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The Lakeville Journal

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

Despite dangers and signs, crowds at the falls

By Patrick L. Sullivan

AMESVILLE — Last week's closing of the Great Falls recreation areas had little effect as people simply ignored signs and barriers on Sunday, July 12.

The Housatonic River at the Great Falls is between the Amesville section of Salisbury on one side and the town of Canaan (Falls Village) on the other.

The water below the falls moves very quickly, with cross currents and with plenty of rocks and hollows under the surface of the water that create suction and whirlpools. In recent years, there has been at least one drowning death every year or two in the river here or in Kent near Bull's Bridge.

On a normal summer day, the falls in both towns attract dozens of people to the shores of the Housatonic River seeking to escape city heat by swimming and having picnic meals by the side of the river. Trash and noise and unsafe parking have been significant problems in Salisbury, Falls Village and Kent, to the point where Kent has taken extreme measures to close off access points to the river.

The water on its own is dangerous. The Housatonic at the Great Falls is a Class 3 rapids; according to www.paddling.com, Class 3 indicates "numerous high and irregular waves; rocks and eddies with passages clear but narrow and requiring experience to run. Visual inspection required if rapids are unknown. Open canoes without flotation bags will have difficulty.



PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN AND ALEXANDER WILBURN

Despite signs saying that the Great Falls on the Housatonic River are closed to the public, visitors pushed aside caution signs and went around closed gates.

"These rapids are best left to canoeists with expert skills."

Adding to the complexity of the water there is the presence of the First Light hydropower dam. Sometimes the power company "diverts" water from the river to generate power; at those times, the water level is low and the large rocks are exposed. But when the water is no longer diverted, as was the case the last two weekends, the river reverts to its fast-flowing Class 3 state.

This year, with much of Kent closed off and with the COVID-19 quarantine forcing people to seek social activities

See FALLS, Page A7

Area towns cope with COVID-19 consequences

By Patrick L. Sullivan

GOSHEN — The 21 municipalities of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments (COG) are continuing to exercise caution in reopening their towns. The group of first selectmen, mayors and town managers met online on Thursday, July 9.

Henry Todd of Falls Village said Town Hall continues to be closed to the public; people needing to consult land records may do so by appointment. The Senior Center remains closed.

Todd said the COVID-19 testing held on Main Street by Charlotte Hungerford Hospital had no positive cases.

Gordon Ridgway of Cornwall said Town Hall is closed and noted the town's Planning and

Zoning Commission is working on a review of the town's land use regulations.

Jean Speck of Kent said an outdoor concert series had been suspended after people disregarded COVID-19 safety instructions at the first concert.

She said that the entire Bull's Bridge recreational area on the Housatonic River is now closed. She said the large numbers of visitors in recent weeks were unruly, left a lot of garbage and harassed the volunteers who were trying to help maintain order.

Charlie Perotti of North Canaan said Town Hall is closed; a doorbell was installed so people can get assistance. The tax collector will have a tent outside, weather permitting, for those who prefer to pay their taxes in person.

Perotti said he hopes to have the town pool open by the last week of July. "At least we'll get a

See COVID, Page A7

Award-winning journalist to speak on athletes and racism

By Hunter O. Lyle

SALISBURY — For its second online seminar during the COVID-19 quarantine, the Salisbury Forum has invited award-winning sports columnist and author William Rhoden to speak on Friday, July 24. His topic is "Athletes in the age of Black Lives Matter."

The author of the 2006 book "40 Million Dollar Slaves," which is a history of African Americans and sports, Rhoden is former New York Times reporter and now a writer at large for The Undeclared on ESPN.

Rhoden has delved into the topics of race and sports throughout his career as a journalist, and said now is a perfect time to talk about both at once. "I think this is really a great time, while we don't have sports, for discussion," said Rhoden. "It's a perfect time to engage each other while we're not distracted by games."

"This community is seeing what's going on in the rest of the country," he said. "Nobody's in that kind of bubble thanks to social media."

See RHODEN, Page A7

Cardiologist followed his heart to Sharon Hospital

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SHARON — It was a homecoming of sorts for veteran cardiologist Dr. Daniel J. O'Dea, who joined the medical staff at The Heart Center, a Nuvance Health affiliate located at Sharon Hospital, on Monday, July 13.

"I had actually worked at The Heart Center in Sharon a while back, in early 2000, and I got to know everybody very well," said O'Dea, whose medical career had since led him to various administrative and management positions within the field of cardiology. "I decided I wanted to go back to taking care of patients.

It's where I started, and where I wanted to end up."

He said he is also thrilled to have the opportunity to once again work side-by-side with former colleague and good friend Dr. Donald Soucier, as well as The Heart Center's third team member, nurse practitioner Patricia Dione.

O'Dea said he started his career many decades ago in the public health setting, with a focus on helping underserved populations in small communities. "I like working in a small town and taking care of patients."

See HOSPITAL, Page A7



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Interim Region One School District Superintendent Lisa Carter (with her new dog, Gus) has been working on draft plans for the opening of schools in autumn.

Planning begins for return to school

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Region One School District's interim superintendent, Lisa Carter, has formed a Re-Opening Committee that is working on a plan to reopen the seven Region One schools.

Each of the six towns has its own elementary school; they share the regional high

school, which is in Falls Village. The six towns are Canaan (Falls Village), Cornwall, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon.

The committee consists of Region One staff, health professionals, school board members and members of the community.

In an interview at the su-

See SCHOOLS, Page A7

New faces at The Lakeville Journal



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Hunter Lyle

By Hunter Lyle

Editor's note: In addition to our summer interns, we also have a new freelance reporter. Hunter Lyle grew up in Sharon and is the younger brother of Millerton News reporter (and former Lakeville Journal intern) Kaitlin Lyle. We asked him to

See HUNTER, Page A7



PHOTO BY KURT STAMPFLE

Shane Stampfle

By Shane Stampfle

Editor's note: In addition to our new summer interns, one of our star interns from the summer of 2019 returned for several weeks of reporting and writing. We asked Shane to write his own bio in third-person form, below.

See SHANE, Page A7



INTERSECTIONS

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Regional

More recipes not to be missed

In The Journal this week

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Three-day forecast

Friday..... Thunderstorms, high 78°/low 66°
 Saturday..... Partial sun, 87°/66°
 Sunday..... Partial sun, 87°/69°

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.

Swerved to avoid deer

On June 27 at approximately 4:15 p.m. on Cornwall Bridge Road in Sharon a 2000 Saab 9-5 SE driven by Jeffrey Fox, 67, of Cornwall swerved to avoid a deer and struck a rock wall. The Saab then re-entered the roadway and struck a rock wall for a second time, causing the car to roll over onto its roof. Fox was transported to Sharon Hospital for evaluation. He was issued a written warning for failure to maintain the proper lane.

Two-car collision

On June 29 at approximately 5 p.m. on High Street in North Canaan a 2006 Chevrolet HHR driven by Samuel Speck, 26, of Kent was traveling southbound and struck a 2012 Ford Fusion driven by Benjamin Sumner, 23, of Milford, Conn., that was traveling northbound and had stopped to make a turn into a driveway. No injuries were reported. Speck was issued a written citation for traveling too fast for the conditions and for unsafe tires.

Burglary

On July 3 at approximately 10:30 a.m. Rickey Miles, 62, of Millerton turned himself in on an active warrant. He was charged with burglary in the third degree and larceny in the third degree based on an inci-

dent that had occurred at a residence on Low Road in Sharon. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on Aug. 14.

Missing license plate

An owner of a boat trailer on Selleck Hill Road in Salisbury reported a missing New York license plate from the trailer. It is unknown the exact time the plate went missing.

Struck traffic sign

On July 3 at approximately noon on Route 63 in Falls Village a 2013 Mazda 3 driven by Christopher Robert Hull, 21, of Wolcott, Conn., exited the roadway and struck a Frontier pole and a division of traffic sign. Hull was evaluated by EMS on-scene. He was issued an infraction for failure to drive in the proper lane.

Damaged oil pan

On July 2 at approximately 11 a.m. on Main Street in North Canaan a 2017 Honda Ridgeline driven by Joseph Vernali, 51, of Falls Village swerved off the roadway, struck the curb and damaged the Honda's oil pan, rendering it disabled. The vehicle was towed and Vernali was issued a written warning for failure to maintain the proper lane.

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

Noble Horizons

Chili is a perennial favorite for food fundraising events. It lends itself easily to being made in large portions, it's easy to serve and eat and it can be adapted to suit the diner's tastes. (More hot sauce? Go ahead!)

Like many things in life, it is incredibly simple to make chili and very difficult to make excellent chili.

Noble Horizons for many years hosted a chili cooking competition during the Fall Festival, a multi-day event that was a fundraiser for Salisbury, Conn., churches and businesses.

In 2005, Salisbury resident Kelly Rollo won the competition with this recipe, which was published in The Lakeville Journal in October 2006.

Noble Horizons is a continuing care community with a variety of living situations, outpatient rehabilitation, two levels of skilled nursing and memory care.

Fundraisers help enrich resi-

idents' lives, individually or as a group. Events include the annual Christmas-season Festival of Trees, and art exhibits several times each year.

"Each exhibit opens with a reception, the highlight of which is not only the art of course but the apricot cheese roll! Guests swoon and repeatedly ask how it was made," reports Caroline Burchfield, director of community relations.

"We also serve the apricot cheese roll at the Festival of Trees Gala, which raises funds to provide special touches such as salon appointments, flowers on the dining room tables, large-print newspapers and more, as well as larger projects like the renovation of the salon and the chapel."

Donations to enrich a resident's life or to help support the arts may be made at www.noblehorizons.org or sent to Noble Horizons, 17 Cobble Road Salisbury, CT 06068.

KELLY ROLLO'S BLACK BEAN APPLE CHIPOTLE CHILI

Ingredients

- 2 cups cooked black beans
- Juice and zest of two limes
- 1 whole dried red chile, crushed
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons oregano

- 8 cups cooked black beans
- Juice and zest of two limes
- 1 whole dried red chile, crushed
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons oregano

Preparation

Combine the ingredients in a heavy pot, a slow cooker or an Instant Pot and allow them to cook until the flavors have had a chance to meld together. Rollo warned that this chili is "smoking;" adjust the seasonings for a milder, mellower experience.

APRICOT CHEESE ROLL

Preparation

Mix the ingredients well and roll into a log shape, using plastic wrap. Chill until firm. Unwrap and roll the log in the nuts.

Ingredients

- 1 cup chopped dried apricots
- 16 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 3/4 cup orange marmalade
- 1 cup chopped and toasted walnuts or pecans

The challenges of putting out a newspaper in a COVID-19 world include occasionally missing an article that we very much meant to include. This happens even when we are all working in the office, but it's more likely to happen when we are not together, and some of our normal checks and balances are lacking.

And so in our Compass special issue in the July 2 Lakeville Journal and Millerton News, we neglected to include our recipes from Noble Horizons and Lime Rock Park. We are deeply sorry and hope you will enjoy their recipes, below and on our website at www.tricornernews.com.

Lime Rock Park

Lime Rock Park participates in fundraisers throughout the year for numerous local charities and nonprofit organizations, as well as the Park's annual "official charity."

In 2020, the Park selected the Alzheimer's Association, Connecticut Chapter as its official charity.

Lime Rock's Farm-To-Track Picnic is part of its commitment to support the Tri-State region, our local farms and food purveyors, as well as our official charity.

The picnic is part of Lime Rock's Trans Am SpeedTour Classic weekend, just one of the major fundraising events for the Alzheimer's Association.

This year, the Farm-To-Track

Picnic is being planned for Sunday, Oct. 18, in coordination with the annual Royals Garage Car Show, a charity event.

For more information, go to www.limerock.com/NWCTwalk-toendalzheimers and www.limerock.com/farm2track.

Chef Mark Mazzeo says, "We serve this annually for our Farm 2 Track Pig Roast during the Trans Am Weekend. It's the one item that won't change, no matter what else is on the menu. We get local bacon from Connecticut. People always ask for extra, and they request the recipe. We've emailed this out countless times. It's not a house secret — it's homemade with love and quality ingredients."

LIME ROCK PARK CATERING BACON RELISH

Ingredients

- 4 pounds of the best quality local slab bacon
- 1 1/2 pounds of white onions
- 10 cloves of garlic
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons Tabasco
- 2 cups of coffee (the stronger the better)
- 1 cup apple cider vinegar, unfiltered if available
- 3/4 cups real maple syrup (the track makes its own, but local syrup is available at Sharon Audubon)
- 2 tablespoons ground black pepper
- 4 cups water (added gradually during cooking)
- 1.5 cups hot banana peppers (drained and then chopped fine)

Preparation

Dice the bacon into half-inch pieces. Chop the onions and garlic. Over medium heat, render the bacon about halfway to crisp, then add the onions and garlic. Cook for about 5 minutes.

Add all the remaining ingredients except the water and banana peppers. Reduce the heat to a simmer and then gradually add the water as needed (you might not use all 4 cups). Simmer for at least 45 to 55 minutes, until it has a thick and stick consistency, like jam. Remove from heat and mix in the chopped banana peppers. Skim off some of the fat on top — although it's important not to remove all the fat (Fat=Flavor). This is most easily done when the relish is chilled.

This mixture stays good jarred and well-sealed in the refrigerator for about two weeks.

FAMILY & FRIENDS

COVID-19 relief grant for AMP

WINSTED — The American Mural Project (AMP) is the recipient of a challenge grant from the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation's COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund.

Relief Grants feature crowd-sourced gift matching that enable local nonprofits to set fundraising goals to meet their immediate needs, including operational support. One of 50 nonprofits chosen to participate in northwest Connecticut, AMP is aiming to raise \$2,500 to receive a \$2,500 match from the foundation.

The Community Foundation has already matched 50% of AMP's total campaign goal of \$10,000 through its Northwest Corner Gives: Covid-19 Rapid Response Fund.

The foundation will continue to match all gifts made through Northwest Corner Gives on a dollar-for-dollar basis until AMP reaches its goal.

Matching grants are made possible by generous gifts from community members, anonymous donors, and discretionary Community Foundation funds.

AMP will utilize the matching grant to supplement lost revenue due to closures resulting from the pandemic.

AMP suspended several school and summer programs and public tours, and is now shifting plans for the annual gala (their largest fundraiser) due to group size limitations. Despite these challenges, AMP is ramping up for its summer Outdoor Design & Building program for tweens and teens, a Digital Story Work internship for young adults, after-school and in-school programming in the fall, and remains optimistic

about starting tours again later in the summer.

Donations may be made on the Northwest Corner Gives website. Go to www.northwestcornergives.org/campaigns/american-mural-project.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

To Whom It May Concern: Notice is hereby given that on July 23, 2020 at 6:45 PM, by way of a Zoom meeting, the Canaan/Falls Village Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on the following application.

Consideration of Special Permit application for the establishment of a Memorial Conservation Forest at 300 Music Mountain, Canaan/Falls Village, CT; at this hearing, interested persons may be heard and written communication received.

The Zoom meeting information will be available on the agenda which will be posted at Town Hall and Town web site.

Thomas Scott
 Zoning Enforcement Officer
 07-09-20
 07-16-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF DENISE GAIL MAULER KURISH
Late of Sharon
AKA Denise Kurish
AKA Denise Mauler Kurish
(20-00224)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, July 2, 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:
 David R. Kurish
 c/o Bryon W Harmon,
 Shipman & Goodwin, LLP
 One Constitution Plaza
 Hartford, CT 06103
 Megan Williams
 Assistant Clerk
 07-16-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF STEFANIE JOY KAHN
Late of Lakeville
AKA Stefanie J. Kahn
AKA Stefanie Kahn
(20-00248)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, June 23, 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:
 Laurence Kahn
 c/o Jamieson L Keiser
 Stern Keiser & Panken, LLP
 1025 Westchester Avenue
 Suite 305
 White Plains, NY 10604
 Beth L. McGuire
 Clerk
 07-16-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF EILEEN A. YORK
Late of North Canaan
AKA Eileen Anna York
Eileen Amy York
(20-00221)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, June 30, 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:
 James T. Rutledge
 c/o William Jeffrey Manasse
 Manasse, Slaiby & Leard, LLP
 27 No. Main Street
 P.O. Box 460
 Kent, CT 06757
 Megan Williams
 Assistant Clerk
 07-16-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF JOHN GAIL BORDEN
Late of Salisbury (20-00233)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, July 2, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below.

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

The fiduciaries are:
 Cheryl L. Swift and Charles R Ebersol
 c/o Charles R Ebersol,
 Ebersol, McCormick, Reis & Steck
 9 Mason Street
 PO Box 598
 Torrington, CT 06790
 Megan Williams
 Assistant Clerk
 07-16-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF LIESELOTTE SCHOBBER
Late of Salisbury (20-00220)

The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, June 25, 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:
 Michael E. Rogers
 c/o Linda M. Patz
 Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP
 7 Church Street
 P.O. Box 101
 Canaan, CT 06018
 Megan Williams
 Assistant Clerk
 07-16-20



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Eversource upgrades power lines, towers

By Cynthia Hochswender

Eversource, the region's power company, is upgrading electrical wires in several areas.

There is a fair amount of roadwork and other infrastructure work going on in the Northwest Corner right now, with water mains getting replaced and roads getting resurfaced.

The Eversource crews can be identified by their yellow signs saying Supreme Industries and by the distinctive mats of square logs that they put down to protect the grass.

"To help maintain electric system reliability in the Northwest Corner, we are upgrading a transmission right of way that runs through Canaan [Falls Village], Salisbury and Sharon," said Eversource spokesman Frank Poirot.

"The upgrade involves replacing existing structures with steel structures. We are also installing new electric wires and upgrading the communication/grounding wire attached to the top of each structure."

Last year, Eversource had crews out adding fiber optic lines that would help the company improve communications and speed up repairs; these wires are known within the company as "communication/grounding wire."

Poirot said that the work could continue through the end of 2020.

"Restoration of disturbed areas might continue through next spring."

"This work is just one example of the work we're doing around the state to reinforce the electric grid and stay ahead of potential future problems."



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Crews are at work in area towns upgrading power lines and towers owned by Eversource; the workers are also adding fiber optic lines to help expedite repairs if a power line goes out.



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

After several months of discussions with the town, artist Harper Blanchet has given up his residence and art studio in a town-owned building on Main Street in Falls Village.

Harper Blanchet has left former Falls Village town hall space

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Artist Harper Blanchet has left the town-owned space at 107 Main St., which is across from the present Town Hall and which had been the town hall for many years until the offices moved across the street to their present location.

After the move, the town rented the former town offices to tenants including artist Clifton Jaeger and store owner Trish Walsh.

Blanchet had been living in the space and using it as an art studio since September 2014. He had a month-to-month lease.

The town had asked Blanchet to leave in order to make room for a "village market."

There is an online petition to ask the town to compensate Blanchet for lost income. The petition is at www.surveymonkey.com/r/8NRVQFK.

In a phone interview Thursday, July 9, First Selectman Henry Todd said he emailed Blanchet on Feb. 22 about leaving.

Todd said the town tried to find new accommodations for Blanchet but the artist was not interested.

The town sent Blanchet a notice to quit on May 11, which the petition claims violates Gov. Ned Lamont's executive order regarding evictions during the COVID-19 crisis.

Todd added that Blanchet left owing three months rent, or \$3,000.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Aquarion water company and the state DOT are making upgrades to water mains and catch basins on one section of Route 41/44 in Lakeville.

Water system in Lakeville is getting an upgrade

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — What's going on at the intersection of Routes 41/44 in Lakeville?

New water mains being installed by the Aquarion water company, said Salisbury First Selectman Curtis Rand.

The new mains run from Belgo Road down through the intersection.

And the state Department of Transportation is replacing catch basins along Route 44 west of the intersection.

When the mains are completed, the DOT will repave that section of Route 44. Aquarion and the state are working together on the projects.

Selectmen seek options for affordable housing

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — Now halfway through the year and at the start of the new fiscal year (July 1), the Board of Selectmen measured progress in meeting Cornwall's goals as defined in the current Town Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). Discussion occurred at the Tuesday, July 7, meeting held remotely by Zoom.

The state requires all towns to update their POCD every 10 years; it forms the basis of planning and zoning regulations and has a substantial impact on a town's character and appearance.

"It is important to look at where we stand, knowing that we are in the midst of the pandemic," First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said, adding that even in a time of emergency, the town can still get things accomplished.

Housing availability was a key point. While not being able to hold an in-person housing forum, as had been anticipated before the pandemic, Ridgway saw the possibility of a remote online forum that could happen in the fall.

Selectman Marina Kotchoubey agreed, adding that this is a good time to focus on

the issue, while the real estate market is active in the area.

Ridgway saw strength in the town's limited housing stock.

"We are the most sparse town in the state. It's good to be sparse," he said, explaining that houses sell more quickly when there are fewer of them.

Ridgway said the Planning and Zoning Commission will revise the zoning regulations to reflect the 2020 POCD, which went into effect Jan. 1 and can be found on the town website ([go to www.cornwallct.org](http://www.cornwallct.org) and search for "town plan.")

Ridgway described ongoing state efforts to change laws to require towns to have more rental and affordable housing options available. Part of the Cornwall update might be a move to make it easier to create accessory apartments in existing residences.

Echoing the need for wider housing options, Selectman Priscilla Pavel endorsed the idea of reasonably priced rentals, adding that perhaps subsidies could help lower-income renters move to town.

Market-rate and affordable rental units can always be mixed together to good advantage, Ridgway said.



Pets

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It's time for a new truck for Cornwall

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — Choosing from among five different truck brands, the Cornwall selectmen heard a report from the town's highway foreman and followed his recommendation for the purchase of a new highway plow truck at their meeting on Tuesday, June 16.

According to Jim Vanicky, town highway foreman, the five brands were narrowed to a choice of two, with an \$8,000 cost differential in the purchase of truck cab and chassis. The final choice was between a Freightliner and a Western Star, the latter being the more expensive.

Vanicky reported that he did not like the instrument panel layout on the Freightliner and

that the town's current truck of the same brand has seen the identifying print wear off the control knobs after only four years of use. He also preferred the layout of the controls on the Western Star, observing that it takes many motions to operate the plow function, and the Western Star positions those controls more efficiently for the operator.

Once the truck is delivered, it will need to be outfitted with the plow assembly, body, hydraulics and controls at a cost of \$80,000 approved at a previous selectmen's meeting.

In total, the truck will cost approximately \$200,000. Vanicky said that he has driven the truck.

"For the money, I feel confident and comfortable that this is a really good purchase," he said,

citing the simplified but higher-quality components that will give the truck a longer life of service. In reaching his recommendation, Vanicky spoke with crews in Brookfield, Warren and Newtown, all of whom reported good experience with their Western Star trucks.

The new truck is expected to give 15 years of service, considered average for that type of truck, First Selectman Gordon Ridgway commented. While the cost is a little higher, he added, the town may expect the truck to last longer.

In other action, the selectmen announced that the September Agricultural Fair will not be held this year due to COVID-19. The challenge of social distancing was one of the deciding factors,

Ridgway said.

The selectmen also voted to reward COVID-19 task force staff with honoraria of \$1,000 each for beyond-duty, front-line service in the pandemic and also to provide gas gift cards in the amount of \$250 to those town volunteers who have used their personal vehicles to run multiple errands and provide care to the town's residents over the months. Ridgway commented that many miles have been driven in serving the town's needs for such programs as the Food Bank.

"They were all working to make things better," Ridgway said.

Selectwoman Priscilla Pavel agreed. "You never can really put a dollar amount on people's time."

Concerns about crowds and speeding

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — First Selectman Curtis Rand told the Salisbury Board of Selectmen on Monday, July 6, that he had asked the First Light power company to close or restrict recreation opportunities at the Great Falls area in Amesville, which is one of the five villages in Salisbury.

Rand said the combination of July 4 being observed on a Saturday plus hot sunny weather and closures at recreational areas downstream (including Bull's Bridge in Kent) created "a perfect storm" of overcrowding on the Housatonic River at the falls.

First Light subsequently announced the picnic area and boat launch on Dugway Road (opposite the hydropower station) and the falls area were closed.

But the crowds came anyway. (See story Page A1 and editorial Page A9.)

Also, Rand said he has never received more complaints about traffic and speeding than he has recently.

He said that there have been complaints about flatbed trucks, inadequately muffled, carrying bags of cement and driven by independent operators. Rand said, "We called the plant."

"We know who they are and we're going to catch them."

Rand added that additional electronic speed signs will be obtained and deployed on roads that seem to attract the lead-footed: Taconic, Salmon Kill, Belgo and Wells Hill roads.

Rand urged residents who vote in Salisbury to take advantage of the relaxed rules for absentee ballots to vote in the August primaries, rather than coming to Town Hall.

"COVID is a legitimate reason" for obtaining an absentee ballot, he said.

He also asked everyone to complete the federal census form (which can be done online at www.census.gov). He said the town's completion rate had improved but was still in the 40% range.

Rand said town boards and commissions are being cautious about resuming in-person meetings, and that the Planning and Zoning Commission will likely hold its July meeting at Town Hall. He suggested trying a hybrid format, with some people attending and the rest online.

Rand said the engineering process for the Salmon Kill bridge project has begun. The bridge has one lane open at the moment.

There has been some interest from the Conservation Commission in forming a separate Inland Wetlands Commission, Rand reported. Many towns have separate commissions, and Rand noted that much of the current work of the Conservation Commission concerns inland wetlands anyway.

There is no definite opening date for the new Salisbury-Sharon transfer station. Rand said there are still some administrative items to finish, as well as getting an internet connection set up.

Abby Conroy is the new land use administrator at Town Hall, replacing Zoning Enforcement Officer Nancy Brusie, who retired after 20 years service.

Conroy will work with both Planning and Zoning and the Conservation Commission.

And Rand noted that Ray Flint has retired after 39 years service as the town highway department's mechanic. Flint's replacement is Dave Wheeler.

Tricking better than trapping for town's beavers

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Beavers are unquestionably cute and great for ecosystems, but they are also pesky. Their dams interfere with the town's drainage culverts and flood roads in some instances. They contribute to erosion and washouts in other places, particularly on gravel roads.

The problem seems to have been solved in June through ingenious trickery, thanks to the Beaver Institute of Massachusetts and grants from the Wiederhold Foundation of Connecticut to fund work by Beaver Solutions, LLC of Southhampton, Mass. Grant funds to support the work totaled \$750 for two locations (one was \$500, the other \$250), said Sharon First Selectman Brent Colley, who was reached for comment on Thursday, July 2.

The Wiederhold Foundation is active in support of the Connecticut Beaver Initiative, which assists landowners with beaver problems and raises awareness of the beavers' ecological contributions as a "keystone" species, creating natural wetlands.

The two problem locations were West Cornwall Road near Roy Swamp and West Woods Road #2, where erosion and flooding were a constant threat to the roadbed and motorists.

Fences paired with pipes were the answer.

Because the highway is paved going past the Roy Swamp site, the problem was not pavement erosion, but rather that the beavers installed their blockage in mid-pipe, causing water to back up and cause erosion around the drainage pipe.

The "Beaver Deceivers" as they are called were invented in Maine by Skip Lisle, in partnership with the Penobscot Indian Nation. Beavers are attracted to the siren song and the feel of running water, such as is found in a culvert for example.

Installing a flow device to silence the sound does the trick. Fencing to further protect the culvert makes it a cost-effective, long-term humane solution.

"It would cost more to trap them than to do this," Colley added.

From a beaver's perspective, the presence of the fencing is a deterrent to any construction project because it would just be too much work.

Besides, there is no sound of water flowing.

So, the beavers pass the culvert by and the roadway remains safe.

Maintenance is minimal, Colley said, requiring only intermittent cleaning of leafy debris from



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

An ingenious flow system, installed in June to foil beavers, is protecting a culvert along West Woods Road #2 in Sharon, keeping the water flowing and preventing road flooding.

the fencing.

"I hope more towns get into this," Colley said. "It works — so far, so good." He said the town will budget to continue the effort at other local beaver problem sites.

We can feed the world — if we want to

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — David T. Ives, the executive director of the Albert Schweitzer Institute at Quinnipiac University in Quinnipiac, Conn., told an online group that there is enough food produced in the world to end hunger. What is lacking is the "political will" to do so.

Ives spoke to the online meeting, which was sponsored by Noble Horizons, on Friday, July 10.

Ives is the author of "American Dreamer: Memoirs of a Peace Corps Volunteer in Central America and Beyond," published in March. The book has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

Ives remembered going to Brazil as a young volunteer. "That's when I really saw poverty for the first time," with people living in homes made of cornstalks and tin cans.

He said he wondered why this had to be. "There are enough calories produced in the world to make everybody fat."

He recalled an infant girl who died in his arms. The malnourished child was sick from drinking contaminated well water. Ives was trying to get the girl to a doctor, but she died en route.

"I felt her die in my arms, felt her soul leave her body."

There were some light moments during his Peace Corps tenure as well. He once attended a Sunday function where the

grandmother and host decided an American should know how to mix daiquiris.

Ives had no idea. "So I winged it, with sugar, lemonade and a whole lot of vodka."

But the final touch — shredded coconut — presented a problem.

Ives asked for a strainer, but mistakenly used a Spanish word for prostitute.

The grandmother was "horried," but her son laughed. And when Ives compounded the misunderstanding by clarifying he only needed "a little one," the son laughed harder.

In Costa Rica, during the administration of Pres. Ronald Reagan, Ives became acquainted with a local leader of the Communist Party.

Ives, no fan of Reagan, nonetheless felt obliged to stick up for his country.

Some years later Ives visited the same town and met the man, who asked him to be quiet about his past as a Communist, as he was now an entrepreneur.

Ives concluded that, "If you give people hope, and create a middle class, they usually go for capitalism."



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Our Towns

Sharon Green remodel

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Capping eight years of discussion, planning and eventual re-grading, the work on the town's showcase Green has been completed, according to an official report provided to the Sharon Board of Selectmen at their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 23.

The meeting marked the first selectmen's meeting to be held live and in person inside Town Hall since the building closed due to COVID-19 concerns. During the shutdown, meetings had been conducted remotely via Zoom, but the selectmen decided to convene together for their June 23 meeting, at appropriate distances and wearing masks.

First Selectman Brent Colley expressed his support for bringing the selectmen together for a meeting.

Reporting on the Green project was Betsy Hall, representing the Sharon Green Committee, which had overseen the project.

"Basically, we are done," Hall reported. On behalf of the town, Colley praised the work of RAR Excavating not only for the quality and the care given to the project, but also for finishing under budget.

The work was largely completed during the summer of 2019, and in recent weeks, the company returned to add topsoil where needed and to re-seed. Hall was pleased to report savings of 21% for the entire project, the savings amounting to \$105,798. The total project cost was \$390,201, far less than the \$496,000 that was estimated.

The project had involved fixing long-standing drainage problems, installing new drainage on Upper Main Street and installing curbing along the edge of the Green.

"The contractor was top-notch and responsive," Selectman Dale Jones commented.

"I had a spectacular committee," Hall said, thanking the selectmen for their role in the years-long project.

Filling the need of medical-grade PPE is the goal for one Salisbury entrepreneur

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — A small but mighty group of women entrepreneurs has lofty goals for helping restaurants, schools, hospitals, first responders and others procure urgently needed personal protective equipment (PPE) as the reopening of society fuels demand.

"We are here to help and will continue to find any and all ways to keep our communities functioning safely and efficiently on all levels," said Salisbury resident Liz Macaire, who two months ago joined forces with a handful of friends to import and distribute FDA/NIOSH-certified PPE from a supply source in China.

An "accidental opportunity" is how Macaire, a former restaurateur and caterer, described the latest chapter in her professional life as part of the team behind Nova Technology LLC, headed by New Canaan resident and founder Linda Xu Hubertus, its CEO.

"It's funny and ironic. Here we all are trying to get back into the workforce. It was something that happened organically and we kept it all women — all helping each other and the community."

Team Nova includes, in addition to Hubertus, Martha Weatherford, who serves as chief marketing officer and vice president of business development and operations. They are joined by "sales goddesses" Kate Tenney, a former childbirth educator who also served as a United Nations representative in New York City, Noelle Nevins and Macaire.

"I started this effort with Linda from the onset of the PPE pandemic in early March, and have spearheaded creating our outreach team," said Weatherford.

Her background from the last three decades, she said, allows her to utilize talents gleaned "from the corporate/mass market for the fashion and electronics industry."

Diverse skills and contacts

The women hit the ground running, said Macaire, who noted that "each brings their own strengths and contacts to the table. We jumped in and haven't come up for air in two months of being a much-needed supply source for businesses large and small, local and national. We all realized how connected we all are."

In the Northwest Corner,

said Macaire, "We have reached regional school districts, local medical offices and hospitals, retirement communities, boarding schools, substance abuse and rehab centers and restaurants. The list goes on, and every contact is equally important. There is no facility or business not affected by this pandemic."

In describing her team, Macaire noted that, "We're not a sewing circle, and we're not making masks."

Rather, their focus is on importing much-needed medical-grade PPE. Nova Technology was founded in Connecticut in 2012 with branches in Hong Kong and China. Its founder, said Macaire, "has obtained quite a large investment of PPE inventory to ensure that any and all businesses would have what they need to open and operate safely" as society reopens amid the pandemic.

By leveraging her influence and connections in China, Hubertus has been able to develop a supply chain to import critically needed medical supplies and PPE, said Macaire, who credits her friend's foresight and quick response in lining up manufacturers of "the highest level" medical PPE at the first signs of the pandemic.

"Linda has family still in Beijing, so she knew [COVID-19] was coming over here, and she started to bring supplies over." Soon, the entrepreneur had amassed enough PPE to fill "an entire five-car garage, with \$7 million worth" of supplies, said Macaire.

According to the company website at www.mianovus.com, Nova Technology imports and sells medical protective supplies including three-ply medical and civilian masks, including KN95 and N95 masks; face shields; protective goggles; surgical gowns, caps and shoe covers; vinyl and



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Liz Macaire with a sampling of the PPE she and a group of friends have procured from China in an effort to help businesses and other facilities reopen safely.

nitrile gloves; alcohol germicidal wipes; non-contact infrared thermometers; and hand sanitizer and other sanitizer products.

Corporate customers include FedEx, Yale School of Medicine, the town of New Canaan, the United Nations, Long Island North Shore Hospital, UConn Health Center, State of Connecticut first responders and hospitals, New York Montefiore Hospital, the Atlantic Spine Center in New Jersey, Quintana Supply and about 60 additional facilities and institutions.

Keeping up to date

Just recently, said Macaire, she received an inquiry from a resident involved in the regional school system regarding technol-

ogy that can scan temperatures via an iPad. She also spoke recently with a representative of Spectrum "desperate" to obtain PPE for technicians out in the field as they increase house calls.

The Salisbury entrepreneur stressed that the focus is on obtaining the much-needed equipment for those who need it at a fair price. "We are not price gouging, just hovering above margins and adjusting prices weekly to stay competitive with this volatile market."

Helping others in this unprecedented and challenging time is the team's motivating factor, said Macaire. "Where there is a need, just let us know. Our goal is to help the community."

New ordinances for NC

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — New ordinances, drafted by committee and subsequently approved by the town attorney, are scheduled to be presented at a special meeting of the Board of Selectmen to be held online on Monday, July 27.

The date was established following discussion at the Monday, July 6, selectmen's meeting held by Zoom.

Over the past several months, the new ordinances have been drafted, discussed and amended to bring them to the point of proposed adoption. The ordinances will regulate the operation of food trucks and the control of blight and the presence of un-registered motor vehicles. One will inaugurate a tax incentive program for new businesses.

First Selectman Charles Perotti said that a town meeting is not needed, as the selectmen have the authority to adopt or-

dinances. However, public comment will be considered before making final decisions.

Selectman Craig Whiting said the new ordinances are considered to be "living documents," subject to amendment as circumstances warrant.

Residents will be able to view the proposed ordinances on the town website at www.northcanaan.org. If anyone wishes to offer comment, the website will provide an opportunity for submitting feedback before the public input deadline of Wednesday, July 22.

Following the July 27 special meeting, the selectmen will reach a decision on the ordinances at their next regular meeting, in early August.

Perotti also reminded residents and visitors that there is an existing ordinance requiring that dogs be leashed when they are out and about. A fine of \$50 is imposed if a dog is observed to be unleashed.

The '70s return as a podcast

By Shane Stampfle

FALLS VILLAGE — "We often think of the Northwest Corner as a static place, immune to history," said Valerie Lenis, who created a podcast that explores the experiences of Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) students in the 1970s.

Lenis, a member of the HVRHS Class of 2020, produced the podcast through her internship with the Housatonic Heritage Oral History Center at Berkshire Community College in Great Barrington.

She drew upon dozens of interviews conducted in 2019 by her fellow students, who questioned graduates from the 1970s about their time at the regional high school.

"Synthesizing all of those interviews and perspectives was challenging," Lenis said.

When asked if they would have preferred going to high school now instead of 50 years ago, most of the subjects chose the 1970s, citing the increased pressure on students today.

"Their description of the school culture, of hazing and cliques, was foreign to me," Lenis said.

While many recalled an attitude of apathy toward politics, Lenis said that they all had memories of Watergate and the Vietnam War.

"Former students remembered going to anti-war demonstrations on the Sharon Green," she said. "Being easily biased myself, it was at times hard to remain objective."

Lenis added that the project had given her a greater appreciation for local history, and how much her high school has changed in a half century.

The 16-minute podcast can

be found at www.theoralhistorycenter.org/how-to-begin/podcasts-and-other-inspirations. Scroll down to The Oral History Festival HVRHS explores the 1970s.

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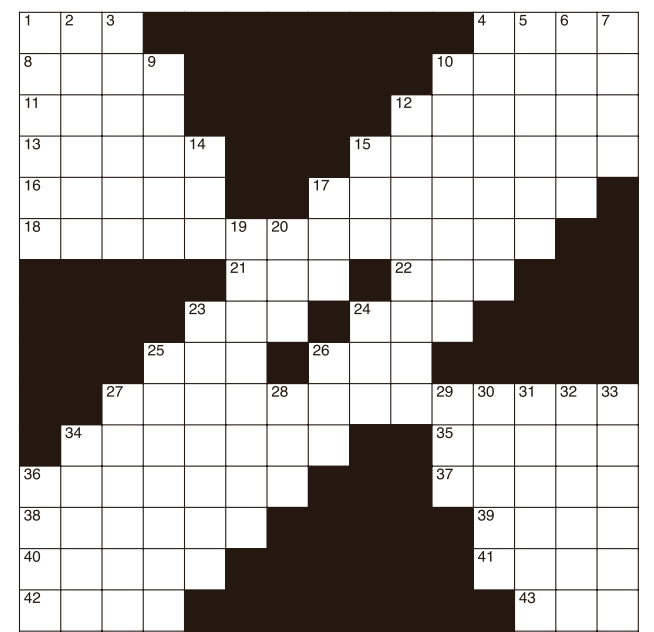
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. Sound unit
4. Trim by cutting
8. Small buffalo
10. Ancient manuscript
11. Look angry or sullen
12. Glum
13. Northern Zambia peoples
15. Central
16. Collector of birds' eggs
17. Misbehavior
18. Top of the line
21. Political action committee
22. Have already done
23. Al Bundy's wife
24. Entertainment channel
25. Holiday (informal)
26. The common gibbon
27. Legendary actress
34. Seasoned sausages
35. Bluish greens
36. Reticuled
37. Three-dimensional arrangement
38. Emerged
39. Type of protein
40. Denmark natives
41. Leak slowly through
42. Expression of sorrow or pity
43. Midway between south and southeast

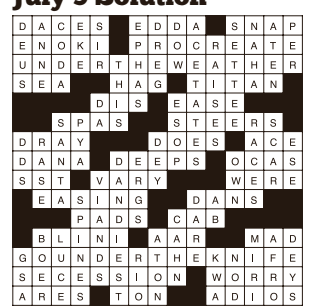
CLUES DOWN

1. Artistic dancing
2. Plenty
3. Act leisurely
4. Serve as a warning
5. Admired lovingly
6. Leftover oil from distillation process
7. Company officer
9. Egyptian unit of capacity
10. One transmits information
12. Middle layer of an embryo
14. Form of "to be"
15. Cairo Regional Airport
17. Partner to cheese
19. Sample
20. A shirt may have none
23. Public gatherings
24. Disallow
25. Overnight suitcases

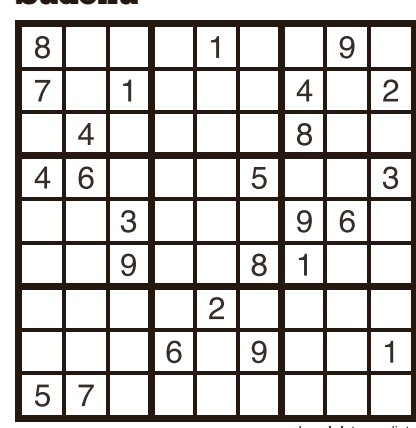


26. French river
27. Where boats dock
28. Top of a pot
29. Type of drug
30. City along the Rhine
31. Animal disease
32. They go in martinis
33. A way to break away
34. Intermediate ecological stage
36. Baby term for father

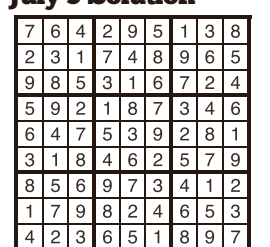
July 9 Solution



Sudoku



July 9 Solution



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OBITUARIES

Ruth Kessin

NORTH CANAAN — Ruth Kessin died on July 8, 2020, of old age. She was 105 and lived in the Geer Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in North Canaan for the past 8 years. She was social, and loved to chat with the staff and other patients.

Ruth was born into a large family in Bayonne, N.J., where she went to high school.

She married Nathaniel Kessin in 1940 but remained with her family in Bayonne, while Nat joined the Navy during World War II.

They moved to the Washington, D.C., suburbs in 1947 and went into business and then in 1953, to Laconia, N.H., where they lived for 45 years and ran a clothing store.

Ruth was active in town events and welcomed many relatives and friends to Laconia. She became the matriarch of the family. Hers was a life well-lived, largely for the benefit of others.

Her son, Richard Kessin and daughter-in-law, Galene Kessin, live in Norfolk. Lois Kessin, her daughter, lives in Laconia. Her grandson, Zachary Kessin and daughter-in-law, Devora, have two sons, Natanel and Elchanan, who live in Beersheva, Israel. Ruth's granddaughter, Jessica Kessin, lives in San Francisco with her husband, Patrick Doherty, and children Oliver and Senya.

On July 9, 2020, Ruth was interred next to Nat (who died in 2011) in Beth-el Cemetery in Paramus, N.J. Arrangements were by Plaza Memorial Chapel in New York and the Kenny Funeral Home in Norfolk.

Ruth and her family felt that the Geer Nursing and Rehabilitation staff were extraordinary in their care of the elderly and the injured. There was not a single case of COVID-19 in their facility. Donations in Ruth's memory should be directed to Geer.

Kevin Edward Neary

NORTH CANAAN — Kevin Edward Neary, 52, of North Canaan, passed away Wednesday, July 8, 2020, at his home from natural causes.

He was born Aug. 16, 1967, to Joseph W. Neary Sr. and Ruth M. Neary in Meriden, Conn.

Kevin grew up in Cornwall and graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1984.

Kevin worked as a landscaper and gardener for many years in Goshen. In recent years, he worked as lift operations manager for Mohawk Mountain Ski Area in Cornwall.

Kevin was a member of the North American Fishing Club as well as the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society and enjoyed gardening, reading, fishing and a good debate.

He loved spending time with and helping out his family and was always up for creating mischief with his many nieces and nephews.

Kevin is survived by his moth-

er, Ruth M. Neary of Torrington; his siblings, Joseph Neary of Windsor, Sean Neary and his wife, Lisa, of Harwinton, Maureen Neary and her husband, Nicholas Maltby, of New Hartford, and Christopher Neary and his wife, Meghan, of Old Lyme; three nieces, Lauren Neary, Emma Maltby and Sybil Neary; and six nephews, Liam Maltby, Joseph Neary, Owen Maltby, Matthew Maltby, Aidan Maltby and Theo Neary; as well as many aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was predeceased by his father, Joseph W. Neary.

Due to the COVID-19 quarantine, there will be no calling hours and a private family funeral will be held at the convenience of the family.

There will be a public celebration of life at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Heart Association or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements are under the care of the Kenny Funeral Home.

Marion Glazer Olsen

SHARON — Marion Glazer Olsen passed away July 5, 2020, in Port Saint Lucie, Fla., at the age of 91.

She was a longtime resident of Sharon and Port Saint Lucie. She was predeceased by her husband, Norwald Olsen, of 56 years.

She is survived by her second husband, Raymond Glansberg, of Port Saint Lucie; her son, Gary Olsen of Sharon; her daughter, Dona Lind of Port Saint Lucie; and her grandson, Christopher Lind, his wife Shereen and their daughter, Cecilia, of Grosse Ile, Mich. She is also survived by five

stepchildren and their families.

She was a graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Class of 1947, and was a longtime member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Cornwall.

She opened the original Sharon Fabric Shop in the early 1960s. She was a gifted artist of needlepoint, sewing and stained glass. She also loved bridge and would never miss a chance to play.

Her burial will be a later time. Donations in her name may be sent to the charity of the donor's choosing.

Robert J. Thornberry

SALISBURY — Robert J. Thornberry, 75, of Wills Point, Texas, died peacefully on July 9, 2020, in Wills Point. He was the beloved husband of Lydia Wells Thornberry.

A private burial took place at

Mount Riga Cemetery in Salisbury. A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home in Millerton.

EAST CANAAN — Harriet "Hatsy" Robinson Taylor, 87, of East Canaan, a gardening author and columnist who chronicled the trials and triumphs of life on a hilltop farm in northwest Connecticut, died July 5, 2020, at Geer Village in North Canaan.



Hatsy began writing about gardening in 1982 with the debut of her column, "Hilltop Harvest," which was published for years in The Lakeville Journal, the Torrington Register and the Berkshire Eagle, drawing a devoted following.

She also is the author of two illustrated books, "Weeds and Wisdom" and "Mother Nature's Wit and Wisdom."

In earlier years, Hatsy traveled from Maine to Minnesota to visit and lecture at local gardening clubs and, accompanied by her guitar, sing songs she wrote to go along with the topic.

Having worked as an accountant, Hatsy served on the North Canaan finance committee for several years. Her civic-minded contribution also extended to tireless efforts running the annual Norfolk Library Book Sale. For more than 35 years, with only a few helpers, Hat-

sy worked throughout the year sorting donated books to be sold in August under a tent in the library's parking lot.

Hatsy volunteered with the Hospice Foundation of America and the Friendly Visitor program and participated in a local mentoring initiative. She also sang for many years with the Litchfield County Choral Union.

Besides gardening, Hatsy's other passion was tennis and she excelled on the court, winning doubles championship matches over the years at the Norfolk Country Club.

Her head for numbers also led to success at bridge, a game she played with many lifelong friends.

Born on Aug. 9, 1932, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Robinson, Hatsy was graduated from Renbrook School in West Hartford, Miss Porter's School in Farmington and the Hartford School of Music. She also attended Sweet Briar College in Virginia.

In 1955, she married Henry Hammond Taylor of Fairfield, Conn., and in 1962 they purchased an abandoned farm in East Canaan, where they spent the next 43 years raising three

daughters, along with an assortment of sheep, chickens, llamas and cows. Together Hatsy and Henry built a small business designing and manufacturing hand-crafted lamps, clocks and desk accessories. Following her husband's death in 2005, Hatsy continued to write about her life on the hill, adding a website and a weekly blog. She maintained a small flock of sheep and continued to pursue her gardening, tennis and bridge pastimes.

Well into her 80s, Hatsy epitomized the flinty Yankee pioneer, who hauled her own firewood to the wood stove, tended to her sheep in the dead of winter and indulged a preference for driving fast in a small red convertible.

She is survived by three daughters, Trumbull Ogilby of

Sweet Home, Ore., Bridget Taylor Coston of New York City, and Tamar Taylor of New Orleans, La.; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Hatsy and Henry spent most of their lives together building a distinct little paradise on their hilltop.

On Aug. 9, 2020, family and friends are invited to remember Hatsy with a visit to the farm (60 Locust Hill, East Canaan) between the hours of 1 and 7 p.m. Please respect current social distancing norms.

Memorial gifts may be given to the Douglas Library, 108 Main St., North Canaan, CT 06018, www.douglaslibrarycanaan.org/donate; or Planned Parenthood, www.waare-plannedparenthood.org.

Harriet 'Hatsy' Robinson Taylor

Walter Harrelson Winburn

SHARON — Walter Harrelson Winburn, 99, died July 8, 2020, in Sharon.

Walter was born in Montclair, N.J., to acclaimed photographer Jay Te Winburn and Gertrude Gardner. Shortly after, they moved to New York City, N.Y. Walter attended high school at The Hotchkiss School,



where he was introduced to the Northwest Corner. His family then moved to Sharon. He received his baccalaureate degree from Harvard University, and his master's degree from Columbia University.

Walter is a veteran of World War II. He began his military service as a glider pilot for the Navy. The Navy discontinued this program after his training, due to the danger of the missions. Walter transferred to the Coast Guard, part of the Navy during World War II. He was deployed to Europe and to India.

Walter met the love of his life, Janet Clothier Winburn, in Sharon. Walter took Janet to The White Hart for their first date. They were married at the Sharon Episcopal Church in 1949.

Walter and Janet were involved in the Sharon community. Walter helped build, and was part owner, of the Sharon Playhouse. Both Walter and Janet were integral in the success of the playhouse.

In the late 1950s, Walter and Janet moved to New Jersey, so Walter could pursue employment at Dupont as a chemist. He then went on to become a chemistry and physics teacher at David Brearley High School in

Kenilworth, N.J., where he was also the tennis coach.

Walter and Janet spent summers and weekends at their Sharon home. They moved to Sharon as full-time residents in 2009.

Walter was a man of many talents. He built a 25-foot sailboat, a fold boat, and a harpsichord. Walter ran three New York marathons, and played the piano and violin.

He traveled cross-country on a motorcycle at the age of 50. In his later days, Walter was happiest tending to his garden and his peach trees.

Walter was predeceased by his wife, Janet; and his brothers, Jay Te Winburn Jr., Richard Winburn and George Winburn.

Walter is survived by his daughter, Elizabeth Tanzer, and her husband, David Tanzer; his son, Simeon Winburn and his wife, Catherine Winburn; and his grandchildren, Marcus, Christina and Nicholas Winburn.

The Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon has care of the arrangements.

Memorial donations may be made to the Sharon Fire Department and Ambulance Squad, P.O. Box 357, Sharon, CT 06069.

In Loving Memory of our Dad
Granny Shaffer
on his 11th anniversary in Heaven
11/09/1926 - 07/20/2009

Dear Dad,
Fond memories linger every day.
Remembering keeps you near.
Love you and miss you so much.

Love,
Bubbles, Tammi,
Kathy & Timmy

Send obituaries to cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com

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Week of July 19, 2020

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

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11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour
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9 South Main, Sharon CT
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Greenwoods Community Church
355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA
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Pastor Trip Weiler
413-229-8560
www.greenwoodschurch.com

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
40 Leedsville Road
Amenia Union, NY
VIRTUAL SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30
Please go to www.stthomasamenia.com to log on.
Followed by a virtual coffee hour
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www.stthomasamenia.com
845-373-9161

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

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The format for our Unitarian Fellowship has changed to Zoom.
There will be no August meeting.
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For more information or to set up a subscription, contact Sandra Lang at circulation@lakevillejournal.com or 860-435-9873, ext. 301.

With thanks to those who serve.

FALLS

Continued from Page A1

out of doors, the Great Falls in Salisbury/Falls Village has seen extraordinary use, problematic amounts of litter and unsafe parking and at least one water rescue.

The most recent was during the July 4 weekend, when a young boy was carried away from his parents by the fast-moving water. The boy managed to grab onto a rock; he was rescued from there by volunteers from Salisbury, Falls Village and North Canaan.

In response, the first selectmen of Salisbury and Falls Village contacted First Light and asked them to close off the access points to the river, including the parking area and boat launch beneath the falls and the iron bridge, across from the power plant.

The safety precautions and new signs were largely ignored last weekend.

At 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, a sawhorse and caution tape at the entrance to the picnic area and boat launch had been moved out of the way, and the parking lot was overflowing. Several groups of people were observed having cookouts, while others wandered around or made their way into the falls.

The First Light power station

was not diverting any water, so the flow in the falls and river was robust.

Approximately 50 cars (and half a dozen motorcycles) were parked along Housatonic River Road on the Amesville side of the river, from the intersection with Dugway Road up past the locked gate to the boat take-out area above the dam.

Cars were parked a few yards from signs reading "No Parking Either Side" and in front of caution tape and a large sign reading "Area Closed."

On the Falls Village side, another 20 or so cars were parked by the bridge, where there are no signs.

And at the Appalachian Trail parking lot a short distance away on Water Street in Falls Village, one of the cones and the caution tape had been moved and someone was having a picnic.

All told, there were about 100 cars parked in the area.

There were very few people observed wearing masks. There were a lot of family groups, judging by the number of children. Many were lugging coolers and blankets, and crossing caution tape to get to the trails leading down to the falls.

In recent years, new trails have been created by heavy use as visitors slide down the hillside to get to the base of the falls.

First Selectman Henry Todd of Falls Village said on Monday morning, July 13, that he went down to the falls on Sunday around noon.

He said the town is going to put signs up on the Falls Village side to try and get the message out.

He added that the overcrowding makes it difficult for emergency vehicles to operate.

Todd said he was trying to get

First Light officials on the phone. "It's just got to stop."

On Monday afternoon, July 13, Rand said in a phone interview that he has now asked First Light to close off the picnic area and boat launch on Dugway with something more substantial than sawhorses, traffic cones and tape.

He also asked First Light to put up "No Parking" signs along Dugway from Brinton Hill Road to Sugar Hill Road.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page A1

perintendent's office at Housatonic Valley Regional High School on Wednesday, July 8, Carter explained that the committee is working on a tight deadline. The plan must be submitted to the state education department by July 24.

A draft will be ready by July 17, which will give local school boards a chance to comment.

The committee has nine "task groups" assigned to the following areas: health and wellness, facilities operations (including food services), transportation, curriculum, technology, pandemic response, fiscal response, communications, and athletics/extra curricular activities.

Carter said the reopening plan is not subject to state approval. Rather, it is a way for the state education department to know what school districts are doing in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

And the plan is subject to change. "Just because we send a plan on July 24 doesn't mean we'll stop planning," she said.

Carter, whose first full week on the job has been eventful, was asked about long-range goals.

She said she will focus on instruction, and try to capitalize on "better practices that emerge" out of the emergency.

Asked if online learning is going to be more prevalent in the future, Carter said she had trouble imagining a situation in which online learning was either exclusive or predominant.

"The social setting is equally as important as academics."

Another focus will be community relations. Region One recently conducted three online surveys and received 550 responses from parents, about 220 from staff, and about 160 from students in grades five through 12.

Carter brought her 12-week old long-haired dachshund, Gus, to the office the day of the interview. Gus, an affable and intelligent dog, displayed a knack for untying a visitor's shoelaces.

Although she is new to the top job in the region, Carter has been a teacher at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, the principal of Salisbury Central School and the assistant superintendent for Region One. She is the interim following the departure of Superintendent Pam Vogel, who is returning to her home state of Iowa.

COVID

Continued from Page A1

month out of it."

And he said the Housatonic Railroad is upgrading the railroad crossing in the center of town, with gates to prevent people from stopping on the tracks while waiting for the traffic light to change.

Salisbury's Curtis Rand said the situation at the Great Falls on the Housatonic River is "out of control," with large crowds gathering for the Fourth of July

weekend.

"I'm not sure what will happen," he added (see story Page A1 and this week's editorial on Page A9).

Bob Valentine said Goshen recently held a town meeting in the school gym. Mask and distancing protocols were observed, and 63 people attended.

Several first selectmen reported a significant increase in applications for pistol permits.

HUNTER

Continued from Page A1

write his own bio in third-person form, below.

SHARON — Joining The Lakeville Journal this summer is Hunter O. Lyle.

Lyle is 22 years old and lives in his hometown of Sharon. His sister, Kaitlin Lyle, is also a journalist, working for The Millerton News.

In 2016, Lyle graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School and then went on to Southern Connecticut State University that fall. He graduated from SCSU in 2020 with a degree

in journalism.

With a particular interest in reporting on sports, Lyle worked for his campus newspaper during his junior and senior year in college, initially as a sports reporter before being promoted to sports editor.

He soon found himself attending every sporting event he could, primarily following the Southern basketball teams, which saw playoff berths in back-to-back years.

Shortly after graduating and moving back to the Northwest Corner, Lyle signed on as a freelance reporter for The Lakeville Journal. He plans to continue writing for the publication for the foreseeable future.

HOSPITAL

Continued from Page A1

A pioneering cardiologist

The veteran physician previously led operations for The Heart Center during his tenure as vice president of cardiovascular services with Nuvance Health (formerly Health Quest). During that time, he also managed cardiology, cardiovascular and vascular surgeries.

O'Dea was one of the pioneering cardiologists who helped open the cardiac catheterization lab at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in 1993, laying the foundation for what has developed into a robust cardiac-thoracic surgery service in the Poughkeepsie, N.Y., area.

"Cardiovascular services are critical to supporting general wellness, so enhancing current services will set a new standard for what it means to improve your heart health," said O'Dea.

His new role will include educating patients on heart health, including preventive measures, as well as offering ongoing educational opportunities for the community and staff.

New virus, new challenges

The COVID-19 outbreak presents new challenges for cardiologists, especially since patients with prior cardiovascular disease are at higher risk of contracting the coronavirus and developing more serious complications, said O'Dea.

Cardiovascular disease includes patients with hypertension or coronary artery disease, or prior heart issues including stroke or heart attack, heart failure or heart rhythm or valve problems.

"The thing that is most concerning to us as cardiologists," said O'Dea, "is that cardiac disease is not something that stops progressing and manifesting itself because of COVID-19. Patients can't just lock themselves in their rooms for six months," ignoring symptoms and fearful of leaving their homes or going to the hospital.

Anyone experiencing chest pain or shortness of breath, irregular heartbeat or other heart-related symptoms "needs to get seen. They can't be afraid to come in. Nuvance has set up very good protocols for screening to make sure that staff and patients are protected [from the coronavirus] as much as they possibly can."

The cardiologist is also a huge advocate for self-monitoring by his patients.

"We have always suggested that, but it has not always been well received."

Now that patients are a little more fearful of making in-person visits to their doctor's office, he has seen "more diligence" in terms of them tracking their weight, blood pressure and en-

gaging in virtual health check-ups.

Asset to Sharon Hospital

Hospital President Dr. Mark Hirko said O'Dea's "contributions and leadership within the cardiology service line makes him a strong asset to our program and community. We welcome him to the region and look forward to increasing the hospital's capacity for cardiology services" in partnership with Soucier and Dione.

O'Dea received his medical degree at New York Medical College in Valhalla, N.Y. He completed his internship and residency at University Hospital of Boston University and his fellowship in Cardiovascular Diseases at Westchester Medical Center, also in Valhalla. He is a graduate of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., with a bachelor's degree in chemistry.

He is board certified by the National Board of Medical Examiners and the American Board of Internal Medicine with a subspecialty in cardiovascular disease. O'Dea was the first cardiologist in Dutchess County to be board certified in cardiovascular tomography.

To schedule an appointment call 860-364-4505. For more information on The Heart Center, a division of Hudon Valley Cardiovascular Practice, PC, go to www.healthquest.org/heart-center.

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**Lakeville Journal and
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COVID-19 safety measures**

The Lakeville Journal Company has made the decision to continue with our remote work system in light of the potential increase of cases of COVID-19 in the region and the nation. During this time, there will be limited office hours at the Falls Village office. The Millerton News office is not open at all. But all of our staff is available through voice and email communication, and the newspapers continue to publish.

Contact editor@lakevillejournal.com or editor@millertonnews.com for editorial news, cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com for obituaries, legals@lakevillejournal.com for legal notices, classified@lakevillejournal.com for classified line ads and advertising@lakevillejournal.com for display advertising.

Phone for The Lakeville Journal is 860-435-9873;
Phone for The Millerton News it is 860-435-9873, ext. 608

Stay safe and healthy and use caution during this challenging time of COVID-19 risk. Keep us informed of any news you want to see reported.

RHODEN

Continued from Page A1

"Basically, I want to have a discussion about what we're seeing, what we're thinking and how do we come together as a great team and continue to make this country the country that my father, and his father, fought for in the war."

The webinar will begin at 7 p.m. on Zoom, with an estimated

audience of 400 viewers expected to participate.

Rhoden will talk for roughly 45 minutes, followed by a question-and-answer segment mediated Salisbury Forum President Mary Close Oppenheimer.

To participate, go to www.salisburyforum.org on Friday, July 24, and click on a link to join the call. The seminar will also be recorded and posted to the Forum website at a later date.

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Four more years of Trump: an American tragedy

No matter what happens in the coming months—to the pandemic, the economy or race relations — this country cannot take four more years of the division that Donald Trump's presidency has foisted upon us.

President Trump has been effective at taking credit, deserved or not, for getting conservatives on the Supreme Court, passing a tax cut, building a bit of wall and watching the Dow and NASDAQ go up.

But since his election, he has made no effort to become the president of all the people, none whatever.

And when called upon to lead the nation in a crisis or two or three, he's been a failure. Under his angry, confusing leadership, we can't even agree on how to cope with a deadly plague.

President Trump, who likes using superlatives, especially when assessing himself, has actually become the greatest presidential divider this nation has seen since Abraham Lincoln. But, unlike Trump, Lincoln couldn't avoid it. He saw the country come apart when all but three Confederate states left the Union before his March 1861 inauguration out of fear his election meant the end of slavery and their prosperity.

The Republican Party of Donald Trump is far different from the party of Lincoln or, for that matter, the party of his most recent Republican predecessors.

George W. Bush prided himself in being "a uniter, not a divider;" his father, the first president Bush, tried to form a "kinder, gentler nation," than even that of his sunny dispositioned predecessor, Ronald Reagan. They all saw themselves as

IF YOU ASK ME

DICK AHLES

presidents of all the people and it served them and the country well.

But not Trump. Our vision of the 45th president is that of an eternally angry man, who deals with the profound issues of the day by making up schoolyard nicknames for his adversaries.

For the faithful, even those embarrassed by the vulgarities and the ignorance, the response is, "he lowered taxes, he put conservatives on the Court, he eliminated restrictions on business." Character doesn't count.

Since his inauguration, when he lied about the size of his audience, Trump has been a dishonest president, deviating from the truth upwards of 17,000 times. But, of course, these numbers, although carefully documented, are from the "fake news," which is any news that doesn't consider the president infallible.

The press, we are told constantly, is the enemy of the people and therefore undeserving of its constitutional protection. Free speech begins and ends with his.

I've long wondered why Trump has not even gone through the motions of trying to unite the people and thereby expand his base during his first term. After all, he did lose the popular vote by about 3 million, but maybe he actually believes those Clinton votes were stolen from him. For whatever reason, appealing only to 35 or so percent of the electorate and alienating the rest hardly seems like a winning formula.

This failure to expand his base has left Trump in a terrible position as the nation faced the pandemic, racial unrest and a plunging economy. But instead of dealing firmly with the pandemic from the beginning, Trump largely made it a state problem with 50 interests and 50 solutions in place of a vitally needed national approach to a national calamity.

He may not be a racist but Trump talks like a racist and acts like one. He is a skillful player of the race card, painting the vast majority of sincere demonstrators for equal rights with the same brush as the looters, vandals and anarchists. He regularly shows more concern for dead Confederate generals than the living descendants of their slaves.

He can't even get the nation to unite in an effort to attain a mutually beneficial revival of the economy, as he constantly contradicts and mocks his own medical authorities for urging us to practice caution in making contact with each other.

Like it or not, the president is the nation's role model in chief, yet this president refuses to wear a mask in public and obey other precautions. Some role model.

Trump was the good times president who failed when the going got tough. In dealing with all of these crises, the president's top priority has been his reelection.

That reelection would be a second plague.

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



PHOTO BY KEVIN GODDARD

Illuminating

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Affordable housing response

I would like to respond to the letter from Virginia Bush Suttman regarding affordable housing in Falls Village (FV) and add a few ideas.

1. The Falls Village Housing Trust (FVHT) has not earned the community's trust for timely and required filings. They have instead powered past the concerns of the townsfolk. Rancor is not the point. Responsible citizens pay attention and speak up when their town proposes BIG PROJECTS.

2. Statistics matter. Both of you, Virginia and Colter Rule, got figures from published sources. Using your list, Virginia, affordable housing units as a percentage of all housing is:

- 1.2% in FV,
- 1.6% in Salisbury, and
- 1.9% in Sharon.

FV doesn't look so shabby, since FV hasn't taken \$3 million in tax funded grants for construction... yet. Kent requested another grant (not to exceed \$1.2 million) in January 2020 to invest in needed rehabilitation of the affordable housing complex, known as South Common. Enough said. Revenue and expense projections over 20 years are indeed important and FVHT has yet to submit this. Only then can the community assess the economic appropriateness of the proposal. FVHT has had over one year to report these figures since the community first challenged their proposal.

3. "Hammering down" is not the metaphor I would choose for the good citizens of FV who question this proposal. We do not brush aside as "doubtful"

the impact of development on the closely adjacent Mohawk Trail. FVHT should at the very least represent the Mohawk Trail on the site plans. Neither of your insults, NIMBY nor BANANA, shows respect for the issues before the town: a proposal that has the wrong density (too high) in the wrong location (rural riverfront) at the wrong time (when the town has no weekday Main Street economy). It solves no ex-

Don't carp... contribute

One of the many reasons we love our small towns in the Northwest Corner is the involvement of our neighbors in their community activities and organizations. Many people donate their time and money to support the many social service organizations, recreational activities and beautification efforts.

One of those valuable assets is the Salisbury Community Dog Park on Long Pond Road. Organized by Wendy Hamilton six years ago on unused town land it took thousands of dollars and a lot of hard volunteer work to turn it into a first class park. There are two sections separated by fencing for big and small dogs. It is all grass with picnic tables and chairs for owners to relax while their dogs socialize. Poop bag dispensers are available to make sure the park stays clean.

A board of directors was elected to oversee maintenance of the park, to empty the poop bag receptacles, make sure the grass is cut each week in summer and the snow cleared in winter. Over 140

people have contributed to the dog park last season and many use it every day.

One problem we have had is ponding due to heavy spring rains and snow melt. The soil is hard clay. Where the topography prevents good storm water runoff we have had some very muddy areas each spring. Last year the members voted at their annual meeting to correct this problem with storm drains and a raised terrace over the worst mud hole area. Improved grading should also help alleviate the annual mud problem. Board president Nancy Van Deusen mentioned the project in her annual fund raising letter this spring.

It is discouraging for people who contribute their time and money to keep our volunteer organizations like the dog park going to read critical letters to the editor from people who contribute neither time nor money. Good suggestions are always valuable, but not carping from the sidelines.

Bill Littauer

Lakeville

out ahead of our town's plan to return weekday commerce to Main Street.

5. Thank you for your invitation to visit Kent. One frustration with the Lime Rock Station proposal is that from the very beginning, FVHT has blocked an open dialogue with members of the community. Instead the plan has been hatched outside of public input and discussion. And most importantly, this proposal is in complete opposition to the town's existing Plan for Conservation and Development. This must end now.

I look forward to future collaboration.

Daly Reville

Falls Village

A way out of this political storm

It is without a doubt He just loves to shout Any lie of his choosing Frightened that he's losing He will in November And then we can remember What a plague he brought about

Time for a big clean out All those who supported him Their chance for reelection will be slim Then we can return to a norm Out of this political storm.

Michael C. Kahler

Lakeville

More letters next page.



Change is part of our living history

ON REFLECTION

CAROL ASCHER

honor. Though I was unaware of objections, I continued to speak of Idlewild. Then one day, somehow, that name had worn itself out and when I got on the subway with my suitcase to ride to the far reaches of Queens, I thought, "I going to Kennedy."

Which gives me sympathy for those who resist both the removal of Confederate statues and the changing of names of military bases. Even though these names honor people who have harmed — and continue to humiliate — our black citizens, we're a big country and people stick to what they're used to for all kinds of reasons. I even understand why, if you're not ready to make the change, it's easy to think of those who are as merely "politically correct."

I was talking about the removal of statues with an old friend, who many years ago benefited from a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship. Princeton University was announcing that it would drop the name of President Wilson from its famed Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, and my friend and other former Woodrow Wilson Fellowship recipients were suggesting that the name of the Fellowship also be changed.

My spotty American history had left me with the view of Wilson as an "idealist." During the Paris Peace Conference that ended World War I, he tried to create an international governing order, the League of Nations, that would "end all wars," and he supported the vote for women. Unfortunately, as I now gather, the principles of self-determination and democracy promoted in the League of Nations applied only to European and Anglo-Saxon settler nations, not to African, Arab, Indian, and Pacific Island peoples. Moreover, Wilson's sup-

port for women's suffrage came late, three years after "silent sentinels" led by Alice Paul began picketing in front of the White House, after the imprisonment and force-feeding of suffragettes had become a national scandal.

Black Lives Matter has also shone a light on Woodrow Wilson the white supremacist, apologist for the Klan, friend of the country's prominent racist demagogues and defender of segregation within his own presidential administration. Trained as a historian, Wilson's popular textbook, "Division and Reunion" contended that slaves "were almost uniformly dealt with indolently and even affectionately by their masters," who themselves were the beneficiaries of "the sensibility and breeding of entitlement" — an astonishing claim! Moreover, he condemned Reconstruction — the effort to enforce the civil and political emancipation of African Americans in the occupied South — because it allowed black citizens to vote.

Though most of us are understandably reluctant to undergo the emotional turmoil of rethinking our history and our heroes, all proper names denote a unique person with a particular story that will inevitably be re-evaluated as times change. Some may object that we're on a slippery slope if we find Woodrow Wilson's sins too great to honor his name. But I find it interesting that Wilson evokes different associations than when I was in school, partly because we're in a very different era, and partly because of what people have uncovered and rethought about Wilson's unique story. I am grateful to Black Lives Matter for once again sensitizing me to how we can unthinkingly ensure that whites, and especially white men, have an edge on power, on material and other resources, and even on safety.

Carol Ascher, who lives in Sharon, has published seven books of fiction and nonfiction, as well as many essays and stories. She is trained as a spiritual director.

Realtor® at Large

The month of June was also strong for real estate, with the Towns of Salisbury and Sharon putting up impressive numbers for both units sold and dollar volume. The most active sections of the market are below 500,000 and above 1 million. While the housing inventory is down 28% from a year ago, more properties are coming onto the market, which is good. An indicator that the market is remaining strong is that pending sales are again up from both last year and last month. The forecast is that this seller's market could last a year or longer. If you are interested in listing your property, happy to discuss!

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

Isn't it possible?

Keeping safe and being responsible while communing with nature

The decision of First Light power company to limit access to the Great Falls area in Falls Village and Amesville is not only due, but overdue. What that will look like is still in planning, but it took another dangerous situation with a child in the Housatonic River there and pleas from first selectmen Curtis Rand of Salisbury and Henry Todd of Falls Village to finally make it happen. Unfortunately, while the planning is apparently ongoing for what to do about the very large number of visitors to the Great Falls, last weekend, July 11 and 12, the area was packed with people, at least 100 cars jammed into the parking lots and surrounding roads, the river running freely and the situation no better, and maybe even worse than Fourth of July weekend. (See the story on Page A1 this week by Patrick L. Sullivan.)

The Fourth of July weekend was especially rough this year, with overcrowding, lack of social distancing and face covering in a time of pandemic, rampant litter, and most significant of all, the need for local volunteers to rescue a young boy who was trapped on rocks in the middle of the river. That incident could have had a very different outcome had that youngster not been able to pull himself from the river current (which had grabbed him and carried him away from his family) and bring himself to rest on those rocks. Who could blame him for being reluctant to venture once more into the current? Kudos to the first responders from Falls Village, North Canaan and Salisbury who are so well trained in this kind of rescue and brought the boy to safety.

This newspaper has been covering the crisis situation at this recreational area for years, and in recent weeks Senior Reporter Patrick Sullivan wrote about it in depth, as did Executive Editor Cynthia Hochswender. We editorialized last season about the lack of clear signage both at the Great Falls and at Bull's Bridge in Kent, a recreational area that has claimed lives again this year and now is closed. There is still a need for better signage, and having those signs in more than just English would be a help to those visiting the sites for relaxation and rejuvenation, often escaping the heat of urban areas. The last way anyone wants such a day of fun to end is with a call to 911.

The towns of Kent, Falls Village and Salisbury surely want to be welcoming to those who wish to appreciate nature in the Northwest Corner. We have some of the most beautiful and remote sites in the area here, and are glad to also be accessible to those who come from outside the area. But such use of natural sites has to be done safely to be enjoyable for all. That has taken on new meaning in a time of pandemic. People have been cooped up indoors all spring, or are just venturing out to work and shopping for essentials, and need a way to break the monotony. Yet doing that responsibly is still paramount.

Whatever limiting of access First Light comes up with as a solution, it needs to be actually monitored and enforced, as there are alternate routes into all these recreational sites. Improved signage will help, if that can be agreed upon, but it is ultimately down to the choices made by those who visit these parks in Kent, Falls Village and Amesville to be respectful of the land and water and understand the dangers they face when they look for ways to cool off in natural surroundings during the summer.

What will it take, before effective action is taken? Another death? Let's hope not. Real action is needed now to save one of the most beautiful natural sites in the Northwest Corner, if not the state, and to keep visitors safe while doing that.

Defense for Falls Village Housing Trust

The letter of July 9 from Virginia Bush Suttman is appreciated for its succinct corrections regarding misunderstandings of the work of the Falls Village Housing Trust (FVHT). We are grateful. At this point it may be useful to expand upon her phrase "the long and arduous process," which the opposition feels they need to "hammer down."

When the opposition casts doubt upon the work of the FVHT, they are essentially questioning the ethics and integrity of the following regulatory or community bodies: 1) the elected and appointed leadership of the Town of Falls Village (Canaan) in determining the Incentive Housing Zone (IHZ) particular to River Road (2013); 2) the State of CT Department

of Housing (DOH) for accepting the IHZ documentation; 3) the IRS and State of CT confirmation of FVHT as a 501(c)3 nonprofit (2017); 4) Habitat for Humanity of NWCT's granting of our option to purchase the River Road property; 5) the Connecticut Department of Housing's regulatory process in granting pre-development funding (2018); 6) the DOH's oversight of the bank account that holds those monies; 7) the environmental specialists who declared the appropriateness of the River Road site for human habitation (1997 & 2017); 8) the Falls Village Inland Wetlands Commission's approvals (2019 & 2020); 9) the Housatonic River Commission's approvals (2019 and 2020); and 10) the Falls Village Planning and Zoning Commissioners, their Zoning Officer and their choice of Allied Engineering Associates to review the project mapping and engineering.

The opposition, by implication, also questions the expertise of our consultants. Housing Enterprises, Inc., has been providing guidance for affordable housing projects for over 26 years, comprising more than 75 projects, with over 15 of them

completed in towns in Litchfield County. For over 25 years, our engineers, Civil 1, Inc., have provided storm drainage, erosion/sediment control, and utility plans in the building of schools, power plants, hospitals, restaurants, fire departments and residences. They are known for their appropriate environmental compliance in conformance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the CT Department of Environmental Protection regulations. The award-winning (37 times) Paul B. Bailey Architect, LLC has designed more than 100 affordable housing projects for nonprofit organizations in the past 29 years, one of them being South Common, in Kent, which Virginia Bush Suttman has kindly invited folks to visit.

Attempts to discredit or disrespect the representatives of the regulatory bodies, the work of FVHT, or to manipulate public opinion actually make no sense. After all, it is the regulatory bodies, not a public referendum, that have the power to approve or disapprove the plans submitted, based on the careful alignment of the plans with mandated regulations.

Jandi Hanna
Falls Village

The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. each Monday. You may email letters to publisher@lakevillejournal.com.

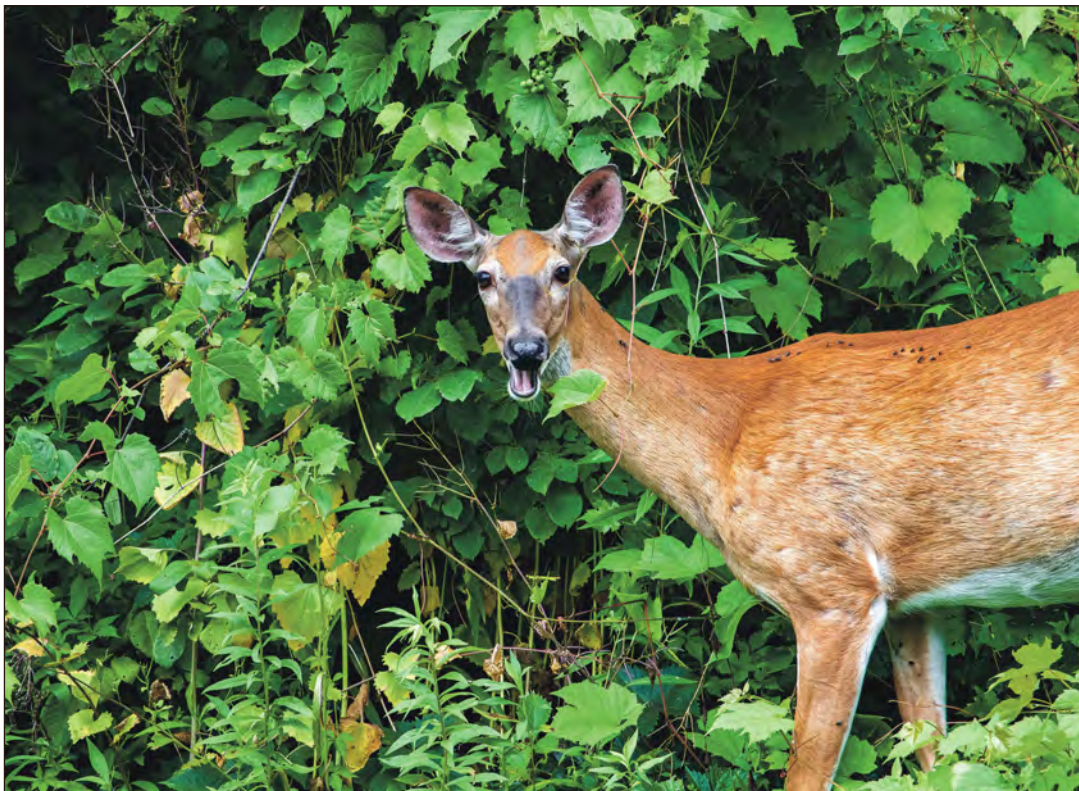


PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

Mind if I dine?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks from Kent library

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many lovers of the Kent Memorial Library who stepped forward and contributed to our recent Matching Gift Campaign. We initiated the campaign because, due to the risks of COVID-19, the library had to cancel its summer fundraising events — the annual benefit party, book sale and car raffle. These events not only engage with the residents of the Kent community and surrounding areas, but also

raise \$120,000 annually — more than one third of the Library's total budget. Donations of \$60,000, together with our matching funds, enabled us to replace that lost income and keep the library's virtual and now actual doors open. As the library approaches its 100th anniversary in 2022, we are so gratified that the many friends of this institution want to see it continue for another long while.

To celebrate the community's generosity, the library is offering

a Masters of Kent series for free; information about the series can be found at www.kentmemorial-library.org. We hope everyone will join us this summer for these online programs that offer a wide range of speakers on various topics and showcase the depth of talent we have in this area.

Betty Ruddy, Board Member
Ned Babbitt, Chair,
Investment Committee
Kent Memorial Library
Kent

Disagrees on cartoon

I did see the cartoon and I had a chance to read the article entitled, "Cartoon was funny and accurate," written by Andrew Stayman. I found his remarks, however, damaging to your community and a place I like to visit.

In a time when people are so divisive, making insulting remarks, as to an entire group of American citizens runs counter to seeing the country come together. Hillary Clinton did this when she called all the Trump supporters "deplorable." Did it help her campaign or did it drive people away?

As do many liberal Democrats, Mr. Stayman would like for people to come together, but sadly on his terms alone. During the last three and half years, the Democrats holding office found no compromise worthwhile if it was going to advance the president's agenda. The border wall is a good example. Clinton, Bush and Obama all saw the need for it, and called for it to be done,

but never did it. Trump built it despite the hypocritical resistance. Same thing with the Dreamers and again the Democrats resisted what they claim they wanted. Why? To stop the wall that Trump promised.

Given the cartoon called an entire group of Americans — Trump supporters — stupid, Mr. Valentine was correct to write, "[you] would think that the local papers would be smart enough not to label American citizens as stupid." Then to compound it by printing Andrew's vitriol and ad hominem attack of President Trump that lacked any meaningful substance but only advanced division. This was not good.

Contrary to Andrew's thoughtless and misguided claims, the Trump administration has done more smart things than the last three administrations. Trump supporters get it. They understand Mr. Trump's nationalistic (not isolationistic) view of putting America first is a

good thing. They recognize that fighting globalism and the abuse that our prior leaders allowed China to get away with is smart. That using tariffs to achieve fair trade deals is smart. Bringing businesses back to America is smart. Making our Asian and European allies pay their fair share of the defense costs that America has been expending to defend their interests since 1945 is smart. Building the wall to prevent drug and slave traders from coming into the country is smart. Insisting immigrants come into the country legally is smart. Being for law and order, not defunding police forces and not allowing people to destroy our monuments that reflect our history is smart.

Then, as to Andrew's misguided claim about masks, the Trump administration protected Americans when the COVID-19 thing started by stopping the flood of infected Chinese from coming into the country. Mr. Trump brought hospital ships to NYC and elsewhere, built hospitals and ventilators to save Americans. This list of things goes on and the Trump supporters get it — because they are smart.

Peter Antell

Boston

More letters previous page.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA GALAISE

100 years ago — July 1920
SALISBURY — Miss Helen Harding is assisting at the Twin Lakes tea room.

Main Street is no place for auto speeding. Right minded motorists already know this fact and careless and selfish drivers should be forced to learn it.

Lost — A Holstein heifer yearling, mostly black. If found please communicate with W.R. Thompson, Salisbury School Farm. Phone 28-5.

Frank Shore, who lives on Sharon Mountain, last week killed a large rattlesnake which had ten rattles.

An electric fire siren has been installed in the cupola of the Holley Mfg. Co. factory. The new siren will be operated from three points, viz. the telephone office, the Hose House, and the Holley Mfg. Co. The pushing of a button at these places will be all that is necessary to start the siren, which will keep going until the "stop" button is operated.

50 years ago — July 1970

Despite threatening clouds and an eventual downpour, festivities were undampened at the Scoville Memorial Library's 75th birthday party last Saturday afternoon. The occasion was entirely indigenous, a town party embellished by town talent, decked with flowers from local gardens ... all in honor of one of the town's most valued institutions.

Kent's First Selectman, Eugene O'Meara, and 160th District Representative Guy LaGrotta were among those who spoke at Monday's Interstate Commerce Commission hearing in Pittsfield, concerning discontinuance of passenger rail service between Danbury and Pittsfield. Both officials strongly opposed the proposal.

25 years ago — July 1995

A long, dry summer has left the Housatonic River at a dangerously low level with water that is too hot. Those who have watched the river over the years worry that continued hot weather this weekend could result in a major fish kill such as those that occurred in 1989, 1991 and 1993 in the stretch between Falls Village and Bulls Bridge in Kent.

CANAAN — It was not the first incident but probably the worst case of vandalism at the McDonald's Playland. State Police are investigating the incident where probably more than one person removed a five-foot section of fencing from the back of the enclosed and locked play area during the early morning hours last Saturday. After breaking in, the culprits removed a large number of small plastic balls from a "ball pit" and scattered them around the parking lot and the East Main Street restaurant grounds.

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

Sharon Hospital is a gem in the Northwest Corner

I ran a Family Medicine practice in Sharon from 1994 until 2011, then moved to the Savannah, Ga., area to practice as a civilian physician in an Army Medical Home, providing care to Army families and retirees. I retired in 2019 before the onset of COVID-19. Over the years, I have provided and witnessed health care delivery in the Tri-State area and the South.

I was admitted to Sharon Hospital in June, 2020 for bleeding and anemia, status post prostatectomy, while visiting to conduct personal business and visit friends locally. Sharon Hospital is now locally owned by Nuvance Health, with patient care provided by Health Quest, since April, 2019. During my stay at Sharon Hospital, I received high

quality care from all providers and care givers, including ER physician Dr. Oberoi, the Hospitalist service, especially Dr. Marshall, the Urology service Dr. Yu, and all Medical/Surgical Registered Nurses and Nursing Assistants. Kudos to Social Services Donna Schmidt, Medical Records Helen Carberry, Public Relations Jim Hutchison, as well as dietary and cleaning staff who all worked to help me during my stay. I wish to thank them all for their dedication to excellence.

Sharon Hospital is a well-oiled machine and highly functioning organization in the midst of this Covid-19 pandemic, a gem in the Northwest corner which all area residents can be proud of and rely on for high quality care.
Richard Hanwacker, MD
Richmond Hill, Ga.

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Events

July 16-22, 2020

ART: DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

A Dream Comes Alive as Five Points Purchases Campus

Judith McElhone's lofty vision for creating a world-class contemporary art center in northwest Connecticut has taken flight. On June 30, closing papers were signed transferring ownership of the former University of Connecticut Regional Campus in Torrington to Five Points Center for the Visual Arts, of which McElhone is founder and executive director.

"It was two months and two years in the making," said McElhone, referring to the timeframe since submitting a letter of interest to purchase the shuttered campus on University Drive, which has a 30,000-square-foot building and 90 acres. "With the purchase of the campus facility, we will intensify our efforts to encourage exploration among cutting-edge artists while opening new avenues of community interaction."

The deal transfers ownership of the main building and slightly more than 22 acres from UConn to Five Points. The remainder of the unimproved acreage is being leased by the City of Torrington to Five Points for \$1 a year for 20 years, with an eventual option to buy in



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The planned purchase of the University of Connecticut's Torrington campus by Five Points Gallery has been completed, thanks to the leadership of Center Director Judith McElhone.

the future.

The long-awaited transaction took place with little fanfare due to COVID-19, but McElhone said she plans to "do a major launch party on the campus in September," amid a spectacular autumn backdrop.

"COVID-19 is impacting everything," but it isn't stopping progress, said McElhone. "The building itself is almost turn-key, and we are retrofitting artist work spaces. As soon as we get settled in, we will hold outside programming. The idea is to use the land in a safe way — and it's much safer outside with COVID-19."

The immediate goal, she said, is to create a safe, welcoming outdoor space for artists, friends, neighbors and visitors. "Plein-air painting, drawing marathons, concerts and outdoor movies can provide much-needed sanctuaries for healing and creating. Seldom has the world needed these collaborations more than today."

Overall, said McElhone, the transformation of the property will create a unique, sustainable multi-level visual arts center and adjacent art park that will strengthen the social fabric and economic growth of the region. At capacity, the center is expected to generate 20 new full-time positions and 15 part-time teaching and staff positions. "When you bring in artists, economic development follows," she noted.

The center's executive director said the acquisition will "solidify Five Points

Center as among the most progressive arts organizations in New England."

Future plans include renovation of the main campus to include fully equipped artists workspaces including studios for painting, sculpture, ceramics, textiles and print, a bio-lab, digital lab, darkroom and courtyard sensory garden. The existing 245-seat auditorium and commercial kitchen will allow for large indoor gatherings and the 90-acre art park will showcase sculptures created by regional, national and international artists.

One of the most important aspects of the new center, said McElhone, will be the Lynchpin Program, envisioned as "a Thinktank for artists to collaborate and experiment." Thinktank artists, she said, will be selected for their interest in issues impacting everyday life. "There will be an emphasis on the environment

and planet sustainability," she said.

Funds raised combined with grants will cover needed renovation, facility and program needs. The actor and musician Kevin Bacon, who has a home in Litchfield County, is the honorary chair of the new Arts Center's fundraising campaign.

McElhone, a lifelong artist who taught painting at Northwestern Connecticut Community College in Winsted for many years before founding Five Points Gallery in 2012, marveled at how a plan to open a humble summer storefront art gallery in the heart of Torrington has taken on a life of its own.

"Who knew?" said McElhone, that the success of that temporary space would lead to the founding of a permanent Five Points Gallery, a dedicated space to exhibit works by prominent regional, national and international contemporary artists. At one time, she mused, she had to practically beg artists to exhibit in Torrington, and now she is "bombarded" with applications from Connecticut and beyond.

Today, Five Points Center for the Visual Arts is a multifaceted contemporary art initiative that includes the Five Points Gallery, a 2,800-square-foot space composed of three adjacent galleries in downtown Torrington; a consortium with Hartford Art School/Uni-

versity of Hartford, University of Connecticut College of Art and Northwestern Connecticut Community College, where interns learn professional gallery management and receive training as docents; and the Five Points Gallery/Hartford Art School Launchpad Initiative, a pilot incubator program to support emerging artists and recent graduates of the Hartford Art School through affordable studio space and mentoring programs.

The center also includes the Five Points Annex, a community pop-up gallery and exhibition space managed by the Launchpad artists, located two doors from Five Points Gallery in Torrington; and an annual lecture series featuring influential members of the national art world. Past speakers have included Ann Temkin, MoMA's chief curator for painting and sculpture; Milton Esterow editor and publisher of ARTnews; Agnes Gund, president emerita of MoMA; and celebrated painters, Eric Fischl, Robert Berling and Maureen Gallace.

McElhone credits staff, volunteers and supporters for helping to write the newest chapter in the center's history. "They are all wonderful people who understand that the arts are more than a commodity," and that the interaction between arts and science "can make a big difference in the world."

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JERSEY TENORS COME TO SHARON PLAYHOUSE

Following a festive sold-out performance on July 4 of America's Sweethearts, singing female close harmony, Sharon Playhouse has another drive-in concert scheduled for Sunday, July 19.

The patio bar opens (with social distancing) at 6:30

p.m. and the show begins at 8 p.m.

A parking space should be reserved ahead of time but the specific spaces are first come, first parked.

The July 19 show is The Jersey Tenors, singing tunes made popular by everyone from Frank Sinatra to Franki Valli, with a smattering of opera and the operatic, from "Figaro" to "Bohemian Rhapsody." The July 18 Jersey Tenors performance has already sold out.

To learn more about The Jersey Tenors, go to www.thejerseytenors.com. To order tickets at \$50 per vehicle, go to www.sharonplayhouse.org.



PHOTO COURTESY KML

VIRTUAL TRAVEL THROUGH DANON PAINTINGS AT KML

After several months of quarantine, the itch to travel and see new places is strong in many of us, even those who don't normally consider themselves world travelers.

Just in time, the Kent Memorial Library on

Main Street in Kent, Conn., has a show of paintings by Michael Danon inspired by his travels around the world, especially Europe and England.

Danon, who was born in Yugoslavia, has lived much of his life in New York City, including a period in the late 1990s when he owned four restaurants on the Upper West Side (two locations of the Copper Hatch pub, Prime Time and Danon's on the Park).

Now he mostly spends his time renovating buildings in the city and in Kent, and of course making paintings.

Appointments must be made to see the show. Send an email to km-linfo@biblio.org or call 860-927-3761.



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TAG SALES

Please be sure to wear masks and observe social distancing.

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IT'S A TAG SALE! IT'S AN ESTATE SALE! Household stuff, misc furniture, accessories, 3 Brown Jordan chairs, antiques, surprises as we find them. 136 Belgo Road, Lakeville; Sat/Sun, 9 am-4 pm. NO EARLY BIRDS.

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EQUESTRIAN HORSETRAINER WANTED: in Copake, NY, along with other chores around Copake Valley Farm. Housing available with the job when hired. Please call Sal Cascino for more information. 518-329-8502.

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ISABELLA FREEDMAN JEWISH RETREAT CENTER: is a year-round retreat facility located in Falls Village, CT. We have the ability to serve 6,000 guests per year. We are currently seeking: Director of Facilities (Full time), Maintenance Associate (Full time), Dishwashers/Porters (Full time or Part time). For more details please visit our website at www.hazon.org/about/jobs-internships and email a copy of your resume to jobs@hazon.org

OLD FARM NURSERY: looking for part time person to care for perennials and customers. Must have some knowledge/experience working with/maintaining flowers and the ability to communicate effectively with others. Clean driving record, references. 860-435-2272 or oldfarmnursery@aol.com.

TARO'S RESTAURANT: 18 Main St., Millerton, needs experienced waitstaff. Apply within.

HELP WANTED

JOIN THE WHITETAIL TEAM: Lawn Mowing Position, Gardening Position. Part-time or Full-time. Dependable, Experience, Clean License. For details and interview 860-248-0577.

THE TOWN OF SALISBURY: Currently seeking a part-time, seasonal store clerk for the Town Grove. For additional information contact, Stacey Dodge, 860-435-5185 or sdodge@salisburyct.us. The Town of Salisbury is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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AUCTIONS, ESTATE SALES

ANTIQUES AND ESTATE SALE PART 2: Rain on our parade was heavy so many people did not exit their cars. Even so there is more fresh stuff. Formal, country and mid-century furniture, primitives; country smalls; silver; textiles; paintings and prints; pottery and porcelain; antique quilts; hooked, rag, and oriental rugs, tons of stuff from three estates. Saturday, July 18, and Sunday, July 19, 10 am to 4 pm. Rain or shine; inside and tented. Face masks appreciated. 15 Main Street Sharon CT.

REAL ESTATE

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE: Equal Housing Opportunity. All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1966 revised March 12, 1989 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap or familial status or national origin or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. All residential

REAL ESTATE

property advertised in the State of Connecticut General Statutes 46a-64c which prohibit the making, printing or publishing or causing to be made, printed or published any notice, statement or advertisement with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, physical or mental disability or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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Lakeville Journal and Millerton News offices during COVID-19 safety measures

The Lakeville Journal Company has made the decision to continue with our remote work system in light of the potential increase of cases of COVID-19 in the region and the nation. During this time, there will be limited office hours at the Falls Village office. The Millerton News office is not open at all. But all of our staff is available through voice and email communication, and the newspapers continue to publish.

Contact editor@lakevillejournal.com or editor@millertonnews.com for editorial news, cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com for obituaries, legals@lakevillejournal.com for legal notices, classified@lakevillejournal.com for classified line ads and advertising@lakevillejournal.com for display advertising.

Phone for The Lakeville Journal is 860-435-9873; Phone for The Millerton News it is 860-435-9873, ext. 608
Stay safe and healthy and use caution during this challenging time of COVID-19 risk. Keep us informed of any news you want to see reported.

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If you are a licensed RN with 3-5+ years of experience, wishing to explore working in a school setting supporting students, we are interested in your application! The RN schedule follows the academic school calendar and nurses are eligible for comprehensive benefits year-round. Full-time nurses work three (3) 12 hour shifts per week with one (1) 12 hour paid on-call shift.

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The Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, CT

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Per-Diem, Variable Hours

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Thank you to our medical professionals supporting our communities during this unprecedented time. Educators are equally called to action, supporting a critical goal of students returning to campus. The Hotchkiss School, an independent, residential secondary school, is seeking to expand our Health Center team, hiring per diem RNs on all shifts.

If you are a licensed RN with 3-5+ years of experience, wishing to explore working in a school setting supporting students, we are interested in your application! The RN schedule follows the academic school calendar. Shifts can also include paid on-call hours.

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