost in the water on Saturday.

Wilson said the incident took place near the boat launch

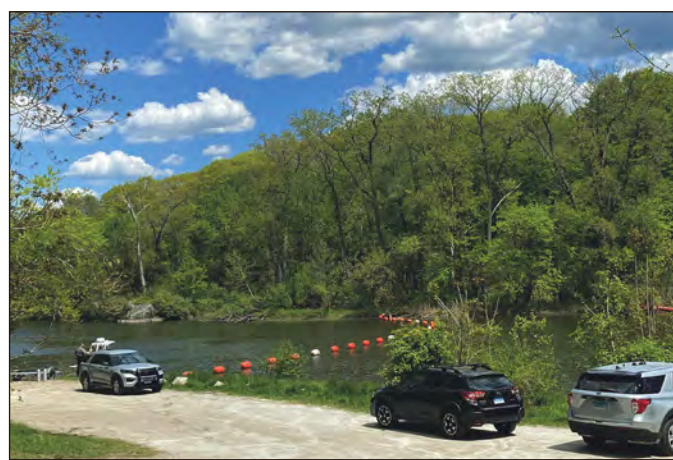


PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

The State Police Dive Team has suspended until Friday, May 21, the search for a man reported missing in the Housatonic River on Saturday, May 15.

above the falls, on Housatonic River Road in Salisbury.

Apparently the missing man used a rope swing tied to a tree on the west bank of the river, Wilson said. According to the State Police, the man "never re-surfaced after entering the water above the Great Falls Dam."

The regional volunteer rope team and dive team also responded, at approximately 3 p.m.

Using sonar, the rescuers tried to find the missing man, to no avail. "There's a lot of debris in there, and it's deep," Wilson said.

At 5 p.m., the search was

turned over to the State Police Dive Team.

In addition to the State Police, the State Police Dive Team and the volunteer fire and ambulance services, support was also provided at the scene from the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (which has its own police) and the regional dive and rescue teams.

The Housatonic River has proven fatally attractive to unwary swimmers and boaters through the years, with as many as three drowning deaths per year at the Great Falls and

the rapids at the Bull's Bridge area near Kent.

The Housatonic appears to be much more placid than it actually is, especially in spring when the water is at its deepest. In addition to deep water, there are also rocks, downed trees and silty stretches, all of which poze hazards to swimmers.

Extreme caution is recommended at these sites. State and local officials as well as nearby property owners remind visitors that parking is not allowed on the narrow roadsides near the river. When cars are parked along the shoulder of the roads, it becomes extremely difficult for emergency and rescue vehicles to get by.

Visitors are also asked not to leave trash along the sides of the rivers, and when possible to stay at public recreation areas, where there are parking areas and trash bins.

Last summer, many public recreation areas at rivers and lakes were closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, many parks and swimming areas have opened again to the public. A public access point is being planned along the Housatonic River in North Canaan but is not available yet.



Look for tips on how to avoid tick bites in the May 27 issue of The Lakeville Journal.

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In The Journal this week

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OUR TOWNS	A3-4	OPINION	B3
OBITUARIES	A3, A5	VIEWPOINT	B4
SPORTS	A6	CLASSIFIEDS	B5-6

Three-day forecast

Friday	Cloudy, high 81°/low 55°
Saturday	Thunderstorms, 81°/57°
Sunday	Cloudy, 84°/61°

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Scholarship for FV students

FALLS VILLAGE — The Falls Village Scholarship Association (FVSA) is accepting applications from high school students living in Falls Village to continue their education at colleges or trade schools for the 2021-22 academic year. Those expecting to graduate this spring from either Housatonic Valley Regional High School or any other public or private high school are eligible

to apply.

The application is available as an online form that can be found at www.fallsvillagescholarships.org. The deadline for applications and support materials is Thursday, June 3.

For more information or to make a donation email fvscholarshipassociation@gmail.com. Donations may also be mailed to FVSA, P.O. Box 292, Falls Village, CT 06031.

Community Foundation, BTCF grants for nonprofits

The Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation has awarded grants to 24 area nonprofit organizations, totaling \$106,850 during its first grant cycle of 2021. Additionally, Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (BTCF) contributed \$20,250 toward several grants from the Northwest Corner Fund of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

additional \$2,100 from the Northwest Corner Fund of BTCF.

Music Mountain — \$5,000 matching grant to support the purchase and installation of a new sound reinforcement, recording, and livestreaming system for Gordon Hall (from the Khurshed Bhumgara Fund) with an additional \$3,500 from the Northwest Corner Fund of BTCF.

Northwest Connecticut Arts Council — \$5,000 to support general operating expenses (from the Ruth and Robert Cron Endowment Fund) with an additional \$2,000 from the Northwest Corner Fund of BTCF.

Recent awards included: Hazon — \$3,000 to support the distribution of fresh local produce to emergency food pantries (from the Edward W. Diskavich Fund) with an additional \$3,000 from the Northwest Corner Fund of BTCF. Hotchkiss Library of Sharon — \$20,000 to support renovation and expansion of the library facilities including accessibility updates (from the Khurshed Bhumgara Fund).

Housatonic Valley Association — \$5,000 to support wages for two seasonal bilingual River Information & Outreach interns in 2021 (from the Khurshed Bhumgara Fund) with an additional \$3,150 from the Northwest Corner Fund of BTCF.

Housatonic Child Care Center — \$15,000 to support general operating expenses (from the Khurshed Bhumgara Fund) with an additional \$5,000 from the Northwest Corner Fund of BTCF.

Housatonic Youth Service Bureau — \$4,000 to support the creation of facilitated educational videos to complement telehealth counseling sessions (from the Carlton D. Fyler and Jenny R. Fyler Fund) with an

BEAR WATCH



PHOTO BY OSCAR MARTINEZ

This bear has learned that the birdfeeder hook at this yard in Sharon often has tasty treats attached to it.

The neighborhood visitor

SHARON — Oscar Martinez of Sharon emailed this photo of a tall bear on May 5 and said he and his wife, Peggy, spotted the frequent visitor from years past at their birdfeeder.

"We always remove the feeder late in the afternoons, but leave the aluminum hook on a tree branch. The bear is familiar with the spot on our yard, so he looked up at the hook and was ready to dislodge the feeder.

"Peggy went outside and let off a loud whistle, and the bear took off.

"The bear has bent the same hook and taken it several yards before."

— Cynthia Hochswender

Send Family & Friends announcements to editor@lakevillejournal.com

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

Check them out inside.

- CVS
- Ocean State Job Lot

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.

Drove off the road

On May 10 at approximately 3:30 p.m. on Between the Lakes Road in Salisbury a 2014 Volvo XC60 driven by Cortney Ann Weedman, 32, of Scottsdale, Ariz., exited the road and drove onto a dirt embankment. Weedman states she became distracted by objects that had fallen off the passenger seat. She was issued a written warning for failure to maintain the lane.

Injured USPS driver

On May 10 at approximately

3:45 p.m. on Modley Road in Sharon a USPS mail truck driven by Eva Hoora Wolfstrand, 32, of Torrington was traveling at 30 mph on a single lane dirt and gravel road and struck a hole in the dirt that caused the truck to swerve and strike a boulder off the side of the road. Wolfstrand was transported to Sharon Hospital for minor injuries. She was issued a verbal warning for failure to drive in the right lane.

The Lakeville Journal will publish the outcome of police charges. Contact us by mail at P.O. Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039, Attn: Police Blotter, or send an email, with "police blotter" in the subject line, to cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com.

Apply by May 31 for scholarship

LAKEVILLE — Salisbury Bank announced its 2021 annual "Time to Shine" Scholarship Program. Multiple scholarships may be awarded for up to \$1,500 to students seeking a college degree.

Eligible students must be residents of Litchfield County or Dutchess County, N.Y., or Berkshire County, Mass., and planning to enter college for

the 2021/2022 academic year.

All applications must be submitted online at www.salisburybank.com/scholarship. The Scholarship Committee must receive complete applications and transcripts by 5 p.m. on Monday, May 31.

For more information, contact Megan Snow at 860-453-3555 or email msnow@salisburybank.com.



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Please contact Joe O'Connor by email at: Joconnor@hotchkiss.org



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LEGAL NOTICES

BAUER FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

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

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

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

New and returning application forms for the 2021-2022 school year are available at: www.bauerfundfoundation.org.

Completed and fully documented applications must be returned to The Bauer Foundation at PO Box 1784 Lakeville CT 06039 postmarked no later than June 15, 2021. Scholarship awards will be announced by August 23, 2021.

04-29-21
05-06-21
05-13-21
05-20-21

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission of the Town of Salisbury,

Connecticut on May 10, 2021:

Approved: Application 2021-1W-015 by Celia Rochelle Bordwin for soil remediation due to leaking underground fuel oil storage tank. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 47 as lot 17 and is known as 75 Sharon Road, Lakeville. The owner of the property is Celia Rochelle Bordwin.

Any aggrieved person may appeal this decision to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §22a-43(a) & §8-8.

05-20-21

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF JOAN B. LOPER Late of Sharon (21-00179)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 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: Louise F Brown, Esq. Ackerly Brown LLP 5 Academy Street P.O. Box 568 Salisbury, CT 06068

Megan Williams Clerk 05-20-21

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SEEing SOLUTIONS

Welcome to Sharon Energy and Environment Commission's education and announcement column.

POLLINATORS NEED YOUR HELP

Sharon Energy and Environment Commission is seeking to make Sharon a Pollinator Pathway Town. We hope you will join the effort. The Pollinator Pathway creates pesticide-free corridors of native plants. For information on how residential properties can join the effort to save the pollinators, visit www.pollinator-pathway.org or email us at seeect@gmail.com.

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Our Towns

Sharon town meeting approves budget, and new mill rate is set

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — By unanimous vote, residents attending the annual town meeting on Friday, May 14, adopted the 2021-22 town and education budgets as proposed, offering no questions or comments. Attendance was modest for the meeting, which was held in person at Sharon Center School and was also available on Zoom.

Details of the budgets had been the subject of numerous public meetings and hearings leading up to the final vote,

which took only minutes to conduct. Barbara Prindle was elected to serve as moderator.

Copies of the budgets are available on the town website. The selectmen's budget, with expected revenues factored in, totals \$4,244,872, an increase of \$130,632, or 3.17%.

The Board of Education budget for Sharon Center School totals \$4,513,781, up by \$170,468, or 3.92%.

Immediately following the town meeting vote, the Board of Finance met to set the mill rate for the coming year. Fol-

lowing discussion, the mill rate was set at 14.5. One mill is equal to one dollar for every thousand dollars of a property's assessed valuation. For example, a home valued at \$100,000 would pay \$1,450 in taxes.

During discussion the finance board debated an amount to be taken from the town's Undesignated General Fund to reduce the impact of the expenditure increase, with Cody O'Kelly seeing wisdom in keeping a healthier undesignated fund balance throughout the year.

Board Chairman Tom Bartram saw the rate of 14.5 as striking a happy medium.

Although emphasizing his support for the mill rate under discussion, O'Kelly said, "If we wanted to stay safe, we could have held back on approving spending requests," referencing the weeks of budget process.

He suggested that to assist residents with understanding budget dynamics, the Board of Finance could discuss impact on mill rate as it considers budget requests earlier on in the process.

Budgets finish up, and discussions on the Falls Village firehouse begin

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Board of Finance will hold a public hearing on the proposed municipal and education spending plans at the Emergency Services Center on Friday, May 21, 7 p.m.

There are no restrictions on how many people may attend. The meeting will not be held online in addition.

During the discussion of the municipal spending plan, a motion was made to remove a salary increase for Economic Development Director Felicia Jones.

First Selectman Henry Todd made his case for keeping the salary increase, from \$2,000 to \$10,695.

Todd said Jones has been working long hours and pointed to a list of accomplishments, including two new businesses in town, organizing volunteers to get 107 Main St. ready for commercial use, fundraising, working with Comcast to get an internet hotspot, and obtaining a grant for the town

pool property.

He said Jones' efforts have freed him up to deal with other matters.

"I think you're making a bad mistake for the town."

Finance Chairman Dick Heinz, who made the motion, voted against it, saying that he would prefer to take it to the hearing and get more input from the public.

The municipal spending plan's total is \$2,031,057, an increase of \$168,812 (9.06%). The education spending plan's total is \$2,038,723, an increase of \$59,402 (3%).

At the selectmen's meeting following the finance board meeting on May 17, the selectmen heard from residents urging the adoption of a "values statement" for the town, to be posted on the town website and in some physical form at Town Hall.

The statement reads: "Falls Village values and works to maintain a welcoming community that accepts and respects the dignity and humanity of its neighbors and

residents — regardless of race, religious beliefs, nationality, ethnicity, economic status, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or differing abilities."

Last summer there was an anti-Black Lives Matter sentiment expressed in spray paint on Sand Road. The graffiti was quickly dealt with and the selectmen issued a terse statement decrying the graffiti.

The selectmen unanimously agreed to adopt the statement.

The selectmen agreed to recommend to the finance board a salary increase for the town clerk.

And the selectmen agreed

to start thinking about what to do with the old firehouse on Railroad Street. Todd said the building is starting to deteriorate and floated the idea of renovations (at town expense) to attract a business for the ground floor and to create an apartment upstairs. He said if the building could generate \$3,000 per month in combined rents then that would cover the expense.

Todd said a longstanding encroachment issue with the Falls Village Inn needs to be resolved, and that the building will require a new septic system.



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Flushing water mains

SHARON — On May 27 and 28, the Sharon Sewer and Water Commission will be flushing the water mains between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

On June 27, all lines north of West Main Street including West Main and Hospital Hill will be completed. The remainder of the system will be flushed on June 28.

Customers can expect to experience intermittent decreases of water pressure with the potential for discolored water. Limiting water consumption will

help to minimize the impact on individual service lines. It is also advisable to refrain from doing laundry, as potential iron and manganese slugs could result in staining.

If any customers notice that their water is discolored or turbid after 4 p.m., they should run their water until it clears before consumption or laundry. Past experience has shown water quality to return to normal within a couple of hours.

For questions and concerns, call 860-364-0457.

OBITUARIES

Memorial service:

Ralph 'Dusty' Wilson Sandmeyer

CORNWALL — Ralph "Dusty" Wilson Sandmeyer died on May 13, 2020. Due to COVID, we decided to postpone his service for a year.

Dusty was much beloved by his wife, Sandy; his two daughters, Kate Ward of Cornwall and Kira Woods of Winter Park, Fla.; and his four grandchildren, Austin and Fallyn Ward and Wilson and Turner

Woods.

We miss him dearly and look forward to sharing our love for him and celebrating his life with friends and family on Saturday, May 29, at 11 a.m. at the United Church of Christ, Cornwall, Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall Village.

Masks are encouraged, especially for anyone who has not been vaccinated.

For more obituaries, see page A5



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Our Towns

Lively debate on home business regulations

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — Having heard residents' comments during two public hearings and having received many written comments reacting to suggested changes to regulations governing home businesses, the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) concluded its hearing on the matter on Tuesday, May 11.

The second hearing attracted an audience of about 35 on Zoom.

Rather than beginning deliberations on the regulation changes that night, the P&Z decided to schedule a special meeting for the purpose to be held on Tuesday, May 25, beginning at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

"The prime duty of the P&Z," Chairwoman Anna Timell observed, "is the health, safety and welfare of Cornwall residents."

The amount of discretion and the application of such discretion on the part of the P&Z was a frequent focus of discussion throughout the hearing process.

Feeling that precise standards need to be specified within the regulations, David Colbert urged that the P&Z retain discretionary powers within the special permit ap-

plication process.

Several residents who spoke favored setting specific limits that could be enforced, including limits to noise emanating from a business or art studio, or other intrusive stressors such as traffic.

The current set of proposed changes is in its seventh draft form, Timell noted. Richard Bramley reviewed the history of the regulations, recalling that they were created in the 1950s and amended in the 1980s. He said that no one objects to home offices, but rather the concerns arise over home businesses.

Another resident had counted the written responses posted on the town website, finding that 110 people had written in opposition to the regulation changes and nine letters had been received in support. He said that no one had objections to existing home businesses, and wondered why the changes are necessary.

There was general agreement that working from home is becoming a trend, with concern arising over the possibility of home businesses becoming intrusive to neighbors or neighborhoods.

Resident Joanne Wojtusiak spoke of a prevailing local wish to preserve the rural and residential character of the town.

Many residents would prefer limits to activity and definition of "What is excessive?" In the case of noise, how many decibels should be allowed?

Resident Maggie Cooley suggested that housing is an aspect of the issue, with small businesses likely to provide essential services to residents, and likely to be provided by younger people with families.

"The social fabric is at stake," Ian Ridgway said, supporting the regulation changes.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway referenced the Town Plan of Conservation and Development. It highlights the

need to promote the growth of business and the underlying need for jobs.

Ridgway said 25% of homes in town operate some kind of business now. He added that most people who own businesses are conscious of their neighbors. "There are controls in place," he said.

"We need to trust that there aren't a lot of people interest-

ed in beginning an industrial enterprise. We are not a good location for industry," resident Ann Trowbridge said.

"Most of us are good neighbors," she added.

Resident Caroline Nastro felt that most residents are mostly in agreement, that everyone wants small businesses to thrive and they also want to protect their neighborhoods.



PHOTO BY TOM BROWN

Whatever floats your boat

CORNWALL — In normal years, students from the Region One School District travel to one of the Nature's Classroom sites during their middle school years.

This year, because of COVID-19, Nature's Classroom came to Cornwall Consolidated School last week, and gave students a chance to learn about nature by doing hands-on projects.

The students learned about orienteering, dissection, how boats float and more.

— Cynthia Hochswender

Town meeting will be on May 21

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — By unanimous vote, the Board of Finance approved the 2021-22 proposed budgets as presented at it meeting on Thursday, May 13, clearing the way for the budgets to be considered at the annual town meeting. The finance board meeting was held on Zoom.

The town meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 21, beginning at 7:30 p.m. It will be held in person at Town Hall and also on Zoom. The proposed budgets are posted on the town's website. The finance board made no changes to the budget, sending them on to the town meeting as proposed.

The selectmen's budget totals \$2,917,986, an increase of \$151,457 (5.47%). The Board of Education budget totals \$4,017,965, an increase of \$145,742 (3.76%). Together the budgets total \$7,291,953, up by \$296,849 (4.27%).

The Board of Finance computed that if \$288,110 is taken from the Undesignated General Fund, the mill rate would remain level at 16.70, aligned with the current year.

During discussion, finance board member Lisa Simont raised the question of cybersecurity in town. First Selectman Gordon Ridgway responded

that the matter had been discussed at a recent meeting of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments. As a result, the town will research its own systems and any potential vulnerability.

"The threat seems real," Ridgway said, "but our town computers are not linked together and the town is not linked to outside services." He added that the State of Connecticut is offering resources to identify any vulnerabilities and will also provide advice.


Ridgway favored having a system in place that will control any risk.

Plant sale will be May 29-30

FALLS VILLAGE — The Homegrown Plant Sale of the D. M. Hunt Library will be held on Saturday, May 29, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday May 30, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.


Falls Village's own growers, gardeners and CSAs will provide a wide variety of plants, including a large selection of tomatoes, vegetables, annuals and perennials, and house plants including geraniums from Housatonic Valley Regional High School's agricultural education program, in pots and hanging baskets. Proceeds benefit the library and the high school. For more information, or to donate plants, call the library at 860-824-7424 or go to www.huntlibrary.org.

Send obituaries to cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com



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Rose M. Judson

ANCRAM — Rose M. Judson, 84, a 10-year resident of Ancram, formerly of Millerton, died peacefully on May 14, 2021, at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Hudson, N.Y., with her loving family at her bedside.



Mrs. Judson worked for the Taconic Developmental Disabilities Services Office as a therapy aide for more than 20 years and retired in 2001.

Born April 10, 1937, in New Milford, she was the daughter of the late Bertha (Thalles) and Charles White.

Rose graduated from New Milford High School. In November of 1971 she married Melvin Judson. Mr. Judson died in 2008.

Rose was an avid gardener and enjoyed growing beautiful flowers and tending to her extensive vegetable garden.

She also enjoyed deer hunting every season and fishing in her spare time.

She will be dearly missed by her loving family and many friends.

Rose is survived by her four

children, Shannon Moore of Texas, Randy McCarroll of Ghent, N.Y., Tara Young of Craftsbury, Vt., and Nathan Judson and his companion, Rosemary Gansowski, of Ancram; three brothers, Herb, Alfred and Tommy White; a sister, Linda Dittrich; seven grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she was also predeceased by seven brothers, one sister and four half brothers.

Graveside services and burial will take place on Friday, May 21, at noon at New Milford Center Cemetery, the Rev. William Mayhew officiating. Memorial donations may be made to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, P.O. Box 676910, Dallas, TX 75267-6910.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home in Millerton. To send flowers or an online condolence to the family, go to www.conklinfuneralhome.com.

Randy Keith Wilson

NORFOLK — Randy Keith Wilson, 67, a lifelong area resident passed away on Oct. 30, 2020, with family and friends by his side following a short battle with cancer.



Randy was born on Dec. 3, 1952, in Sharon. He was the son of the late Richard Albert and Agnes E. (Traver) Wilson of Lakeville. After his mother's death in 1962 he was raised by his sister, Mary Sager, in Cornwall Bridge.

Randy attended Salisbury Central School, Cornwall Consolidated School and graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1974.

Randy worked for about 20 years at Kent Manufacturing in Kent.

He enjoyed working on everyone's cars and trucks, watching wrestling on television and going to wrestling matches. Randy also loved spending time with his extended family and friends.

Randy is survived by a brother, Charles R. Wilson of Torrington; his sisters, Marcia E. Audia, Dorothy Therrien and her husband, Robert, all of Beverly Hills, Fla., Mary A. Sager and Linda Cavanaugh and her husband, Gordon, all of Cornwall Bridge; and many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and -nephews and cousins. He is also survived by his extended family, DeeDe Gordon-Taylor and her children, Tessa, Kira, Rory and Sam "his bestest buddy" Taylor.

In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by eight brothers, Larry, Billy, Johnny, Joe, Paul, Bobby, Jerry and David; and a sister, Cindy.

The family would like to thank DeeDe and her family and the Foothills VNA for all their support during this time.

There are no calling hours. Funeral services and burial will take place on Saturday, July 12, 2021 at 10 a.m. at Irondale Cemetery in Millerton, and will be announced on the funeral home website. The Rev. William Mayhew will officiate.

Memorial donations may be made to the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Dept., 20 Shepard Road, Norfolk, CT 06058; or North Canaan Fire Company, P.O. Box 642, North Canaan, CT 06018.

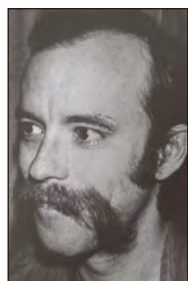
Arrangements are under the direction of the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home in Millerton.

To send an online condolence, go to www.conklinfuneralhome.com.

OBITUARIES

Christopher Kaufholz

LAKEVILLE — Christopher Kaufholz, 74, passed away on Feb. 19, 2021, after a long illness.



He was born in Pittsfield, Mass., on Sept. 6, 1946, the son of the late Frederick and Mary Kaufholz of Lakeville and the brother of David Kaufholz of Franklin, N.C.

He had been a resident at Noble Horizons for the past six years. Prior to that, he lived in Lakeville and on Upper Goose Island in Casco Bay, Maine.

He graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1964.

He then served in the Air Force from 1966 to 1970, where he achieved the rank of staff sergeant with the 99th OMS on Guam as a B-52 Crew Chief with Top Secret Clearance.

After serving his country, he apprenticed as a cabinet maker for several years before forming his own business, Chris Kaufholz Woodworking. During that time, he and his brother formed a bluegrass duo, The IKB (for Infamous

Kaufholz Brothers). Chris played guitar, banjo and fiddle. They later played for several years in a popular bluegrass band, Iron Mountain Cannonball.

Having an avid interest in computers, Chris graduated from the Computer Processing Institute in East Hartford, Conn., in 1989.

Then, at the age of 45, he enrolled at the University of Connecticut and received his degree with honors in Computer Science Engineering in 1994. Subsequently, he joined NRS in Lakeville as a Systems Analyst until his retirement.

After retirement, he continued to dabble in computers while also continuing his interest in woodworking, constructing fine cabinets and furniture for his friends.

Chris is survived by his brother, David Kaufholz; and his former wives, Lucy Lamson of Salisbury and Michele Conklin of North Canaan.

Chris asked that there be no formal services, but that his ashes be spread on his beloved island in Maine.

For more obituaries, see page A3

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

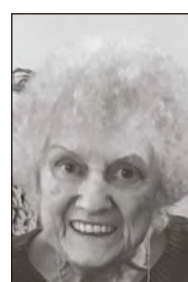


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Rita Lucille Rundall

PINE PLAINS — Rita Lucille Rundall, 82, a longtime resident of Pine Plains, passed away on May 12, 2021.



Born on Oct. 20, 1938, she was the daughter of Charlotte (Wagner) and Webster Wilbur.

Rita worked for many years as a cook at the Maplebrook School in Amenia.

She was devoted to her family and loved time spent with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Rita loved cooking, camping, playing cards and casinos. She enjoyed many fond memories of camping in Rhode Island and trips to the Foxwoods Casino.

Rita is survived by her sons, Lawrence "Larry" Rundall Jr. and his wife, Claire, of Pine Plains and Jerome "Jerry" Rundall and his wife, Karen, of Elizaville, N.Y.; a daughter, Robin Rundall Swartz of Pine Plains; a granddaughter Nicole Rundall Kosiorek and her husband Matthew; her great-grandchildren Juliana and Matthew

Jr. Kosiorek of Lee, Mass.; her grandson Andrew Rundall and his wife, Renee, and great-grandson Arjen Rundall of Clinton Corners, N.Y.; a granddaughter Ashley Fitzpatrick and great-grandson Daniel DiRusso of Pine Plains; and a brother, Frederick Wilbur and his wife, Mary, of Pine Plains.

She was predeceased by her soul mate and loving husband Lawrence "Larry" in 2015 after 58 years of marriage. She was also predeceased by grandson Shawn Michael Rundall; sisters Edith, Charlotte, Clara, Monaretta and Alnora; and brothers Howard, Webster, Ralph, Clayton, John, Melvin, Chester and Gordon.

Arrangements are under the care of the Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon. A service was held May 18, followed by burial at the Evergreen Cemetery in Pine Plains. Memorial donations may be made to Pine Plains Ambulance, 42 Poplar Ave., Pine Plains, NY 12567.



Worship Services
Week of May 23, 2021

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

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860-364-5260
www.christchurchsharon.org

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

Greenwoods Community Church
355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Kidz Connection
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www.greenwoodschurch.com

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sharonumc5634@att.net

Trinity Episcopal Church
484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock
Virtual Sunday service 10:30 AM
Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page
Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study
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trinity@trinitylimerock.org
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for an invitation to the Zoom service
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8 AM - St. Bernard
10 AM - Sacred Heart
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Monday, Tuesday
Wednesday & First Friday
9 AM - Sacred Heart
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Back on the paddle again as the river race resumes

By Cynthia Hochswender

CORNWALL — There were no New England Slalom Series river races in 2020 because of the COVID-19 quarantine. A happy sign that life is returning to normal: The Housatonic Area Canoe and Kayak Squad (known as the HACKS) held their Covered Bridge Slalom on Sunday, May 16.

Race registrar Jenifer Clarke (of sponsor Clarke Outdoors) said, "It was a great day for the HACKS Covered Bridge Slalom and everyone was so happy to be back at again after canceling last year due to COVID."

About 50 paddlers competed this year, including 10 from Proctor Academy in New Hampshire.

About five paddlers from the area competed, including Devin McEwan and Mark Clarke, who both placed in their respective classes (McEwan was first in Mens Closed Canoe, Clarke was second in Mens Open Canoe).

In years past, the paddlers met up at the Great Falls in Falls Village, then battled their way through the slalom gates



Father/daughter team Sonny Hunt, in back, and Amy Hunt traveled to West Cornwall from New Hampshire for the Covered Bridge Slalom on Sunday, May 16.

set up in the river below the parking area and then headed downstream to the historic Covered Bridge in West Cornwall.

The race now takes place exclusively in West Cornwall, "in

the rapid under the Covered Bridge," Clarke said.

"The gates are hung over the river by volunteers from HACKS; it takes about three days to get the course up, lots of hard work!"

It was worth the effort. All in all, Clarke said, "It was great weather and great water! What a day!"

A video of the race course can be seen at www.nessrace.com/covered-bridge-slalom.



PHOTOS BY TOM BROWN

Although the Housatonic River was relatively calm for Sunday's Covered Bridge Slalom, strong arms were still required to power through the slalom gates.



PHOTO BY CHELSEA MURRAY

Proud father Chris Ohmen posed for a photo with daughter Willow, age 8, who was one of 76 young fishers participating in the Northwest Connecticut Rod and Gun Club junior fishing tournament on Sunday, May 16.

The junior fishing tourney

NORTH CANAAN — The Northwest Connecticut Rod and Gun Club held its junior fishing tournament on Sunday, May 16.

"What a gorgeous day it was," reported an enthusiastic Holly Hunt. "We had 76 kids sign up, and winners in six age groups."

The results:

- 2-year-old Abby Wood, 14-inch bass
- 4-year-old Hunter Lyon, 15-inch bass

Free COVID vax for LRP viewers

LIME ROCK — Lime Rock Park (LRP) will host a COVID-19 vaccine clinic during all four days of Memorial Day weekend.

LRP's Skip Barber gave The Lakeville Journal a heads-up on Saturday, May 15.

He said either a first shot of Pfizer or the single Johnson and Johnson vaccine will be available for anyone who wants it, age 12 and up. Those who choose Pfizer will get an appointment for the second shot. The vaccine is free.

Barber said the idea is to vaccinate people who come for the racing and haven't been vaccinated yet.

However, interested people have to buy tickets to get in. Barber said people who come on Sunday, May 30, when there is a car show and no racing, can buy tickets at \$5 in advance this week or \$10 at the gate, and will get a coupon for a free hot dog and soda.

Vaccination clinic hours: Friday, May 28, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, May 29, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, May 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Monday, May 31, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, go to www.limerockpark.com.

— Patrick L. Sullivan



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Record breaker for young golfer

Housatonic Valley Regional High School golf team captain Zim McAuliffe shot a school record four under par 31 during a match at Pequabuck Golf Club in Terryville, Conn., on Thursday, May 13. Housatonic won both matches and is 10-1 in the Berkshire League.

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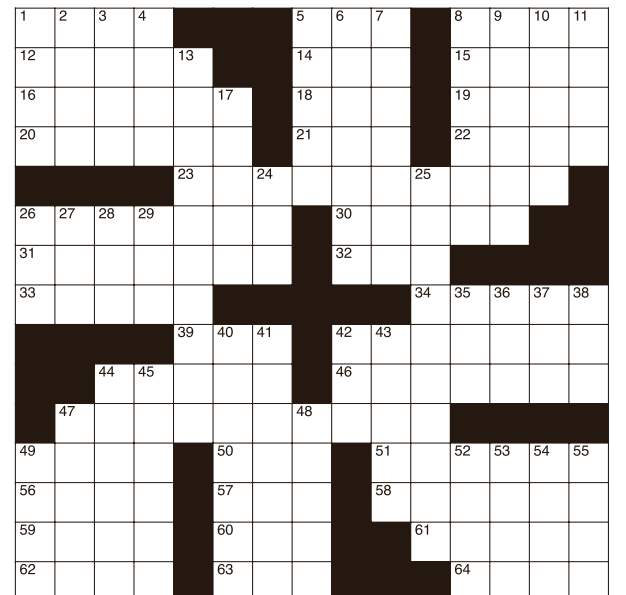
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. A group of sheep
5. Of she
8. This (Spanish)
12. A type of sorcery
14. A team's best pitcher
15. Port in southern Japan
16. Makes very happy
18. Trigonometric unit of measurement
19. From a distance
20. Winged nut
21. Consumed
22. "Heat" director
23. In all places
- 26 Made improvements to
30. St. ___ Girl: brand of beer
31. A type of "seat"
32. Wood
33. A brief treatise on a subject of interest
34. Approval
39. Basics
42. Where judges sit
44. W. African religion
46. Commentators
47. Having many different functions
49. Member of a Semitic people
50. Flightless, fast-running bird
51. After the seventh
56. Small N. Zealand tree
57. Health care pro (abbr.)
58. Playground mainstay
59. Expressing relief
60. Records brain activity (abbr.)
61. Fishing net
62. Beer
63. Tooth caregiver
64. Japanese beverage

CLUES DOWN

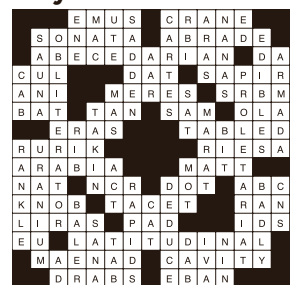
1. Garden tools
2. Early Syrian kingdom
3. 500 sheets of paper
4. Information
5. Beloved comic strip character
6. Distinct form of a plant
7. Replenishment
8. Semitransparent glassy substance
9. Expedition to observe animals
10. One who held landed granted by Anglo-Saxon king
11. Obtain in return for labor
13. Inheritable genetically
17. One who rescues
24. Doctor of Education
25. Liberal arts



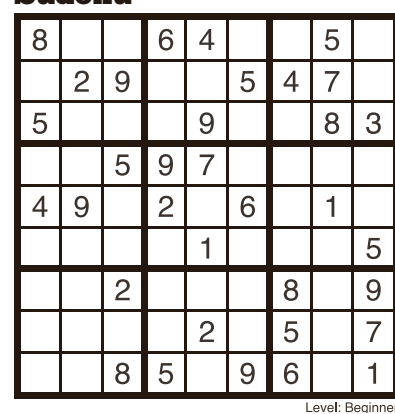
26. Shock treatment
27. Disfigure
28. When you hope to get there
29. Peacock network
35. Part of (abbr.)
36. The 21st letter of the Greek alphabet
37. Not just "play"
38. Former CIA
40. Reduced to a sloping edge
41. Restricted the development of
42. Sciences degree
43. Sea eagles
44. Saturated
45. Joints
47. Sailing boat
48. Respiratory organs

49. Guitarists use them
52. Disco act: Bee ___
53. First Chinese dynasty
54. Intentionally lose
55. Muslim people of China

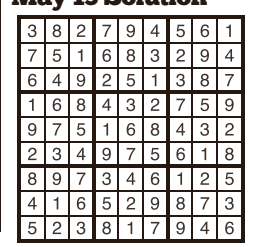
May 13 Solution



Sudoku



May 13 Solution



EARLY DEADLINE

OFFICES CLOSED
MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 31

Deadline for the June 3RD issue will be **THURSDAY, MAY 27TH**, at 12 NOON for ALL Display Advertising.

Classified Line Deadline is **NOON on Friday, May 28TH**.

This includes all sections of the newspapers.

Letters to the Editor will be accepted until Noon Friday, May 28TH.

[Email editor@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:email_editor@lakevillejournal.com)

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

BOOKS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

The Dream of a Hero Who Can Make it all OK Again

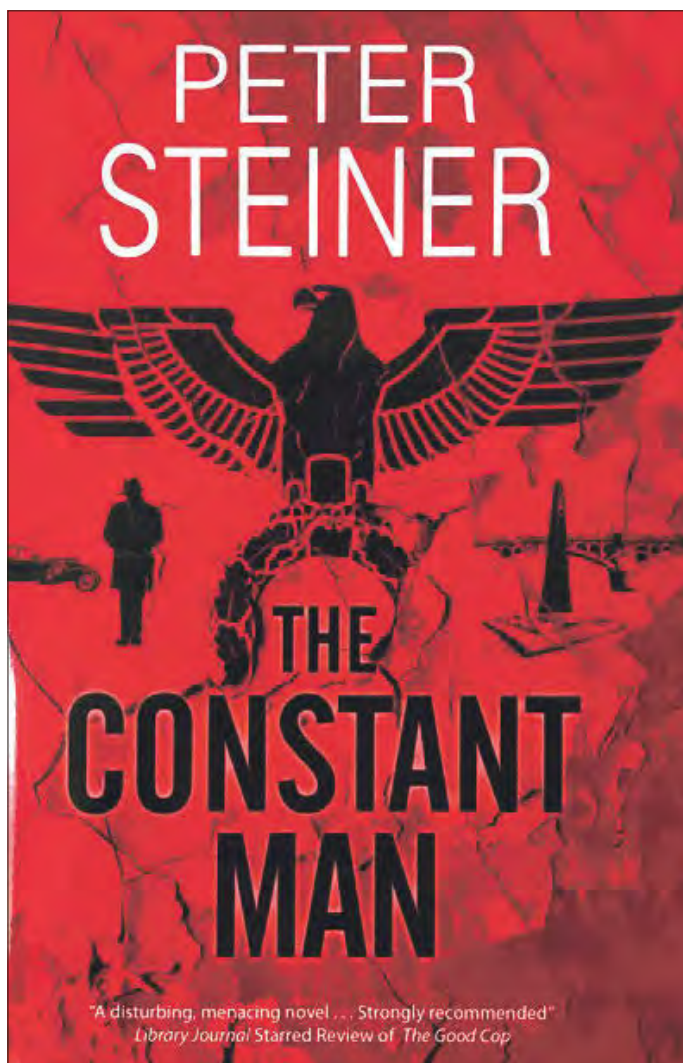
Peter Steiner from Sharon, Conn., has all the dream jobs that one might want. It's not enough that he's a talented painter, or a cartoonist for The New Yorker (and Lakeville Journal Co.), responsible for one of the most famous cartoons of the last half century ("On the internet, nobody knows you're dog").

He's also the author of two series of mystery/thrillers, one set in southern France (where he has an envy-inspiring second home) and one set in Germany during World War II.

One writes what one knows and while Steiner (happily) did not survive the Nazi regime, his parents did. Steiner himself was a professor of German before embarking on his career(s) in the arts/culture/entertainment.

He has just released the second novel in the World War II series, following "The Good Cop" with the new "The Constant Man," which will be released on June 1 by Severn House.

"The Good Cop" was released in 2019 and introduced police officer Willi



Peter Steiner's new novel, "The Constant Man," brings back police officer Willi Geismeier, trying to bring stability to the disordered world of Nazi Germany.

Geismeier, doing his best to remain untarnished in a corrupt world.

In that novel as in this new title, Steiner un-

abashedly draws parallels between the Nazis and the contemporary American political scene.

"As the son of refugees

from the Third Reich, I am naturally interested in understanding autocracy and how it can come about in an enlightened society," he said of "The Constant Man." "When autocracy started taking root in the United States in 2016 I was moved to write about it. These two novels are my personal exploration of complicity and resistance."

In this new entry in the series, Geismeier is eluding capture by the Nazis while trying to stop a serial killer who has already killed one of the police officer's close friends.

Although this is fiction that tackles tough subjects, the author says that his goal above all is to entertain the reader.

And he does so, in part, by creating a main character whom we can trust to bring order to a disordered world.

"The Constant Man" will be available at Oblong Books in Millerton, N.Y., where they will have copies signed by the author. The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon will host a Zoom talk with Steiner on Tuesday, June 8, at 7 p.m.



FROM HELL TO 'HAIRSPRAY' IN DIVERSE QUARTET OF FILMS AT MAHAWE

The Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass., is screening four extremely diverse titles over two subsequent weekends. All films start at 7 p.m.

The series begins on Friday, May 28, with "La La Land," famous as much for the singing and dancing by Ryan Gosling as it is for the famous/notorious 2017 Academy Awards-night snafu in which it was involved.

"Glory" will show on Saturday, May 29. In this 1989 film, (which won multiple Academy Awards, with no snafus), director Edward Zwick shows the wartime suffering of Black soldiers in the Union's first African-American regiment during the Civil War: the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment.

"Cool Hand Luke" ... well, what need one say about "Cool Hand Luke" other than Paul Newman, 1967. One of Newman's most famous films, it won four Academy Awards in 1968 — and continues to win awards, including being inducted into the Online Film and Television Association Hall of Fame in 2017. See it on the big screen on Friday, June 4.

Following a brutal film about the Civil War and a film about brutality in a Southern prison, the Mahaiwe wraps up the series with another musical, "Hairspray," on Saturday, June 5. The first mainstream film by director John Waters, it immortalized its young star, Ricki Lake, who leads a cast that also includes Sonny Bono, Divine, Debbie Harry, Jerry Stiller, Ric Ocasek and Pia Zadora.

The Mahaiwe has gone to great lengths to make visitors feel safe from COVID-19. Audiences will be capped at 75 guests, with space between pods. Masks and 6-foot social distancing are required inside the theater.

The theater has a new medical-grade MERV 13 HEPA-filtered and bipolar ionized air management system. There is touchless ticketing. All Mahaiwe personnel will be fully vaccinated.

For information, go to www.mahaiwe.org or call the box office at 413-528-0100, Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$8.

— Cynthia Hochswender

IN TIME FOR SUMMER AND THE HOLIDAYS, A NEW PUZZLE

Summer is coming, and with it comes the need for things to do and games to play on rainy days. And if this wet spring is any indication, you will probably need to have quite a few rainy day pastimes on hand.

Jigsaw puzzles are a classic summer house/summertime/rainy day activity. In the early days of COVID-19, there was a brief shortage of puzzles worldwide as we all looked for ways to fill up

long hours spent at home, alone.

Many new puzzle companies have stepped in to fill the void, but what could be a better puzzle option than one that also supports a small, independently owned community newspaper such as The Lakeville Journal.

We introduced our first jigsaw puzzle last December, in time for the holidays. The image on it was a calendar drawn for The Lakeville Journal by Sha-

ron, Conn., artist Mariana van Rossen-Hoogendyk in 1958.

That puzzle sold well enough that we are now introducing a second puzzle to our collection, this time a watercolor done for us by Sharon artist Tom Goldenberg.

Goldenberg was featured in an October 2020 issue of the Compass arts and entertainment section of this newspaper, on the occasion of a show of his work opening in Amster-

dam. Of the inspiration for the image, Goldenberg said, "The work on paper 'Map Reading' was made after studying early maps showing the configurations of ancient Italian hill towns. The topography of these places inspired the composition of this image."

We have made two versions of this puzzle. Both are 500 pieces but one is on cardboard and one is on wood. The Lakeville Journal Co. will receive 10% from each sale; Goldenberg has generously donated his work.

The puzzles are made and shipped by Create Jigsaw. They take care of 100% of the order. To find our online puzzle shop, go to www.createjigsawpuzzles.com/sell/lakevillejournal. We will not have any puzzles for sale at our office; each puzzle is made "on demand."

And of course at our puzzle website you can still order our first design, the lovely 1958 holiday image.

— Cynthia Hochswender

Artist Tom Goldenberg of Sharon, Conn., has donated one of his watercolors to The Lakeville Journal Co. for use as a jigsaw puzzle — which is now available for sale.

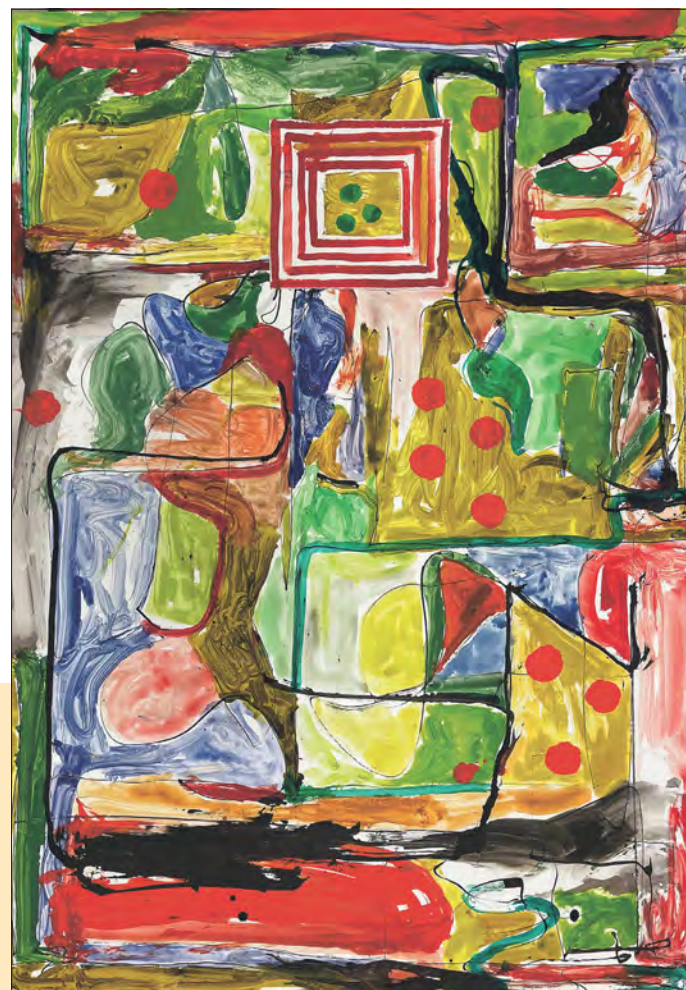


PHOTO BY TOM GOLDBERG



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WBSL FM 91.7
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ART: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Little Gifts of Love and Thanks to Frontline Health Care Workers

Many people spent their down-time during the COVID-19 quarantine learning to paint.

That wasn't an option for Janet Andre Block, already an accomplished artist whose work is well-known, especially in her hometown of Salisbury, Conn.

The pandemic brought up two impulses that dovetailed. Like many of us, she wanted to find a way to while away the hours; and like many of us, she wanted to help. Somehow.

So she began to make small paintings, of diverse subjects including her trademark evocations of voluptuous pears. Each canvas she created was 2 inches by 2 inches; and each was given as a gift of thanks to a staff member at the Bellevue/New York University Hospital Emergency Department in New York City.

"I've had a five-plus year connection with the Emergency Department at Bellevue/NYU where I curated an art gallery for the



PHOTO BY ANNE DAY

Janet Andre Block of Salisbury, Conn., donated 400 2-inch by 2-inch canvases with her paintings on them to health care workers at a New York City hospital.

staff and students. All the art was donated and we have created a beautiful, peaceful environment for people who have chosen to take on a critical and tough job on our behalf.

"When COVID hit," she said, "I was inspired to add

an additional project."

In all, she painted (and donated) 400 of the small canvases. An amalgam of them all is in the photo above, behind Block.

Block continues to do work for sale, which can be found at Honeychurch

Home in Salisbury, Joie Maison also in Salisbury and, until the end of May, at Sweet William's coffee shop/bakery, also in Salisbury.

To learn more about the artist, go to www.janetan-dreblock.com.

KARMA: DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Random Acts of Kindness: the Secret Sauce to a Happy, Healthy Life

The woman in line ahead of me sensed my panic.

I had taken my elderly mother to an appointment for her second COVID-19 vaccine, and upon arriving we found ourselves at the end of a long line that snaked several times around a cavernous auditorium. Due to mobility issues, my mother has difficulty standing for more than five or 10 minutes at a time. With about 200 people in front of us, this was not going to be a quick in-and-out as was the case at the Torrington Area Health District clinic four weeks earlier. My heart sank.

With no one nearby to assist us, we were about to leave when a middle-aged woman approached us from near the front of the line and insisted we exchange places. In that moment, this stranger's selfless act of kindness restored my faith in humanity. Were it not for social distancing rules, I would have hugged her. She will never know the depth of my gratitude. But, hopefully, she benefited somehow from her benevolence.

Have you ever noticed that when you do something nice for someone, you get a warm and fuzzy feeling inside, too? There's

a scientific reason for that. Studies have shown that altruism increases dopamine and serotonin, the feel-good chemicals in the brain.

A serotonin rush causes feelings of satisfaction and well-being. Doing something nice for someone also boosts endorphins, a phenomenon referred to as "helper's high," resulting in increased energy levels and happiness, and decreased stress and anxiety.

Kindness also releases the hormone oxytocin, which reduces inflammation and protects the heart by dilating blood vessels, thereby lowering blood pressure and strengthening the heart, both emotionally and physically. Maybe that's where the adage "you have a big heart" came from.

Likewise, the teachings of Buddha reveal that the simple path to happiness comes from unconditional compassion, or *karuna* as it's referred to in Buddhism. True compassion, as Buddha has taught, is not helping others and then seeking praise or fame or glory.

In other words, true compassion is not the form of help where we ask others to repay our kindness or even thank us; it is daily living that is helpful to all, something as simple

as conserving water or picking up trash along the roadway, or holding a door open for the person behind you.

Now that society is slowly starting to resemble pre-pandemic life, this may be the perfect time to reach out to friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, strangers through random acts of kindness. When out in public, smile and say hello to people you may pass every day but have never spoken to, or while waiting in line in the grocery store — still socially distanced, of course.

Spring is the perfect time to help an elderly neighbor. Offer to mow their lawn, weed the garden, walk the dog or simply invite them for a cup of tea and a chat. Check on someone who has been going through a tough time. Kindness binds communities.

Building your relationship with others will have a positive effect on your emotional well-being as you take time out from the stressors in your own life and focus on helping

others.

A few weeks ago I returned to my car after shopping and found a small rubber ducky tucked into the door handle. A note tag, in the shape of the iconic Jeep grill, dangled from an iridescent purple ribbon. The message read: "Beep Beep, Sweet Jeep. You have been DUCKED by a fellow Jeeper." And on the reverse side, "Love, J & L." I may never meet J or L, but I'd be willing to guess that they have a big heart.

Kindness just may be the secret to a happy, healthy life.

STREAMING: ED FERMAN

Horror and Comedy Horror

Who doesn't like a good horror story? You there with your hand raised, please skip to the last paragraph while we cover the seriously disturbing stuff:

The great silent films of the 1920s were often horror movies, which may have been the inspiration for John Krasinski's "A Quiet Place" (2018). When his movie opens you see an empty street, then someone tiptoeing through a ransacked store. You hear nothing, and you will hear nothing for most of the next tense and terrifying 90 minutes. You are in a post-apocalyptic America that is occupied by blind monsters who have an acute sense of hearing. If they hear you, you are dead meat, quite literally. The story centers on the Abbot family: Lee (Krasinski), Evelyn (Emily Blunt) and their children, who live silently in the basement of a house in a deserted town while Lee searches for a solution. "A Quiet Place" was filmed in Pawling, N.Y., on a relatively low budget, but it was a critical and commercial success. If you saw it, you'll recall the heartbreaking but hopeful ending and will want to see "A Quiet Place Part II" which will be released on May 28. If you missed it, go to Amazon Prime and rent or buy it, from \$2.99.

"The Terror," based on Dan Simmons' novel, is an unusual historical horror tale that dramatizes a true story: The Royal Navy's expedition to the Arctic in 1845, led by Captain John Franklin. His two ships head into uncharted territory, searching for the Northwest Passage, and are soon trapped in the ice. The crew faces

two kinds of horror: the struggle to survive, leading to mutiny, murder and cannibalism — along with being stalked by a mysterious creature that lives on the deadly ice.

This all sounds impossibly grim, but the writing, characterization and striking production design lift it beyond the genre into one of the rare TV shows you will not soon forget. The cast, all British actors, is superb. Ten episodes on Hulu. (Note: there is a second season subtitled "Infamy," which tells an entirely different story.)

I don't quite get comedy horror. Are they two sides of the same emotional coin? Like anxiety and depression? Whatever, there are more than a few comedy/horror shows out there, and you could do worse than Netflix's British import "Crazyhead."

Amy (Cara Theobald) and Raquel (Susan Wokoma) are two friends with the ability to see that some ordinary citizens are actually demons. Their mission is to hunt down these demons and exorcise them, except when Raquel is at Pilates class.

Although the results are occasionally violent and gruesome, you are unlikely to be scared. But the two gals are fine and the blunt British humor leads to some lovely, hilarious lines. This show has been compared favorably to "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," a classic series that I have never watched. Yes, a shameful gap in my cultural knowledge that I promise to rectify, as soon as I take my copy of "Middlemarch" off the shelf and actually open it. Six episodes on Netflix.



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EDITORIAL

Better to fight, or find an answer?

Conflict is an unavoidable part of the human condition. And many of us don't want to avoid it, but rather thrive on it. It happens at all levels of societal interaction, between nations and between individuals. We may all become accustomed to it and find ways to make it precipitate change, but that doesn't necessarily mean it's the best approach to resolving differences. Especially as a long-term way to express one's opinions on any issue, it can have such negative effects on civil discourse over time that no good outcome can be found.

This, after all, is why diplomacy was born, isn't it?

So when communities find themselves entrenched in disagreements that have become so profound as to be intractable, it's time to find a way to practice diplomacy, even if it means bringing in an objective mediator to be part of the process. It could be that this is where both Salisbury and Falls Village are on the discussion of affordable housing. Even though Falls Village has already approved the housing proposed there, and Salisbury voted on it this week, no matter the outcome of decisions, if a town is still so split on a single problem, it can be hard to move forward on any town business.

Once that happens to a community, such patterns can become impossible to reverse if there is no intervention. What's that historic American example from the late 19th century, the Hatfields and the McCoys? Or Shakespeare's profound description of destructive feuding, "Romeo and Juliet," where the houses of Capulet and Montague brought themselves to irredeemable tragedy.

How dramatic must we get before we can see that there should be a way to compromise? And at the heart of that needs to be respect for those on the opposing side of the issue as a base for open discussion and resolution. This newspaper has taken a clear position on affordable housing, over many years and currently, but that doesn't mean it doesn't welcome opinions from all sides of the issue. That's because the more voices, the more likely there will be a better and more inclusive outcome in the end.

For those who disagree with the affordable housing plans on the table now, and those listening to their objections, there needs to be common ground. There are details that can be modified to make both sides feel they have been heard, and that they've had a positive effect on the final planning and outcome.

Wouldn't it be preferable to avoid the divisiveness of our national politics? If small towns, where people often know one another or at least recognize one another from the market or the transfer station, can't find a way to cooperate and make things work, who can?

Climate change solution

The Lakeville Journal for May 6 carried two letters (from John Grant and John Morris) expressing concerns about Connecticut adding a carbon tax on top of an already burdensome load. There is an alternative federal proposal (HR 2307) called the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act that places a fee on fossil fuels (hence discouraging their use) but returning that fee to families.

This is not a tax because we the people get the money deposited monthly into our checking accounts that we can use to offset higher prices for fuel, electricity and heating. Eventually alternative energy will replace fossil fuels and the fee becomes unnecessary. My first thought was that I might get enough from Uncle Sam to buy a Big Mac, but it turns out the fee is projected to add more than \$200 into our accounts per month!

Economic simulations prove this can work and has the endorsement of scientists and economists. You can learn more by going to www.energyinnovationact.org/how-does-it-work. Connecticut politicians mean well because the rest of the world needs to see the USA doing its part and pulling its load or else global warming will overwhelm all of us.

However, we also need to protect family budgets as expressed by Grant and Morris. Urge your legislators to aim their attention at this alternative solution to climate change. The Biden administration will take action but it need not punish our pockets to such a full extent.

Ted Spickler

Taconic

Tourist map is incorrect

A Falls Village resident reached out to Hart Marketing Enterprises LLC months ago noting that the local tourist map that they publish indicates the Great Falls from dangerous access points; this has been a serious hazard for visitors unfamiliar with the area and the danger. The appropriate viewing would be from the Amesville Bridge, not a ledge halfway down the Falls.

Moreover, this map erroneously indicates access to the Great Falls from the east shore via Dublin Road in Falls Village. Local traffic jams occurred there last summer as misguided tourists followed this map. Temporary signs went up. Permanent signs were authorized warning tourists to go back, there is no access here.

In the spirit of no good

deed going unpunished, the publisher did not correct their publication when the problem was brought to their attention. Indeed they wrote a complaint letter to Falls Village First Selectmen Henry Todd who inexplicably read the complaint into the minutes of the Selectmen's meeting May 10, 2021, just one week ago.

With the danger of the Great Falls on a tourist map, perhaps Salisbury First Selectman Curtis Rand could ask the map publisher to address the problem. Old maps should be recalled, a new publication with correct information distributed, and perhaps a public apology issued for refusing to respond to a warning.

Daly Reville

Falls Village



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

Sunny skies

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Horn: one of the best in public service

In his letter to the Lakeville Journal published a week ago, John Grant, the head of the Kent Republican Party, set forth the Republican position on key issues. I printed up Mr. Grant's article and have been considering his party's stand.

I do not speak for the Kent DTC, although I am a member, and would like to first address his concluding sentence about "the facts" and his reminder or plea to state Rep. Horn that she is "aligned with your state party and not that of the people who voted you in." I am not sure how to parse this sentence, but have some thoughts on a response.

Elections have consequences. When Clinton gracefully acknowledged, on the night of the previous election, that Mr. Trump had won (although she won the plurality of votes), the new Republican government immediately passed that enormous tax break for the wealthiest in our society. It was the old trickle-down theory of the Reagan years. It is true that Litchfield County cannot solve

the world's problems, but that tax break, which recipients pocketed, could have been used by the government to address some of the items Mr. Grant discusses. Was the president speaking for his country, or "people who voted" him in, or major donors?

Jumping forward to Connecticut today, a shortage of funds in previous administrations means our state has neglected "the basics of clean air and water" (Connecticut Magazine). Meeting the goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and carbon pollution while conserving open space is a struggle we are not presently winning. Does that mean we are going to give up trying to meet those goals and let our planet suffocate?

With the advent of the pandemic, every "For Sale" sign vanished, making the already scant assortment of affordable housing non-existent. Do we want to live in towns where only the wealthy reside and volunteer agencies have to hire people for the emergency

services? Affordable housing pays taxes and provides a rich balance of skills to our towns. Time has shown that this isn't going to happen without structural changes to our present zoning, which is why the state is requiring all municipalities to have an Affordable Housing Plan in place by next year, 2022.

Change is hard. That doesn't mean we should stop trying to reach goals drawn up to make life better for all, both now and down the road. Connecticut has been a leader in looking forward and moving in directions good for our environment and our people. Her constituents view Rep. Horn as an embodiment of what we want in our elected officials, which is why they elected her twice. She gets to all points of her district, she listens, she keeps her constituents updated weekly, she has been appointed to key positions in the lower house. This is an example of the best in public service, not Democratic politics or Republican politics.

Betty Krasne

Kent

Be informed on genocide in China

To the residents of the Northwest Corner and Tri-state area: Keeping up with not just local, but national and international news is vital as a member of society. It not only educates you, but also enriches and widens your perspective, exposing you to a variety of different cultures you otherwise do not experience in your everyday life. Furthermore, it illuminates the truth, allowing us to take action on important issues that we learn about. During our human rights class at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, myself and two of my group members were exposed to the truth about a genocide in China that has been kept under wraps for the past few years, one that is so radically wrong and against anything America stands for that it was hard to believe.

It is estimated that around 1.8 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Hui, and other predominately Muslim ethnic minorities have been arbitrarily detained in a system of extrajudicial mass internment camps where they are subjected to forced labor, torture, and political indoctrination. These innocent people are denied basic human rights and are denied

the right to pray, wed, attend mosque, celebrate Eid, mention Muhamud, spread Salam (a greeting which means peace), and contribute to other fundamental pieces of their religion. If there is a failure to comply, not only will the people be punished by any means necessary including sexual assault, but the children can and will be denied education and food.

Not only does this very pressing and current issue teach us about the steps we can take as a country to solve this, it also teaches us how we can apply these lessons to our current community. The concentration camps were created out of hate, out of discrimination for a population that stems simply from fear of the unfamiliar. When encountered with what is unknown, it is an intrinsic human reaction to shun, not embrace, what could possibly have no danger at all. By choosing to educate oneself on different cultures, religions, sexualities, ethnicities, genders, and more, one is able to widen their perspective to accept everyone in their community as a unique individual, rather than refusing to acknowledge them as even a human being. Though we as a community cannot alone rem-

edy the events in China, we can take steps to prevent such hate from escalating in this tri-state area by educating ourselves on the happenings and different identities of the world. By educating themselves, we will be able to support other fights for human rights outside of our community by contributing to their causes as well as taking the step to see them as human beings ourselves.

To learn more about this crime against human rights, please visit our website at www.cpclulow.wixsite.com/uyghur-genocide and support the Campaign for Uyghurs.

Charlotte Clulow, Tabitha Maffucci, Michelle (Mia) Tittmann

Falls Village

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Inspiration, and some of the places it can be found

Tom Stoppard. Sir Tom. Knighted by The Queen. The first play I saw of his was “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead.” It is a take on the two minor characters in “Hamlet” who try to lure the Prince to his death, but the luring goes awry. Hamlet finds their note sentencing him. He changes the names and they, when they land in England are toast. Hamlet doesn’t die: R and G do.

So what is Sir Tom’s take? The story is that when he was a young journalist in England, someone suggested to him that he write a play about these minors R and G.

That is what got him going. My theory is that there are only a few prompts, to use that recent education word, that get you going.

That suggestion to Sir Tom set him off on his career, and in fact, once he heard it, the whole play was written for him. Tumbled out. Every exit; another entrance. Over but the typing.

I think every playwright worth his balsamic has had that experience. A passing suggestion, perhaps meaningless to the expresser, and off one goes.

The Watergate hearings. Senator Sam Ervin (“I’m just a simple country lawyer.”; Chair; Sen. Howard Baker (“What did the President know and when did he know it?,” Vice-Chair.

I’m in New York by Lincoln Center. I see my friend Michael Feingold, for 30 years plus the chief critic for the now defunct Village Voice, about to go into the subway. Over his shoulder he says, “We’re doing a Watergate show at the Yale Rep. Maybe you want to get involved.”

(Feingold, the smartest critic writing, never got the job with the Times b/c he’s just a tad too prickly. The Paper of Record’s loss, bigtime. Then after those 30 years plus, The

SOVEREIGN STATE LONNIE CARTER

My theory is that there are only a few prompts, to use that recent education word, that get you going.

Voice fires him and then they go under. The Voice which reviewed my first plays in New York at the Old Reliable Theater Tavern and Grille, on East 3rd between B and C, before they were even called Alphabet City, directed by M. Feingold, called my work “the worst of off-off-Broadway.” For years I could not even walk on the same side of the street where the Voice was being sold. (Allow me to say, Good riddance.)

I went back to the Northwest Corner where I was living in an abandoned chicken coop near the Interlaken Inn. No TV, but a radio set up in the window so I could lounge and take in the proceedings. I devoured every word, then wrote five skits, the most audacious called “Waiting for G,” a take on the Lucky speech from Beck-let’s GODot, transmogrified for Richard Nixon. Alvin Epstein, who had been the original Lucky on Broadway with Bert Lahr, did the 10-minute monologue. Alvin, one of the great actors of anyone’s lifetime, was out of his mind every night.

I felt a part of theater history, all because of an over-the-shoulder remark.

Philip Roth wrote the final segment of “Watergate Classics,” for Nixon who having been defeated refuses to leave office. The house lights came

up and soldiers with guns came from the back. You think that didn’t come back around when Schlumpf was floating those rumors about not leaving? Hey, Pillow Guy, how’s about some Martial Law?

Back to Sir Tom. The Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis. Sir Tom is holding forth for about 500 of us. Some smartass is grilling him on why he has had a sushi-fused meal backstage while the rest of us are munching Cheetos. And what does he do to prepare for these events? He, the torrent of words that he had poured forth for decades, is suddenly silent. After a long Rosencrantz and Guildenstern pause, he exhales “Silk Cut.” The English cigarette.

“The Sovereign State of Boogedy Boogedy” is a wildly inventive celebration of language, modeled on Tom Stoppard, but grounded in jive vernacular.”

About a play of mine in Chicago. In the Trib. I have not smoked in more than 30 years, but a Silk Cut sounds pretty good right about now. Thank you, Sir Tom.

Lonnie Carter is a writer who lives in Falls Village. Email him at lonniety@comcast.net.



The mystical Bonanza Bus ride

For 20 years — 1973 to 1993 — I took the Bonanza Bus from Canaan, Connecticut, or drove from my home in Clayton, Massachusetts, to Manhattan. Because Route 7 follows the course of the Housatonic River, the ride can be a bit dizzying, and the tall, handsome driver who sped us on our way had acquired a nickname: Professor Curvy. Another driver — a lean, dapper man — was known as the Bing of the Berkshires, though why I couldn’t tell you.

His uncle, who lived in Pittsfield, hunted rabbits in the hills around Clayton, he told me, and brought a ferret in a bag, letting it drive the rabbits out of their warrens and onto the grill.

Among the cast of Bonanza characters was a woman with a neat bun of graying hair who boarded the bus below Cornwall Bridge and whom

GUEST COMMENTARY JON SWAN

I took to be a psychiatrist. It turned out that she was a medium who spent three days in Manhattan seeing clients and

who also gave voice lessons to, among others, the actress Beatrice Straight, who in 1977 was awarded an Oscar for her supporting role in the movie, “Network.” The name of this medium with whom I often shared a seat on the bus was Ethel Johnson Myers.

On one curvy ride Ethel shared with me the story of a client who, one evening, had felt himself rise up through the ceiling of his living room as his spirit set out to find Ethel. He had looked for her on Long Island; not finding her there, he had traveled to an apartment on Manhattan’s East Side — and, lo, there she was! And Ethel could vouch for his presence there; on the evening he found her, she had caught the scent of hay, which she associated with her client.

Another day brought another tale: this one of her being driven out to the famously haunted Amity Hill House, on Long Island, to see if she could put an end to the hauntings. After waking from a deep trance, she knew that the hauntings would cease, because the air in the room smelled of ozone.

More moving than these tales was her account of how she had come to be in touch with the spirit world. This happened when, after the death of her husband, he suddenly appeared to her in a blue cloud, and she had begun to write what she heard him saying

When the client entered, Ethel asked who that bearded man had been.

to her — writing, moreover, in his handwriting. It was he who connected her to the spirit world. In due course, she acquired a local reputation as both voice coach and psychic, leading to an invitation by the American Society for Psychical Research to come to New York and see clients under controlled conditions in the Society’s office. Ethel recalled standing at the window of the Society’s brownstone, looking for her first client, and seeing a bearded man wearing a coat with an astrakhan collar talking to another man on the sidewalk.

When the client entered, Ethel asked who that bearded man had been. Her client — John LeTouche, a respected lyricist who had contributed lyrics for Leonard Bernstein’s *Candide* — said he had not stopped to talk to anyone. Who could it be then? Ethel asked. “Was there anyone whom he admired more than any other?” Well, yes, there was: the novelist Joseph Conrad — who was known to have a beard and to have worn coats with an astrakhan collar.

For the two of them, that settled the matter: Ethel had seen the man in the mind of the librettist which the client himself could not see.

Jon Swan is a poet, journalist and former senior editor of the *Columbia Journalism Review*. His writing can be found at www.jonswanpoems.com.



A family gathering at Lakeville Lake

PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for the support, from the Kent Food Bank

As we cautiously emerge from the binding restrictions of this past year, it is literally like taking the first step out of doors after a very long winter and feeling the warmth of the sun on our faces, while taking a very deep, appreciative sigh of relief.

The Kent Food Bank, and its members, are eternally grateful for the generosity of so many individuals, local restaurants, food vendors and all of our local businesses for their consistent undying support. This support has never been more important or appreciated than it has been through this past year of unexpected hardships, and these hardships have manifested themselves in so many aspects of our lives, both personal and professional.

The support of our community seems unending, and we thank you all. Our gratitude goes out to all of our individual donors for the financial support we receive from so many, those folks who consistently show up at our door with a bag of goodies, The Trinity Retreat Center in West Cornwall, St. Andrews and

Sacred Heart congregations, Marvelwood, South Kent and Kent Schools, all of our local farms who so generously share the bounty of their efforts, the “egg man” (and you know who you are), and all of the chicken aficionados who keep us supplied with this key ingredient needed for pancakes. (we have learned that an egg is not just an egg).

We thank our ever so supportive local IGA and the kind and generous people who have kept the store going above and beyond what would be required during this untoward madness, Sundog Shoe and Leather who turned the food bank into a fashionista’s dream, the efforts and the time that our generous volunteers give each week, and the countless others who donate time, skills and support of all kinds to The Kent Food Bank. We thank you all.

Leah Pullaro, LMSW Director of Social Services
Debbe Christensen, Administrative Assistant

Kent

Religious and other traditions give us guidance

In May, Shavuot marks the time of the the Jewish people receiving the Old Testament or Torah. The ascension into heaven of Jesus in the Christian religion is also in mid-May. Every Sabbath for for Jews from Friday sunset for 24 hours or Sunday for Christians is a time of prayer and gathering around the world, with many online services, which reach more people.

Facebook is the biggest way people are in touch and many have created Zoom rooms to meet with main talks by a panel and break-out rooms or reunions, graduations and more allowing people to stay

connected.

The messages from traditions inform our laws and social practices regarding when life begins (whether eggs and sperm in a person, used for in vitro or even frozen embryos.)

Who is sharing WIT “What If Thinking” that factors in more views from around the world about life, death and beyond, the value of having core values of dignity and respect and informed choices with support for equal options for all or discussion about why that is not the case?

We need insights from EdgarCayce.org which has many resources to explore the mind-

body-creation connections, the oneness of God and his psychic readings that cover major topics. While we are seeking guidance in these times for spiritual or practical matters, no one should feel alone. “Faith without works” is debatable and also legally worth updating (in terms of licenses, permits, consent and more.)


Hopefully we can bridge efforts and form coalitions to pay respect to each person equally and honor the meaningful connections people choose to keep communities, states and countries’ functioning and supportive for shared success.

Many organize for destruc-

tive reasons, so everyone has choices to make and reasons to grow as team players with gratitude and accountability growing stronger among teams and towns, states and even countries (among people, sentient beings, plants, animals and loving divine beings.) Honoring the legacies and lessons of those who have journeyed is key to our growth in “Good Will Toward All.”


Catherine Palmer Paton
Falls Village

More letters previous page.



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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.

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The Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, CT

Coaching opportunities for the 2021-2022 school year Part-time

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- Varsity Volleyball, head or assistant coach
- Boys Varsity Hockey, assistant coach
- Boys Varsity Squash, assistant coach
- Varsity Diving, head coach
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- Varsity Rowing, assistant coach

To learn more about our Athletics Program, visit hotchkiss.org/athletics

For details regarding qualifications, duties and responsibilities, compensation, and how to apply, visit Hotchkiss.org/careers > view current career openings for Staff positions.



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- Oversee outside vendors and follow-up on their requirements
- Negotiate contracts with tradesmen and oversee projects to completion
- Use of Excel, Word, and email required to communicate and organize documents to run property, including timesheets for garden and maintenance team
- Keep record of all work, including materials and supplies

EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
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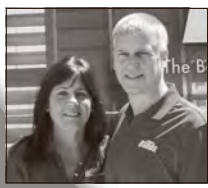
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