

Day trip  
Compass,  
Page B2



Easy pizza  
Compass,  
Page B1

Internet  
options  
Page A3

Vintage  
photos  
Page A6

Lots of letters;  
Driving safely,  
Pages B3-4  
Columns, Page A4

# The Lakeville Journal

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

In the 21 NHCOC towns, there are 18,456 households that earn below 80% of the area median income for Litchfield County; 10,568 households are paying more than 30% of their income on housing; and in 2020 there were 3,357 units of affordable housing.

## Affordable housing

### What we have and what we need

By Patrick L. Sullivan

GOSHEN — Jocelyn Ayer and Janell Mullen of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOC) provided a concise overview of affordable housing in an online session on Wednesday, March 31. The NHCOC is an association of the first selectmen of 21 regional towns.

Mullen highlighted bills currently working their way through the state Legislature. Senate Bill 1024, among other things, would make it easier to create accessory dwelling units within single-family homes.

It would also require additional training for members of zoning boards and commissions.

Much of SB 1024 concerns

“transit-oriented development,” which doesn’t apply to Northwest Corner towns with little or no public transportation.

But the bill also redefines the word “character” in land use applications, to mean physical characteristics of buildings and not people.

Much of SB 1024 is based on recommendations from an advocacy group, Desegregate Connecticut ([www.desegregate.org](http://www.desegregate.org)).

Mullen demonstrated how to use the bill-tracking feature on the state Legislature’s website, [www.cga.gov](http://www.cga.gov).

Ayer provided a “power-pointy” presentation on affordable housing, including definitions and the results of re-

See HOUSING, Page A6



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

A new trio of investors has taken charge of the race track at Lime Rock Park. They promise to protect the park-like setting that makes the race venue unique while expanding activities there.

## New ownership group for Lime Rock

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Skip Barber has reached an agreement to sell a majority interest in the race track at Lime Rock Park (LRP) to a group of investors.

Barber was interviewed by phone on Wednesday, March 31, and met at LRP with The Lakeville Journal on Thursday, April 1, along with Dicky Riegel, who will be the chief executive officer of the park.

Barber said he will remain the largest single shareholder. He said he has had discussions in recent years with would-be investors “but they all had something wrong with them.”

This group, led by Riegel, Charles Mallory and Bill Rueckert, “are the right guys.”

Riegel is the former president and CEO of Airstream and is chair of the Board of Trustees at Salisbury School; Mallory is the founder of the Greenwich Hospitality Group; Rueckert is chair of the Board of Trustees of Teachers College at Columbia University.

All three are frequent users of Lime Rock Park — a fact not lost on Barber.

“I became concerned seven or eight years ago about who would be the steward of Lime Rock Park down the road,” he said.

Riegel and Barber said they hope to be able to open LRP for Memorial Day — subject to restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Barber said the state authorities told him LRP was the “gold standard for outdoor facilities” as far as pandemic precautions. “We’ll maintain that standard.”

Even with precautions in place, last year was extremely difficult for LRP. Barber said that many people who usually participate could not travel without first quarantining for two weeks, which effectively ruled out participation.

Riegel said that LRP, oper-

ating within the state and federal pandemic guidelines, will do everything possible to offer activities this summer.

“It’s incumbent on us to try our best to give people the opportunity to get out of the house.”

Asked about the future of LRP, Riegel said “the plan is for growth and better opportunity.”

He said the investment group is quite conscious of its role as stewards of Lime Rock Park — emphasis on the word “park.”

“It’s called a park for a reason,” he said. “It’s unique.”

“We’ll do things a little bit better, a little bit differently.”

## Region One budget hearing online April 8

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Region One Board of Education will hold an online public hearing on the proposed budget for 2021-22 on Thursday, April 8, at 7 p.m.

The board will vote to send the budget to referendum after the hearing.

The Zoom meeting ID is 831 0048 7781.

The budget proposal is available online at [www.region1schools.org/main/budget](http://www.region1schools.org/main/budget) (click on “2021-2022 Proposed Budget”).

The budget proposal’s bottom line is \$16,043,043, an increase of \$265,735 (1.68%).



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

## Salisbury Bank and Trust prepares to fully open new building soon

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — Salisbury Bank and Trust’s new building at 33 Bissell St. in Lakeville is just about finished. Bank President Rick Cantele showed this reporter around the

modern, light and airy building on Friday, April 2.

The site is the former home of The Lakeville Journal.

Cantele said at first the idea was to renovate the old building.

But it soon became apparent that a new building was the wiser course of action.

The new building has two floors, is about 15,000 square feet, and cost roughly \$4 million.

As Cantele and the reporter entered, a workman was standing on a ladder, fiddling with something.

Bearing left, where The Journal newsroom used to be, the eye beheld a work area with partitions and desks. The latter can be raised and lowered at the touch of a button.

This area is the call center. Em-

ployees Cathy Devoti and Noemi Medina were standing at their stations, fielding calls.

Ultimately, Cantele said, the building will have about 115 employees in it. Right now, between COVID-19 precautions and workers completing the final touches, the building is at one-third capacity.

Many of the employees were working in basements at the bank’s main branch (which is steps away on Bissell Street), and will doubtless appreciate the design of the new 33 Bissell St., with its atrium allowing natural light and pleasant conference and break rooms grouped around it.

Cantele said he hopes to have the building at full capacity by the end of the summer.

Salisbury Bank and Trust has nearly completed its new office on Bissell Street on property that was for many years the home of The Lakeville Journal.



## BRIDGING DIVIDES HEALING COMMUNITIES

SPEAKER SERIES

A four-part series exploring some of the forces and trends creating disparities and division—and how to take action locally to build common ground and solve problems together

- PART 1: THE INCLUSIVE FUTURE (See more on page A2) TUESDAY, APRIL 13
- PART 2: MOVING FROM “I” TO “WE” TUESDAY, APRIL 20
- PART 3: FIXING POLARIZATION THROUGH LOCAL NEWS TUESDAY, MAY 4
- PART 4: RESIDENT-LED SOLUTIONS TUESDAY, MAY 11

Learn more and register at [BerkshireTaconic.org/Speakers](http://BerkshireTaconic.org/Speakers)

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## In The Journal this week

OUR TOWNS.....A3	COMPASS.....B1-2
SPORTS.....A5	OPINION.....B3, B4
OBITUARIES.....A5	VIEWPOINT.....A4
HISTORY.....A6	CLASSIFIEDS.....B5-6

### Three-day forecast

**Friday**.....Cloudy, high 63°/low 43°  
**Saturday**.....Cloudy, 61°/42°  
**Sunday**.....Cloudy, 61°/42°

## 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.

### Evading the scene of an accident

On March 24 at approximately 8 p.m. on Route 44 in North Canaan a 1992 Jeep Comanche Pioneer driven by Thomas Mattson, 67, of Winsted, Conn., was struck by a 2004 Jeep Cherokee driven by Levi Ryan Sieller, 29, of North Canaan, which was swerving across the roadway in the opposing lane. Mattson's vehicle was struck on the driver's side, causing the vehicle to roll several times before coming to a stop. Mattson was transported to Sharon Hospital for minor injuries. Sieller's Jeep fled the scene. Sieller and his vehicle were later found by Troop B on Weatogue Road in Salisbury. After failing a field sobriety test Sieller was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs, failure to maintain the lane, operating without insurance, misuse of plates, driving without a license and evading the scene of a motor vehicle

accident. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on April 28.

### DUI

On March 25 at approximately 11:30 p.m. on Route 7 in Falls Village Dustin King, 33, of New Milford, Conn., was stopped by Troop B and charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs and failure to drive in the proper lane. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on April 14.

### Missing person

On March 28 Suzanne Chinnatti, 53, was reported missing to Troop B. She is described as 5-foot 8, 120 pounds, with fair skin, brown hair, green eyes and no tattoos. She was last seen near Prospect Street in Falls Village. Any information regarding her current whereabouts should be reported immediately to Troop B at 860-626-1820.

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

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

## FAMILY & FRIENDS

### International recognition for Klemm

SHARON — Klemm Real Estate has been awarded Best Real Estate Agency Internationally by The International Property Awards.

Klemm received recognition as a first-time regional winner. The awards were announced on Feb. 5.

The International Property Awards are judged by an independent panel of over 80 industry experts. Judging focuses on design, quality, service, innovation, originality, and commitment to sustainability. "We are very honored to be among this select group of

leading international real estate companies," said Graham Klemm, president of Klemm Real Estate and a resident of Sharon.

Klemm Real Estate has Connecticut offices located in Washington Depot, Woodbury, Litchfield, Roxbury, Lakeville and Sharon.

For more information contact Graham Klemm at 860-488-6635 or [gtklemm@icloud.com](mailto:gtklemm@icloud.com), or go to [www.klemmrealestate.com](http://www.klemmrealestate.com).

### Seniors can apply now for arts scholarship

FALLS VILLAGE — The Contemporary Visual Arts Scholarship was launched in 2004 to assist, encourage and promote study in a chosen discipline within the spectrum of visual arts at a college or university of the recipient's choice.

Each year a graduating senior of Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) is awarded the \$40,000 scholarship. Applications are available through the HVRHS art department and counseling office. The application deadline is April 30.

### Register for kindergarten soon

Area schools will soon be registering new students for kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year.

Cornwall Consolidated School kindergarten registration will be held during the month of May.

All children who reach age 5 on or before the first day of January 2022 are eligible.

A parent should call the school office at 860-672-6617 to schedule a time for their child/children to visit.

Salisbury Central School registration is scheduled for Monday, April 26, and Tuesday, April 27. All children born during the calendar year 2016 should be registered.

Call Pat in the school office at 860-435-9871 to schedule an appointment.

Lee H. Kellogg School in Falls Village will hold kindergarten registration on Monday, May 10, and Wednesday, May 12, from 9 a.m. to noon.

All children who live in the Town of Canaan (Falls Village) and who were born in 2016 or earlier are eligible.

Registration will take about an hour and a half and will take place socially distanced, under a large tent outdoors.

Call the school office at 860-824-7791 to schedule an appointment.

Additionally, Kellogg offers a tuition option for children living outside of Falls Village. Call Principal Alexandra Juch for more information.

Sharon Center School early kindergarten/registration is for Sharon children born in 2016.

Call 860-364-5153 to register your child. Kindergarten registration will be Tuesday, May 4, and Wednesday, May 5.

For all schools, bring the child's/children's official immunization record, birth certificate and proof of residency on the day of registration.

### No-cost tax aide

SALISBURY — Salisbury Senior Services is offering the AARP Tax Aide program at the Salisbury Senior Center at the Town Grove in Lakeville. Volunteers trained by AARP and certified by the IRS are available to assist those 60 and older, and low-income residents, with the preparation and filing of all tax forms free of charge.

All tax returns will be e-filed, which can reduce the wait time for refunds. This service will be available on Thursdays through April 15 by appointment only.

Contact Lisa McAuliffe, director of Senior Services, at 860-435-5191 to schedule an appointment.

Send Family & Friends announcements to [editor@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:editor@lakevillejournal.com)

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# BRIDGING DIVIDES HEALING COMMUNITIES

## SPEAKER SERIES

**A four-part series exploring some of the forces and trends creating disparities and division—and how to take action locally to build common ground and solve problems together**

**PART I: THE INCLUSIVE FUTURE**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 13 AT 7 P.M.**



**Deval Patrick**  
SPEAKER  
Former Governor of Massachusetts



**Antonio Delgado**  
SPEAKER  
U.S. Representative, N.Y.-19



**Dr. Leticia Smith-Evans Haynes**  
MODERATOR  
Vice President for Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Williams College

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# Our Towns

## Goals for fiber optic internet discussed at Cornwall forum

By Rob Buccino

CORNWALL — A January survey found that many Cornwall residents find their current internet service “satisfactory” in speed and costs, according to findings presented Monday, March 29, at a community forum attended virtually by 42 local residents.

The findings come as both Optimum and Comcast, local internet providers, have announced the impending availability of gigabit-speed connection in the Northwest Corner — although details of

when, where and how much remain to be divulged.

The survey was conducted by the Cornwall internet Committee, an ad hoc group exploring ways to hasten the arrival of broadband internet service to the town. Of the 275 people who responded to the survey, 63 said their internet reliability was “good” or “excellent,” with another 87 rating it as “satisfactory.”

Current contracts for internet service promise speeds of more than 100 megabits per second (mbps) for nearly half of survey respondents,

although actual speeds vary. A third of the respondents reported measured download speeds of less than 25 mbps. According to committee members, the emerging norm for internet connection is 1 gigabit per second (gbps), citing as an example Block Island, R.I., where 10 gbps has been established.

Most Cornwall residents who responded use the web for communications, information gathering, shopping and entertainment, the survey revealed. More than two thirds conduct business or work from home, and about half have used the internet for telemedicine.

During the discussion, committee spokesperson Gary Steinkohl clarified that the group specifically seeks fiber-optic-to-the-home (FTTH) service for the community, and wants to exert pressure on Optimum, Frontier and other providers to commit to firm dates and locations for its implementation.

Fiber optic cables carry pulses of laser light instead of electrical energy conveyed by conventional (coaxial) cable. Beyond conducting far more information at faster speeds than cable, fiber lasts longer and is immune to electrical interference.

It is costly, however, and

would essentially make obsolescent the many miles of cable already strung along utility poles. At an installation cost that Steinkohl quoted of more than \$50,000 per mile, fiber takes much longer to earn back its investment when few families and businesses occupy those miles in rural areas, compared with densely populated urban sites.

Steinkohl reported that the committee had recently received email assurances from Optimum that fiber-optic-to-home service for Cornwall was in its plans and scheduled to be in rollout as soon as 2022. He said, however, that “we’re unsure whether they will follow through. We’re hopeful, but we will continue in our efforts.”

Forum attendees had few questions about the survey findings, and mostly discussed ways to convince internet providers to accelerate implementation.

One commenter chastised the committee for exploring the option of a publicly funded community fiber optic network, citing high potential costs among other issues. Steinkohl responded that such explorations put pressure on providers like Optimum to take action.

“To not do anything now is in the worst interest of Cornwall,” he said.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

### Herb and cheddar tomatoes

Learn about some classic (and unexpected) New England foods in a Zoom talk on Wednesday, April 14, at 7 p.m. with The Lakeville Journal’s Cynthia Hochswender and Meg Muckenhoupt, author of “The Truth About Baked Beans.” This free online event is presented by the House of Books in Kent and the Kent Memorial Library. To register (and to order the book), go to [www.houseofbooksct.com](http://www.houseofbooksct.com) and click on “events.”

## Census data as a way to unlock genealogy

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Genealogist Bryna O’Sullivan gave a hands-on demonstration on how to use census records to trace one’s ancestors to an online audience on Saturday, April 3. The event was sponsored by the Scoville Memorial Library.

O’Sullivan used [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org), a service run by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (aka the Mormons).

Using the website requires setting up a free account. (After the talk, this reporter tried it out and in 10 minutes traced his great-grandfather to Ohio.)

O’Sullivan said there are two ways to use the website to search census records.

The first and more cumbersome method is to use the “catalog” feature on the website, using places names in “reverse hierarchy”— U.S., Connecticut, Lyme, for example.

The second and simpler method is to search for a specific census year.

So type “1940 census familysearch” and go straight to the right page without any unnecessary fuss.

O’Sullivan said researchers often start at the 1940 search because there is a 72-year privacy seal on census records.

Thus, in 2022, the 1950 census will be available for online researchers.

O’Sullivan then started tracing her ancestor, Olive O’Sullivan, beginning with the 1940 census.

As she moved backward through time, O’Sullivan pointed out idiosyncrasies in how census data were collected.

The censuses taken between 1790 and 1840 only included adult males by name, for instance, as heads of households. Census data was taken orally, and often there was a discrepancy between what the respondent said and what the enumerator heard and wrote down.

“Spellings weren’t standardized,” she said. “Things were recorded as they were heard.”

Thus O’Sullivan reached a point where she had a Lucius Stark who was almost certainly the same as the Lucien Stark of the same town.

Then there was a Loarice L. Stark, listed in 1850 as a female, 10 years old.

O’Sullivan was confident this was Lucius. “I have no idea how he got enumerated as a 10-year-old girl.”



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Art in a wide range of styles is on display in North Canaan at the Douglas Library.

### Art Guild show at Douglas Library

NORTH CANAAN — The Douglas Library is currently displaying artworks by members of the Canaan Art Guild, a long-established group that has been meeting weekly at the East Canaan Congregational Church for a number of years.

The exhibiting artists are Ruth Adotte, Barb Austin, Diane Cieslowski, Ned Gow, Lynne Martin, Pat Medvecky, Hope Mongeau, Mary Monnier, Janet Newman, Olga Schwede and Lois Van Cleef. The wide range of subjects,

from floral paintings and landscapes to jazz-inspired mixed media, highlight the imagination and creativity of the group as individuals and as a group.

Most of the artwork is available for purchase, with a portion supporting the town library.

The show runs through April 30 during library hours: Mondays 1:30 to 8 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Federal funds possible for septic project

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — A federal grant program that could cover a significant portion of costs for the West Cornwall septic project was discussed at a special meeting of the Board of Selectmen on Monday, March 29, conducted by Zoom.

“I have worked in recent days on the grant application,” First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said, noting that the grant application deadline is Friday, April 9. The application will ask for 75% of the project’s costs, leaving the balance to be provided by the town in matching funds.

The Community Projects grant program is designed to support infrastructure including roads, bridges, sewers and public health programs. Ridgway said he has been in close touch with the office of U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-5) and that she has been working along with U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-3) on helping the town in the funding effort.

Hayes has been actively seeking proposals from the 41 towns in the district, Ridgway said.

A previous application submitted to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) would fund 45% of the project costs. Ridgway noted that the engineering work done for the USDA grant proposal will

serve well for this new application. While the Community Projects program does not preclude asking for 100% of the costs, Ridgway said that his experience is that successful applications generally include some promise of local funding in partial support.

Ridgway said that if this new Community Projects grant ap-

plication is successful — and he added that there is no assurance that it will be — it might change the scheduling of local public meetings and voting on the project.

“We have a good relationship with Rep. Hayes’ congressional offices,” Ridgway said. “If we can get this grant, it will be in the town’s interest to do so.”

## Spring Programs at Silver Lake

Join us for a day of outdoor fun at camp!

\$48/person. Masks and social distancing required. See [www.silverlakect.org](http://www.silverlakect.org) for registration and program details.

**Silver Lake Sampler April 24**  
Grade 4 & older · See what it’s like to spend a day at camp! Arts & crafts, garden, games, and more.

**Waterways May 8**  
Grade 3 & older · Explore Silver Lake’s stream and pond and learn how you can help them thrive.

**Love Creation May 15**  
Grade 3 & older · Spend a day in the Silver Lake garden! Learn about where food comes from and how to take care of the earth.

**Silver Lake Field Day May 22**  
Grade 3 & older · Engage in silly competition with friends, new and old. High-energy fun! No skills required.

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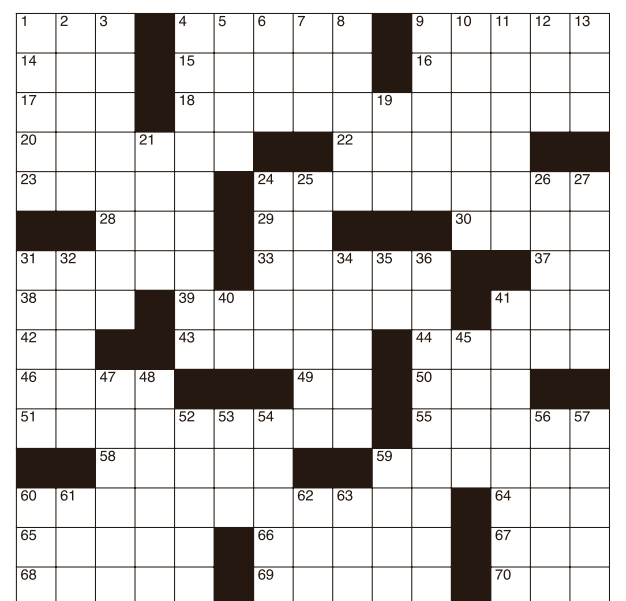
## Brain Teasers

### CLUES ACROSS

1. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
4. Ceramic jars
9. Monetary units
14. Alias
15. “Superman” actor
16. Britonic tribe
17. Shorten
18. LA Dodgers manager
20. Hoarded
22. Theatrically portray
23. Noah’s grandson
24. Dependent
28. Peyton’s little brother
29. Cools the house
30. Principle part of
31. Type of wrap
33. Peels
37. Commercial
38. Make an attempt
39. Arrange in steps
41. U. Utah athlete
42. Old English
43. Trade
44. Nostrils
46. Ticket seller \_ Hub
49. Of I
50. Institute legal proceedings against
51. Takes apart
55. Doorway
58. Long int’l river
59. Trailblazing athlete Gibson
60. Former CBS News host
64. Sign language
65. Badgerlike mammal
66. Thin strips of wood
67. Brooklyn hoopster
68. Portents of good or evil
69. Footwear
70. When you think you’ll arrive

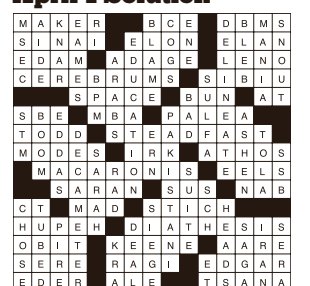
### CLUES DOWN

1. Batflower genus
2. Predatory seabirds
3. Fish farm
4. Arrangements
5. Go in advance of others
6. Bulgarian monetary unit
7. “\_ Maria”
8. W. African ethnoreligious group
9. Wild Asian oxen genus
10. Vinegary
11. To this
12. Explosive
13. Female sibling
19. Orlando museum (abbr.)
21. Type of hoop
24. About Holy Father
25. Academic environment

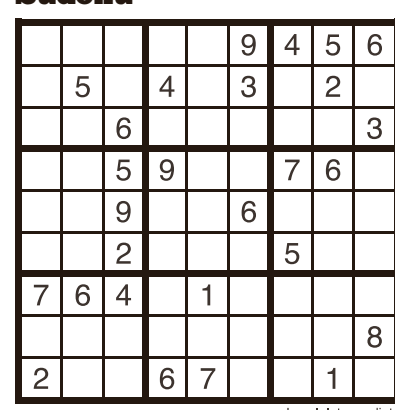


26. Extremely angry
27. Surrenders
31. Swiss mountain pass
32. Sharp mountain ridge
34. Erases
35. Spielberg’s alien
36. Absurd
40. Dorm worker
41. Used to make pesticides
45. The sister of your father or mother
47. A way to let know
48. Can’t produce much vegetation
52. Small streams
53. Folk singer DiFranco
54. Weights
56. Start over
57. Black Sea resort city
59. Wimbledon champ
60. Corporate executive (abbr.)
61. Unskilled actor who overacts
62. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
63. Of or relating to ears

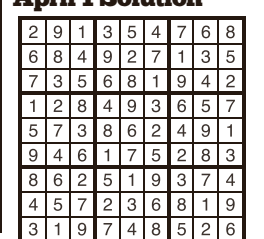
### April 1 Solution



### Sudoku



### April 1 Solution



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# America's mass murders since the first in 1949

This is how Meyer Berger, the legendary New York Times reporter, began the story of what is generally considered the nation's first mass shooting in modern times:

"CAMDEN, N.J., Sept. 6 — Howard B. Unruh, 28 years old, a mild, soft spoken veteran of many armored artillery battles in Italy, France, Austria, Belgium and Germany, killed twelve persons with a war souvenir Luger pistol in his home block in East Camden this morning."

It happened in 1949 and I remember it vividly. Nothing like it had never happened and there wouldn't be another mass murder until 1966 when another veteran, Charles Whitman, climbed to the top of a tower on the Austin campus of the University of Texas and randomly shot and killed 16 people before turning one of his many guns on himself. Now, we have mass killings occurring with far greater frequency, two within six days of each other in Boulder and Atlanta last month.

According to Berger's story, Unruh told prosecutors after his 20-minute, neighborhood killing spree that "he had been building up resentment against neighbors and shopkeepers for a long time. They have been making derogatory remarks about my character."

He decided to begin taking revenge after 9:30 one Monday morning, when most of the stores on his block would be open. He began with the cobbler, then on to the tailor, the barber shop, an apartment window, the drug store until he had calmly murdered 12 men, women and children with his captured German Luger.

In exploring the modern history of mass shootings in this country, I checked out those that resulted in 10 or more deaths. The FBI defines mass killings as those with four or more victims but other groups use higher numbers.

After Camden and the Texas tower killing 17 years later, there would be only one more in the 1970s and five in the 1980s.

But things got much worse in the 1990s and the new century. There have been 24 mass shootings with 10 or more victims since 1991. The worst occurred in Las Vegas in 2017 when 58 people died. Forty-nine were killed in an Orlando nightclub in 2016 and 32 were cut down by a student at Virginia Tech in 2007.

And next in the ranking, the most horrific of all, the slaughter of the innocents and their educators — 26 in all — in Newtown, Conn., in 2012.

Coincidentally, or maybe not, this upsurge in mass killings occurred as more firearms were sold in the United States and psychotropic drugs were developed, allowing patients to be deinstitutionalized as mental hospitals were closed. In 1955, there were 340 psychiatric hospital beds per 100,000 people in this country; in 2005, there were 17. Many who would have been hospitalized in earlier times were in community run homes but others were and are homeless or in prison. The new drugs work — but only

if they are taken.

America's love of and possession of firearms has increased along with the population until today, we have 313 million firearms for our 328 million people. This in a nation with 4% of the world's population and 46% — nearly half — of its guns.

No coincidence, is this startling fact. In all 29 mass killings that have occurred since Howard Unruh's rampage with his Luger in 1949, at least one of the weapons in the killers' arsenals were semi-automatic, the kind you don't use for hunting but useful in killing many in a short time. The exception was the student who used a shotgun and revolver to kill 10 students and teachers at their high school in Santa Fe, Texas, in 2018.

Howard Unruh, the Camden killer, never stood trial. He was committed to a New Jersey mental hospital where he died at 88 in 2009, 60 years after that morning in Camden. During his first years in the hospital, Unruh's divorced father, Sam, was ordered by the state to pay \$15 a month for his upkeep.

Berger won the Pulitzer Prize for his remarkable reporting under a tight deadline and gave his \$1000 prize to Unruh's mother.

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

## The sprint to safety is on: Let's try to win it

*We live in evolutionary competition with microbes—bacteria and viruses. There is no guarantee that we will be the survivors.*

— Joshua Lederberg

A March 22 article in The Atlantic by Daniel Engber entitled: "America Is Now in the Hands of the Vaccine-Hesitant: A subset of Americans who haven't yet made up their minds about getting a COVID-19 shot. Whether they turn out in the coming weeks will determine the future of the pandemic." That statement could be true because these people will harbor enough virus to cause a fourth spike of hospital admissions. Dr. Rochelle Walensky, our CDC Director, has a nightmare that someone will die in a hospital on the week before they were scheduled to get the vaccine. Success comes down to buying time by wearing a mask, distancing, and hand washing. Also, staying outside. People who do this could be vaccinated by June. That means work, sports, theater, restaurants, schools, museums, and thankfully, an economy. In Israel all of these places are open.

The most difficult category to reach is people who think vaccines are unhealthy, unnatural, and perhaps a reflection on their parenting skills. Or they may think in terms of a conspiracy by pharmaceutical companies and the FDA. The people Mr. Engber was most concerned about are men; either conservative middle-aged men or young people on spring break, for whom tempting fate is an act of defiance. (I was one of them once and declined the 1975 swine flu vaccine). Tens of millions of people may refuse the COVID-19 vaccine, leaving an unnecessary res-

ervoir of virus. The beginnings of a fourth rise of people in this demographic may be starting as young people are admitted to hospitals with COVID-19. That increase in cases caused the sense of doom that the CDC director has been talking about.

There are factors that make me wonder if all of these people will refuse the vaccine. First, all three of the vaccines by Moderna, Pfizer and Johnson and Johnson are effective and prevent death or even hospitalization. The AstraZeneca vaccine is better than their planning and communications staff. From recent analysis, we know that asymptomatic people do not spread the virus, which is a great relief. Also, it is safe for teenagers, which has benefits too numerous to list, but including school and sports.

The vaccines do not contain active virus, as was the case with polio and other vaccines, but rather one gene, the famous Spike gene. The Spike variants, especially the UK variant, will not cause a problem in vaccinated people, but will increase infection rates and severity in people who are not vaccinated. There is enough vaccine; distribution is a problem that has been mastered. There is no reason to take this risk of infection. Let's start with incentives, in Texas, say. Get vaccinated and get a ticket to a football game of your choice. Recalcitrant males may be a little stubborn; but they are not fools.

Not being vaccinated has consequences, even if you do not get sick. First, travel: not to Canada, not to Mexico, or any other

### THE BODY SCIENTIFIC RICHARD KESSIN

country and that will last for a while. Universities will require COVID-19 vaccination just as they require meningitis and other vaccines. The military and medical professions will require vaccination. There will be other pressures on harumphing men. Dr. Walensky is talking to Republican governors about using masks and other measures while vaccinations are completed over the next three or four weeks. Next, she will talk to the women of Texas and other states. If I were Governor Abbott, I might feel a little nervous.

Good New Englanders that we are, we can help him. The Astros play the Red Sox in Houston for four games, starting on May 31. I am sure Dr. Walensky is busy, but even the CDC director needs a baseball game from time to time. "Governor Abbott, please invite her. You two have a lot to talk about."

*Author's note: Joshua Lederberg was one of the founders of molecular biology, a Nobel Prize winner, and more importantly, a great mentor.*

*Richard Kessin, PhD, is Emeritus Professor of Pathology and Cell Biology at the Columbia University Irving Medical Center. He has been writing the Body Scientific column since 2010 for The Lakeville Journal. Reach him at Richard.Kessin@gmail.com if you have questions about the vaccines.*

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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.*

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

Dear Reader,

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

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

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

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# OBITUARIES

## Joan Boyd (Barnett) Loper

SHARON — Joan Boyd (Barnett) Loper, 85, of Sharon and formerly of Lakeville, passed away peacefully at her home on March 29, 2021.

A graveside service will be held at Ellsworth Cemetery at a date and time to be announced. Pastor Margaret Laemmel of Sharon and Lakeville Methodist Churches and Brian Kenny of Kenny Funeral Homes will officiate.

Joan was born in Sharon on Sept. 7, 1935. She graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School and continued on to attend college in Vermont.

Joan was married to Ralph Everett Loper, the love of her life, on July 1, 1972; they were married for 48 years (28 years if you go by Ralph's death in 2000 — since they were only widowed, not divorced).

Joan worked for General

Mills Food in Chicago, Ill., and Sharon Hospital and was treasurer for the Town of Sharon over the years. She enjoyed traveling, spending time with family and friends, reading and knitting.

Joan is survived by her daughter, Chaffee T. Loper of Sharon; her granddaughter, Emma Grace Fechteler; her sister, Cynthia (Barnett) Smith (and her husband, Clayton Smith) of Lakeville; her brother, Peter Barnett (and his wife, Jeanne Burke Barnett) of New Jersey; as well as many nieces, nephews and other family and friends.

Joan was predeceased by her husband, Ralph E. Loper; her parents, William and Mary Barnett; her in-laws, Howard and Winifred Loper; and her twin brothers, John and William Barnett Jr.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Kenny Funeral Homes in Sharon.



## Teresa (Perotti) Solan

NORTH CANAAN — Teresa (Perotti) Solan, professional seamstress and supermom, passed peacefully into Heaven on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, with her family and health aide, Love Togoe, surrounding her. She was 91.

Teresa was born on Jan. 13, 1930, and was the only child of Palma Perotti Consolini.

She was a professional seamstress and taught sewing in the 4H Club in North Canaan for more than 20 years, worked at Stadium System, Bianchi's, Bob's Clothing, made children's clothing for Geri Appleyard of Lakeville, and made numbered blankets for the horses in the Kentucky Derby.

As a communicant of St. Joseph's Church, she was a member of the D of I and loved working on their chicken barbecue and Friday night bingo.

She also worked as a teachers' aide at Housatonic Valley Regional High School in the 1970s and 1980s.

Upon her retirement, she traveled with her husband of 65 years, visiting Israel, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Bermuda, Ireland, Branson, Mo.,

Idaho, Washington state, San Francisco and Texas to keep tabs on her kids. They would spend the winters in Holiday, Fla., at their winter home, and kept in touch with Little Canaan residents on the West Coast of Florida.

Teresa was predeceased by her husband, Joseph; and her son, William "The Big Dog" Billy. She leaves behind her daughter, Theresa Belter and husband, Tom, of McKinny, Texas, and their two children and three grandchildren; her son, the Rev. Deacon Peter Solan of San Francisco; her son, Richard, and his son, and her special AFS student son, Josef Jungo of Zurich, Switzerland, and his family, whom she kept in touch with since 1976.

At her request, calling hours will be on Tuesday, April 6, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home in North Canaan, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at Saint Martin of Tours Catholic Church in North Canaan at 11 a.m. Burial will be in Lakeville at Saint Mary's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, Teresa requested that donations be made to SVNA Hospice Care.



## Guide to spring bird migration

SALISBURY — For birdwatchers, spring is the time of year when billions of birds leave their wintering grounds to venture north and find nesting grounds where they can raise a family.

Caleb May will offer a guide to spring migration on Sunday, April 11, 7 p.m., with species information, tips and tricks, and background knowledge that can help you maximize your birding experience.

## Sign up now for spring sports

SHARON — Sharon Parks and Recreation in cooperation with Region One Parks and Recreation is now taking registrations for spring programs that will commence on Saturday, June 5. Programs include T-ball, Farm League Baseball, Minor League Baseball, Little League Baseball and softball. All participants are asked to register by May 17 at [www.haronparksandrecreation.org](http://www.haronparksandrecreation.org) (where more program details are available).

Summer programs are being planned now; so far they include Challenger Soccer Camp from June 28 to July 2; registration is now open.

For more information, call 860-364-1400 or go to [www.sharon.rec.ctr@snet.net](http://www.sharon.rec.ctr@snet.net).

# SPORTS

## At least it isn't snowing (for now)

### TANGLED LINES

PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

high side, and the cold side. Two or three sunny days in the mid-60s will straighten that out.

As the angler creeps upstream toward the start of the ravine proper, the stream gets narrower and the creepatiousness factor increases.

Here's a handy rule of thumb: When looking upstream from the stone bridge, if the plunge pools are full of white water, the fishing is going to be tough. You'll have to look for the soft water around boulders and for the very occasional runs where things open up a bit for 20 or 30 yards (if that — sometimes it's more like 20 or 30 feet).

On Sunday, March 28, I



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

**A wild brown trout plucked from the Wachocastinook Brook on March 30. These fish are extremely skittish, hard to catch, and must be returned to the water, unharmed, as soon as possible.**

was in brown territory. Using a green perdigon nymph, I managed something very unusual: I plucked three browns from the same run within a half hour period.

The fly du jour was a perdi-

gon nymph (all the rage in Euro-nymphing circles). Mine was green, and fairly hefty at size 14.

I've been fishing them on a short (12 inch) fluoro dropper off a biggish (size 10) Stimulator. As far as rods go, I've been using short fiberglass rods (6 1/2 feet) and 4 weight double taper lines.

And a number of different Tenkara (fixed-line) rods, which are typically longer than fly rods.

Thus far the added reach and improved drift of the latter hasn't mattered much, as I am fishing with what amounts to a bobber.

I got about two and a half hours a couple days later before it started to — you guessed it — rain. Managed one brown, on that same green nymph. I wish I could remember where I got it.

The stocking trucks got to the Blackberry on March 31, so if you want that something for the frying pan, that's the place to go.

## \$1.4 million upgrade to Dutchess Stadium brings Yankees Minor League to bat

By Kaitlin Lyle

WAPPINGERS FALLS — The Staten Island Yankees Club will be moving into Dutchess Stadium in Wappingers Falls. This team is the long season Class A affiliate team of the New York Yankees. As a result, the Hudson Valley Renegades will become a New York Yankees Minor League Team (there are six in the U.S.).

The Yankees invited the Hudson Valley Renegades to become an affiliate last December. The Renegades have been partners with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays since 1996, before Major League Baseball constricted the number of its minor-league affiliates. Through this new full-season affiliation with the Yankees, Jeff Goldklang, president of The Goldklang Group of Professional Baseball, said the Renegades will transition from 38 home games to 60 home games this season and will likely grow to 66 games in 2022.

"Renegades fans have supported the franchise phenomenally since our inception in 1994, so in terms of attendance [post COVID-19] I would anticipate only a small uptick since we've sold to close to capacity most years," Goldklang said.

"However, the energy from

our fan base is through the roof. We're receiving requests from a broader geographic footprint than in years past, and during the season anticipate a strong push from out-of-towners looking to get a glimpse of Yankee prospects."

To meet the new facility standards imposed by MLB, Goldklang said, Dutchess Stadium needed several upgrades since much of its player development spaces "were original to 1994 and were inadequate for the modern needs of health and wellness for Minor League players."

In early February, the Dutchess County Legislature approved a \$1.4 million bond resolution to fund those improvements to the stadium, which is on Route 9D in Wappingers Falls, N.Y.

"We're obviously thrilled that those improvements have been green-lighted, as our future literally depended upon it," Goldklang said.

The Hudson Valley Renegades will kick off the 2021 baseball season on the road on Tuesday, May 4, followed by a home opener on Tuesday, May 11.

For more information, check out the Renegades' 2021 schedule at [www.milb.com/hudson-valley/tickets/2021-schedule](http://www.milb.com/hudson-valley/tickets/2021-schedule).

## Worship Services

Week of April 11, 2021

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

**The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.**  
30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT  
Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!  
Online worship, Sundays at 10am  
[www.salisburyucc.org](http://www.salisburyucc.org)  
Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy!  
(860) 435-2442

**Falls Village Congregational Church**  
16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village  
10:00 a.m. Family Worship  
11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour  
A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!!  
860-824-0194

**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](http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org)  
860-435-9290

**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](http://www.christchurchsharon.org)

**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](http://www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational)

**Greenwoods Community Church**  
355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA  
Sunday Service 10:30 AM  
Kidz Connection  
K-6th grade (during Sun. Service)  
Nursery Care All Services  
Pastor Trip Weiler  
415-229-8560  
[www.greenwoodschurch.com](http://www.greenwoodschurch.com)

**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](mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net)

**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](http://www.stthomasamenia.com)  
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**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
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Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page  
Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study  
Rev. Heidi Truax  
[trinity@trinitylimerock.org](mailto:trinity@trinitylimerock.org)  
(860) 435-2627  
[www.trinitylimerock.org](http://www.trinitylimerock.org)

**The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall**  
Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9am  
Email Rev. Mary Gates at: [mngates125@gmail.com](mailto:mngates125@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!

**Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT**  
Join our virtual service on Sunday, April 11 at 10:30 a.m. "Love"  
For information, contact Jo Loi at [jokialoui@gmail.com](mailto:jokialoui@gmail.com)  
All are Welcome

**The Smithfield Presbyterian Church**  
656 Smithfield Valley Rd.  
Route 85, Amenia, NY  
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**The Lakeville United Methodist Church**  
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The Rev. Margaret Laemmel  
860-435-9496  
[Lakevillemethodist@snet.net](mailto:Lakevillemethodist@snet.net)

**Sharon Congregational Church**  
25 Main Street, Sharon, CT  
Visit our website [sharoncongregationalchurch.org](http://sharoncongregationalchurch.org) for current online sermons.  
Bible Study Guides also available by request: [info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org](mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org)  
Or contact us at 860-364-5002

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St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan  
St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville  
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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!  
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SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard  
10 AM - Sacred Heart  
WEEKDAY MASSES Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & First Friday  
9 AM - Sacred Heart  
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Rev. Lee Gangaware  
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[canaanctumc@gmail.com](mailto:canaanctumc@gmail.com)

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# Visiting the past through Lakeville Journal photo archives

By Cynthia Hochswender

We are continuing in this issue to share some of the wonderful old photos that Kathy Phillips of Sharon and Perry Gardner of North Canaan have been digitizing for us from our photo archives. Most of the images are from the 1970s to the mid 1980s, an especially fun time, as many of the people in the images still live here in the area.

If you like these photos, let us know; and if you are certain you can identify any unidentified people in the images,

send an email to [cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com).

We have added summaries of stories on this page, but if you'd like to go back and read the entire articles, go to our online archive, hosted by the Scoville Memorial Library of Salisbury, at [www.scoville.advantage-preservation.com](http://www.scoville.advantage-preservation.com). That way, you can look at the week a photo was taken and match it up to an issue of The Lakeville Journal; eventually, you can do the opposite and look up an article in a 1984 or 1985 newspaper and then search the photo archives. We

have not digitized every single photo on the negative strips in our collection, there are just too many of them. But we have tried to at minimum include the photos used in each issue, as well as a few extras; we are only presenting a single image from our collection on this page.

We hope to have all these photos in a searchable format on the internet. We also hope at some point to raise funds to digitize the remaining 60,000 or so images in the collection. We will let you know as we make progress on this project.



PHOTO BY CHRIS JONES

## THE IRON BRIDGE

The Iron Bridge over the Housatonic River, connecting the Amesville section of Salisbury with Falls Village, got some needed repairs back in 1985. This photo from our issue of Feb. 7, 1985, shows two of the region's longest-serving first selectmen,

Charlotte Reid of Salisbury and Peter Lawson of Falls Village. The two town officials watched, according to the photo caption, as engineers William Bright, sitting on the bridge railing, and Gregory Stefano, at far right in the photo, did an inspection.



PHOTO BY DR. GORDON JOHNSON

## FEELING THE LOVE, AT TENNIS TOURNNEY

Sometimes photos in our back issues were submitted by community members, as was the case when beloved Salisbury veterinarian Dr. Gordon Johnson, also a talented tennis player, took these photos at the Salisbury Invitational Tennis Tournament. This photo and a full report of the sports action were reported in the Jan. 3, 1985, Lakeville Journal.

The listing of the awards in the article seems to be, well, unclear, but what we do know is that some of the champion players of the day included Diane Mayland, Rusty Chandler, Robinson Leech, John Miller and Joann Tapley. That year, Miller was also joined by his son, Josh, in a doubles

match. And Rusty Chandler was joined by his 18-year-old son, Chis Chandler (who is now headmaster of the Salisbury School) in doubles action.

In this photo, we feel we have identified John Miller in the back row, wearing a light colored sweater; perhaps Joann Tapley in front of him in a striped shirt; the man in the center holding the bowl seems to be Frank Silvernail, although he is not listed in the article that accompanies the photo. Diane Mayland in the front row holding two trophies and Rusty Chandler at the far right in the photo.

If you recognize these players, send us a note with identifications.



PHOTO BY CHRIS JONES

## THE TALK OF THE TEENS

This photo by Chris Jones from Jan. 3, 1985, shows the editors of a school magazine put out by students at the Lee H. Kellogg School in Falls Village, called Talk of the Teens. From left in the photo are Marilyn Zovickian, Lusha Caliendo, Kristen Kubarek, John Ruotolo, William Greene (principal), Julia Sinclair, Wendy Insinger (editor in chief) and David Matheson.



PHOTO BY BRIGITTE RUTHMAN

## HOMEGROWN TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES

In January 1985, Brigitte Ruthman profiled Peter Laird, who lived in Sharon at the time and who had in the past year created a comic book series called Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, working with Kevin Eastman.

Laird had moved to a home at Silver Lake Shores in Sharon with his wife, Jeannine, who had recently been hired to teach at Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

In the interview for the Jan. 10 Lakeville Journal, Laird and Eastman couldn't quite hide their astonishment that the series had received such positive reviews. They were about to embark on a third printing of the first edition, which they were sending to customers by U.S. Postal Service. Laird was taping up boxes and sealing and addressing envelopes in his Sharon living room during the interview.

Some fans were writing to Laird to say how excited they were to have a copy from the first printing of the first Teenage Mutant Ninja comic. Those relics at that point were selling for the astronomical price of \$25. On eBay this week, similar first editions were selling for between \$4,000 and \$55,000 depending on their condition.

## HOUSING

Continued from Page A1

search on how much affordable housing exists in the 21 towns represented in the NHCOC, and how much is needed.

The information will soon be available in a hard copy report. It is available online now at [northwesthillscog.org/housing](http://northwesthillscog.org/housing), along with other affordable housing data.

### What is 'affordable housing'?

Ayer noted that the housing landscape has changed considerably in the last year or so, with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Part-time residents are now full-time, and many homes have been purchased by people anxious to leave densely populated areas such as New York City.

This has resulted in a significant reduction in available properties, higher overall home prices and far fewer rental options.

Ayer said that people on waiting lists for what affordable housing exists spend between one and five years on such lists until something becomes available.

Ayer spoke about the definition of "affordable housing." It means housing that costs less than 30% of the income of a household earning 80% or less of the area median income. In Connecticut, area median income is figured by county.

So for Litchfield County in 2020, 80% of area median income for a one-person household is \$57,456. For two people, \$65,664. Three people, \$73,872. Four people, \$82,080. Five people, \$88,646.

To be counted as affordable, the housing must be monitored in some way to ensure the cost remains at or below the affordability threshold.

### What is here, what is needed

Ayer presented data on how much affordable housing is

needed in the NHCOC towns.

In the 21 towns, there are 18,456 households that earn below 80% of the area median income for Litchfield County; 10,568 households are paying more than 30% of their income on housing.

In the 21 towns, there were 3,357 units of affordable housing in 2020.

It is estimated that the 21 towns require an additional 3,498 units of affordable housing to house the most "housing cost burdened" households — those spending more than 50% of their income on housing costs.

And 1,520 households were on waiting lists as of November 2020.

Between 2010 and 2020, nonprofit organizations and housing authorities created 84 affordable rental units and 20 home ownership units.

The state has set a goal of 10% affordable housing for municipalities, and towns are required to create an affordable

housing plan.

Most of the 21 NHCOC towns are nowhere near the 10% figure. In Region One, only North Canaan, with 162 units, is at 10%.

Falls Village currently has 11 units (1.41%). Cornwall has 36 units (3.57%). Kent has 67 units (4.02%). Salisbury has 42 units (1.62%) and Sharon has 36 units (2.03%).

### Dramatic increase in sale prices

Ayer said that over the past five years median home prices have risen in all but one NHCOC town, and the average change for all 21 towns was an increase of \$115,000.

And average sales prices in 2020 were higher than median sales prices in all the towns. (This average is somewhat skewed by sales of some very expensive homes.)

In Region One towns, the median sales price for homes between 2016 and 2020 rose by \$122,500 in Falls Village; \$249,500 in Cornwall; \$23,750

in Kent; \$16,000 in North Canaan; \$221,000 in Salisbury; and \$142,500 in Sharon.

Thus the median sales price in 2020 for Region One towns was \$257,500; Cornwall, \$547,500; Kent, \$368,750; North Canaan, \$175,000; Salisbury, \$646,000; and Sharon, \$475,000

Average sales prices in 2020 in Region One: Falls Village, \$352,530; Cornwall, \$718,029; Kent, \$612,925; North Canaan, \$205,309; Salisbury, \$912,600; Sharon, \$960,953.

Ayer noted that many homes that sold recently at or below the median price are older and require significant improvements, which makes them less affordable than the sales price might indicate.

Ayer said the region needs more housing options — "not just single-family homes."

Also needed: units with three bedrooms or fewer; more rentals; and, simply, more units that meet the "affordable housing" definition.



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## LEGAL NOTICES

### Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2021-0128 by Churchill Building Company, LLC for a new detached apartment on a single-family residential lot at 136 Interlaken Road, Lakeville Map 39, Lot 21 per Section 208 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Monday, April 19, 2021 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting; it 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.salisburyct.us](http://www.salisburyct.us). Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to [aconroy@salisburyct.us](mailto:aconroy@salisburyct.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  
04-08-21  
04-15-21

### TAX COLLECTOR TOWN OF SALISBURY CT LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to Sec. 12-145 of the Connecticut State Statutes, the taxpayers of the Town of Salisbury are hereby notified that the fourth installment on the Grand List of October 1,

2019 is due and payable on April 1, 2021. Payments must be received or postmarked by May 3, 2021. If said

Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are not paid on or before May 3, 2021, interest at the rate of one and one half percent (18% per year) will be added for each month or a fraction thereof which elapses from the time when such tax becomes due and payable until the same is paid.

Minimum interest charge is \$2.00.

Pursuant to Section 12-173 of the Connecticut State Statutes, unpaid Real Estate tax on the Grand List of October 1, 2019 will be LIENED on JUNE 4, 2021. Payment must be received by 12:00 p.m. on June 4, 2021 to avoid a Lien.

Due to the Coronavirus the Town Hall is closed to the public. Taxes can be paid by mail addressed to: Tax Collector, P.O. Box 338, 27 Main Street, Salisbury, CT 06068. There is a drop box in the vestibule of the Town Hall which is available 9am-4pm. The Town has made a policy to not accept cash at this time. The Town is urging taxpayers to mail checks or use the option of paying by credit card. Please check the Town website [salisburyct.us](http://salisburyct.us) for additional information. Dated at Town of Salisbury, CT this 29th day of March 2021.

Jean F. Bell  
CCMC Tax Collector  
Salisbury CT 06068  
04-08-21  
04-29-21



# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

COOKING WITH KIDS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## Spring Vacation Will Start Soon; Pizza Can Help

There is of course no actual reason to make your own pizza, from a culinary point of view. Your average pizza professional will toss a much better pie than anything you can make in an afternoon at home.

There is nonetheless one very compelling reason to try making the food favorite (which some legislators are trying to make the official state food of Connecticut): Making pizza is fun and a great activity to do with children.

Spring vacation is coming soon for students in Region One. That means that children of all ages will be bored and hanging around the house (especially if it's cold and muddy outside); plus, you will have to feed them.

### PIZZA IS HERE TO HELP

This is a project that checks a lot of activity boxes:

- It can be enjoyed by all age groups, from teens to toddlers.

- It has several educational components. For instance, all cooking projects teach children to count, to measure and to follow instructions. Ideally, you will model good behavior by getting all the ingredients out ahead of time,



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

**Making pizza can be very easy if you don't fuss over it too much, and it offers children a fun and delicious indoor activity.**

pre-measuring them and reading the instructions aloud together.

Another educational component is to talk about pizza's origins in Italy. This is a moment in cooking history when we talk about cultural appropriation; before you get cooking, do some internet searches for Italian pizza (or watch the excellent television show "Stanley Tucci, Searching for Italy." In the episode about Naples you can watch a mouthwatering demonstration of how true Italian pizza is made).

- For older children, learning to make a favorite food is a confidence booster. Maybe your teens will even invite friends over for their own pizza party.

- Any project that involves yeast is automatically a lesson in life science. Yeast is alive. It's fun to watch what it does to flour and water.

- Making pizza falls into the category of "decorative craft projects." Children above all else love to

decorate things, and any child of any age can enjoy arranging cheese, basil, sauce on a crust canvas.

As the parent, your job is to keep your hands off; don't tell them how to decorate unless they ask for your help. You'll have enough to do preparing the ingredients and cleaning up; let them create the edible art. This is about doing an intergenerational project that, in the end, will also provide you with lunch or dinner.

### TRIGGER WARNINGS

It's important to warn your pizza makers that the pretty pizza they put in the oven will be less pretty after it's been exposed to 450-degree heat for a quarter of an hour. Children who love monster films might be thrilled by this; younger children might be disappointed.

This recipe is adapted from a recipe at [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com) by Chef Rider. I made several changes, including leaving out the

sugar. Bakers use sugar to be sure their yeast is active (to "proof" it), but if you use an unexpired packet of yeast you shouldn't have any problems.

I use SAF instant yeast (I buy it at Sharon Farm Market in Sharon, Conn.), which gets mixed right in with the dry ingredients. You can do the same with active dry yeast, in spite of what the package says.

However, if your young chefs will find it exciting, by all means begin by combining one packet of active dry yeast with a teaspoon of white sugar and your warm water. Let the mix stand for 10 minutes until it puffs up. Then mix it with the other ingredients.

This recipe calls for bread flour, but I made it with all purpose flour because I think that's what most people have at home. If you have bread flour and want to use it, go ahead; it will improve the texture. But I found the all purpose crust to be crisp and tasty.

You'll need a strong stand mixer for this; I used my fancy high-power KitchenAid mixer and the dough was so stiff it shut my engine off. If you don't have a sturdy mixer, you can knead the dough for a few minutes but really don't worry about it too much. You want it to be smooth but it doesn't have to be professional quality.

### EASY PIZZA

Adapted from [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com)  
Makes four small pizzas

- .25 ounces of dry yeast (or one packet of active dry yeast — note it is .25 not 25)
- 1 ¼ cup of warm water (heat it to 110 degrees; if you don't have a thermometer, it should feel warm not hot if you put a drop on the inside of your wrist)
- 2 ½ cups of all purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil
- 1 teaspoon of salt

Toppings can include tomato sauce from a jar, pesto sauce, fresh or shredded mozzarella, good-quality ricotta (drain it over a colander first), olives, mushrooms, fresh basil, peppers, artichoke hearts — you know what you like.

Combine all your ingredients (except the toppings) in the bowl of a stand mixer and mix for about 5 minutes until the dough is smooth. You can knead it instead; don't worry over it too much, it doesn't have to be perfect, just smooth.

Let the dough rest for a half hour in a warm spot (80 degrees is ideal but again, don't worry about it too much). If you have an Instant Pot, wipe the inside of the pot with olive oil on a brush or paper towel, and then put your dough inside. Do not lock the cover on, just put a plate on top of it. Heat your dough on the yogurt setting for 30 minutes.

If your chefs are antsy, you can skip the rest period and go ahead and roll out the dough — but it will be stiff and uncooperative.

Meanwhile, preheat your oven to 450 degrees. After your dough has had its 30-minute rest, it should be puffy and tender. Divide it into four roughly equal pieces with a heavy knife or a pastry cutter. Lightly cover three of the pieces with a damp dishtowel or a sheet of plastic wrap.

Take the fourth piece of dough and roll it gently into a ball, then stretch it and flatten it into a disc. Put it on a sheet of parchment paper and roll it out gently. You probably won't make a perfect circle; feel free to make shapes (make a rabbit and give it mozzarella whiskers and a fluffy white mozz tail).

Shape the other three balls.

Give each young chef a pizza crust and some ingredients to work with. It's best if they can decorate their pizza in 15 minutes or less; if it takes longer, the dough can dry out and start to puff up. Make sure they stay on the parchment paper.

If you want to give your pizza a little more flavor, brush it lightly with olive oil and sprinkle on some salt and pepper before you start decorating.

Slide your pizza and parchment paper on a cookie sheet and put it in the oven. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes, until it looks done. Don't let anyone burn their mouth on the hot sauce and cheese. This pizza reheats beautifully (325 degree oven).

## At The Movies

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#### WHDD FM 97.5

Serving the Route 7 corridor from Cornwall to Kent, and the Route 22 corridor from Amenia to Pawling

#### WHDD FM 91.9

Serving Sharon, Millerton, Lakeville, Salisbury and Falls Village, and adjacent Eastern, NY

#### WLHV FM 88.1

Serving in New York - Northern and Eastern Dutchess County, Columbia County, Eastern Ulster and Windham County, and Southern Greene County

#### WBSL FM 91.7

Serving North Canaan, CT, Sheffield and South County, MA

## ELEVATING HUMBLE MATERIALS

Sculptor Henry Klimowicz, owner and curator of The Re Institute in NorthEast, N.Y., on Boston Corners Road, has three new pieces in a group show at Lightforms Gallery and Art Center in Hudson, N.Y., called Moving Forms/Dynamic Balance. The show opened April 9 and will remain up until July 3.

For more information on the show, go to [www.lightformsartcenter.com/exhibitions](http://www.lightformsartcenter.com/exhibitions).

**Like A Lichen #2 is one of three new pieces by Henry Klimowicz in a show at Lightforms Gallery in Hudson, N.Y.**



PHOTO BY HENRY KLIMOWICZ



DAY TRIPS: DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

# A Museum Visit With Something For Everyone

The gang's all there: Shirley Temple, Popeye, Batman, the Simpsons and Betty Boop. Also, The Hulk, Barbie, Wall-E, Harry Potter, G.I. Joe, Charlie McCarthy and Howdy Doody. Visitors will also encounter Mickey and Minnie, the Three Stooges, the California Raisins, the Pillsbury Doughboy and too many other childhood characters, superheroes and legends to name.

From the moment you walk past the life-size statue of Po from the movie "Kung-Fu Panda" as you enter the Barker Character, Comic and Cartoon Museum in Cheshire, Conn., you're in for a trip down memory lane — or a flashback to the beloved Saturday afternoon cartoons of your childhood. It's a sure cure for cabin fever and a fun spring break outing for the entire family.

Nostalgia on steroids is a fitting way to describe the experience, sure to delight the young and the young-at-heart, whether 8 or 80.

"We're pretty much like a nostalgia machine over here," said museum docent Blake Bassett with a laugh. "We love to watch people's expressions when they see a toy they remember from the '30s or '40s. They can often tell you exactly how it works."

A common lament that usually follows, she said, is, "My mother threw mine away."

Not so for museum owners Jerry and Stephen Barker. The 3,500-square-foot space includes the personal collection of their late parents, Gloria and Herbert Barker, who amassed about 80,000 items over more than four decades, includ-

ing toys that their children had played with. A small number of items have also been donated by collectors.

Disney characters, famous actors, television shows, musicians, pop culture icons and marketing and sci-fi figures are represented through a dizzying assortment of toys, dolls, records, books, playing cards, rotary phones, comics, wagons, watches, games, lunch boxes, action figures — even animated films, posters and original artwork.

## ELEPHANT RAMP WALKERS FROM 1873

The Barkers started their collection by visiting tag sales at a time before people realized that cast-off toys had an intrinsic value and interest for future generations. While the items were considered run-of-the-mill in their day, they are coveted collectibles today.

Two of the oldest toys in the collection prove that gravity works: They are the cast-iron elephant ramp walkers. Manufactured in 1873 by the Ives Toy Company in Bridgeport, Conn., they were the first automatons to be powered by gravity. One hundred and forty years later, they work as well as ever and lumber obligingly down even the slightest incline.

Barrett said what makes them even more interesting is that the Ives Company originally produced guns and ammunition during the Civil War, but once the war ended, they turned to toys. The ramp walkers, explained Barrett, are made from melted-down bullet casings.

"What a segue: weapons of war to children's toys," she mused.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BARKER CHARACTER, COMIC AND CARTOON MUSEUM

Visitors of all ages enjoy posing for pictures with The Simpsons.

Another item with an eye-opening history is an unopened tube of Mickey Mouse toothpaste from 1933.

"It was made with a special milk of magnesia flavor, and comes in a lead tube; they didn't know the dangers" of lead toxicity back then, she said. At the time, lead was considered an inexpensive and easy metal to mold into toys.

## PRIZES, PROMOTIONS AND BETTY BOOP

Child stars of yesteryear are also represented here. Back in the day, Shirley Temple generated not just ticket sales, but a great deal of toys and associated items.

Prizes from old cereal boxes and promotions are a hot ticket as well. From 1934 to 1942, cobalt blue table settings, manufactured by the Hazel Atlas and U.S. Glass Companies, were given away as premiums for Wheaties and Bisquick, and are prized by

today's collectors.

Remember Betty Boop, Bimbo the dog and Koko the Clown? Betty, the feckless flapper who danced through life with her canine boyfriend Bimbo, first vamped her way into the public's hearts as a sexy chanteuse in 1930 and continued to lift movie-goers' hearts throughout the Great Depression with her song-filled adventures.

Among the most popular attractions with all ages are an 8-foot-tall statue of the Marvel superhero The Hulk, which served as a promotion for the 2008 movie of the same name; and life-size characters from The Simpsons. Both invite plenty of selfies and family photos.

"They only made about 200 Hulks," noted Barrett.

## THEIR VALUE BEYOND NOSTALGIA

While all the museum items include price tags to give visitors an idea of their current value, none of the

items are for sale. One of the most expensive items is a Popeye heavy-hitter toy valued at \$14,000, said Barrett. The toy mimics the popular carnival game where people test their strength by wielding a hammer, causing a bell to ring if successful.

Since the museum opened in 1997, the Barker family has welcomed visitors from around the corner and around the world. The collection, which spans the years from 1873 to the 2020s, stimulates discussion among the generations in a way that few museums can. Every generation will find favorite toys; historians can savor an unusual glimpse into styles and trends of the past.

In addition, the Barkers were dedicated to preserving America's rich cartoon heritage, and founded the largest retail animation and entertainment art gallery in the world, Barker Animation Art Gallery.

Barker Animation had its Grand Opening in West Hartford, Conn., in 1993; and in 1994, operations moved to the Barker complex in Cheshire, Conn.

The gallery maintains a collection of vintage and current artwork from artists in the fields of animation and pop culture. To give this artwork more exposure, Gloria and Herb opened an additional gallery at The Tanger outlets at Foxwoods in 2016.

## IF YOU

### DECIDE TO VISIT

The Barker Character, Comic and Cartoon Museum is at 1188 Highland Ave. in Cheshire, and is open by appointment only (call 203-272-2357). Face masks are mandatory.

Each visitor to the museum receives a self-guided tour booklet, and while there can peruse the vast collection of animation art, fine arts and collectibles available for purchase in the gallery next door.

Visitors can also enjoy a scavenger hunt, and stroll the grounds and pose for pictures with life-sized cartoon character cut-outs.

"You get the whole museum to yourself for the entire hour, for a more personal, interactive experience," said Barrett.

ART: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

# Kaino's Multimedia 'In the Light of A Shadow' Now at MASS MoCA

Often, art work that has a social message is so abstract that it's hard to find a place in.

The work of Glenn Kaino, which is featured in a new show at MASS MoCA that opened April 3, is concrete and accessible while also commenting on the world and the hopes, struggles, dreams, successes and failures of the humans who inhabit it.

The centerpiece of the show is a cage made of metal bars; when you touch the bars with a baton, you can play the tune to the Irish band U2's mega hit, "Sunday Bloody Sunday." Kaino also worked with others to produce a video to the song (featuring the cage) in which Deon Jones sings the song.

Jones is both a singer and an activist. He ended up in the hospital with wounds from a police attack on him, as he protested the killing of George Floyd.

Also in the show is a

**A new show of work by Glenn Kaino at MASS MoCA talks about conflict, struggle and activism. One part of the exhibit shows the breakup of the Shadow V, destroyed by the IRA, with "debris" from the bombing reimaged as small ships.**

work based on the Shadow V, a boat on which Lord Mountbatten was traveling when it was bombed by the IRA. In Kaino's show, the debris from the bombing turns into other boats, or what the show notes describe as "tiny satellite ships."

At a time when racism against other races including Asian Americans is recently in the news, Kaino is a fourth-generation Japanese American.

MASS MoCA carefully observes COVID-19 re-



PHOTO COURTESY MASS MOCA

strictions. If you have been vaccinated, bring your card.

The show will remain on exhibit at MASS MoCA

until spring 2022. For more information, go to [massmoca.org/event/glenn-kaino-in-the-light-of-a-shadow](http://massmoca.org/event/glenn-kaino-in-the-light-of-a-shadow).

## ART TODAY: THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE NFT IN A ZOOM TALK

The 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Criticism was awarded to art critic Jerry Saltz "for a robust body of work that conveyed a canny and often daring perspective on visual art in America, encompassing the personal, the political, the pure and the profane."

Saltz will share his views on "What Art is Today: The Good, the Bad, and the Very Bad," in a free Zoom Webinar hosted by the Salisbury Forum of Salisbury, Conn., on Friday, April 23, at 7:30 p.m.

A resident of South Kent, Conn., Saltz has been called "the people's critic" for the ways he makes the mysteries and the arcane practices of the art world visible. Since 2006 he has been art critic for New York magazine and its online site,

[www.vulture.com](http://www.vulture.com).

This freewheeling one-hour discussion will touch on a variety of topics from the fundamental question of where is art today to an exploration into the use of NFTs in the art world (and what is an NFT?).

Saltz will share his views on how the art world will recover from a year of lockdown, whether expensive art schools are just a racket, and whether print magazines can survive. These and many other questions will be addressed by the award-winning critic in his inimitable passionate fashion.

Go to [www.salisburyforum.org](http://www.salisburyforum.org) for a link to the webinar.

Copies of his latest book, "How to Be an Artist" are available for purchase from Oblong Books & Music.

## TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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



EDITORIAL

A time when you really need to pay attention

When is the last time you found yourself thinking about something else besides the road and the vehicles and possible obstacles around you while you were driving? After all, with the many ways COVID-19 has changed our lives in the past year, the distractions of everyday life have increased exponentially. That situation doesn't seem to be changing dramatically for most of us yet, even with vaccines helping more and more people protect themselves from the disease.

So there can be an unexpected call or text to distract you as you drive, and if it's from a family member, for instance, or some other loved one in need of some help or emotional support, it can be very tempting to "just this once" reply while continuing to drive. But all it takes is once. Driving without hands on the wheel and eyes on the road can result in tragic consequences that can never be changed.

Or, of course, as we are all aware, the distraction can be something else besides reading or sending a text: there can be a cup of coffee in your holder that spills on a curve; or you may be grabbing a bite while out doing chores and make the decision to keep driving while doing it to save time; or you may be resetting music in the car. The list can go on. None of these are worth risking your life, or the lives of those around you on the road.

April is National Distracted Driving Awareness month, sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. If that seems contrived somehow or unnecessary, think about any traffic accident you've heard of or been a part of in the past. How many happened in the aftermath of a driver becoming distracted by something inside the vehicle? A large part of possible road danger can be that moment of distraction when something unexpected happens outside the car: an animal runs across the road or a vehicle cuts you off. If your eyes aren't on the road, the odds of coming through such events unscathed decrease greatly.

Connecticut's part in fighting against distracted driving was launched on April 1, a national program called U Drive. U Text. U Pay. Now is a good time to be aware of the dangers of driving distracted, and the potential costs of being caught by law enforcement doing it. Drivers who are ticketed for distracted driving are fined \$150 for the first offense, \$300 for the second, and \$500 for the third and any more offenses. The fines should be deterrents, but so should the admission that driving safety is its own reward, if more of us on the road can arrive at our destinations without doing harm to ourselves or others.

For more on distracted driving, go to [www.distraction.gov](http://www.distraction.gov).

Many complications for Salisbury housing

As a life-long member of the Salisbury community I feel that diversity makes it a special place. I firmly support affordable housing if it makes sense and is affordable. Building a three-story building on a busy road does not make sense nor is it affordable.

I am sure that there will be children living in the building. Where would their backyard be to play in? How about the disruption of the truck traffic on Rt. 44? And when you build a multi-level and multi-family building, the building codes, ADA requirements and fire codes are much stricter than a single-family dwelling.

First, an elevator would have to be installed to meet ADA requirements and that elevator needs to be inspected yearly. Secondly, a central fire alarm system would have to be installed and monitored 24/7. Thirdly, if I am not mistaken, a sprinkler system would need to be installed. There would have to be interior fire escapes built into the building and fire doors installed throughout the building. Multiple fire extinguishers, that need to be inspected yearly, would need to be installed through out the building.

As far as maintenance is concerned, a single-level structure is easier to maintain than a three-story building. The facade, including windows, would have to be washed routinely because of the dust and dirt kicked up from vehicle traffic. The inevitable cost of replacing a roof on a three-story building is much more money per square foot than a single-story structure.

Who will maintain the interior common areas? The carpets, floors, lighting and painting of those areas. There would have to be a superintendent living on site when issue arise.

Yes, affordable house does make sense as long the housing makes sense. Multi-level, multi-family housing does not make good short-term or long-term sense.

Jeffrey Lloyd

Lakeville

It's a process

Now I've got my second Jab  
I'm sure it won't leave a scab  
Left the hospital feeling fine  
Ready to go out and dine  
But during sleep that same night  
My arm was aching not feeling right  
And in the morn the aches did start  
And my arm started to smart  
Then flu like symptoms came  
Not feeling right as rain  
But after breakfast I improved  
And the aches were removed  
So now I feel so much better  
That I started to write this letter.

Michael Kahler

Lakeville

Deadline for letters is Monday at 10 a.m. Send to publisher@lakevillejournal.com, no more than 500 words. More letters on page B4. Columns on A4.



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

Hiking on the AT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Problem with shortsighted opposition

The Republican Town Committee continues to support the revised proposal for Holley Block notwithstanding the plethora of high-priced attorneys, architects and engineers warning of a never-ending cascade of problems if the project is permitted to proceed. Parking problems, traffic problems, school bus problems, drainage problems, waste disposal problems — not to mention the loss of a pathetic strip of grass with two trees where you can sit and watch the traffic on Route 44 go by.

Lost in all this is any recognition of the serious problem our town will eventually face if this and other Affordable Housing (AH) projects are blocked. Simply put, our ability to make our own decisions about building and zoning matters could be lost. Decisions about AH in Salisbury could suddenly be made by bureaucrats in Hartford or, worse, Washington. This is not imaginary. There are already several laws and regulations that affect local land use and zoning decisions and new ones are quickly coming our way.

It's really important to talk trash

Over the past year there has been a clear increase in the amount of trash to be seen along our area roadsides and especially the sections of road that lead to the transfer station. One imagines a lot of this blowing out of the trucks that are hauling it there. To make any attempt to appeal to the better judgments of those who choose to deliberately litter is a waste of time, as a friend of mine's father would say, they are "amateur human beings" and they are certainly not reading the paper or much else, I am sure.

So where does this leave us and just whose job is it to keep the roadsides litter free? Not your job? Then whose? The state or town crews? Why don't we take a moment to reflect on stewardship, for our area and our Earth and take ownership for the roads we live on and drive on everyday?

Get some gloves, a bag and even a stick with a nail on the end of it and pick an area that needs some help and fill a bag up. Even one bag is bet-

State law already requires every town to have an AH plan specifying how the town intends to increase the number of AH units. Another law provides that, if a town has less than 10% of its housing stock devoted to AH — a requirement we do not meet — a developer may come in and build an AH project without securing zoning approval so long as 30% of its units are reserved for AH.

More than a dozen bills have been introduced in Hartford that would allow the state to override local zoning regulations under the guise of "desegregating" our cities and towns. For example, in mid-March a General Assembly committee held a hearing on legislation that would allow developers to construct 2, 3 or 4-bedroom units in downtown corridors without securing local zoning approval. Even the federal government is getting into the act; HUD is currently investigating whether Connecticut's reliance on local zoning laws has led to segregated housing in violation of the federal Fair Housing laws.

Salisbury is extremely fortunate to have its current AH plans in the hands of local organizations, such as the Salisbury AH Commission and the Salisbury Housing Committee (which oversees most of our AH units and has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars developing the current Holley Block plan.) It is these organizations, made up of residents of our community, that are working to bring more AH to our town and thereby bring us into compliance with state mandates.

If we continue to put endless roadblocks in the way of every AH proposal, and put every project at risk of being quashed as a result of local opposition, we will end up with insufficient AH. And that would not only be a tragedy for Salisbury workers, but could be a tragedy for our town when we find that decisions of this nature have been taken out of our hands and given to bureaucrats in Hartford.

Tom Morrison  
Chair, Salisbury Republican Town Committee  
Salisbury

Eric Korbel  
Lakeville

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TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — April 1921  
SALISBURY — H.R. Brinton has delivered a Studebaker limousine to Secretary of State D.J. Warner and a Cletrac tractor to E.A. Lucier of Norfolk.

ORE HILL — John Rowe and family have moved from Great Barrington, Mass., and are occupying one of the Salisbury Iron Corporation houses.

— Householders are busy polishing up their yards and lawns and housewives have been badly bitten by the housecleaning bug.

LAKEVILLE — Mr. E.E. Bartram, who injured one of his legs by slipping from a step ladder last week is once more on duty at Roberts store, although still compelled to use crutches.

50 years ago — April 1971  
Sixth District U.S. Representative Ella T. Grasso (D-Conn.) has written to a U.S. Postal Service official in Washington on seeking a reversal of the Service's decision not to re-establish a postal unit in the Taconic community in Salisbury. The Taconic postal facility burned down on Jan. 31.

— People in Salisbury and nearby towns are mourning the loss of Wallace W. Barr DDS, a good and gentle man and a dedicated dentist. Dr. Barr suffered a stroke Friday and died Monday in Sharon Hospital.

(For a story on the controversial pumped-storage water site proposed for either Falls Village or Sheffield, Mass., please see the April 8, 1971 edition, page 1. Link is [www.scoville.advantage-preservation.com/viewer](http://www.scoville.advantage-preservation.com/viewer). For the Northeast Utilities report, please see the last page of that issue. A little bonus in this week's column.)

25 years ago — April 1996  
CORNWALL — In just 37 minutes residents at Saturday night's town meeting remedied Cornwall's most vexing real estate problem. They voted yes to selling Rumsey Hall, a colossal and disintegrating hulk on Bolton Hill Road, to real estate developer Andrew Hingson.

— "Ice out" on Lake Wononscopomuc — generally a good indicator that winter is losing its grip — came last Friday, March 29. According to observer/chronicler Rodney G. Aller of Lakeville, this year's ice season was longer than usual, but no record breaker.

NORFOLK — The historic Apple House building was sold at auction to the highest of four bidders last Saturday. National Loan Investors of Oklahoma City, the mortgage holders, paid \$60,000 for the vacant Route 44 structure. Badly in need of repairs, the property was appraised for the sale at \$30,000.

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

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Town meetings should be public meetings, not private webinars

A silver lining of the Covid year is how much easier it's become to attend Town Meetings, which have moved to Zoom so that you can attend them without even having to leave home. All you need is internet and a screen. If you don't have internet, or if you're on the road, you can call in with a phone number to listen in and be heard.

But in recent months, meetings and public hearings regarding controversial topics in Salisbury have been changed from Zoom meetings to Zoom webinars. This means that only those hosting the meeting can be seen, along with those they choose to "elevate" to the screen. Members of the public who choose to attend will not be seen, nor will they be able to see others who attend. Telephone call-ins aren't allowed. You must "raise a hand" to be called on to speak and even then, you must speak disembodied, unless the host chooses to make you visible.

This is the equivalent of holding a public meeting at Town Hall but locking the doors to the public, leaving them standing outside, peering in through windows, trying to shout in a question or comment.

I was told that the change was instituted because Zoom meetings can accommodate only

100 attendees. But Zoom has plans that will accommodate more people. For \$600/year, you can host meetings for up to 500 people. For \$1080/year, up to 1000.

I was then told that larger meetings on Zoom would make it too hard for town officials to conduct the meetings. No doubt, this is true. At the last P&Z hearing that was a Zoom webinar, the P&Z chairman, obviously flummoxed by the technology, disabled the chat function so as not to be "distracted" by input from the public. I sympathize with him and agree that Commission members, who are volunteers, should not be expected to add to their burdens by having to master changing technologies.

But the solution isn't to keep the public from participating in public meetings. The solution is to get someone else to run the technology behind the meetings. This could be done by a single digitally savvy person from their own home. Perhaps a teacher at HVRHS could recommend a few civic-minded students for a new internship to help Salisbury return to deciding issues via public meetings instead of private webinars.

Helen Ross

Lakeville

## Local control must be valued and retained in Connecticut

I have recently written several posts to my fellow citizens in Cornwall about the issue of Local Control versus Regional Initiatives. I have been distressed by the increasing role that the Northwest Hills Council of Governments (COG) is playing in our town. Actually, in its 21 member towns (including Salisbury, Canaan, Falls Village, Kent and Torrington.) If you have been to any town meetings lately, you have likely seen COG's handiwork. They are determined to erase local ordinances and replace them with homogenized language that eliminates regulations crafted by individual towns and concerned citizens over many years, decisions based on the unique characteristics of the land in their towns, including environmental issues, historic areas, wildlife habitat, topography and infrastructure.

The nine COGs across Connecticut have been working with the Office of Policy and Management and the Census Bureau to be designated as a "county." While COGs would not have taxing power like a traditional county, they would receive and disperse lots of money. Right now the Legislature is considering HB-6655, an Act Concerning Municipal Taxation and Incentivizing Regionalization, which includes: regionalizing education, police and fire and allowing a coa-

lition of bargaining units to negotiate wages and benefits for the delivery of regional services. This legislation is meant to destroy Local Control and Incentivize Regionalization.

The COG's influence is everywhere. In Cornwall, we are examining a re-write of our Home-Business regulations that is being done with the guidance of a COG employee hired by our P+Z Commission. Using a COG-endorsed zoning template, they have eliminated references to protecting the "residential or rural character" of our neighborhoods.

Cornwall P+Z Chair Anna Timmel pointed to the fact that the elimination of the word "character" in zoning regulations is "a new idea" and that the use of the term is being considered by some as "inherently racist" and intended to keep people from other cultures coming into towns. While quick to point out that this is a new and untested approach to writing zoning regulations (eliminating the word "character") she nonetheless endorsed Cornwall moving full speed ahead to adopt this thinking. Did she really think that the citizens of Cornwall would passively accept the label of "racists" simply because we love and want to protect the "rural and residential character" of our town? I don't!

There are numerous bills

before the Legislature now; many would end Connecticut's long-standing commitment to "home rule" and usurp local decision-making. Learn about what you can do to keep Local Control and stop the steam-roller movement to Regionalize Initiatives and empower the unselected bureaucrats at COG.

Check out websites such as [www.CT169Strong.org](http://www.CT169Strong.org) and ask your town officials about where they stand on proposals from the Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST), one of the organizations standing up against the tidal wave of regionalization proposals.

Now you still have a voice; you must speak up. You may not have a voice for much longer, if the proposed bills that are moving forward are passed.

Joanne Wojtusiak  
Cornwall Bridge

## There's more to the NCAA than was written

In the April 1 column (Basketball Notebook) titled "After a Year Long Hiatus, March Madness is Back", by Hunter O. Lyle, there is only coverage of the men's side of "March Madness" — not one single mention of the women's NCAA teams.

Really? This seems so disrespectful of the hard work put in by the women's teams. If we look at one example in our state alone, we see that the UConn men's team did not advance past the first round and yet the UConn women, as I write this letter, will be playing in a Final Four game tonight.

In any case, there should have been coverage in the article of both genders.

Kay Blass

Falls Village

More letters previous page. Columns on page A4.

## Funding for Sharon ICU

The items mentioned in your page one story concerning contingencies that might be done about the dated ICU at Sharon Hospital left me wondering. One of the contingencies not discussed was pursuing funding from the Federal COVID Relief package and/or the proposed infrastructure bill to refurbish, upgrade and modernize critical facilities. What's the money going to be used for?

It seems, nationwide and here in Connecticut, hospital improvement would be an appropriately targeted use for those funds. If so, Sharon Hospital ought to work with our local, state and federal government officials to make it happen.

John Baroody

Sharon

## Not messy, but beautiful, alternate lawns

"Do Americans insist on too much lawn?" Yes they do — as Mac Gordon explained well, American lawns laden with pesticides and herbicides kill beneficial insects, waste water, are terrible for the environment, and expensive to maintain.

This is timely as I'm into year two of ditching our lawn — no herbicides, fertilizer, lime, or pesticides (except cedar oil to keep ticks down). I banned leaf blowers, which spread invasive plants, and mostly "left the leaves" in the fall. I encourage the beautiful moss that grows naturally (zero maintenance) and planted creeping thyme and clover. Only had to pay for mowing

twice last summer!

I set bluestone pavers to create paths through the yard. Not a native plant purist (as I love my lilacs and peonies), but adding native wildflowers to help the birds and the bees, and milkweed for the monarch butterflies. Our well often runs dry in the summer — once our "no lawn" yard is established, our yard will need very little watering, stay colorful, and need mowing maybe once a year.

Kudos to the towns that create pollinator gardens in public spaces, some might find them messy, but I find them beautiful. It's a movement!

Martha Wilkie

Sharon



## Housing should be built in Salisbury

A warm, dry, safe place to call home is among the most basic human needs. Housing is a source of both comfort and anxiety, and features prominently in stories people share: the young woman with a local job she loves who can't afford to stay in her hometown; the resident about to lose her home of decades because of rising rents, who can find nowhere else to go; the parent bursting with excitement because a daughter was moving into new affordable housing in their town.

Access to housing is a powerful determinant of health. For our communities, families, and employers, we need to provide additional affordable housing options. This is why our town leaders adopted the Salisbury Affordable Housing Plan in 2018, naming seven properties that would be necessary to meet the town's housing

goals. It's why, in June of 2018, Salisbury voters decided by a margin of 236 to 65 to move forward on one of those properties, constructing a building with 12-18 affordable rental units on the Holley Block property. It is why the local volunteers at the Salisbury Housing Committee have held and presented at multiple public meetings, detailing plans and adjusting both the design and the scale of the project in response to public input.

And it is why I support the thoughtful and appropriate plan for the Holley Block property. Adding these homes in Salisbury will enrich our town, and all of us. Thank you to all who have moved this plan forward.

Maria Horn

Salisbury

## We need jobs, housing

I've been reading about the proposed housing to be built at Holley Place in Lakeville. As an outsider I would like to give my opinion on what I call the elephant in the room.

Many years ago I worked at the insurance agency that is across the street from that empty lot. I saw the heavy traffic on Route 44 every day and I think it is worse now. This is no place to have people out and about.

I've lived in the area since 1968 and have seen many changes while driving through the towns twice a day. I remember when the Shagroy Market was on Main Street and you backed out onto Route 44 when finished shopping. There was Danny's Shoe Repair Shop, the Village Pharmacy by the Lakeville Post Office and Buzz Morey was the crossing guard at Salisbury Central School. It was always interesting coming along Route 44 to see if the white picket fence in front of Dr. Noble's house had gotten hit again by someone driving too fast for that curve.

There have been discussions about building rental housing for years (I like to term it rental housing instead of affordable), but nothing gets done. There have been vacant spots off the main highway that could have been used, but weren't. I'm thinking of the areas on Fowler Street and behind the library.

I was surprised when the Lion's Head Condos were built where they are. That would have been a good spot for lower income apartments as the buildings are far from the highway.

I hadn't been through the towns in a long time until one Sunday last summer. It was like a movie set. A few parked cars; no people. Not even a dog. The virus may have had something to do with it, but I doubt it. I don't think the future for the towns is very bright without some people being able to afford to live and work there.

Carolyn A. McDonough

Canaan

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251 Canaan Road, Salisbury, CT 06068

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