



The Lakeville Journal

12 PAGES IN 2 SECTIONS VOLUME 124 NUMBER 12 © 2020 The Lakeville Journal Company, LLC Periodical Rate Postage Paid at Lakeville (Town of Salisbury), Connecticut 06039 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020 \$2.00

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

Region hit with COVID-19 'clusters'

By Debra A. Aleksinas

In a 24-hour period last week, a wave of positive COVID-19 cases hit the Northwest Corner, with 17 new positive test results at Geer Village in North Canaan, and flare-ups reported at The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville (four cases), North Canaan Elementary School (three cases) — and (on Oct. 19) Sharon Center School (one case, see below).

No positive test results have been reported at the other area schools or at Noble Horizons in Salisbury or Sharon Health Care Center, the other two senior facilities in the region. Sharon Health Care is no longer a state-designated COVID-19 Recovery Facility.

In response, Sharon Hospital has restricted visitors from entering its building and has expanded COVID-19 testing hours as a public service, starting this week.

Health officials and community leaders in the affected towns have mobilized to try and address the surge in COVID-19

'We haven't seen this level of COVID-19 viral load, even during the first wave.'

— Dr. Mark Hirko, Sharon Hospital president

positive test results together.

"This came out of the blue. We haven't seen this level of COVID-19 viral load, even during the first wave" of the pandemic during the spring, said Dr. Mark Hirko, president of Sharon Hospital, in a phone interview Saturday, Oct. 17. "I'm jumping on it proactively.

"All it takes is one exposure, and we can be decimated within 24 hours," he said.

Random testing

Hirko, who referred to the new cases reported Friday, Oct. 16, as "COVID clusters," said all individuals who received positive COVID-19 results during random testing at Geer Village and The Hotchkiss School had been asymptomatic at the time of the tests.

Geer Village, which had remained COVID-free throughout the first wave of the pan-

dem, immediately closed its campus to visitors once again in order to halt the contagion.

Senior facilities and nursing homes had been restricted in the early months of the pandemic, but had just opened to limited numbers of visitors as part of the state's Phase 3 re-opening plan.

On Saturday, Geer CEO Kevin O'Connell said that 11 residents and six staff members had tested positive for COVID-19. On Monday, Oct. 19, he confirmed that no additional cases had been identified.

Four boarding students at Hotchkiss, which is a private high school, had tested positive for COVID-19. The Region One School District has now reported five positive cases: one at Cornwall Consolidated School before the first day of classes; three new cases in North Canaan; and one new case at Sharon Center School.

There is no known common link causing the surge.

Officials working together

In response to the emergence of new cases in the Northwest Corner, a group of community leaders including the head of the Torrington Area Health District and state Rep. Maria Horn (D-64), met Saturday, Oct. 17, on a virtual call to share information and coordinate communication to the public.

Horn reported in an email to constituents that no COVID-19 positive test results have been

reported at Noble Horizons or Sharon Health Care Center.

And she added that, "The Department of Public Health has confirmed multiple times to me that they do not intend to send COVID-positive patients to Sharon Health Care Center in any surge planning for the fall."

New COVID-specific facilities have now been prepared at larger nursing centers around the state, in facilities that had been closed down but were renovated over the summer and are now prepared to accept recovering COVID-19 patients.

Going by the playbook

Hirko said in light of the recent uptick in cases, Sharon Hospital has deployed its "COVID Playbook" of response plans for COVID-19 outbreaks.

"We've already started employing it, and it is working like clockwork," said the hospital president, who noted that the possibility of a temporary field hospital returning to his facility is not being considered at this time and would only occur should the hospital become "overwhelmed."

Last spring, in the early months of the pandemic, members of the state militia had constructed large field tents at several hospitals around Connecticut. One was in the parking lot at Sharon Hospital.

At this time, in an effort to keep patients and staff safe, no visitors are permitted to see any patients at Sharon Hospital unless extenuating circumstances apply, such as an end-of-life scenario, said Hirko.

Until further notice, Sharon Hospital's front main entrance on Hospital Hill Road will remain closed, and all individuals must use the Emergency Department to enter the hospital. Individuals will be screened for risk factors of COVID-19 at the emergency department entrance.

Community testing

Sharon Hospital has temporarily expanded its testing

See COVID, Page A6



PHOTO BY VERNE HENSHALL

Spirited decor in Cornwall.

There will (sort of) be a 2020 Halloween ...

By Cynthia Hochswender

At press time, this is the information that we have on what area towns are doing this year. It's possible that plans will change (see COVID-19 clusters story this page). On behalf of town leaders and property owners, please only trick or treat in your own town.

It is ultimately up to families to decide whether or not to participate, said Dr. Mark Hirko, president of Sharon Hospital. He did say, however, that "We are seeing an uptick of the virus," and in areas where "more things open, all those areas have shown an increase in positive cases."

He said he is not in a position to condone any particular activity, but instead pointed to three main factors that mitigate the spread: hand washing, masks and social distancing.

Hirko said he was originally planning on attending a Pumpkin Stroll this weekend, but decided against it. "You have to practice what you preach."

Safety tips

Salisbury Central School sent out guidelines from the state and the Centers for Dis-

ease Control:

- Parents/guardians can pack a travel bottle of their own hand sanitizer. Wash hands once you get home.
- Parents/guardians should limit the number of homes their children visit.
- It is not recommended to trick-or-treat with people outside of your household.
- Remain 6 feet away from people outside your household at all times.
- All trick-or-treating participants should wear a mask or face covering while outside at all times. A costume mask (such as for Halloween) is not a substitute for a cloth or surgical mask. A costume mask should not be used unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers the mouth and nose and does not leave gaps around the face.
- Do not wear a costume mask over a protective cloth or surgical mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask. Do not wear a costume rubber mask over another face covering of any kind.

See HALLOWEEN, Page A6

Positive case at Sharon Center School

On Monday morning, Oct. 19, Sharon Center School sent out an announcement saying that a middle school teacher had tested positive for COVID-19. As a result, the school was closed Tuesday, Oct. 20; and all students in grades five to eight will have to quarantine for two weeks and attend school remotely until Oct. 29. Principal Karen Manning had had close contact with the teacher and she will be in quarantine for the next two weeks as well.

It is possible that additional cases will be announced after this week's issue of The Lakeville Journal goes to press, at mid-day on Oct. 20. We will post updates on our website.

Search in Salisbury ends with arrest

By Cynthia Hochswender

SALISBURY — Several large institutions in Salisbury were put on "soft lockdown" on Tuesday, Oct. 13, as the State Police at Troop B conducted a massive search, aided by the K-9 unit, for a man involved in what is being described as a "domestic incident."

Stephanie Magyar, principal of Salisbury Central School, sent a note to parents explaining that the school "entered a soft lockdown just before 9 a.m. after hearing from Troop B that there was a domestic dispute nearby and the police were searching for an individual involved. While they did not believe there was immediate danger to students, it was best to be inside while they performed the search, police said.

"A soft lockdown means we keep students inside of the buildings and do not let anyone from the outside in. Students can still move around within

the building as needed.

"We remained in the lockdown for the remainder of the morning just to be extra cautious. We got permission to release and remain vigilant for the afternoon."

The State Police also recommended that residents of Noble Horizons remain indoors. The senior living facility is 2 miles north of the elementary school. The police were also on the grounds of the Salisbury School boarding school for boys in grades nine to 12. Salisbury School is 2 miles north of Noble Horizons.

The wide-ranging investigation didn't end until Thursday, Oct. 15, when the State Police were able to arrest Brian Cupole, 30, of Shelton, Conn.

The police report, which was not released until Friday, Oct. 16, said that troopers responded to a call about a domestic incident, but no information was given on the location of the call. Neighbors in the area just west of Salisbury Central School at Lincoln City and Burton Road said they saw police and K-9s at around 9 a.m. in their neighborhood.

The police said that after they arrived at the location, "the accused fled the scene on foot."

An extensive search of the area (apparently all the way up 4 miles north, to Salisbury School) was fruitless. The suspect was not located that day.

The police said that, "An arrest warrant was drafted and subsequently signed by the court on Oct. 14. On Oct. 15, the accused was located, arrested and processed without incident."

The police declared the case closed. The charges against Cupole are criminal mischief, larceny, disorderly conduct, violation of protective order and threatening.

At the state judicial website, there is another pending case involving Cupole that is still pending from August 2020.

The charges in that case are breach of peace, criminal trespass and improper use of a marker, license or registration. A note on the case says it has been referred to a family relations officer. The next court date related to that arrest is in December; the court date for the Salisbury arrest is Nov. 12.

New transfer station open at last

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — The new Salisbury-Sharon transfer station, some 25 years in the making, opened for business on Thursday, Oct. 15.

At 11 a.m. there was a steady stream of residents bringing household garbage and recyclables, plus the occasional commercial hauler truck.

Manager Brian Bartram said there was just one hauler waiting when the gate opened at 8 a.m.

Barbara Bettigole was providing information on recycling at a table set up between the garbage and recycling hoppers.

The table had examples of what can and cannot be recycled.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Residents brought their single-stream recycling to the hopper on the first day of operations at the new Salisbury-Sharon transfer station on Thursday, Oct. 15.

Bettigole said that the website www.recyclect.com has an easy-to-use feature that identifies items that can be recycled. Allen Cockerline of Salisbury had to make several trips. He was enthusiastic about the new transfer station.

"I'm impressed," he said, looking around. "This is like Disneyland."

There was a Comcast van in the parking lot. Bartram was asked if that meant the facility

See STATION, Page A6



ANDREW GATES
Associate Real Estate Broker
CT, NY & MA

Mobile: 917.755.2640 • agates@houlihanlawrence.com

Andrew Gates is a top regional broker, whose 2020 individual sales are on track to exceed thirty million dollars. A leading expert in the sale of unique properties, Andrew has 20+ years of experience in the second homes market.



SOLD - Millbrook, NY - Last Ask Price \$4,750,000
Traditional Shingle Style Estate with commanding Catskill and Hudson Valley Views. Ultra Private on 150 acres. Pool and pool house. Multi - Offer Situation.



SOLD - Lakeville, CT - Price Undisclosed
Post-Modern-Neo Greek Revival near Lakeville Lake, like new construction. Pool. Multi offer situation sold 26% over asking.

In The Journal this week

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Three-day forecast

Friday..... Cloudy, high 66°/low 51°
 Saturday..... Cloudy, 66°/39°
 Sunday..... Cloudy, 55°/36°

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.

Slid on wet road

On Oct. 12 at approximately 1:30 p.m. on the Millerton Road in Salisbury a 2017 Mitsubishi Outlander driven by Jennifer Vannoord, 40, of Salisbury slid on the wet road and struck several wood-post and wire guardrails. Vannoord was issued a written warning for traveling too fast for the conditions.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Horn is stronger for 64th

Recently published interviews with Brian Ohler and Maria Horn confirm that there's a lot to like about each candidate.

Brian Ohler clearly loves and cares deeply about the Northwest Corner. He grew up here, served in the U.S. Army, and as an RN, EMT and mother of a veteran, that is meaningful to me. He has a wonderful, large, extended family. If likeability was the only consideration it's possible I'd have to flip a coin to decide for whom to vote for 64th District representative. The truth, however, is that you simply cannot find a better person than our current 64th District representative, Maria Horn.

Maria is not a close friend. This is not about gravitating to the candidate with whom I most closely identify. This is about supporting the best, most highly qualified person.

Maria is whip smart, absolutely trustworthy, kind, fair and extremely hardworking. Her professional accomplishments are impressive, her work and leadership on behalf of local nonprofit organizations legendary. She is the kind of person you are grateful to have on your team, squad, committee, or company. She is the kind of person who is so good at what they do, so highly competent, that they make everything better.

We should be grateful to have Maria Horn serving our community. If we are wise, we will re-elect her as our 64th District Representative.

Clare Rashkoff

Lakeville

Vote for the one who best represents your interests

Lou Timolat writes (Oct. 15) supporting Brian Ohler for 64th District Representative. Mr. Timolat cites Ohler's very commendable military service as his primary qualification for office. I fully join in Mr. Timolat's praise of such service, but fail to see how that service is critical to the votes a State Representative will have to cast.

Will Ohler support a woman's right to make decisions about her own body if that decision is returned to the states? Will he vote to further develop alternative energy sources before our planet becomes uninhabitable in many areas? Will he vote to expand access to health insurance, particularly for those who

cannot afford it?

Of course, it is politically popular to run against taxes, which everyone agrees should not be so high as to hamper growth and drive people out of Connecticut. More significant, however, are the questions of what revenues are you willing to support and what services are you willing to reduce.

Maria Horn has served us very well. Why change to a candidate whose credentials seem to be that he is nice fellow with a commendable service record?

Falls Village

Dan Silverman

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Here are good reasons to support Maria Horn

I am writing to encourage you to vote on Nov. 3 for Maria Horn. For the past two years I have had the opportunity to work with Maria on many issues that directly affect the town of Norfolk and the Northwest Corner of Connecticut. I am fortunate in my position to have a representative that will communicate with me, provide answers to my questions and to work as my advocate in my dealings with the state government.

Each of the towns in the Northwest Corner deals with many of the same issues: road and bridge funding, affordable housing, solar and broadband to name a few. Wading through the quagmire of paperwork and regulations from the state of Connecticut can

You should vote as if your life depends on it

With "Oaktober" and the election season in full swing, everybuddy can find a reason to get in the game of Life and of What IFs. As I explore on Livfully.org and in outreach over the decades, every person counts, whether they can vote or not. Younger people (children, teens, the unborn) also could have a form of meaningful representation since they are being tasked with caring for the earth and our collective future. For those women feeling they 'have to have an abortion' due to lack of support on any level and over time, more voluntary support should be rendered.

All childcare should be free at this point in time, as should birth control and counseling, particularly early on and often in life to help people understand their emotions, the economic challenges and options that are at play, educational support and pathways to health to prevent insulin resistance, pre-diabetes, substance abuse, violence and poverty.

I am realizing the vision for a more fair, friendly world and a way to pay debts and keep roads and public services up and running can come with a high price tag. Preventing problems in the human realm makes good sense and delivers huge benefits to all involved.

As for finding the funds

to help people 'stay afloat and make a decent living' that is more challenging, but not impossible. America and other advanced countries overconsume resources, so finding ways to help curb consumption would be the goal rather than everyone living in unsustainable ways. As more women and youth join forces with men who have traditionally run the show, things can only get better. More team approaches to join in efforts are springing up online so don't delay in "finding your tribe" (globally, nationally and locally.)

This is the critical "planting time" for the top gardeners of our forest of friends and families in our country with everyone's good health being instrumental in keeping our economy and very lives going. Breathing, exercising, eating right and being kind are all great steps toward a positive outcome for a kind, capable government. Let's let love in with the day and create waves of teamwork to share and care, which our world needs now more than ever to prevent a downward spiral of climate change refugees, loss of resources and the few ruling over the many. Vote as if your life depended on it because if very well could!

Catherine Palmer Paton
 Falls Village

get to be tiresome, but I know when I call or email Maria, I am going the get the support I need.

I was recently on a conference call set up by the Energy & Conservation Committee of the State General Assembly. The call was to discuss LCO No. 3920, "Act Concerning Emergency Response by Electric Distribution Companies and Revising the Regulation of Other Public Utilities." Although I wanted to voice my concern about Eversource's lack of response during the August storm, my reason for being on the call was to encourage the committee to consider raising the virtual net metering rate cap.

This is very important to the town of Norfolk considering our future solar project at the landfill. While still on the call, I emailed the chairs of the committee with my concerns, copying Maria. I heard back from Maria while still on the call letting me know that she would contact the chairs. Before the call was over, I heard back from the chairs and another member of the committee, all positive.

In another instance, Maria informed me the governor would be visiting Torrington and would I be available to meet him to discuss Norfolk issues. A meeting at the Norfolk Hub was arranged and along with other Norfolk residents we were able to discuss projects that are going on in Norfolk, including the work of the Norfolk Foundation, the impact Infinity Hall has on the community, the development of the Haystack Woods Affordable Home Ownership project and the development of a fiber optics network in Norfolk. All these items require assistance from the state and when you can get the ear of the governor it never hurts.

So, I encourage you to support Maria Horn in her re-election campaign to continue her work for the Northwest Corner.

Matt Riiska
 First Selectman

Norfolk

Building confidence, changing lives.



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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF JEANNE M. O'KEEFE Late of Massachusetts (20-00392)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, October 8, 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:
 Robert L. Booth, Jr.
 c/o Kevin F. Nelligan
 The Law Offices of Kevin F. Nelligan, LLC
 194 Ashley Falls Rd.
 PO Box 776
 Canaan, CT 06018
 Megan Williams
 Assistant Clerk
 10-22-20

TAX COLLECTOR TOWN OF SALISBURY CT LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to Sec. 12-145 of the Connecticut statutes, the taxpayers of the Town of Salisbury are hereby notified that the second installment on the Grand List of October 1, 2019 is due and payable on October 1, 2020. Payments must be received

or postmarked by November 2, 2020. If said Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are not paid on or before November 2, 2020, interest at the rate of one and one half percent (18% per year) will be added for each month or a fraction thereof which elapses from the time when such tax becomes due and payable until the same is paid. Minimum interest charge is \$2.00.

If you deferred your July 1, 2020 tax payment with a deferment application that was approved by the Town of Salisbury the last day to pay is October 1, 2020. If payment is not received or is received after October 1st interest is calculated back to the July 1st due date.

Due to COVID-19, the town hall is closed to the public. Taxes can be paid by mail addressed to: Tax Collector, P.O. Box 338, Salisbury CT 06068 or can be dropped off through a mail slot at the Town Hall in Salisbury, CT available Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dated at Town of Salisbury CT this 11th day of September, 2020.

Jean F. Bell, CCMC
 Tax Collector
 09-24-20
 10-01-20
 10-08-20

Deadline for letters is Monday at 10 a.m. Send to publisher@lakevillejournal.com. More letters on pages B3, B4 and B5.



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Salisbury Republican Town Committee



WHY VOTE REPUBLICAN?

Because Medicare for All is not a reasonable or financially sustainable solution to health care.

Because the Green New Deal is not a reasonable or financially sustainable solution to environmental protection.

Because defunding and disbanding the police is not a reasonable solution to police misconduct.

Because raising the national minimum wage to \$15/hour will destroy jobs and thereby hurt low income families more than it will help them.

David X. Sullivan is a 30-year Assistant U.S. Attorney and legal lecturer who has a lifetime of experience in federal law enforcement. David will bring moderate, common sense solutions to these and other national issues. Vote for David X. Sullivan for Congress.

Paid for by the Salisbury Republican Town Committee and approved by Mr. Sullivan.

Election 2020

Candidates for state and federal office

State and federal elections will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3. In the Northwest Corner, voting will be in town halls as is traditional, except in the towns of Cornwall and Sharon, where voting will be in the elementary school buildings. Many voters have also chosen to vote by absentee ballot.

These summaries of the candidates seeking to represent Northwest Corner residents were prepared by Senior Reporter Patrick L. Sullivan. They use information taken from the longer profiles he has written of the candidates over the past three weeks. The full profiles can be found online at www.tricornernews.com.

★ State Representative • 64th District ★

The 64th District consists of the entire towns of Canaan (Falls Village), Cornwall, Kent, Norfolk, North Canaan, Sharon, and Salisbury, the southern part of Goshen and much of the city of Torrington.

Maria Horn

State Rep. Maria Horn of Salisbury (D-64) is running for reelection Nov. 3 against Republican Brian Ohler of North Canaan, who held the seat for one term before losing to Horn in the 2018 election.

Horn worked in a private legal practice and then as a prosecutor and assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York in the criminal division.

Of her term in the General Assembly, she said, "It feels both short and long." Horn said the environment is one of her top priorities. "It's not just something that infuses the character of the community, it's also an economic driver."

With her first term almost under her belt, Horn observed: "State government gets stuff done."

"Almost two-thirds of the legislation we passed in 2019 was overwhelmingly bipartisan, fewer than 20 people voted against it." She added that, "Our district is very healthy in that we are pretty politically diverse."

On the state's financial woes, Horn, who is vice chair of the appropriations committee, said, "You can't be fiscally responsible if you don't widen your vision and look at the whole picture. So I'm in the room for all the conversations. State governments have to balance their budgets — if you want to fund one thing you have to see what allows you to do that."



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Horn said there is a lot of work to be done on health care, but there have been improvements. Even in a pandemic we've made some steps, such as making telehealth more widely available" and curbing insulin prices.

Horn is very concerned about internet and cell phone connection. "With people working at home, kids doing school at home, telehealth — people are realizing they either don't have it or they have an inadequate connection."

"In our region so far 5G is not the answer and it draws a lot of concern. We need fiber optic cable; we need a more basic level of infrastructure."

She summed up her candidacy: "I hope we can continue to accomplish things that are important to people who live here, and I hope to stick around."

Brian Ohler

Brian Ohler of North Canaan, the Republican candidate for the state House of Representatives in the 64th District, is trying to regain the seat from incumbent Maria Horn in the Nov. 3 general election.

Ohler attended Oliver Wolcott Technical School and served as an Army military policeman from 2001-13.

When he returned from overseas, he said his friends were leaving Connecticut because of the cost of living and doing business. "So I got involved in politics."

Ohler first ran for state representative against Democrat Roberta Willis in 2014, and lost.

Then he joined North Canaan's Board of Finance.

"That was a great spot to begin my political career," he said.

Ohler ran for and won the 64th District seat in 2016 and served one term.

When he began his term, "They had just passed the two largest tax increases in our history." He said the tax increases were supposed to reduce the state's budget deficit and fund pension obligations, but state spending increased.

Currently Ohler is the associate director of safety and engineering for Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington and for the northwest region of Hartford Healthcare.

Regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, Ohler said, "The cycle of emergency management is coming back to prevention."

During the quarantine, "I am very focused on maintaining our schools and making



PHOTO SUBMITTED

sure we are able to educate and protect our children, trying to find a balance for our businesses."

Regarding the power outage after Tropical Storm Isaias in August, Ohler said Eversource power company has been "atrocious" in serving the Northwest Corner.

"In the last 10 years Eversource has downsized its workforce and repair crews based in our rural area, and for any off-hours repairs, the repair crews are subcontracted, they are not even Eversource linemen."

"The cost to support that kind of plan is astronomical and they're passing the cost to the ratepayers."

On another essential utility, Ohler said that cable companies have been reluctant to provide broadband internet service in the remote areas of the 64th district, which he finds "unacceptable."

"We need to connect everyone."

★ 5th Congressional District ★



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Jahana Hayes

Congresswoman Jahana Hayes (D-5) says that, moving forward, her primary emphasis is on health care.

In an Oct. 12 interview Hayes said she is focused on maintaining the Affordable Care Act's provisions on pre-existing conditions, allowing young people to stay on their family's health insurance, and to expand Medicare and Medicaid to include vision and dental care.

She also said that prescription drug prices continue to rise, and that when a COVID-19 vaccine is ready, it must be affordable.

Hayes said the pandemic has put a spotlight on "inequities" in the health-care system. "We need to make sure people have access to health care, and to address the disparities" between different locations and communities.

Health care is central to reopening the state's economy in the wake of closures during the pandemic, she continued.

She said the first thing to do is make sure people are healthy, to avoid the "circular" problem of businesses reopening and then closing again because of a COVID-19 outbreak.

She said the federal government should offer more in the way of financial assistance to businesses, and added that she wants to increase support for apprenticeship programs and trade schools so that, as the economy revives, businesses will find the district an attractive place to relocate.

The pandemic has also underscored the role that public schools play. "Schools are doing double duty," she said, providing vital nutrition programs as well as education.

And she reemphasized the "equity gaps," pointing to the differences between school districts in broadband access and the purchasing of personal protective equipment.

"These are not temporary problems" thrown into sharp relief by the pandemic, she said. "None of these things are new."

What is new is the number of people who are looking for assistance. "For so many people, this is their first time at a food bank."

Hayes tested positive for COVID-19 on Sept. 20. She said her symptoms included a fever for a couple of nights, but the main problem was shortness of breath and fatigue.

Hayes lives with her family in Wolcott.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

David X. Sullivan

Former federal prosecutor David X. Sullivan of New Fairfield is the Republican challenger to Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-5) in Connecticut's 5th Congressional District.

Sullivan spent 30 years as a prosecutor in the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut. He teaches at Yale Law School and at the University of New Haven, and formerly taught at the Quinnipiac University law school.

In a phone interview Tuesday, Oct. 6, Sullivan said his top priorities are public health and safety, the economy, and accountability in government.

He said he has children in public schools in New Fairfield. "We've got to make sure we reopen schools safely."

He said prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, many people in Connecticut were not participating in what he called a "robust economy."

"We've got to change the culture in Connecticut. But before we do that we need to focus on safety and health."

Sullivan said he is highly supportive of law enforcement, and is against removing school resource officers from schools. "It's the best place possible for children to see law enforcement officers as their friends and protectors."

Sullivan said that Hayes does not represent the views of people in the 5th District. "She talks like a moderate but votes with [House Speaker Nancy] Pelosi."

"She's aligned with 'The Squad,'" he continued, referring to a group of progressive Congresswomen of whom the most visible is Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY).

Sullivan said the key to his campaign is appealing to "the values of the voters, and to the roughly 40% who are unaffiliated."

Asked if the constant hubbub surrounding President Donald Trump helps or hurts his chances, Sullivan said he has found that some people support the president (and believe that social media is the only way Trump can get his message past a hostile press), some support Trump but dislike his style, and some dislike Trump, period.

He said he has been busy campaigning, within the limitations of the pandemic.

"I've been to all 41 towns. No team. I've been everywhere."

★ State Senator • 30th District ★

The 30th Senate District includes the towns of Brookfield, Canaan (Falls Village), Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, New Milford, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Torrington, Warren and Winchester.

Craig Miner

State Sen. Craig Miner (R-30) of Litchfield is running for reelection in the general election Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Miner was elected to the state senate in 2016, and represented the 68th District in the state House of Representatives for eight terms prior. He was first selectman of Litchfield from 1991 to 2001.

Interviewed on Oct. 4, Miner said the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is his top concern. He said the pandemic and its effects on people's health and on the economy have "devastated the district."

"It's been a constant battle to assist businesses," many of which are struggling just to break even.

He said assisting constituents with unemployment claims has been taking up much of his time as well.

Miner, who is the ranking member on the General Assembly's environment committee, spoke approvingly of a bill passed in the recent special session that makes it simpler for businesses that have environmental problems (such as contamination from dry cleaning chemicals, for example) to deal with state and federal environmental authorities in getting the sites cleaned up and available for redevelopment.

On municipal solid waste disposal, Miner said the state has a lot of work to do. He



PHOTO SUBMITTED

said single-stream recycling has been a "failure," largely because the material doesn't get cleaned enough to be usable.

"There's almost no value to it unless it's cleaned up" by consumers and thrown into the single-stream recycling bin at the transfer station.

On the state budget, Miner said the current deficit stands at roughly \$2.5 billion, some of which is the result of the pandemic and subsequent shutdowns.

He said addressing the deficit with tax increases would be "devastating."

Closing the deficit "will require spending cuts."

As far as getting back to something like normal, Miner said "We need to find a way to regain opportunities in a way that is still safe."

David Gronbach

David Gronbach of New Milford is the Democratic challenger to state Sen. Craig Miner (R-30) in the Nov. 3 general election.

Gronbach was mayor of New Milford from 2015-17. He is an attorney and works for a biotech company. He is actively involved in special education and asylum issues. He and his wife, Vanessa, also owned and operated a bookstore in New Milford.

In a Sept. 29 interview, Gronbach was asked to name his top three issues.

He said that on "the broad stuff," issues such as tax relief for the middle class, property tax relief, infrastructure, schools and economic development, he and his opponent, Craig Miner, are mostly on the same page.

But he said Miner has not delivered on those issues.

"I'm talking about working within the Democratic Party to get it done," Gronbach said.

Gronbach said access to health insurance needs to be expanded, and insurance needs to be more affordable.

He said one idea is to expand the health insurance plan the state offers its employees to small and medium-sized businesses, and noted the plan has already been expanded to include municipalities.

"That's doable right now."



PHOTO BY SUBMITTED

Gronbach was extremely critical of the Eversource power company's response to Tropical Storm Isaias in late August. Asked if the Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) is an adequate mechanism for overseeing the power company, Gronbach said the problem isn't PURA's structure.

"There's no will at PURA. All they hear from are Eversource representatives."

"We need legislation to keep their feet to the fire."

Gronbach said in his conversations with voters, many said that voters he has spoken with are unaware that Miner is their state senator.

He said he tells people if they elect him, "You're going to see me."

Register to vote

There will be a statewide voter registration on Tuesday, Oct. 27, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

There will also be a registration session Monday, Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., for those who have turned 18, be-

come a U.S. citizen, or moved to Connecticut since Oct. 27 of this year. This registration session is also open to members of the Armed Forces, and former Armed Forces members who have been discharged within

the calendar year. There is also Election Day registration on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

This year, voting in Sharon and Cornwall will be at the schools, not at town hall.

Call your town's registrars

for details; phone numbers are on each town's website and in the annual Towns and Villages special issue of The Lakeville Journal, which can be found online at www.tricornernews.com.

Our Towns

Kent dealer opens first Litchfield County storage facility for fine art

By Debra A. Aleksinas

KENT — Litchfield County's first fine art storage facility has quietly opened in Kent, a fitting addition to this low-key, bucolic town that has earned a reputation as an arts mecca among collectors and art aficionados.

The state-of-the-art, 25,000-square-foot, climate-controlled structure will simply bear the letters "MASF" — shorthand for Morrison Art Storage Facility, so as not to draw attention to its intended use, according to owner William A. Morrison. The affable art dealer, known around town as "Billy," has for decades operated the respected Morrison Gallery on Kent's Main Street.

The two-story facility is part of Morrison's plan to expand his business on property he purchased at 60 North Main St. two years ago. His new, 6,000-square-foot Morrison Gallery is currently under construction, with an estimated completion date of spring 2021. The art storage warehouse sits back behind what will be the gallery.

"The facility can store works of art up to 30 feet tall," said Morrison, who on a recent late Friday afternoon was busy fielding calls, meeting with contractors and finalizing plans for the new gallery's foundation, which was due to be poured soon. "The phones have been ringing like crazy."

White glove services

This is not your run-of-the-mill storage unit. The fine art storage warehouse will offer white glove services by professional art handlers and shippers. According to Morrison, the cold storage and climate-controlled rooms are available to private collectors, galleries, estates and artists, and the warehouse includes a private viewing room, two loading docks and transportation capabilities.

And, of course, it is not only pest-proof but also theft-proof, said Morrison, who noted that he is committed to safekeeping the items entrusted to him by protecting them and making sure they remain unaltered while in his custody.

"The alarm system is out of

this world," said the art dealer. "You can't cut even a small hole in the side of the building, or the roof, without the alarm going off."

The custom-designed steel and concrete building also features fire walls for added protection. The property will be monitored with high tech security 24/7, said Morrison, noting, "And I live only two miles up the road."

The dealer pointed out that while art storage facilities in Connecticut and elsewhere are primarily stand-alone structures, often in business or industrial parks, having an art gallery situated next to a storage facility is rare, and makes perfect business sense. "It's definitely a big plus," said Morrison.

Burgeoning art sales

Art sales are climbing worldwide, according to a report by Dr. Clare McAndrew, founder of Arts Economic, a global arts research and consulting firm. Sales in the global art market in 2018 reached \$67.4 billion, and sales in the three largest markets — the United States (the largest market worldwide), the United Kingdom and China — accounted for 84 percent of the global market's total value, according to the report.

Morrison said that as collections grow, so, too, does the need to put the works somewhere when they are not on view. And contemporary art, he said, is getting bigger all the time, often comprising enormous multimedia installations.

The Kent dealer said that over the years, as his collection has grown, he has stored pieces off-site due to limited space at his small gallery. "We have always had warehouses around Kent, too," said Morrison, who has often lent a helping hand to friends and gallery owners in the city seeking a place to store their collections.

The COVID-19 pandemic also heightened the need for safekeeping of works among artists who left their city homes "in a panic," said Morrison. "We tried to help out those artists."

Short- or long-term

Although Morrison declined to discuss pricing, only to say it was "very competi-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MORRISON GALLERY

William Morrison in the private viewing room at his new fine art storage facility in Kent.

vely view their collection. "A client can come and see their works, have friends come in, and spend time viewing the art."

Meanwhile, construction will continue on the new Morrison Gallery, which is expected to open next year in a (one hopes) COVID-free world, with rotating art shows, receptions and public viewings. The nearby MASF will intentionally remain inconspicuous, according to its owner. "I want to keep it as low profile as possible, and let it take off by word of mouth."

For additional information on storage rates and general inquiries, go to www.MorrisonASF.com, or call Morrison Gallery at 860-927-4501 or 860-318-5750.

Private viewing room

An attractive feature at MASF is its spacious viewing room, said Morrison, where a collector can meet up with friends or prospective buyers, enjoy a glass of wine and pri-

Trust, for example.

There were several rancorous exchanges between Laser and meeting participants, and between Scott and meeting participants.

Occasionally someone addressed the site plan. One commenter said he didn't think the area set aside for children to play in was adequate. Another said the architecture would be more suitable for a city like Torrington.

Miguel Rivera, the Housing and Community Development Manager for the state Department of Housing, was on the Zoom meeting, and offered brief remarks to the effect that his agency was "auditing the process."



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Whistles by ceramic artist Missy Stevens were among the many pieces on display and for sale during the Clay Way studio tour last weekend.

Beauty all around, with Clay Way studio tour

By Cynthia Hochswender

KENT — The annual Clay Way tour of ceramic artists' studios benefitted from exquisite autumn weather over the weekend of Oct. 17 and 18.

Alison Palmer, an organizer of the event, also opened her studio a day early, on Friday, Oct. 16. Many of the artists "hosted" others in their studios; Palmer hosted Missy Stevens. Also showing in Kent is one of the most popular artists in the region, Joy Brown, whose trademark plump, happy figures dotted the landscape around her home and workshop.

This is the fourth year for

the tour, which included 15 artists showing in nine studios, from as far south as Wingdale, N.Y., where Ann Heywood showed and sold Japanese-inspired vases, bowls, drinking vessels and more on the porch of her remote, classic farmhouse; to Todd Piker's studio and shop in Cornwall Bridge, where he hosted Sanah Petersen; to Christine Owen's studio in Warren, Conn. Also on the tour was a respected artist who is relatively new to the area, Jane Herrold, whose home and roadside retail shack are in Cornwall.

To get information about next year's Clay Way, go to www.clayway.net.

Mohawk Trail closed for Halloween

CORNWALL — A section of the blue-blazed Mohawk Trail, from the Dark Entry Road trailhead in Cornwall Bridge to the trailhead on Jewell Street in Cornwall Village, has been closed temporarily, since sunrise Tuesday, Oct. 20. It will reopen at sunrise on Friday, Nov. 6.

Hikers and other visitors throughout the year are reminded to observe the No Parking and No Trespassing signs posted in this area, which is private property and not open to the public. Violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Hikers are also reminded to practice safe social distancing while hiking on the trails.

For further information, call Connecticut Forest & Park Association at 860-346-TREE or e-mail ccain@ctwoodlands.org.

Hearing on FV affordable plan is closed

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Falls Village Planning and Zoning Commission conducted a third and final session of the public hearing on an affordable housing application on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

The commission will begin discussing the application from the Falls Village Housing Trust for an affordable housing complex on River Road at the regular commission meeting Thursday, Oct. 22. (All meetings are held online; go to www.canaanfallsvillage.org for details.)

The public hearing was continued twice. On Oct. 14, the first part of the scheduled two

hours was devoted to reading letters supporting and opposing the proposal into the record. P&Z Chair Fred Laser, commissioner Vincent Incognigios and Zoning Enforcement Officer Tom Scott read the letters aloud.

A running count had 24 letters in favor of the proposal, and one against — but the latter was signed by a large number of people.

Laser said at the start of the meeting that discussion would be confined to the site plan. But a lot of commenters spoke about other issues — whether or not the Incentive Housing Zone that includes the site was properly established and the financial stability of the Housing

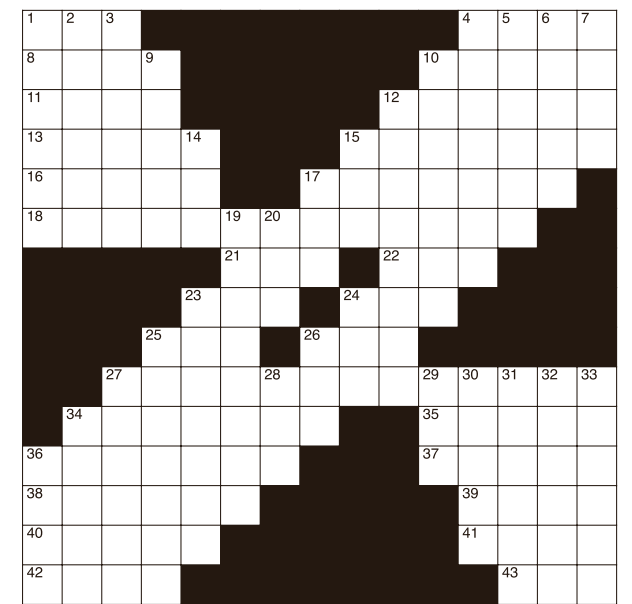
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. Engine additive
4. Undemanding
8. "___ your enthusiasm"
10. Well-known island
- 11 Not saintly
12. Habitual
13. Central parts of church buildings
15. Trust
16. Intestinal
17. Deep-bodied fish
18. Live up to expectations
21. Snag
22. Partner to haw
23. General's assistant (abbr.)
24. Sheep disease
25. Male term of endearment
26. United
27. Popular TV host
34. Overnighters
35. Beloved British princess
36. Obtains from
37. Third Mughal Emperor
38. Shares the opinion of
39. Central European river
40. Feudal estates
41. KU hoops coach Bill
42. Spreads out for drying
43. "The Partridge Family" actress Susan

CLUES DOWN

1. Picturesque
2. South Pacific island country
3. Shrub of the olive family
4. Establish the truth of
5. Unfettered
6. Originations
7. Famed English park
9. Sheep's cry
10. Danced
12. More outstanding
14. Upstate NY airport (abbr.)
15. Type of lettuce
17. Place to call a pint
19. Backs
20. Partner to cheese
23. Makes it there



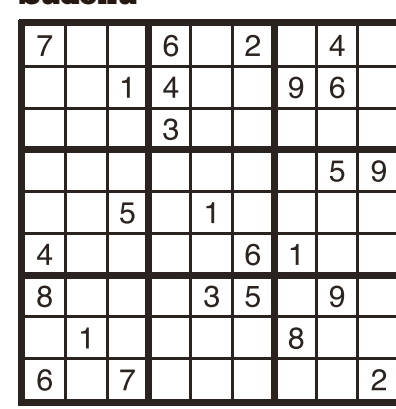
24. Value
25. One's convictions
26. Former CIA
27. Clashed
28. Affirmative
29. Journalist Tarbell
30. Athletic shoes
31. Roof style
32. Make possible
33. Make less dense
34. Healthy food
36. Silly

Look for the solution in next week's issue.

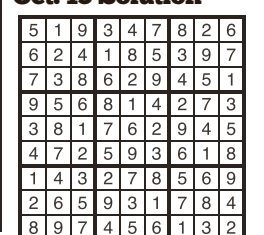
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Sudoku



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Christine A. 'Chris' (Curtis) Becker

NORTH CANAAN — Christine A. "Chris" (Curtis) Becker, 70, of North Elm Street passed Oct. 19, 2020, at the Geer Nursing and Rehabilitation Center following a battle with cancer. She was the wife of Francis W. "Bill" Becker.

Chris was born Jan. 18, 1950, in Sharon, daughter of the late Janice (Surdam) and David Curtis.

Chris worked for many years as a waitress at The Collins Diner in North Canaan. She had also worked at C.A. Lindell & Sons as well as Geer. She was a member of the former Christ Church in North Canaan. She was a long time member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Canaan Fire Company.

She enjoyed Friday night bingo, but her true passions were her family and grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her daughter, Tonya Roussis and her husband, George, of East Canaan; her son, Brian Carley also of East Canaan; her sister,

Donna Williams of Cocoa, Fla.; and her grandchildren, Regina Hurlburt and her husband, Jonathan Hurlburt, and their son (great-grandson), Mason Hurlburt, Sarah Roussis, Peter Roussis, Tina Bunce, Katy Sherwood, Becky Cahill and Stacey Mullen. Chris is also survived by many great-grandchildren.

Chris was predeceased by her son, David Carley; and her sister, Janice Curtis.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24, in Mountain View Cemetery on Sand Road in North Canaan.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, Oct. 23, from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home in North Canaan.

Memorial donations may be made in Chris' memory to either The Canaan Fire Company, P.O. Box 642, North Canaan, CT 06018; or the North Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corps, P.O. Box 178, North Canaan, CT 06018.

David Bartlett Lindsay

FALLS VILLAGE — David Bartlett Lindsay, formerly of Falls Village, passed away on Oct. 10, 2020, after a long illness and while in residence at the Norway Center for Health and Rehabilitation in Norway, Maine. He was 82.



Dave was born in Hartford, Conn., the son of Lt. Col.

Douglas C. Lindsay and Shirley Bartlett Lindsay. Dave grew up in Farmington, Conn., and graduated from Farmington High School in 1956. He played varsity football, was on the staff of the high school yearbook, and was a member of the Farmington High School jazz band.

In 1960, Dave graduated from the University of Connecticut, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree with a concentration in geology. He was a member of the Delta Chi fraternity. In 1961, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served six years in the Connecticut National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve.

In 1966, Dave began an illustrious career at Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) in Falls Village that spanned over 40 years. He was the recipient of National Science Teacher Association grants for further study, attending the University of California, Berkeley in the summer of 1968 and Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., in the summer of 1969. In 1978 he earned a Master of Science for Teachers in Earth Science from the University of Vermont.

As a science teacher at HVRHS, Dave modernized science laboratory and curriculum activities and, with a love for geology and adventure, conducted local and national field trips for adults as well as students. At various times, he served as an officer in the high school Faculty Association, Chair of the Science Department and mentor to new teachers, and in 1985 Dave was nominated Region One "Teacher of the Year." He was also the advisor in the publication of 30 yearbooks.

In the 1970s, Dave performed as cast member of the HVRHS productions of "Cabaret" and "South Pacific" and in more recent years, as a singer in a Doo-Wop revival. He also chaperoned several high school overseas trips to England, France, Spain and China, and, with family, friends, and colleagues, traveled extensively throughout the U.S., as well as visiting Canada, Scotland and Ireland.

While Dave coached Housa-

tonic ice hockey and wrestling, he dedicated most of his athletic career to the Housatonic boys and girls cross-country and track and field teams. He was instrumental in establishing girls teams in both of these sports. In 1997 he was elected to the Housatonic Athletic Hall of Fame and in 2007 the track complex was named in his honor. Dave was also a co-coach and founder of the Housatonic Robotics team, the Who'sCTEKS, and he conducted Lego workshops for local children.

As Falls Village Recreation Director, Dave helped plan and construct the town's original swimming/skating area and he served on a committee to develop waste recycling procedures. During the 1990s he was a member of the David M. Hunt Library's Board of Directors.

Over the years, he taught summer school, managed a student work crew on the Appalachian Trail, and ran geology and travel activities at the Vagabond Ranch, a children's camp located near Granby, Colo.

In 2007 Dave received the Housatonic Community Service Award, and, once retired, enjoyed substitute teaching at Housatonic and also Region One elementary schools.

In 2011, he was appointed Site Manager/Coordinator of what was to become the Mahoney/Hewat Science and Technology Center.

In addition to his wife, Barbara, of South Paris, Maine, Dave is survived by his daughter Lori Lindsay of South Paris, and his daughter Kelly Webster and her husband, Douglas, of Casco, Maine; his grandson, David Webster; his cousin, David Bartlett of Enfield, Conn.; his brother-in-law, Walter James Parker of Simsbury, Conn.; and numerous cousins.

He was predeceased by his brother Dougie.

Donations may be made to the Housatonic Robotics Club, the Who'sCTEKS (U.S. First team #716), c/o Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Warren Turnpike, Falls Village, CT 06031, and the Falls Village Volunteer Ambulance, PO Box 1, Falls Village, CT 06031.

Arrangements are under the care of Chandler Funeral Home, 45 Main St., South Paris, Maine. Online condolences may be shared with his family at www.chandlerfunerals.com.

Funeral services are private, but a celebration of Dave's life to be held in Connecticut will be announced at a later time.

In appreciation: Allen Berrien

From Trinity Church
Lime Rock Senior Warden
Linda Lloyd

I can't remember exactly when Allen came to Trinity but what I do know is that one day he was there and from then on he was always a quiet presence ready with a smile and a greeting for everyone who came through the doors on Sunday. For a long time he rode his electric bike to church in all kinds of weather, always cheerful and happy to be there with his Trinity family. I looked forward to seeing him and, knowing some of his physical problems, was always concerned when he wasn't there. Even with his health declining he worked, sending emails and letters, making phone calls when he could, and giving his advice to the vestry. Whatever problems he had earlier in his life, the man I knew practiced his faith and sowed generosity and love to everyone he met. Sometimes the quietest voices in our lives turn out to be the loudest in our hearts. He will be missed.

From Trinity Church
Lime Rock Verger,
Geoff Brown

As well as the personal loss all of us feel with Allen's passing, I'm struck by how much I depended on him to make Sunday services (back when they were in-person and fully staffed) happen. Allen was my go-to person to sub for nearly anyone who didn't show up. He also served as Head Usher, and he was always a step

ahead of me when a problem occurred. He was ready with the answers to questions that I didn't even realize I had — until I needed an answer right then. He did so much that likely no one ever noticed — except, perhaps, to notice that it had been done. He was always there — and now he isn't.

From Trinity Church
Lime Rock Pastor
Heidi Truax

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. — 2 Timothy 4:7

Allen Berrien, our Junior Warden, is very much missed by the parishioners at Trinity Church. I can tell because of all the people who have reached out to me since his death on Oct. 8. Everyone has a little story to tell me about Allen. He helped Alice on the Altar Guild, he helped Geoff with ushering and reading, he took on the Stewardship Campaign last year and was also Clerk of the Vestry for a few years. He touched the hearts of many people.

He often told me how important his faith community was to him. And he also told me how important his AA community was to him. He found his Higher Power in both the church and the rooms of AA. He just loved us all. "You know, I wear my heart on my sleeve," he would tell me. He was humble, caring and positive, despite the health challenges he faced. Rest in peace, friend ... Jesus' little lamb (his name for himself).

Allen Douglas Berrien

LAKEVILLE — Allen Douglas Berrien of Lakeville, born April 30, 1954, died on Oct. 8, 2020, at Noble Horizons in Salisbury after a lengthy illness.

Allen was born in New Haven, Conn., to Florence G. and Allen G. Berrien. He is survived by his four children, Kate Briggs, Elizabeth Berrien, Heather Berrien and Douglas Clay Berrien; his mother, Florence Berrien; his sisters, Nancy Bennett, Laurel Van Wilgen and Leigh Bak; and his beloved dog, Callie. He was predeceased by his father, Allen G. Berrien.

Allen grew up in Milford, Conn., spending his early years growing up in and around his family's boatyard, Milford Boat Works. That led to a career as a marine mechanic and later as an editor for Boating magazine. Allen never met a mechanical problem that he didn't relish tackling and couldn't figure out.

Allen was a true genius, a prolific reader as well as writer, with a vocabulary that rivaled Webster's. Allen authored three books on boat and small engine maintenance and served as editor for his dear friend Bill Streeter and many others. Allen was known for his great storytelling, his thoughtful attention to detail, his ability to turn a phrase and for silently (or not so silently) correcting your grammar. Allen's fix-it skills then turned into a career in computer repair, first as a "Mac Genius," and then in a career at Visionary Computer in Lakeville. Despite his many accomplishments, Allen was most proud of being a kind, loving and gentle father to his four children.

Allen's true passions were history, travel and the natural world. He and his former wife, Maggie, and son Doug spent a year following the trail of Lewis and Clark. He later spent another year on the road visiting as many of the national parks as was humanly possible in his custom VW Eurovan.

Allen was ageless; when he was 10 years old, his very best friend and mentor was Carsten Jensen, who was 35 years his senior. The two of them spent countless hours in and around boats in Milford Harbor and discussing the ways of the world on Molasses Hill in Egremont, Mass. When Allen made a friend, it was for life; he is survived by two dear childhood friends, Bill Thorne and Alex Langsner.

Allen was one of a kind. He didn't always do life the easy way, but he did it his way. He gave and received great comfort through his time spent in recovery, and logged many hours in transporting others to meetings in one of a series of trusty Volkswagens. A number of lasting friendships were forged through his involvement in AA, which literally saved his life and gave him great purpose and a sense of belonging.

Allen came back to his faith later in life and found a loving church family at Trinity Episcopal, Lime Rock. He took on many volunteer roles at the church and gave unselfishly of his time as Clerk of the Vestry, Stewardship Chairperson and for the last two years, Junior Warden.

A memorial service celebrating Allen's life will be held at Trinity Episcopal, Lime Rock on Saturday, Oct. 24, at 1 p.m. If you care to make a gift in Allen's memory, consider a gift to Trinity Lime Rock Episcopal or Doctors without Borders; both were dear to him.

OBITUARIES

Gerda M. Janicke

SHARON — Gerda M. Janicke, 95, died Sept. 24, 2020. She was the wife of the late Erwin "Jan" Janicke.

Mrs. Janicke was born Oct. 19, 1924, in Bay St. Louis, Miss. She was raised in Nashville, Tenn., and moved to Chicago, Ill., after attending Washington University. While living in Chicago, she met and married Jan and was employed as a fashion designer.

After relocating to Madison, Wis., Gerda and Jan moved to Darien, Conn., in 1961, where they raised their two children. She was very active in the community, including serving as president for the Darien Community Concerts.

Gerda and Jan later moved to Sharon, in 1982, where Gerda owned and operated Clothes and Collectibles, a unique clothing, gift and antiques store until 2008. Gerda brought her dog Jake, a Maltese rescue, daily to the store, where Jake delighted many of her customers.

She is survived by a son, Bruce Janicke of Stamford, Conn.; a daughter and son-in-law, Melissa and Tom O'Day of Mansfield, Conn.; and four grandchildren.

All services were private. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sharon Ambulance Fund, Sharon, Conn. 06069.

Worship Services

Week of October 25, 2020

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

<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10am www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>	<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Marilyn Anderson Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICES 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Said 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) WEDNESDAY HEALING SERVICE At Noon - with Eucharist www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people Pastor Savage Frieze 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am AT THE PILGRIM HOUSE 30 GRANITE AVE, CANAAN: FISHES & LOAVES Food Pantry and CLOSETS for clothing Tuesdays from 5 to 7 and Thursdays from noon to 2 www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</p>	<p>Greenwoods Community Church 355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA Sunday Service 10:30 AM Kidz Connection K-6th grade (during Sun. Service) Nursery Care All Services Pastor Trip Weiler 413-229-8560 www.greenwoodschurch.com</p>
<p>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. Prause 518-789-4840</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamemia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:45 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock Virtual Sunday service 10:30 AM Virtual Lime Rock Facebook page Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627 www.trinitylimerock.org</p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com</p>	<p>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 jokialo1@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Sunday School 9:15 a.m. "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>
<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9am Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mrgates125@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone. We hope you will join us!</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 am, Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am Cornwall Village Meeting House 8 Bolton Hill Rd, Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>Sharon Congregational Church 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for current online sermons. Bible Study Guides also available by request: info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org Or contact us at 860-364-5002</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Millerton United Methodist Church 6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:30 A.M. 518-789-3138</p>	

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COVID

Continued from Page A1

hours. Details on the location and hours and appointment information is available on the hospital's website at www.patients.healthquest.org/covid-19-testing. The tests began on Monday, Oct. 19.

In response to phone calls about the status of patient services at this time, Hirko stressed that hospital operations will continue as usual. "We have had COVID-positive patients in the hospital all along. There has been an average of between zero and four patients at any particular time, so nothing has changed, with the exception of visitor restrictions."

What is concerning, said Hirko, is that all of the individuals who contracted the virus were not showing signs of illness at the time they were tested. "Everybody positive at Geer had been asymptomatic." The same was true of students at Hotchkiss, he said, who were randomly tested upon arriving at the campus. He said he has no doubt that COVID-19 had been "smoldering over the summer."

Geer in lockdown

At Geer Village, CEO Kevin O'Connell said all necessary precautions — including contact tracing, testing, isolation of infected residents, safety protocols and lockdown — are being used to halt the spread.

He said the 11 residents who tested positive have been isolated. Geer staff has not moved between its buildings since the beginning of the pandemic. The YMCA on the campus has also been completely closed off from the senior facility; there is a separate entrance now and no Geer residents can enter the fitness center, and no fitness members can enter the senior facility.

While there are no reported cases at the Nursing & Rehabilitation facility, Geer is working with local and state authorities to create a plan for testing there as a precaution.

O'Connell said Geer is waiting for the results of about 65 additional tests, so the total number of positives could change in

the coming days.

"We are having a surge in the Northwest Corner, and Geer is in the middle of it," said O'Connell, who noted that "many other places, including public and private schools" are seeing a rise in positive test results as well. "The key is to realize that it has always been out there," he said, noting that all the positive cases at Geer were asymptomatic. "That's the insidious nature of the disease," he said.

Geer leadership participated in the coordinating call with the Torrington Area Health District (TAHD) and town and school officials on Saturday, Oct. 17. During the call O'Connell said he was informed of an alarming trend: "The Torrington Area Health District had 60 new cases reported just today," he said.

The health district works with 18 area towns, including five of the six towns in the Region One School District (Sharon has its own health district).

O'Connell stressed the importance of communication on the local level, so that "we are all on the same page." The Geer CEO said pinpointing the root of the spread is challenging. "The virus," he said, "is everywhere around us."

Despite rigorous protocols and safety measures taken throughout the Geer campus, the source of the recent flare-up remains unknown. It could have been spread by a visitor, staff, physician or private contractor, said O'Connell. "We were hopeful we could have made it through unscathed, but it's a roll of the dice."

Four cases at Hotchkiss

At Hotchkiss, Chief Communications Officer Hope Cobera said in a phone interview on Sunday, Oct. 18, that the COVID-positive students and any close contacts have been isolated and quarantined at the health center on campus. Students who can travel via private transportation have returned to their homes.

"In the event a student goes home, they are not taking public transportation," Cobera stressed.

At this time, she said, all posi-

itive cases and any close contacts are all students; no adults have been affected. Over the weekend, all students and "student-facing employees," those working in close proximity with students, were tested, with results due back in a few days.

Any new cases will be isolated on campus or in their homes off campus, and until test results are in, affected students are under quarantine in their dorm rooms. Classes are being held remotely, and day students are learning from home.

To lessen the risk of exposure, only essential staff are allowed on campus, a safety precaution that was instituted earlier this year, not specifically as a result of the recent flare-up, said Cobera. She further noted that visits to the campus by parents are also restricted.

Surveillance testing of about 10% of the school population will take place weekly. As part of the school's ongoing safety protocols, students have not been allowed off campus, either to engage in sports activities or to visit town for shopping or other errands. "They have been staying on campus, and that's been the case the whole year," said Cobera.

According to Cobera, The Hotchkiss student body totals 611, with about 520 boarding students and most of the balance enrolled remotely. There is a small number of day students, about half of which are children of faculty members who reside on campus.

Cobera noted that at the beginning of the school year, in late August, one student had tested positive for COVID-19. All stu-

STATION

Continued from Page A1

was still getting wired up.

He nodded yes.

"It'll all work out."

A resident holding a pane of glass came by. "Still goes in here?" he asked from behind his mask.

"Yup," said Bartram.

Another resident wished Bartram good luck on the first day.

and student-facing faculty and staff were tested prior to the start of the school year and, upon arrival, students participated in a two-week quarantine in their dorm rooms, or at home in the case of day students. During this period, students were also tested by the school, and one student's test came back positive. That student and close contacts, all students, were isolated from the rest of the school population or sent home, she said.

Cobera said she is confident that with all the procedures and precautions being taken at Hotchkiss, including contact tracing, testing and limiting visitors and staff on campus, the virus can be kept at bay. "Hotchkiss's planning and protocols are working as intended and the community should know that students are not out in the community."

Two schools in Region One

There are now five positive COVID-19 cases that have affected Region One. One staff member in the Cornwall school system tested positive in the late summer; three individuals tested positive last week in the North Canaan school system; and a teacher tested positive in Sharon on Monday. (See sidebar, page A1.)

"All three of the cases in North Canaan were connected to one another. The individuals have been quarantined and all close contacts have been notified and tested. North Canaan Elementary School has not closed, nor have any classrooms been quarantined. There was only one close contact at Housatonic Valley Regional High School as a result of this recent case. That

"First day is always hard, in any business," the man said before returning to his vehicle.

Many people are wondering when the Swap Shop will open again. Bartram said that is unlikely to happen until the COVID-19 quarantine is over.

There is now a \$10 fee to back a vehicle right up to the general garbage hopper. All transfer station users are asked to be patient with all changes and new protocols.

individual has been quarantined and has tested negative," according to a summary of the Oct. 17 regional leaders meeting sent out by Sharon First Selectman Brent Colley.

Rep. Horn said she will post updates as she receives them, and she encouraged anyone with questions or concerns to contact her at maria.horn@cta.ct.gov.

HALLOWEEN

Continued from Page A1

Salisbury

As always, several residential streets in Lakeville will be closed to traffic between 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 31. Parking is traditionally in the Salisbury Bank and Trust lot.

Candy should be "grab and go" and not handed out directly.

Streets will be blocked from car traffic; the town constable will be patrolling the neighborhood; Lakeville fire police will help with traffic and safe street crossings.

Kent

First Selectman Jean Speck said that, "Halloween is definitely a big tradition here in Kent. But most importantly, as always, we want everyone to be safe. We are encouraging all to follow the CDC and state guidance for celebrating this year."

"It is up to individuals whether or not they want to go trick-or-treating in the village this year."

She added that, "The Kent Volunteer Fire Department is planning activities outside at the firehouse."

Kent Park and Recreation is planning a Drive-Through Haunted event on Friday, Oct. 30, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Club Getaway, 52 South Kent Road, and invites Kent community groups and businesses to set-up a haunted station.

North Canaan

Trick-or-treating is allowed, but town officials did not respond to questions about whether there will be any special areas set aside or any organized activities.

Parents can ask at school or call Town Hall.

Sharon

The annual costume contest at the firehouse will not be held this year. Town officials say it is up to families to decide if they will trick-or-treat and it is up to homeowners to decide if they will offer treats. Town officials did not share any additional information on whether there will be support, as there usually is, from the State Police and town constables.

Cornwall

There will not be any of the traditional town-sponsored Halloween activities in Cornwall this year.

There will be a celebration on Friday, Oct. 30, of some kind at Cornwall Consolidated School, organized with help from the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The town is discouraging door-to-door visits on Halloween itself.

Falls Village

The Falls Village Recreation Commission will distribute "grab and go" treat bags for children on the Falls Village Green beginning at 5 p.m. There will not be an indoor party or pizza provided this year. Protective masks are required and the 6-foot social distancing rules will apply.

A virtual pumpkin carving contest is also offered. Photos of carved pumpkins can be posted on the Falls Village Recreation Center Facebook page for a chance to win prizes. Categories for the contest are: up to 10 years old; 11-15; and 16 and older.

Contact Emily Peterson, recreation director, at recreation@canaanfallsvillage.org or visit the Falls Village Recreation Center Facebook page with any questions.

Working for the district during these challenging times

- ✓ Pushed to reopen Access Health CT enrollment to provide affordable healthcare to families left without health insurance coverage. The governor reopened enrollment March 19th.
- ✓ Established a system to help the unemployed and businesses navigate the state Dept of Labor when no one in the agency would answer the phone.
- ✓ Pushed to ease restrictions on businesses so they too can survive the Covid 19 pandemic which Governor Lamont codified in executive order 9F on October 8th going to phase 3.



COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Events

October 22-28, 2020

ART: DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Art Goes on for Sharon Painter, With New Show in Amsterdam

Tom Goldenberg found his muse oozing from a smooched walnut that had fallen to the ground in his Sharon, Conn., yard. The acclaimed artist, who has worked with hand-ground pigments for decades, had been raking buckets of the nuisance nuts from his stand of walnut trees to give to a local farmer for his pigs.

"I noticed one day a brown, gooey pulp oozing out" of one of the crushed walnuts — and the ensuing stain it created, recalled Goldenberg. It was an "aha" moment for the artist, who is known for his landscape and abstract paintings. "So I started raking the walnuts onto a canvas and driving the garden tractor over it."

The resulting tread marks, in various shades and shapes of permanent brown stain, became the base for a new series of vibrant, large-scale abstract paintings featured in an exhibit that has just opened at Althuis Hofland Fine Arts gallery in Amsterdam, Holland.

The show, which comprises four paintings and seven works on paper, opened Oct. 16 and runs through Nov. 14. It represents the artist's first solo exhibition in Europe and is also the first gallery show that Goldenberg will not be attending in person, due to the global pandemic.

Crimped plans
"It is disappointing" not to be able to travel to Europe for the exhibit and reception, to meet in person with the gallery owners and patrons, and to explore Amsterdam and its magnificent museums for the first time, said Goldenberg.

Instead, in mid-September, the artist wrapped his works and shipped them to the gallery, where he is hoping that a virtual com-



Tom Goldenberg at his studio in Sharon.

PHOTO BY BILL HAYGOOD

ponent of the show will emerge from the unusual circumstances caused by the coronavirus. After all, it was technology that connected artist and gallery in the first place.

"The people who run the gallery saw my work on Instagram," and also noticed his huge following, "and got to be fans of what I am doing."

When first contacted by Althuis Hofland earlier this year, Goldenberg — who the late art critic Hilton Kramer in 2001 described as "one of the most accomplished painters on the current scene" — said he was skeptical. "I had no idea who they were. And then I thought, maybe I should call these people back."

"They were really excited about doing the show. It was hard not to have that kind of reciprocated enthusiasm," he explained. "They are young and energetic and have terrific sensibilities with what they are showing, cutting-edge kind of works, a lot of vitality."

The pandemic also put a crimp in the artist's



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

This painting by Tom Goldenberg, titled "Calabria," a 74-by-94 inch latex on canvas, is among the Sharon artist's new works featured in a solo exhibition opening this month in Amsterdam.

plans to travel in March to the American Academy, a research and arts institution in Rome, where he had planned to return as an artist in residence for the month "before anybody would know the full-blown implications of the whole COVID thing." His 2020 visit was canceled.

Still, Goldenberg is excited about the Amsterdam show and his art being exhibited there, which he said is all new with the

exception of one or two works on paper from 2019. The largest of the paintings, titled "Calabria," is a 74-inch by 94-inch latex on canvas. Other large-scale works, also latex on canvas, include "Ortebello" (60 by 48), "Byzantine Portico" (48 by 90), and "Market" (50 by 93).

About his most recent body of work, which clearly reveals his return to abstraction derived from landscape and architectural space, Goldenberg noted: "I initially had worked with landscapes for many years, but my sense about landscape has changed. These paintings are really paintings about the earth and the passage of time and people who have been on Earth for generations." **Ethereal but of the earth**
Goldenberg has long been inspired by the nature of northwest Connecticut and the Hudson Valley.

In keeping with the earth theme of his paintings, Goldenberg said that in addition to incorporating pulp from walnuts as a medium, he has also started using cast-off latex paint from the Salisbury-Sharon transfer station. "Oil paint is incredibly stunning, and

FILM: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

All You Need Is Love, Even in This Crazy World

John Hoffman didn't need the madness of the 2020 world to convince him that there is a shortage of kindness on the planet right now. An award-winning documentary filmmaker (and Dutchess County resident), Hoffman started two years ago to look for stories of kindness, decency and the power of community in America.

The end result is a new film called, "The Antidote," which he directed with Kahane Cooperman and which can be seen now "virtually" through The Moviehouse in Miller-ton, N.Y.

Hoffman describes "The Antidote" as a study of "everyday people who make the intentional choice to lift others up and make their communities bet-

ter, 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."

Its goal: To give us all hope in what feels to many people like a very dark time.

The movie can be seen online through The Moviehouse (which also helps support our beloved local theater, which of course is struggling to survive the COVID-19 quarantine; movie theaters in New York state are still not allowed to open).

"The Antidote" can be seen now by going to 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.

HALLOWEEN, AUTUMN FUN AND SHAKER COLORS

For many admirers of the Shaker aesthetic, it is the muted, dusky colors that are particularly enthralling. Learn how those colors are made in a virtual talk from Hancock Shaker Village in Pittsfield, Mass., on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 5:30 p.m. "A Coat of Heavenly Brightness" is a conversation with Brece Honeycutt and Sarah Margolis-Pineo.

Honeycutt, artist-in-residence at the village, has been exploring the Shaker palette of yellows, blues, reds and greens, and experimenting with natural dyes and pigments she creates from Hancock's gardens and forests.

Moderated by curator Sarah Margolis-Pineo, this conversation will provide an overview of Honeycutt's ongoing research, mining objects from the village's collection to showcase the colors of the Shakers. Register on the website at www.hancockshakervillage.org for the free Zoom session.

The village is now open from Thursday to Sunday each week. Several on-premises seasonal events are coming up.

On Saturday, Oct. 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. there is a family fun day with no admission fee,

that will include a "Where the Wild Things Are" story walk, craft demonstrations, a scavenger hunt, drumming, food and live music, plus visits with the village's barnyard animals. Advance reservations are encouraged but not required.

There will be a Halloween celebration on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a costume contest for children, 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, AAA members and active and retired U.S. military; \$8 for ages 13 to 17; under 12 is free).

That evening, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. there will be a "Trick for Treat" party. Grown-ups are encouraged to dress in costume, visit stops throughout the village and try their hand at simple contests to win beer, wine and spirit giveaways and other prizes. A food truck, fire pit and music make this a great date night. Tickets are \$45 (includes three drink vouchers).

For more information on these and other events, go to www.hancockshakervillage.org.

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To advertise your event under the Arts & Entertainment banner, call 860-435-9873 or email advertising@lakevillejournal.com

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

Continued on next page



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CONIFERS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

A Virtual Glimpse into an Enchanted Conifer Garden

This is the time of year when we begin to think of evergreens and pine cones in preparation for the winter months and snow and holiday-season wreaths.

Just in time, there will be an online presentation about conifers sponsored by the Sherman, Conn., library as part of the Great Hollow Invitational Art Show.

I don't know (yet) the subtle shadings of difference between conifers and other evergreens, but the free virtual talk on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m. promises to enlighten me.

Photographer Jeff Ginsburg will be talking specifically about a really lush,

gorgeous conifer garden in Sherman created by Dr. Peter Rostenberg and his wife, Susan (whose photo "Reproduction" is on this page and is part of the Great Hollow Invitational Art Show).

The Rostenbergs are well-known to many garden enthusiasts in the region for their extensive conifer showcase, which is much more beautiful and enthralling than it might seem to be at first blush. There are many photos of it online; the plants (trees?) are drapery and large and almost look like friendly furry animals.

Ginsburg will talk about the garden and about how all the different conifers work with the other plantings and trees that surround them.



PHOTO BY SUSAN ROSTENBERG

Peter's Opus is described in the news release as "an arboreal sculpture park created four decades ago by Dr. Peter

"Reproduction," a photo on canvas by Susan Rostenberg, is part of the Great Hollow Invitational Art Show in Sherman, Conn., and a focus of a talk on the famous Rostenberg conifer garden, called Peter's Opus.

Rostenberg, who practiced Internal Medicine in New Fairfield, Conn., for more than 40 years, retiring March 2020.

"Using clippers, chainsaws, shovels and more, he has created a garden that is like a world-class

symphony. As he and his wife, Susan, prepare to leave their special place, they offered Ginsburg a rare opportunity to photograph and video their amazing property."

This is a chance to see a garden that most of us didn't know existed; and it sounds as though the garden's future is not assured, once the Rostenbergs are gone.

Learn about Peter's Opus in a virtual talk on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m. Register by emailing Ablake@biblio.org.

For more information about the show and the Sherman Library, go to www.shermanlibrary.org.

CLASSIC ROCK: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

'American Beauty,' Now 50 Years Old, Keeps on Truckin' at the Bardavon

It's the 50th anniversary of an iconic Grateful Dead album, and the Bardavon in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., is celebrating with a free online show on Sunday, Nov. 1, at 8 p.m. featuring covers of songs from the album and the general Dead song list.

One of the highlights of the show will be Jefferson Airplane's Jorma Kaukonen performing "Operator," with John Hurlbut. Kaukonen went on to have a long and fruitful solo career after leaving the Airplane.

The show will also include the lovely "Box of Rain," written by Dead founding bass player Phil Lesh, with Robert Hunter. It's one of the few recordings of Lesh singing. Nicki Bluhm and Amy Helm will cover the song for the Nov. 1 show.

Members of Moanalice and Doobie Decibel System will cover "Attics of My Life."

Other covers will include Animal Liberation Orchestra (ALO) performing "Friend of the Devil," Mihali performing, "Sugar Magnolia," Yonder Moun-



The Bardavon Theater in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., is celebrating the 50th anniversary (and what a long strange trip ...) of the Grateful Dead's "American Beauty" album with a virtual concert on Nov. 1.

tain String Band performing "Candyman," Marco Benevento performing, "Ripple;" The Harmonellas performing "Brokedown Palace;" Railroad Earth performing, "Till the Morning Comes;" and Donna the Buffalo performing, "Truckin'."

As a bonus, from "Workingman's Dead," The Weight Band will cover "New Speedway Boogie."

The 50th anniversary celebration was curated by Bardavon Production Manager Stephen LaMarca; the show has commen-

tary by Bardavon Executive Director Chris Silva.

A portion of all donations from this and other concerts in the Bardavon streaming series Bardavon Presents @ You Tube will benefit People's Place in Kingston, N.Y., and Dutchess Outreach in Poughkeepsie.

Coming up next on Bardavon Presents @You Tube is the 50th anniversary of "Loaded" by the Velvet Underground on Sunday, Nov. 15, at 8 p.m. with special guest artists.

Don't be sad that your favorite albums are celebrating their half century; be glad that you grew up with so much great music!

Find the Bardavon's "American Beauty" tribute on Sunday, Nov. 1, at 8 p.m. and see other shows, too, at www.youtube.com/channel/UCjYyXGTdm-F4055Duc4sgaSw.

ONE FOR THE RECORDS IN WASSAIC ON OCT. 24

There will be dancing in the streets in Wassaic, N.Y., minutes away from the Metro North train station, on Saturday, Oct. 24, when Erika da Silva's Wassaic Newsstand offers a one day Record Store event.

There will be actual vinyl 33 rpm albums for sale from noon to 6 p.m. Da Silva promises a mix of "new, used, rare, popular, obscure, classic records — something for everyone at all price ranges!"

Dancing is from 3 to 8 p.m. with live music and DJs StevieT, Third Culture Kid, Jeremy Smith and

"special guests."

The Lantern restaurant next door will be open for lunch from noon to 4 p.m. with artisan pizza, "bites," burgers and beverages. Dinner service is from 4 to 8:30 p.m.

The Record Store is open to all ages without a fee, but will not be specifically geared toward children, Da Silva said.

"We're hoping to offer a fun, low key, safe and socially-distanced enjoyable day for record lovers."

Wear a mask and don't dance too close.
— Cynthia Hochswender

GHOSTS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Tales of Old Ghosts Of New England

It's called "New" England but our region is, of course, one of the oldest parts of the U.S., so of course there are more stories about ghosts and ghouls and the unexplained here than there are in newer, shinier parts of the country.

Anyone fascinated by the undead and the unknown — and the history of this part of the world — can take advantage of one of the few good things about the quarantine: Many cultural institutions that you might not normally visit are now offering interesting virtual online presentations.

On Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 7 p.m., the Bidwell House Museum in the spooky dark recesses of nearby Monterey, Mass., is offering a talk on Colonial Ghosts with Robert Oakes, an area resident and author of the new book, "Ghosts of the Berkshires."

The news release on the talk and the book reminds us that, "Before it became a haven for arts and culture, the Berkshires in Western Massachusetts was rugged



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Robert Oakes will talk about his book, "Ghosts of the Berkshires," Oct. 28.

and sparsely populated. From the early days of revolutionary fervor and industrial enterprise to today's tourism, many chilling stories remain.

"Residents and visitors alike have felt fear and awe in these hills, telling tales of shadow figures, disembodied voices and spectral trains. Robert will share Colonial and Revolutionary War-era stories from the region and discuss the gravesite of Reverend Adonijah Bidwell."

There is a \$10 fee to participate in this Zoom talk (unless you happen to be a Bidwell House Museum member); only one registration is required per household.

Register at www.bidwellhousemuseum.org/event/ghosts-of-the-berkshires-colonial-spirits.

...Tom Goldenberg

Continued from previous page

I will not give it up, but for these paintings it was appropriate to incorporate recycling, things being cast off."

He describes his new works this way: "I use abstraction to reference an architectural or fictive space. Although a traditional picture-frame is utilized, I envision the work as an inner proscenium that operates on several planes. There are burial chambers and areas of ritual sacrifice, walls and rooms as well as windows and doorways, areas above and below ground, and deep and shallow spaces for the living and the buried."

The paintings, he said, function as "elegies or heroic, intimate poems intuiting the history of

man and "The Structures of Everyday Life," the title of a book by Fernand Braudel that is rhythmically poetic in his discussion of how humanity is orchestrated by geography, climate, technology and the routines of daily life."

In 2016 Goldenberg and his wife, Michelle Alfandari, moved to Sharon, where they built a studio on their property after living and working in New York City for four decades.

"I rely on her judgment when working on a piece," Goldenberg said of his spouse's creative input. "It's a great partnership."

Further details on the Amsterdam exhibit are available at www.tomgoldenberg.com and the artist's Instagram and Facebook pages.

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EDITORIAL

Our 2020 endorsements

All Americans who have followed the presidential race, and surely that includes all who read this page, know their vote is more important this year than ever. The intense polarization of American politics has led to a situation that is untenable, and the current Trump administration is destructive for the general health not only of the public, but of the nation itself. Things must change.

There are readers of this newspaper who will disagree and who feel that Donald Trump is a good president. But between his corrupt colleagues (some of whom are now in jail as a result of their criminal activities), his mishandling of and lack of honesty about the COVID-19 pandemic, his embrace of conspiracy theories, his chaotic approach to governing, his erratic behavior, his open admiration for dictators and constant misrepresentation of the truth, there can be no agreement here with that sentiment. He must go, and Joe Biden should step into the role seamlessly and will bring a sense of professionalism and decency that is much needed in Washington, the nation and the world at this time. His running mate, Sen. Kamala Harris, will make an excellent vice president, with her years of experience serving the public as a district attorney, attorney general and senator for California.

Biden has said his motivation to run for the office of president was the aftermath of the white supremacist and neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville, Va., in 2017, when Trump said there were good people on both sides of the march. Biden is on the right side of history on this and will work to build bridges for equality in our society rather than inciting violence. His ability to work with both sides of the aisle in Congress should usher in a new era of cooperative action, and his international experience will bring a more mature and democratic approach to diplomacy. We endorse Biden.

For the 5th District congressional seat in Washington, our endorsement goes to incumbent Jahana Hayes, a relative newcomer to politics who overcame a lack of support from the state Democrats to win in 2018. During her tenure she has worked to understand her district from end to end. She has sponsored legislation supporting veterans and their families, increasing mental health care accessibility, supporting educators, addressing racism and keeping guns out of classrooms. Hayes' background as a teacher gives her insight into the struggles families and educators face, and she has been especially sensitive to those needs during the pandemic. She and her husband, a police officer in Waterbury, both tested positive for COVID-19, but she has continued to push through its effects to keep her constituents' needs paramount. Her open communication on the repercussions of COVID on her and her family, as well as about a racist attack she experienced during a Zoom meeting recently, should only increase her credibility as a caring and determined leader.

In the state races, the 30th Senate seat is being sought by incumbent Republican Craig Miner of Litchfield and Democrat David Gronbach of New Milford. Neither candidate is ideologically extreme. Gronbach has even said he agrees with Miner on multiple issues, such as lowering property taxes and other taxes on the middle class, rebuilding infrastructure and increasing economic development. Miner has the challenge of having had to work with the Democratic majority in the Senate to get things done. But he has been responsive to the needs of his constituents during COVID-19, working with businesses and individuals to help them through the traumatic events of the pandemic. Either of these candidates will serve the 30th well, but Gronbach, as a Democrat, has more chance to fulfill his goals for the 30th if the Democratic majority remains in place after the election. We hope that happens.

State Rep. Maria Horn won the seat for the 64th District from then-incumbent Brian Ohler in 2018, as part of a wave of women pursuing and taking office in the wake of the start of the #MeToo movement and Trump's first two years in office. Both these candidates bring enthusiasm and dedication to their service for their constituents. Horn has been thoughtful, open, transparent and a good communicator, regularly informing residents about the weekly work of governing. She has worked hard to master the learning curve of legislative work by listening to all sides of an issue and making well-researched choices in her voting.

Ohler was also open and communicative as a representative, and made himself available to his constituents at any time to help them with any problems with which government might help. He served the 64th well, and would do so again. Our endorsement, however, goes to Horn, who deserves a chance to deepen her knowledge and her strength as a representative for the 64th District.

All that said, we know that most voters' minds are made up, and that many have already voted. Here's hoping that Connecticut handles its ballots well and all votes are counted in a very timely way. And if you haven't yet, please do vote; vote safely, vote in a distanced and masked environment if you do it in person, but by all and any means, vote.



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

Ready to dig

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Horn is a great communicator

I will be casting my vote for Maria Horn and hope that many people will join me in doing so. In addition to the many positive qualities and accomplishments as our State Representative the past two years that have been enumerated in previous letters to the editor, I would like to add one more. I have never before been kept so informed by a legislator as I have been with Representative Maria Horn.

Today (Sunday, Oct. 18), I received the most recent email providing information about the Zoom meeting, which she organized, with key

area persons regarding the recent spike in cases of COVID-19 at Geer Lodge. Please note: Maria organized the meeting! And, true to her style of keeping the public informed, she sent an email to all who regularly receive her emails.

Anyone is able to receive her emails; not just constituents of her political party. I applaud her for this and look forward to another two years of Maria representing us in the Connecticut Legislature.

Ceely Ackerman

Salisbury

Zoom-bombing Hayes' Town Hall

In 1950, when I was 12 and working on a Scout astronomy merit badge, my father, Edward Brecher, took me one Saturday afternoon to the Hayden Planetarium. Hungry, wanting a bite before the show, we went downstairs to have lunch in the basement cafeteria only to discover that every father and son in New York City seemed to have had the same idea that day about lunch so we got into the long shuffling line.

Standing in front of my father, a good head shorter than he, with his two hands on each of my shoulders, I didn't hear what was said to him by the man standing behind us, but had heard Dad suddenly roar out something and then felt him take his hands off my shoulders and spin around, at which point I broke out of line and ran. He'd had a choice then: take on the man who had made a vicious anti-Semitic remark or to run after me. He chose to comfort me.

Now, thanks to social media and since the pandemic, Zoom, racists can spew their vile language in public with no fear of being punched in the face. The racist cowards who broke into and Zoombombed our congresswoman, Jahana Hayes (D-5), during her town hall last week did so in such a way that, unlike my Dad, neither she nor we, Jahana's supporters, have any means to respond directly to them.

That being the case, therefore, I say to you now, you faceless cowards, that in my book your unfair, revolting act ranks lower now — much lower, than even my deepest, most heartfelt contempt for the dangerous corrupt man now occupying the White House.

Wm. Earl Brecher
Cornwall

We need Republican representation

There is a need for effective and responsible representation in Hartford and Washington. We have suffered years and years of failure in our state due to inept Democrat one party rule. We have seen constant tax hikes, stealth tax proposals like tolls and the grocery tax and uplifting social crusade laws like the \$15/per hour and expanded leave laws. What have been the results? GE has left the state, with others following. The economy has still not recovered jobs lost from the 2008 Great Recession. Business surveys chronically rate this state in the bottom five for its business friendly environment.

When contrasting this atmosphere of stagnation with the economic revival, before the pandemic, record growth had been unleashed in the economy and stock market. How was this done? Simple. The Tax Reform Act, passed without any support from the Connecticut delegation, is responsible. It stimulated growth and deregulation causing employment for minorities and women to soar. Connecticut was sadly passed by. Programs like school choice, prison reform, and protections for religious practices were passed through executive actions. The list goes on, new trade deals, etc.

These visionary accomplishments were rejected by Connecticut legislators — locally by Rep. Hayes. These are policies of benefit to 5th District constituents. Representation includes making life better for your constituents. This means more than just reporting on information happening in Hartford or Washington. On the state level by voting yes on the police reform law, Rep. Maria Horn has made all people of the Northwest Corner less safe. Passage of the law will make it more difficult to recruit and keep police in law enforcement.

In closing, two candidates running for office have exceptional qualities. David X. Sullivan has experience as a former prosecutor and stands for law and order. He has been endorsed by many orders and police organizations throughout the district. He has a creative plan to bring the electric car industry to Connecticut. Brian Ohler has elected experience in the 64th District. He is a veteran and has training in disaster relief. Think the Kent ice jam. He has also been involved in environmental matters. Specifically the elimination of toxic pesticides along the Cornwall-Housatonic rails. Both of the candidates are committed and service oriented to bring Republican voices to the table.

Joseph Agli

Kent

Horn is right for the 64th

I am writing in support of Maria Horn's candidacy for State Representative. To me, she models what "public service" should be. Every week she sends out a "State Capital Update" and, since March, a "Covid Update". If you want to be informed about what our government is doing, these updates give us a ringside seat.

In her reviews of legislative issues, she never comes across as polarizing and usually helps one understand that issues are

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA GALAISE

100 years ago — October 1920

SALISBURY—W.S. Thompson who has been farmer at the Salisbury School will terminate his connection with the school November 1st and will move his family to Lakeville occupying the Dr. Peterson place to be vacated by Dr. Tuttle.

SHARON— Mrs. Mary St. John is in the hospital suffering from an injured hip caused by a fall last week. Mrs. St. John although nearly 90 years of age is reported as doing nicely.

LAKEVILLE — The stu-

dents of the Hotchkiss School were given a holiday on Friday in honor of Richmond Landon's establishing a record for the high jump in the recent Olympic games at Antwerp.

The road from Ore Hill to the New York state line is practically completed and is a great improvement. The remainder of the road from Ore Hill to Lakeville still needs attention. A little scraping and filling would help much.

50 years ago — October 1970

SHARON — Susan Wanser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wanser of Main Street, was home from Emma Willard School in Troy, N.Y., last weekend. Barbara Hoskins, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. R. Hoskins, formerly of Sharon, who is also at Emma Willard, accompanied Susan home on her way to spend the weekend with her grandmother.

KENT — Warrant Officer Candidate Charles G. Twomey, 26, recently completed a 20-week training course at Fort Wolters, Tex. He is the son of Charles G. Twomey, High-watch Farm, Kent.

Philippa Tuttle set up her easel outside the Congregational Church and did a lively business in pastel portraits. During a lull, a small Salisbury boy came up to her and said he would like to have his picture drawn. She told him the price and he walked away downcast. Running after him, she asked him what he could pay. "I have 21 cents," he said. "It's a deal," she told him, and did a portrait sketch of him on the spot. He was delighted and carried off his treasure. Later in the day he returned with an assortment of brothers and sisters, each bringing his or her collection of pennies. Miss Tuttle sketched them all, then just as the Fair was closing, she learned there were more at home. She has asked Mrs. John Fitch to round up the rest of the family soon. "I want to sketch them all," she said.

25 years ago — October 1995

SHARON — Thinking back on it, Joseph Griskauskas might have smelled the hay smoldering in the old concrete silo for a day or two. "I just didn't realize it" the 35-year-old dairy farmer said this week. But his Amenia Union Road neighbor Wallace Chase driving to work Friday morning saw smoke issuing from an opening in the silo and called 911 on his cellular phone. Spontaneous combustion, said the firefighters. A little rain in the very hot very dry hay got the chemistry for a fire going. Then it took four companies from two states and an estimated \$1,300 worth of foam to extinguish the smoldering. By 11 a.m. everybody could go back to work.

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

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

(USPS 303280)
An Independent Connecticut Newspaper
Published Weekly by The Lakeville Journal Company, LLC
64 Route 7 North, Falls Village, CT 06031
P.O. Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039-9989
Tel. (860) 435-9873
www.tricornernews.com • editor@lakevillejournal.com

Volume 124, Number 12 Thursday, October 22, 2020

Mission Statement

The Lakeville Journal Company, LLC, Publishers of The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News
Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, fostering democracy and an atmosphere of open communication.

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DRIVERS: Elias Bloxom Baker; Chris Palmer.

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL COMPANY, LLC
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Subscription Rates - One Year: \$53.00 in Litchfield County, \$60.00 outside county
Known Office of Publication: Lakeville, CT 06039-1688. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Lakeville, CT 06039. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Lakeville Journal Company, LLC, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, Connecticut 06039-1688.

The theft of political signs: slipping to a darker side

I have a growing feeling of anger and frustration with the increasing frequency of the theft of political signs in our region of the Northwest Corner of Connecticut. Unfortunately, this is cultivating a civil dissonance on the local, small-town level that is evident to a greater degree throughout the country. I believe as a collective community we are better than that, and I feel a need to express a concern that we might be slipping to a darker side of who we are. The problem with the theft of signs seems two-fold; most obvious is that it is illegal to trespass and take the property

of another citizen. However, on a more significant level it is a metaphor of discord and exacerbates the anger over our political differences. Theft is inherently anonymous. It demonstrates an inability to engage in those with opposite views. There is an absence of courage and decency with theft, an unwillingness to take a risk to express your views in a respectful, civil way, face-to-face in the daylight.

I believe that this election, in this time of angry politics and sign theft, is really not about the issues, although they are substantive. This election is about the restoration

of decency in the national conscience. It is about the value of civil discussion, care for others, and the acceptance of an opposing view without vitriol.

Simply put, it is about a return to fundamental courtesy that seems to reside in us all, and thus is the strength of our nation. In turn, that lends us the ability to rediscover the foundation of our values to make the correct, carefully measured choices about the issues as well as our moral strength of character as a country.

Hugh Cheney

Cornwall

Deadline for letters is Monday at 10 a.m. Send to publisher@lakevillejournal.com. More letters on pages A2, B4 and B5.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The right ones for the jobs

For medical care, I seek out qualified doctors with a medical degree and advanced training. When my teeth need attention, I visit a skilled dentist. When I need help with something electrical, I go to a certified electrician. A carpenter? Someone with experience and references. Credentials matter.

When it comes to voting for representatives to the Connecticut Legislature, a body whose function is to, among other things, write or review or improve laws that will help our state function fully for its citizens, I look first for a person with a law degree — someone who understands the law and who can craft good legislation or improve it.

We currently have two good candidates for the state Legislature, both with law degrees and real life experience with the law: Maria Horn for the State Assembly and David Gronbach for the State Senate. What a great opportunity to help Connecticut and our own region. Maria Horn has proven herself in just two years to be both a representative responsive to her constituents and one whose legal mind and training make her a go-to person for other assembly representatives when a law is difficult to read and understand. With broad and varied legal experience, David Gronbach offers us a chance for fresh thinking, a sound legal approach to laws and regulations, and a positive attitude.

I hope that my fellow citizens take a good look at our choices and join me in re-electing Maria Horn and electing a new state senator, David Gronbach.

Honora Horan

West Cornwall

Voting does matter

It is good to know that local Republican Bill Littauer will not vote for Trump. And learning about his journalism career, and his witness to many of the historic people and events that were formative for me as I came of age in the 1960s and 1970s makes me think we have something in common.

But I must correct the record again. I never suggested that Bill publicly apologize for Trump. I said that is what I would do if the Democratic Party was responsible for getting anyone half as bad as Trump and his enablers elected.

I have had my own witness and involvement with important events and people. I even met a couple of my heroes from political, civil rights, peace, and other social movements. In fact, I was raised by one. My late mother went to jail several times during her nearly four decades of activism and nonviolent civil disobedience. While fighting and sacrificing to refine the soul of this country, she was mocked, shunned, threatened, brutalized, and even audited by the IRS for her activities. But like the two courageous senators Bill mentioned, the only two to vote against the Tonkin resolution, Mom was right. And she was no quitter. We could use more women and men like that, especially men.

Actually, we have them, in our inspiring Congresswoman Jahana Hayes, our incredibly hard-working State Representative Maria Horn, and our superb challenger for the State Senate, David Gronbach. Coming from different backgrounds, they have shown what diversity, compassion, intelligence, creativity, and courage

can do to make our towns, our state, and our country better places for everyone. I have never been prouder of our Democratic slate.

Their Republican opponents though, have not acknowledged the incompetent and dangerous leadership at the top, have not shown they understand the injustice built into our society, and have not articulated credible solutions for serious problems. The recycled plans for lower taxes, fewer regulations, and more law-and-order policies, never have and never will help deal with systemic racism. They certainly will not help with climate disruption, COVID-19, and the lack of affordable housing and health care.

I cannot believe these candidates are the agents of reform Mr. Littauer hopes for. Are Mr. Sullivan's attempt to associate Jahana Hayes with Marxism, and Brian Ohler's Northwest Chatter FB page examples of promoting civil dialogue? How about Craig Miner getting rated as one of the 12 worst state legislators in the country on environmental issues?

I am delighted that the national Democratic leadership is showing signs of returning the party to its roots. We can thank 2018 for that, the year of the great surge of women into politics. It took women, mothers especially, to end the Vietnam War. And so it will be now, as we fight to save our democracy and our country.

Vote Democrat on Nov. 3, our future really does depend on it.

Al Ginouves
Chairman, Salisbury Democratic Town Committee
Lakeville

Horn is good for the 64th

You may ask why a registered Republican who served in the Marine Corps is voting for Maria Horn. Simply put, she is the candidate best equipped to deal with the needs of the Northwest Corner. She will not be a part-timer as she has no other career demands. She gets deep into the issues and reflects on a nonpartisan basis about what is best for all constituents. It is not about party

affiliation, historic voting patterns, or gender.

I don't expect to agree with her on all issues nor should anyone. To my surprise my wife and I sometimes fail to agree. It is about voting for best thinker and hardworking representation. As a footnote she communicates clearly and non-politically on a regular basis.

Philip V. Oppenheimer
Lakeville

A racist attack on Hayes

How sad it was to read, last week, the letter Congresswoman Jahana Hayes sent out to those of us who receive her newsletter. Representative Hayes is currently serving her first term as our 5th Congressional District Representative in Washington, D.C. She is the first African-American woman to represent the state of Connecticut in Congress. In running for re-election, she has been holding frequent Zoom meetings with constituents.

As many of you have heard, a recent meeting was interrupted multiple times by people directing disparaging remarks at Rep. Hayes. This is an understatement. The shockingly blatant racism expressed was disturbing. Despite this, she was able to handle the rest of the meeting smoothly and with grace. Afterwards in her letter, Rep. Hayes described how personally painful it was. She asked us to consider the trauma of such an experience for an African-American. And we all must. As Rep. Hayes wrote, "...a refusal to acknowledge it is a non-starter for anyone who seeks to heal our nation."

Kathy Lyon

Cornwall

More letters pages A2, B3 and B5

The wrong proposal

The housing development being proposed in Lime Rock Station, "River Road Homes" should not be approved. Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NW COG) hand-held the Falls Village Planning and Zoning Commission (FVP+Z) to get Zoning Regulations changed with no attended Public Hearing (2013) and apply for an Incentive Housing Zone (IHZ) in a non-compliant area. The IHZ is nowhere near a "Transit Station", an "Area of Concentrated Development" or "Commercial Center" as required in the eligibility regulations.

NW COG misled our Town officials into thinking all they had to do was enact the Zoning Change and everything would fall into place. It all worked for awhile. Until the newly created Falls Village Housing Trust (FVHT) applied to build. That was April 2019. NW COG failed to inform the FVP+Z for 6 years that they had to re-apply for their IHZ annually to maintain compliance with the State.

The land the FVHT aspires to build on is owned by Habitat for Humanity which has built four homes in Lime Rock Station. Good neighbors and homeowners. Habitat has tried to sell their 66-acre property across the road from those homes for 15-plus years. No takers. Most of the piece is heavily wooded, very steep and is bisected by the Mohawk Trail. Until recently, the president of Habitat (seller) was on the Board of the Falls Village Housing Trust (buyer) until we pointed out the obvious conflict. Also on the FVP+Z

The Salisbury model

We attended the Zoom public hearing meeting Oct. 8 on the affordable housing project proposed for the corner of Route 44 and Holley Street in Lakeville. We do not object to the site for housing but we and others object to the scale of the proposed apartment building on a tiny lot that is now essential parking for our local businesses and a busy intersection becoming busier with traffic diverted to the new Transfer Station. Thirteen apartment units on a third of an acre with no outdoor space is not how we feel affordable housing should be planned for our community.

We suggest a model that would be smaller-sized housing, what we could call "The Salisbury Model." It would be a project with individual dwelling units which would give each family a bright space in a smaller multiple dwelling building.

In other historic, rural towns where people object to affordable housing, they do not necessarily resist the concept but rather the intrusion of urban design not in keeping with the soul of their community. The smaller housing models are less expensive and allow for local control without having to meet a developer's break-even targets or to weather interference from state or local governments. Lower costs could allow the raising

Why Maria Horn?

As a retired educator I'm supporting Maria Horn. Education is one of the major "industries" in the Northwest Corner and I, like many other retirees from the public schools, need their Connecticut Teachers' pension.

Due to the Windfall Elimination Provision, I am not entitled to receive my fully earned Social Security benefits. Thankfully I had enough quarters to get Medicare. However, teachers who do not have enough quarters solely rely on the Teachers' Health Insurance upon retirement.

The Teachers' pension fund as well as the Health Insurance fund have been woefully under-funded for decades. Well, the can that got kicked down the road led to near bankruptcy of both these funds.

We retirees have been contributing to our pension and health plans during our teaching career. Maria voted to support the retired educators, unlike Brian Ohler, by making sure the state of Connecticut kept its promise for its portion, avoiding costs becoming the towns' responsibility.

Maria listens, investigates, comes up with solutions on many issues, not only the one related to teachers. That's why I'm voting for Maria Horn and hope you will, too.

Jo Loi
Lakeville

was a member of FVHT. The FVHT hasn't filed their 2016 and 2018 tax returns and didn't file for "charitable" status in the state of Connecticut until last December 2019, when they were made aware of their shortcoming. The FVHT has failed to answer ANY questions of a fiscal nature, after many requests. Shouldn't we know?

The bottom line is that the FVP+Z and FVHT are in the deep end, way over their heads, led down the garden path by the NW COG. It does not inspire confidence, Not to mention the vast ramifications for our little town. We are not a "wealthy" town like Salisbury, Kent or Sharon. Our budget is 1/6 of Kent's. And, by the way, the majority of their and the other towns' affordable housing is within walking distance to their town centers. Not "River Road Homes". Fully 2 miles from Falls Village and 7 miles from the nearest quart of milk.

We recently created a Petition for Town Referendum that asks "Shall the Town Government, Its Committees and Commissioners approve the Falls Village Housing Trust's application to build a 16 unit, 29 bedroom development in Lime Rock Station? Yes or No?"

It has been signed by 70 citizens and taxpayers asking for a vote, to decide yay or nay if this burdensome behemoth is appropriate for our Town. We will submit it shortly. Time and again we have stated that we are not against affordable housing. Not this way. By this group. At this time. Thank you.

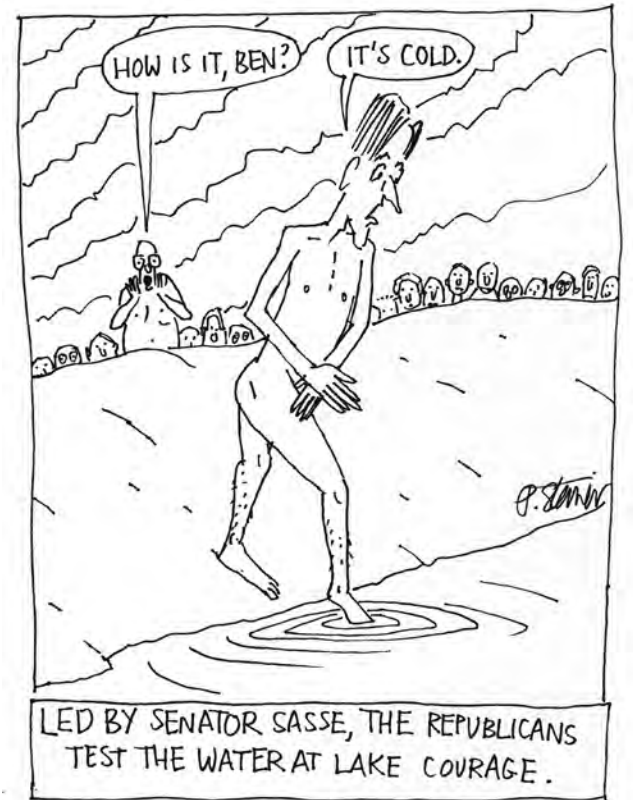
Katy Keller
Falls Village

of local monies. Our community raised over \$2,000,000 to renovate our beautiful library and \$1,000,000 to create an amazing ski jump used only four months of the year. Our town owns the Pope property with over 13 buildable acres and land it purchased directly behind LaBonnés. There are at least 40 other parcels that could be considered for use.

The concept we'd like to see is a variation on the "tiny house" model that is designed and adaptable to any parcel, with multiple units on the parcel. This idea is better suited to small towns like ours, and is the opposite of the outdated Coop City concept we saw constructed in cities during the 1960s and '70s. We no longer want to "put" people someplace. A more enlightened approach is one in which people get their own space which includes healthy living for children with some private outdoor space. It's an idea that would help build and strengthen our entire community.

We believe there is a better way to allow people to live affordably in our town. Wouldn't it be preferable to solve the problem of affordable housing in our area by creating healthier, long-term housing more suited to our community?

Stephanie Koven
Susan Galluzzo
Lakeville

**Do moderate Republicans still exist?**

If your family has been voting Republican for generations, and you feel you must do the same, think! Trump has squashed any "moderate Republicans" down in national offices. Is statesmanship dead? These senators and others have done what they are ordered to do. What has happened to people who would stand up and say and do the proper things no matter what the threats to their careers, etc.? If they had done what they should have in the impeachment, Trump would be gone and Mitch McConnell too.

Your parents and grandparents voted Republican so you must? No: You are not voting for Theodore Roosevelt who started the National Parks (which Trump is already destroying for his best buddies, the oil and coal corporations.) You are not voting for Dwight Eisenhower who said corporations (and the military) must not be allowed to take over the government. You are not voting for Nixon, who in spite of his awful maneuvers, did approve and begin the Environmental Protection Agency — which Trump has gone far to destroy, and intends much more.

Are you going to vote for one who has handled this COVID totally wrong and is responsible for thousands of people's deaths, who might have been saved if Trump had taken it seriously and had the research for vaccines begun instantly, instead of laughing it off? (I think he saw that this whole disease could be used for his benefit.) You will be voting for who is out to wreck this democracy, for the benefit of the only people that count — billionaires, huge corporations — the top 1%.

He couldn't care less about the rest of us. His niece Mary Trump said so in her recent book. Wreck the air, water and land; treat Blacks and others badly; slam women down in any ways possible; remove decent judges from the courts, to be replaced by more evil, unethical and immoral ones; allow and bring back all kinds of dangerous chemicals in food. There are so many hundreds of illegal and unethical, totally wrong, things Trump and his destroyers of America have done.

Think hard. You must change. You are not voting for a real Republican. He is corrupting that whole idea as fast as possible. Drop the "it can't happen here" idea. It already is going fast and big. These extremists (Sorry, I refuse to use the words, "Right Wing") are totally wrong.

So, if you vote for Trump, I believe you are acting against the best interests of the democracy of America. It is the most critical moment in the history of America. It must be stopped now.

If there is an election: Trump is already threatening to cancel it as fraud if he loses. I think he is crazy enough to try to declare martial law, due to protestors, and cancel the election. That is far beyond sanity, but it wouldn't surprise me if he tried anything to wreck the election.

Roger W. Coleman

Sharon

Horn will serve the best

I'm writing to express my strong support for the re-election of Maria Horn as our House representative from the 64th District in Hartford.

When the coronavirus epidemic exploded last spring, and the state legislative session was called off, Maria immediately pivoted to manage the pandemic's extraordinary hardships in the Northwest Corner. She helped many people get unemployment insurance and small business loans. She constantly sent out email newsletters — as many as three a week — with important information and links about how to deal with the health crisis.

In the past few days, she has

displayed impressive leadership by organizing an online meeting with community leaders to report and share essential facts about local virus outbreaks at Geer and area schools.

It's difficult to grasp how much time and dedication this has taken and continues to take her. Disturbing talk from those opposed to her re-election suggests that if you're not from here, you cannot effectively serve the district. Maria's actions and effectiveness prove that this is absolutely wrong.

We are extremely lucky to have Maria fighting for us. Let's re-elect her!

Laurie Lisle

Sharon

Realtor® at Large

The Equus Effect in Sharon is a non-profit that focuses on helping veterans make the successful transition from the military back to civilian life. Many of these veterans are suffering trauma from experiencing combat in Iraq or Afghanistan. The Equus Effect are leaders in developing a peer-to-peer program with facilitators, horses and other vets who work as a team to accelerate the journey home to family and community. With COVID, they are now offering programs for first responders to reduce stress as they deal with the continuous emergencies caused by this pandemic. They are currently building a new indoor ring so that they can be active year around and are asking for community support to accomplish this. For more information, please see their website at www.theequuseffect.org or call or text Kelly Hitt, Marketing & Communications Director + Outreach Coordinator + Volunteer Coordinator at (203) 613-1107.

JOHN HARNEY
Associate Broker with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty
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Viewpoint

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gronbach will get things done for the 30th

Almost three years have passed since David Gronbach left office after serving a single term as mayor of New Milford; yet he remains a polarizing figure. Is that because he was bad at his job? No, it's because he did his job.

After decades of Republican-dominated government, residents of the Town of Steady Habits have become accustomed to mayors who make an appearance at every community function, shake hands, kiss babies, and get nothing done.

Gronbach's two-year term was a whirlwind of activity that caught all of us by surprise. Instead of rubber-stamping business as usual, he pored over every line item on the town's balance sheet, and identified numerous ways to reduce expenses without raising taxes or cutting vital services, such as education.

He not only followed through on his campaign promise to convert Pettibone School into a community center, but succeeded in getting it open and running in short order, and at minimal cost to the town. From all accounts, Park & Rec, Social Services, and the Youth Agency are thriving in their new spaces.

If the Republicans had gotten their way, this property would be nothing but another vacant lot with a "For Sale" sign and a giant stamp on top saying "Price Reduced."

Nobody's perfect. David Gronbach's fatal flaw is that he's not a politician. He doesn't take marching orders from wealthy special interests. He does his homework and makes decisions based on real facts, not alternative facts.

New Milford residents of modest means are worse off because he's no longer our mayor. But residents of the 30th Senate District will be well served by having him represent our interests at the state level.

Vote Gronbach on Nov. 3!

Tom O'Brien

New Milford

Putin likes Joe Biden, not Donald Trump

U.S. Senator Chris Murphy insists on repeating the lie that Vladimir Putin has reasons to favor Donald Trump for president and to oppose Joe Biden. Recent history clearly shows that the person far more likely to favor Putin's interests is Biden. Consider these examples: When Obama-Biden assumed office, one of their first acts was to cancel an agreement with Poland to station medium-range missiles in that country as a deterrent against aggression by Putin's Russia.

While Hillary Clinton was Secretary of State, she and the Obama-Biden administration approved the sale of 20% of the USA's uranium assets to a corrupt Russian corporation with links to Putin. Not surprisingly, the Russians contributed millions of dollars to the equally corrupt Clinton Global Initiative, and they hired Bill Clinton to deliver a speech in Russia for money in amounts most Americans can only dream of.

In contrast, President Trump has pressured Europeans to increase their contributions to NATO to discourage Russian aggression.

He has promoted vastly increased U.S. natural gas production and exports to Western Europe to reduce their dangerous reliance on Russian natural gas. This removes Putin's ability to blackmail Europe via threat of shutting off gas supplies and significantly reduces Putin's profits from sale of the gas.

Trump has also made clear his total support of the Eastern European nations formerly held in the Russian Iron Curtain and in return the leaders of these nations have expressed their respect for his efforts.

These facts and others prove that Putin suffers with Trump as president and would support Joe Biden and the Democrats as weak replacements with whom they can literally roll over.

Lucille A. Paige

Torrington

He is our friend, our neighbor and our voice

We live in a very unique area, outside of the big cities and at a much slower day-to-day pace. That being said, still, we are very aware and connected to what is happening in our over-taxed state. We don't want to hear that the governor needs to do another project to promote more business in Bridgeport or Hartford and we will be taxed to help pay for it and our current local representative will certainly vote for that tax increase. Sadly, we don't benefit from that in any way at all. Just another unfortunate burden for us.

We need a representative who will represent us. Brian Ohler has proven time and time again that he will always be here for the Northwest Corner of Connecticut's needs. He was born and raised here, he's the guy next door, who walked home from school with your kids. He served our country for 12 years, and afterwards furthered his education, became part of his hometown community by joining several public organizations and stays involved in public safety.

He is employed as the associate director of safety and engineering for Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington and for the northwest region of Hartford Healthcare. He oversees public safety, emergency management, telecommunications and small projects. As Brian said, "I've always been in public safety," as a volunteer firefighter and an EMT. He's a man who gets right in where he is needed and is there to help the citizens of Connecticut.

Whether he is fighting for new and worthy laws for our state in Hartford or locally, Brian will always be at your side, making sure your rights are being protected and your voice is heard. He's the man you can trust.

Vote for Brian Ohler! He will always be there for you!

Jane Pinckney

Lakeville

More letters pages A2, B3 and B4

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