



Holiday Gift Guide
Inside



Holiday Schedules
Page A4

Rockwell, Holidays, Gingerbread and More
Compass, Pages B1,2,5



Cathedral Pines, Now With CCT
Page A5

The Lakeville Journal

Small Business Spotlight, Page A5

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

"My concern right now is with the holidays coming in, and socializing increasing."
— Dr. Ajay Kumar, Hartford HealthCare

COVID-19

More Northwest Corner towns now in 'red zone'

By Debra A. Aleksinas

Hospitals in the region and the state have reported a spike in patients infected with COVID-19 as a growing number of communities reach red alert status due to rising cases.

As of Nov. 18, three patients were admitted for treatment of the novel coronavirus at Sharon Hospital, according to spokeswoman Marina Ballantine. In recent weeks the hospital reported zero infections among patients although there were several positive test results among staff.

At Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington, coronavirus-related admissions more than doubled, from six on Nov. 7 to 13 the following week, according to Dr. Ajay Kumar, executive vice president and chief clinical officer for the hospital's affiliate, Hartford HealthCare.

As of Nov. 19, 840 patients were hospitalized statewide with COVID-19, an increase of 24 cases in just one day.

96% of state under red alert
In the Northwest Corner as of Nov. 19, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury, Goshen and Torrington had joined the 145 Connecticut towns and cities with the dubious distinction of being on COVID-19 "Red Alert" status, the highest of the state's four alert levels.

In response, state and regional leaders have increased the number of free testing sites in the region.

Connecticut's positivity rate, as of Nov. 19, was at 6.5%; about 96% of state residents are now living in red zones.

Communities are designated "red" when positive cases exceed 15 per 100,000 residents per day.

While in the red, communities have the option of temporarily shutting down or limiting non-essential businesses; indoor and outdoor activities are subject to postponement; and residents are advised to limit non-essential trips outside the home.

The burnout factor

At Charlotte Hungerford, Kumar pointed to several trends that he said are particularly concerning. "The rise in hospitalizations — and then there is the burnout factor,"

among hospital staff, as well as staff infections from community spread.

In one month, the hospital went from treating one COVID-positive patient to 13 patients, six of whom were admitted in the past week, said the physician.

"The rise in hospitalizations, it is concerning, no doubt it," and it looks like the upward trend is going to continue as the winter months progress, said Kumar. "My concern right now is with the holidays coming in, and socializing increasing."

How this new surge of cases will compare to the pandemic's

See RED ZONES, Page A6



Berkshire League Champions

Mountaineers make program history during pandemic season

By Hunter O. Lyle

FALLS VILLAGE — In a season full of questions and uncertainty, the Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) girls soccer team made history when they were crowned as Berkshire League Champions for the second consecutive year.

To get to this point, HVRHS Athletic Director Anne MacNeil worked closely with other regional athletic directors to plan a season that abided by Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) guidelines.

"I didn't know what was going to happen in August and was very pleased that we were able to have a season," MacNeil said. "And we were one of

See MOUNTAINEERS, Page A6

PHOTO BY HUNTER O. LYLE

Housatonic Valley Regional High School forward Melody Matsudaira, a sophomore, fought for possession during the team's last game of the season, against Litchfield High School, on Wednesday, Nov. 18.

Cautious planning in Region One as cases rise

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Region One School District Interim Superintendent Lisa Carter said in a phone interview Thursday, Nov. 19, that keeping up with reported COVID-19 cases is

an "hour by hour, day by day" process.

Positive COVID-19 test results are self-reported. When a report comes in, the process of contact tracing begins, with the school principals taking the lead, along with the Tor-

rington Area Health District, the Sharon health department (Sharon does not take part in the Torrington Area Health District) and the Region One office, Carter said.

As of Nov. 19 the reported cases have been relatively simple to isolate and contain, she continued.

Housatonic Valley Regional High School is using a hybrid model for instruction — a mix of in-person and online learning. The six pre K-8 schools are using in-person learning. Those schools are in Falls Village, Cornwall, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon.

Some modifications have been made to school schedules — keeping students from one particular cohort group home temporarily, for instance, or closing the entire building for a day to facilitate "deep cleaning."

Carter emphasized that actions taken are out of an "abundance of caution."

"The teachers have been great, they're doing the lion's share of the work. And the students have been wearing their masks and doing everything we ask."

— Lisa Carter
Interim Superintendent

Asked if there is a benchmark for positive cases, which would trigger a shift to all-distance learning, Carter said no.

She added that the Litchfield County Superintendent's Association has been asking the state health authorities for additional guidance and working on their own process for determining risks and responses.

Asked about in-school testing, Carter said there is a test available that gives an immediate result. The catch is the test is only reliable for individuals displaying COVID-19 symptoms. The test is not reliable for asymptomatic cases.

Carter said that she was heartened by the cooperation and hard work from teachers and students.

"The teachers have been great, they're doing the lion's share of the work," she said. "And the students have been wearing their masks and doing everything we ask."

ABC recommends Carter for Region One super

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The All Boards Chair Committee of the Region One Board of Education, after meeting in executive session on Wednesday, Nov. 18, recommended that Region One Interim Superintendent Lisa Carter be hired as permanent superintendent.

The vote was unanimous.

Carter was tapped to be the interim superintendent after former superintendent Pam Vogel announced her retirement in February 2020. Carter, who was assistant superintendent under Vogel, has been on the job since July 1.

The ABC committee's recommendation now goes to the six town school boards and the Region One board.

Carter has been in Region One for 14 years, first as a teacher and then as principal of Salisbury Central School. Before coming here to teach, she worked for the U.S. State Department.

Update on Sharon Hospital and Nuvance

SHARON — Sharon Hospital, part of Nuvance Health, will host an online Community Update from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 14.

In the virtual webinar, Sharon Hospital President Dr. Mark Hirko will discuss the latest hospital developments and updates on the affiliation that created Nuvance Health.

The independent monitor

engaged by Nuvance Health will be present to report on its review of compliance with the affiliation agreement issued by Connecticut's Office of Health Strategy.

A question-and-answer period will follow the presentation. Participants are encouraged to submit questions in advance by emailing sharon-hospital@nuvancehealth.org

or calling 845-554-1734 with their name and phone number.

Questions can also be mailed to Sharon Hospital, Attn: Community Forum, 50 Hospital Hill Road, Sharon, CT 06069.

Instructions on how to join the virtual meeting are posted on the hospital's website at www.nuvancehealth.org/CT-forums.



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Regional

In The Journal this week

LEGAL NOTICES A2 **OPINION**..... B3
OBITUARIES A3-4 **VIEWPOINT**..... B4
OUR TOWNS A4-5 **CLASSIFIEDS**..... B5
COMPASS B1-2, B5 **SPECIALIST**..... 6

Three-day forecast

Friday Rain, high 54°/low 43°
Saturday Rain, 48°/30°
Sunday Snow, 43°/28°

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.

Collision at intersection

On Nov. 12 at approximately 12:15 p.m. on Route 7 in Falls Village a 2012 Acura TSX driven by James Montanari, 74, of Salisbury made a left hand turn at a stop sign and struck a 2005 Chevrolet Impala driven by Rebecca Ann Balfour, 35,

of Winsted. Two passengers in the Chevrolet were transported to Sharon Hospital for possible injury. Montanari was issued a written warning for failing to grant the right of way at an intersection.

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.

Beware of fraud targeting small businesses

Small businesses have been complaining to state officials about scam organizations pretending they are government agents and demanding payment for the filing of annual reports.

Businesses have reported receiving official-looking mailers from companies seeking additional fees to file annual reports for Connecticut businesses. These extra fees are not necessary and can be avoided by filing directly with the Secretary of the State (SOTS), according to the office of the SOTS, the state attorney general and the Department of Consumer Protection. The filing period begins on Jan. 1.

The office of the Attorney General believes this company could be the same one that has previously posed as the state government.

"We are in the midst of an economic crisis, and businesses cannot afford to pay for services they don't need. Be sure to look at the fine print and make sure you are dealing directly with legitimate state agencies to file only what is required," said Attorney General William Tong.

"Connecticut has made it easy for small business owners to file their annual reports online," said Secretary of the

State Denise Merrill. "Small business owners should be on the alert for government imposter scams like these and protect themselves by only using the official websites to file their reports."

Department of Consumer Protection Commissioner Michelle H. Seagull warned that, "These sophisticated schemes might look like official government documents or agencies, but are really attempts to scam businesses out of money."

Look for mailings that say, "important," "open immediately" or "time sensitive" and try to create a false sense of urgency. Some scammers also ask business owners to authorize the scammers to act on their behalf with government agencies. With the authorization in hand, scammers have been known to submit filings to create the appearance that they own or control the business, to open bank accounts in the business' name but under the scammers' control, or to borrow money purportedly on the business' behalf.

To report a scam or instance of fraud, contact the Office of the Attorney General at 860-808-5318 or file a complaint with the office at www.dir.ct.gov/ag/complaint.

Thanksgiving for those in need

NORTH CANAAN — The traditional Thanksgiving dinner for those in need, usually held at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave. in North Canaan, will be take-out only this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Meals will be distributed directly to the cars of the recipients on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 26, in front of Pilgrim House between noon and 2 p.m. Home delivery is also available.

People who wish to help may do so by making cash contributions or donating a Stop & Shop gift card (any amount is helpful).

People can also donate food items such as uncooked turkeys, potatoes and vegetables. Make your cash donations payable to: Thanksgiving Celebration, c/o Trinity Episcopal

Church, 484 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville, CT 06039.

If you wish to make a food donation, arrange for home delivery of meals or volunteer (with all the proper personal protective equipment), contact Beverly Becker at 860-824-5854, 860-671-1892 or beverlybecker4@gmail.com.

Highest FFA honors awarded to Cullerton, Murtagh

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Parents, teachers, alumni and members of the community participated in an online ceremony for Mari Cullerton and Lauren Murtagh Thursday, Nov. 19. Cullerton and Murtagh were recently given the FFA's American Degree, the highest honor in the organization.

Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) agriculture education teacher Dave Moran noted that fewer than one half of 1% of FFA members receive the American Degree.

In their remarks, both Cullerton and Murtagh recalled how, as HVRHS students, they had to overcome their strong reluctance to engage in public speaking.

Cullerton said that once she began taking agriculture education classes, she realized "there was more to school than math and English."

She credited the Ag-Ed program and the FFA experience, saying they "helped me build skills I still use every day."

Murtagh remembered being put on an airplane during a family vacation in Florida to participate in an FFA public speaking event.

She wasn't thrilled at the time, she continued, but in retrospect she considers the experience to be "pivotal."

Murtagh is currently the

president of the state FFA organization.

Cricket Jacquier, speaking for the FFA advisory council, said to the two award winners: "You've been encouraged, you've been challenged, and you step up to the task."

Past employers described the work ethic of the two women. Jody Bronson of Great Mountain Forest had nothing but praise for Cullerton's work as a forestry intern. This reporter said of her work for The Lakeville Journal, "She always hit the deadline."

Editor's note: Cullerton did more than just the meet deadlines. She was hardworking, delightful, intelligent and always an asset, no matter what story she was working on. She was and remains one of the all-time most beloved Lakeville Journal interns.

HVRHS alumna Sarah (Paley) Coon said Murtagh showed up for a new intern program at the Sharon Land Trust fully equipped for working in the field, and when the program was renewed for a second year, Murtagh was the first person the Trust got in touch with.

Coon said Murtagh led by example.

Region One School District Interim Superintendent Lisa Carter praised the two women's "unstoppable curiosity and perseverance."

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC AUCTION

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, a public auction consisting of miscellaneous personal property, furniture and household goods will be held at Stor-It-All, Inc., 13 Clayton Rd, and 325 Ashley Falls Rd, Canaan, CT 06018 at 1:00 PM on Friday, December 11, 2020. Stor-It-All, Inc. reserves the right to cancel a sale at any time, for any reason.

Since due notice has been given to the owners and all parties known to claim an interest therein, you are each notified your personal property will be sold unless all storage and related charges are paid in full.

13 Clayton Rd:
 24 - Jason J. Bergenty
 325 Ashley Falls Rd:
 529 - James S. Clark

Items to be sold as is, no warranty is expressed or implied. Items to be more specifically described at time of sale. Terms of payment: CASH or CERTIFIED CHECK. Stor-It-All, Inc. P.O. Box 1105, Canaan, CT 06018.

11-19-20
 11-26-20

may appeal these decisions to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §8-8.

11-26-20

NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF SHARON December 4, 2020 IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8727483273

Meeting ID: 872 748 3273 ATTENDEES MUST WEAR MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCE

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Sharon, Connecticut, will be held at the Sharon Congregational Church, 25 Main Street, Sharon, Connecticut, on December 4, 2020 at 6:30p.m. for the following purpose:

To see what action the will take regarding the following:

1. To accept and expend the STEAP Grant of \$125,000 for the Town Hall Parking Lot Expansion Project. Said expenditure funds to come from the Undesignated Fund and reimbursed by the Grant. As approved by the Board of Finance.

2. To approve an allocation of \$60,000 from the Capital Non-recurring Account as the required match for the Town Hall Parking Lot Expansion Project. As approved by the Board of Finance.

3. To consider and act on the Board of Selectmen request for a \$70,000 supplemental appropriation to settle the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities case between the Town and Timothy Marks. As approved by the Board of Finance.

This meeting will be accessed by way of ZOOM for participation but there shall be no remote voting. Voting shall occur only in person.

Dated at Sharon, Connecticut, this 17th day of November 2020.

Brent M. Colley
 Dale C. Jones
 Casey T. Flanagan
 Selectmen
 11-26-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF PATRICIA L. TULLY Late of Salisbury (20-00442)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, November 9, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below.

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

The fiduciary is: Mark J. Capecelatro
 Mark J. Capecelatro, LLC
 117 Main St.-Box 1045
 Canaan, CT 06018

Megan Williams
 Assistant Clerk
 11-26-20

Salisbury Housing Committee Annual Meeting

Salisbury Housing Committee is holding its annual meeting to elect officers for the coming year on Wednesday, December 9 at 5:00pm, by Zoom. Members of the public are invited to attend this meeting and may submit nominees for the board before the meeting. Nominations may be made to Anne Kremer, SHC co-President, 28 Prospect St., Lakeville. The Zoom address will be available at salburcythousing.org after December 2. Salisbury Housing Committee is the proprietor of Sarum Village I and II and Faith House, affordable housing units located in Salisbury. Anyone interested in renting at any SHC location should call Tammy Broderick at 860-435-0049.

11-19-20
 11-26-20

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following applications were approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on November 16, 2020:

Special Permit Application #2020-0111 for mixed use commercial and 3 unit-multifamily. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 49 as Lot 100 and is known as 346 Main Street, Lakeville, Connecticut. The owner of the property is the John G. Borden Estate.

Special Permit Application #2020-0112 for a detached apartment on a single-family residential lot. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 8 as Lot 07 and is known as 270 Salmon Kill Road, Lakeville, Connecticut. The owners of the property are John E. Lange II and Alexandra H. Simons.

Special Permit Application #2020-0113 for a change of use from manufacturing and assembly to auto sales/service/repair and parking flexibility. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 51 as Lot 10 and is known as 18 Brook Street, Salisbury, Connecticut. The owner of the property is Skip Barber Properties LLC.

Site Plan Application #2020-0115 for an apartment within a single family dwelling. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 15 as Lot 45 and is known as 171 Canaan Road, Salisbury Connecticut. The owners of the property are Sandra and Peter Oliver.

Any aggrieved person may appeal these decisions to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §8-8.

Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission
 Martin Whalen, Secretary
 11-26-20

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following application was approved by the Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on November 16, 2020:

Application to remove invasive species, silt deposition and install sediment pool and level spreader subject to conditions. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 10 as Lot 30 and is known as 3 Upland Meadow Road, Salisbury, Connecticut. The owner of the property is Belter Properties LLC.

Any aggrieved person

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Check them out inside.

- CVS (x2)
- Ocean State Job Lot
- Plantin Seeds

Margaret Theresa Bostrup

SALISBURY — Margaret Theresa Bostrup, 88, died peacefully on Nov. 16, 2020, at Noble Horizons. She was the loving wife of the late Earl W. Bostrup.



Margaret was born Feb. 10, 1932, in Brooklyn, N.Y., the daughter of the late Anthony and Margaret Berge and the second of six children. She graduated high school and attended junior college in Brooklyn and went on to work for the Bell Telephone company in New York City.

After her marriage to Earl, she worked at home raising her four children, later returning to work in the College Guidance Department at John F. Kennedy High School in Somers, N.Y., until her retirement.

Margaret had a deep love of classical music and opera and listened whenever she could. She especially enjoyed listening to live broadcasts on Saturday afternoons from the Metropolitan Opera House. She often could be heard singing and humming along, knowing each opera by heart. She enjoyed spending time discussing the opera with her late son-in-law Vincent Lioni, a violinist in the Met Orchestra and a conductor for the Westchester Youth Symphony.

Margaret had a strong

faith and was a devout Catholic, which brought her much comfort throughout her life.

She and Earl enjoyed traveling, but her greatest passion was for her family. Margaret and Earl spent most of their later years focused on their children and grandchildren. Having her family visit in Salisbury or Lake Pleasant in the Adirondacks was surely on the top of Margaret's list and that of her grandchildren. There were many wonderful moments shared that will live on in the memories of her adoring family.

Margaret is survived by her four children, Margy Donecker of Kent, Eric Bostrup and his wife, Michelle, of Ridgefield, Conn., Mark Bostrup and his wife, Karen, of Bedford, N.H., and Kristin Lioni of New York City; and her seven grandsons, two granddaughters and one great-granddaughter.

A private service was held at St. Mary's Cemetery in Salisbury on Nov. 21. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the "Robert E. Julien Music Appreciation Fund" at Noble Horizons, 17 Cobble Road, Salisbury, CT 06068.

Arrangements are under the care of the Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon.

OBITUARIES

Roland H. Chinatti

FALLS VILLAGE — Coach Chinatti, Roland H. Chinatti, 93, of Warren Turnpike Road, died Nov. 10, 2020. He was the loving and devoted husband of the late Dorothy Louise Atterbury Chinatti. From the moment he saw her, Roland knew he would marry Dot-tie Lou.



Coach Chinatti may be remembered for a loud whistle and a soft smile. He was a beloved coach for athletes and a guidance counselor to students for many years. He was sought after by many during stressful times. He conditioned athletes so they would "leave it all on the field." As a father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Roland was active, devoted, warm, giving and playful.

Roland was born on June 10, 1927, in Thamesville, Conn. He was the son of Italian immigrants, Lena (Donati) and Carlo Chinatti. Roland was their youngest child.

Roland was predeceased by his wife, Dorothy; his parents, Carlo and Lena; his siblings Luciano, Henry, Beatrice and Mary; and his grandson Christopher L. Koutsoukos.

Roland's father, Carlo, died when Roland was very young. Perhaps that is why, when Roland joined the YMCA in middle school, he was set on a course to find family in the larger community.

Like many, the attack on Pearl Harbor urged him to enlist as soon as he could. Consequently, at age 17, before graduating high school, Roland joined the United States Navy during World War II. He was stationed on a troop transport ship, USS Gen. R.M. Blatchford, to bring troops home from the Pacific Front. While ported in Nagasaki he witnessed the atomic bomb's devastation.

Upon returning from service he became the first in his family to graduate from high school, Norwich Free Academy, Conn. With the help of the GI Bill, Roland went on to be the first in his family to graduate from college, the YMCA's Springfield College in Massachusetts. He received his M.Ed. from the University of Hartford, Conn. He worked on a PhD. at the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colo. In Greeley he worked with immigrant children, helping them acclimate to their new environment.

Roland was an educator from 1951 to 1994, 44 years. He taught at 'Iolani School, Hawaii, twice (1951-53, 1961-70), Bergenfield High School, N.J., (1953-54) and Housatonic Valley Regional High School twice (1954-61, 1970-94). During various summers he taught at Wadawanuck Club, Connecticut, Cream Hill Pond, The Hotchkiss School, 'Iolani No Ka Oi and the Falls Village Recreation Center.

Roland served as a coach, teacher, athletic director (HVRHS's first, 1955), principal of the lower school, dean of students and head guidance counselor.

Roland coached tennis,

football, basketball, gymnastics, baseball, track and field, swimming, lifeguarding, snorkeling and spearfishing. While at 'Iolani, Roland was the only coach who coached with their legendary coaches, Father Kenneth Bray and, later, Edward Hamada.

At HVRHS he coached the 2007 Girl's Varsity Tennis Team to the State Championships. Roland was known for teaching swimming to a great number of youths throughout Connecticut, in such places as the open waters at the Wadawanuck Club in Stonington, the Lakeville Town Lake, Cream Hill Pond and The Hotchkiss School.

He always emphasized good sportsmanship. As a talented athlete himself he always knew the fundamentals to help you improve, no matter the sport.

In the community, Roland actively served in many roles in the Northwest Corner. He was deacon for The Falls Village Congregational Church, and on the Board of the Housatonic Youth Service Bureau, The Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society and the Falls Village Recreation Center.

Humbly, Roland received many awards, too numerous to list.

Roland was a pretty good artist, too. He carved numerous Tikis, South Pacific War clubs and walking sticks, and he repurposed many found objects. He doodled endless hours during retirement.

Roland is survived by five children; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren: Roland Jr. and his wife, Rina, Paolo and Carlo; Howard and his wife, Shannon, Cameron and Jeremy Ruff, Corbin, Rylo; Brodie and Michelle, Lucci; Rory; Karen and John Koutsoukos, Nicole and Scott Frost, Domino; Alex and Taylor Koutsoukos; Diane; Melinda and Matthew Gillette, Riley; Geoffrey Carlson and Claire Dixon; Brandon Carlson; and Suzanne.

As a human, Roland loved each and every student he met. He shined a light on their best qualities and loved the "rascal" in them.

Roland's family is grateful to all the memories so many have already shared. Each one is precious, personal and humorous. Keep them coming! We are trying to find a spot on the internet where his great-grandchildren can visit those memories.

We do not want his funeral to be a super-spreader event or increase travel risks for anyone. Therefore the family has made the decision to postpone services until a time when travel and gatherings are safe.

Memorial donations may be made to the Faculty Scholarship Fund, c/o HVRHS, 246 Warren Turnpike Road, Falls Village, CT 06031; or the Falls Village Congregational Church, P.O. Box 72, Falls Village, CT 06031.

The Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon has charge of arrangements; further notices will be posted on their website.

Joyce A. Bassett

ASHLEY FALLS — Joyce A. Bassett, 74, of Ashley Falls died in Great Barrington on Nov. 15, 2020. She was the widow of Kenneth Bassett.

Joyce was born on Aug. 27, 1946, the daughter of the late Jennie (Cantone) and Archie Wandall.

She owned and worked at the Sunrise Diner for more than 40 years.

In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by her sister, Pauline Deane.

Joyce is survived by her

daughter, Mazie Shanley of Ashley Falls; her sister, Christine Brazeau of North Canaan; her brother, William Wandall and his wife, Linda, of North Canaan; two grandchildren, Douglas Shanley, and Dolly Lavallette; one great-grandchild; and her nieces and nephews.

Joyce will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her. She knew how to leave an impression on everyone she met.

The family would like to hold a celebration of life when it is safe to do so.

For more obituaries, see page A4



Worship Services

Week of November 29, 2020

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

<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10am www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>	<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour <i>A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!</i> 860-824-0194</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Marilyn Anderson Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICES 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Said 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) WEDNESDAY HEALING SERVICE At Noon - with Eucharist www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC <i>Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people</i> Pastor Savage Frieze 172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am AT THE PILGRIM HOUSE 30 GRANITE AVE, CANAAN: FISHES & LOAVES Food Pantry and CLOSETS for clothing Tuesdays from 5 to 7 and Thursdays from noon to 2 www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</p>	<p>Greenwoods Community Church 355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA Sunday Service 10:30 AM Kidz Connection <i>K-6th grade (during Sun. Service)</i> Nursery Care All Services Pastor Trip Weiler 413-229-8560 www.greenwoodchurch.com</p>
<p>North East Baptist Church <i>Historic Meeting House, Main & Maple Millerton, NY</i> <i>God's word is always relevant!</i> <i>A Warm Welcome Awaits You</i> SUNDAY SERVICES Family Bible School - 9:30 AM Morning Worship - 11:00 Evening Service - 6:00 PM WEEKDAY MEETINGS Weds. Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM at Parsonage 33 S. Maple Ave. Sat. Bible Studies for Men & Women 3:00 PM FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON First Sunday of each month after AM services Pastor Henry A. Prause 518-789-4840</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com <i>A Community of Radical Hospitality</i></p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green <i>Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits</i> 10:45 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock Virtual Sunday service 10:30 AM Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627 www.trinitylimerock.org</p>
<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT <i>Where you will find: A Warm Welcome!</i> <i>Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!</i> Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Join our virtual service on Sunday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at joloiuloi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9am Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mmgates125@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone. <i>We hope you will join us!</i></p>	<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Sunday School 9:15 a.m. <i>"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 am, Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>Sharon Congregational Church 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for current online sermons. Bible Study Guides also available by request: info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org Or contact us at 860-364-5002</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am Cornwall Village Meeting House 8 Bolton Hill Rd, Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister <i>Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</i></p>
<p>Christ Castle Church 9 Granite Avenue, North Canaan, CT (Next to Doughboy Statue) Visitors Welcome Every Sunday! 9:00AM SERVICE Liturgical/Sacramental like Episcopalian 10:15AM SERVICE Evangelical like Baptist Rev. AJ Gorecki & Rev. Richard Cam. <i>Recognized by the Six-Principle Baptist Denomination & The Anglican Free Communion.</i> Masks required & attendees to social distance 6 feet apart. Participants are limited to 25% of fire capacity. For more information visit www.christcastle.org</p>	<p>SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH 860-927-3003 <i>The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge</i> MASS SCHEDULE SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM - St. Bridget SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & First Friday 9 AM - Sacred Heart <i>Face masks required</i></p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service <i>Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"</i> Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com</p>	

Send obituaries to cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com

Maureen Anne (Callahan) Brien

SALISBURY — Maureen Anne (Callahan) Brien, 81, of Prospect Mountain Road, died peacefully on Nov. 2, 2020.

Maureen was born April 25, 1939, in Brooklyn, N.Y. She graduated from St. Vincent Ferrer High School in Manhattan in 1957.

While employed at the First National City Bank of New York in Manhattan, she met the love of her life, Harold. They married in 1959 and moved to Salisbury with their three children in 1969.

Maureen was dedicated to raising her family and enjoyed helping people, young and old. She worked as a teacher's aide at Salisbury Central School and as a home healthcare provider throughout the Northwest Corner.

She also enjoyed volunteering in the community, especially at Salisbury Town Hall and

Noble Horizons Retirement Community.

Maureen greatly appreciated the care she received while living at Geer Village for the past four years. Her love of conversation and great sense of humor will be missed by all who knew her.

Maureen is survived by her sons, Joseph Brien of West Cornwall and Kevin O'Brien of Sharon; and two grandchildren, Cody O'Brien of Guyton, Ga., and Sabrina O'Brien of East Canaan.

She was predeceased by her husband of 57 years, Harold J. Brien Jr.; a daughter, Bridget Anne Brien; and a son, Timothy Patrick Brien.

A memorial for family and friends will be held in the spring.

Arrangements are under the care of the Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon.

David T. Whitford Sr.

GOSHEN — David T. Whitford Sr., 80, passed at his home surrounded by his loving family after a brief illness. He leaves his loving wife of 57 years, Jacqueline.

David was born in Torrington, son of the late Marguerite (Jasmine) and Gail Whitford.

David worked as a caretaker and was employed by several families in Cornwall. He was a member of both St. Bridget's Church in Cornwall Bridge and St. Thomas of Villanova in Goshen.

He was an avid hunter, fisherman and wood worker. A Jack of All Trades, David was skilled at whatever he set his mind and hands to. He and his wife built their own cabin in Maine beginning in the early 1990s. He was able to visit the cabin one last time just two weeks ago.

David's father was born on the Fourth of July. To honor him David orchestrated a huge picnic and celebration. That event has become a family tradition for over 50 years. It was something that David looked forward to every year.

David had two other

loves: his grandchildren and great-granddaughter, and his loving dogs.

In addition to his wife, David is survived by his children: Russell "Rusty" Whitford, Kelly Ocan and her husband, Philip, and David T. Whitford Jr. and his wife Carole, all of Goshen; his brother, Robert Whitford of Cornwall; his two sisters, Catherine Harmon of Goshen and Judy Jasch of Harwinton; his dear grandchildren, Andrew Whitford, Michael Ocan, Kendra Whitford and Tori Whitford; and his precious great-granddaughter, Maci Whitford.

David was predeceased by his sister Marie Kearns.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic funeral services will be held at the convenience of the family.

Memorial donations may be sent to either Diamond Creek, 416 Old Middle St., Goshen, CT 06756; or the Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association, 30A Salmon Kill Road, Salisbury, CT 06068.

Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home in North Canaan.

SWSA ski and skate sale Dec. 5

LAKEVILLE — Salisbury Winter Sports Association will host its annual SWSA Ski Swap and Sale, Saturday, Dec. 5, 8 a.m. to noon, at the Lakeville Hose Company on Brook Street in Lakeville, with new and used winter sports gear. Bring donations on Friday, Dec. 4, from 4 to 7 p.m. Masks, temperature checks and social distancing will be required. As with everything else these days, plans are subject to change; check www.jumpfest.org for updates.

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Our Towns

Ava Augusta Hingson

CORNWALL — Ava Augusta Hingson, age 19, of Cornwall, passed away Nov. 17, 2020.

She was born to Andrew Hingson and Elise Meneshian-Hingson on May 20, 2001, in Sharon.

Ava was a second-year English Literature Student at The University of the South in Seawanne, Tenn. During her time in college, she rapidly developed into an equestrian, artist, lover of nature and poet.

Ava fully engaged in every moment of life. Her spirit captured all who knew her and pointed them toward an enriched way of living. Ava's radiance continues in us.

Other than her parents, she is survived by her maternal grandparents, Hagop and Sylviagene Meneshian; her beloved uncle, Dicron Mene-

shian; and a host of special aunts, uncles and cousins from both the Meneshian and Hingson sides of her loving family.

She is preceded in death by her paternal grandparents, the renowned physician and humanitarian Robert A. Hingson and Gussie Dickson-Hingson.

A Celebration of Life Service was held at All Saints Chapel in Seawanne on Nov. Services were livestreamed on the university website.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Teach America, P.O. Box 398305, San Francisco, CA 94139.

Online memories and condolences can be shared with the family at www.cumberlandfuneralhome.net.

Arrangements were made by Cumberland Funeral Home in Monteagle, Tenn.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Students and teachers at Housatonic Valley Regional High School unloaded a truck full of evergreens delivered from Canada on Thursday morning, Nov. 19.

OBITUARIES

Diane Elizabeth (Schultz) Hosier

MILLERTON — Diane Elizabeth (Schultz) Hosier, a lifelong resident of Millerton, enjoyed her final sunrise at her home on Nov. 18, 2020.

Diane will join the love of her life, Bradley C. Hosier Jr., and her parents, Elizabeth (Krum) and Lewis Schultz; her mother- and father- in-law, Sophie and Bradley Hosier Sr.; and many others.

Diane is survived by her stepmother, Sylvia Schultz; her sisters, Deborah Steidle and her husband, Raymond, Nancy Murphy and her husband, Larry; her brother, James Schultz and his wife, Glynda; and her sisters-in-law, Kelly Schultz and Veronica Silvernale.

Diane is also survived by two daughters, Rebecca Kipling and her husband, Jeremy, and Shannon Mersand; her son, Sean Hosier and Diana Leon; a daughter-in-law, Cheryl Barto and a son-in-law, Alex Mersand; her grandchildren, Taylor Hosier, Sophie Kipling, Owen Hosier, Anastasia Mersand, Octaviana Hosier, Auriella Hosier and Genesis Fiallos; her beloved nephews, Joshua Schultz, Jerry Murphy and Brandi and Jay Murphy; her grandniece, Samantha Murphy; and many others.

Although Diane had just three biological children and six biological grandchildren, her legacy also lives on in the various children and grandchildren she unofficially adopted during her almost 64 years. In no particular order she leaves the troublemaking to Michelle Brown Paul, Kwasi Paul Jr., Michelle Struna, Julie Contino, Keith Watson, Mela-

nie Granger, Ruth Brior, Lisa Levi, Tessa Finch, Laura Clark, Anthony Piscatello, Michelle Baker, Megan McClune Smith, Laura Todd, Amy Flood, Debbie Ferro, Crystal Milton, Emma Valley, Lucas Valley and many others.

Diane touched many lives, and will be fondly remembered by all as the smiling face behind the beer at Dominick's, the ice cream cone at the Dairy Queen, the burger at the Cozy Corner and the vacuum at The Hotchkiss School. She was the dessert queen at the Hamilton Inn, the house manager at Kolburne School, the teacher's aide at Astor Head Start and most recently the author of many strongly worded posts on Facebook.

The family asks that you share your memories on her Facebook page in response to this obituary.

A scholarship fund will be set up at Salisbury Bank to benefit those who intend to enter the field of early childhood education, specifically focusing on working with children with autism spectrum disorders. Please visit Salisbury Bank to make a donation in Diane's memory. Memorial contributions may also be made to "Feeding Families" either online or in person at the Oakhurst Diner in Millerton.

Visitation was private. A celebration of Diane's life will be held in 2021. Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home in Millerton is assisting the family with arrangements.

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



Howard Marshall

NORTH CANAAN — Howard Courtney Marshall, 61, of North Canaan and Torrington passed away after a short illness on Nov. 16, 2020, while at Valerie Manor in Torrington.

He was born in Winsted on Dec. 5, 1958. He attended Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

Howard is survived by his loving parents, Althea Jane (King) and Courtney Harold Marshall of Torrington and formerly of North Canaan. He is also survived by his daughter, Melissa Ann Richards of Spokane, Wash.; and four grandchildren, Gage Holman, Blake Holman, Kylee Hissong and Makayla Richards, also of Washington state.

Howard was one of six children. He leaves behind his sisters, Janet Wright of Longview, Wash., Faith Ellis of Carrollton, Texas, Julie Lang and her husband Paul of Salisbury and Stacey Marshall of Ballston Spa, N.Y.; a brother, Charles Marshall and his wife, Dolores, of Torrington; several nieces and nephews; and 19 great-nieces and nephews, Bernie Case and his wife, Erin, Jennifer Case, Brian Blodgett, John Ellis and his wife, Nikki, David Ellis,

Michelle Rothenberg and her husband, Scott, Steven Lang and his wife, Amanda, Ashley Marshall, Eric Marshall and his wife, Cassandra, and Cassandra Smith, Malcolm and Nate Case, Raven Lee, Anthea Taylor, Kullen Case, Heavenly Blodgett, Steven Blodgett, Autumn Blodgett Williams, Riley Blodgett, Charlotte and Emma Ellis, Lilli Rothenberg, Henry and Hannah Lang, Brayden Marshall, Rhett and Allie Williams.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Newkirk Palmer Funeral Home in North Canaan. A private burial will be at Hillside Cemetery in East Canaan at the convenience of the family.

For more obituaries, see page A3

Kent has a new rise in COVID-19 cases

By Leila Hawken

KENT — Keeping track of the incidence of new COVID-19 cases locally, the Board of Selectmen sought confirmation of the procedures in place at Town Hall to ensure public safety as well as the safety of town staff, at their regular meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 10, held remotely by Zoom.

Four new cases have been documented in town, including two at the South Kent School and two more town wide, First Selectman Jean Speck reported.

She noted that there had been no new cases in October, terming that "pretty fantastic."

Remember the three W's, she cautioned: "Wear your mask, wash your hands and watch your distance." People are expected to conform to official guidelines, she added.

Suspected to have triggered the outbreak, according to Speck, were Halloween activities where enough people loosened their personal restrictions to bring on cases. More cases are anticipated as students return home from colleges for the holidays, Speck said.

"I know it's tough, but we're heading into a tough time," she told the selectmen. "Stay home if you can."

Selectman Chris Garrity raised the question of protocol guidelines in place at Town Hall, an issue of concern for Town Hall staff. He noted that Town Hall remains closed,

although the staff is present to serve the public by phone, email and in-person by appointment.

"We are delivering the services we are supposed to offer," Speck assured the selectmen.

Garrity responded that people need to know how the town is doing, just to allay any concerns.

One staff member offered comments about the recently distributed COVID-19 guidelines provided to Town Hall employees, finding them lengthy and confusing.

"Just from a guidance point of view, it should not be confusing," Garrity said.

settias, centerpieces, Cabot cheese, Hudson Valley fresh milk and FFA apparel.

All staff, students and customers must wear a mask and practice social distancing while at the store. Curbside pickup will also be available for those who request it.

This year there is also an online store at www.ffa.hvrhs.org.

FFA holiday store opens

FALLS VILLAGE — The holiday store run by the agriculture education students at Housatonic Valley Regional High School is now open and will sell holiday products until Wednesday, Dec. 23.

The store is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day. The students are selling holiday trees, wreaths, roping, poin-

Cornwall copes with a COVID-19 fall uptick

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — After recording a modest number of seven local COVID-19 cases in the months between March and the end of September, a definite uptick in that number occurred in October, according to a report heard by the Cornwall Board of Selectmen at their regular meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 17. The meeting was conducted by Zoom.

The meeting was led by Selectman Marina Kotchoube, standing in for First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, who remained isolated at home awaiting results of a COVID-19 test (the test result was negative).

Emergency Management Coordinator Diane Beebe re-

ported that in October alone, six new positive cases had been reported, and maybe there were more from people who hadn't had a test yet.

"Wear your mask," Beebe urged listeners.

The Cornwall Library reported on Nov. 18 that, "Because of the increase of reported COVID cases in Cornwall and Connecticut in general, we have decided to close the library today and remain closed until at least Dec. 2, at which point the Board will review whether or not to reopen. While we are closed we will, as we did earlier this year, continue to make books available through curb-side pick-up."

The library's extensive online programs will continue.

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Our Towns

The Cathedral Pines, healthy again, and now in hands of CCT

By Cynthia Hochswender

CORNWALL — The Cathedral Pines in Cornwall function for longtime Cornwall residents in much the same way as the Covered Bridge, or the Housatonic River, or Mohawk Mountain. These are all places that are unique to this town and that link human souls to the landscape.

There is no one who came to Cornwall before 1989 who doesn't have stories and memories of the pines before they were almost completely destroyed by a tornado in July of that year. That event was for many epic and memorable and shattering, similar but on a much smaller scale of course to what the attack on the Twin Towers was for Manhattan residents. People remember where they were when the tornado came through and they recall what they did in its aftermath.

The pines have now largely grown back, to the point that relative newcomers to the area might not comprehend the



PHOTO BY BARTON JONES

The Cathedral Pines, a beloved landmark in Cornwall, have been transferred to the care of the Cornwall Conservation Trust, from the Nature Conservancy.

devastation to the visual landscape that lingered on for years.

No one could have protected the pines from the storm that year. They were under the care at that point of the Nature Conservancy, which had taken on the 42-acre property in the 1960s, according to an article in The Lakeville Journal written by Patricia Bailey in 1973.

According to her article, the

Calhoun family had purchased the property in 1883 to protect it from logging. They knew, as did many others, that the stand of white pine and hemlock trees was unique.

A New England inventory of natural areas conducted at that time by the Connecticut Park and Forest Commission called the forest "a singularly unique occurrence with high

visual impact" that had local, state and national importance.

The Calhoun family had turned the care of the 150-year-old trees over to The Nature Conservancy in 1967.

At that time, recounted Bart Jones, now head of the Cornwall Conservation Trust, "There was no locally controlled conservation organization in Cornwall."

The Conservation Trust was formed in 1987 and has protected many notable properties in town, making most of them available to the public for recreation and study.

The Cathedral Pines area "has become a study site for ecological restoration," according to a news release last week from the trust — in which it announced that the Nature Conservancy has transferred the care of the Cathedral Pines to the Cornwall Conservation Trust.

"The Nature Conservancy considers opportunities to transfer preserves to conservation partners where it benefits the management and care of the preserve, the goals of the partner and our own strategic goals," said Sarah Pellegrino, Land Protection and Strategies Manager for the Conservancy.

"We are pleased to once again work with the Cornwall Conservation Trust in this capacity and, with the blessing of the Calhoun family, to place Cathedral Pines Preserve in

their capable hands."

Bart Jones said in the release that the trust "gratefully acknowledges receipt of the contribution of Cornwall's iconic Cathedral Pines from the Nature Conservancy."

The Cathedral Pines, which was designated a National Natural Landmark in 1982, seems to have largely recovered from the damage inflicted on it in 1989.

"The remaining white pines," according to the news release, "are approximately 120 feet to 140 feet high."

To learn more about the Cornwall Conservation Trust, the properties under its protections, and opportunities to hike on and learn about the land, go to www.cornwallconservation-trust.org.

To read articles from The Lakeville Journal about the Cathedral Pines and about the 1989 tornado, go to the online archive at the Scoville Memorial Library website at www.scoville.advantage-preservation.com.

Not the caroling kind of year: So far, few holiday events are planned for the area

By Cynthia Hochswender

As with everything this year, none of this is set in stone. However, at this point it looks like most area towns will light holiday trees but few will have the traditional carol singing and cookies.

North Canaan will have a Parade of Lights this Sunday, Nov. 29, from 5 p.m. The procession of decorated trucks begins at the Stop & Shop parking lot and travels through town.

Falls Village is planning a drive-by tree lighting on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 5 p.m. Santa will be there to hand out small trinkets to passing children in their cars. Christmas carols will be played on loudspeakers if possible.

The Cornwall Bridge holi-

day tree will be decorated with lights by electrician Jim LaPorta, but there will be no public gathering for caroling to mark the occasion.

West Cornwall has invited artists to create decorated holiday windows in the village.

"We will be lighting up the Village for the holiday season and beyond to bring some cheer to all during the darker time of year, especially with COVID hanging in the balance," said Wish House shop owner Bianka Langner Griggs.

The plan is to organize a treasure hunt around the window decorations.

In Salisbury the Tri-State Chamber of Commerce and the Salisbury town crew (along with volunteers from Salisbury Garden Center, Riga Construc-

tion, Berkshire Hills Design and Berkshire Electric) installed lit trees along the main streets in Salisbury and Lakeville and in Sharon last week.

Chamber President Mary Wilbur said that, "We sold 104 trees in Lakeville/Salisbury and Sharon this year at \$50 each. This year is the 17th year we've had the Adopt a Tree program. There are no more trees available this year. People who want to be contacted for next year should reach out to the Chamber."

"This is a general fundraiser for the chamber; any profits go back into the fund for future years — buying new lights, extension cords, etc."

Go to www.tristatechamber.com to sign up for next year's tree-lighting project.

Wilbur said that due to COVID-19 none of the usual holiday activities have been planned for Salisbury this year. However, "the Chamber is trying to coordinate a Parade of Lights at Lime Rock Park, where parade-goers would stay in their cars. However, nothing is definite yet." Check The Lakeville Journal for updates.

Kent will host its annual Gingerbread Festival, beginning on Friday, Nov. 27 (see this week's Compass arts and entertainment for details). At this point there are no confirmed plans for the traditional Parade of Lights or tree lighting and carol singing.

Sharon's tree has been lit but at this point there is no caroling and cookies party planned by the Sharon Historical Society.



PHOTO BY MARY WILBUR

Rodney Webb and Tom Paine from the Salisbury town crew helped the Tri-State Chamber of Commerce put up holiday trees in Lakeville, Salisbury and Sharon last week.

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RED ZONES

Continued from Page A1

peak last March, he noted, is anybody's guess.

If there is a bright sign on the horizon, it is found in the fact that the COVID-19 mortality rate is lower than it was during the first wave of the pandemic, and the disease is no longer a total mystery to medical staff, said Kumar.

Of the 13 patients now being treated, he noted, only one patient is on a ventilator. "This is a challenging time for health care, but I am confident we are managing it well."

At Geer, some progress

The largest cluster of COVID in the region in October was at Geer Village Senior Community in North Canaan.

According to a Nov. 13 update, testing had facility revealed no additional COVID-19 cases among staff or residents at Geer's assisted living facility for the first time since the early fall outbreak occurred, which had claimed six lives and infected 35 residents

and 15 staff.

North Canaan was the first Northwest Corner community designated a "red alert" town; two weeks later it was downgraded; on Nov 19 it was back to red.

Following the original spike in cases in North Canaan, the town offered free COVID-19 testing to capture any asymptomatic individuals and help contain community spread.

Geer uses temporary staff to help with the additional care needs on campus during the pandemic, and one agency staff did test positive recently.

"We do not believe this agency staff member exposed anyone else to the virus, however, we are taking every precaution to test, contact trace and identify anyone that may have been exposed," according to the update.

Geer CEO Kevin O'Connell has said that he is looking forward to the time when the facility can go through 14

days (three test cycles) with no new cases. When that happens, Geer will ask the state Department of Public Health (DPH) to declare the outbreak ended on the campus.

"But we need to understand that the danger will persist beyond any all-clear notice," the update noted.

At this point, there are no positive test results at Noble Horizons senior living community in Salisbury, according to Administrator Bill Pond. The facility remains wary and on the alert.

"We're not naive enough to think it couldn't happen here, and we're prepared for it," Pond said.

Cases in Kent, Cornwall

In Kent, four new cases of COVID-19 were reported on Nov. 10 by First Selectman Jean Speck, including two at the private South Kent School and two additional cases town-wide (no cases have been reported yet at Marvelwood and Kent School, both of which are private boarding schools).

Speck said she suspected that Halloween activities triggered the outbreak. More cases are anticipated as students return home from college for the holidays.

"I am concerned as we head into these last eight weeks of the year," she said.

As of Nov. 18, statistics showed that Kent had a total of 28 confirmed cases. A report the same day from the Torrington Area Health District revealed that in November alone, 11 cases were reported in Kent, according to Speck.

Drive-up testing was offered on Monday, Nov. 23, in the parking area of Kent Town Hall. Speck said she requested that the state offer additional testing for Northwest Corner residents in the coming weeks.

In Cornwall, the town's Emergency Management Director Diane Beebe reported to the Board of Selectmen that the town had seven reported coronavirus cases from March through September, but saw a spike of six new confirmed cases in the past four weeks.



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Soaring, majestic and American

At this time of year, as we all think deeply about turkeys, there seem to be an abundance of eagles swooping through the trees. Perhaps they intend to remind us that they were chosen over the turkey as the national bird? These eagles were photographed last week in Kent. John Brett also sent us photos last week of two eagles in Sharon.

A Cornwall talent show so good, there will be two of them

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — When a town has so much talent to show, the talent show needs to be enjoyed in two parts. With a tip of the hat to Ed Sullivan, there will indeed be a "really big show" coming up in Cornwall with Part One aired in November and Part Two in December.

Cornwall Talent Show production coordinator Fred Thaler is assembling and arranging acts to boost the fundraiser, which this year will benefit the town Food and Fuel Fund.

Keeping audience members at a safe distance from one another, Thaler has come up with a solution that will allow an audience of unlimited numbers to enjoy the show from anywhere.

They will all most likely be at home, though.

Thaler's infectious enthusiasm for the program was positively catching — in a good way.

"How will I put it all together?" he wondered. "I have yet to discover," a process Thaler termed "creative confusion." The term defines how you create art, he continued. "You don't know until you discover."

Key to that discovery process

is college student Nick O'Neil of Cornwall, who is contributing his talents as a videographer, editor and director for the production, Thaler said.

Peppering the production will be photographs by Lazlo Gyorsok as well as town views from the collections of the Cornwall Historical Society. Adding thematic cohesion will be Robert Clohessy, renowned for his portrayal of the Stage Manager in the Town Hall Players' production of Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" (and of course for his roles on HBO's "Oz" and "Boardwalk Empire").

"Oh, gosh, do we have singers," was Thaler's response when asked if anyone would be singing anything.

There will be songs by Carol Leven and Nick Moran, and short speeches, including Dave Cadwell's memorable Memorial Day speech about his service in Vietnam. Leslie Elias will do something in consort with the Grumbling Gryphons.

Last year's show was presented at Town Hall, which could hold only 108 audience members. Seats went fast and many folks were packed into the entranceway, boosting the numbers to an overcrowded

130. Thaler said that many were disappointed to have been turned away from the door. So the question in planning for this year was, "Where?"

"Now we have a different world," Thaler said, and a virtual solution. With the plan to broadcast the show, there is no limit to the audience size. Everyone near and far can enjoy the show.

The Cornwall Talent Show (Part One) will be posted at www.cornwallct.org on Friday, Nov. 27, at around about 7 p.m. or so. Part Two will be ready for viewing sometime in December, Thaler said. With about 50 performances to divide in half, he said he has plenty for the December showing, but he would like to see more women in the talent mix.

With a twinkle in his voice, Thaler confided, "I'm keeping the outtakes."

While the show is free to view, viewers may find that they have been entertained or elevated by the evident regard for Cornwall depicted by the contributing artists who are their neighbors.

In lieu of cheers and applause, donations may be sent to the Cornwall Food and Fuel Fund.

MOUNTAINEERS

Continued from Page A1

the few leagues that actually crowned champions."

Some of the guidelines put in place by the CIAC included only two spectators per athlete, a longer preseason for extra conditioning and tournament experience (having teams play only in their own league, and using the outcomes of games when teams first met as a way to determine league champions) replacing actual playoffs.

Senior right defender and team captain Elaine Dekker said the longer preseason lead, lack of games and limitations in practice lead to a slight drop in team morale early in the season. However, Dekker said the team found ways to enjoy themselves regardless.

"We would try to make games out of running, even though it was still running," Dekker said, "but it would just push the girls and make it a more fun and enjoyable way of conditioning."

Throughout the season, which started with the first

practice on Saturday, Aug. 29, and concluded with a 2-0 win over Litchfield High School on Wednesday, Nov. 18, the Mountaineers cruised to a 9-0-1 record, scoring a combined 44 goals while only allowing seven to be scored against them. With this record, the Mountaineers became the first team in program history to finish a season undefeated.

Head coach Steve Dodge attributed this year's success, especially under such uncertain circumstances, to how experienced and talented his upperclassmen are, noting that the four-year seniors on the team have gone 31-4 at home during their time as Mountaineers.

"My personal goal [for the season] was to grow the bond of the team more," said Dekker, who is one of six seniors who will be leaving the team, "We've been playing since we were really little, and this is my last season. I just wanted to get as close to the girls as I could before our last game."

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Ted Schillinger, director of films on Netflix, CNN, A&E, and more, presides as Master of Ceremonies.

Kurt Andersen, Blair Brown, Anne Kreamer, and Roxana Robinson read from Cornwall writers and figures of the past: **Laurie Colwin, Samuel Scoville Jr., James Thurber, and others.**

CORNWALL reads CORNWALL

Saturday, November 28, 4:30 - 5:30pm
An Online Event

Register on our website - CornwallLibrary.org

The Cornwall Library 30 Pine Street - Cornwall Village
 860.672.6874 - CornwallLibrary.org

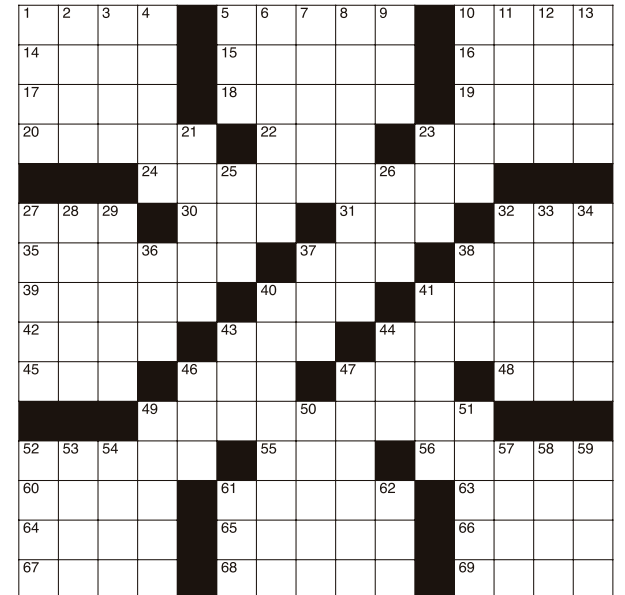
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- Cold War player
- Flat-bottomed sailboat
- Jamaican tangelo
- Debauched man
- Less covered
- Require to live
- Patrick and Aykroyd are two
- Mixes
- Insurance claim expenses
- Tries to persuade
- Equal (prefix)
- Czech name for Prague
- London soccer team
- Greek letter
- Small Eurasian deer
- Swiss river
- Miller beer
- Less appealing
- 8th month (abbr.)
- Alto, California city
- Grandmothers
- American time
- NW Chinese people
- "Westworld" actress __ Rachel Wood
- Northeastern US university
- Poplar trees (Spanish)
- Hip hop legend Kool Moe __
- Not or
- Corpuscule count (abbr.)
- Comedienne Gasteyer
- Fonts
- Female cattle mammary gland
- Down time
- Spiritual leader
- Small brown and gray American rail
- Trimmed by cutting
- NY Giants owner
- A long narrative poem
- Old World lizard
- Product for sale
- Shut Your Pie Hole (abbr.)
- Pacific Island country
- Whale ship captain

CLUES DOWN

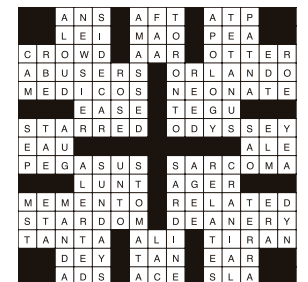
- Language
- Fly high in the air
- Made musical sounds
- Organized again
- TV channel
- Unable to fly
- Get up
- Air traveler
- Married woman
- Take weapons from
- Sicilian city
- Actress Remini
- Thought
- Infections



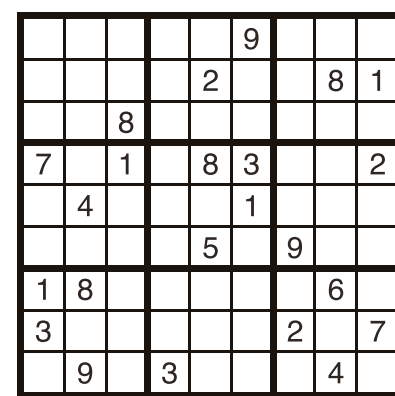
- Golf score
- Hill or rocky peak
- Witch
- Adjusted
- Succulent plant
- Forearm bones
- Hot fluid in the earth's crust
- Subatomic particle
- Part of an organism
- 007's creator
- Burned material residue
- Brain layer: __ mater
- Unable to partake
- Lesion
- Historic railroad company (abbr.)
- Basics
- Scottish port
- Flower cluster
- Instruct
- Untamed

- Moth genus
- Utilizes
- Foolish
- Fall in small drops
- A place to get clean
- La __ Tar Pits
- Metric foot
- Semiliquid food
- Small crowd

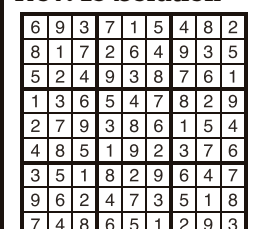
Nov. 19 Solution



Sudoku



Nov. 19 Solution



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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Events

November 26-December 2, 2020



IMAGE COURTESY NORMAN ROCKWELL MUSEUM

Visit some of the iconic Norman Rockwell holiday paintings at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass. Included in the collection is "Community Supper," which was a 1958 illustration for the Farming Tractor Calendar of the Ford Motor Company.

HOLIDAYS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Rediscovering the Traditions Of the Holiday Season

The Southern Berkshires, more than any other place in the world, evoke a Norman Rockwell kind of holiday season because, of course, Rockwell lived here and often painted scenes of Stockbridge, Mass., where he lived and worked, and which is the site of the Norman Rockwell Museum.

To see some of the iconic Rockwell Thanksgiving and Christmas paintings, visit the museum during the special COVID-19 hours: Thursday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seniors and immunocompromised visitors can come Thursday through Friday, 10 a.m. to noon, if they would like. Two-hour-long private visits can also be arranged for up to nine people, on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m.

Once you're up in Stockbridge, it's a short trip (about 20 minutes) to the Hancock Shaker Village in Pittsfield, Mass., which is planning several seasonal activities at the farm/museum/history center.

On Friday, Nov. 27, and Saturday, Nov. 28, be-

tween 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. there will be talks and demonstrations of how the Shakers lived and worked. Learn about woodworking and blacksmithing and the Shaker way of life. There are several hikes and talks planned (registration is requested). Children are invited to "smoosh" pumpkins and feed them to the farm's pigs. There will be a foraging workshop on Saturday for an extra fee.

Holiday shoppers looking for handmade gifts can come to the artisan markets on Saturdays between Nov. 28 and Dec. 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The curated selection of gifts from regional artisans includes everything from jam and syrup to clothing and jewelry to bath products, toys and more. No museum admission is necessary to shop.

On Saturday, Dec. 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. there will be drop-in holiday cookie decorating and ornament-making workshops for a small fee, artisan demos, a gingerbread contest, story time with Santa (registration requested), caroling, a fire pit and Shaker history talks.

For more information on Hancock Shaker Village in Pittsfield, Mass., including hours and admission fees, go to www.hancockshaker-village.org.

For more information on the Norman Rockwell Museum, including hours and admission fees, go to www.nrm.org.

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A sculpture by the late Lillian Lovitt will be on display as part of the 12 x 12 Art Show this year.

HOLIDAY ART: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

This Year, You Can Shop for Art Gifts Online

In the Tri-state region, people like to make things, whether it be artisan handmade goods such as knitwear and fiber art or wonderful edibles. Normally it's easy to find these little treasures in time for holiday giving at any number of artisan sales between Thanksgiving and the end of December.

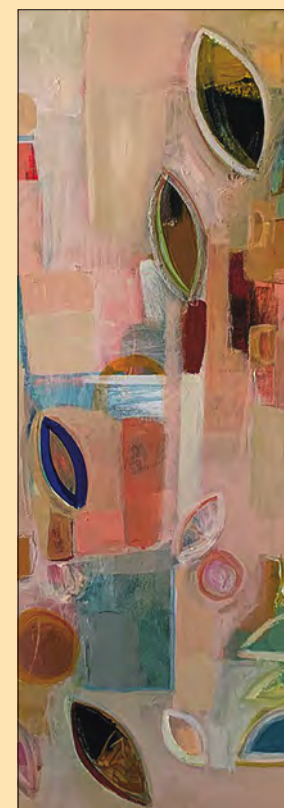
This is not the case in 2020; but one opportunity for buying one-of-a-kind inexpensive and high-quality artwork is now available in Falls Village, Conn.

The town's public library is the D. M. Hunt, which has a tradition of showcasing work by amateurs and well-known professionals on the library's ArtWall.

It has become a tradition that the library hosts a small and very well-attended sale each year, of small works in a range of prices and media. All the pieces are 1 foot square (or 12 by 12 inches, which is why it's called the 12 x 12 Art Show).

The sale usually begins with a crush of shoppers; the pieces remain on display through the pre-holiday season and latecomers can scoop up any pieces that haven't yet been claimed (and speaking from experience, often the remaining pieces are excellent).

This year, there won't be an opening sale day and reception. Twelve artists have already submitted their work, which is now on display at the library. You can take a look during open hours, by appointment or online at www.huntlibrary.org.



This detail from "Earth and Sky," by Sarah Martinez, is in the 12 x 12 sale at the D. M. Hunt Library.

[org/art-wall](http://www.huntlibrary.org/art-wall).

The artists are Marsha Altemus, John Atchley, Robert Cronin, Sergei Fedorjaczko, John Hodgson, Jason Bailer Losh, Louise March, Sarah Martinez, Ken Musselman, Gayle Shanley, Jude Streng and Kathy Wismar.

The show is dedicated to Lillian Lovitt, a sculptor who, according to the library press release, "generously shared her skills and insight with the Hunt Library ArtWall and with the Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society. Lovitt died earlier this year, and one of her works will be on display as a memorial tribute to her life and art."

For more information on the 12 x 12 Art Show at the D.M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, Conn., call 860-824-7424 or go online to www.huntlibrary.org/art-wall. All art sales benefit both the artists and the library.

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

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BAKING: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Gingerbread Festivals in Two Area Towns

Gingerbread houses can be fun and simple or over-the-top elaborate; you can bake the cookies from your own dough and assemble them yourself or you can buy any of a dozen or so easy-to-find gingerbread kits.

No matter how you get there, it's all fun — and what evokes childhood fantasy more than being able to eat a house?

Of course, the most eye-catching cookie houses are more in the look-but-don't-lick category. This is largely the case with the elaborate constructions featured each year in the Kent, Conn., Chamber of Commerce Gingerbread Festival.

The Kent festival claims to be one of the biggest in Connecticut. It opens this week on Friday, Nov. 27, and will remain on display through the month of December. This year the cookie constructions are arrayed in a gallery space at the Kent Town Center at 25 N. Main St., perfect for socially distant viewing.

The "Ginger Girls" will as always create a simple puzzle that visitors can solve as they admire the cookie scenes.



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Gingerbread houses don't have to only be houses. Brittany Hrabcsak's award-winning North Pole recreation was one of the highlights of the 2019 Gingerbread Festival in Kent, Conn.

Get more information and a "taste" of what was on display last year online at www.kentctgingerbreadfest.com. You can also go to www.facebook.com/kentgingerbread or call 860-592-0061.

The Kent houses are large-scale and pretty sophisticated. For those who are new to the gingerbread arts and just want to have a little creative fun, the Warner Theatre in Torrington, Conn., is sponsoring a contest for bakers between the ages of 8 and 17.

The rules say you

need to design, build and decorate your own house, which implies that you also need to bake your own cookies. You then need to shoot and submit a brief video, one that is 45 seconds or shorter, with a little information on your inspirations and your process.

There isn't a lot of time left to make plans; participants have to register by Tuesday, Dec. 1. Send an email to Isabel Carrington at icarrington@warnertre.org; include your name, age and town.

Completed video

entries must be sent and received by email by Tuesday, Dec. 15. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative and unique design(s); the winners will be featured on the theater's social media.

In this age of the instructive online video, you probably can figure out pretty quickly how to best build a cookie house. If you want a recipe that is as delicious as it is sturdy, try the one from children's book author Cynthia Rylant, on this page. It is included in her book "The Cookie-Store Cat."

The dough requires some effort, as is true with all gingerbread cookie dough. It must be refrigerated overnight, so don't wait until the last minute.

To hold the cookie walls together requires some patience and finesse. The legendary baker Patsy Stroble of Kent, Conn., taught a gingerbread workshop many years ago in which she recommended "gluing" two walls together at a time with royal icing and leaning them against a soup can while the "glue" dries.

But again — this is why we have YouTube.

GINGERBREAD COOKIE DOUGH

From Cynthia Rylant's "The Cookie-Store Cat"

½ cup butter, soft	1 ½ tsp. ginger
½ cup sugar	¾ tsp. baking soda
1 egg	½ tsp. cinnamon
½ cup molasses	½ tsp. cloves
1 Tbs. vinegar	¼ tsp. salt
2 ½ cups all-purpose flour	

Cream the butter and the sugar. Beat in the egg, molasses and vinegar. Sift the dry ingredients and blend them into the creamed mixture. Don't overbeat the dough, not only so it remains tender but also so you don't burn out the engine on your mixer.

Separate the dough into three parcels, wrap them in plastic wrap and refrigerate them for three hours or overnight.

When you're ready to bake, you'll want to be prepared not only to cut out your shapes but also to get them in the oven fairly soon. Preheat your oven to 375 degrees. If you can, have at least two cookie sheets ready. You can grease them but you'll be much happier if you line them with parchment paper instead.

Gingerbread cookie dough is easiest to work with when it's cold; that's why you have three separate packets: Work on one at a time and leave the rest in the refrigerator.

There are two ways to cut your shapes: before you bake or after you bake. Cookie dough responds unexpectedly to heat, so if you cut your shapes first, they'll puff up and distort slightly as they bake. This can be fine, depending on your design (it's best if you know what your design is before you start to bake).

The other method is to roll the dough out in sheets and then

cut your shapes the instant you take the cookies out of the oven. This will give you sharper edges but is fairly difficult to do.

I have historically made mini gingerbread houses, using playing cards as my shape guides. Each wall is one card.

Cut one card in half lengthwise and use the halves as the guide for your two roof sheets. Cut another card in half the other way to make the front and back walls that hold the two larger walls together.

You are better off decorating the pieces before you try to glue the house together, in my experience.

Once you've figured out your walls, cut your cookies and bake them for about 5 or 6 minutes. If you roll them out and then cut them on the parchment paper it's very easy to lift the parchment sheet from your worktable and put it on the cookie sheet.

To make the royal icing, combine one egg white with 2 cups of confectioners sugar and the juice of half a lemon. The easiest way to get the icing onto your cookie walls is to carefully scoop it into a sturdy plastic bag. Cut off a tiny bit of the tip of one bottom corner of the bag and gently squeeze the icing out, as you would with a pastry bag. Make sure the top of the bag is sealed shut so the icing doesn't come up out of the top.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER MAY

Potter Jane Herold is using a converted chicken coop as her workshop, now that she is living and working full time in Cornwall, Conn. Visitors can buy her work in another former farm building, above, next to her home and studio.

POTTERY: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Pottery so Beautiful, You Could Eat Off It

Two essential questions always arise when you see beautiful pottery dishware: Can you eat off it and can you put it in the dishwasher?

With Jane Herold's work, it's never an issue.

Her dishes are used at some of the world's top restaurants and, as she happily says, "They can survive five washings every night in an industrial dishwasher!" So: No problem.

Herold and her husband, the painter/sculptor Robert Adzema, have only recently moved to Cornwall, Conn., from just outside New York City. That means, of course, that it's much more difficult for chefs to come by and talk custom dishware with her.

But it means it's much easier for Tri-state residents (lucky us) to meet Herold, talk about kilns and ash and clay with her,

and possibly purchase some dishes, pitchers, beakers and more.

Prices and a rough sense of what her shapes and colors look like can be determined ahead of time at her website, www.janeherold.com.

If you're unsure about the potential gorgeousness of Herold's work when combined with edibles, you can find images of her dishes and bowls with chef-prepared food on it on Instagram (search for #janeheroldpottery).

One warning: Herold cautions against heating food in the microwave, especially frozen food, on her pottery.

She has found that the handmade ware gets damaged when it has very cold food on it and is then subjected to the high temperatures generated by a microwave oven.

If you're driving through Cornwall, you can't miss Herold's home and studio and shop: It's the place with the little roadside shack that has a few pieces of pottery on a shelf outside, and a sign indicating that you've found Jane Herold Pottery.

There aren't actually any ceramic pieces in the small outbuilding. You'll need to come up to the house.

"Don't be shy about coming up the driveway," Herold said. "Visitors are very welcome — and there's no pressure to buy anything."

You can email or call ahead of time and make an appointment, or you can just stop by.

An added incentive to visit: Herold's husband, Robert, specializes in crafting massive, gorgeous, sculptural metal sundials, many of which are in

public spaces (including one on the New Jersey side of the Hudson River, facing Manhattan) as well as in the gardens of many private homes.

He also makes lovely plein air watercolors of our region, which are for sale in their shared shop (see his work at www.robertadzema.com).

For those who do feel a little bashful about being alone with the artists, Herold will hold several open house events on the first two weekends of December, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Saturdays and 1 to 5 p.m. on the Sundays.

To find out more about Jane Herold and her pottery, and to get email updates on her open house/open studio events in December, go to www.janeherold.com.

If you want to stop by, send her a text at 845-304-8208.

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EDITORIAL

A time for gratitude

The Lakeville Journal Company has many reasons to be grateful this year as Thanksgiving is upon us. With so many things so very different from last year at this time, how can that be?

Because last year at this time, this little local journalism venture was facing a financial crisis that wasn't finding traditional solutions. So, we tried something new: an open admission to our readers that our situation was dire, and that we needed help and support in order to survive.

You answered the call then, and allowed us to make it through a time of global pandemic. Our mission to serve our communities is more important now than ever, with the need to keep people informed on what is happening in their communities being critical to their very existence.

So we have decided to keep the model for reader support for another year, and see where it takes us and you. So far, we have received more than \$40,000 in contributions, giving us a sense of optimism about remaining to write about life here in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut and its surrounds.

Thank you all for your vote of confidence in our continuation, and for reading our publications. However difficult the year has been for many of us, this kind of affirmation gives us at The Lakeville Journal Company hope for the future.

Happy Thanksgiving to all, however you are able to celebrate it, and please join us in being grateful for every day that we can find new ways to communicate and lift each other up as we enter the cold days of this pandemic winter.

Rail Trail widens its reach

For anyone in the Northwest Corner who takes advantage of having the Harlem Valley Rail Trail so close by in Millerton, and there are many of you, there is good news. After 20 years of dreaming of what it would be like to start a walk, run or bike ride at Main Street in Millerton and end up in Ancram, the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association (HVRTA) finally has its answer.

That's because last month the northward extension of this much-loved trail was finally finished. It now stretches from the tiny hamlet of Wassaic in the town of Amenia all the way up to Ancram, thanks to the recently completed Trail to Train project.

When fully completed, the Rail Trail will run 23 continuous miles from the Metro-North Wassaic Train Station in Amenia to the Copake Falls area of Taconic State Park (plus the approximately 3,500 linear feet that makes up the Trail to Train extension from the Wassaic Train Station to the hamlet of Wassaic).

The Harlem Valley Rail Trail is unquestionably one of Millerton's, and the region's, biggest assets and lures visitors to the area from near and far. The linear park is owned and maintained by Dutchess County, although Millerton's Townscape members kindly volunteer to maintain the environmentally friendly composting toilets by the Trail Head at Main Street.

According to HVRTA Chairman Dick Hermans, when the Rail Trail was first conceived and then opened in Millerton in 2000, there were visions of extending it along the rail bed to the north. He said the Association approached county leaders immediately with the concept and it was well received. Little did they know then that it would take two decades to make it happen.

This newly opened extension will enhance what is already an incredible regional resource. The Rail Trail provides wonderful recreational and educational opportunities as well as great ways for area residents and visitors alike to relax and enjoy the region's natural beauty. The physical and mental health benefits of getting out on the Rail Trail are huge — especially helpful during the stress of a pandemic.

Other projects are in the works to improve and expand the Rail Trail. One is the Bridge to Nature being built over the Webatuck Creek in Millerton, which will serve as an outdoor educational area. Fundraising is also taking place for the installation of a pedestrian bridge along the trail in Hillsdale. So far, \$75,000 has been pledged; another \$75,000 is needed.

Congratulations to the Association on another project completed. Here's hoping the HVRTA is successful in finding the funds it needs for all the work it wants to accomplish. Their work benefits so many in the entire region, providing a way to connect with nature while exercising in the great outdoors. On to the next 20 years for the Harlem Valley Rail Trail!

For more on the Rail Trail, or to donate, go to www.hvrt.org.

Give thanks for this

Here we are Thanksgiving eve

With nothing more up our sleeve

Has Trump conceded yet? Our aspirations met?

This is written one week out So I don't know, without a doubt

But hoping he is preparing for lock up

His crystal swapped for a tin cup

When he is gone away for good

The country healing, start it should

So as we sit at the turkey table

Hoping the country will become stable

And hate groups no longer invited

By his rhetoric incited

Let's give thanks that this is done

And no more idiocy will be spun.

Lakeville

Michael Kahler

More letters next page.



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

The beauty of the season

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Salisbury actually can do housing

This letter is in response to Ms. Koven's letter to the editor in the November 19 publication. There are statements made that are not factual and need to be corrected. Nowhere in the email and PDF that I sent to the P&Z is the word "propose". This same goes for the words "proposal" or "proposals". <http://www.salisburyct.us/reports/P.HackettParkingComments11052020.pdf>

The Holley Place project was not something done in the dark of night. There has been a process that many people have participated in over the last few years and has ultimately reached the Zoning application phase. Since parking has been made a reason the proposal should be denied, I wrote an email and made a PDF regarding what I called "Public Parking Potential" (see subject line of email).

The three locations for parking were only to get a handle on how much parking potential there is in the area. To call what I submitted a "parking lot proposal" ignores the reality of what was submitted.

In life the world can be viewed as either a cup half-full or half-empty depending on one's viewpoint. As an engineer, I am trained to see the cup as twice the size it needs to be. Ms. Koven's half-empty approach in her letter does nothing to support housing for all in Salisbury. If Ms. Koven is honest about being "eager to help any way I can", she can start by being factual.

To state "stormwater runoff is already one of the biggest threats to our lake" ignores the fact that the runoff from the site does not enter either of the nearby lakes and does not actually reach a lake until Lake

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — November 1920

SALISBURY — Mr. Alexander Suydam was 86 years of age on November 16th, and celebrated the event by attending a moving picture performance in Lakeville. Next to Messrs. Charles H. Bissell and James Martin, Mr. Suydam is the oldest citizen in the town to our knowledge. He is enjoying good health and his faculties are as keen and clear as a boy's.

LAKEVILLE — Myron Holley is making some changes and alterations to the rear of his residence. The ice house has been moved to a site near the barn and a new milk and cream room has been built on the spot

vacated by the ice house. 50 years ago — November 1970

The lowering of Lake Wononscopomuc, approved at a special town meeting Sept. 18, has been virtually accomplished. The water level of the lake is now two and a half to three feet lower than at the project's inception, with an average of 40 to 50 feet of shoreline exposed. The success of the project from this point on depends largely upon the efforts of lakefront dwellers and local volunteer groups.

A warm and buoyant indication of neighborly appreciation was given Saturday afternoon when more than 200 people attended the festive reception for Mr. and Mrs. Frank O'Neil at Elsa's Kitchen in Taconic. The O'Neils, who had owned and operated the Taconic general store for 45 years and the small local post office for 36, retired as of Nov. 1.

25 years ago — November 1995

SALISBURY — The Scoville Library officially enters into the new age of technology Dec. 1 with automated circulation, an automated catalog and such luxuries as a CD-ROM index that makes any story in the last five years of the N.Y. Times retrievable. However, librarian Martha Darcy wants to assure users of the library that nobody, but nobody, has to use the new computer if they don't want to.

Wal-Mart is coming to Torrington's East Main Street by the end of 1996, a move long rumored but officially announced by the giant discount chain only last week. Several merchants in the Northwest Corner this week downplayed the impact Wal-Mart's arrival would have on business here.

Chris Kupferer, who began his newspaper career at The Millerton News and The Lakeville Journal, has been named a copy editor at a major metropolitan newspaper, the Philadelphia Enquirer. He is the son of Bruce and Anna Mae Kupferer of Millerton.

CANAAN — The ball is in his court. A Granite Avenue resident who circulated a petition calling for the removal of the fire siren was made an offer by the Canaan Fire Company. Since sending his petition to the CFC this past summer, John Taylor has said that he would consider modifications to the siren. In a letter sent to Mr. Taylor last week, Chief Charlie Perotti said that they would do just that, providing someone comes up with the \$1,000 estimated cost. "We just don't have the money to pay for it," Chief Perotti said.

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

Lakeville

Pat Hackett

Please, be a hero, wear a mask

We are enthralled by rescues — the saving of lives by others. Big headlines in 2009 for the Miracle on the Hudson, in 1987 herculean efforts that saved Baby Jessica, on 9/11 selfless heroes at the World Trade Center. Blockbuster rescues blitz the media while smaller headlines herald folks pulling others from burning cars, from swelling flood waters, from violence. Unsung rescuers save a choking stranger, prevent a fall or a misstep into traffic, block a projectile, find a missing child all without headlines.

Good Samaritans abound. Good Samaritans aren't scripted; rather they emerge in life-endangering situations with an inclination to act.

With COVID there aren't rising waters, leaping flames, screams of despair or pleas for help rather we see endless numbers, graphs of cases and deaths — impersonal. People impacts overwhelm health facilities flanked by growing numbers of death trailers.

COVID devastates the kith and kin of hundreds of thousands dead and dying.

Amid a crisis of crisis, I am stunned by the vehement upheaval regarding public response to COVID in the U.S. What is this standoff — is it really a political duel of more or less government, is it me-ism on steroids? Powerful public response to ravages on the nation's health, safety, and security are commonplace in America. MADD mothers reshaped national alcohol consumption behaviors — conscientious party-goers designate a driver — someone to abstain from consumption for the good of others. Second degree smoke and its health ravages upended smoking in our society — smoking isn't in public spaces, in work places and in many of our homes. Baseball stadiums stopped serving alcoholic beverages after the 7th inning. Soldiers went to war, the nation lived on food stamps.

I get that COVID social dis-

How do avocados rate?

Dear EarthTalk: Is it true that my avocado habit is bad for the environment and my carbon footprint? — J. Pilsen, Olathe, Kan.

Compared to other fruits and vegetables that are grown closer to home, eating avocados — most of which are flown in from Central America — can be a drag on your carbon footprint. Furthermore, they require a lot of water, fertilizers and pesticides to grow, further complicating this seemingly "green" superfood.

Avocado's environmental impacts come from the "energy, water, fertilizer and pesticides required to grow them, the resources used for packaging materials and the energy used in processing, transporting and keeping them cool to preserve their freshness," Tom Cumberlege of Carbon Trust tells Vice.com, also pointing out that some of the biggest markets for avocados are in the UK, northern Europe and Canada.

Avocados also require an astonishing amount of water to grow, some 320 liters per fruit.

Furthermore, the global popularity of avocados in re-

cent years has led to "monoculture" farms that grow only one crop over and over, degrading soil quickly and requiring increasingly more chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

Compared to meat, avocados are still a much better deal for the environment — and much less of a drag on your carbon footprint. Indeed, the Evening Standard reports that eating a kilo of lamb generates some 46 times the carbon emissions as the average pack of avocados. Enjoying a piece of farmed salmon will also increase your carbon footprint more than having some guacamole or avocado toast every now and again.

As a consumer, the best thing you can do with an avocado is to "make sure that it doesn't go to waste," says Cumberlege. "... avocados will not last days in the fridge after they have been prepared, so [they] should be enjoyed sooner rather than later."

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss. See more at www.emagazine.com. To donate, visit www.earthtalk.org.

Lillinonah in New Milford. To state the proposed use "endangers our town drinking water" because the property is shown in the Aquifer Protection Area ignores the intent of the regulations, which provides an additional level of scrutiny, but does not prohibit housing or other uses. In fact, large portions of both Lakeville and Salisbury fall within the Aquifer Protection Area. http://cteco.uconn.edu/maps/town/apasmall/Salisbury_apa.pdf

There is another way. Now is the time for all to work together. The recent real estate blitz has only made matters worse for affordable housing. Hyperbole serves no one. If Ms. Koven knows we can do it, she should start by being constructive and factual.

Lakeville

Pat Hackett

Lakeville

Lakeville

Pat Hackett

Pat Hackett

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Mission Statement

The Lakeville Journal Company, LLC, Publishers of

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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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Viewpoint

Unhappy Birthday: The pandemic a year later

It's an anniversary none of us are celebrating. In mid-November last year a new betacoronavirus infected the first human somewhere in central China, probably in the vicinity of Wuhan. We don't know this first victim nor do we know how they caught their infection but we suspect the SARS-CoV-2 virus was circulating in an animal reservoir for a while and then jumped the species barrier just once. Every SARS-CoV-2 virus across the globe, and there are trillions of them now, is the descendant of this ancestor.

There are now over a hundred thousand full-length sequences of individual SARS-CoV-2 viruses that have been collected from different patients across the world. Each of the sequences consists of about 30,000 bases of ribonucleic acid (RNA) in a long chain. The sequence of bases encodes about 25 different proteins that are made in the hijacked human cell and used to assemble the viral particles that burst out to infect neighboring cells. One of the key proteins, the spike protein, studs the surface of the virus particle and binds to an Angiotensin Converting

Enzyme 2 (ACE-2) protein on the surface of host cells. This allows the virus to fuse with the host cell and inject its strand of RNA into the cell. And on and on.

GUEST COMMENTARY
JAMES SHEPHERD

(DNA) twisted together in a double-helix and separated into 23 chromosomes which encode roughly 21,000 proteins. These components build the cell and assemble multiple cells into organs. This is the environment of the virus, analogous to the African savannah for a gazelle or a rock pool for a crab. The virus is remarkably well-adapted to its new environment, spectacularly efficient at transmitting from cell to cell and host to host. It has changed very little in its first year of life, accumulating just a few mutations in its RNA. A virus collected from a patient in

Fargo, North Dakota today is almost identical to a virus from a patient in Tehran in March or Wuhan in January.

The most important environmental pressure on the virus is our immune system. Imagine a herd of gazelle on the savannah, each female having twins, expanding the herd every season until a pride of lions moves into the vicinity. Now the hostility of the environment increases, gazelle are eaten and the reproduction rate of the herd goes down. The herd will find a new but lower density. The immune system is our personal feline predator. After we get infected our initial defenses recognize the invader and respond instinctively, narrowing the attack once specific T and B cells have been recruited. In a few days strong antibodies are secreted that stick to the spike protein, block its binding to ACE-2 and the reproduction rate of the virus is quashed.

The vaccines currently in development artificially inject the spike protein to induce the same immune effect. The end result, like other organisms in an increasingly hostile environment, will be a new but lower level of the virus spreading

through our communities. The current death and disease of the pandemic will diminish to a more tolerable level.

But for now this submicroscopic thug, containing a hundred thousand times less information than our supercomputer sized genome, is reproducing amongst us with alacrity, causing much misery. It is a testament to the power of nature and reminds us that we are still subject to the same natural laws that govern all life on earth. The only way to make our human environment less hospitable at the moment is to cover our nose and mouth and put as much space between us as possible.

So today I will tip my hat to the Devil and recognize the first birthday of the virus with wonder and dismay. I predict its second birthday will not be so terrible.

James Shepherd is an infectious disease physician and faculty member at Yale University School of Medicine and Yale New Haven Hospital, as well as ex-CDC and ex-WHO. He lives and farms in Sharon.

Small town America is in vogue

The on-going coronavirus pandemic has boosted consumer demand for small town real estate. Whether that trend will continue with a vaccine on the horizon is anyone's guess.

In the meantime, it could be a godsend for those looking to retire and possibly downsize during this period. The obvious driver in this trend change has been the safety factor. The devastating carnage that occurred in the nation's large cities during the first surge of the coronavirus convinced many families to pull up stakes and find dwellings as far from the mayhem (and people) as possible.

Home listings in small towns jumped more than 100% this spring, according to Redfin, while viewings of rural county properties increased by 76%. But relative safety was only one of the draws. The ability to work remotely had opened up possibilities to reevaluate and rethink lifestyles. That became especially appealing for those who had faced long daily commutes and extended work hours. The pandemic also curtailed, or even shut down, many of the reasons consumers enjoyed the urban centers in the first place, such as restaurants, bars and other leisure activities.

From a financial point of view, low mortgage rates (thanks to the Federal Reserve Bank's monetary stimulus) have made borrowing mortgage money more affordable. Property prices are also much more reasonable when compared to housing in places such as New York City, Boston, or San Francisco. Buyers also benefit from lower taxes generally.

In many cases, a young family's plans to move out of the big city in a couple of years was simply hastened by the pandemic. Others found that the coronavirus was the excuse they needed to move closer to aging parents or find a place that offered a guesthouse for other family members.

For many, small towns are a good choice. At some point, (when things return to normal), most work-at-home employees plan to go to the office a few times a week. As such, a convenient

transportation system is a priority. Many small towns offer train, bus, and even airport services nearby.

As someone who has lived in the back-country, take it from me, when it snows commutes become a nightmare. I also found that without good internet service working from home is practically impossible.

The pandemic has even made school choices easier for many moving parents and their kids. Many children are still attending virtual schooling and they don't get to socialize with their friends, except through the computer. As such, a move to somewhere else may not be as life-changing to many children as it could have been under more familiar circumstances.

All of this is good news for the segment of the population who are retired or planning to retire. For many aging Americans, that four-bedroom house of forty-some years with the big backyard and front lawn has long since emptied out. The children are gone. The driveway is too long to plow and even the garden is taking more effort than it used to.

For those thinking of downsizing, the timing couldn't be better. Bill Schmick is registered as an investment advisor representative of Onota Partners, Inc., in the Berkshires. Bill's forecasts and opinions are purely his own. Email him at bill@schmicksretiredinvestor.com.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR *More letters previous page.*

21st Century Fund is so important

Only one year ago, I asked a friend, "What is this 21st Century Fund?" She answered, "I have no idea!" That is when I dug in to find out for myself and finally joined the Board to help communicate what it is.

Perhaps because I never had children who attended HVRHS, or because I have only lived here for 25 years, I was sadly ignorant of the amazing contribution the community has made to our regional public

high school through this fund. Essentially the 21st Century Fund supports grants to teachers and students at Housatonic Valley Regional High School for innovative ways for students to learn, within or beyond the classroom. That means it backed those who asked for a robotic team which has since received national recognition; it allowed students to purchase the kit for an electric car engine, inspiring them to go to local businesses for whatever they needed to actually create the body of the car and compete at Lime Rock, and it has assisted teachers in partially funding trips to China, Germany, and the Galapagos Islands.

This means the fund, made possible by the generosity of community members, has allowed our public high school to truly compete with the programs of many private high schools in our area. We can be sure that our public school children have similar educational opportunities available to them because people old and young, local or implants, wealthy or not, recognize how important the education of the next generation is.

I am so proud to be part of this enrichment fund, and so grateful to be part of a community that views education as a priority. Let's all learn more about the 21st Century Fund and support it in its essential work.

Joanne P. Wojtusiak

Salisbury

Maura C. Wolf

Giving heart felt thanks

In mid-July of 2020, our home burned down. The immediate response of the North East community, our friends near and far and our families was astonishing and humbling in its generosity and support.

The Millerton, Copake, Ancram, Lakeville and Wasaie fire companies came to help that hot day to suppress a raging fire.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the five fire companies and all the remarkable volunteers. Our neighbors came down the road to offer help. Our friends took us and our kitty Scout in while we arranged a place to live. Our community stepped in with funds, clothing, housing and unconditional love.

Today we are resettled and have begun to rebuild our home on the property we love. To say that we are fortunate people is a significant understatement. We have been so greatly blessed in this unexpected process by so many in unending ways.

Thank you. To each of you, thank you. May you be equally blessed in your lives. And may these challenging times continue to reveal what community truly means.

With deepest gratitude to our extraordinary community.
Janice Hylton, Gail Smallridge & Scout the Kitty Millerton

A good argument for supporting local businesses

Last week I received a notice from Aetna, my Medicare prescription drug insurance provider, stating that while they would continue to include my local pharmacy, Sharon Pharmacy, in their network they would no longer offer me "preferred prices" on my prescriptions. They suggested instead that I shop at CVS in New Milford or Big Y in Torrington. Since I am fortunate that I have few prescriptions and they are not expensive, I had no intention of following their suggestion to change my provider.

This weekend I came down with a cold and checked my medicine cabinet for some cough syrup and saw that the bottle label indicated possible interactions for those diagnosed with Parkinson's — which I have. Well, it was Saturday afternoon so I knew I would never reach my doctor...so what to do?

I called Sharon Pharmacy and John, the pharmacist on duty, answered my call and addressed me by name. He looked up my prescription history and advised me that it would be safe to take the cough syrup. I was so relieved and grateful! Can you imagine what would have happened had I tried to call CVS or any big box pharmacy?

Deliveries from big box retailers and online services may have been life-savers for many during this pandemic. Still, there remains a vital and very special role for local stores. I appreciate the professional and personal service provided by Sharon Pharmacy and I will continue to be their customer.

I hope each person who values the unique lifestyle we have here in the Northwest Corner will make a decision to support their local pharmacy (and other local businesses) today so that all of them can survive and flourish... and be there when we need them.

Cornwall Bridge

A trend worth thinking about

Catholics everywhere. Maureen Dowd, Gail Collins, both convent school girls (Immaculata and Seton Hall respectively, later The Catholic University and Marquette, then the largest Catholic University in the country), both of The New York Times, now Amy Coney Barrett, Soto-Major of the Supreme Court, and the Justice

children to come unto me. If anyone shall harm a hair of their head, let him have a millstone tied around his neck and be cast into the sea.

This was His teaching. O, that it had been followed.

But I will attest, as will my contemporary friends, that none of us were ever abused. And there was ample opportunity in those darkened sac-

risty dressing rooms before we entered to serve the Mass.

I have told this to many. Some say I am in denial. My ex-wife says, You were

SOVEREIGN STATE
LONNIE CARTER

lucky.

And perhaps I was. I suspect that right around that time, the Eisenhower years, it became all right, even attractive, for predators, and those who would become same, to study for the priesthood.

And the devil took the hind-most.

Why? I agonize over this, with the ever-increasing cases of abuse coming to light, but still have not a clue. Blame it largely on celibacy?

Years ago I was doing a play in New York and one of the actresses had been a nun for nine years. She told of her experiences. The three vows? Poverty, she said, was not a problem for her because she had always been poor. Chastity? The prospect of sex she found not that alluring. But obedience? That's what got her. If she had a headache, she had to ask the Mother Superior if she could take an aspirin.

The Catholics are everywhere. Practicing, ex-, lapsed and everything in between. Rosary sales are at an all-time high.

A dear friend who has taken plane after plane and who calls himself an atheist takes his rosary which he clutches whenever he is in the air. No atheists in foxholes, indeed.

Its missa est.

Lonnie Carter is a writer who lives in Falls Village.

Realtor® at Large

In speaking with the Corner Food Pantry here in Lakeville, the demand is close to double from years previous. The volunteers at the Corner Food Pantry are expecting over 112 individuals or families to pick up food ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. So the adverse economic impact of COVID is being felt across our communities. My sense is that all food banks are under similar pressure in the NW corner. To help, the best thing is cash donations to purchase additional food and to volunteer. To contact the Corner Food Pantry, either go to their website at www.thecornerfoodpantry.org or call 860-435-9886.



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HOLIDAYS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Getting into the Spirit(s) of the Christmas Season

Falling into the growing category of Places We Might Not Go in Normal Times, But Hey It's on Zoom so Why Not: A presentation from the Miner Library in Roxbury, Conn., that expands the idea of how we celebrate the Christmas season.

Or rather, it returns us to a venerable old tradition that associated Christmas with ghosts — think of Charles Dickens with his famous “A Christmas Carol” and his three other spectral holiday tales.

If you're a fan of the ghoulish but didn't get enough horror during this year's limited Halloween festivities, and if 19th-century literature isn't your thing, then the Miner Library's presentation of Creepy Christmas Tales might be just right for you during this particularly horrid holiday season.

This is not a play or a work of fiction (technically). Jeff Belanger, who lives in Massachusetts, is a specialist in ghostly tales and has hosted and written a TV series called “New England Legends,” which has been shown on PBS and Amazon Prime.

Belanger is presenting a free talk for the Miner Library called “New England

Legends, Creepy Christmas Special” on Monday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.

What's in store for viewers of the program? Here's how the press release describes it: “From the origins of the holiday to the monsters like Krampus, the Belsnickel and Gryla to the ghosts that lurk in the red and green shadows, Jeff will take you on a multi-media journey of this haunting holiday! This program is NOT suitable for young children.”

If this whets your appetite for spooky seasonal literature, look for “The Story of the Goblins Who Stole a Sexton,” “The Haunted Man and the Ghost's Bargain” and “The Haunted House,” all by Charles Dickens, all available free online.

For me, I think the loveliest seasonal spirit story of all time is “Daniel Plainway: or The Holiday Haunting of the Moosepath League,” by Van Reid.

For more information or to sign up for Jeff Belanger's free talk for the Miner Library called “New England Legends, Creepy Christmas Special,” which is on Zoom on Monday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., call the library at 860-350-2181 or go to www.minormemoriallibrary.org. Reservations are required.



PHOTO COURTESY NUTMEG BALLET

THE NUTCRACKER: LIVE FROM NUTMEG CONSERVATORY & THE WARNER THEATRE

The Nutmeg Ballet Conservatory's 2020 production of The Nutcracker will be presented virtually from the Warner Theatre's Main Stage in Torrington, Conn., during the first two weekends of December. Six performances will be streamed with additional opportunities to view recorded shows.

All dance roles will feature trainees of The Nutmeg Ballet Conservatory. These students have come from across the nation to train and further their developing artistry, under strict pandemic

constraints. Cameo roles will be performed by children from The Torrington School of Ballet. The mysterious Dr. Drosselmeyer will once again be portrayed by accomplished European stage actor Thomas Evertz.

Originally conceived by Sharon Dante, this year's production is an abridged version of The Nutmeg's beloved classic. The Nutcracker features original choreography by Nutmeg's faculty including Artistic Director Victoria Mazzarelli, Ballet Master Tim Melady, Joan Kunsch,

Denise Limoli, Cassie Sprance and Susan Szabo. One special feature of this year's digital presentation is a narration by Dr. Drosselmeyer.

Designed to preserve a story line of this iconic ballet despite the need to shorten its presentation, the addition of spoken word will delight the youngest of audiences and offer a reimagined experience for those who return to this classic year after year.

In addition to these streamed presentations, The Nutmeg is also pro-

ducing a movie unique to downtown Torrington. “Clara's Dream — A Nutcracker Story” will be filmed at locations on Main Street, the Warner Theatre and the historic Hotchkiss-Fyler House.

Streamed performances of *The Nutcracker* will be on Friday, Dec. 4, at 6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 5, at 6 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 6, at 3 p.m., Friday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 12, at noon and Sunday, Dec. 13, at noon. For details on how to purchase tickets, go to www.warnertheatre.org.

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