



Season of Giving  
Page A4

HVA Auction  
Compass  
Page B1



Poll and postal workers  
deserve our thanks  
Editorial, Page B3

# The Lakeville Journal

Holiday Trees At FFA Store, Page A4

24 PAGES IN 3 SECTIONS

VOLUME 124 NUMBER 16

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THURSDAY, NOV. 19, 2020 \$2.00

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

## The passing of the baton at The Moviehouse

By Cynthia Hochswender

MILLERTON — The first and most important thing is that Carol Sadlon, owner of Millerton's The Moviehouse, is fine! Following the announcement on Nov. 6 that she is looking to pass the baton to new owners she is feeling upbeat and optimistic.

When the Sadlons bought the theater in the 1970s, it was closed, having made a failed attempt to succeed as a porno theater. The second-floor space, which had not been used in four decades, was the ballroom of the old Grange Hall (built in 1903), where community events were held, and then the first home of the NorthEast Millerton Library. The building was in poor condition, just waiting for rebirth.

### The community campfire

Sadlon reflected in an interview last week that The Moviehouse has always served as a community gathering place.

"It's had its ups and downs over the years but has always

See MOVIEHOUSE, Page A6

## Taking the lead at The Little Guild

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — Although she's only been on the job for a month, and despite COVID-19, the Little Guild's new executive director, Jenny Langendoerfer, forged ahead with plans for the seventh annual Run & Wag 5K fundraiser. The Little Guild simply redesigned this year's race to create "virtual" fun for all participants.

"We had such great support from the participants and the local businesses," Langendoerfer said during a conversation on Thursday, Nov. 5. The race results were a prime topic of the discussion.

Of the runners who ran with canine assistance, the top finisher among the females was Meghan Flanagan of Cornwall Bridge, who was pulled along by Moose with a recorded time of 30 minutes and 50 seconds to complete the 5K virtual race. Among the male competitors, the top finisher was Dave Boz-

See LITTLE GUILD, Page A6



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PHOTO BY ALON KOPPEL

Carol Sadlon feels upbeat about the future of The Moviehouse on Main Street in Millerton.

## Council of Governments

### Concern about possible state oversight on town zoning laws

By Patrick L. Sullivan

GOSHEN — Mike Criss, first selectman of Harwinton and chair of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOC) legislative committee, briefed the members on this year's legislative priorities at the group's regular monthly meeting (on Zoom) Thursday, Nov. 12.

The NHCOC is made up of the first selectmen from 21 area towns.

Criss left one matter off the report: A proposal that would have a considerable impact on local control of land use.

Desegregate Connecticut (www.desegregatect.org) has a lengthy list of ideas to achieve three goals: To make it easier to convert existing development into housing, or build new housing; to correct what the organization sees as an overemphasis on single-family housing; and to correct what the organization sees as "coded discrimination, abuses of 'the process,' and high fees" that prevent housing from being built.

Criss said the committee did not include the Desegregate Connecticut proposal because there is no specific legislation

attached — yet.

"We'll see where it's going." "It's critical we pay attention to land use bills" in the upcoming session of the state Legislature, Criss said, adding he was concerned that legislation could "circumvent local control."

Elizabeth Gara of the Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST) said her organization is concerned about the proposal as well. State mandates on matters such as lot size, setbacks and types of housing "have serious conse-

See ZONING, Page A6

## With Thanksgiving near, our thoughts turn to turkeys

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Wildlife expert Ginny Apple gave an online audience a guided tour through the world of wild turkeys on Saturday, Nov. 14. The talk was sponsored by the David M. Hunt Library.

Apple said the turkey got its name because the Spanish conquistadors brought the birds back to Spain, where they found their way to buyers and breeders in what is now the country of Turkey.

Commercial trading brought the turkey to Great Britain, prior to the Pilgrims leaving for the New World.

So the English knew about turkeys before they began their travels to North America.

Native Americans valued the turkey not only for its meat but

**They might look clumsy in the field, but wild turkeys can reach speeds of 25 miles per hour on foot and 50 mph in the air.**

also for its bones and feathers. "They used the whole bird," Apple said.

There were a lot to use. Apple said it is estimated that the pre-Columbian wild turkey population of North America was something along the order of 10 million birds.

The Colonial era (and subsequent events) were not kind to the wild turkey. Settlers cleared forests for farming, and shot the turkeys for food. Between loss of habitat and hunting, the wild turkey was gone from Connecticut by the 1830s, Ap-

ple said.

Apple debunked the popular notion that Benjamin Franklin proposed the turkey as the national symbol. She said Franklin thought the turkey should be the symbol of the Order of Cincinnati, not the new United States.

Although, she said, Franklin thought the eventual national bird, the bald eagle, to be of "bad moral character."

In the post-Industrial Revolution period, Connecticut slowly became reforested, and the wild turkeys returned, as-



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

## We thank you for your service

Veterans Day was observed in area towns in ceremonies that were perhaps smaller than the normal observances but heartfelt nonetheless.

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) was at the service in North Canaan at the statue of the World War I Doughboy, and chatted with senior veteran Nick Gandolfo.

Kent veterans, joined by a few family and friends, gathered at the war memorial and shared thoughts on the importance of the day.

Salisbury veterans gathered at the memorial outside Town Hall, with veterans and children participating.

In Cornwall and Falls



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Village, elementary school students sent notes and photos to veterans in their towns, thanking them for their service.

And in Sharon, in addition to a ceremony at the war memorial, members of the American Legion Herbert Klebes Post 126 offered flag burning service.

For full stories and more photos, turn to our Veterans Day page, on A5. — Cynthia Hochswender

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# Regional

## SWSA annual ski and skate sale Dec. 5

### In The Journal this week

LEGAL NOTICES.....A2	OPINION.....B3
OBITUARIES.....A3	VIEWPOINT.....B4
OUR TOWNS.....A4	OVER THE BORDER..B5
VETERANS DAY.....A5	CLASSIFIEDS.....B5
COMPASS.....B1-2	SPECIALIST.....B6

#### Three-day forecast

Friday.....Cloudy, high 57°/low 37°  
 Saturday.....Cloudy, 57°/39°  
 Sunday.....Cloudy, 57°/45°

### POLICE BLOTTER: TROOP B

The following information was provided by the Connecticut State Police at Troop B. All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

#### Assaulting an officer

On Nov. 6 Kathy Tweed, 62, of North Canaan was served with an active arrest warrant and charged with assaulting an officer. She was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on Nov. 9.

#### Assault with motor vehicle

On Nov. 8 Bryan Babrowicz, 58, of Salisbury was served with an active arrest warrant and charged with evading responsibility for a motor vehicle accident involving serious injury, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and assault in the second degree with a motor vehicle. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on Dec. 14.

#### Too big for Covered Bridge

On Nov. 12 at approximately 6:15 a.m. on Route 128 in Cornwall a 2015 Chevrolet Silverado driven by Armelia Church, 50, of Litchfield, Conn., attempted to enter the Cornwall Covered Bridge with a leaf box attached to the bed of the pick-up truck. She was issued an infraction for operating a vehicle over a bridge that exceeded the posted height limit.

#### DUI

On Nov. 14 at approximately 11:50 p.m. on Route 44 in North Canaan William Fallon, 20, of North Canaan was charged with operating a motor vehicle under suspension and driving under the influence of alcohol while being under 21 years of age, after failing a field sobriety test. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on Jan. 13, 2021.

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

### FAMILY & FRIENDS

## Berkshire Taconic starts community grant program

SHEFFIELD, Mass. — Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation launched a new grant program to support community-building efforts that can bridge differences and drive positive change at the local level. Bridging Divides, Healing Communities will support activities by organizations and groups that are embedded in their communities and that bring together residents to build and strengthen relationships, especially among people who may hold different views or come from different backgrounds.

"The social fabric everywhere is being stressed, and long-term consequences in our region are possible if we do not work together," said Peter Taylor, president of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. "This new grant program aims to create opportunities for productive discourse and engagement to bridge differences, build trust and promote reconciliation."

Berkshire Taconic will award grants between \$500 and \$2,500 to support small-scale, community-based actions such as virtual forums, service projects, and artistic and cultural activities. Applicants should consider how their projects will create new or strengthen existing relationships among people of different backgrounds, experiences or beliefs; forge connections around a shared experience through which participants can explore different points of view; and bring residents together to pursue a common goal. Compliance with state guidelines will be required for any in-person activities. Berkshire Bank is providing funding support for these grants.

Eligible applicants include nonprofits, schools, municipalities and local government, and faith-based organizations (for non-religious activities) located in northwest Litchfield, northeast Dutchess, Columbia and Berkshire counties. Community groups may also apply through a fiscal sponsorship

with an eligible organization. The first deadline for applications is Tuesday, Dec. 1. To apply, go to [www.BerkshireTaconic.org/Healing](http://www.BerkshireTaconic.org/Healing).

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Lakeville, Connecticut • 860-435-0578

CANAAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH presents

**Holly Berry FAIR**

Nov 20 2 PM

**CANCELLED**

**GIFTS GIFTS LUNCH  
BAKED GOODS  
GIFT BASKETS**

LAKEVILLE — Salisbury Winter Sports Association will host its annual SWSA Ski Swap and Sale on Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Lakeville Hose Company on Brook Street in Lakeville.

Here is the schedule as it stands now. As with everything else these days, the following details are subject to change; check [www.jumpfest.org](http://www.jumpfest.org) for updates.

Masks, temperature checks and social distancing will be required for all attendees and volunteers.

Bring equipment to be sold

on Friday, Dec. 4, from 4 to 7 p.m. No equipment will be accepted on Saturday. The sale on Saturday will run from 8 a.m. to noon. From noon to 1 p.m. residents can pick up their money or unsold equipment. Any remaining equipment after noon Saturday will become the property of SWSA.

As always the sale will include winter sports equipment and clothing including ski hats, gloves, goggles, socks, as well as downhill and cross-country skis, boots and bindings. Snow shoes, parkas and other winter

wear will also be sold, at discount prices.

There will be used equipment: skates from \$2 and up, skis and snowboards starting around \$50 and ski boots for \$10 and up.

Used eligible equipment to sell includes downhill skis, boots and poles; cross-coun-

try skis, boots and poles; ice skates, hockey equipment; snowboards and boots and snowshoes (no clothing).

Proceeds from the sale will benefit several SWSA youth ski programs. Go to [www.jumpfest.org](http://www.jumpfest.org) for more details and to check for changes in times and format.

### Tips on buying your first home

SALISBURY — Salisbury Bank is offering a free WebEx Webinar with important information on buying a first home and on credit scores.

This seminar will discuss the basics every first-time homebuyer needs to know about securing a mortgage including down payments, documents needed to apply for a

loan, and how to qualify for a mortgage.

The presenter will be mortgage adviser Maria Seeley. The webinar will be on Friday, Nov. 20, from noon to 1 p.m.

To register, go to [www.salisburybank.com/webinar](http://www.salisburybank.com/webinar). You may need to download a free WebEx app to join this Webinar on your Mobile Device.

### Free COVID-19 tests on Nov. 24

NORTH CANAAN — Free tests for COVID-19 will be offered in North Canaan while supplies last on Tuesday, Nov. 24, between 9:30 a.m. and noon in the parking lot at Town Hall. Test results are confidential. Call 860-489-0931 to register. The testing will be done by Community Health and Wellness Center of Torrington.

### 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](mailto:beverlybecker4@gmail.com).

### A history of suffrage, Nov. 21

SALISBURY — Ilene Frank, chief curator of the Connecticut Historical Society, will talk about the Women's Suffrage Movement in Connecticut in a free Zoom talk sponsored by the Scoville Memorial Library and the Salisbury Association Historical Society on Saturday, Nov. 21, at 4.

Frank will discuss suffragists including Katharine Houghton Hepburn and Isabella Beecher Hooker, as well as some Connecticut women who fought against women getting the vote.

*Do you have a family member or friend in the military who would be interested in the news from home?*

#### Remember

The Lakeville Journal Company offers free online subscriptions to our website, [tricornernews.com](http://tricornernews.com), for active duty military personnel from the Tri-state region. For more information or to set up a subscription, contact Sandra Lang at [circulation@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:circulation@lakevillejournal.com) or 860-435-9873, ext. 301.

*With thanks to those who serve.*

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

*Check them out inside.*

- CVS
- Ocean State Job Lot

## EARLY DEADLINE

Advertising deadline for the Nov. 26<sup>TH</sup> issues will be **THURSDAY, NOV. 19<sup>TH</sup>, at NOON** for Display Advertising; **Fri., Nov. 20, at noon** for Classified Line Advertising. Editorial deadline will be **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> at 10 a.m.**

Ad Deadline for the DEC. 3<sup>RD</sup> issues will be **WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25<sup>TH</sup> at noon.** This includes all sections of the newspapers.

**Contact us to reserve your space!**

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**TriCornerNews.com**  
[advertising@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:advertising@lakevillejournal.com)

### 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

#### Legal Notice

The Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Variance Application #2020-0110 by Chatfield Hills Association for relief of a rear yard setback requirement to construct a 10'x20' shed to house the Chatfield Hills Association public water

supply and treatment facilities at 60 Chatfield Drive in accordance with Department of Public Health Requirements, Salisbury Map 41, Lot 5 per Sections 913.1 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 after the regularly scheduled meeting or at 5:30 PM, whichever occurs first. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. Instructions for this virtual meeting will be listed on the agenda and at [www.salisburyct.us](http://www.salisburyct.us). Comments may be submitted in writing to the Land Use Office before 4:00 p.m. on Monday November 23, 2020, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to [aconroy@salisburyct.us](mailto:aconroy@salisburyct.us). This application is on file in the Town Hall and at [www.salisburyct.us](http://www.salisburyct.us). Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Zoning Board of Appeals  
Stacie Weiner, Secretary  
11-12-20  
11-19-20

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF ANNA FOLETAR Late of Queens (20-00415)**

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, October 29, 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:  
Donald C. Ogonowski  
c/o Lisa E. Wnuck  
Law Offices of Lisa E. Wnuck, LLC, 493 Heritage Rd., 2C, P.O. Box 630, Southbury, CT 06488

Megan Williams  
Assistant Clerk  
11-19-20

#### 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 5:00 pm, 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 [salisburycthousing.org](http://salisburycthousing.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

# OBITUARIES

## Zay (McColl) Foster

GOSHEN — Zay (McColl) Foster of Milton, Conn., and Jekyll Island, Ga., died on Nov. 10, 2020, in Goshen at the age of 81.

Daughter of the Rev. James Rodger McColl and Frances Wamsley McColl, she was born on Dec. 28, 1938, in Champaign, Ill.

She attended Kemper Hall, a private school in Kenosha, Wis., where she was president of the student body, editor of the school news, and was awarded St. Mary's Cross, the school's highest honor. She attended Barnard College and received a B.A. in English from the University of Illinois in 1960.

Zay had a long and distinguished career in the field of publishing: at Macmillan Company in New York City, where she was administrative assistant to the head of the college department, and at Holt Rinehart and Winston and William Morrow, where she was a children's book editor.

After her marriage to Benjamin G. Foster in 1975, she was alumni publications editor and director of the Office of Publications and Public Information at Choate Rosemary Hall School, Wallingford, Conn., where he was a member of the English faculty; was managing editor at Cheney & Company, a New Haven, Conn., firm specializing in enrollment and development

communications for schools, colleges and nonprofit organizations; and finally at Quinnipiac University, Hamden, Conn., as alumni magazine editor and director of publications.

In retirement, Zay was an active member of the Aid of the Connecticut Junior Republic, Litchfield, Conn., and the Women's Forum, also of Litchfield; on Jekyll Island, where she and Ben spent the winter months and later most of the year, she served on the board of the Jekyll Island Arts Association, was co-director of exhibits for the Goodyear Cottage Arts Gallery there, and an enthusiastic, longtime member of the Jekyll Island Pottery Guild and tennis player.

Zay is survived by her sons, Nathaniel and his wife, Karilyn, and Theodore Borman and his wife, Virginia; her stepsons, Jeremiah and his wife, Annika, and Caleb and his wife, Christina; and eight grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband, Ben; and by her sister, Christine McColl Patience.

In lieu of flowers, gifts in her memory would be welcomed by Susan B. Anthony Project, 179 Walker St., #1, Torrington, CT 06790; the Ripley Waterfowl Conservatory, 55 Duck Pond Road, Litchfield, CT 06759; or the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850.



## Donald James McGinness

MILLERTON — Donald James McGinness, 78, a five-year resident of Millerton and a former longtime resident of Dover Plains, died unexpectedly on Friday, Nov. 13, 2020, at his home in Millerton.

Mr. McGinness had a 35-year career in the telephone/communication industry that began with the NY Telephone Company, NYNEX and Bell Atlantic and ultimately led him to retirement from Verizon on Nov. 20, 2003.

Born Jan. 28, 1942, in Ossining, N.Y., he was the son of the late Mary J. (Kuchenmeister) and William J. McGinness. He attended Ossining High School and graduated with the class of 1959. He also attended Westchester Community College from 1959-1961 and Dutchess Community College from 1998-2001.

He served on active duty in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War and was honorably discharged on Dec. 19, 1967, at which time he received the National Defense Service Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal.

On Oct. 17, 1975, in Millerton, he married Karen D. Sarles of Pocantico Hills, N.Y. Mrs. McGinness survives at home in Millerton.

Mr. McGinness was a parishioner of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia, a member of the Knights of Columbus (3rd Degree) Council No. 11553 of Englewood, Fla., a life member of the Ossining Steamer Co. #1 in Ossining and a charter member of the Royal Order of the Blue Vests of the Hudson Valley Vol. Fireman's Association.

Don will be fondly remembered by his loving family and many friends for his finicky,

meticulous and sometimes stubborn ways and for always carrying a printed map with notations for any drive he took.

He lived and loved simply. He was always there to show his loving support, time and time again. He rarely missed a soccer or baseball practice when his grandchildren were on the field and he was so very proud of his daughter and his son for all their accomplishments in life. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Don is survived by his wife, Karen; his daughter, Jessica Elliott of Amenia; his son, Patrick McGinness of Millerton; and two grandchildren, Abigail and Jack Elliott of Amenia.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by a brother, Jack M. McGinness, in 2000. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 18 at Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia, the Rev. Robert K. Wilson officiating. Burial with Naval Military Honors followed at Immaculate Conception Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the Millerton Fire Company, P.O. Box 733, Millerton, NY 12546.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home in Millerton. To send an online condolence, go to [www.conklinfuneralhome.com](http://www.conklinfuneralhome.com).



AMENIA — Beloved Susan Macura, 63, passed away peacefully at 8:57 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020.

Susan Ann Macura was born to John and Patricia Louise Macura on July 4, 1957, at Sharon Hospital. Susan is survived by her enduring rock star mother, Patricia; her lifelong "twin" sister, Elaine, one multitalented brother, John, his steadfast wife of 33 years, Patti, and one incredible niece, Juliana, and her younger sisters, Nadine and Melissa, Melissa's husband, Brian, and two four-legged dog nephews, Baxter and Ringo. Susan loved all animals, but especially adored her cats LaRue and Ristrapo.

Susan's dad, John Macura, predeceased her on Oct. 9, 2017.

Susan grew up on Leedsville Road during a time when children played outdoors from sunup to sundown. She spent a lot of her time with her sister Elaine, her cousins Bob and Deb and the Erskine Family. During the winter, the family went skiing at various locations (Jug End, Bittersweet, Hob Nob), ice skating at Spingarn's lake and snowmobiling

throughout the area. During the summer, the family used the cement above-ground swimming pool Dad had built, had picnics, played softball, badminton, horseshoes, whiffle ball, tennis in the road and rode bikes everywhere. Every year the Macura family would take a day trip to the Danbury Fair with a huge carload of children. One of Mom and Dad's rules was the children were not allowed to play at the Sand and Gravel. The first thing we did was head there to have some fun even though we knew it was dangerous.

When we were growing up, each spring Dad would purchase a rake for all of us since he needed our help to caretake for Mrs. Spingarn on her local Leedsville Road estate. All the siblings are used to working hard and doing a great job.

Susan went on to be a lawyer since she wanted to help people even when they had no money to pay her. One of Susan's favorite jobs was the editor of some of the local newspapers. She had a wonderful time going to many different events in the area, taking pictures and writing intriguing stories. For

the last couple of years, Susan had been a substitute teacher. She enjoyed working with and helping the students.

Another job that made Susan very happy was working at the Sharon Playhouse. She enjoyed working with the staff and watching all the plays. She told us about some fun things the staff did like ordering in food from local restaurants and she was asked to be the light person one night, which she found enjoyable.

Susan was an avid reader of books. She read an extensive variety of books from history, autobiographies, political, fiction, nonfiction to children's

books, mysteries and many more. Quite often we would be asked to stop by the library and pick up her books, which could be 10-20 depending on what came in. She loved to bake. We enjoyed her chocolate drop cookies, but she made great cream puffs, 7-Up cake, chocolate raspberry cheesecake, brownies and other interesting items. She liked to try new recipes.

In lieu of flowers, Susan respectfully asked that you to support the Amenia Library, P.O. Box 27, Amenia, NY 12501. To send the family an online condolence, go to [www.hufcutfuneralhome.com](http://www.hufcutfuneralhome.com).



## Worship Services

Week of November 22, 2020

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

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

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

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT  
Rev. 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](http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org)  
860-435-9290

**Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon**  
9 South Main, Sharon CT  
Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM  
Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker  
All welcome to join us  
860-364-5260  
[www.christchurchsharon.org](http://www.christchurchsharon.org)

**North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC**  
Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people  
Pastor Savage Frieze  
172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT  
Worship services Sundays at 10 am  
AT THE PILGRIM HOUSE  
30 GRANITE AVE, CANAAN:  
FISHES & LOAVES Food Pantry and CLOSETS for clothing  
Tuesdays from 5 to 7  
and Thursdays from noon to 2  
[www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational](http://www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational)

**Greenwoods Community Church**  
355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA  
Sunday Service 10:30 AM  
Kidz Connection  
K-6th grade (during Sun. Service)  
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Sat. Bible Studies for Men & Women 3:00 PM  
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Pastor Henry A. Prause  
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860-364-5634  
[sharonumc5634@att.net](mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net)

**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock  
Virtual Sunday Service 10:30 AM  
Trinity Live Facebook page  
Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study  
Rev. Heidi Truax  
[trinity@trinitylimerock.org](mailto:trinity@trinitylimerock.org)  
(860) 435-2627  
[www.trinitylimerock.org](http://www.trinitylimerock.org)

**Canaan United Methodist Church**  
2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"  
Rev. Lee Gangaware  
860-824-5534  
[canaanumc-umc.com](mailto:canaanumc-umc.com)  
[canaanumc@gmail.com](mailto:canaanumc@gmail.com)

**Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT**  
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## Stephen B. Moldof

SALISBURY — Stephen B. Moldof, a part-time resident of the Amesville Hamlet of Salisbury for 46 years, lost his heroic battle with glioblastoma on Nov. 9, 2020. But his will to live, sense of humor cherished by all who knew him, and love for his son, Luke, and wife, Michaele ("Mike") Noble, remained unquashed.



Steve practiced labor law with Cohen, Weiss and Simon in New York City for 48 years and was a senior partner. He represented labor unions whose members included airline flight attendants and pilots, seamen, professors, nurses and transit workers.

Steve argued and won cases in numerous federal district and appeals courts and in the U.S. Supreme Court, many of which resulted in landmark decisions on behalf of unions. He earned his law degree from Harvard University and his undergraduate degree from the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

Active in the American Bar Association's Labor and Employment Law Section, Steve

was slated to become the section's chair elect until his illness deferred that honor. Steve often participated as a panel chair and speaker in legal conferences in the U.S. and throughout the world. He was a charter member of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers.

His early interests included vegetable gardening, cooking and sports (especially basketball and baseball, both of which he played and closely followed in the news).

His passion for travel, walking, listening to jazz and sharing good bottles of wine and delicious dining with family and friends endured.

He will be sorely missed by his sister, Hedda Segal; his close cousin Susan Rubin; his law school confidant, Rick Mezan; and too-many-to-name caring relatives, dear friends and admiring colleagues around the world. But we know who we are and how much Steve meant to us.

So, let's all raise a glass of wine and toast an extraordinarily kind, funny and thoughtful man who left us much too soon.

## 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) "Dottie Lou" Chinatti.

A full obituary will appear online at [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com) and in the Nov. 26 print edition of The Lakeville Journal and Millerton News.

The family has made the decision to postpone services until 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 care of arrangements; further notices will be posted on their website and the full obituary will be updated when new information is available, at [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com).



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## Fuel cost aid

SALISBURY — Fuel assistance applications are currently being taken for fuel deliveries made between Nov. 2, 2020, and March 31, 2021.

Call Patrice McGrath at 860-435-5187 to apply and for more information.

**Millerton United Methodist Church**  
6 Dutches Avenue, P.O. Box 812  
Millerton, NY 12546  
Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:30 A.M.  
518-789-3138

# Our Towns

## Helping hands, hot meals, holiday support

By Lans Christensen

KENT — Town Clerk Darlene Brady and other Lions stationed themselves at Davis IGA, where they accepted donations from noon to 4 p.m. IGA shoppers left their donations as they came out of the market and Lions packed the food into cartons. Cartons were then put on a pick-up truck which was already overflowing by 2 p.m. Brady called it “a huge success.”

Anyone who missed that opportunity to offer support to community members who are struggling this year can offer help in other ways that will continue through the holiday season.

The Kent Santa Fund assists local children under the age of 16 during the holiday season. It operates anonymously. Community members and business owners shop and donate gifts without knowing the participants. COVID-19 has caused the Kent Santa Fund to change the way it will assist children this year: Instead of gifts, the Kent Santa Fund will provide gift cards to families, so they can prioritize their family's needs during the holidays.

Donations can be mailed to Kent Santa Fund, P.O. Box 678, Kent, CT 06757. Checks made out to Kent Santa Fund can also be delivered to the attention of Joyce Kearns at Kent Town Hall



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

On Saturday, Nov. 14, The Kent Lions Club's food drive benefited the Kent Food Bank.

and placed in the white drop box next to the front door.

Contact Joyce directly at 860-927-4627 or adminassist@townofkentct.org with questions.

Kent Affordable Housing is hosting a Holiday Pop-Up Shop this year, in place of the annual “Bakers and Makers” community-gathered event. In November and December, Kent Affordable Housing will host

live and online sales of hand-crafted items made by Kent citizens and friends to support the group's mission to expand local housing opportunities. There will be knit items, work by local artists, seasonal decorations, wooden creations with more treasures added every day.

To shop, visit the Holiday Hut in person at 5 Kent Barns (off Maple Street) on Nov. 27-29 and Dec. 18-20, between 11

a.m. and 4 p.m. Or shop online at [www.ebay.com/usr/kentaffordablehousing](http://www.ebay.com/usr/kentaffordablehousing) until the end of the year.

Items purchased online may be picked up at the Holiday Hut at 5 Kent Barns on open days, dropped off at a Kent address, or shipped for an additional fee. Or go to the KAH website and make a tax-deductible donation: [www.kentaffordablehousing.org/donations-other](http://www.kentaffordablehousing.org/donations-other).

## A chance to swap books again!

SALISBURY — There are many avid readers in our region who haven't been quite sure what to do with the mountains of books they have completed (perhaps a larger number than normal, due to the increase in quiet at-home time brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic).

And there are many avid readers who can't or choose not to buy their books brand new off the shelf. Those readers sometimes find rare treasures at their transfer station swap shop, at estate sales and at library book sales. Most of those opportunities have been missing this year, again because of COVID-19.

The Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury can help.

The Friends of the Library are selling books and accepting donations of books on Saturday, Nov. 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Entry to the sale space

will be limited to allow for social distancing; masks must be worn and shoppers are asked to use hand sanitizer when they enter (gloves aren't a bad idea either; the books will be handled as shoppers look through them).

There will also be concierge service for bibliophiles who aren't comfortable entering the sale room. Knock on the glass doors in the back of the library building, tell the volunteers what you're looking for and they will bring selections out to your car to choose from.

Book donations can also be made that day; there is a limit of eight boxes.

For directions to the Nov. 21 Scoville Memorial Library book sale, go to [www.scovillelibrary.org](http://www.scovillelibrary.org). The front of the library is being renovated and the front entrance is, temporarily, closed.

— Cynthia Hochswender

## Clearing up remaining transfer station debt

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — There was light attendance at a special town meeting held on Friday, Nov. 13. While only those who were physically present at the meeting could vote on the proposal, the meeting was on Zoom for remote spectators, who numbered about six. The meeting was held at the Sharon Congregational Church, offering adequate space for social distancing.

The group unanimously ap-

proved an expenditure of up to \$324,750 from the town's undesignated fund, completing the town's share of costs from the construction of the newly opened Salisbury-Sharon transfer station.

In earlier action the Board of Finance had approved the expense, clearing the way for the town meeting vote to be scheduled. The appropriation will meet the matching terms of the USDA loan that supported the project.

## Grant approved for Sharon parking lot project

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — A project to improve the Town Hall parking lot has been approved to receive \$125,000 in state grant funding, as announced at the Tuesday, Nov. 10, meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

First Selectman Brent Colley said that the town has been notified that an application for the grant earned approval through the state's Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP). The project would be administered by the state Department of Transportation.

Funded by the grant are improvements to the munic-

ipal parking lot behind Town Hall to include electric vehicle charging stations.

Now that the grant for the parking lot portion of the planned improvements is secured, Colley indicated that the sidewalk phase of the project can proceed through the funding application process.

A townwide emergency notification system, known as RAVE, was discussed by the selectmen. Colley said the initial annual rate of \$4,000 would be locked in for a five-year period. Discussion yielded agreement that the town might try it for a year to learn which features are useful to the town. In sub-

sequent years, some features might be stripped away if they are not used.

“I like that many diverse populations and neighborhoods in the town would benefit,” Colley said, adding that he has studied other systems

### Holiday store

FALLS VILLAGE — The holiday store run by the agriculture education students at Housatonic Valley Regional High School will be open from Sunday, Nov. 22, to Wednesday, Dec. 23, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

Products include a variety of trees, wreaths, roping, poinsettias, holiday centerpieces, Cabot cheese, Hudson Valley fresh milk and FFA apparel.

For the first time, the Housatonic Valley FFA chapter will have an online store. This online store will allow customers to purchase all of the products sold at the store. It will be posted at [www.ffa.hvrhs.org](http://www.ffa.hvrhs.org) later this month.

## Learning about our land, Nov. 21

CORNWALL — Retired teacher and consummate outdoorsman Hugh Cheney will explain the local landscape and the forces that made it look and act the way it does.

His talk is on Saturday, Nov. 21, at 5 p.m. on Zoom.

Cheney has taught Environmental Science and Geology for four decades in the Northwest Corner, at the Marvelwood School (in Kent now but formerly in Cornwall) and the Salisbury School, a boarding

school for high school boys.

This presentation is supported by the Cornwall Conservation Trust, the Cornwall Conservation Commission and the Cornwall Library. Registration is required at [www.cornwalllibrary.org](http://www.cornwalllibrary.org).

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Fostering Democracy and an Atmosphere of Open Communication Since 1897



This letter has been enclosed in print editions of The Lakeville Journal and Millerton News and on [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com) for several weeks. We invite all our readers to continue to keep track of our progress and we will keep you updated regularly.

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

Dear Reader,

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

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

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

— The Lakeville Journal Company, LLC

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## MOVIEHOUSE

Continued from Page A1

served as an anchor in the village.”

The Sadlons did more than just restore the beauty of the building; they were also able to successfully turn the theater into a thriving center for the cinema arts. The first thing was the decision to name it The Moviehouse — a name deceptive in its simplicity.

“Robert was a corporate identity designer,” Sadlon said, speaking of her late husband and business partner. “He wanted to give the theater a strong and iconic identity and the name ‘The Moviehouse’ kept sticking in our minds.”

“Robert designed the logo himself and even had the letters of the sign in front of the building hand carved. Over the years, The Moviehouse has become ingrained in everyone’s mind as a name that has become synonymous with the arts in our region.”

As they buffed and polished the old theater, Robert and Carol also helped with efforts to upgrade and beautify the entire center of Millerton, earning the admiration and loyalty of their neighbors in town and in the area at large. You could go so far as to say that the Sadlons (among other notable business owners) created modern Millerton and helped to get the Main Street Historic District registered on the National Register of Historic Places.

### A place to discuss ideas

Once the downstairs portion of the theater was functioning, the couple turned their attention to the upstairs.

“Robert and I were passionate about the extraordinary and wonderful foreign and independent films that were available for theaters at that time but were hard to find outside of New York City. In the ballroom space, we created the upstairs theater with a stage to host post-screening discussions and specifically to show these films.”

“A café and art gallery, rounded out the space, providing an environment where people could relax, enjoy a cappuccino and discuss ideas and the films they had seen.”

Exhibitions of visual art rotated regularly in the space and featured regional artists. Opening receptions were hosted in the café.

Programming was designed to include something for everyone, with first-run films and blockbusters and children’s movies showing alongside independent films, documentaries and art films.

The FilmWorks Forum was created in 1997 to bring inspiring, socially relevant films with post-screening discussions free to local audiences and has become one of the mainstays of The Moviehouse’s offerings.

When the exhibition business shifted from analog film to digital in the early 2010s, the Sadlons made a substantial financial commitment to convert the theater so they could bring the latest technology to their audience.

### Change brings opportunity

The Sadlons understood that, with the conversion to digital, they could bring in live programming from anywhere

on the globe through state-of-the-art satellite systems.

This enabled The Moviehouse to present live-streamed and captured live productions from the Metropolitan Opera in New York City, the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow, the National Theatre in London and more. Filmmakers from all over the world were beamed in to discuss their work and answer audience questions, along with the many film professionals who live in the Tri-State region, elevating The Moviehouse into a world-class arts center.

“The Moviehouse became one of the first Event Cinemas, not limited to only showing movies,” Sadlon said. “It was a joy for us and the audience.”

Once the conversion to digital was done, she said, “The only aspect of programming we were missing were the smaller independent and international films and documentaries, that were totally amazing but that didn’t have wide distribution. As a way to show these films, we created the Screening Room — a 40-seat intimate theater that also served as a space for exhibition openings and a rental space for events and lectures.”

### Change is the constant

The COVID-19 pandemic shut down theaters across the country, including New York State, which was the last state to allow theaters to reopen.

“As a way to remain connected with our audience during the pandemic we have been offering curated independent films and documentaries through our ‘Virtual Cinema,’” Sadlon said. “These films are only available through independent art house theaters. Fans can purchase these films through The Moviehouse website to watch at home.”

Sadlon expects the virtual landscape to remain after reopening as a new audience outreach vehicle.

When asked about the challenges of continuing to run The Moviehouse without her life partner Robert, who passed away from cancer just 18 months ago, Carol replied, “Robert was very much a part of The Moviehouse; we were a team. Without him, the many responsibilities, and challenges of running a theater have fallen

on my shoulders. The burden of these tasks increased after the quarantine began and we had to furlough our employees.”

### Selling with Sotheby’s

The property and business is now being offered for sale through the Lillie K Team at Select Sotheby’s Realty, headed by listing brokers Raj Kumar and Annabel Taylor, with a listing price of \$1,195,000. Sadlon feels that The Moviehouse is in especially good hands with Kumar, who loves cinema and fully appreciates what The Moviehouse means to the community.

“There has been tremendous buzz and a lot of inquiries from people I know would be able to take this to the next level,” Sadlon said.

“Robert and I bought it at a challenging time in its history, because of our passion for cinema, preservation, art and architecture and with the intention of bringing people together. I really hope to find new owners who feel the same way.

“Nothing stays the same in life,” she said philosophically. “This was a hard decision, but now I am feeling very excited about the possibilities.”

### The show will go on

While she misses the crowds and the fun of being at The Moviehouse, Sadlon looks forward to seeing what the next owners will do.

“This theater has been part of the community for 105 years. We were the stewards for 42 years and now other talented, creative people will continue.”

Helping her through the process as well, she said, are the calls, letters and emails she has received since making the announcement.

“So many people have reached out to me. I know people really care. It motivates us to work hard to find the right buyer. This is an extraordinary audience who are really engaged. We are so lucky to have them.”

Until a new buyer is found, The Moviehouse will continue to offer Virtual Cinema and other special online events. To find out what’s going on and what films are available each week, sign up to receive their weekly newsletters at [www.themoviehouse.net](http://www.themoviehouse.net).



PHOTO SUBMITTED

**With the seventh annual Run & Wag 5K virtual race concluded, new Little Guild Executive Director Jenny Langendoerfer took a moment to visit with Zander, who is hoping for a home.**

## LITTLE GUILD

Continued from Page A1

zuto from Goshen, accompanied by Rosie, who saw that he crossed his finish line with a time of 29:16.

Finishing first as runners without dogs were Katherine Hillebrand, best female solo runner; and John Guenther, best male solo runner.

The top finisher in the up-and-coming youth category, between the ages of 13 and 17, was Bradley Bozzuto.

Winners in the “walking with pets” category enjoyed a less demanding experience punctuated by permissible stops for sniffing items of interest. This category’s winners with heartfelt enthusiasm for the Little Guild and its mission of Rescue, Heal and Love were Deidre St. John, Christina Hunter, Sharon Stramm and Marissa Simmons.

## ZONING

Continued from Page A1

quences for towns.”

The issues that did make the report were: Helping towns control local tax increases; developing a plan for municipal solid waste disposal; supporting voluntary regionalization and shared services; supporting the implementation of the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and other regional

plans, especially as regards broadband connectivity and COVID-19 pandemic response; timely release of bond funds from the state to towns; addressing the state’s opioid abuse and mental health crises.

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) was on the Zoom meeting. She said that committee assignments and leadership roles would likely be settled around Thanksgiving.

## TURKEYS

Continued from Page A1

of turkey sounds.

They also have excellent eyesight, including the ability to see ultraviolet light. Turkeys breed in the spring. The eggs are in a ground nest for 25-30 days and hatch in late March or early April, with about 4 to 17 eggs per nest and a survival rate of less than 50 percent.

After just a few days the hens stop feeding the poults and leave them to find their

own food, mostly bugs. Apple said the state collects information from citizens about wild turkeys.

And sometimes turkeys make the news for the wrong reasons, such as a case of turkeys chasing a mail carrier in New Jersey, or getting into people’s yards to get at the bird feeder.

Or, in Apple’s case, a turkey that took to sitting on her car, pecking at its reflection in the glass.

### Getting out the good word

Taking on the leadership of the oldest and largest animal shelter in northwest Connecticut, Langendoerfer expects to use her considerable background in communications to promote the Little Guild’s program, needs and objectives.

“We have one of the highest save rates nationally for a no-kill shelter,” Langendoerfer reported.

“The need is always there,” Langendoerfer explained. And the organization and the shelter need tending, too. Just recently, the boiler gave out and could not be repaired. Replacement cost an unanticipated \$8,000.

The no-kill shelter is tight for space in its current location, a converted home.

“We make it work,” she said. An ongoing goal is to find just the right property to become a more spacious setting for the work of The Little Guild.

“I feel blessed; I came from the corporate world,” Langendoerfer said in describing her fondness and enthusiasm for her new post. She also recognized what she termed an incredibly involved board of directors and staff, all contributing their talents.

“The Little Guild is a very special place to be, being a part of the animals’ lives. Supporting the mission of saving them and finding them successful adoptions is so rewarding,” she added.

Langendoerfer resides in Norfolk with her husband, Mike. They have two sons, Barrett, who is 24, and Xavier, who is 17. Two sizable rescue dogs are in residence. Scout is a mixture of German shepherd and Labrador, adopted when he was 6 months old (he is now 7).

Georgia, of a less specific — but still delightful — lineage was 2 years old when adopted and is now 5.

“They are both part of the family,” she added.

And there is also a cat adopted from The Little Guild 11 years ago, named Jazzpurr.

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Events

November 19-25, 2020

ART: DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

## From Visual Art to Music, AMP Continues to Grow

Blending Bach and social responsibility has been a lifelong goal of cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

How fitting, then, that the critically acclaimed musician is represented in the most recent art installment at the American Mural Project (AMP) in Winsted, Conn., the world's largest indoor collaborative artwork whose very foundation is built on community engagement.

Ma, along with more than 100 composers, vocalists and instrumentalists, is featured on a larger-than-life, 18-foot piano made from a sheet of aluminum, which was recently hoisted 48 feet high and attached to a section of the 120-foot-long mural.

The mural, which represents American workers and was launched by Sharon, Conn., resident Ellen Griesedieck in 2002, is housed in a historic mill building in Winsted. The project is expected to be completed in two years.

The piano piece, four years in the making, said Griesedieck, pays tribute to American music. "It has been resting on my studio floor while other projects move into place on the mural," she said.

"In fact, we disassembled and moved hundreds of aluminum panels out of my studio these past three years while walking over the blanketed piano."

In keeping with the concept of collaboration that is at the heart of AMP, the artist said she contacted music artists representing



PHOTO COURTESY AMP

**The latest installment in the massive American Mural Project in Winsted, Conn., is a metal panel shaped like a piano and etched with the names of 118 remarkable American musicians — and their favorite piece of music.**

every genre of American music and asked them for their favorite score to include on the piano.

"I further complicated this by deciding how beautiful the surface would be if I burned stencils of the artists' names and scores and then transferred them onto the aluminum with metal paints and patinas," a process that turned out, she said, to be extremely time-consuming. But once

the artist started, there was no stopping, especially as the overlapping scores began to yield a visually stunning pattern.

Another challenge Griesedieck faced was selecting from a list of "thousands and thousands of gifted musicians who live and work in this country" the 118 artists to be featured on AMP's piano. The final selection reads like a Who's Who of American Music — with numerous Tri-state region musicians represented.

Griesedieck said that over the summer AMP hosted a few small concerts by Paul Winter, Theresa Thomason and Joel Martin.

"We discovered that the

acoustics in our giant space are phenomenal," she said. As a result, the next chapter of AMP will be "opening our space for regular music events."

With each piece of artwork installed, Griesedieck explained, the acoustics in the cavernous space improve. The effect of music when it reverberates off the surrounding mural, she said, "pops it back at you" with a rich sound. Referring to the idea to host concerts at AMP, "We didn't plan for it. We really have been given a gift."

Although AMP is not currently open to the public, visitors will have an opportunity to get a sneak peek at the latest installations during Open Mill Days on Saturday, Dec. 5, and Sunday, Dec. 6.

Tours will be offered at 1 p.m. each day, lasting about 45 minutes, at AMP's location, 90 Whiting St., Winsted. Pre-registration is required for the tours (no walk-ins), which are limited to 16 visitors, by calling 860-379-3006. A minimum suggested donation of \$10 is encouraged at the time of registration.

## At The Movies

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## BARANSKI, MEYERS MARTINDALE AND MORE IN HVA AUCTION NOV. 22

Just in time for the holiday season, a rare (in 2020) opportunity: a fundraising auction.

The annual auction for the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) — which will be held this year on Sunday, Nov. 22 — is one of the traditions of the region. It always has a swipe of glamour; it was hosted for years by fashion designer Diane Von Furstenberg and has been hosted for the past few years by actress Christine Baranski, who has starred in many wonderful movies and is most recently a pillar of the television series "The Good Wife" and its sequel, "The Good Fight."

As its name suggests, the Housatonic Valley Association is dedicated to protecting the Housatonic River and the valley around it. The Housatonic is the river that runs through all our area Litchfield County towns, and is a source of beauty and recreation for many. The association helps ensure that the shores remain clean and healthy, without excessive building. There have been abnormal strains on the river and the valley this year, with an unusually high influx of out-of-town visitors coming in summer — some of whom didn't fully appreciate the importance of protecting the river.

Lynn Werner, HVA's executive director, said in a release announcing the auction, that HVA protects "thousands of woodland acres and miles of river and streams. So much is at stake — and everybody can be part of the solution while enjoying a COVID-safe party in the comfort of their own homes."

The auction is normally hosted in Washington, Conn. Anyone who's wanted to participate in the past but was daunted by the drive can now enjoy the auction itself (tickets are \$100) and a pre-auction



PHOTO COURTESY OF HVA  
**Actress and Litchfield County, Conn., resident Christine Baranski will once again host the fundraising auction (online this year) for the Housatonic Valley Association.**

VIP reception with Baranski and actress Margo Martindale (a beloved character actress who was also in many episodes of "The Good Wife") offered at 3:30 p.m. (admission comes with a donation of \$1,000 or more).

That's already a ton of fun in support of a cause that runs through the lives of all area residents. But there's more: One of the auction items is a chance for you and your friends to do a Zoom hang-out with Seth Meyers. Another Can't-Get-It-Elsewhere biddable is a singing/talking gift card from Martindale.

Other auction items include travel opportunities (in a future world, where COVID-19 is under control); regional delights from companies such as Litchfield Distillery, Harney & Sons Tea Company, Kent Wine & Spirits, GW Tavern in Washington Depot and the Fife 'n' Drum in Kent.

The annual fundraising auction for the Housatonic Valley Association is on Sunday, Nov. 22, from 4 to 5 p.m. Tickets are available online for \$100. To join the pre-auction VIP reception with Christine Baranski and Margo Martindale at 3:30 p.m., make a donation of \$1,000 or more. Go to [www.hvatoday.org](http://www.hvatoday.org) and click "Register Now to join Christine Baranski at Auction 2020."

## OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD (AT THE MAHAIWE)

Back in the old days of event television, it was an annual ritual for one of the networks (first CBS and then NBC) to broadcast "The Wizard of Oz" in November, right around Thanksgiving.

For those who pine for the comfort of old traditions in this year when so much is unconventional, the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass., will present four screenings of the film on Friday, Nov. 27, at 4 and 7 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 28, at 1 and 4 p.m.

It seems almost silly

to explain this but "The Wizard of Oz" was released in 1939 and stars Judy Garland, Ray Bolger, Jack Haley, Bert Lahr and Salisbury, Conn., resident Margaret Hamilton (she plays The Wicked Witch of the West). It is based on the books by L. Frank Baum, a native of upstate New York.

Tickets to "The Wizard of Oz" are \$9 and must be purchased in advance at [www.mahaiwe.org](http://www.mahaiwe.org) or by calling 413-528-0100 from Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

### TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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



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## BOOKS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

# Remembering Laurie Colwin Through Stories She Wrote (and Stories About Her)

You didn't have to live in Cornwall, Conn., to know Laurie Colwin, one of many famous writers who have lived in this particularly artistic little Northwest Corner town.

Colwin was well-known to anyone who loved to read about food and simple, homey pleasures. Her writing was gentle and warm and inviting, her recipes simple and attainable.

Which is somewhat funny when you speak to people who knew her well.

Dave Cadwell knew her from his restaurant, Cadwell's Corner, near the Covered Bridge. In one of her short essays published in "More Home Cooking," Colwin described his coffee shop as "the premier breakfast and lunch place in West Cornwall," and then described in detail why the Cadwell meatloaf was particularly tasty.

If you want to know the details of that famous meatloaf, tune in on Saturday, Nov. 28, to the Cornwall Library's annual Cornwall Reads Cornwall. Famous figures from town read the writings of famous writers from town. Some of those writers were local heroes (Samuel Scoville Jr.) and others were favorites around the globe (James Thurber).

Colwin might not be a household name in the way that Thurber was, but those who loved her writing loved her very much. Even today, 28 years after her unexpected death at age 48 of a heart attack in 1992, she is remembered as though she had just left the room.

The actress Blair Brown (Molly Dodd on television

and, more recently, Judy King in "Orange Is the New Black") will read several selections written by her friend for the event, perhaps from "Home Cooking" and "More Home Cooking" — including the famous meatloaf story.

For those who knew Colwin only from her writing, it's funny to hear her described by those who knew her. Her essays are quiet, observant, gentle. In life, however, she was outspoken and full of sizzle.

"You always knew when Laurie was in the room," Cadwell said affectionately. "She was a real pisser."

Brown said she met Colwin after moving to an apartment in New York.

"She'd sit on the front stoop of her building, which was three doors down from mine, wearing a denim wrap skirt and a French mariner's shirt, barelegged with loafers on," Brown recalled. And she would observe people coming and going — and engage them in conversation.

"She was essentially the concierge of our street," Brown said.

One day Colwin saw Brown walking by, struck up a conversation and invited herself over to see the actress's new pad. A long friendship ensued.

"Laurie would always talk about The Country," Brown recalled, in the days before she too began to spend time here in Litchfield County. "Laurie described Cornwall as a cross between Eden and Oz."

"I remember once that she entered her chutney at either the Cornwall Ag Fair

or the Goshen Fair. And she won a blue ribbon! She was thrilled."

That's especially endearing when you know that Colwin's work was routinely published in Gourmet magazine and The New Yorker and that she was voted into the James Beard Cookbook Hall of Fame, posthumously, in 2012.

Colwin's close friend Franny Taliaferro recalled that the writer (and her future husband, the book publisher Juris Jurjevics) came to Cornwall in 1982.

"Laurie loved Cornwall. Period," Taliaferro said.

When asked how The Concierge of a New York City Street fared in the relative isolation of The Country, Taliaferro said, "Laurie's Cornwall was not a place of isolation. She found everybody interesting and eventually invited everybody she liked to come for some sort of meal. A natural questioner, she got to know more about Cornwall than many people who had lived there for decades.

"In the terrible event of the 1989 tornado, Laurie pitched right in and made food for workers — just the sort of thing she did in New

York City, where she was a volunteer cook in a soup kitchen.

"Laurie loved community — a Cornwallish trait."

Those who read her and didn't know her, and didn't know to mourn her early death, think of her as frozen in time in the 1990s, young and pretty with curly hair and a bit of a smirk.

What would she be like today?

"Laurie would be 76 if she were alive now," Taliaferro said. "She was full of surprises and I wouldn't dare to imagine what she

might be doing. I know for sure, however, that her essential nature would be the same: warm, appreciative, affectionate, funny, irreverent and deeply intelligent."

To learn more about the wonders of Laurie Colwin, and to hear writings by James Thurber, Samuel Scoville Jr. and others, join the Zoom of Cornwall Reads Cornwall on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Readers include Kurt Andersen and Anne Kreamer and Roxana Robinson. Register at [www.cornwalllibrary.org](http://www.cornwalllibrary.org).

## INSIDE-OUT VIEWS OF THE WORLD IN WASSAIC

In a show that ranges widely across the Americas and West Indies, in media from quilts to masks to traps to articles of clothing to sculptures made of light, a show at the Wassaic Project in Wassaic, N.Y., explores the idea of "home" (whatever that looks like) and how it has changed the way we relate to ourselves and others.

"All Out/All In" features nine artists, opens on Saturday, Nov. 14, in Maxon Mills and remains on display until March 27, 2021. Make an appointment for a 30-minute visit online at [www.wassaicproject.org/exhibitions/all-out-all-in](http://www.wassaicproject.org/exhibitions/all-out-all-in). The exhibition will be open on Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY WASSAIC PROJECT

Mark Fleuridor's quilt, "Munmis November Babies: Moy Moy and Princess," is one of many diverse pieces in a new exhibition at the Wassaic Project in Wassaic, N.Y.

## TRAVEL: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## Truly a 'Dream' Vacation: Whiling Away the Hours in Rome

You don't need to be reminded at this point that domestic travel is difficult (and becoming more difficult) and that foreign travel is, literally, impossible.

For most of us, that simply means our dream vacation has to be postponed. For a lucky but unlucky few, that means that a treasured and meaningful destination is, for now, unreachable.

Rome is that destination for the writer Andre Aciman (who is Egyptian but emigrated briefly to Italy before then moving on to the U.S.) and Jeannette Montgomery Barron, who grew up in Georgia before moving to New York City. She lives in Kent, Conn., now but in the middle somewhere were 11 years that she spent in Rome with her husband (gallery owner/art dealer James Barron) and their two children, who were young at the time but are now college graduates.

Aciman and Barron had met while their children were in school together in Manhattan and reconnected a few years ago when



PHOTO BY JEANNETTE MONTGOMERY BARRON

What looks like a Great Master-style painting peeks out from behind a cascade of drapery at an antiques store in Rome in a new collection of photos and musings about the Italian capital by photographer Jeannette Montgomery Barron and writer Andre Aciman.

Aciman was in the Northwest Corner to speak at Ben and Donna Rosen's wonderful but short-lived Kent Presents summer speaker series.

Aciman was already a well-known and respected writer before he became very famous for the film made from his book, "Call Me By My Name."

Barron is sort of a stealth famous person in her own right having spent much of

the wild late 20th century in New York City, partying with Bianca Jagger and taking portraits of friends such as the actor Willem Dafoe and the artist Keith Haring.

Barron's life is more quiet and reflective now, especially in the pandemic — which has made it impossible for her to travel back to her beloved Rome.

"We're very fortunate to be up here," she said. "I've felt so lucky that I'm not in

a city wearing a mask all the time. I can go outside. It's been a very creative time for me."

Barron is working on several books with a publisher in England, but she's also doing what she loves, which is to wander around with her iPhone in her pocket, snapping photos of things that catch her eye.

Here in Litchfield County, those photos are likely to be taken on long walks

in the woods and along the river. In Rome, those photos were often architectural or of works of art.

"I wasn't going out to look for photos to take," she said of her images from Rome. "They just ... appeared in front of me and I'd have my phone in my pocket, I'd be going to the market or Pilates or to meet a friend and I'd find a photograph."

She had been primarily doing magazine work, portraits, and a series of photos of mirrors of all kinds. The more random images taken on the streets of Rome were a completely different artistic experience for her.

"In a way, it was like taking notes. It kind of freed me up."

Those photos are the ones that form the centerpiece of a new book that she and Aciman collaborated on, called "Roman Hours." It is a small volume that can fit in a large pocket and includes a color image of Rome facing a short musing or haiku-like observation by Aciman. The words weren't written to

match the photos, or vice versa.

"I think Andre just was walking around Rome doing the same thing I was doing: Going on errands and jotting notes in a Moleskin on his way to have a coffee.

"I love it when words don't illustrate the images," she added. The words and photos in "Roman Hours" "stand alone and have no real relation."

"Roman Hours" is the first in what is expected to be an ongoing City Series by Ivory Press, which pairs up an artist and a writer.

The book costs \$30, which is a bargain for what is essentially a portal to a city that we all wish we could travel to, with guidance from two experienced expatriates in Italy.

Signed and personalized copies of "Roman Hours" by Jeannette Montgomery Barron and Andre Aciman will be available after Dec. 7 at House of Books in Kent, Conn. Unsigned copies are available now. Go to [www.houseofbookst.com](http://www.houseofbookst.com) for ordering information.

EDITORIAL

Poll and postal workers deserve our thanks and respect

There are few people in the United States who are more dedicated to serving their fellow citizens than those who run and oversee elections at every level of government. It is not a simple task, and state to state, laws are different and can be daunting for those who are new to election work. But still, feet on the ground, these workers are the saving grace of our democracy.

We certainly saw that in the Northwest Corner on Election Day, Nov. 3. Remember that many poll workers have historically been older in the Northwest Corner (like so many of us.) Yet still they came out and organized voting that day despite their possible vulnerability to COVID-19. The area towns were ready with changes as necessary defined by the secretary of the state to accommodate voters during the coronavirus pandemic. Applications for absentee ballots were sent to all Connecticut residents, who could then apply and either mail the completed ballots to their town halls or drop them in secure boxes there to be counted. Or, of course, there was the opportunity to vote on Election Day in person.

Those who voted on Election Day in this area mainly found little obstruction to a quick and easy voting experience, except in Salisbury, where there were lines all day long that only grew in length during the course of the day. It could be that whatever their plan was could use another look the next time around, but maybe by then COVID will be less of an issue and things can go back to normal, whatever that will look like post-pandemic. (We can hope.) Still, the results from the Northwest Corner towns were all in to the secretary of the state's office in a timely manner, so that there was no lag in the statewide count.

So kudos and deep thanks to those who worked locally on behalf of democracy during the elections this year. That includes not only the poll workers but also all those local postal workers who worked hard and long hours to be sure mailed-in ballots arrived at their destinations safely and as quickly as possible.

It is the work of all those who coordinate voting in towns, cities, counties and states across the country that is so very critical to accurate outcomes in all the U.S. elections. That is not to say there are no issues with suppression of access to voting, and that gerrymandering doesn't rig the system and that there may be issues in every election that need oversight and further investigation. There are good reasons to do that on an ongoing basis.

But the people who count the votes that are cast have a different mission, in most cases, than a political one. Their dedication and confidence that they are counting correctly and thereby doing the right thing for their fellow citizens will be hard to overcome in the quest of President Trump's legal teams to find evidence of widespread fraud anywhere in the country. That serious commitment, while especially noteworthy here, is certainly not unique to the Northwest Corner of Connecticut.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — November 1920

SALISBURY — Mrs. Margaret Russell is ill and a trained nurse is in attendance.

LIME ROCK — Mr. Walter Boardman spent Sunday at camp in Cornwall and reports those there are having a fine time and have killed every thing but a bear!

SALISBURY — A large section of one of the big maple trees in front of Mrs. L.M. Eggleston's cottage was blown down during the storm on Tuesday night, carrying the telephone wires with it.

LAKEVILLE — Myron Holley is moving his ice house to a point near his barn.

The school house buildings at the Town Hill and Ticknor Districts are now ready to be sold. Bids for same will now be received by Walter Angus, Secretary of the School Board, Taconic, Conn.

50 years ago — November 1970

Michael Watts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Watts of West Cornwall, was burned last Thursday while burning trash near his home. His companion, 12-year-old Chris Mero-la, son of Mrs. Christopher Smith, also of West Cornwall, probably saved his life. Michael's clothes caught on fire, and the boys were unable to extinguish the flames by rolling on the ground. Chris finally stopped the blaze by wrapping his friend in a blanket, quick

thinking which saved him from further injury and possibly death. Michael was taken to Sharon Hospital where he was treated for first and second degree burns. He is now at home where his doctor reports he is coming along fine.

The Salisbury Farms Milk Bar and Restaurant has been sold by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gostout to John Thompson Jr., who plans to run it as a father-and-son operation with his father, John Thompson Sr. Mr. Thompson Sr. is well known in the area where he was manager of the White Hart Inn for a year. He has been in the hotel and restaurant business for many years and knows all phases.

Miss Betsy Belter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Belter of Salisbury, was introduced at the annual meeting of the Association of Community Health Services as the recipient of one of nine scholarships awarded this year to top-ranking students of nursing in Connecticut. The scholarship is awarded by the Connecticut League of Nurses.

25 years ago — November 1995

One storm after another has buffeted the Northwest Corner in the past 17 days. Power outages, some of them almost 48 hours long, have become commonplace. Town crews have worked overtime clearing leaf-clogged catch basins and ditches, cutting up downed



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

A light lunch in Salisbury

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't recreate a building we voted unanimously to demolish

I am writing with a bit of history regarding the old Holley Block building pictured in a vintage photo in this paper last week. The original Holley Block was built in the mid-1890s on the site of the Holley Company Store. Over the years, the structure grew to accommodate a livery stable, post office, newspaper office, Mason's Hall, a cluster of lively shops and a few "bachelor" apartments. Lack of parking presented no problems before horseless carriages became popular.

By the 1960s, Holley Block had become "an obsolete eyesore." (Lakeville Journal, 5/30/68). We were given the chance to vote whether or not to tear it down in a special Town Meeting held on a snowy evening in December 1967. "People

came out in a whirling snow storm and a sentence of doom was cheerily pronounced on the Holley Block in an unanimous vote." (Lakeville Journal 1/4/68) A donor made a gift towards the purchase of the site and demolition. In return, we promised that if any future building were ever built there, it would be (unlike the tear-down) "in keeping with the Federal or early Eighteenth Century image of our villages."

To recreate a building that the town unanimously voted to demolish, and razed with enthusiasm, seems an ill-advised choice for any purpose.

Helen Klein Ross

Lakeville

Act now and fight to combat COVID

As residents of Litchfield County, we are now in a Red Level of Risk in the war against COVID-19. The Red Level is as hot as it gets. We have lost 149 in this county to horrid death by COVID, and there will be more.

Please join the national effort to defeat this enemy, not with guns, but by wearing masks, social distancing, staying at home, avoiding crowds and washing hands. This requires strong civic commitment and self-discipline, but Americans have demonstrated in the past that we have both.

The medals of honor are reserved for the health care workers, scientists, first responders,

and essential workers on the front lines. As the rest of us fight behind the lines, we will see the risk level slowly decline from Red, to Orange, to Yellow, to Green.

When we are Green again, we can slap each other on the back in congratulations that together we mastered the virus.

Help is on the way from a vaccine; but for a while, we are on our own. Thank you for joining this fight.

Stay safe and protect your families.

G. A. Mudge

Sharon

People need support and accurate info

America is experiencing Differences Of Opinion (DOOs, an acronym I coined) on many levels, not only resulting in a close election but whether the results in all states should stand and possibly other options to discuss what happens next. We gain insight when we map legalities out yet

also recognize the emotional and belief components in any situation.

From the grassroots level, any person can be of two minds or both agree or disagree with aspects of almost any issue.

When two people are weighing in on things, that level of variation and complexity compounds quickly. We know there are laws and foundations but we are also discovering repeatedly there are gaps and dysfunction in the systems.

Even for a person trying to decipher what to do for their nutrition to prevent insulin resistance that leads to diabetes, there is a lack of information shared early on in life and some conflicting theories as to whether food, exercise, stress, and lifestyle makes a difference or not.

So even in these basic ways people are left in the dark or left without support and accurate information to make adjustments and stay the course to health, safety and support. In terms of interpersonal interactions there are laws and guidelines, but not clear pathways to file complaints and concerns, explore one's feelings and beliefs as well as consider those of others and look for middle ground or amicable ways to clarify social, physical and other boundaries.

The point of being in community at the local, state, national and global level is to make peace, not war, and have friends who can help work things out to allow people to live and not be in fear or pushed to the brink of extinction physically, socially or otherwise.

Even prisons are under scrutiny for ways they treat people humanely even if inside for a life sentence or serious crime. With COVID at our door, we are all feeling challenged to remember what life was like and could evolve to be if things ever get back to normal.

Many are concerned not only with the military gaining

more control over public health but also artificial intelligence spying on and redefining human beings. WilliamHenry.net and NoLiesRadio.org among many others discuss taboo topics while it is still legal to do so.

We all deserve a shot at hearing the theories to consider what is going on with individuals, communities, states, and countries as 2021 approaches.

Let's keep in mind the DOOs and Don'ts in life in terms of not silencing others completely but rather to use an open "What IF" mindset to hear the fears, concerns and hopes behind what someone is saying and find ways to make peace, not war on any level.

I share many ideas and resources on my blog forum Livfully.org. I network and consult with people can be reached on my FB Catherine Palmer Paton page or cppaton@yahoo.com.

Catherine Palmer Paton  
Falls Village

Salisbury can do better for housing

A parking lot proposal that is posted on the Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission website ('P. Hackett Public Parking Potential') should send chills down the spine of anyone who cares about the public parks and green spaces in Lakeville-Salisbury. The proposal includes paving over Bauer Park, the green at the end of Factory Pond in Lakeville, that has recently been turned into a beautiful, well-enjoyed garden with benches by the Lakeville Community Conservancy. The plan also proposes widening Ethan Allen Street to build 32 parking spaces along the edge of Factory Pond.

Turning Bauer Park and/or Ethan Allen Street, the entryway to the Town Grove, into parking lots is being proposed because the Salisbury Housing Committee is intent on destroying Bicentennial Park, a site that includes an existing parking lot and a tree-lined public park on Route 44 and Holley Street, to construct a 4-story apartment building on a quarter acre site in the center of Lakeville's historic district.

The resulting parking plan is not only an expanded assault on the historic heart of Lakeville and the rural feeling of our village, but paving over two green parks and widening Ethan Allen Street in this unique and sensitive area endangers our town drinking water (these areas are in the Aquifer Protection District) and the health of Lake Wononscopomuc. Storm water run-off is already one of the biggest threats to our lake. This shortsighted plan makes matters even worse. Why turn one mistaken idea into a disaster?

I want to see — and am eager to help any way I can — our town create needed affordable housing. But why try to shoe-horn an oversized building into an area that is too small, too dangerous with complicated car and pedestrian traffic, and too important to the historic district, our town water supply, our public green spaces, and the health of the beloved lake that we as a community have a duty to protect? And why eliminate an existing parking lot only to pave over two public parks to create other parking lots? It just doesn't make sense.

There must be another way. What about other sites in town that would not raise all of these critical issues and create so many additional problems?

It's my belief that as a community should come together and work out a better plan. I know we can do it.

Stephanie Koven

Lakeville

Another letter next page.  
Letters deadline for Nov. 26 is Nov. 20 at 10 a.m.

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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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# It's time to set uniform standards for voting in the US

Consider this. Forty-three states offer in-person voting before Election Day; the others don't. Twenty states allow voting on Saturdays, five on Sundays. Five states permit every voter to mail in their ballots between 10 and 18 days before the election. Twenty states allow mailed votes to be counted when they're received but in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan and some others, the mail-ins can't be opened until Election Day. And then there was the pandemic.

It doesn't have to be this way. In fact, the United States is the only democratic country that tolerates different voting styles in each province or region or whatever passes for states. Canada has a nonpartisan election commission that sets voting rules for the entire nation; other nations have similar arrangements.

True, the emergency voting disruptions caused by the pandemic made a chaotic system worse this time. Still, we should find a way to let the states run their own contests however they want, but have one set of rules for all the voters in the 50 states to follow in electing a president.

And while we're at it, we should take a hard look at some of the quaint practices devised by the Founding Fathers at a time when voting was meant to be restricted to white men smart and rich enough to be able to vote responsibly, at least in the eyes of similarly smart, rich, white men.

I'm talking mostly about the Electoral College, which made some sense when the Constitution was adopted in 1789 but became obsolete with the introduction of the first political parties at the turn of the 19th century. The Founders concluded that uninformed voters living in remote locations across the vast land would be better served if they elected solid citizens in their states to vote in their place. Or, as the sainted Roger Sherman of Connecticut told the Constitutional Convention, "I stand opposed to the election by the people. The people want for information and are constantly liable to be misled."

The 12th Amendment, passed in 1804, could have allowed the direct election of a Federalist or Democratic-Republican Party president, but it retained electoral votes to appease the powerful southern states. The South was outnumbered by northern voters and complained about not being able to count their slaves, whom, after all, they had to clothe and feed. So a deal was struck to count each slave as three-fifths of a (non-voting) person.

This made Virginia the big winner with 12 of the 91 electoral votes allocated to the then-existing states and it was no coincidence that four of the first five presidents were Virginians.

Only five men have become president without winning the popular vote, but two of them, George W. Bush and Donald

## IF YOU ASK ME DICK AHLES

Trump, were elected in the past 20 years and Trump came uncomfortably close to doing it again this month.

It's argued that the Electoral College protects those living in poorly populated states but they are adequately protected and advantaged by having as many senators as the vastly larger states. Then, there's the allegedly unquestioned wisdom of the all-wise Founders, the same founders who thought the people weren't smart enough and slaves could be counted as three-fifths of a person.

The Electoral College can be abolished by a constitutional amendment but getting two-thirds of each House to vote for anything is not terribly likely.

But there is one practical alternative, known as the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, an agreement among states — 16, so far — to allocate their electoral votes to the winner of the national popular vote. Connecticut's already on board along with the medium-sized states of Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon and Washington, the small states of Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island and Vermont and the large states of California, Illinois and New York.

They represent 196 of the

270 electoral votes needed to elect a president, so change may be in the offing. It would be about time, bringing the nation a major step closer to the democratic-republican ideal of one person, one vote.

It was about time a while back when a noted politician told his countrymen, "We must eliminate those defects in the Electoral College system which make possible the frustration of the people's will in the election of their President and Vice President." The year was 1826 and the writer was a former president named Jefferson.

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



## Our Home, Our Future

Voices from the Salisbury Community about the housing needed for a healthy, economically vibrant future

### Brigitte Ruthman

In 1991, EMTs Jacquie Rice and Brigitte Ruthman trained and studied hard, passed Firefighter 1 as interior firefighters and gained membership in The Lakeville Hose Co. as the first two females in an organization with a rich tradition that began in 1905.

In 2004 Brigitte was evicted from her Salisbury apartment without warning or cause while searching for a home buying opportunity and was forced to find alternative housing. "I had made offers on a couple of small homes, including one that had been gifted to the ambulance service, but my bids couldn't compete with the second home-owners' market," she said. "I wanted to stay in town because of the extended families in the fire department and ambulance service. But affordability forced me to look farther afield."

The eviction caused a brief experience with homelessness — a few days on the couch at the ambulance headquarters — before a neighbor offered their rental home. After purchasing land in Sandisfield, Mass., about 30 minutes from Salisbury, friends helped Brigitte raise a kit home. She moved in as the snow began to fly through the unfinished roof.

"I had to resign from the ambulance service, because I couldn't answer emergency medical calls. One of the firemen ripped up my resignation letter before I could submit it, so I've stayed

on answering the few calls I can on mutual aid and serve as appeals chairman. I keep up dual Connecticut and Massachusetts certifications. As much as I was able to build the small farm I had hoped for, it wasn't in the town where I wanted to live and continue volunteering. It's

not the same here. The brother and sisterhood in Salisbury is unique."

Before leaving town she spoke at a hearing sponsored by the Salisbury Association about the need for affordable housing.

"At the heart of a community are those who give back to it," she said. "You can't do that if you're coming up on a Friday afternoon and leaving Sunday night. And it's simply not possible for someone earning \$50,000 to compete with a commodities broker or hedge fund manager who wants a weekend retreat when property goes up for sale. Rentals are a segue to home ownership. Investing in volunteers means investing in working class, local families who can afford to live here."

With an average home sale price between Oct. 1, 2018, and Oct. 1, 2020, of \$778,750, who will be able to live in Salisbury? What does it mean for the future of our town?

Mary Close Oppenheimer is a local artist who has been part of the Lakeville/Salisbury community for 30 years.

### SERIES ON HOUSING

#### MARY CLOSE OPPENHEIMER



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

## Making best use of your moral compass: What value trust?

Life, especially a calm and orderly life, depends on trust — trust in your environment, trust in your fellow citizen, trust in your own safety. Without trust in these three areas, you live in fear.

A raging conflict or indeed war is not frightening only because you may be injured, it is terrifying because you cannot have trust in the person you see on the street, you cannot have trust for your safety and, especially, you cannot have trust in

your environment that can be destroyed at any moment. It is the lack of trust that terrorizes even non-violent moments in places of conflict.

Imagine you witness a criminal gang attacking a bank. Your moral compass tells you there are dangerous people attacking the bank. You make an evaluation. Why? The why is simply answered: You do so in self-preservation. You cannot trust those people you see breaking the law, trampling

### A VIEW FROM THE EDGE PETER RIVA

your moral compass. Now, imagine you are drawn — for any small reason — in sympathy to those criminals' reasons for robbing the bank and begin to believe in their moral code to do so and, in so believing, you begin to see their purpose as being righteous. Do you adopt all of their moral codes? Do you see the possibility of murder, gun fights, stealing as moral, for you as being moral? Or do you simply look the other way and feel smug?

Bonnie and Clyde, the famous bank robbers, killed and murdered people. They were despicable examples of moral values and upholding the sanctity of life. And yet, their aim to strike back against "the man" and the banks — to liberate funds for themselves and their followers — allowed thousands to hide them, condone their murders, and, when they were caught and shot, to give them a public viewing that papers at the time described as "many thousands paraded in the streets."

Now, I have to ask: How can anyone ever trust those who "adored Bonnie and Clyde," who murdered 13 people and stole people's hard-earned funds (many small banks went bust and lost depositors' mon-

ey)? Are all those idolaters evil or were they so self-deluded to believe that murderers should be acclaimed heroes and "of the people?" If you made those folks face the corpses of those Bonnie and Clyde shot — sometimes 30 or 40 times, gleefully mutilating corpses — I doubt "good people" would feel proud of their support.

In fact, what we now know as The Stockholm Syndrome — identifying with your captors — has only one cure: to be faced with facts, with reality. Only when those idolaters are faced with such reality can they begin to regain the trust of normal citizens or society.

And so, here we are: faced with almost half the country who idolized a liar, misogynist, a xenophobe, a racist and, above all, an opportunist at any cost. Are his supporters to be trusted, can they be trusted, or has their moral compass been compromised for ever? Like the Bonnie and Clyde idolaters who admired the banks being destroyed, who overlooked the 13 murdered in the process, when faced with the reality of the gang's criminal activity, many felt ashamed or made excuses of "we didn't know!" At the end of WWII there were millions of Germans and Italians and collaborators who claimed they too "didn't know" what Nazi Germany was doing. If they didn't know, it was because they chose not to see, not to know, never to admit.

So, too, with Trump's supporters. Many, perhaps most,

will never admit they were morally corrupt to support him and his gang. In fact, the divisions in our country will continue unless they have a chance for rehabilitation by facing the truth — of the more than 243,000 people who died of COVID needlessly, of the babies and children never to find their parents again, of the lawful immigrants chucked out who perished, of the allies like the Kurds discarded to placate an adversary, of the farming businesses bankrupt because of power-play tariffs, of the tacit support of American terrorist groups, of his destruction of the EPA and other agencies' backbone policies, of countless willful persecutions of civil servants who tried to stand up to

his lawlessness... the full list is much longer and deep.

Like the Nuremberg trials, the purpose of any post-Trump examination must have as its goal to restore trust. Trust not in the government but our trust in our fellow citizen. Unless that happens, how can any of us trust almost half the population? Half the population aided and supported, idolized for many, this person who thought he was above the law as he corrupted the nation's morals. Until and unless we have that trust in our fellow citizens restored, the country risks permanent rendering and may not survive.

Writer Peter Riva, a former resident of Amenia Union, now resides in New Mexico.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

More letters previous page.

## More hurricanes, viruses

It is by far the worst hurricane season on record. During 2019 we had 18 named storms including 6 hurricanes. This year the 2020 Atlantic hurricane season is tracking to be the most active hurricane season on record and it's not over yet. To date it looks like 30 namesake storms including 14 hurricanes.

It is well recognized that our fossil fuel burning and human encroachment is wreaking havoc with our ecosystems across the planet. What we need to face also now is that ecosystem disruptions are also wreaking havoc on our health.

As we struggle with COVID-19 today we must also face the facts that we are enabling more zoonotic spillover of viruses to jump from animals to humans as we impact natural habitats without regard for the consequences.

As more hurricanes are the result of our activities as humans heating up the oceans. More viruses will emerge as a result of our encroachment on more and more natural habitats and the destruction ecosystems that once created a buffer zone that prevented animal and human virus spillover.

Unless we face the climate emergency that we are in the midst of we will have more and more dangerous hurricanes and more and more dangerous viruses every year.

It is past time to recognize the connection between our health and how we interact with nature on this planet that we share before it is really too late.

Bernard Re Jr.

North Canaan

## Realtor® at Large

The application to build affordable rental units in Lakeville was withdrawn from consideration from the Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission last week. Probably a good move as it can be reworked and then resubmitted for approval. In the meantime, there are many individuals and families searching for affordable housing in Salisbury who cannot wait for projects to be approved. There are several ways to help immediately: Donate to the Salisbury Housing Trust ([www.salisburyethousing.org](http://www.salisburyethousing.org)) and/or Habitat for Humanity of Northwest CT ([www.habitatnwct.org](http://www.habitatnwct.org)). Additionally, Salisbury Family Services provides a lot of support for our community and can be reached at 860-435-5187. Thanks for your generous support!

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# Over the Border

## St. Thomas expands its food pantry

By Carol Kneeland

AMENIA UNION — Sometimes all it takes is a simple question to bring about a big change that can affect several hundred people. In this case, one such question led to a new building for the St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Food of Life/Comida de Vida Food Pantry.

The church's priest (and executive director of the pantry) AJ Stack said the spark came during the dog days of summer. Patrick Bergquist of the Episcopal Charities of the Diocese of New York was making a site visit.

"We were having a conversation about the adaptive changes we had made for the virus," said Stack, which included using the steep incline that needed to be navigated to get bags of food from the parish hall bursting with supplies to the open air distribution tables.

Stack said that he was asked, "So what are you going to do when winter comes?" We just got a deer in the headlights look and said, "Oh! That's our next

job — to figure out what to do when winter comes."

Work on the project to construct a building for the busy food pantry — which provides needed storage while keeping both visitors and volunteers safe and warm — began in August.

Since its inception 11 years ago, the church's pantry has been a source of help, mainly for the working poor — many of whose jobs were impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Three days of supplies (food and household items) are given to families each week with no residency requirements or other questions asked.

In March, 181 people per week were served. With the advent of COVID-19, that number doubled to 374 weekly and has settled to an average of 325 per week — with no reduction anticipated anytime soon.

Stack emphasized that the building "has been fully funded by generous grants and donors ... so any donations made at this point would go to the general fund that helps the pantry run."

The building (which holds



PHOTO SUBMITTED

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, located at 40 Leedsville Road in Amenia Union, just added a new building for its successful Food of Life/Comida de Vida Food Pantry.

20,000 pounds worth of food) was designed by Wassiac architect and volunteer Leo Blackman. Stack also credits Ducillo Construction Company for the swift completion of the project.

An official building dedication will take place on Sunday, Nov. 22. Due to COVID-19, it will be limited to only a few invited attendees. With the final electrical touches on the pantry building completed on Friday, food distribution is shifting immediately from the Parish Hall to the new site on the church property at 40 Leedsville Road in Amenia Union.

Every Friday from 1:30 to 5 p.m., some 30 rotating volunteers — up from the previous eight to 12 volunteers — will continue to fill bags as one checks the requests of clients,

which more often than not include families with children who rely on the pantry as a source of good nutrition necessary for growth. Another volunteer brings the bagged items to an outside table that is sanitized as soon as the items are transferred to the recipient.

Support for the pantry also comes from St. Peter's in Lithgow, Grace Church in Millbrook, Congregation Beth David in Amenia, Sharon Congregational Church in Connecticut, The Millbrook School, the Wassiac Volunteer Fire Department and a number of local schools.

For more information or to donate to the Food of Life/Comida de Vida Food Pantry, go to [www.stthomasamenia.com](http://www.stthomasamenia.com) or call 845-373-9161.

## Brooklyn resident dies in motor vehicle crash

By Whitney Joseph

AMENIA — New York State Police (NYS) Troopers from Dover Plains responded to a fatal car crash on Route 44 and County Route 83, where the turnoff is for Separate Road, on Veterans Day, Wednesday, Nov. 11, at around 4:15 p.m.

According to investigators, 37-year-old Christian P. Brink of Brooklyn, N.Y., was driving a 2003 Toyota Camry southbound on County Route 83 approaching Route 44. When Brink approached a stop sign, he "failed to stop and yield right of way at the intersection stop sign," according to the police report.

"He made a left-hand turn to continue eastbound on State Route 44 directly in the path of a westbound 2008 Peterbilt sanitation truck," the report said.

NYS Public Information Officer Aaron J. Hicks said Friday, Nov. 13, that the garbage truck was traveling westbound and "had the right of way." He said Brink "didn't come to a complete stop and did not yield right of way."

Brink and his passenger were transported to Sharon Hospital by Northern Dutchess Paramedics (NDP). The passenger, whose name was not released, was reported in stable condition with non-life threatening injuries. Brink, however, was pronounced dead at the hospital by the Emergency Department physician.

The police shut down Route 44 following the collision.

On Friday, there was no new information to report, other than the investigation into the accident is ongoing.

## Dutchess County exec says region is ready for COVID-19 uptick

By Kaitlin Lyle

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro offered his constituents updated COVID-19 details at a Virtual Town Hall Forum held on Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Molinaro talked about the expectation of an uptick in COVID-19 cases during the transition to colder weather and flu season.

To date, the county has conducted nearly 240,000 COVID-19 tests. Over the course of the last 10 months, there have been 5,839 confirmed cases countywide; Molinaro said the county is currently tracking 317 active

cases. At this time, there are 12 individuals hospitalized, a number Molinaro said has remained steady these past few weeks — but the county is prepared for a growth in hospitalizations if needed.

As of now, the regional Mid-Hudson Valley positive rate for COVID-19 is 2.7% while the positive rate in Dutchess County is 1.9% on a seven-day rolling average.

Molinaro said the county's Department of Health (DOH) and teams from all agencies in county government are actively identifying positive cases, conducting contact tracing and trying to limit transmission.

An audience member asked

whether the county is in danger of going back to Phase 3 and what the threshold would be for that. Molinaro said no one is suggesting the county "go backward in time," and drew his audience's attention to the state's work to identify COVID-19 micro cluster hot spots.

He said the county is working on "a rapid response to growth" in certain areas to ensure the appropriate agencies are prepared for and can react to potential micro clusters.

Several audience members asked questions on a wide array of topics, including when nursing homes will allow visitors again; his thoughts on man-

dated vaccines; the county's plans for celebrating holidays this year; the county's focus on building a new jail; and questions related to the county's commitment to mental health services.

One question that seemed to touch the county executive focused on what citizens can do to help in this time of crisis.

Calling it "a remarkably kind question that doesn't get asked much these days," Molinaro advised residents to remain calm, to do things that make sense, to be vigilant, to remember to follow the COVID-19 guidance and to be aware and there for family and friends who might not be feeling well.

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## Salisbury School

### Director of Advancement Services

Salisbury School seeks a full-time Director of Advancement Services who is responsible for the integrity, security, and accurate dissemination of all data that supports the advancement of the School while overseeing the database and gift coordinator. The Director of Advancement Services serves as the primary information technology expert within the Development Office and acts as liaison between the Development Office and the School's IT Department.

Minimum of five years experience in IT, relational database management, data analysis and proficient knowledge of Blackbaud's The Raisers Edge required. Candidates should send letter of application and resume to [mdonecker@salisbury-school.org](mailto:mdonecker@salisbury-school.org).

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## Salisbury School

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