

Student art
Compass,
Page B1

The Lakeville Journal

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



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Ron Solan of Salisbury was one of the participants in the final ceremony of the National Day of Prayer (for more photos, turn to Page A6).

Prayers for the nation and all who serve

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — About 50 people turned out for the finale of the National Day of Prayer ceremony outside Salisbury Town Hall on Thursday, May 6.

Other services were held throughout the day in North Canaan, Falls Village, Cornwall and Sharon.

Organizer Barbara Schoenly welcomed the group to the Salisbury ceremony and noted that musician Michael Brown, who was scheduled to play keyboards and lead in singing, was unwell and unable to attend. Christine Gevert filled in ably.

After First Selectman Curtis Rand read the official proclamation of the National Day of Prayer, the Ohmen family led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading prayers were representatives of different groups, including Army veteran Ron Solan, who read the prayer for the military and veterans; State Police Trooper Kenneth Pelletier, who read the prayer for fire, police and emergency workers; and the Rev. Peg Laemmel from the United Methodist Church, who read the prayer for churches.

The group sang the National Anthem, "God Bless America," and finished up with two verses of "America the Beautiful."

See HVRHS, Page A6

So far so good as high school opens again

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Housatonic Valley Regional High School Principal Ian Strever reported to the Region One Board of Education that the reopening of the high school is proceeding well.

The regional board held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 3.

Strever said that 262 students, representing 83% of the student population, were attending school in person as of April 22. (The school reopened April 19.)

Some 55 students (17%) chose the remote learning option.

The high school graduation will

Housatonic Valley Regional High School graduation will take place on the front lawn of the school on Thursday, June 17.

take place on the front lawn of the school on Thursday, June 17. Strever said the Class of 2021 wished to have the most traditional graduation possible. Strever said the details will be ironed out as far as masking, social distance and how many people will be allowed to attend.

The school has rented a large

Reading a forest like an open book

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — Sometimes it's a short story, sometimes a mystery, sometimes an epic disaster, but nature is a prolific storyteller.

Those who were among the 177 who attended a presentation on Saturday, May 1, by author and educator Tom Wessels came away knowing much more about the forests in and around Cornwall. The talk on Zoom was jointly sponsored by the Cornwall Library and the Cornwall Conservation Trust.

Wessels' talk was an introduction to a limited-attendance event planned for Saturday, June 5, during

which Cornwall residents Deb and Bruce Bennett will explore land trust preserves with no more than 13 participants. They will learn how to unlock the history of the forests and find out how they grew to be that way. For registration information, go to www.cornwallconservationtrust.org.

Wessels began his May 1 talk with some basics of how he goes about the work of a terrestrial ecologist and morphologist, studying cycles of death and rebirth within a forested landscape.

"Look for changes in structure or composition," Wessels said. "What kind of trees do you see?"

Change will occur aligned with topographics, he explained. If there are no eco-indicators of change due to climate or environment, then the history of

the forest offers clues.

The topography of the soil teaches much about the agricultural history of the ground on which today's New England forests stand.

"If it's lumpy, then it's always been a forest," Wessels said. If the floor is smoother, then it probably has an agricultural past, so look for stone walls. If the walls are made of large stones, the use was probably a hay field. If small stones, then probably a crop field.

"If I don't see agriculture, then I could be looking at a history of logging," he said.

Wessels was able to tell a lot from viewing a series of slides organized by Bruce Bennett.

Discussion turned to effects of the current infestation of emerald ash borer insects, with Wessels noting

that white ash decays quickly. He predicted that the ash borer will have an ecological impact, but in the long run, the ash trees will not be extinguished.

"Some ashes are resistant," Wessels said. One or two thousand years from now, he said, "you will still be able to see white ash trees."

Wessels had the same bright forecast for the hemlock and American chestnut trees which are growing increasingly resistant to the blight plaguing them in modern times.

But, he warned, "Climate change is a stressor. It will weaken trees and increase their susceptibility to pathogens."

Rocks do indeed rise to the surface from un-

See FOREST, Page A6

Regional budget passes easily

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Turnout was light for the regional referendum on the 2021-22 Region One School District budget.

The spending plan passed, 289 to 58, on Tuesday, May 4.

The vote by town:
Cornwall: 57 yes votes to 4 no votes

Town of Canaan/Falls Village: 31 yes, 16 no.

Kent: 61 yes, 9 no.

North Canaan: 25 yes, 18 no.

Salisbury: 75 yes, 6 no.
Sharon: 40 yes, 5 no.

The budget proposal totals \$16,026,463 and is broken into three parts that will cover costs for Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Pupil Services (shared regional administration costs) and the Regional Schools Services Center (special education services). This year's plan is an increase of \$249,155 (1.58%) over the current budget.

See BUDGET, Page A6

Litchfield County

A spike in drug-related deaths

By Patrick L. Sullivan

There were 14 drug overdoses in Litchfield County between April 28 and May 2, according to Maria Coutant Skinner, executive director of the McCall Center for Behavioral Health in Torrington.

In a phone interview Friday, May 7, Skinner said there were two unconfirmed fatalities among the 14 overdose cases. The final determination on cause of death will be made after toxicology results are available.

Since 2019, overdoses are reported to the state's poison control agency and an overdose map keeps track of such cases. To trigger the highest of three alert levels requires three overdoses in a 24-hour period.

Skinner said 60% of the overdose cases were outside of Torrington, the largest city in the county.

Treatment — but not coercion

The Litchfield County Opiate Task Force held an emergency meeting (online) on Monday, May 3.

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) attended the meeting. In a phone interview Sunday, May 9, Horn said there is a discussion underway in the state Legislature regarding a 24-to-48-hour custodial hold on individuals who have overdosed and been revived using Narcan, similar to the ability of law enforcement to detain

See DEATHS, Page A6

Patriotism as a way to unite, not divide

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Yale University professor and author Steven B. Smith made the case for reviving and reclaiming the concept of patriotism during an online talk Thursday, May 6, sponsored by Noble Horizons.

Working from his book, "Reclaiming Patriotism in an Age of Extremes," Smith identified the source of contemporary political strife as a conflict between nationalism and cosmopolitanism.

He said on the political right, patriotism is identified with nationalism, and nationalism has developed into "an ideology of resentment" featuring what its adherents see as "betrayal by treasonous elites."

On the political left, cosmopolitanism features multiculturalism and identity politics. Smith said these ideas, once restricted to academia, have "morphed into a race for victim status."

He said he could not accept these ideas "because of the effects." Smith said slavery and racial

injustice "might be an irreparable stain" on the United States, but they "are not the essence."

Smith said that the concept of loyalty is built into human beings. The phrase "I've got your back" expresses what loyalty means in personal terms.

And "without loyalty to social institutions, we have nothing."

Patriotism, he continued, is a kind of loyalty — to the Constitution.

A Fascist or Communist America "might be the same country, but it would not be the same America."

He said "there is nothing shameful" about citizens wishing to look out for their country first.

But that does not require hostility to other countries.

He cited Martin Luther King Jr.'s "desire to see our country live up to its highest aspirations" and suggested that today's activists would benefit from revisiting King's philosophy.

Smith urged that citizens not engage in "disenchantment and resentment, but in care and love."



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In The Journal this week

OUR TOWNS A3-5 VIEWPOINT B4
 OBITUARIES A5 LEGALS B5
 COMPASS B1-2 CLASSIFIEDS B5
 OPINION B3 SPECIALIST B6

Three-day forecast

Friday Cloudy, high 66°/low 41°
 Saturday Cloudy, 62°/45°
 Sunday Thunderstorms, 65°/45°

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.

Caregiver suspected of identity theft

On April 29 Abigail Wood, 37, of Sharon turned herself in on an active warrant and was charged with larceny in the first degree, identity theft in the first degree, forgery in the third degree and illegal use of a credit card.

The charges stem from an investigation regarding the personal finances of Florence Barnes, 89, of Sharon. Wood was the caregiver to Barnes and according to the police report is charged with the alleged larceny of potentially \$250,000 using an L.L. Bean MasterCard in Barnes' name, as well as checks allegedly written to and cashed by Wood over the course of five years. The report details charges on the L.L. Bean Mastercard that included thousands of dollars spent at LaBonne's Market in Salisbury and Sharon Farm Market and at gas stations, shopping, car repair, restaurants and L.L. Bean. Wood was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on that same day.

Damage to utility pole

On May 5 at approximately 7:30 a.m. on Lower Road in North Canaan a 2012 Peterbilt Motors Company truck

registered to Taconic Transportation and driven by Patrick Callahan, 60, of Winsted drove without lowering the truck's dumptbody, which got stuck on an Eversource utility pole, causing the pole's wires to snap in half. No enforcement action was taken.

Repeated trespassing

On May 8 at approximately 2:45 p.m. following an investigation by Troop B at a residence on Housatonic Road in North Canaan, Fawn Rosier, 30, of North Canaan was charged with criminal trespassing in the first degree. Six months prior she had been issued an infraction for trespassing at the same residence. She was scheduled to appear at Torrington Superior Court on May 21.

Assault

On May 9 at approximately 3:15 a.m. Troop B investigated a report of an active domestic disturbance at a residence on Sand Road in Falls Village following an emergency call hang-up. Joseph Zucco, 62, of Falls Village was charged with disorderly conduct and assault in the third degree. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on May 10.

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.

Seeking candidates for 30th Senate District seat

Democrats in the Northwest Corner have formed a search committee for candidates for the 2022 30th District State Senate race as well as the Litchfield Hills Probate District 2022 race.

Patricia Oris (Kent Democratic Town Committee chairperson) will chair this committee; attorney William Riiska of Salisbury will serve as vice

chairperson. Also on the committee is Cornwall Democratic Town Committee Chairperson Richard Wolkowitz.

The committee will meet periodically between now and the nominating conventions in May 2022.

Anyone interested in running for either of these offices is asked to contact Oris at patricia@bragaoris.com.

BOBCAT WATCH



PHOTO BY ROB BUCCINO

Paws lurking in the grass

The grass is getting long enough to allow for jungle-like stalking by predator animals, such as this bobcat in the Salisbury yard of Rob Buccino on April 26.

Correction

An article in the May 6 Lakeville Journal described a ceremony honoring James Mars as occurring on Sunday, May 2. It was in fact on Saturday, May 1.

FAMILY & FRIENDS



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Martin named new Eagle Scout

Michael Martin of North Canaan's Troop 22 attained the rank of Eagle Scout in a special Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony.

Seniors apply now for scholarship

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.

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Apply now for Salisbury Bank scholarship

LAKEVILLE — Salisbury Bank announced its 2021 Annual "Time to Shine" Scholarship Program. Multiple scholarships may be awarded for up to \$1,500 each to assist eligible students seeking a college degree in a variety of programs. Ideal candidates will be students of academic achievement, who possess a variety of interests and leadership experience and show consistent community involvement.

Eligible students must be residents of Litchfield County or Dutchess, Orange or Ulster County, N.Y., or Berkshire County, Mass. Applicants must be currently enrolled in a public high school, vocational, technical or private school, be a homeschool student affiliated with such a school, or be a graduate or GED recipient entering their first year of college.

Applicants must be planning to enter an accredited college or university as a first-year undergraduate student for the 2021-22 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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Correcting Errors

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

Our Towns

Discussion of affordable housing and the cellular tower balloon

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — First Selectman Curtis Rand told the Board of Selectmen at the regular meeting of the selectmen Monday, May 3, that he is aware of the concerns over a proposed cell tower in Lakeville.

Rand referred to “consternation” among residents over the cell tower and possible changes in Inland Wetlands regulations. He asked townspeople to be patient and to “pull in the same direction.”

On the cell tower, Rand said that the decision is up to the Connecticut Siting Council and because the site is private property, the town’s ability to influence the process is limited.

The cell tower at Salisbury School (which Rand noted is scheduled to be activated, some five years after its construction) involved the town because the site abuts town property. The cell tower in downtown Salisbury is on town property.

As far as the Lakeville tower is concerned, Rand said AT&T flew a balloon at the site (106 Sharon Road) last year at 150 feet, and the State Historic Preservation Office subsequently required the height be lowered to 94 feet.

AT&T, after some urging from Rand, flew a second balloon at 94 feet on Friday, May 7. The balloon was visible from the town Grove but was not particularly easy to spot (see photo).

Rand said he sent a letter supporting the tower because he had received numerous complaints over the years about the lack of cell service in Lakeville.

But he added that he is



A red balloon was floated at the proposed site of a 94-foot-tall cell tower, on Friday, May 7. The balloon can be seen at the center of this photo, at the tree line.

aware of the concerns of residents who live around Lake Wononscopomuc and is happy to make those concerns known to the Siting Council.

As far as wetlands regulations go, Rand said the commission is charged with bringing town regulations in line with state regulations, but “there’s no urgency on this.”

Rand reported that there are four individuals with ideas for a future use for the old railroad station building on Ethan Allen

Street in Lakeville.

He said, and selectmen Don Mayland and Chris Williams agreed, that he is reluctant to move forward on any proposal until the question of the Holley Street affordable housing development, and related issues over parking, are resolved. (The Planning and Zoning Commission will vote on the Holley Street application on May 17).

In the meantime, the town will maintain the railroad station building.

Rand said it is likely the yearly sticker fee for the Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station will increase this summer, from \$100 to either \$110 or \$120.

Rand said there are more people using the transfer station, and thus more waste, and that expenses are increasing “dramatically,” particularly as the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) trash-to-energy plant in Hartford prepares for closing.

The selectmen discussed traffic and speeding on Route 44. Rand noted that flashing beacons for downtown Salisbury are out to bid.

He also said that there was a study some 11 years ago on the possibility of a median island on Route 44 west of Lakeville. “I think we should dust that plan off.”

He said he would bring it up with the state Department of Transportation.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Volunteers worked at the playground at the Falls Village Recreation Center on Saturday, May 1, putting down a new surface around the equipment.

A playground made lovelier with some trees

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Recreation Commission reached a \$7,500 fundraising goal to “beautify and expand” the Recreation Center over the first weekend of May.

Recreation Director Emily Peterson confirmed Sunday, May 2, that the goal had been reached, thus allowing the commission to receive a matching grant of \$7,500 from

Sustainable CT’s Community Match Fund.

A group of volunteers met at the Recreation Center on Saturday, May 1, to put down a new surface on the playground.

Plans include adding native plants and trees, and a pergola built with locally sourced materials.

Donations are still welcome. To donate goto www.patronicity.com/project/trees_for_town_pool.



Cornwall town meeting set for May 21

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — Following the public hearing on the proposed 2021-22 town budgets held on Friday, April 23, the Board of Selectmen set the date for the annual town meeting for Friday, May 21, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The decision was made at the selectmen’s regular meeting on Tuesday, May 4.

Attendance may be in person at Town Hall, or for those wishing to attend remotely the meeting will be offered live on Zoom.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway commented that the budgets as proposed would hold the mill rate at its current level of 16.7 mills.

Funds possible for W. Cornwall project

Ridgway reported progress with the application to obtain a Community Grant for the West Cornwall Wastewater Project. He has heard from the office of U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-5) that the town’s application has cleared the first hurdle and is among the 10 projects selected for presentation to the U.S. House Appropriations Committee for funding.

If the grant is approved, it will provide for 75% of the construction costs in connection with the project, Ridgway noted.

A decision is expected in mid to late June. Hearings are likely to be held during the summer.

Ridgway noted that the 5th Congressional District was the first in the state to submit its applications to the program.

Household Hazardous Waste Day is May 22

FALLS VILLAGE — There is a long list of hazardous but common household items that should not be discarded with the regular trash.

These items should be brought to the annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, which this year is scheduled for Saturday, May 22, and will be held at the Falls Village Highway Garage on Railroad Street from 9 a.m. to noon. All participants must obtain a ticket from their town hall to participate.

Participating towns include Canaan/Falls Village, Cornwall, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon.

Participants should: 1) be ready to show your ticket upon entry from a closed driver’s side window 2) stay in the vehicle at all times and keep windows rolled up 3) wear a face mask at all times and 4) place all waste material to be removed in the rear compartment of the vehicle — not in passenger areas. Only place items you want removed

at the back of your vehicle.

No containers will be poured out and returned to residents at this event.

Workers will remove the waste from the back of your vehicle and be in full safety gear.

Household products are considered hazardous if they are toxic, flammable, reactive or corrosive. Examples of such products include pesticides, herbicides, oil-based paints, degreasers, household cleaners, paint thinners and gasoline.

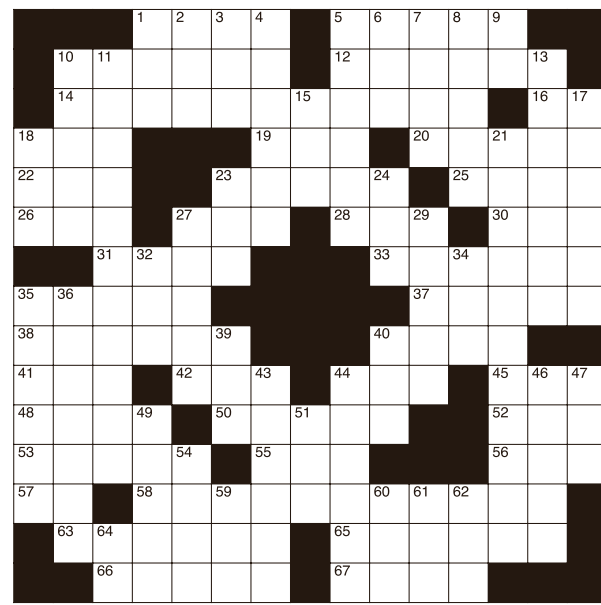
Number 20 propane tanks (barbecue size) will be accepted at this event, but fluorescent bulbs and electronic waste will not be accepted.

Registration is taking place now through May 21. There is no charge to participants. The event is being sponsored by the Recycling Advisory Committee of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments and the participating towns listed above. More details on the Collection Day can be obtained in a brochure available at town halls.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

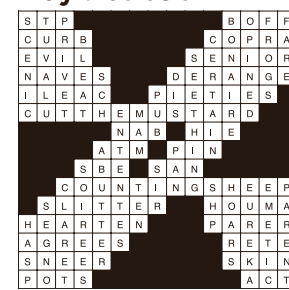
1. Large, flightless birds
5. Lifts and moves heavy objects
10. Hyundai sedan
12. Wear away by erosion
14. Arranged alphabetically
16. Top prosecutor
18. ___-de-sac: Short dead-end street
19. Digital audiotape
20. Linguistics pioneer
22. Singer DiFranco
23. Arms of the sea
25. Near-reach weapon (abbr.)
26. Ballplayer’s accessory
27. You get one at the beach
28. U.S. founding father
30. W. Australia indigenous people
31. Amounts of time
33. Put on the shelf
35. Russian dynasty member
37. City along the Elbe River
38. A peninsula between the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf



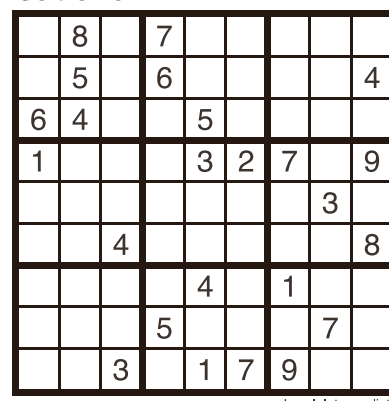
23. More (Spanish)
24. High schoolers’ test
27. Large heavily built goat antelope
29. Murdered in his bathtub
32. Tease good-naturedly
34. Morsel
35. Cause persistent resentment
36. A radioactive element
39. Perform in a play
40. Witty remark: Bon ___
43. A great place to kayak
44. Conclude by reasoning
46. In an unfavorable way
47. Complex of nerve tissues (abbr.)
49. Machine for making paper
51. Feline

54. Yugo’s hatchback
59. Check
60. Press against lightly
61. Wind-pollinated plants
62. ___compoop
64. Commercial

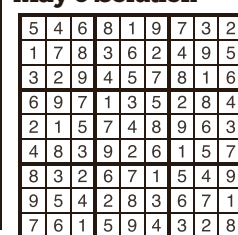
May 6 Solution



Sudoku



May 6 Solution



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Our Towns

Kent town meeting on budget will be May 21

By Leila Hawken

KENT — The annual public hearing on proposed budgets for 2021-22 drew little public comment, clearing the way for the Board of Finance to set the annual town meeting for Friday, May 21, beginning at 7 p.m. The location and whether it will be in person or on Zoom will be determined soon.

The public hearing was conducted on Zoom, attracting 29 participants to hear a brief review of the budgets and a larger conversation about the budget process. The proposed budgets are posted on the town website and printed copies are available in several Kent locations.

The clarity of this year's format, devised by Treasurer Barbara Herbst, won praise from several speakers.

"We all know people who were still hurting, so we sought to keep the mill rate level," said finance board member Rufus de Rham in recalling the budget workshops. He offered thanks to all of the people and boards involved in developing the budgets.

Board of Education

"This year has been challenging," said Board of Education Chairman Martin Lindenmayer, introducing the proposed budget for Kent Center School. The budget increase was held to 0.28% (\$13,125) over the current year's budget. The total for the education operating budget is \$4,686,813. Lindenmayer noted that most of the increase is connected to the salary line within the budget; salaries are contractual.

Board of Finance member Ed Epstein described it as "very, very reasonable," and he congratulated the board for its work in keeping expenditures in check.

Effects of the pandemic brought 30 new families to Kent, Lindenmayer said, and in response to de Rham's question, Lindenmayer said that they seem to be going to stay. Kindergarten registration is up, also, with 24 signed up already, an increase over the previous year.

Board of Selectmen

First Selectwoman Jean Speck who joined the meeting remotely from Sweet Briar, Va., applauded the efforts of town workers in keeping costs low. "Town workers have flexed and shifted," she said, adding that the town offices have decided to postpone some planned technical improvements.

The Board of Selectmen's operating budget totals \$4,152,727, an increase of \$192,577 (4.86%).

Selectman Chris Garrity said that everyone has done a great job with each town department offering clean, even

budgets with only small pay increases.

"They are underappreciated," Garrity said of town employees.

Garrity described frustration, however, with elements of the budget process, wondering whether the town should think in terms of keeping expenditures flat from year to year, rather than keeping the mill rate flat.

The selectmen do not have information about expected revenues as they prepare their budget, Garrity said. Rather they need to operate under the assumption that revenues are expected to be level, but in fact, revenues have increased this year.

Recalling some hard choices that the selectmen made, Garrity said, "Our decision was

made looking at the whole budget without knowledge of the revenue stream."

"It did not work right," Garrity said, urging that a philosophy be developed and that communication among boards be improved.

Garrity also repeated his concern that the Board of Finance acted to fund a line item for Emergency Management Services at \$31,000, that the selectmen had not received a proposal for and had not had a chance to discuss. The application was received one week in advance of the budget going to the Board of Finance for review.

Speck noted that Emergency Management Services had never before been part of the budget process, as its funding was received from federal sources,

and that this year there was confusion about the process and the proper timing of the application process.

Troubled by the lateness of the application, Garrity said that he would prefer to let a year pass to allow time to follow the correct application process.

Selectman Ed Matson said that he agreed with Garrity's position on process, adding that he would like to see a different process for next year.

"There is an opportunity for the two boards to meet and have these deeper conversations," Speck agreed, seeing the value in knowing projected revenue figures and incorporating that information into the process. She said that the process would be better and would offer a smoother outcome.

Essential services getting upgrades in Cornwall

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — Following many months of helping the town navigate its way through COVID-19 and the real-life toll the pandemic is taking on local families, Social Services Director Heather Dineen provided an update for the selectmen at their regular meeting on Tuesday, May 4.

Her request for a part-time helper to oversee the local food pantry for a few hours each week — likely to be paid through a grant that she has applied for — won unanimous approval from the selectmen. Before the pandemic, Dineen reported, the town's caseload stood at about 40. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, however, Dineen said that residents have experienced needs such as help with paying bills, internet access, car repairs and "every kind of bill you can imagine."

Dineen said that the food pantry will need to move its operation to the basement level of the Congregational Church at the end of May, where an average of 27 households are served, amounting to an estimated 45 adults and 43 children weekly.

In 2021, Dineen said that expenses have totaled \$32,572 so far for the food pantry. Donations have been robust and generous, she reported, standing at \$66,339, to date.

Looking to the future, Dineen said that she is exploring a partnership with the Connecticut Food Bank and partnering with more commu-

nity organizations, or perhaps starting a "sponsor a shelf" program where local residents might team up to keep one shelf stocked.

Such efforts, however, are time-consuming, leading to her request to the selectmen to be able to compensate a food pantry coordinator who would work about 5 to 7 hours each week, helping with food distribution.

"I want to be realistic about what our volunteers and I can do," Dineen said.

"It makes sense to do this," First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said, noting the possibility of grant support that has been applied for.

Selectwoman Priscilla Pavel agreed, calling it "a very smart idea."

The selectmen and Dineen added praise and gratitude to the many donors who have contributed to the Food and Fuel Fund throughout the pandemic.

"Without the donors, it would be a very different story," Dineen said.

Transfer station upgrade

The transfer station will undergo some improvements in coming months, Ridgway announced.

Planned work includes removing the office shed and replacing it with a new office on the same slab. A construction trailer will be brought in while work is done. The town will remove the old ramp as part of the project.

Ridgway said that a local architect will be asked to sketch some plans and specifications before the project goes out to bid.

North Canaan budget hearing & town meeting to be held in person

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — Observing that the threat posed by COVID-19 appears to be waning, the Board of Selectmen announced that both the public hearing and the town meeting on the proposed 2021-22 budget will be held in person at Town Hall. The meetings will not be available on Zoom.

First Selectman Charles Perotti added, however, that face masks will be absolutely required for all who attend the meetings.

The public hearing on the budget is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, beginning at 7:30 p.m., with the town meeting to follow two weeks later on Wednesday, June 9. Also to be discussed at the town meeting will be a proposal to sell 10 acres of town-owned land near the town's transfer station. Although the parcel is landlocked, Perotti said there is some interest from potential buyers. Before any action can be taken, however, residents need to vote to approve the sale.

Transfer station and branches

Transfer station stickers are expected to go on sale at the transfer station on July 1, Per-

otti announced. Fees remain the same as last year.

The last week in May will be the final chance for residents to arrange for the town to pick up brush from their curbside. Brush with stems no more than 4 inches in diameter will be eligible for pick-up, and the stems need to be pointed toward the road. Residents should call the town garage to arrange for a brush pick-up.

Infrastructure plans

The railroad crossing project is continuing, according to Perotti who has met with Department of Transportation officials. The crossing work near McDonald's, he has learned, will be done in mid-June. Because the crossing near Roma's is awaiting delivery of a signal part, however, that project will be delayed until late summer, Perotti said.

A brief presentation by Kirt Mayland of Lodestar Energy introduced a solar energy installation project planned for acreage east of the Stop & Shop. The parcel is not visible from the road, he explained.

Mayland said that he was alerting the selectmen about his proposal to install solar panels at the site, recognizing that his first step is to present

the plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission. He said he is hoping to earn the selectmen's support for his plan.

Liability insurance coverage and a need to clarify the leases under which local groups operate came under discussion, with the selectmen agreeing to invite three groups to a future selectmen's meeting. The three organizations to be invited are the Friends of the Beckley Furnace, the Friends of the History Center and the Disc Golf enterprise.

"We want to clarify insurances and the leases," Perotti said in suggesting the meeting, just to be sure that the language is sufficiently clear both for those involved and for the town.

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, June 7, beginning at 7:30 p.m., at Town Hall. The meeting will be conducted in-person and not on Zoom. Masks will be required for those who wish to attend.

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

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

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

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Support your local, independent voice in journalism by making a contribution at www.tricornernews.com/contribute or by mailing a check with your contact information to **The Lakeville Journal, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039.**

In return for your Community Contribution, we regret that we cannot offer a tax deduction at this time.

OBITUARIES

John Laurance Miller

CORNWALL — John L. Miller, Emmy Award-winning writer of documentaries and a journalist who worked in both print and television news passed away at the age of 90 at his home in Cornwall on May 1, 2021.

Mr. Miller joined the staff of the Miami Herald shortly after being discharged following Army service in Korea.

He later worked as a reporter for the Associated Press in New York and for the New York World-Telegram & Sun.

Before joining NBC News he worked for two years as curator of publications for the New York Zoological Society.

At NBC Mr. Miller first worked as a writer and producer in local news at WNBC Channel 4 in New York and later spent many years as a network staff writer first for the Nightly News and then for more than a decade for the Today Show.

His documentary work, mainly for PBS's Great Performance series, included programs on the careers of Fred Astaire, James Stewart, Hum-

phrey Bogart, Judy Garland and Spencer Tracy for which he won an Emmy as the writer.

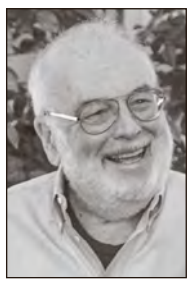
Mr. Miller served two terms on the Connecticut Humanities Council. He was a regular contributor to the Cornwall Chronicle, the town's monthly newsletter.

John Miller was born in New York City on Jan. 20, 1931, to Leonore (Olinsky) and Henry Miller. He was educated at the Riverdale Country School and Ohio Wesleyan University where he was editor of the college newspaper and a four-year member of the tennis team.

Survivors include his partner of many years, Carol Schneider; a daughter, Emily Eliot Miller; a son, Dr. Ivan Miller; a granddaughter, Lila Miller; and Carol's sons and grandsons, Andrew, Doug, Eric, Max, Gus, Leo and Jake Schneider.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests friends consider contributing to Planned Parenthood or the American Civil Liberties Union.

A memorial service will be held at a future date.



Community honors the memory of Ed Kirby

SHARON — The impact on the Northwest Corner of Ed Kirby, who died on Feb. 1, 2021, continues to be felt.

On Friday, May 21, the baseball fields at Housatonic Valley Regional High School will be dedicated to Kirby as part of a game vs. Thomaston. Kirby was a teacher and the principal at Housatonic, and was then the assistant superintendent for the Region One School District; he was also a beloved coach of baseball, football and basketball.

The high school's FFA Alumni Executive Committee voted to honor Kirby by making him a Member in Memo-

riam of the Housatonic Valley FFA Alumni. The induction will be noted on the Alumni's Life Membership Board with a plaque. The usual life membership dues will provide a one year scholarship to an FFA student who has demonstrated exemplary leadership. Contributions are welcome; send them to Ellery W. Sinclair, 201 Under Mountain Road, Falls Village, CT 06031.

Kirby was a native of Sharon and devoted much of his life to studying and documenting the town's history. The Sharon Historical Society hosted a remembrance of Kirby in April, which is now available on the society's

YouTube channel, and can be accessed from the Collections menu on our website; the link is at www.youtube.com/channel/UCBZ36M43L6LRX1ezX-cyeVhw

And the Voices of Sharon

interview that news anchor Brian Ross and news producer Rhonda Schwartz did with Kirby for the historical society in 2020 will be available on the society's YouTube channel by May 14.

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.



OUR TOWNS

Challenges to farming

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — The Cornwall Library hosted a panel presentation on Farming in the Northwest Corner on Saturday, May 8. The lively discussion conducted on Zoom drew around 70 participants.

First to speak were Dave Moran and Audra Leach from the Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) agricultural education program.

The aged program appeals widely to students, they said, with 42% of HVRHS students, or 142, enrolled in some aspect of the program's coursework, whether Animal Science, Engineering and Mechanics, Food Science, Natural Resources and the Environment, and Plant Science and Horticulture.

Bringing real-world farming perspective to the discussion, Bill Hurlburt of Cornwall added his views on what it means to farm today, much different from generations past; and how modern farmers achieve sustainable agriculture in the face of changing conditions and attitudes.

Hurlburt's experience is enriched by family history: His ancestors began farming in Cornwall in 1748. Hurlburt serves on the HVRHS Agriculture Education Advisory Committee.

Cornwall resident and ecologist Peter Del Tredici moderated the discussion and contributed his insights spanning 50 years of working with plants.

Today's HVRHS program has three funding sources, Moran explained, including the Region One budget, the State of Connecticut and the FFA student-managed fundraising efforts that include plant sales (especially the December holiday greens sales). The Agricultural Education Advisory Board guides and oversees the program.

An arboretum stands today on the campus of HVRHS, boasting 41 trees of a variety of species.

Dangers of a spreading maple

During the discussion period, Cornwall's Roxana Robinson inquired about the Norway maple that stands on the campus, asking how it came to be. Moran responded that the maple was planted in the 1950s, before the arboretum was begun, and that it is watched closely each year.

To date, no young maples

have sprouted anywhere in the vicinity, so the situation seems to be benign.

Del Tredici praised the depth of the program. "Farming is no longer a vocational education program," Del Tredici said. "It is more forward-looking, getting into climate change issues and economic changes affecting agriculture."

Hurlburt raised the rhetorical question of why small family farms are not sustainable today. He pointed to changing weather patterns, more snow and killing frosts. Marketing and selling are more important today than in the past.

Farmers now need to supplement their income, taking on a side expertise and career — ideally, one related to their farming enterprise. The question is how to take an occupation rooted in the earth and make it work. Viable farms add value by offering a product to the community.

Economic sustainability is key, Del Tredici said.

"Do you think that someone starting out today can make a living at it?" Del Tredici asked Hurlburt.

"No," Hurlburt said, adding that many small farmers in Cornwall have hay businesses. They can grow it and sell it, but they have a side occupation for income.

"Everyone wants a farm, but no one wants to farm," Hurlburt observed, adding that people do not realize the costs for farming equipment, for example, and of course the amount of work.

Del Tredici spoke of the potential for farming to function as part of a conservation strategy, a vitally important point, he said. "It's in everyone's interest to keep farming viable."

According to Del Tredici, the HVRHS program is addressing the core issue of how a farm can connect with its larger community.

FV budget hearing May 21

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The public hearing on the proposed spending plans from the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education for 2021-22 will be Friday, May 21, 7 p.m., location to be determined.

The Board of Finance will meet Monday, May 24,

6:30 p.m. to finalize the budget proposals and send to town meeting, which will be Friday, June 3, 7 p.m., location to be determined.

The municipal spending plan is for \$2,031,057, an increase of \$168,812 (9.06%).

The Lee H. Kellogg School spending plan is for \$2,038,723, an increase of \$59,402 (3%).

New federal program will help with the cost of broadband

By Rob Buccino

A new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) program provides a temporary benefit to lower the cost of broadband service for eligible households during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

Households who qualify can receive a discount of up to \$50 per month on broadband service (up to \$75 on qualifying Tribal lands). The benefit also provides up to a \$100 discount toward a one-time purchase of a computer, laptop, or tablet, provided a household meets program requirements.

According to the FCC, if one member of the household meets at least one of several criteria, it qualifies for the benefit.

Households with income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or participating in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid or the FCC's Lifeline program, are eligible. Also eligible are families approved under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program during either the 2019-20 or 2020-21 school year; those who received a federal Pell Grant during the current award

years; workers who lost income through job loss or furloughs since Feb. 29, 2020 (provided their 2020 total household income was at or below \$99,000 for single filers or \$198,000 for joint filers); and those who qualify for their broadband provider's existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

Enrollment began on May 12. Eligible households can enroll through a participating broadband provider (Comcast/Xfinity, Frontier Communications, Optimum, Verizon, T-Mobile and others are listed as participants in Connecticut). They can also enroll directly with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) using an online or mail-in application.

Additional information about the Emergency Broadband Benefit is available at www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit, or by calling 833-511-0311 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. any day of the week.



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Worship Services

Week of May 16, 2021

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<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10am www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>	<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>Greenwoods Community Church 355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA Sunday Service 10:30 AM Kidz Konnection K-6th grade (during Sun. Service) Nursery Care All Services Pastor Trip Weiler 413-229-8560 www.greenwoodchurch.com</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people Pastor Savage Frieze 172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am AT THE PILGRIM HOUSE 30 GRANITE AVE, CANAAN: FISHES & LOAVES Food Pantry and CLOSETS for clothing Tuesdays from 5 to 7 and Thursdays from noon to 2 www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:45 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>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 Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627 www.trinitylimerock.org</p>
<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Join our virtual service on Sunday, June 13 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at joiauloi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9am Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mrgates125@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone. We hope you will join us!</p>	<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Sunday School 9:15 a.m. "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 am, Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>Sharon Congregational Church 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for current online sermons. Bible Study Guides also available by request: info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org Or contact us at 860-364-5002</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am Cornwall Village Meeting House 8 Bolton Hill Rd, Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH 860-927-3003 The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge MASS SCHEDULE SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM - St. Bridget SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart WEEKDAY MASSES Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & First Friday 9 AM - Sacred Heart Face masks required</p>	<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com</p>
<p>Millerton United Methodist Church 6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:30 A.M. 518-789-5138</p>	<p>ARNOLD'S GARAGE 24 HOUR TOWING/YOUR ONE-STOP GARAGE ASE CERTIFIED QUALITY SERVICE & REPAIRS HEAVY DUTY TRUCK REPAIR Your Local Certified Emission Testing Station Arnold Agar Jr. Master Automotive & Heavy Duty Truck Technician 2 North Elm Street N. Canaan, CT 06018</p>

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DEATHS

Continued from Page A1

someone who is drunk and an obvious threat to self or others. One problem with this approach is that unlike individuals who are drunk, people who have been given Narcan are often lucid.

The other problem, Horn said, is that mental health professionals are leery of any sort of coercive approach.

Horn said the idea is to allow law enforcement to detain people long enough to get them into some form of treatment, not as a punitive measure.

Asked if the recent increase in overdoses is attributable to fentanyl, a powerful opioid often added to heroin or other drugs, Skinner said that was almost certainly the case.

Imported from larger cities

So how do these drugs get to Litchfield County, and how are they distributed?

Bobby Lawlor is a drug intelligence officer for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program, a federal program run out of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (which is a White House entity). Lawlor is a former New Haven police officer with extensive experience in narcotics investigations.

In a phone interview Saturday, May 8, Lawlor described the complex world of the illegal drug trade.

In general, street-level drug dealers in northwest Connecticut towns get their supplies from distributors in larger cities — Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Danbury; Waterbury; Hartford; possibly as far afield as Springfield, Mass.

The main source for distributors in New England is New York City. The drugs then go to larger Connecticut cities, such as Bridgeport, New Haven, Hartford, Waterbury.

The supply lines are difficult to track, Lawlor said. "They are based on relationships and connections — guys who were in prison together, family members."

The drugs that come out of New York City flow from the southwest border of the United States, through Chicago and/or Atlanta, and then to New York.

The organizations that transport the drugs from the border, through Chicago and Atlanta, and on to New York "are very sophisticated," Lawlor said.

The distribution from New York outwards is similarly well-organized.

After that, however, the distribution becomes somewhat more haphazard and dependent on the "relationships and connections," until the drugs get to the street or retail dealers — who are often users

In general, street-level drug dealers in northwest Connecticut towns get their supplies from distributors in larger cities — Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Danbury; Waterbury; Hartford; possibly as far afield as Springfield, Mass.

themselves, and selling drugs in order to pay for their own supplies.

Dilutions are now deadly

Fentanyl and its analogs have added a new and deadly wrinkle to an already complex situation.

Lawlor said that prior to 2013, the heroin scene in New Haven was "stable."

"I hate to say it, but before 2013 you knew what you were getting."

The heroin sold prior to 2013 in New Haven had the usual adulterants, such as Mannitol or lactose, added at any step in the distribution chain to stretch out the supply. These substances do not pose a threat to users.

"Once in a while there would be a 'hot batch,'" Lawlor continued, meaning heroin that had not been diluted as much as usual and was thus more potent. This made it difficult for addicts to determine the right dose.

But post-2013, fentanyl and similar substances started to show up in what was sold as heroin.

Lawlor said fentanyl, fentanyl analogs, as well as other synthetic opioids are much stronger than a typical sample of heroin sold on the street.

Worse, these drugs have different "dosing strengths."

So even an experienced addict will have trouble figuring out how much to use.

Plus a powerful veterinary sedative, Xylazine, is now being added to the already lethal mix.

"That's a lot of what we see," Lawlor said. "It's very rare to find just one drug."

For more information on harm reduction and treatment options, go to the Litchfield County Opiate Task Force website at www.loctf.org and the McCall Center for Behavioral Health at www.mccall-centerct.org.

BUDGET

Continued from Page A1

Each town pays a portion of the total cost based on the number of students it sends to the regional high school.

TOWN ASSESSMENTS

Canaan/Falls Village	\$1,476,319	decrease of \$200,098
Cornwall	\$1,484,561	increase of \$112,017
Kent	\$2,509,743	decrease of \$108,606
North Canaan	\$4,762,646	increase of \$395,667
Salisbury	\$3,725,651	increase of \$159,769
Sharon	\$2,067,541	decrease of \$109,596

This article originally appeared online at www.tri-cornernews.com.

HVRHS

Continued from Page A1

tent for a two-week period in June, for graduation and other events.

Coming up: On Friday, May 21, the baseball fields will be dedicated to the late Ed Kirby as part of a game vs. Thomas-ton.

And on Wednesday, June 9, the Eleanor Roosevelt Chapter of the National Honor Society will induct 14 new members, using the large tent on the front lawn, which will allow the school to invite current members as well as immediate family.

FOREST

Continued from Page A1

derground, Wessels told his audience. It occurs due to the freezing and thawing of the ground which works the rocks upward from below at the speed of about one quarter of an inch each year. The phenomenon occurs most often in open ground where rocks are not impeded by tree roots. Wessels serves as profes-

sor emeritus at Antioch University New England, where he founded their graduate program in Conservation Biology. Published works include "Reading the Forested Landscape: a Natural History of New England" and "Forest Forensics: A Field Guide to Reading the Forested Landscape."



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN & PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer on May 6 was observed in Sharon, above, and Salisbury, at right. For more photos and a story, turn to Page A1.



An antique photo of a venerable antiques sale

By Cynthia Hochswender

In the April 29 issue of The Lakeville Journal, we shared a few photos from an antiques fair that was held for many years in Salisbury. The photos we used were from sometime in the 1970s but we weren't sure when; and because of that, we weren't able to trace the original article in our online archive through the Scoville Memorial Library, at <http://scoville.advantage-preservation.com>.

Betsy Knight of Lilburn, Ga., gets the Best Archive Sleuth Award for finding the original article on the front page of the Sept. 17, 1970, Lakeville Journal. The original issue can be seen at our online archive (the web address is above); the images in our archive are, sadly, hard to read. But fortunately, we have a digital scan of the original negative made for us by volunteer Perry Gardner.

The original photo from the front page article, taken by Stewart Dean, is above.

Rob Buccino grew up in Salisbury. His mother, Barbara, was for many years The Lakeville Journal's Salisbury correspondent and Rob has continued the tradition by writing occasional articles for us on topics that interest him. Rob actually now lives on the property where the antiques sales used to be held.

"Russell Carrell's annual flea market used to be held in the fields next to my house, just east of Noble Horizons. The cupola on the house seen in one of the photos is still on the house across the street, which once had the House of Herbs enterprise (in the house, not the cupola; they grew and sold herbs, I believe with national distribution, up to the late 1960s)."

That herb business was run by the woman known in those days as Mrs. Ezra Winter (her own first name was Pat), the wife of the famed painter whose home and studio in Falls Village is now known as Winterhouse.

An article about the House of Herbs can be found in our online archive on page 21 of the issue of the Aug. 8, 1957, issue.

The newspaper's online archive can certainly be a rabbit



PHOTO BY STEWART DEAN

Thanks to reader Betsy Knight, we learned that photos we ran in our issue of April 29 were originally published in the Sept. 17, 1970, Lakeville Journal. The front page story featured the photo, above, which was recently digitally scanned for us by Perry Gardner.

hole for anyone interested in the history of our towns. Betsy Knight said in her email to us, "I can't tell you how many hours I've spent looking through the old Journals online! It's great! I use it to find family history and just interesting tidbits."

"When I was a kid I used to look through the old bound copies at the library. Back then they allowed us to look through the huge books."

Those huge books can still be found at Salisbury's Scoville Library, but the oldest issues are now most easily accessible through the online site.

Back to the flea market/

antiques sale, Michael Kahler of Salisbury (who contributes poems to our newspaper's opinions page) wrote in to say that the "Salisbury antiques fair was called 'Antiques in a Meadow.'"

Its creator, Russell Carrell, "lived in the faded violet house on the Lakeville/Millerton road. Antique dealers would arrive in their station wagons, park in a big circle and sell out of the back of each wagon."

Betsy Knight noted that Carrell's sales were quite famous and were even written up in the New York Times.

"People came from all over to attend all through the 1960s, and

beyond," she said in her email. "It was expensive stuff, not ordinary flea market items."

"I can't believe I remembered his name," she added. "I do remember so many cars parking on the grass."

Although she lives in Georgia now, Betsy said her father was the postmaster in Salisbury from the 1950s to the 1970s.

We are grateful and delighted that so many of our readers enjoy the vintage photos as much as we do. We will continue to run the images when we have space, and we hope they will continue to spark memories that you will share with us.

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

Student Work in Show at KAA

The Kent Art Association's Student Art Show opened on Sunday, May 2, featuring work from students at Brookfield High School, Forman School in Litchfield, Conn., The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Conn., Housatonic Regional Valley High School in Falls Village, Conn., Marvelwood School in Kent, Conn., and South Kent School.

Winners were selected from six categories.

OIL/ACRYLIC

Award for Excellence: Olivia Pignataro, Marvelwood; Honorable Mentions: Keira Cason, Hotchkiss, and Ze Meng, South Kent

WATERCOLOR

Award for Excellence: Landon Sartori, South Kent; Honorable Mention: Lily Brownlee, Marvelwood

DRAWING

Award for Excellence: Aron Ladoni, Housatonic Valley Regional High School

PASTEL

Award for Excellence: Sofia Marcktell, Hotchkiss; Honorable Mention: Bo Wang, South Kent



PHOTO BY JACQUELINE EISENHAURE

Art by students at six area schools is included in the Kent Art Association's annual Student Art Show. This photo by Jacqueline Eisenhaure at the Forman School won the award for Excellence in Photography.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Award for Excellence: Jacquelin Eisenhaure, Forman; Honorable Mention: Wyatt Lee, Marvelwood

SCULPTURE

Award for Excellence: Yihan Ding, Hotchkiss
The show remains open until Sunday, May 15, and is

open for viewing Thursday through Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. The association's gallery is at 21 S. Main St. in Kent, Conn.; call 860- 927-3989.

TIPPLING SOME ARSENIC AND ELDERBERRY WINE WITH SHARON PLAYHOUSE

As long as everyone is actually having a pretty good time doing virtual events, why not do plays that way as well? Sharon Playhouse is going with the flow of things and has scheduled a reading of the black comedy "Arsenic and Old Lace" on Saturday, May 22, at 3 p.m.

Although this truly hilarious madcap comedy is sort of a Halloween story, Playhouse Managing Director Robert Levinstein said that he and Artistic Director Alan M-L Wager chose "Arsenic" not only because it's lively and entertaining but also because it's a show with a large cast.

"It was a show where we could feature a lot of our local performers and also an easy and fun way to bring back past cast members," Levinstein said.

The 14 performers (including Emily Soell and John Champion from Sharon, Conn., David Fanning from

Millerton, N.Y., and Macey Levin from Salisbury, Conn.) are signing in from their homes here in the Tri-state region, from New York City and from as far away as Palm Springs, Calif., and Savannah, Ga.

The reading will be streamed through Broadway on Demand. It can be watched live, and viewers are invited to an online cocktail party with the cast at 2 p.m. Anyone who misses the 3 p.m. performance can watch the recorded version anytime after, on May 22 and 23.

The production is directed by Sarah Combs with stage management by Louis Hagen.

Tickets cost a mere \$3 (and \$2 of that is the ticket service fee). Donations are of course also welcome. Register and get tickets at www.sharonplayhouse.org/arsenic-and-old-lace.

— Cynthia Hochswender

STUDIO TOURS AND AMP OPEN TO THE PUBLIC MAY 22-23

The old factories and other industrial buildings in the center of Winsted, Conn., have been slowly nurturing an artist community over the past decade. Learn about some of the diverse work being created in two locations on the Spring Open Studios Weekend, May 22 and 23.

Whiting Mills has more than 40 participating artists who will be in their studios, and happy to talk to visitors, on those two days between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. There will also be live performances and a food truck. Face masks are required.

Nearly every kind of art that exists in the world is being created at Whiting



PHOTO BY AMANDA CORBESATO

Abstract artist and art educator Heather Nielson will be among the four dozen artists taking part in the Spring Open Studios Weekend at Whiting Mills in Winsted, Conn.

Mills, from sculpture and pottery to photography to tinctures and unguents to designs for the covers of books.

Steps away from Whiting Mills is the American Mural Project, where a massive mural dedicated to the American worker is in progress.

Tours are offered at 11 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. each day, lasting approximately

45 minutes. Pre-registration is required for the tours. There is a limited number of registration slots available.

A minimum suggested donation of \$10 per person is encouraged at the time of registration. To make a tour reservation or for

more information, go to www.americanmuralproject.org/open-mill-tours or call 860-379-3006.

The American Mural Project is at 90 Whiting St. and Whiting Mills (www.whitingmills.com) is at 100 Whiting St. in Winsted, Conn.

To advertise your event, call 860-435-9873 or email advertising@lakevillejournal.com

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.

TriCornerNews.com

We at The Lakeville Journal Company are committed to bringing you the news and information that is important to you, your family and your community.

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The Barn in Egremont, Mass., has a full spring calendar of live performances in a range of small-venue musical styles, with tickets usually running \$10 each.

Performances (and meals) are outdoors, with COVID-19 social distance protocols observed.

If the show is inside due to weather then there will be only instrumental music. Food service will stop 30 minutes before the show; all food must be consumed before the show begins. Masks must be worn during the perfor-

mance.

Shows typically begin at 7:30 or 8 p.m. Anyone who doesn't plan to stay for the music should reserve a seat in the 5 to 6 p.m. time frame.

Walk-ins are sometimes possible but are not guaranteed; reservations are preferred.

Open mic nights are also on the schedule. To find out more, to see what performers are scheduled in the coming weeks, and to check out the restaurant's menu, go to www.theegremontbarn.com.

Grammy-nominated singer and musician Tracy Bonham will perform at The Barn in Egremont, Mass., on Saturday, May 15.



PHOTO FROM ECR MUSIC GROUP

KAATSBAAN IS BACK — AND DON'T WAIT TO GET TICKETS!

Just how popular is Kaatsbaan? Tickets for a performance on May 22 sold out almost immediately — not only because Kaatsbaan Cultural Park in Tivoli, N.Y., is operating at only 3% capacity because of COVID-19 concerns, but also because the show features Patti Smith, the Godmother of Punk; and because the event is an 80th birthday tribute to Bob Dylan.

Also performing are her son, Jackson Smith; and her longtime bass player and collaborator, Tony

Shanahan.

Another show was added, for May 23. Those tickets disappeared quickly as well.

Why mention it at all then? Because there are so many other worthy and interesting events scheduled for Kaatsbaan's Spring Festival; not all of them have the draw of a Patti Smith tribute to Bob Dylan, but the list is lengthy and includes conversations about the growth of the Hudson Valley food and farm scene; and performances by dancers from the American

Ballet Theater, Martha Graham and Mark Morris.

Tickets range widely in price, from \$22.50 to \$150; 10% discounts are available to students, seniors, veterans and essential workers with proper identification.

The performances are part of Kaatsbaan's Spring Festival of music, dance, poetry, sculpture and the culinary arts.

Performances will be held throughout Kaatsbaan's 153-acre campus; visitors are encouraged to bring a blanket and wear

comfortable shoes, as all seating is on the property's grass fields and the walk from the parking lot to the Mountain Stage is 3/4 of a mile. Parking at Kaatsbaan is limited and safely carpooling with a group is strongly recommended. Pre-show emails will include the option to purchase a reserved parking spot.

For more information on this and many other performances during the Spring Festival (May 20-23 and May 27-30), go to www.kaatsbaan.org.

SEX & THE STONEWALL GENERATION

Sexuality educator Jane Fleishman, author of "The Stonewall Generation: LGBTQ Elders on Sex, Activism & Aging" will speak at an in-person event at the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, Conn., on Saturday, June 5, at 4 p.m.

Fleishman's book shares stories of community members who came of age around the time of the Stonewall Riots of 1969. An unapologetic depiction of queer identity and culture, and the fight for civil and human rights from the 1960s to today, the candid interviews in the book include the voices of those frequently marginalized in the mainstream narrative of LGBTQ history: people of color, transgender people, bisexual people, drag queens and sex workers.

Fleishman is a certified sexuality

educator, researcher and writer with more than 40 years of experience. In her recent TEDx talk, "Is it OK for Grandma to have sex?" she articulates her mission to promote the sexual well-being of older adults. She has co-chaired national conferences for the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists (AAS-ECT) and the Sexuality and Aging Consortium; launched a popular column on sex and aging for Live Well magazine; co-hosted the Our Better Half podcast with Dr. Ashley Mader and Dr. Rosara Torrisi; and hosted a monthly radio show, Sex Matters.

This event will take place outdoors in the library's tent. Register for this free talk by calling 860-824-7424 or going online to www.huntlibrary.org.

MOVIES: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

A Trail of Memories, from General Patton to His Own Family History

An unpaid bill for snow plowing at his home in Sharon, Conn., led journalist Jurgen Kalwa on a trail that ultimately led to World War II General George S. Patton.

Kalwa told his story to an online group at an event sponsored by the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon on Sunday, May 2.

The 1970 biographical film "Patton" was based on a book, "Patton: Ordeal and Triumph" by one Ladislav Farago, who rented the house in Sharon now owned by Kalwa.

He wrote the book there — and failed to pay the snow plowing bill.

Kalwa discovered this when he hired the same person to do some land-

scaping work.

Kalwa said Farago was a fairly prominent writer and personality, gaining some notoriety in the 1970s with his claim that Adolf Hitler's factotum, Martin Bormann, was alive and well and living in Argentina.

This story subsequently "blew up in his face," Kalwa noted wryly.

Farago got hold of the typescript of Patton's unpublished wartime diary for his book. And while writing the book, he was being sued by Patton's family in federal court.

Eventually a settlement was reached that precluded the use of "anything that looked like a verbatim quote."

Despite that condition,

the book provided "a very strong window" into Patton's military career.

The film "Patton" premiered in late 1969 and was in general release in early 1970. At the 1971 Academy Awards, "Patton" won seven awards, including best picture and best actor. George C. Scott, who played the general, famously refused the award.

Kalwa said Farago was paid \$75,000 for the rights to his book — a substantial sum for the time. Producer Frank McCarthy tapped the young and obscure Francis Ford Coppola to write the screenplay.

Kalwa said the story behind the book and movie appealed to him as a journalist and a "postwar German." (Kalwa produced a documentary on the Farago connection and Kalwa's subsequent discoveries for German radio.)

Kalwa said he was "battling" with the legacy of German history and his family's history.

"I grew up with questions and have pursued answers."

Kalwa said Patton was out of step with his superiors. "Politically, he was a weirdo."

In charge of Bavaria after the war, he went against the de-Nazification tide and used former Nazi government officials to help with

the rebuilding effort.

And Patton wanted to keep fighting — against the Soviet Union.

This was "politically impossible," Kalwa said.

But from Kalwa's point of view, Patton had one dominant characteristic:

"He helped to kill Nazis. "People like me were liberated by people like Patton."

THE TRUTH ABOUT DOGS AND CATS

Spending a great deal of time at home can have just as much of an impact on your relationship with your pets as it does on your relationship with your human housemates.

To help with that (if help is needed), there are two virtual events scheduled this month on solving problems with canines and with felines.

The Center for Canine Behavior Studies (CCBS) will host a free question-and-answer session with Veterinary Behaviorist Dr. Nicholas Dodman on Monday, May 17, from 3:30 to 4 p.m. The theme of the session will be dog aggression and a study on the subject by CCBS that was just published in the Journal of Veterinary Behavior. For information on how to register and to

learn more about CCBS, email info@dogstudies.org or call 508-433-0298.

Cats get their moment on Wednesday, May 26, at 7 p.m. when the Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury, Conn., hosts a Zoom talk with Dr. Rachel S. Geller, cat behaviorist, pet chaplain, fear-free shelter consultant and humane education specialist. She will give advice on developing and maintaining cat-and-owner harmony, and will answer questions. Geller specializes in

solving cat behavior problems, including but not limited to: litter box issues, inter-cat aggression, multi-cat households, inappropriate scratching, cat introductions and working with shy/fearful cats. She works with empathy and guidance to help people understand their cats, allowing their cats to engage in their natural behaviors in a way humans can live with.

Register for this free program at www.scovillelibrary.org.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Jurgen Kalwa is writing a book about Ladislav Farago — who wrote the book that became the film "Patton" while living in what is now Kalwa's house in Sharon, Conn.

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EDITORIAL

Readjusting expectations may take a minute

For many families in the region, Mother's Day this year was very different from that day last year. The same can be said for upcoming Memorial Day activities and Father's Day celebrations, all the way to the Fourth of July and beyond. In 2020, traditions that were pretty much taken for granted over the years had to be put on hold and hadn't been picked up until now, a year later, with more and more of us fully vaccinated and the weather warming up just enough to allow outdoor gatherings as part of normal life. The pandemic may finally be losing its grip on society, with caveats allowing for continuing safety and care as necessary for everyone's health.

By now, most of us have become very accustomed to automatically adjusting our expectations for safe social interaction, but that certainly hasn't made it easier. We have, though, seen the results of keeping distance and wearing masks not only in slowing the spread of COVID, but also that of the flu, colds and other viruses. When we start to come closer together, it will be inevitable that such infections will once again begin to pass among us. So there will need to be a balance between wanting to avoid such illnesses but also wanting to get together once again with friends and family.

Now seems like a good time to make up a wish list of all those things we have missed the most in the past year and plan ways to make them happen. Those who have missed going out to restaurants and seeing friends there have been filling up the lawns and patios, as well as the interiors, of area eateries, enjoying the new openness they can experience after a COVID closed winter. But with more and more cultural and musical events opening for the summer again, and selling out as quickly as they announce their schedules, it will take planning and quick action to take part in them.

For those who have lost loved ones or contracted the disease during the past year, seeing the world start to open widely again may not be something that they can immediately accept, still suffering from those repercussions. But it could be that having the ability to connect with others again will them give comfort and support after struggling through the pandemic.

So here's to a spring and summer that are full of safe but welcoming gatherings of all kinds, to bolster recovery of those who have been directly affected by the pandemic. And really, one way or another, isn't that all of us?



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

A walk in the woods

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Under water: Cheney, democracy

Hunting for Red October is one of my favorite thrillers — most of it taking place on subs under water. Service members, U.S. and Soviet, are skillful, intuitive from the sonar tech to the pride of captains. Living, maneuvering and staying alive in this mix is brutally exhaustive and full-steam praiseworthy — rather analogous to Liz Cheney in her crippled GOP vessel and to our nation so amazingly embroiled in democracy war games.

Under water: a fatal diagnosis or a place where stealth, solid leadership, knowledge and courage prevail? Given recent events, Liz Cheney demonstrates chutzpah borne from entrenched principles, values and a determination to do what is right. Cheney, not my highest regarded political surname, is back in bold headlines as a woman steeped in national well-being doing nothing more than speaking the truth to wavering GOP top brass who were bravely for truth on and around Jan. 6th but now eat their words as they defy democracy, enable a continuous coup, champion a loser.

The U.S. Swamp, targeted for drainage in 2016 in 45's

campaign rhetoric, expanded exponentially in his presidency, eradicating White House esteem, sully the people's house, stripping Justice from Barr's misdirected Department, replacing the will of the people with the greed of a few. Most recently, Former 45 has, as is his trademark, deviously reversed truth — his immense Swamp is now the viable terra firma, the foundation for trustworthy stewardship of America. The Big Lie is his new marketing ploy. The Big Lie is no longer Former 45's overturning democracy, decrying an election, pressing for fraudulent acts to gin fraud. In Former 45's rendition, the Big Lie has been done unto him, victimized him as did two impeachments predicated on his ceaseless untruths, misinformation, habitual lies about individuals, nations, a pandemic, his corrupt use of funds and privileges.

For some, great sport is under water, diving, discovering, risking. For some, under water is to be avoided — no access to oxygen without sophisticated gear. For some, under water is a challenge to rise above. If truths about America's extraordinary

competence to be a democracy, hold legit elections, enable voting, draw equitable districts, concede losses are proudly exclaimed, revered and practiced across the partisan divide, then the dangerous democracy war games can cease.

May Liz Cheney and her steadfast democratic beliefs be supported from within and from outside her wobbly party. We need not agree on everything, but must sustain an honest platform on which differences can be heard, influence and steer to joint adherence.

"The truth is incontrovertible. Malice may attack it and ignorance may deride it, but, in the end, there it is." -Winston Churchill

"We cannot afford to differ on the question of honesty if we expect our republic permanently to endure. Honesty is not so much a credit as an absolute prerequisite to efficient service to the public. Unless a man is honest, we have no right to keep him in public life; it matters not how brilliant his capacity." -Theodore Roosevelt

Kathy Herald-Marlowe Sharon

Day of Prayer so meaningful

Dear caring community: Thank you for joining us on a beautiful May Day to celebrate the National Day of Prayer by offering up our prayers to God concerning our nation, leaders and community. There was such a genuine spirit of all that is good in our country and town of Salisbury.

Tears came to our eyes as the red/white and blue attired Ohmen family led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. It was truly inspiring to hear Ron Solan give the prayer for the military, after which all burst forth into clapping for this man of remarkable courage and character. The patriotic songs led by Pastor Peg and Maureen Bateman reminded us of the freedoms we hold so dear.

Special thanks to all who participated from our selectman and state trooper to businessmen, educators and families. Lastly, our thanks to all who helped to make this day possible. With grateful hearts.

Newt & Barbara Schoenly Salisbury

Reasons to rejoice

Biden in charge
Trump still at large
Covid defeated
Vaccines completed
Outdoor dining now in focus

Truly it is not a hocus
Normal life is almost here
So we can be of good cheer.

Michael Kahler

Lakeville

Housing wrong in Salisbury

In reference to the April 28 meeting of the Salisbury P&Z Board regarding the Holley Place Affordable Housing Project:

I wonder if I listened to the same hours of testimony in the earlier meetings as the Board did. I concluded from them that approving the application would be a tragic mistake.

This building will be wrong in so many ways! How could the Board dismiss the historic significance of the property? I am very much in favor of affordable housing in Salisbury; I remain very much opposed to this building in this location! Thanks for your work in keeping us informed.

Maura Wolf

Salisbury

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

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — May 1921

One of the best from every viewpoint as well as the largest attended gathering in the Club's history was the eighth annual banquet of the Baldhead Club of America held at the new Conley Inn, Torrington, Monday night. The attendance was about 250 indicating at least that many men enjoy being bald-headed at least for one night in the year. Some members traveled hundreds of miles to regale themselves in the exclusive company of the baldheads, and there was not a dull moment during the feast and post-prandial exercises.

SALISBURY — Roy Van Deusen is suffering from an infected right hand.

LAKEVILLE — The silent policemen have been placed in position near the bank and the railway bridge for the summer.

ORE HILL — Mrs. Michael Moore in company with Mrs. John Morgan Sr. and John Morgan Jr. of Lakeville and Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Bianchi of Canaan motored to Pittsfield, Mass., on Monday.

50 years ago — May 1971

Items on sale at A&P this week include Bacon, sliced, 1 pound package for 69 cents; Scott Big Roll Towels, 3 for \$1; Ann Page Ketchup, 14 oz., 2 bottles for 49 cents; and 80 size Florida oranges, 10 for 79 cents.

CANAAN — Young people of the New ERA group planted a seven-foot fir balsam Monday afternoon in the front lawn of the Canaan State Police Barracks. The new tree at the barracks replaces the old blue spruce, planted in the 1940s by Olle Zetterstrom, and traditionally lighted each

December as a Christmas tree. The new tree was donated by the Zetterstrom family from their Canaan tree farm.

CANAAN — Mrs. Clifford Wohlfert has returned from San Francisco to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Rokos of Ashley Falls. Mrs. Wohlfert will be joined by her husband in a few days. Mr. Wohlfert, who is serving in the Navy, will be on a 20-day leave before returning to the carrier USS Coral Sea. The Coral Sea is making preparations for an overseas cruise.

The selectmen of Falls Village are looking for public reaction to the possibility of having Route 126 traffic again brought through the center of town rather than following Brewster Road. Route 126 used to run through the village center, but through traffic was shifted

to Brewster Road a number of years ago. Brewster Road, because of a right angle turn into a hill, has not been a completely satisfactory choice. The visibility at this intersection is frequently poor, opening the possibility for accidents. The change to the former routing through town would eliminate this problem.

25 years ago — May 1996

SHARON — Sarah Anne Perotti, a senior at Providence College in Rhode Island, was recently inducted into the Tau Pi Honor Society. The society honors accounting, business and economics students.

CORNWALL — State Police are still investigating the cause of a major accident on Route 4 last Friday in which a tanker bearing 7,994 gallons of No. 2 heating fuel hit a pickup truck and careened into Baldwin Brook. The accident summoned firefighters from Cornwall, Sharon, Bantam, Goshen, Kent and Falls Village who spent the day clearing the litter, pumping out the tanker and sopping up the 1,100 to 1,300 gallons of cherry-colored oil out of the stream. But the driver of the 18-wheeler said Wednesday there is no mystery about what happened. Bryan Doehr, the 36-year-old driver for Island Transportation of New Haven, said his brakes failed.

CORNWALL — They stood in line to get into Dan Gracey's lasagna dinner Sunday, a dinner that raised \$4,713.10 for

the injured man and his family. In January, Gracey, 32, was seriously injured in a logging accident at White Memorial Foundation in Morris. He was struck on the head by a hickory tree and was airlifted to Hartford Hospital. He is in a wheelchair now.

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

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PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

Take time to smell the lilacs

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Letter from Nepal in the time of COVID pandemic

The first case of COVID-19 in Nepal was reported on January 13, 2020: a student had returned from Wuhan, China, the epicenter of the outbreak. The second case was brought from France on March 17, 2020. So concerned was the government that, on March 24,

GUEST COMMENTARY
SHANTA DIXIT

with only two reported cases of infection and no fatalities, it announced a nationwide lockdown.

The lockdown seemed to help curtail spread, and the number of cases stayed very low throughout March and April, starting its upward trend only in May 2020. The lockdown was lifted when daily cases dropped to 150, only to rise again to a maximum of 5,743 on October 21. Then, slowly, the first wave abated until, by February 2021, daily cases remained in the two-digit numbers.

Meanwhile, as the virus swept through India, the government was unable to implement the geopolitically sensitive task of closing the more than 1,000-mile-long open border with India. Meanwhile, Nepali migrant laborers wanting to return home were subjected to abuse and exploitation at the border; once they were allowed in, there was no effective program for tracking, isolating or quarantining them. This was the case in the spring of 2020, and it is being repeated now in the spring of 2021.

By the end of the first wave, more than 250,000 Nepalis had been infected, with around 2,500 deaths. The fact that the case-fatality rates were low in comparison to rates in the West prompted many Nepalis to believe that we are a hardy lot and that our infection rate would not get out of hand. As a result, many Nepalis failed to adhere to physical distancing and wearing masks. It did not help that Prime Minister K.P. Oli encouraged the use of traditional methods of keeping healthy, including the ingestion of turmeric, guava leaves, and gargling and nasal cleansing, even as he (and other political leaders) continued to organize mass gatherings.

Nepal has now been hit by the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and, within weeks, cases are one-and-a-half times the peak of the first wave. If the situation in India is anything to go by, Nepal's infection rates will soar by at least four to five times. All

hospital ICUs are already full at this early date, with a dire shortage of oxygen. The Health Ministry has conceded that our public health system will be unable to cope, essentially implying that it is up to every citizen to look after him/herself.

Infection rates in India soared to the extent that there was mass grief — enough for the world media to pay attention — mainly because the political leadership underestimated the virus. Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, elections were held, there were few curbs on weddings and other gatherings, and three million pilgrims were allowed to crowd into the Ganges River on a massive religious holy dip known as the Khumb Mela. Nepali pilgrims attending this super-spreader event, helping transport the latest deadly strain of the virus to various parts of Nepal.

On May 3, Nepali Prime Minister Oli addressed the nation on COVID-19, announcing cancellation of all flights, asking Nepalis to adhere to strict safety protocols and urging the international community to assist Nepal.

The country needs vaccines, oxygen supply, hospital beds and other equipment. Sluggish in its response, the government has bungled its job of assuring vaccines; only 7% of the population has received one vaccine, and fewer both.

While the international media have focused on the travails of India, on a per capita basis Nepal is not far behind in being hit by the second wave.

Shanta Dixit, who received a doctorate in epidemiology from Columbia University in 1990, is a co-founder and director of the Rato Bangala School in Lalitpur, Nepal.

Do Black lives (really) matter in the US today?

I hope I am not being totally unrealistic or naive when I say that I honestly thought the rallying cry against the cruel, excessive and inhuman treatment of Black people who are suspected by the police of breaking the law would actually come from the white segment of our society. I genuinely believed that white politicians, activists and ordinary citizens, having decades after decades witnessed the unequal and harsh treatment of their fellow citizens, would be the ones who would finally stand up and say, enough is enough: this kind of barbarous behavior by white police officers against Black suspects should not be tolerated.

Unfortunately, even after decades of witnessing everyday tragedies occurring in this country, white people continue to turn their eyes the other way, indirectly allowing officers who respond to cases involving Black people a complete freedom to execute their duties any way that fits to their own judgment, with no demand for accountability.

This negligence and the complacency by white people, I think, jolted Black activists to stand up and claim the slogan "Black Lives Matter." I am convinced that the essential message of this movement is not about asking white people to put Black people on a pedestal as if they were divine beings. I am convinced instead that the fundamental message of the movement is not to discredit the most essential and noble work every police officer performs to protect and ensure our safety. Black Lives Matter is simply about raising awareness toward the unnecessary, excessive and cruel treatment of Black people by white police officers.

Ironically, from the first days of the movement's exposure to the general public, the slogan Black Lives Matter became a subject for ridicule and mockery online. Paraphrasing and trivializing the essential message of Black Lives Matter, social media posters were outdoing each other by creating Black Lives Matter mimicry,

I AM WIDE AWAKE
VAROUJAN FROUNDJIAN

the goal seeming to be making a laughing stock of the movement. The memes were: Birds Lives Matter, Dogs Lives Matter, White Lives Matter, Babies Lives Matter and why not, Black Olives Matter (which to this day, I am not sure if this was an insult, a tease, or a business motto to stimulate sales.) All this in an effort to ridicule and downplay the fundamental message of the movement, whose objective it is to bring to our collective consciousness the harm done against Black folks and commit to a behavioral change when dealing with Black men and women who are caught in incidents with police.

It would seem unimaginable that now, when the country is in desperate need of new ideas, methodologies and disciplines, that anyone would see it as right to somehow narrow the ideological divide among Americans. We need to find ways to blend our views and harmonize our efforts in creating a united front to face our challenges. Yet now, out of nowhere, a platform from America First becomes public, which according to USA Today, "...defines the United States as a country with 'uniquely Anglo-Saxon political traditions.'" This declaration is nothing short of a proclamation of white supremacy. It shows a clear intention to validate racism and completely negate diversity, which is the foundation of our country.

And this is at a time when the list of Black people brutally treated by white officers is growing on a daily basis. From Eric Garner, whose "I can't breathe" still echoes in our ears; to Tamir Rice, a 12-year-old boy shot in Cleveland, Ohio; to Breonna Taylor in Kentucky; to Stephon Clark in California; to George Floyd who died after being arrested in

Minneapolis and held down by police officers, one of whom, Derek Chauvin, had his knee on Mr. Floyd's neck for more than nine minutes. George Floyd's "I can't breathe" still echoes throughout the nation and the world.

Regardless of the outcome of the trial where Chauvin was found guilty on all counts, the importance of Black Lives Matter extends beyond the crucial task of preserving the integrity of Black people. Black Lives Matter becomes a symbol of justice, which is in danger of becoming unattainable for all people.

In answering my own question in the title of this piece, Do Black lives really matter?, the answer is an absolute YES! The Black Lives Matter movement not only affirms integrity and equal justice for Black people, but it transcends its mission to embrace every citizen, ethnicity and minority in this land whose freedom and equal rights can at any moment be jeopardized and dismissed. Thanks go to Black Lives Matter, for all it has done to make Americans believe in justice, fairness and equal treatment for all.

Varoujan Froundjian is a digital artist and writer. He can be reached at: varlink3050@gmail.com.



PHOTO BY CAITLIN HANLON

Relaxing in Lime Rock



A path of discovery into theater, fully wrought

Jonathan Miller. One of the four in "Beyond the Fringe", first done in London, then in New York, then, when I saw it, in the center of the universe, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at the Pabst Theater (named after and supported by the brewing company — "What'll you have, Pabst Blue Ribbon? Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer.")

The other three? Dudley Moore, deceased; Michael Bennett, still very much alive; and Peter Cook.

The four came out of that Oxbridge circle and transformed satire in '50s-'60s England.

That's not quite right. Before them were The Goons — Peter Sellers, Spike Milligan, Harry Secombe — the first show being called "Crazy People", then The Goon Show.

And about that time, The Establishment. Four comedians, Jeremy Geidt, John Bird, John Fortune and Eleanor Bron. One priceless routine had Jeremy and one of the Johns auditioning Eleanor. She was to sing "You say Tomato and I say Tomato, you say Potato and I say Potato" saying the words exactly the same. The auditioners try, in vain, to stop her from repeating the same pronunciations over and over again. Priceless.

Jeremy was in 1966 one of the founders of the Yale Repertory Theater, where I, a student, met him that Fall. There was a big bash on the stage and he introduced me to Stella Adler. I didn't know who she was. The Yiddish Theater? The Group Theater? The Thirties? John Houseman? Franchot Tone? I knew from bupkis. She didn't say a word to me, but looked at Jeremy and said "He looks absolutely terrified."

I wasn't really. I was mystified. Get me back to Milwaukee!

Fast forward. I am a third-year student and Jonathan Miller is directing Robert Lowell's adaptation of Aeschylus's "Prometheus Bound" with Kenneth Haigh in the title role. Haigh had been Jimmy Porter in John Osborne's titanic, if that is the word I should be using in proximity to the Aeschylus, "Look Back in Anger," the play that changed the English-speaking theater in 1956. For the first time, the working class was presented in a hugely articulate major character.

SOVEREIGN STATE
LONNIE CARTER

Kenneth Tynan, the Titanic Tynan, who had reviewed "Beyond the Fringe" well when everybody else panned it, said, after everyone had panned "Look Back..." "I cannot imagine loving anyone who doesn't love "Look Back..." And history was made.

I am having a play done in the Ex(perimental) theater in the basement of the Drama School. The directing students don't like my play. Miller wanders in and sees the performance. At the end he jumps on the stage and says he has just been in New York where he has seen "American Hurray", by Jean-Claude Van Itallie, which was getting all the buzz. Miller says that my play is saying the same things but Better! Suddenly the directing students play a different tune.

That summer I won the Best Play Award and its prize of \$300 which got me and my wife through the summer.

Years later, I am in a London theater and I see Miller. I go up to him and thank him. I am certain he was being gracious in saying he recalled that moment. I loved him all the same.

His production of the Aeschylus, with Ron Liebman who later played Roy Cohn in "Angels in America", remains indelible. My friend David Epstein and I were standing in the back of the theater for the last performance and I don't recall who said it first, I will bow to David, but it was, "I want to see this production once a week for the rest of my life."

The set by Michael Annals had Prometheus on his rock, the shaft below going down forever and the shaft above going up as well. To this moment I have never see anything like it.

It was the great Irene Worth who played Io. She stood at the back of the stage and when it was her turn to stand and deliver the searing speech of being hounded by flies because she was being punished by Hera for having the affair with Zeus, it stopped all our hearts.

It stops mine now.

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

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The Connecticut Forest and Park Association is a non profit organization started in 1895 dedicated to connecting people to the land with the intent of protecting the state forests and trails for future generations. This year on June 5th and 6th they are sponsoring the CT Trails Days with over 170 events across the state. These events allow the public to experience hiking and walking on these beautiful trails. Registration begins on May 20th, please go to their web site at: www.ctwoodlands.org/ct-trails-weekend for more information on the events offered. And have fun hiking!!



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NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF DIANE L-S. HEWAT Late of Salisbury (21-00168)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated April 29, 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:
Christopher H. Hewat
c/o Jeanmarie Breiner Shea
Cohn Birnbaum & Shea P.C.
100 Pearl Street
12th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103
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05-13-21

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

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2021-0129 by John M Arnold to construct a detached apartment on a single-family residential lot at 36 Hillcrest Lane Lakeville, Map 7, Lot 13-4 per Section 208 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at www.salisburycyct.us. Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office before 4:00 p.m. on Friday February 5, 2021, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to aconroy@salisburycyct.us. Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Friday between the

hours of 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM.
Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission
Martin Whalen, Secretary
05-06-21
05-13-21

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF CATHERINE P. WILCOX Late of Sharon (21-00211)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated April 30, 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:
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c/o Amy D Schuchat
11 Gay Street
P.O. Box 187
Sharon, CT 06069
Megan Williams
Clerk
05-13-21

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF THOMAS F. MULLEN Late of North Canaan AKA Thomas Francis Mullen (21-00205)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated April 29, 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:
Scott Thomas Mullen
c/o Michael Peter Citrin
Drury, Patz & Citrin
7 Church Street
PO Box 101
Canaan, CT 06018
Beth L. McGuire
Chief Clerk
05-13-21

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF CRAIG S. WHITE Late of Canaan (21-00201)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated April 29, 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:
Patricia L. White
c/o Linda M Patz
Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP
7 Church Street
PO Box 101
Canaan, CT 06018
Beth L. McGuire
Chief Clerk
05-13-21

The deadline for legal notices is Friday at 4 p.m. for publication the following Thursday.

Notices can be emailed to legals@lakevillejournal.com or mailed to The Lakeville Journal, ATTN: Legal Notices, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039

Go to www.tricornernews.com/legalnotices to view current and past legal notices.

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