

# The Lakeville Journal

Small Business Spotlight, Page B1

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

## 'Painful fall and winter' ahead as COVID-19 cases surge in NW Corner

By Debra A. Aleksinas

Fatigue toward social distancing, increased indoor congregation, school and business reopenings and close interactions among small groups of people may be at the root of a rise in COVID-19 infections in the region, according to health and infectious disease experts.

In the last two weeks, a surge of the novel coronavirus surfaced in the Northwest Corner, including at the Geer Village Senior Community in North Canaan, the hardest hit, where 30 residents and 11 staff (a total of 41 Geer community members) had contracted the virus as of Monday, Oct. 26.

In addition, one resident passed away who had already been receiving palliative care for an unrelated illness and subsequently tested positive for the virus, according to Geer's administrator, Kevin O'Connell.

Sharon Hospital President Mark Hirko reported last week that three staff members had tested positive for the virus, and one patient who was admitted to the hospital recently for surgery received a positive COVID-19 test result. Responding to the rise in community infections, the hospital has limited entry to patients and employees, restricted visitors and is offering community testing. One additional case was reported Monday, Oct. 26.

The novel coronavirus has also found its way into four of the seven Region One School

District schools in recent weeks.

Cornwall Consolidated School had a positive test result just before the start of the school year. Interim Region One Superintendent Lisa Carter reported last week that the Lee H. Kellogg School in Falls Village had one new coronavirus case involving a member of the school community (not a staff member or a student). Until that positive result, Falls Village had not reported a single positive test result during the entire pandemic.

On Monday, Oct. 19, Sharon Center School sent out an announcement saying that a middle school teacher had tested positive for COVID-19, prompting closure of the school the next day and a two-week quarantine involving all students in grades five to eight, as well as Principal Karen Manning.

North Canaan Elementary School reported two positive cases on Thursday, Oct. 22, and the following day announced two additional infections. In a statement issued by the school, contact tracing revealed that the first two identified cases involved a student in the middle school who was symptom free, and an individual who has never entered the school and who had no contact with the general population of students or staff.

Meanwhile, the private Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, where four boarding students tested positive for COVID-19, reported on Oct. 20 that all

**'In a community with widespread transmission, what you think is your safe "bubble" may not be.'**

— Dr. James Shepherd, infectious disease consultant at Yale-New Haven Hospital

test results of students and staff have come back negative, and that COVID-19 testing will continue weekly.

However, those students who had tested positive "cannot return to campus and classes because a repeat SARS-CoV-2 test does not override the original test," said Chief Communications Officer Hope Cobera. "The students will therefore stay in isolation in order to protect the community, regardless of repeat test results. This follows Centers for Disease Control and Connecticut Department of Public Health guidelines."

### 'Painful fall and winter'

While northwest Connecticut fared better than many other areas during the pandemic's first surge, earlier this year, health officials are bracing for what they fear could lie ahead. What is important to note, said health experts, is that the coronavirus did not go away, and then suddenly reappear. It has been quietly here all along.

"The surges across the U.S. are more pronounced because the level of community transmission was never suppressed over the summer and there is so much virus around," said Dr. James Shepherd of Sharon, an infectious disease consultant at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

What has diminished, noted Shepherd, is the public's resolve to social distance, wear masks and avoid close gatherings. Unless there is a reversal in behavior, he said, "This will be a painful fall and winter."

The "big picture," said Shepherd, "is both a national and a global surge in COVID across the northern hemisphere as fall progresses, driven by increased indoor congregation and school and business reopenings."

"A fatigue toward social distancing has played a part, and in Connecticut we are seeing increased transmission in people's homes as they relax mask wearing and return to more close interactions with small groups of people they trust."

Shepherd said there is data and discussion around just how much transmission is fueled by school reopening, although it is unclear. However, "A general picture is emerging of reduced risk of community transmission fueled by younger kids in kindergarten and elementary school; but rising risks to the community from older kids and undergraduates."

As for the potency of the novel coronavirus, Shepherd noted that there is no evidence

See COVID, Page A6

## Winter is coming Home generators, demystified in a Zoom talk

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — Aware that residents who endured this August's extended power outage and realizing that winter is approaching, the Cornwall Association offered a forum on home generators on Wednesday, Oct. 14, on Zoom.

About 30 residents participated, wanting to know more about options for generators and how they work. The talk can still be seen online at [www.cornwallassociation.org/recent-events](http://www.cornwallassociation.org/recent-events).

Three experts were assembled by meeting moderator Gary Steinkohl, who is president of the Cornwall Association. Contributing their knowledge were electrician Steve Saccardi of Hilltop Electric, solar energy specialist Jim LaPorta, and generator specialist Mark Cipriano of Bantam Wesson.

Summarizing types of gen-

erators and their fuels, Saccardi described gasoline-powered portable generators, as well as portable generators powered by propane. These small generators have a transfer switch and are useful for modestly sized homes.

Owners want them to start up when needed, so maintenance is important. Gasoline-powered models will not start up if improperly maintained or if the owner neglects to empty the tank between seasons, for example. This is less of an issue with propane, but still, maintenance is important.

Standby generators will start automatically and they offer an automatic transfer switch. These types will test themselves periodically to be sure they are ready to work and they are permanently connected. Standby generators are generally pro-

See GENERATOR, Page A6

## Look for election results online Nov. 4

The federal and state elections will be on Tuesday, Nov. 3. Because each edition of our newspapers goes to press at mid-day on Tuesdays, the election results will not be available to us to print in the issue of Nov. 5.

It is also possible that the full results for some or all of the races will not be available on the Tuesday night, as is traditional.

In a normal year, we gather election results from town clerks and registrars and then reconcile those totals against the numbers that are sent to the secretary of the state (and then posted online at the state website). There are often discrepancies between the two sets of numbers.

This year, because the collection of vote tallies is expected to be more complex than usual, we will only use the final numbers sent to the secretary of the state. We will post them online as soon as possible after they become available.

The numbers we post will only reflect how our local towns have voted and who will be our state representative, state senator, and representative in Congress. We will not post national vote results.

Look for those numbers at our website at [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com), possibly as soon as Wednesday, Nov. 4. And we will hope to share final vote counts in our print edition of Nov. 12.

— Janet Manko,  
Publisher and Editor in Chief  
— Cynthia Hochswender,  
Executive Editor

## Moviehouse will wait and see on opening up again

By Kaitlin Lyle

MILLERTON — Moviehouse owner and co-founder Carol Sadlon said she will not reopen the beloved Millerton theater just yet, despite Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Oct. 17 decree that film venues can open again.

The new rule is that movie theaters outside of New York City can reopen at 25% capacity or allow up to 50 people in at a time, whichever is less.

Sadlon, who said she is taking the reopening process slowly, responded to a request for an interview with The Millerton News following Cuomo's Oct. 17 announcement with the following statement in an email:

"Many of you will have heard the governor's announcement that movie theaters in New York State may reopen at 25% capacity on Oct. 23 and you may be wondering what this means for The Moviehouse," she said via email. "We are taking a wait-and-see approach before making any decisions."

Sadlon said the shutdown has been very difficult and there is a lot to consider.

"There are many factors that must be taken into account, including the current COVID situation and available films," she said.

"In the meantime, we encourage you to visit our website, sign up to receive our weekly newsletters and take advantage of the selection of carefully curated films and documentaries available through

our virtual cinema at [www.themoviehouse.net](http://www.themoviehouse.net)."

Cuomo's guidance for theaters is online at [www.governor.ny.gov](http://www.governor.ny.gov). They can only open outside the city in counties with no cluster zones and a COVID-19 positive rate of lower than 2% on a 14-day average.

"Theaters have been deemed non-essential for more than seven months," Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro said he had been hoping for such a decision from Albany and was grateful the governor finally made the move.

"The film industry is a significant contributor to our national and local economy," said Molinaro. "Theaters are more than just a venue. Behind them are thousands of jobs in New York alone, from actors and artists to writers and production crews."

At the Poughkeepsie Galleria, Cineworld (parent company of Regal Cinemas), resumed operations at its multiplex movie theater on Friday, Oct. 23.

Ten other Regal locations opened across the state that same day.

Mooky Greidinger, CEO of Cineworld, said in press release on Thursday, Oct. 22, that "our New York theaters and staff are thoroughly prepared for a safe and sustainable reopening."

At The Galleria, masks and social distancing are required. Individual seats are thoroughly cleaned between shows. There will be two empty seats on either side of each party. Reserving seats ahead of time is encouraged.

## For Medicare, don't put off signing up

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — People who are at or near the age of 65 and wondering what to do about enrolling in Medicare should not let it slide, according to independent agent advisor Margaret Ackley, who gave her talk on understanding the ins and outs of Medicare in a Zoom meeting sponsored by the Scoville Memorial Library on Saturday, Oct. 17.

She said she added Medicare to her portfolio after years of observing her aunt's annual ritual of trying to puzzle out what changes, if any, to make in her Medicare plan.

She ran through the basics. Medicare Part A is hospital insurance. Part B is medical insurance (out of the hospital).

Part A has no premium assuming the individual has paid

taxes for at least 10 years. Coverage cannot be denied and is good nationwide, Ackley said.

Part B has a monthly premium, cannot be denied and is good nationwide.

But if someone misses the enrollment period, they get stuck with a late enrollment penalty that lasts until they die.

Which is why leaving it to the last moment is a very bad idea.

Ackley emphasized that once parts A and B are activated, people must enroll in a drug plan (Part D).

Then there are secondary insurance plans. A Medicare supplement plan covers the gaps in Parts A and B. These are private plans. The more you pay, the more they cover.

This is where an agent comes in handy. Ackley said that in Connecticut, the private plans are identical, even though the companies charge different rates. She can help guide clients to the companies that are the

See MEDICARE, Page A6



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# Regional

## In The Journal this week

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

### Three-day forecast

Friday..... Snow, high 39°/low 19°  
 Saturday..... Sun, 46°/30°  
 Sunday..... Cloudy, 53°/35°

## 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.

### Struck tree to avoid deer

On Oct. 13 at approximately 6:15 a.m. on Canaan Road in Salisbury a 1997 Toyota Avalon driven by Omar Alcantara, 35, of Torrington swerved to avoid a deer and struck a tree. Alcantara was issued a verbal warning for failure to maintain the lane.

### Death in railroad accident

On Oct. 14 at approximately 3 p.m. Troop B responded to a report that Warren Thomson, 59, of Monterey, Mass., was trapped under an excavator on the train tracks on Gandolfo Drive in North Canaan. Thomson, an employee of the Housatonic Railroad Company, was reported to have sustained significant injuries to his head and torso resulting from the excavator striking him while he was performing his professional duties. He was transported to Sharon Hospital by North Canaan Ambulance. He was pronounced dead at Sharon Hospital that same day. The

Federal Railroad Administration and the National Safety Board are conducting an independent investigation.

### Warrant for assault

On Oct. 16 at approximately 4:45 p.m. Abigail Rosier, 25 of North Canaan turned herself in on an active warrant. She was charged with disorderly conduct, assault in the third degree and threatening in the second degree. She was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on Dec. 2.

### Struck guard rail

On Oct. 18 at approximately 7:15 a.m. on Point of Rocks Road in Falls Village a 2017 Honda Accord driven by Julio Santiago, 42, of Kent exited the roadway and struck the metal beam guardrail on the left side of the road. The Honda was towed due to damage. Santiago was found at fault and issued an infraction for failure to drive right.

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).

## Good will on Election Day

SALISBURY — Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Salisbury Rotary Club will not be hosting its traditional Election Day breakfast get-together at Salisbury's Congregational Church, across the street at Town Hall. These complimentary get-togethers have served to foster citizen participation in the American electoral process and to provide friends and neighbors a chance to down-size their emotions over what may have resulted in temporary separations due to firmly held, but opposing, views regarding the candidates and the issues.

The club will, however, have a tent and table set up across the street from Town Hall to sell tickets for its \$10,000-Giveaway Raffle, raising money to continue its "good works" mission supporting local scholarships and nonprofit organizations. The COVID-19 virus caused cancellation of the club's two major annual fundraisers, its Kentucky Derby Social Silent & Live Auction and the July 4th Fireworks at Lime Rock Park. Voters are encouraged to stop by the table between 8 a.m. and noon, purchase a raffle ticket for \$10, and become eligible to win \$10,000 when the winner is drawn on Nov. 17. For more information, contact Club President, Peter Fitting at [peterfitting@hotmail.com](mailto:peterfitting@hotmail.com).

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

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

Check them out inside.

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

## Workman killed at railroad repair site

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — A fatal accident in which a workman at a railroad crossing project was run over by a railroad company excavator drew emergency rescuers to the scene on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

Details of the incident were unclear; the investigation is ongoing. Lt. Seth Mancini, commanding officer of the State Police at Troop B, said on Thursday, Oct. 15, that in addition to the State Police, investigators from the Federal Railroad Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board are involved.

The accident took the life of Warren Thomson, 59, of Monterey, Mass., who was replacing a section of track at the construction site when the Housatonic Railroad Company excavator operator failed to see him in time. Thomson was an employee of the Housatonic

Railroad Company.

According to the police report prepared by Trooper Matthew Harrington, the accident occurred on the tracks behind 2 Gandolfo Drive. The excavator was operating on the tracks.

The Canaan Fire Company ambulance service was first to respond to the scene, according to North Canaan Fire Chief Brian Allyn, who was reached for comment on Thursday, Oct. 15. Allyn said that emergency services had been summoned at around 2:45 p.m.

Allyn reported that he reached the scene soon after the ambulance crew was already tending to Thomson. "When I got there, the ambulance crew had placed him on a stretcher and were bringing him to the ambulance," Allyn recalled. The State Police responded at around 2:59 p.m., according to their report.

Describing it as a "tragic accident," Allyn praised the work

of all emergency personnel. "Everyone did everything they were supposed to do," he said, adding that the procedures went smoothly.

A Life Star helicopter arrived at the scene, but it was not used. Thomson was transported by North Canaan ambulance to Sharon Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Thomson was a lifelong member of the Monterey Fire Department, contributing 45 years of active service to that department.

Commemorating Thomson's service, the department posted last week that Thomson had been a "jack of all trades" over the years, with talents as a mechanic, electrician and skilled pump operator and that he could be counted on as an overall problem solver.

Allyn said that investigators were on the scene on Oct. 15. Their report is expected in the near future.



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## Correction

An article in the Oct. 22 Lakeville Journal about a search of the Salisbury area by the State Police incorrectly said that the Salisbury School was part of the search, in addition to Salisbury Central School. The State Police did not go to the Salisbury School.

## WSS WOMEN'S SUPPORT SERVICES



### ANNUAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VIGIL

THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER AT 7:30PM  
 Women's Support Services Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Womens.Support.Services>



A non-profit 501(c)(3)

## Annual Meeting

Monday, November 2, 2020 • 9:30 AM  
 At the Dog Park

The Friends of the Salisbury Community Dog Park wish to acknowledge and thank our local businesses for their generous support.

- |                          |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Black Rabbit Restaurant  | LaBonne's Markets        | Petpourri                 |
| Boundaries For Pets      | Lakeville Auto           | Salisbury Bank & Trust    |
| Elyse Harney Real Estate | Lakeville Wine & Spirits | Sand Road Animal Hospital |
| Inn at Iron Masters      | Litchfield Bancorp       | Ultimate Dog Spa          |
| Interlaken Inn           | Millerton Veterinary     | White Hart Inn            |
| Klemm Real Estate        | National Iron Bank       |                           |



## Salisbury Republican Town Committee



## WHY VOTE REPUBLICAN?

Because we need representatives in Washington and Hartford who will promote moderate, common sense solutions to problems ranging from Connecticut's hemorrhaging of jobs and residents to other states, the destruction of small businesses due to the prolonged lockdown, and the weakening of state and local law enforcement under the mantra of defunding the police.

Our candidates for Congress and the State Legislature all have vast experience in the public sector and will work to establish moderate, common sense solutions to state and national issues.

David X. Sullivan, a 30-year Assistant U.S. Attorney in Hartford who has prosecuted cases across the broad spectrum of Federal criminal law and who has regularly lectured at Yale Law School, Western Connecticut and other universities, would better represent the residents of the 5<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congressional District than the incumbent and deserves election.

Craig Miner, a small business owner who served for 10 years as the First Selectman of Litchfield, has ably represented the 30<sup>th</sup> District in the State Senate since 2016 where he has worked relentlessly across the aisle in an attempt to restore Connecticut to fiscal responsibility, deserves re-election.

Brian Ohler, who served Army tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, operates a business focused on public safety and emergency management, and who ably represented the 64<sup>th</sup> District from 2016 to 2018, deserves to regain his seat in the State Assembly.

*Paid for by the Salisbury Republican Town Committee and approved by the candidates listed*

# Our Towns

## The Green will shine with points of light

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Timed to coincide with the lighting of the town's holiday tree on the Green this year will be the lighting of a projected total of 1,000 Lights of Love luminaria, to benefit the all-volunteer Sharon Ambulance. This year, the tree-lighting ceremony will take place on Saturday, Dec. 5.

The goal of 1,000 is in sight. Notices were mailed to every

household in Sharon offering the chance to sponsor one or more of the small lights, to be set around the Green. Each container will be illuminated by a battery-operated light expected to last for at least 60 hours.

Each luminary can be in honor of, or in memory of, anyone named by the donor. Project organizers are opening the offer to residents in all area towns who may want to participate.

The requested donation for each luminary is \$10.

As of last week, 760 luminaries had been donated, according to Betsy Hall, one of the organizers, so the goal is clearly within reach. The project is also being guided by former Region One School District Superintendent Patricia Chamberlain. Both expressed enthusiasm for the prospect of the glorious display of luminaria bringing the wider community together in celebration and appreciation for the Sharon Ambulance Squad and their service.

The deadline for ordering one or more luminaries is coming up on Sunday, Nov. 1. Order forms are available at Sharon Pharmacy, Sharon Package Store and Rick's Package Store. An order form can be requested by email at sharonambulancet@gmail.com. Or, an order can be placed by contacting Betsy Hall at 860-364-0663.

## FV housing project approved

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) voted unanimously to approve the site plan application from the Falls Village Housing Trust to build an affordable housing complex on River Road. The commission took the action at the regular monthly meeting (on Zoom) Thursday, Oct. 22.

The approval had conditions attached. They are: The development is fully bonded to ensure completion; the construction must conform to the site plan and the zoning regulations; the existence of potable water must be confirmed; the Trust must submit a management plan for P&Z approval; hours of construction are limited to Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; the permissions and approval of other relevant commissions and agencies must be noted on the development's routing sheet; and the lot line change between Habitat for Humanity and the Trust must be finalized.

Plus the commission recommended that an area be set aside for overflow parking.

After the vote, P&Z Chair Fred Laser read letters opposing the development from Daly Reville, Laura Wertz and Colter Rule.

During live comments, Reville reiterated her belief that the Incentive Housing Zone (IHZ) was not properly established. The IHZ is an overlay zone.

### Recap of the hearing

The commission held an online public hearing on the development, that was spread over three nights: Sept. 23, Oct. 1 and Oct. 14.

On Sept. 23, Jandi Hanna

from the Housing Trust had noted that the application is slightly more than half the size of the trust's original proposal, which was submitted in 2019.

The plan is now for 16 units containing 29 bedrooms in five buildings, set farther back from the road than the 2019 version and requiring one phase of construction work instead of two.

There are six one-bedroom apartments, seven two-bedroom apartments and three three-bedroom apartments.

Engineer George Johansson reported that the application meets the requirements for the Incentive Housing Zone.

Emily Jones, of Civil One Engineers and representing the applicant, said a traffic study showed "no negative impact" on traffic on River Road and Lime Rock Station Road.

There were questions about whether or not the wells needed for the housing complex would have a negative effect on the neighbors' water supplies.

Jones said that the state has the final say on water issues, and if the applicant cannot demonstrate there is no negative impact, then there is no project.

The Oct. 1 meeting was largely comments and questions. Laser began by reiterating that the hearing was on the site plan application, and that the commission would not discuss the legality of the Incentive Housing Zone.

"That's settled," he said.

On Oct. 14, the first part of the scheduled two hours was devoted to reading letters supporting and opposing the proposal into the record. A running count had 24 letters in favor of the proposal, offset by one letter, with multiple signatures, in opposition.

## Tree plantings add new life to Sharon's Green

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Five newly planted deciduous trees will provide shade at the northern part of the Sharon Green while a new future town holiday tree, a white spruce, now stands at the southern point, thanks to the guidance and care of the Sharon Green Preservation Association (SGPA).

The planting of the spruce was accomplished in October by a crew from the Whalen Nursery in Sheffield, Mass. The deciduous trees were planted by Jason Bresson and his crew from Applewood Tree Care and Kim Hohlfeld and her crew from Estate Care, both in Sharon.

The siting of the new holiday tree has many advantages, according to SGPA President Allen Reiser. It stands in relationship to the historic Clock Tower. It is expected to thrive in the sandy soil and the unobstructed sunlight, free of any power lines.

Residents can anticipate that the little tree will shine with lights this year as an aspiring young companion to the traditionally decorated big tree by Town Hall. Reiser explained that the big tree's branches are now intertwined with neighboring trees and that the tree is beginning to lean away from upright.

"At some point, it will start toppling," Reiser said of the old tree. Within 10 to 15 years the new tree will have grown to a size where it will become the town's holiday tree on its own.

"Those trees grow quickly," Reiser said, indicating that SGPA board member Betsy Hall remembers when the old tree was planted and when it could be decorated by using a step ladder. He hastened to add that it was not a commentary on his board member's age, only that the trees grow tall very quickly.

The five new deciduous trees at the northern end of the Green are red maple, London plane, bi-color oak, Kentucky coffee (the second one of those on the Green) and tupelo, Reiser said.

Four of the five are found along Upper Main and the fifth is across the Green on Main Street. Regular watering by tanker truck will continue for the next two years to ensure that the trees take hold.

The tree planting project replaced trees that had died over the past few years. The town tree warden decides which trees need to be removed from time to time, so the new trees are filling in some spaces, Reiser explained. Storm damage from Tropical Storm Isaias in August resulted in the loss of a very large elm limb, but the tree



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The town's future holiday tree was settled into its new home at the southern end of the Sharon Green in October by a crew from Whalen Nursery in Sheffield, Mass.

has remained, he noted.

"Our organization is narrow in scope," Reiser explained, adding his praise for his board. The organization was formed in 1995 to contribute to and oversee installation of new plantings as needed on the town Green. He has served as SGPA president for 10 years.

There is also a Sharon Green Committee (SGC) overseeing the use of the Green and its general welfare. Speaking of the recently completed Green regrading and drainage project,

Betsy Hall, chairwoman of the SGC, commented, "We want to get the Green established; it belongs to the town."

Hall said the expanse of grass planted last season and cared for by the town crew is "coming along nicely."

## LEGAL NOTICES

### Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following application was approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on October 19, 2020: Special Permit Application #2020-0102 by property owners William and Kathleen Wiegel for a detached apartment on a single family lot. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 10 as Lot 9 and is known as 69 Belgo Road, Lakeville, Connecticut. Any aggrieved person may appeal this decision to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §8-8.

Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission  
Martin Whalen, Secretary  
10-29-20

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF ROLF SCHENKEL Late of Salisbury (20-00377)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, October 13, 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:  
Renee Schenkel  
c/o Donna D. Vincenti  
Law Offices of Donna D. Vincenti, Atty LLC  
12 Porter Street  
PO Box 1399  
Lakeville, CT 06039

Megan Williams  
Assistant Clerk  
10-29-20

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF WALTER H. WINBURN Late of Sharon (20-00368) AKA Walter C. Winburn

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, October 13, 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 fiduciaries are:  
Elizabeth W. Tanzer  
6 Arthur Pease Road  
Chester, MA 01011  
Simeon W. Winburn  
250 Low Road  
Sharon, CT 06069

Attorney for Elizabeth W. Tanzer: Rachel M. Baird, Goldstein Law Partners, 2234 Silas Deane Hwy, Ste. 2, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, (860) 605-9340

Attorney for Simeon W. Winburn: Anthony F. Dipentima, Guion, Stevens & Rybak LLP, PO Box 338,  
93 West Street, Litchfield, CT 06759, (860) 567-0821

Beth L. McGuire  
Clerk  
10-29-20

### November 3, 2020 State Election

The Electors of the Town of Salisbury are hereby warned to meet at their respective polling place in said town on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, for the following purposes:

I. To cast their votes for Presidential and Vice-Presidential electors, Representative in Congress, State Senator, State Representative.

Notice is hereby given that the location of the polling place is as follows:

Location of Polling Place:  
Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Salisbury, CT 06068

Voting machines will be used. The polls will be opened at six o'clock in the morning (6:00 a.m.) and will remain open until eight o'clock in the evening (8:00 p.m.).

Dated at Salisbury, Connecticut, this 19th day of October, 2020.

Patricia H. Williams  
Town Clerk  
Town of Salisbury  
10-29-20

### Warning November 3, 2020 State Election

The Electors of the Town of Canaan (FALLS VILLAGE) are hereby warned to meet at their one polling place (Town Hall) in said town on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, for the following purpose:

I. To cast their votes for Presidential and Vice-Presidential electors, Representative in Congress, State Senator, and State Representative.

Notice is hereby given that the location of our one polling place is the Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Falls Village, CT 06031

Voting machines will be used. The polls will be opened at six o'clock in the morning (6:00 a.m.) and will remain open until eight o'clock in the evening (8:00 p.m.).

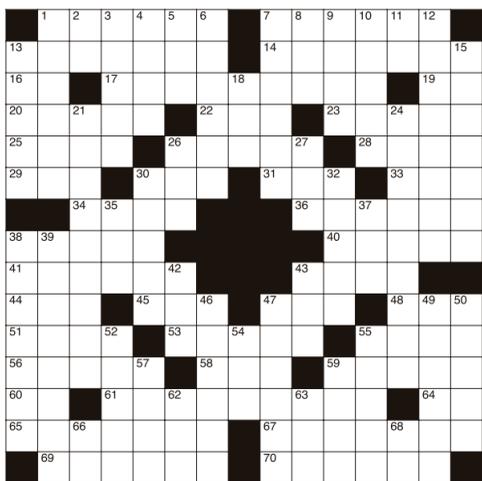
Dated at Canaan (Falls Village), Connecticut, this 20th day of October, 2020.

Mary M. Palmer  
Canaan Town Clerk  
10-29-20

## Brain Teasers

### CLUES ACROSS

1. Rhythmic patterns
7. Ethical theory
13. Nightclub
14. Upsets
16. Type of railroad
17. Home of The Beatles
19. Political organization
20. Disgraced cyclist Armstrong
22. Seven
23. Enlarges hole
25. Some are big
26. August \_\_, German socialist
28. Unappetizing food
29. Cast out
30. Adult male
31. After uno
33. Midway between northeast and east
34. Kenyan settlement
36. Oxygen deprived
38. British writer
40. Synchronizes solar and lunar time
41. Vehemently expressed
43. Hurt
44. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
45. Gradually weaken
47. Cool!
48. Touch softly
51. Israeli city
53. Indicating silence
55. Protein-rich liquids
56. Tropical Asian plants
58. A very small circular shape
59. Type of wrap
60. Potato state
61. Spinning toy
64. Type of degree
65. Ornamental molding
67. Closes again
69. Verses
70. Rise up

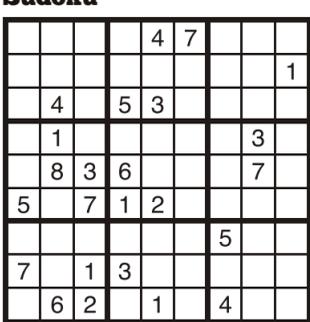


21. All over the place
24. Conqueror
26. Actress Ling
27. Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian volcano
30. Distributes
32. Golfing legend Sam
35. Laos musical instrument
37. Open payment initiative
38. Having no fixed course
39. Type of dog
42. Digital audiotape
43. Hit lightly
46. San Diego ballplayers
47. Stop working
49. Suitable for growing crops
50. Musical groups
52. Soft
54. Lowest point of a ridge
55. Beloved late TNT broadcaster
57. Thin strip to align parts
59. Cardinal number
62. Frozen water
63. One who is incredibly special
66. Rhodium
68. Top lawyer in the land

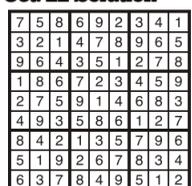
### Oct. 22 Solution



### Sudoku



### Oct. 22 Solution



Level: Intermediate



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Passcode: 265082  
10-29-20

# OBITUARIES

## Richard J. Cantele Sr.

LAKEVILLE — Richard J. Cantele Sr. passed away at home on Oct. 21, 2020. He was the husband of Cynthia (Brazzale) Cantele. They were married on Aug. 30, 1958.



Dick was born in Great Barrington on Sept. 13, 1936, son of the late Catherine (Piretti) and John B. Cantele of North Canaan.

Dick attended the one-room East Canaan school, transferring to North Canaan Elementary School when he was in the seventh grade.

He graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1954. While in high school he played on the first 11-man football team at HVRHS and also ran track. He attended Newberry College in Newberry, S.C., and Hillard College in Hartford, Conn.

He served in the Army Reserve from 1956 to 1962, and during that time was on active duty for two years, attaining the rank of sergeant.

He worked at Travelers Insurance Company in Hartford for 37 years as a business and systems manager.

He served his community of North Canaan in many ways, including as a basketball and Babe Ruth baseball coach, and serving on the Democrat-

ic Town Committee, Board of Selectmen for six years, Board of Tax Review and as chairman of the Board of Finance.

He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather and enjoyed fishing and golf.

In addition to his wife of 62 years, he is survived by his three children, Richard "Rick" and his wife, Linda, of Salisbury, Lori Cantele and her partner, Robert Wright, of Falls Village, and Michael and his wife, Carol, of Gettysburg, Pa.; seven grandchildren, Caitlin Cantele and her husband, Jeff, Kevin Cantele and his fiancée, Lauren Trotter, David Wingard and his wife, Desi, Daniel Wingard and his wife, Mara, Scott Wingard, Jordan Cantele and Ashlie Cantele and her partner, Ryan Updike; and eight great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Nora Cantele; and his brother-in-law, Peter Brazzale and his wife, Betty.

Memorial donations may be made to the North Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corp., P.O. Box 178, North Canaan, CT 06018; or to the Multiple Myeloma Foundation.

In lieu of flowers Dick asked that you vote for Biden/Harris. Services will be private.

The Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon has care of arrangements.

## Abel Wetmore Lee Jr.

NORTH CANAAN — Abel W. Lee Jr., 87, died peacefully on Oct. 22, 2020, at Geer Village.

He was born Aug. 18, 1933, in Winsted to the late Agnes (Case) and Abel W. Lee Sr. and lived his entire life in Connecticut.

As a boy, he grew up on the family farm in Oxford.

As a young man, he moved with his parents and siblings to Lakeville and worked to help build the jersey dairy farm that his brother, John, eventually took over and ran for many years.

During the 1950s he was drafted and served in the U.S. Army in Korea, and then returned home to the farm.

Although a bachelor, with no children of his own, he was always surrounded by family. He was a beloved uncle to 28 nieces and nephews (and as time went on to their children also), patiently sharing with them life on the farm, a puzzle, a card game or a giant bowl of ice cream — along with some peanut butter cookies or other

sweet treat. He accepted people as they were, completely non-judgmental, but always finding the best in others. He lived his life quietly, loyal to family and friends, but always ready for a bit of fun. Abe will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Abe is survived by his brothers, James Lee of Little Falls, N.Y., Herbert Lee of Sharon and John Lee of Lakeville; and his sister, Louise Parenteau of Concord, N.H.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Ellen Mahon; and his nephews, James Lee Jr., Robert Lee and William Lee.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to his caregivers at Geer Village, where he made his home for the last four and a half years.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. A graveside service was held at Barkhamsted Center Cemetery.

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

NORTH CANAAN — Sister Mary Schaefer (formerly known as Sister Bernard Mary), 91, entered fully into God's embrace on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2020, at St. Mary Home in West Hartford, Conn.

She was born Sept. 4, 1929, in Torrington. Her family moved to North Canaan in 1934. Mary was the daughter of Anna McCafferty and George J. Schaefer.

She entered the sisters of Charity of Our Lady Mother of Mercy in 1947 in Baltic, Conn., and professed final vows in the Motherhouse in Tilburg, Netherlands, in 1952.

Having been educated at Annhurst, Catholic University of America and Fairfield University Mary shared her ministerial gifts in teaching, Administration and counseling for more than 60 years. She lived in East Haven from 1962 until entering the Nursing Home in 2014. Mary was the founding principal of St. Vincent de Paul School, East Haven, from 1963 to 1969. She assumed leadership in the SCMM Province in 1969 and continued teaching and counseling at St. Vincent's until 1978. The next phase of

her ministry was to join the Notre Dame School Community in West Haven from 1978 to 2012.

Mary had a special gift of understanding individuals and gently guided him/her to believe in themselves and strive to reach for their own potential. People to this day describe Mary as loving and gracious. We, SCMMs, say she epitomized the spirit of our congregation as she always strived "to bring God's loving Mercy" to all she encountered. She will be remembered for always giving her all. She was deeply attached to her loving family and friends; her North Canaan hills; and our Congregation.

Mary is survived by her brother, Joseph M. Schaefer of West Haven; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and -nephews and grand-nieces

and -nephews, mostly living in the Greater North Canaan area; as well as her religious community in East Haven and Chicago and our International congregation centered in the Netherlands. These communities owe her a large debt of gratitude for 70-plus years of service. She was predeceased by her parents; and her brother, George W. Schaefer.

The SCMMs are very grateful for the care and concern Mary received during her six and a half years at St. Mary Home, especially to the Sisters of Mercy and staff at Baggot Street and Day Care Center and recently from the VNA Hospice Care staff.

Funeral services are postponed until a later date due to COVID and are in the care of Clancy-Palumbo Funeral Home in East Haven, Conn.

## Arlene M. Brower

PINE PLAINS — Arlene M. Brower, 92, died suddenly on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2020, at Sharon Health Care Center.

Miss Brower was born Nov. 15, 1927, on the family farm in Ancram Lead Mines, N.Y., (Ancramdale), the daughter of Nellie (Miller) and Edward Brower.

She is survived by her sister June Fabrizio and her brother-in-law, Robert, of Chugiak, Alaska; and 15 nieces and nephews, including locally Frank Brower Jr., John Brower and Sheila (Brower) Jamieson; and numerous great-nieces and -nephews.

She was predeceased by two brothers, Clayton Brower and Frank C. Brower Sr.; and two sisters, Carolyn B. Morse and Nellie E. Brower.

Arlene lived in Ancramdale until she moved to Pine Plains in the early 1970s. In 1945, at the age of 18, she was hired by the Stissing National Bank, eventually becoming a bank officer and then retiring after 42 years of service.

Arlene enjoyed raising horses and participating in Gymkhana events. She spoke fondly of her 25-plus years as a Girl Scout leader (Troop 42, Pine Plains).

As a young patriotic American, during World War II she did her part. In addition to selling War Bonds and participating in the Ground Observer Corps, she maintained a serious regimen of writing

letters to her brother Frank, in the Army Air Force, as well as numerous Pine Plains and Ancram servicemen, especially her favorite, Coach Barton.

She was extremely proud of her family's military service: an uncle in World War I; a brother in the Army Air Force

in World War II and the Air Force in Korea; a sister June and her husband in the Air Force; nieces and nephews in ROTC, National Guard; and two graduates of West Point.

She was an avid traveler, sightseer and souvenir collector, having traveled to England and Scotland, the eastern USA extensively and road trips to Texas, Mississippi, Colorado and numerous trips to Alaska.

Even into her late 70s she had an adventurous spirit, go-carting with her great-nephew and joining in on hikes in Rocky Mountain and Denali National Parks.

There was also an exciting, one-hour flight in a restored B-17 Bomber, along the mid-Hudson river valley.

A private interment will be in the Evergreen Cemetery in Pine Plains.

Arrangements are being handled by Peck and Peck Funeral Home. To sign the online register, go to [www.peckand-peck.net](http://www.peckand-peck.net).

Memorial donations may be made to the Pine Plains Rescue Squad or the Ancramdale Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 99, Ancramdale, NY 12503



## Worship Services

Week of November 1, 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 Konnection  
K-6th grade (during Sun. Service)  
Nursery Care All Services  
Pastor Trip Weiler  
413-229-8560  
[www.greenwoodschurch.com](http://www.greenwoodschurch.com)

**North East Baptist Church**  
Historic Meeting House, Main & Maple Millerton, NY  
God's word is always relevant!  
A Warm Welcome Awaits You  
SUNDAY SERVICES  
Family Bible School - 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship - 11:00  
Evening Service - 6:00 PM  
WEEKDAY MEETINGS  
Weds. Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM at Parsonage 33 S. Maple Ave.  
Sat. Bible Studies for Men & Women 3:00 PM  
FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON  
First Sunday of each month after AM services  
Pastor Henry A. Prouse  
518-789-4840

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
40 Leedsville Road  
Amenia, NY  
SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 ONLINE  
Visit our website for links  
Rev. AJ Stack  
845-373-9161  
[www.stthomasamenia.com](http://www.stthomasamenia.com)  
A Community of Radical Hospitality

**The Sharon United Methodist Church**  
112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green  
Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care  
No Sunday School in Summer  
The Rev. Margaret Laemmel  
860-364-5634  
[sharonumc5634@att.net](mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net)

**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock  
Virtual Sunday service 10:30 AM  
Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page  
Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study  
Rev. Heidi Trux  
[trinity@trinitylimerock.org](http://trinitylimerock.org)  
(860) 455-2627  
[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  
[canaanct-umc.com](mailto:canaanct-umc.com)  
[canaanctumc@gmail.com](mailto:canaanctumc@gmail.com)

**Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT**  
Join our virtual service on Sunday, November 8 at 10:30 a.m.  
"How did we develop our attitudes about race?"  
For information, contact Jo Loi at [joaloui@gmail.com](mailto:joaloui@gmail.com)  
All are Welcome

**Promised Land Baptist Church**  
29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT  
Where you will find: A Warm Welcome!  
Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!  
Sunday School - 10am  
Sunday Worship - 11am  
Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM  
(860) 824-5685  
VISITORS WELCOME!  
[www.promisedlandbaptist.org](http://www.promisedlandbaptist.org)

**The Lakeville United Methodist Church**  
319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.  
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"  
The Rev. Margaret Laemmel  
860-455-9496  
[Lakevillemethodist@snet.net](mailto:Lakevillemethodist@snet.net)

**The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall**  
Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9am  
Email Rev. Mary Gates at: [mngates125@gmail.com](mailto:mngates125@gmail.com)  
for an invitation to the Zoom service  
If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone.  
We hope you will join us!

**ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH**  
Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk  
St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan  
St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville  
MASS SCHEDULE  
Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church  
Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary  
Sunday 11 am,  
Immaculate Conception Church  
DAILY MASS SCHEDULE  
Wednesday 6pm  
St. Joseph Chapel or Church  
Thursday 8am  
Immaculate Conception Church  
Friday 8am  
Church of St. Mary  
ALL ARE WELCOME!  
For information, please call 860-824-7078

**The Smithfield Presbyterian Church**  
656 Smithfield Valley Rd.  
Route 83, Amenia, NY  
Services every Sunday 10 a.m.  
[www.thsmithfieldchurch.org](http://www.thsmithfieldchurch.org)  
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Cornwall Village Meeting House  
8 Bolton Hill Rd, Cornwall  
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Warm Fellowship following Worship  
860-672-6840  
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Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister  
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**Sharon Congregational Church**  
25 Main Street, Sharon, CT  
Visit our website  
[sharoncongregationalchurch.org](http://sharoncongregationalchurch.org)  
for current online sermons.  
Bible Study Guides also available by request:  
[info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org](mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org)  
Or contact us at 860-364-5002

**SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH**  
860-927-3003  
The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent  
St. Bernard, Sharon  
St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge  
MASS SCHEDULE  
Monday, Tuesday & First Friday  
9 AM - Sacred Heart  
Wednesday  
9 AM - St. Bernard  
SATURDAY VIGIL  
4 PM - St. Bridget  
SUNDAY MASSES  
8 AM - St. Bernard  
10 AM - Sacred Heart  
Face masks required

## HVRHS grad awarded \$1,000

KENT — On July 22 TrailHeads co-founders Stephanie and Ed Raftery of Kent presented the inaugural recipient of the TrailHeads Blaze Your Own Trail Scholarship with a \$1,000 scholarship award. The scholarship was awarded to Housatonic Valley High School graduate Myah Baird.

The recipient is selected

based on his/her essay submission and receives a one-time \$1,000 scholarship.

The deadline to apply for 2021 is Jan. 15; the winner will be announced on Feb. 3.

Students who wish to apply should go to [www.trailheads.com/scholarship](http://www.trailheads.com/scholarship) for essay requirements and additional information.

## Area students receive scholarships from NCCF

The Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation has awarded more than \$180,000 in scholarships and awards to local students for the 2020-2021 academic year. Scholarships and awards are made possible by Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation Funds, established by individuals and families.

Some of the scholarships awarded to students in the Region One School District are listed below.

Among the students who received money from the Khurshed Bhumgara Fund are Chloe Dakers (North Canaan), Jack Scarpa (Salisbury), Benjamin Upson (Lakeville) and Brianna Webb (North Canaan).

Cameron Hunter (Sharon) received the Steven A. Chupka Memorial Scholarship.

Among the students who received money from the Edward W. Diskavich Scholarship are Alexis Ghi (North Canaan) and Cameron Hunter (Sharon).

Recipients of the Frances H. Ducci Scholarship are Ian Danforth Gold (West Cornwall), Valerie Lenis (Falls Village) and Marin Montoya (North

Canaan).

Among the students who received money from the Helen and Mario Garbin Scholarship are Genevieve Bushey (Lakeville) and Cora Rydingsword (Lakeville).

Scholarship information for 2021-22 will be online at [www.northwestcf.org/scholarships](http://www.northwestcf.org/scholarships) in January 2021.



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# Our Towns

## Shielding voters from unwanted approaches

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Seeking to ensure that on Tuesday, Nov. 3, voters have the best possible voting experience, the Sharon selectmen approved a policy proposal at their regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 13. The meeting was conducted on Zoom.

Town Clerk Linda Amerighi approached the selectmen with a request that no election day political activity be permitted on the grounds at Sharon Center School while the polls are open there. Her concern was based in part on the threat of COVID-19, and wanting to keep voters from being ap-

proached by candidates or their representatives for last-minute campaigning.

"I don't feel that voters want to be approached," Amerighi told the selectmen. "It's a concerning time."

She said it might be permissible to have literature being distributed from tables that are distant from an established safe-access corridor for voters walking from the parking area into the school building. People with campaign literature would need to be at least 75 feet away.

Selectman Dale Jones had suggested the corridor approach, so that voters could cast their ballots without being approached.

## Seeking a better way to communicate in emergencies

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Having dealt with problems of spotty communications among town offices during the August storm-related power outage, which continued for several days, the Sharon selectmen heard a presentation detailing the advantages of Rave Alert, a community-based messaging system, at their regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 13. The meeting was conducted on Zoom.

This system would not only improve town emergency functions, it was promised, but it would also enable direct messaging to residents.

Selectman Dale Jones raised

concerns about lack of cellular service during the outage.

Representing Rave Mobile Safety was Dan Cugno, senior account executive, who gave an overview of the system and how it could serve the town's needs.

The communication system is "in the cloud," Cugno explained, enabling messages to be posted by voice, text, email or social media, and targeted widely or to a specific neighborhood, as the emergency warrants.

Based on the presentation, Selectman Casey Flanagan said that Rave seems to offer a robust service, but he wondered whether the town would need

all of its features.

First Selectman Brent Colley said that the tailoring of features to the town's needs is a work in progress. Envisioning possible uses, he said that with only a few clicks, he would be able to set up a conference call among emergency personnel, rather than a Zoom call.

Cugno described functionality and Rave's provision for easy two-way communication. He said the town would be able to connect without dialing a phone number in emergency situations. Residents who have special needs who might need assistance in an emergency could be connected to the system.

Flanagan noted that alerts could be sent to specific residents, cutting down on over-messaging. Residents would be able to opt for whatever types of messages they would like to receive from the town.

"Rave minimizes message fatigue," Cugno agreed.

Jones said that he was impressed by the number of interface options offered by the system. And he saw Rave as a possible way to unburden town administrators.

Colley liked the idea that pinpointed neighborhoods in the town could be reached with specific informational messages.

## Annual town meeting — in person — is scheduled for Nov. 20

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — The annual town meeting — which must be conducted in person, according to state statute — has been scheduled for Friday, Nov. 20, following action by the Board of Selectmen at their regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 20, held by Zoom.

The meeting will be in the gym at Cornwall Consolidated School, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

A feature of the meeting will be review of the town's annual report for 2019-20 detailing the work of the town boards and commissions and area non-profits that receive support from the town.

Town officials also report on services and how they have served residents' needs — especially important this year with COVID-19 and the prolonged storm emergencies in August.

Residents attending the meeting will need to review and vote to adopt the Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan for the town. The plan has been developed and reviewed and is now recommended by both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance.

First Selectman Gordon

Ridgway indicated that the meeting can be recorded, but remote participation would not be possible because voting has to be in person. If residents want to ask questions or offer comments, they will be able to submit them in advance of the meeting.

Cornwall is the first town in the region to have its town meeting during the COVID-19 quarantine.

Consideration of the West Cornwall Wastewater Management project will be postponed for a few months. A referendum on the proposal will occur in spring 2021.

The project has gained the approval of the Planning and Zoning Commission, but more details need to be ironed out in preparing for the public hearing process.

The next steps involve hiring a bond counsel, consulting with the health district, and if a flyer is to be prepared detailing the project, then the flyer must be reviewed by appropriate state offices, and the town clerk needs to arrange for absentee voting.

"It makes a lot of sense at this point in time. A lot of people are involved in the process,"

Ridgway said.

Selectwoman Priscilla Pavel agreed.

"I like that we're taking our time with this. It's better to be slow and responsible," she said.

## FAMILY & FRIENDS



PHOTO SUBMITTED

### A needed PPE donation

Noble Horizons administrator Bill Pond gratefully accepted a gift of 700 masks from Salisbury Rotary President Peter Fitting on Friday, Oct. 23. The Salisbury Rotary donated several thousand masks to schools and health-care agencies, a significant donation as the number of COVID cases rises throughout the region.

### Fresh Deals at the Co-op

October 21 - November 3, 2020\*

\* while supplies last

\$2.49/lb.  
Organic Starkrimson Pears  
REG. \$3.99 LB.



\$2.49  
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REG. \$3.99 EA.



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REG. \$2.00 EA.



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www.berkshire.coop | 413-528-9697

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**REMEMBER TO VOTE 3B...**



### FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Craig Miner will aggressively work to stop wasteful government spending and use our tax dollars wisely. He strongly believes in limiting the size of government and local control.

### ACCESSIBLE HEALTH CARE

Craig Miner will continue to prioritize our health and wellness. That's why he supported legislation that will ensure mammograms, ultrasounds and MRIs are covered under insurance plans.

### REBUILDING OUR ECONOMY

Craig Miner will reduce red tape and unnecessary mandates that have stifled our neighbors' businesses large and small. Let's find a way to get Connecticut's economy working again and functioning safely.

Endorsed by



Paid for by Craig Miner 2020, Nancy Southard, Treasurer. Approved by Craig Miner

## COVID

Continued from Page A1

or suspicion that the virus is becoming more virulent. "In fact, most new viruses tend toward lower virulence as time goes on ... as the disease they cause becomes milder, the spread becomes more efficient." However, said the epidemiologist, "this process occurs over years and in the first 11 months of this pandemic, the virus has remained markedly stable."

Some good news, said Shepherd, is that the mortality rate of severe COVID-19 "seems to have come down in the U.S. as we get better at treating it and the age range of patients became younger over the summer."

### Protecting the most vulnerable

In response to the surge in infection among residents at nursing homes and assisted living facilities, the state Department of Public Health on Friday, Oct. 23, required operators to test all residents and staff weekly until further notice, said William Pond, administrator at Noble Horizons. The Salisbury retirement community has been COVID-free since the pandemic started.

"We had been testing staff typically on a monthly basis, but now we will be doing it at least one time per week for every staff member," said Pond. Also now part of an enhanced staff screening process at Noble, he said, is a new list of questions about social activities outside of work.

"Safety has become so ingrained in everybody's mind," said Pond, that staff is not put off by the new protocol. He said he has been heartened to find that many employees "take it upon themselves," to bring upcoming plans to administrators' attention.

Pond said he is concerned about the recent surge in COVID-19 cases in the schools, hospital and at Geer Village.

"The spooky part about the whole thing is that we are seeing cases at facilities that did

not record any cases early on when this thing started." The Noble Horizons administrator said he is thankful for every day that the coronavirus remains at bay. "I knock on wood that we still have been able to keep it off campus."

At Geer Village, strict infection control protocols are reportedly in place. All residents are isolated in their rooms, and additional staff are being added to ensure that all resident needs are being met, according to an update provided by Geer on Friday, Oct. 23. The facility's Nursing Center staff, residents, pharmacy, outpatient therapy and transportation departments continue to test negative.

Staff are in full personal protective equipment when providing resident care and are following best practices regarding infection control. As a result of the increase in positive cases across the state, Geer reported that "weekly staff and resident testing is being performed, under the guidance of the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health/Epidemiology. This will continue until we can produce 100 percent negative test results for a minimum period of 14 days at the Geer Lodge assisted living facility."

Staff movement between buildings continues to be strictly prohibited, and there is no public access to the facility at this time, although virtual resident visitations can continue via Skype and Zoom.

### Origins are mysterious

On Monday, Oct. 26, Sharon Hospital confirmed that four of its employees tested positive for the coronavirus. "Just like we're seeing throughout the rest of the communities, we started seeing our employees be positive for COVID," Hirko had said Friday, when there were three positive reports. "A few were not feeling well, and we sent them home," and other staff who were contact traced ended up testing positive for COVID-19, he noted.

"We still can't figure out where it came from. That's

what's different this time around. During the first wave there was very little penetration of the virus in the area," with most of it being introduced by people from out of town. But this time, he said, "It's the other way around."

Even the tiniest breach in following the recommended protocols of wearing masks, social distancing and washing hands, said Hirko, can ignite the coronavirus. The new cases, he said, were "definitely community spread, and that is a concern at this time. We are a small hospital in a tight-knit community, and if we have a lot of infection, there is a risk of shutting down units and sending patients to other facilities. That's why I am hesitant about being open to visitors."

As a public service, Sharon Hospital opened a testing site last week, and as of Thursday, Oct. 22, "Twenty-two people have come through, although the results will be unknown for 24 to 48 hours," noted the hospital president. "You can't hide from this. Just make sure you follow [the advice] that's out there."

### Upper respiratory virus season

Shepherd said all signs point to a rough road ahead. "This is a new viral upper respiratory tract illness of humans and we are entering upper respiratory virus season.

"There are things that everybody can and should do," said the epidemiologist. "Get your flu shot. Although the flu season has been very mild this year in the Southern Hemisphere it would be foolish to miss such a simple protection."

Second, wear your mask. "No one likes wearing them but they are as good as a vaccine in reducing your risk of infection and reducing your infectivity to someone you love," said Shepherd.

Third, "Be sensible about mixing in groups. In a community with widespread transmission, what you think is your safe 'bubble' may not be so."

## GENERATOR

Continued from Page A1

pane-fueled, Saccardi said.

Size matters with generators, Saccardi noted. Bigger is not always better, because with larger generators, more fuel is needed, and during a significant storm, fuel refills may not be readily available. And larger units consume fuel faster, using perhaps a gallon per hour. Be aware of noise output also.

All makers and models are fairly equal in quality, Saccardi said. WiFi capability in monitoring can be useful for people who are absent from their homes for extended periods.

Load management is yet another factor. How many things in the household does the user want to run using the generator? If hot water and heat are provided by home fuel oil, a modestly sized generator will be good choice, Saccardi said.

Generator supplier Mark Cipriano reported that propane-fueled generators are currently popular, and that placement of propane tanks is subject to differing codes in different towns. Generally two tanks of 120 gallon capacity are used, with that capacity expected to keep the generator going for a few days of outage.

He noted that standby generators are generally quieter than other options, although they can be more expensive. To be assured that the generator will start when needed, maintenance and a tune-up twice each year is recommended.

Solar energy expert James LaPorta spoke of the advantages of installing solar panels, providing energy to the grid, and the financial advantages. During summer days, the homeowner receives credit for power supplied to the grid. The credits will pay for power utilized, and at the end of the year the homeowner settles with the power company. But, there is no power if the grid goes down, LaPorta cautioned.

A backup battery system

of power storage is an answer as renewable storage, but that solution is still expensive, LaPorta said. In the winter months, when there is not as much sun, the battery depletes. Power may last only a couple of days.

"Better technology is around the corner," LaPorta said. Hybrid systems are being developed with a battery backup teamed sometimes with a backup generator but the system is quite expensive.

Tesla is developing a 14-kilowatt battery, equivalent to three or four gallons of propane, but the cost is as much as \$10,000 per battery, LaPorta said.

Questions from viewers concerned comparison of brands. Cipriano advised that all brands are comparable and that his company deals in Generac and Kohler. Costs were also of interest, but all agreed that the individual configurations of customers' properties would drive the cost estimates.

Pressed for a general ballpark estimate the experts agreed that an average small home with an accommodating layout for propane installation, and without unforeseen installation challenges, could amount to \$10,000.

A brief discussion of a group purchase price break for the Cornwall Association gained some traction with Steinkohl suggesting that anyone interested in learning more could be in touch with the Cornwall Association.

## MEDICARE

Continued from Page A1

best fit in terms of price and customer service.

These plans are portable. They can be used anywhere in the country. They are a good choice for those planning to move out of state, or who wish to use out-of-state doctors or hospitals.

Medicare Advantage plans are also private insurance. Ackley said these plans are set up similarly to health insurance plans from employers. These plans require patients to stay in provider networks, unlike the Medicare supplement plans. Patients are responsible for co-payments.

Part D covers prescription drugs. It is important to get this right, to avoid going to the pharmacy expecting to pay the usual co-payment and finding out that the annual "drug allowance" limit has been reached and the out-of-pocket expense is now considerably higher.

When should people enroll? Ackley said most people become eligible on the first day of the month of their birthday, and have three months before and after to enroll.

Do not dally, she urged the audience, adding that it takes the Medicare system 45 to 60 days to process the paperwork.

Once enrolled, changes to plans can be made during the annual enrollment period of Oct. 15 to Dec. 7.

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RE-ELECT

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Maria Horn



## RE-ELECT MARIA HORN FOR CT STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Events

October 29-November 4, 2020



PHOTO BY DAVID MCCLISTER

Rock/folk/country singer/songwriter Lucinda Williams has put together six shows exploring iconic music stars and styles as a fundraiser for performance venues such as the Mahaiwe in Great Barrington, Mass.

MUSIC: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

## Lucinda Williams Show Pays Tribute to Musicians, Venues

Lucinda Williams kind of epitomizes what we think of as American country music: Sassy, twangy and a little weary.

Like many performers, Williams has had some time on her hands because of COVID-19 and like many performers she is trying to find ways to support the concert and show venues across the country

and around the world where she has performed during her long career (she recorded her first album in 1978 and is now 67; she is, in case you're wondering about her thick molasses accent, from Louisiana).

She's come up with a six-part fundraising series of shows that will begin on Thursday, Oct. 29, with streaming in our area at the Mahaiwe Theater in

Great Barrington, Mass., and the Bardavon in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

The shows promise to be in-depth and unexpected, with great singing.

For those who are unfamiliar with Lucinda Williams: Even music fans of a certain age who don't consider themselves country music fans are devoted to her, and especially her album "Car Wheels on a

Gravel Road," which won a Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Folk Album when it came out in 1998. My personal favorite song on that album (since you asked) is the title song; I also particularly like the title song from her next album, called "Essence."

She also wrote the song "Passionate Kisses," which was a hit for singer Mary Chapin Carpenter — and was the title song for Carpenter's 1993 album (seeing a title-song trend here). Carpenter's version is wonderful, too, but Williams' version is more raw and raucous and gravelly.

The first four shows in the series have been announced already, and now that you know a little about her own work you won't be enormously surprised by the singer/songwriters she's chosen to honor in her series, which is called Lu's Jukebox.

First up, at 8 p.m. on Oct. 29, is, "Running Down a Dream: A Tribute to Tom Petty," in celebration of what would have been his 70th birthday.

Next will be "Southern Soul: From Memphis to Muscle Shoals," at 8 p.m. on Nov 12; "Bob's Back Pages: A Night of Bob Dylan Songs," at 8 p.m. on Nov. 19; and "Funny How Time Slips Away: A Night of '60s Country Classics," at 8 p.m. on Dec. 3. There will also be shows on Dec. 17 and 31 (what better way to spend a quarantined New Year's Eve than cozy at home with Lucinda Williams?).

All the shows are ticketed, and are meant to raise revenue for the

## JAZZ, BLUES AND MORE IN FUNDRAISER ONLINE FOR DEWEY HALL

The Wanda Houston Band will perform a free virtual concert fundraiser for Dewey Hall in Sheffield, Mass., on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 7 p.m.

Donations will be very welcome, to keep the performance space open in spite of a year in which COVID-19 forced the loss of most of the hall's normal income.

Dewey Hall has been a focal point of the southern Berkshires since 1887. The handsome stone building on Sheffield's Village Green offers a space of unparalleled beauty, grace and acoustic resonance for many kinds of activities, ranging from concerts, lectures and plays to dances, weddings and parties. Its cozy library is ideal for a variety of intimate events and meetings.

A nonprofit, volunteer-run organization, Dewey Hall receives no funding from the town and relies mostly on donations and rentals to finance its

operations.

The Wanda Houston Band's performance is part of the "Keep the Lights On" gala, which will also honor longtime board member Priscilla Cote. In addition to tributes to Cote, there will be videos showing some of the history of the hall.

The Wanda Houston Band performs R&B and jazz hits of the 1940s, '50s and '60s. The band has a strong following in the Tri-state area. Houston has worked in varying capacities with such artists as Michael Jackson, Barbra Streisand, Natalie Cole, Eartha Kitt and Patti LaBelle.

The band was filmed in Dewey Hall in a COVID-safe performance in early October.

For more information and updates, go to [www.secure.givelively.org/donate/dewey-memorial-hall-inc/keep-the-lights-on-at-dewey-hall](http://www.secure.givelively.org/donate/dewey-memorial-hall-inc/keep-the-lights-on-at-dewey-hall); or [www.deweyhall.org](http://www.deweyhall.org).



PHOTO FROM 'THE ANTIDOTE'

John Hoffman, Jennifer Dowley and John Carter will talk about Hoffman's film, "The Antidote," photo above, and the need now for a little more kindness.

## ON OCT. 29: PEACE, LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING

Dutchess County resident/award-winning filmmaker John Hoffman will talk about his new film, "The Antidote," in a virtual discussion that benefits the Moviehouse in Millerton, N.Y.

The Zoom talk is on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 7 p.m. Access is linked to purchasing the film for \$12, which needs to be completed before the talk begins.

Moderated by Jennifer Dowley, John Hoffman and his partner in making this film, Kahane Cooperman, will talk with Christine Sergent, executive director of the North East Community Center in Millerton, N.Y., and John Carter, of Salisbury, Conn., the founder of Vecinos Seguros (Safe Neighbors).

"The Antidote" is a study of "everyday people who make the intentional choice to lift others up and make their communities better, despite the fundamentally unkind ways of our society — which are at once facts of life in America, and yet deeply antithetical to our founding ideals," Hoffman said.

The film's goal: To give us all hope in what feels to many people to be a very dark time. Purchase tickets to "The Antidote" and the Oct. 29 talk by going to [www.themoviehouse.net](http://www.themoviehouse.net). The cost is \$12; after you make your payment you have seven days to unlock the film and then 24 hours to view it.

— Cynthia Hochswender

Continued on next page

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## 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.

**HALLOWEEN: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER**

# Halloween in a Year of COVID-19 Terror

Most towns in the Tri-state region have said that they will carry on many or all of their Halloween traditions, with some exceptions. Nonetheless, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and area health districts have warned that this is not a great year for old-school trick-or-treating, where children troop up to your front door and plunge their hands into a communal bowl of candy.

There are many options teased out on the internet for helping children to enjoy what, for many, is the highlight of the year, a bigger deal than Christmas (Costumes? Candy? Fantasy? Come on!). You can of course search them out if you are looking for alternative ways to celebrate.

The general idea is that this might be a good year to leave the porch light off, make a spooky dinner (hot dogs wrapped in puff pastry to look like fingers! Are those cherry tomatoes floating in your goulash, or

something more sinister?), and watch a horror film with your pod (and isn't the word "pod" so wonderfully horror film-esque?).

If you still really want to celebrate with other people but you want to avoid infection, you can go out and see horror films at three area theaters prior to and on the Big Day: Four Brothers Drive-in in Amenia, N.Y., the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass., and the Center for Performing Arts in Rhinebeck, N.Y.

The schedule basics are listed below. Go to the venue websites for details on tickets and social distancing protocols.

**INDOOR HORROR**

At the Mahaiwe, the screenings are indoor but with limited capacity and strict social distance protocols.

The double-feature this weekend on Friday, Oct. 30, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 31, at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m., is the original black-and-white film of

"Frankenstein" from 1931 starring Boris Karloff; and then the 1940 science fiction thriller "The Devil Bat," starring Bela Lugosi.

Go to [www.mahaiwe.org](http://www.mahaiwe.org) or call 413-528-0100 during box office hours (Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 4 p.m.) for information.

**DRIVE-IN HORROR**

At the Four Brothers Drive-in, which also serves very delicious food, there will be several horror films (some scary, some family friendly) shown in the days before and on the day of Halloween.

Go to their website at [www.playeatdrink.com](http://www.playeatdrink.com) to confirm film titles and show times. They are showing "The Addams Family" cartoon feature film on Oct. 29 and then "Halloween," the 2018 version. On Oct. 30 and 31, the early evening film is "Beetlejuice" — followed by "Tenet," directed by Christopher Nolan (which is not a horror film).

At the Center for Performing Arts, the screen-

ings are outdoors, on the side of a barn and 40-feet wide. You watch from your car, drive-in style.

The features on Oct. 30 and 31 are "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" at 7 p.m. and "Creature from the Black Lagoon" at 8:30 p.m. On Oct. 31, each car will be given a bag of treats.

Go to [www.centerforperformingarts.showare.com](http://www.centerforperformingarts.showare.com) or call 845-876-3080 for more information.

**OUTDOOR FROLICS**

If there is more of the gorgeous autumn weather we've had these past few weeks, and you feel you must get outdoors to celebrate, Sharon Audubon has created a Pumpkin Trail that will be open from sunrise to sunset until Nov. 8.

Families are welcome to come walk around the center's main grounds at 325 Cornwall Bridge Road/Route 4 in Sharon, Conn., and view the carved and decorated pumpkin entries on exhibit. There will be voting for Viewer's

Choice winners.

Hancock Shaker Village in Pittsfield, Mass., will host Halloween on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a costume contest for kids, ghost stories, a scavenger hunt, and a goody bag handout (while supplies last). All activities are included with admission (\$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors, \$8 for ages 13 to 17; under 12 is free).

From 6 to 8:30 p.m. there will be a Trick or Treat costume party for grown-ups, with a food truck, fire pit and music (maybe even "The Monster Mash"! ). Tickets are \$45 (which includes three

drink vouchers).

For more information, go to [www.hancockshaker-village.org](http://www.hancockshaker-village.org).

Whatever you decide to do, and especially if you choose to go trick-or-treating with your family, be respectful and remember that town officials are hoping you will remain in your own town and not go to other nearby towns, where festivities might be overwhelmed by an unexpected and large influx of people from out of town.

*Information on these events has appeared in past issues of Compass arts and entertainment.*

## ...Lucinda Williams

*Continued from previous page*

performance halls that have been pretty much shut down for months by the pandemic. The two local theaters that are participating are the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass., and the Bardavon Opera House in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

In the press materials for the show, Williams says that, "We've actually wanted to do a cover series for a long time now, but never had the time with my touring schedule."

"I guess the silver lining in all of this has been to be able to really get inside the songs of some of my favorite artists — see what makes them tick. My hope for this project is that we'll be able to help as many venues as we can. They're our homes, as artists. We have to take care of them, for the sake of live music to come."

Williams will also sneak in a few original songs or favorites from her catalog, when appropriate. The basic ticket

information is that you can buy one show for \$20 (which is available to stream for 48 hours after the live stream). For \$25 you can get the digital access plus an audio download of the show. For \$30 you also get a physical CD of the show and for \$35 you get a vinyl LP.

*To stream the shows, beginning with "Running Down a Dream: A Tribute to Tom Petty" at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29, you have to download a program called Mandolin. There are step-by-step instructions at the Lu's Jukebox website, <https://box-office.mandolin.com/pages/lucinda-williams-livestream-series?rfsn=4804000.a95d88>.*

*To order tickets and have them benefit the performance venue of your choice, go to the organization's website, click on "tickets" and you will be linked to the box office website; then your theater will get the credit for your ticket purchase.*

**CULINARY HISTORY: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER**

# Food for Thought in a New History of French Cuisine

Not everyone sees it as cuisine; some people just consider it food. But whether you're devoted to the simple cooking of your childhood or the elevated gastronomy of kings and socialites, you understand that what we cook and what we eat shapes more than just our bodies; it also shapes our culture and our view of the world.

In a Zoom virtual talk on Monday, Nov. 2, at 5 p.m., Bard College at Simon's Rock professor Maryann Tebben will talk about her new book, "Savoir-Faire: A History of Food in France," which is a deep dive into the ways our meals intersect with art, literature and history.

Tebben teaches French and is the head of the Center for Food Studies at Simon's Rock, which is in Great Barrington, Mass.

She explains in the introduction to her book that, "The story of French food is formed from a thousand smaller stories woven together; telling the tale is part of the consumption of French food."

"This book asserts that the way French cuisine has become perhaps the



PHOTO COURTESY THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

**Edouard Manet's "Oysters" from 1862 is one of the many illustrations Maryann Tebben uses to explain the ways that French cuisine is inextricably bound with that nation's culture.**

most recognizable cuisine on the planet is because we know those stories by heart: Charles de Gaulle and 258 (or maybe 325 or maybe 246) cheeses, Dom Pérignon and sparkling wine, Marie Antoinette and cake, Parmentier and potatoes, Marie Harel and

camembert, Proust and his madeleine."

*Tebben will share these and other stories of the history of French cuisine in her free talk, which can be accessed on Zoom (Meeting ID: 976 3089 8977, Passcode: h4BPqB) on Monday, Nov. 2, at 5 p.m.*

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EDITORIAL

There is help available

Feeling unsafe in your own home

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month, and this year there may have been more awareness of this often silent scourge than any other. As the restriction on activity due to COVID-19 overtook the lives of Americans, and humans across the globe, the quality of life as it was happening inside our own homes became so very important. Any gaps in mutual respect and civility, in addition to love and caring, among families and friends co-habiting were magnified and took hold of day-to-day life.

In Connecticut, the governor signed an executive order creating, and the judiciary implemented in early April, a process for filing temporary restraining orders as courthouses were closed to the public. But this resource could only go so far. The victim looking for relief from abuse must have independent access to the internet that is reliable in order to take such a step. That is not often the case in dominant-aggressor controlled relationships, and remember that at the same time, internet access at libraries became unavailable. In September, the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) reported that the total number of restraining order applications filed in the state fell over 50% during April and May, prior to courts beginning to reopen in June.

Now, with a new surge in cases of the coronavirus in the state, and schools feeling the effects of the disease beginning to spread again, there will again be challenges for families that can feel overwhelming. This is a new experience for all of us, and none of us should feel ashamed or reluctant to find help if life becomes unmanageable. There are resources available by internet or phone, and there are people willing and able to help.

If violence is an imminent threat, of course, call 911. If you are feeling unsafe generally in a relationship, there are advocates available 24/7 to help. Locally, there are: Women's Support Services based in Sharon, online at www.wssdv.org or by a crisis line phone 24 hours at 860-364-1900, for support, advocacy, referrals or emergency shelter; the Susan B. Anthony Project, based in Torrington, provides crisis and support services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. All services are confidential, free, and available 24/7. They are online at www.sbaproject.org or by crisis line phone 24 hours at 860-482-7133.

The CCADV, which is Connecticut's voice for victims of domestic violence and those agencies that serve them, is a membership organization of the state's 18 domestic violence service agencies that provide critical support to victims including safety planning, emergency shelter, court advocacy, counseling and support groups, among other services. Their website, www.ctcadv.org, has resources from across the state, and they recommend going online 24/7 to www.CTSafeConnect.org or calling 888-774-2900 for access to help.

All these organizations, their staff and volunteers, are dedicated to being available to all who are feeling unsafe in their own homes. There are tools available to make life better through these difficult times, and all of us should feel that we are able to make use of them.

Effective leader who cares about people

Devastating and lethal, COVID-19 hit Connecticut like a sledgehammer last spring. It stalks us to this day. The virus has claimed more than 4,500 souls in our state and wreaked havoc on countless other lives. We don't know when or how the pandemic will end. We don't know what our lives will look like on the other side. Will we have effective vaccines or therapeutics any time soon? How long will we need to wear masks in public? What will school and the workplace look like in the months and years to come?

I certainly don't have answers to these questions. I don't think anyone really does. What matters now is how we navigate this awful situation. I look at other states and see that some, like Florida, have tragically surrendered to the virus. I don't want that to happen in Connecticut. We can fight this, but we need real leadership to help us forge an effective defense. Thankfully, we have a proven leader who cares about us and fights for us.

State Representative Maria Horn (D-64) is fighting for us. Completing her first term in the state Legislature, Maria has achieved more than anyone could have reasonably expected. Among her accomplishments, she sits as Vice Chair

of the powerful Appropriations Committee, giving the Northwest Corner a strong voice in how monies are spent and distributed. Maria's efforts there helped fill the state's Rainy Day Fund to a record high level and protected it so that it can be used to help the state recover from the pandemic.

Maria vowed to bring affordable healthcare to Connecticut from the very beginning. She has fought for a public option and has supported legislation that protects people with pre-existing conditions, expands Medicaid, and requires insurance companies to cover mental health and telehealth. She backed legislation to rein in the cost of prescription drugs and has committed to support health-care workers at all levels, both financially and through provision of personal protective equipment. Maria also keeps us informed. She emails newsletter updates on the virus and other matters of legislative importance on a near weekly basis.

Maria Horn cares about people. We need Maria's leadership to help shepherd us through these unprecedented times.

Please join me in casting your ballot for Maria Horn.  
Lianna Gantt  
Kent



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why it is necessary to elect Brian Ohler

For next week's election, we need to focus our attention on our local needs and resources, right here in Northwest Connecticut. Why? Because I don't think that Washington, or even Hartford, cares.

For example:  
1: Our desperate need for affordable housing; 2: the need to keep our resident state trooper; 3: to lower our state income taxes, rather than increase them, (to give a raise to state employees ..... voted for by Maria Horn while others in the state are losing their jobs due to COVID-19).

Brian Ohler's Democratic opponent, Maria Horn, was co-chair of the appropriations committee, which wrote the \$2 billion tax bill that passed in 2019.

During his first term as state representative, Brian achieved a rare 100% voting attendance record in Hartford, notwithstanding working on a job and studying for two masters degrees. He also joined the National Guard. His experience in emergency management was vital when Sharon was without power for five days this past summer, I believe. He reached out to contacts at Eversource and within two days Eversource was in Sharon with 200 trucks and vehicles, cleaning roads and restoring power.

In Hartford, Brian established his position for fiscal responsibility, holding college tuition costs at an affordable level and providing proper mental health treatment and systematic care for all veterans.

While Brian was on the battlefield in the Middle East he experienced the ultimate in personal grief and depression; he saw bodies blown apart. It is the sight of these images which made him become determined to care for his fellow men. And that is what he is doing for us in the 64th District in Connecticut.

In the meantime, he wants to be as qualified as much as he needs to in order to care properly for his constituency. He is not doing these studies for himself, he is doing this for us, to keep us safe and healthy. He is now working for a degree in emergency management, homeland security and criminal justice. Next year he will have added a masters degree in public administration.

It is OK to be concerned with the national liberal agenda, but when it comes to the Northwest Corner, we are better served by Brian Ohler, a local representative who is concerned about our local interests and local issues.

Mieke Armstrong

Salisbury

A full-time rep needed

As voters, we appreciate The Lakeville Journal's generous offer to co-sponsor candidates' debates during this election season. But so far only one candidate, incumbent Rep. Maria Horn, has agreed to a debate in the race for the House District 64 seat.

I wrote to her challenger, Brian Ohler, to ask if he intended to participate in a debate this year. I said that with less than two weeks to go before the election, voters in the district have many questions about Mr. Ohler's candidacy and they would like to hear his answers in a public forum.

He has not replied, but I am not surprised. During his tenure in the State House I wrote to him several times asking about his position on local and statewide issues. He never replied then either.

We deserve a full-time representative in Hartford who responds to the concerns of the voters, not one who dodges debates and ignores constituents' concerns.

Vote for Horn

I am urging you to join me to re-elect Maria Horn as our state representative for the 64th District in Hartford. Her never-ending commitment and dedication to meet the needs of everyone in the Northwest Corner is truly amazing!

She will continue to work for us full time with honesty, integrity and transparency. She has earned and deserves our vote! Thank you.

Judi Armstrong

Goshen

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — October 1920

Bert Cane and family of Taconic have been spending a couple of weeks with Mrs. Cane's people in Scranton, Pa. SALISBURY—Miss Alvarena Hortie has accepted a position in the Lakeville School left vacant by Miss Catherine Phillips. Miss Lowe of Lime Rock will fill the vacancy left by Miss Hortie.

LIME ROCK — Miss Eva Gay is in Sharon Hospital suffering from a carbuncle.

Chestnuts — the real ones, not the campaign variety, are

noted for their scarcity this fall, the chestnut tree blight being responsible.

50 years ago — October 1970

The Robert C. Geer Memorial Extended-Care Facility in Canaan will hold a community visiting day and room dedication ceremony this Sunday. G. Roger Newkirk, a member of the Geer Board of Trustees and general chairman of the institution's fund-raising committee will be the program's official host.

The U.S. Postal Service held its pre-Christmas meeting at the White Hart Inn last Thursday with over 100 postmasters and Post Office officials attending from the Waterbury and Hartford areas. High point of the meeting was the presentation of a Service Award to Mrs. Muriel O'Neil, who has been Postmaster of the Taconic Post Office for more than 35 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Collins of Bristol have bought the quaint Gothic house, once part of the Barnum-Richardson property, on White Hollow Road in Lime Rock from Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Wulf. They intend to make it their permanent home and both will teach in the area.

Adv.: For Rent — VERY ATTRACTIVE, 2nd floor, 2 bedroom apartment in Salisbury village. Fireplaces and laundry facilities. Garage available. \$250 per month. References required. Robinson Leech, Realtors.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hart Vining of East Canaan celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary last Friday at a small dinner party given by Miss Ruth R. Miles, a cousin of Mrs. Vining, at her home in South Egremont, Mass.

25 years ago — October 1995

CANAAN — Town Treasurer Francis McCarthy turned the ceremonial first shovel of dirt Monday, breaking ground on the town hall expansion project that will begin this week.

Housatonic Rail Road's impressive new maintenance building was the end of the line for a Department of Transportation inspection train that arrived here from Danbury at noon Tuesday. Co-sponsored by the DOT and Housatonic, the two red and white New Haven line engines pulling three silver coaches turned some heads as it wound its way along the scenic rail corridor.

Saturday's high winds and heavy rains closed roads and knocked out power throughout the Northwest Corner. Some residents were without electricity for up to 24 hours.

These items, taken from years-old Lakeville Journals, contain original wording and spellings as much as possible.

Notes from Overground

If Our Dear Leader thinks he is going to win over suburban women voters by calling Kamala Harris a Monster, I suspect he is wrong. Perhaps he wants to seize them Underground and believes they will just, a la Hollywood Access tape, let him do it. (Please, Like me, pathetically PLEASE, he pleaded at a recent rally.)

Why he continues to make these self-destructing statements is a puzzle to me. Perhaps I shouldn't even try to understand this. Except his self-destruction is going a long way to destroying us all. What is even more puzzling is that his "base," at 35% to 40%, doesn't seem to care that he disdains them and finds them "disgusting," maskless though they all are.

Some of these same folks, judging from yard signs I see, are my neighbors and friends. We trade with each other and there is trust between us. Now I hesitate to engage them in colloquy, lest there be a permanent rupture between us. Perhaps I shall not be so timid and let the devil, that is The Orange Monster, take the hindmost. The real Monster, the Monster in Chief, must not intimidate. Peace and Blessings on us all.

Lonnie Carter  
Falls Village

The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. each Monday. More letters on pages B4 & B5.

Housing should be smaller

The proposed Holley block 13-unit, 21-bedroom, multi-family building (over 16,000 sf) is too large for the 1/3 acre site in Lakeville. The proposed building's facade is 6 to 7 times larger than any of its neighbors to the west and 4 times larger than the insurance building to the east.

The architect has not provided a conceptual view from Ethan Allen Street, which leads to the heavily visited Town Grove. The south side of the proposed structure is over 45-feet high, dwarfing the one-story Lakeville Interiors building. (Note that the building is not the 33' given in the SAHC documents. The front is 34' 3", given in the 10/8 SAHC presentation, and the back 45' 2", an average of 39' 3". The roof is flat, the gables are add-ons.)

We and most of the neighbors would support a smaller two-story structure with eight affordable units, styled appropriately for the neighborhood. We ask the Salisbury Affordable Housing Committee to kindly redesign Holley Place to the scale of the neighborhood and avoid unnecessary conflict.

Our neighbors would be better served if we worked together to support smaller projects. We understand that the Salisbury Housing Trust builds and renovates single-family housing and could expand their mandate to rental assistance. We should support their efforts with funding. Let's get out our checkbooks for housing, not litigation.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Ohler has earned our votes

As a life-long resident of Sharon, and a veteran, who has traveled the state roads (routes 4, 7, 41, 44, 63 and 112, 343) I am appalled by the condition of the roads in the Northwest Corner. They are full of potholes that no doubt have ruined the front-end alignments of many vehicles, including mine.

When I brought this to the attention of state Rep. Maria Horn (D-64), I was advised by one of her legislative assistants that I should identify the exact location of the pothole and she would address the issue. My suggestion was that her office supply me with a case florescent spray paint to identify, circle, AND number each POTHOLE. To say the least, they were not in agreement. How many zeros should

we stop at? I was always taught that "An ounce of prevention saves thousands in the cost of the cure." I've always said, "It's better to be part of the solution rather than be part of the problem."

In the past two years I have heard the same song from Rep. Horn's legislative aide; however the state roads still don't get repaired despite the fact that Connecticut has the highest Gas Tax in the United States. The key is to maintain the roads so that we will not have to spend millions to have them resurfaced.

So what can we do now? We need to restore a responsive local representative who has a track record of getting things done and working with our localities to resolve issues. Brian

Ohler has a track record that deserves our vote. As a veteran, I applaud the commitment of Mr. Ohler to his community and veterans who have served our country.

I believe that Brian Ohler has earned our trust and deserves our votes.

Bill Kelsey

Sharon

## What I look for in a candidate

The qualities I seek in a candidate and a representative are exactly the same characteristics that I look for in friends.

Do they have heart? Are they genuine and generous of spirit? Are they empathetic? Do they sincerely care about the well-being of others — of their constituents?

Are they moral and impeccably honest — even when the truth is tough-to-hear or inconvenient? Are they transparent, without a whiff of corruption or conflict of interest?

Do they have a strong work ethic? Are they willing to roll up their sleeves, and work tirelessly and collaboratively to achieve a mission and for a common goal?

Are they smart — meaning intellectually curious, well-read, well-prepared and forward-thinking? Can they solve problems with an open mind and a strategic approach?

I met Maria Horn a few years ago. We worked together on various projects. I have spent time with her at both work-related and social events. I have talked with her about a broad range of topics. We've shared views, experiences, ideas, and worries.

For the last two years, I have observed Maria's work as our state representative in the 64th District. I have seen how hard and thoughtfully she works for the people of the Northwest Corner. I have witnessed her fearlessness in standing up for people and principles despite political consequences.

Through the years and many shared experiences, I have learned that Maria Horn possesses every single one of the qualities I look for in a candidate, a representative, and even a friend. For those fine qualities, she has earned my trust and my vote.

Patricia Oris

South Kent

## Opportunities to lower everyone's energy bills

With colder weather coming along with its companions, high heating and electric bills, residents of the Northwest Corner need to know about some great no-cost opportunities to help homeowners assess and improve their homes' energy efficiency.

The state-sponsored Home Energy Audit is available until the end of 2020 at no cost to homeowners who have not had audits in the past three years. The audit includes several free conservation upgrades included in the visit. A Sharon resident who took advantage of the program a few years ago said, "The services that were provided then included a 'blower test' to identify heating leaks, weatherstripping of doors, and caulking any obvious leaks. The service I received far exceeded the \$100 cost I paid and qualified me for other additional energy saving programs."

This revised program is designed to make up for the time lost this year because of the pandemic and includes new safety procedures to cope with COVID-19. One of them is a virtual pre-audit by phone. You can apply and get further information at [www.energizect.com](http://www.energizect.com) or by calling 1-877-WISE-USE (1-877-947-3873). This offer is time-sensitive, so people need to sign-up soon.

In addition, there are new, more generous rebates for efficiency improvements, with no-cost efficiency work for those who are income eligible. Large incentive payments are available for energy efficient windows, air or ground source heat pumps, and insulation. Again, get more information at [www.energizect.com](http://www.energizect.com).

Another no-cost opportunity is available via a joint project of the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon and the Sharon Energy and Environment Commission. The Commission has provided several energy assessment devices to the library. These three gizmos, a Kill-A-Watt, a home Radon detector and a heat-loss detector, are all available to be checked out from the Hotchkiss Library.

The Kill-A-Watt can help a user learn which appliances are using the most electricity. The Fluke Heat Gun allows a homeowner to identify the areas of the house where heat is leaking out and cold air is coming in. The radon detector does what it says. If you haven't checked your basement for radon in the past three or four years, you should check out this device.

Jan Dudek, Katy Kinsolving, Roger Liddell, Oscar Martinez, Lyn Mattoon, Doug Rick Sharon Energy and Environment Commission

Sharon

## Do you want more information, or less?

Folks, which is it going to be: "What you don't know won't hurt you," or, "The truth shall set you free"?

Is it better that someone put a swastika on a piece of Democratic campaign literature they found in the post office so we know what's out there? Is it better that people broke into Congresswoman Jahana Hayes' (D-5) online campaign rally to drown her out with the "N" word, so we know what's out there? Is it better that Maria Horn's opponent won't debate her for reasons we can only guess? And in this era of intentional mass miscommunication, do we even know what truth means anymore?

I'm still voting for more information, the "Let in the sunlight" approach. So yes, it matters that Maria Horn's opponent won't come to the debate table. We want to hear from the people laying a claim to representing us, to have them explain their positions and discuss their record. It is an obligation of public office to tell your constituents where you stand on issues so they know what they are getting if they vote for you. Maria is ready to debate, so if you have a question for Maria, email her and she will tell you where she stands. Why isn't her opponent up for a debate to explain where he stands? Because, when it comes to voting, we DO want to hear what our candidates stand for.

Betty Krasne

Kent

## P&amp;Z should respect their obligations

To those of you in Falls Village who are following the River Road Incentive Housing Zone controversy, the regular P&Z meeting was held on Oct. 21 and the commission voted to approve on very narrow grounds a plan for 16 units. Which is to say, they only approved the site plan or design, not the design's location as compliant with zoning regulations.

I do not understand the purpose of this sleight of hand myself, approving a design without addressing its violation of the zone. In the meeting last Wednesday, when I challenged the lack of an authorized zone specifically on the one point that the zoning change application in 2013 did not include the required notice to neighbors, the zoning enforcement officer replied that "proper notice was given." But on clarification after the meeting, he explained that what he had meant was that the notice was given for the hearing that night, not 2013 when the zoning change was under

public review. Another sleight of hand, I assume.

Onward, I am sure we can eventually get to the heart of why Falls Village Planning and Zoning Commission fails to respect their obligations to the residents as well as to their own rules. This will be straightened out one way or another and we all can go back to what our First Selectman Henry Todd likes to refer to as the comity (*comity*: courtesy and considerate behavior toward others) we all so appreciate.

Daly Reville

Falls Village

## The last rant before the vote

Make sure its Biden not the goat

We all want our country back

From the idiot who brains does lack

I remember when America was great

It wasn't filled with hate

It was a sensible time

Filled with grace, not slime

Today is voting day

Cast yours in a way

That votes him out

So we can shout

Hooray, Hooray

And dance again in the streets

And watch all repubs lose their seats!

Michael Kahler

Lakeville

More letters on pages B3 & B5.

## This time, can we believe the polls?

In mid-October of 1948, an election year, The New York Times was reporting Republican Tom Dewey's likely cabinet choices after his all but certain victory over President Harry Truman in November.

But it turned out Dewey's Secretary of State John Foster Dulles would have to wait until President-elect Eisenhower picked him four years after the Times gave him the job on that October Sunday in '48.

This month, I've been reading about the likely Biden Cabinet choices while examining the similarity between Biden's lead in the polls and President Hillary Clinton's lead in 2016.

So what's a writer to do when he feels the need to deal with the coming election and not some easier topic on the Thursday before Nov. 3? Believe the polls or remember 2016 and 1948?

This writer is assuming the pollsters have learned a few things since their "slight error" in the 2016 debacle and taking the word of the FiveThirtyEight founder Nate Silver that the nation's pollsters truly did learn from their mistakes and we should trust the polls this year.

It is therefore worth noting that Silver's simulation of 40,000 election outcomes concludes Biden has an 87 percent chance of winning to Trump's 12 percent as of two weeks before Election Day. (It is also appropriate to recall Gallup and the other major polls stopped polling two weeks before the 1948 election in the belief Dewey's lead over the incumbent president was insurmountable. Silver and the others will keep polling until election eve.)

And it is also worth examining where this year's stupendous Biden margin is coming

from. First and foremost, it's coming out of the Grand Canyon of gender gaps.

Women don't like the incumbent.

The latest Washington Post/ABC News poll indicates what has been called a whole-

sale repudiation of Trump by women. This is especially true of the suburban women he's been courting by promising to keep federal low-cost housing projects out of their neighborhoods. According to the Post/ABC figures, Biden leads the president among likely female voters by 23 percentage points, 59 percent to 36 percent. Male voters are evenly split, 48 percent apiece.

I can hear Trump devotees saying, "What do you expect from a poll run by the liberal Washington Post?"

Fair enough, so let's examine the latest Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll on the wholly incorrect assumption that the editorial positions of the Post and/or Journal influence their poll figures. The Journal/NBC poll does find Biden's advantage among women isn't 23 percentage points, like the Post's.

It's 26 points. That happens to be double Hillary Clinton's final victory margin among women in 2016.

It is altogether fitting and proper that 2020 has become the year of "I am woman, hear me roar" in American politics because it also happens to be the 100th year women have been able to vote for their president, just like the men.

The 19th Amendment to the Constitution, giving wom-

en the right to vote, passed two-thirds of the House and Senate in June of 1919. It was ratified by Tennessee, the last

of the required three-quarters of the 48 states, in August 1920, just in time to allow women to vote for Harding or Cox that November. (Connecticut's Legislature didn't get around to ratifying the amendment until 1923, when it didn't matter any more.)

The first newly enfranchised voters didn't exactly revel in their victory in that first presidential election a century ago. Sixty-eight percent of the eligible men turned out, but only 36 percent of the women. That first generation of women continued to be reluctant to exercise the right their gender had been fighting for since the 1840s. And when they did vote, they usually voted their husbands' way.

The Baby Boomers changed all that and in every election since 1960, the female turnout has exceeded the male's. And since 1980, women have differed from men in their preferences, with more women voting Democratic and more men, Republican.

This is sure to continue even if President Trump manages to confound the pollsters once again next week — or whenever we find out who the winner is in this election year disturbingly unlike any other. If we know two weeks from now, I'll join the other pundits in offering a learned analysis of why I was right or wrong.

*Simsbury resident Dick Ahles is a retired journalist. Email him at [rahles1@outlook.com](mailto:rahles1@outlook.com).*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## David Sullivan believes in keeping our communities safe

In these times of turmoil, of violent protests and peaceful protests hijacked by those bent on destruction and chaos, we need a common sense, no nonsense approach to law enforcement. David X. Sullivan, the Republican candidate for the 5th Congressional District, offers just that.

Mr. Sullivan has spent his entire 30-year career in law enforcement. As an Assistant United States Attorney in Hartford, David prosecuted cases across the entire spectrum of federal criminal law, from drug trafficking to money laundering to tax evasion to mail and wire fraud. He has worked extensively with all the major federal law enforcement agen-

cies, including the FBI, DEA, IRS, ATF, Secret Service, ICE and the U.S. Marshall's Service. He has also worked with law enforcement agents at the state and local level. Since leaving the U.S. Attorney's office, he has called on Attorney-General Barr to vigorously prosecute the perpetrators of assaults on the Jewish community in New York and New Jersey.

While David supports bi-partisan, targeted police reforms, he opposes the fashionable call for defunding the police and other state and local law enforcement agencies responsible for keeping us safe. He has characterized the push for dismantling and defunding the police as "a dangerous idea."

As befits a lifetime devoted to law enforcement, David feels strongly that we are a nation of laws and that we must be ruled by the law, not the mob. He believes that we cannot allow turmoil to threaten public safety or destroy small businesses and neighborhoods — virtually all of which destruction has taken place in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Vote for David Sullivan for Congress. He will bring experience, common sense and even-handedness to law enforcement and public safety.

Tom Morrison

Chair of the Salisbury Republican Town Committee Salisbury

## Overcoming a COVID challenge with help from 21st Century Fund

One of the greatest obstacles for teachers this year has been the challenge of recreating hands-on classroom experiences for at-home learners. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) learning benefits greatly from the application of abstract concepts to concrete situations, but how can we ask students to perform even the simplest of labs without the necessary implements?

Enter the 21st Century Fund for HVRHS. This week, thanks to their generosity, we took delivery of over 150 "3D Flex" kits that contain all of the basic equipment for students to safely perform basic lab experiments at home. This purchase would not have been possible without the fund's involvement, and it caused me to once again reflect upon the overwhelming support of both the fund and its contributors over the years.

Whether outfitting the Mahoney-Hewat Science and Technology Center or supporting exploratory trips and

programs, the fund has been our school's unsung hero, stepping in to bridge the financial gap between the school budget and the dreams of students and teachers that would otherwise go unrealized.

On behalf of our school, I thank everyone who has con-

tributed to the fund and to those dedicated volunteers who serve on the board for it. We are truly grateful and fortunate to have you working to further the education of our students.

Ian Strever

Principal, HVRHS Falls Village



## Realtor® at Large

On November 9th at 5:30pm, the Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission will consider the application for affordable apartments located in Lakeville in Pocket Knife Square. Public comments can be emailed to Abby Conroy, Salisbury's Land Use Administrator at [aconroy@salisburyct.us](mailto:aconroy@salisburyct.us) to be added to the application. The full application can be reviewed at [salisburyct.us/offices/planningandzoning/meetingdocuments](http://salisburyct.us/offices/planningandzoning/meetingdocuments). The need for affordable apartments in this current market is great, as the increase in pricing, due to COVID, places the available housing beyond the reach of many. Another factor is that properties are now being sold to take advantage of the market and tenants are being asked to leave, with few options. Many of these tenants work and volunteer in our community. Salisbury stands at a crossroads of either leading the effort to provide affordable housing or becoming an economically gated community. For organizations in Salisbury helping with affordable housing, please visit: [www.salisburycthousing.org](http://www.salisburycthousing.org).



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A failure of town leadership on housing proposal

Lumber prices have doubled since COVID-19 arrived. Lack of workers, a weakened supply chain, do-it-yourself-ers staying home and feathering their nests along with tariffs imposed by the current administration against Canadian wood products have been the culprits. The proposed 29-bedroom, 16-unit development in the little Lime Rock Station section of southern Falls Village had a previous "guesstimate" of \$3.5 million to build, paid for with your tax dollars. \$100,000 per bedroom. That was before the escalation of lumber costs. As lumber is approximately 60% of the cost of construction, that raises the cost to build this proposed development to over five and a half million dollars, a whopping \$190,000 per bedroom. "Affordable" housing?

The Auditors of Public Accounts for the State of Connecticut just released its report on the CT Department of Housing (DOH) on September 24th. The DOH has a budget of approximately 80 million dollars per year, additionally overseeing a "special revenue" fund that ranges from \$176 Million (2015) to \$268 Million (2017). It found: 1) Deficiencies in internal controls 2) Apparent noncompliance with policies and procedures or legal provisions 3) The need for improvement in management practices and procedures deemed to be reportable.

Granted, the new administration of Ned Lamont took over from Dannel Malloy in January, 2019, and is doing their darnedest to tidy things up, all the while trying to deal with COVID emergencies. Tough duty. However, this audit echoes what people have been saying about the Falls Village Planning and Zoning Commission's (FVP+Z) lack of compliance with State statutes regarding their "midnight session" Special Hearing of December

2013 to establish a 66 acre Incentive Housing Zone in the tiny Lime Rock Station section of Falls Village.

The state has never even visited the property to see that it is nowhere near a "Transit Hub" or "Area of Concentrated Development." The state has failed to enforce their mandate that Incentive Housing Zones be re-applied for yearly. Now, the State may potentially proceed to fund this overpriced misplaced development. The overseer and administrator would be the Falls Village Housing Trust (FVHT); an organization that has no track record as a builder/manager whatsoever. A developer will be hired, get paid (by the State and federal government), then walk away, handing the "keys" to the FVHT. From there, we know not what happens.

The Falls Village P+Z has insisted its only job is to ensure that the architectural drawings and engineering reports are in order. No one in town government has been willing to weigh in on the fiscal ramifications on our town or if the development is even desired or appropriate. We've asked repeatedly. So, we filed a petition on Sept. 22 (signed by 72 citizens) for a Referendum for the whole Town to vote yay to nay on this application. Haven't heard anything back, so far.

We think this is a failure of town leadership to insist on total accountability. Wash YOUR hands? At OUR collective Risk!

Colter Rule

Falls Village

More letters on pages B3 & B4.

Lucky to have Horn

Maria Horn, our state representative for the 64th District, agreed to debate her opponent in an event co-hosted by The Lakeville Journal. But Brian Ohler didn't respond to the invitation.

We know Maria Horn's positions on prescription drug prices, on voting rights, on gun safety legislation, on preserving women's access to reproductive health care, and a host of other items, thanks to the town hall-style Zoom conferences that she has held with each town in her district. We've been able to see her commitment and her grasp of the issues.

The best predictor of what Brian Ohler might do is what he did in the past. He wants to restrict voting rights. During his term in office, he voted against a constitutional amendment to allow early voting, which makes it easier for people to cast their ballots. And he voted for a Texas-style voter ID law that would require photo IDs to vote, a policy that has been shown to disenfranchise

many lower income voters.

Brian Ohler wants to keep open an avenue for dark money in Connecticut politics. In 2017 and 2018, he voted against campaign finance reform bills, designed to restrict the flow of dark money into Connecticut elections. Maria Horn uses public financing for her campaign.

Brian Ohler wants to reduce government accountability and transparency. He voted no in the Appropriations Committee in 2017 on a bill that would have provided protection to whistleblowers.

What Brian Ohler's voting record suggests is that he marches in lockstep with the Republican block in Hartford. And though his campaign literature pays lip service to bipartisanship, his actions tell a different story.

We are incredibly lucky to have Maria Horn going to bat for us in Hartford. Let's make sure she gets a second term.

Willard Wood

Norfolk

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Application and job description information can be found at: www.washingtonny.org/document-center/employment/building-inspector-position or the Town Clerk's Office, 10 Reservoir Dr., Millbrook, NY 12545.

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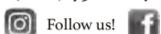
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