

# Towns & Villages

MAY 2023

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North Canaan,  
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## NEW YORK

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# Towns & Villages

May 18, 2023

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Susan Hassler  
*Publisher and CEO*

*John Coston*  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Alexander Wilburn  
*Editor*

Libby Hall-Abeel, Mary Wilbur  
*Advertising Sales*

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Cover photo of the North-East Millerton  
Library by *Rhiannon Leo-Jameson*

# Our public libraries are where we belong

BY JOHN COSTON

The NorthEast-Millerton Library's Annex on Century Boulevard was the setting in late February for Expo '23, an exhibit that focused on housing challenges for people of moderate incomes. The multi-day event attracted more than 50 attendees. Visitors came and lingered inside at the informational displays and talked with each other, sharing stories and ideas.

A few weeks earlier, the Pine Plains Free Library was the venue for a public hearing held by the town's Planning Board. Approximately 60 residents attended the gathering — held in the library's spacious Community Room on the second floor — to learn about a solar project proposed by a New York company near Pulver's Corners. Before and after the hearing, small groups gathered on the side, talking among themselves, sharing viewpoints on the controversial plan. The plan by Sharon Hospital to shutter its labor and delivery operation and transform its ICU into a progressive care unit has been the subject of roundtables at several forums — held mostly in libraries. In September, the Save Sharon Hospital (SSH) organization talked to the

public at the Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury. In November, SSH held its meeting at Cornwall Library. Then twice in October and February, SSH held similar meetings in the Annex at NorthEast-Millerton Library. And at the Annex, just as it happened at the housing Expo and at the Pine Plains hearing, residents stayed after the event to take in an extra social moment of talk and thought — and connect.

There isn't room in these columns to list all the ways that our libraries serve their communities by connecting people, promoting community spirit and advancing literacy. Town halls are where the business of governing gets done, but in many respects the town library serves the community in important ways.

Aside from catering to readers with books, magazines, newspapers, CDs, book clubs, movie streaming and a litany of online resources, they also serve as gathering places, social forums for all age groups.

There are 17 libraries in Litchfield County and 26 in Dutchess County. A partial list, besides the Scoville and Cornwall libraries, includes the Douglas Library in North Canaan, which marked its 200-year

anniversary in 2021; the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon; the Kent Memorial Library; the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village; and the Norfolk Library. In eastern Dutchess County, besides the libraries in Millerton and Pine Plains, we have the Amenia Free Library, The Roeliff Jansen Community Library in Hillsdale/Copake, the Millbrook Library and the Stanford Free Library in Stanfordville.

The shared experience of sitting in a group with neighbors to learn something, to discuss it, to share thoughts and then to leave the event having interacted with people in the community—even if it's a nod or a handshake—is edifying in ways that trace back to our earliest days. Some come without saying a word. Nevertheless, they are part of it.

Discussing hospital cutbacks or affordable housing or the potential impact of a solar project on a rural landscape is one thing, but think of the value of a story hour program for children, who come together at library events as young social beings to experience a movie, arts and crafts, story time, dog visits, or music sing-a-longs, to name a few. And have the common experience together.

Belonging.

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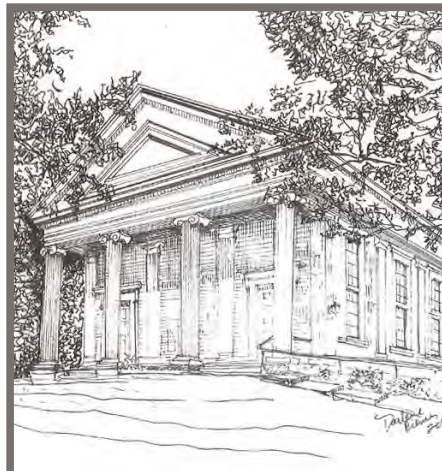
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Highway Superintendent (Mon.-Fri., 7-3:30)	
.....	845-373-9922
Parks and Recreation.....	845-373-8860
Tax Collector (Mon.-Thurs., 9-1)	
.....	845-373-8118 ext. 125
Town Clerk (Mon.-Thurs., 9-3)	
.....	845-373-8860 ext. 125
Town Justices	
Judge Christopher Klingner.....	845-373-8434
Judge Graham R. Spearman.....	845-373-7017
Town Supervisor (Mon.-Thurs., 8-4)	
.....	845-373-8118 ext.111
Water District.....	845-789-1307

**OTHER SERVICES**

Amenia Free Library.....	845-373-8273
Amenia Historical Society	
.....	www.ameniahs.org
Department of Motor Vehicles	
Millbrook (Mon., Wed. & Fri., 9-4:45)	
.....	845-677-4080
Pawling (Tues. & Thurs., 9-4:45)	845-855-4400
Poughkeepsie (Mon.-Fri., 9-4:45)	845-486-2130

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

For emergencies.....	911
Amenia Fire Company	
.....	845-373-8467
Amenia Constable.....	845-373-8434
Dutchess County Sheriff.....	845-486-3800
State Police	
Dover.....	845-877-3031
Wassaic Fire Company.....	845-373-8807
Sun River Health, Amenia.....	845-838-7038
Sharon Hospital, Sharon, Conn.	
.....	860-364-4000

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.....	518-697-6400
Marist College.....	845-575-3000
Dutchess Community College.....	845-431-8000
Webutuck Elementary School	
.....	845-373-4100
Eugene Brooks	
Intermediate.....	845-373-4100
Webutuck High School.....	845-373-4100
Webutuck School District	
Administrative Offices.....	845-373-4100

**PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

Maplebrook School.....	845-373-8191
Millbrook School.....	845-677-8261

# The Amenia Free Library is bigger than ever

BY LEILA HAWKEN

An old adage maintains that “knowledge is power.” The Amenia Free Library stands to serve local residents as a welcoming place of learning. Now that the building has expanded to add space for more programs and capabilities, the library is poised for the future.

The Amenia Free Library came about in 1919. The sturdy brick structure was built in 1938 as a federal WPA project. In this century, the need for more space brought about an addition that was to retain the dignity of the old craftsmanship while meeting the demands of a modern facility. Today, the old building provides a quiet reading room adjoining a new main library space.

“They did a wonderful job,” said Library Director Victoria Herow. She has served at the helm for three years. Descended from generations of Amenia residents, Herow was raised in Wassaic and treasures her deep Amenia roots.

“We have a larger building, so people can come in and stay longer,” she said,

recalling the confined space of the former building. The children can play in the children’s area while patrons seeking a quiet place to read can be accommodated well in the old library space.”

Construction began in August 2020. The old library was moved into the new addition in November of 2021, to allow for renovation. The grand opening, celebrating project completion, was held in November 2022.

“The construction and the additional space have brought changes in how the library serves its community,” Herow said.

“We’re reaching all new patrons,” Herow said, including in-person visitors and online patrons who may order e-books or audiobooks. New library cards are being issued with regularity.

“Currently, we are trying to figure out future programming,” Herow said, adding that the library is preparing now for its popular summer reading programs for children and adults.

Looking to partner with



Photo by Leila Hawken

Amenia Free Library completed the expansion of its space.

local organizations, Herow said that the library will soon offer a Puzzle Day in partnership with the Amenia Recreation Department.

Programming assistant Beth Hale was holding her “Story Hour with Beth” recently, recalling that she had attended the story hour in the company of her first child, and now, since 2021, she has conducted it for other youngsters.

“Honeybees” was the subject

of the April 27 session, when the children engaged in a gluing project to build a hive and insert larvae and paper honeybees.

Amenia grandmother Carol Lee accompanied granddaughter Artemis, now just three and a half, to the story hour.

“This library is the best,” Lee exclaimed. “The whole family has been coming here, especially for the holiday programming.

**RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS**

Congregation Beth David	
.....	845-373-8264
Immaculate Conception Church	
.....	845-373-8193
Smithfield Presbyterian Church	
.....	www.thesmithfieldchurch.org; 845-789-1357
South Amenia Presbyterian Church	
.....	845-373-9959
St. Thomas Episcopal Church	
.....	845-373-9161

**ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**

Town Supervisor	
Victoria Perotti.....	845-373-8118 ext.111
County Legislator	
Deirdre Houston (25th District).....	845-486-2100
State Assemblywoman	
Didi Barrett (106th District).....	845-454-1703
State Senator	
Michelle Hinchey (41st District).....	845-331-3810

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United States Senators	
Kirsten Gillibrand.....	202-224-4451
Charles Schumer.....	202-224-6542
Governor	
Kathy Hochul.....	518-474-8390

## KEY SERVICES

### VILLAGE OF MILLBROOK

Building & Zoning (Mon., 5-7).....845-240-2118  
 Public Works Garage (Mon.-Fri., 6 to 2:30)  
 ..... 845-677-3022

Village Clerk (Mon.-Fri., 9-3)  
 ..... 845-677-3939

Mayor ..... 845-677-3939

### TOWN OF WASHINGTON

Animal Control ..... 845-489-6148

Assessor's Office ..... 845-677-3949

Building & Zoning (Mon.-Fri., 11-3)  
 ..... 845-677-3419

Highway Garage (Mon.-Fri., 7:30 to 3:30)  
 ..... 845-677-3910

Recreation ..... 845-677-3419

Tax Collector (Mon.-Fri., 9-12:30, 1-3)  
 ..... 845-677-3419

Town Clerk ..... 845-677-3419

Town Justice ..... 845-677-3419

Town Supervisor ..... 845-677-3419

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For emergencies..... 911

Millbrook Firehouse..... 845-677-3871

Millbrook Police ..... 845-677-8200

Dutchess County Sheriff ..... 845-486-3800

State Police

Troop K, Millbrook ..... 845-677-7300

Sun River Health, Amenia  
 ..... 845-838-7038

Sharon Hospital, Sharon, Conn.  
 ..... 860-364-4000

## OTHER SERVICES

Millbrook Library ..... 845-677-3611

Department of Motor Vehicles  
 Millbrook (Mon., Wed. & Fri., 9-4:45)  
 ..... 845-677-4080

Pawling (Tues. & Thurs., 9-4:45)845-855-4400

Poughkeepsie (Mon.-Fri., 9-4:45)  
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Millbrook Historical Society  
 ..... [www.millbrookhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.millbrookhistoricalsociety.org)

## RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Grace Episcopal Church..... 845-677-3064

Lyall Memorial Federated Church  
 ..... 845-677-3485

St. Joseph's Church ..... 845-677-3422

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Lithgow  
 ..... 845-677-9286

Verbank Methodist Church..... 845-677-5534

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Alden Place Elementary ..... 845-677-4220

Columbia-Greene Community College  
 ..... 518-697-6400

# Millbrook Library brings all ages in

BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

The Millbrook Library on 3 Friendly Lane lives up to its street name; it's a very friendly place. More than a place to borrow books, the library is a place that offers meeting space for the Historical Society, concerts sponsored by the Millbrook Arts Group, and throughout the year has ever-changing art exhibits.

Movie nights have become favorite activities at the library, but many prefer game nights, crafting events, or exercise classes on Tuesday and Thursday mornings for seniors, sponsored by Dutchess County. There are times set aside to aid non-techies with their electronic devices, and some quiet times for youngsters who just need a place to do homework.

Millbrook Library has clubs, such as the Spice Club, every month a new spice to learn about and try; a book club, for those who love to discuss what they read with others. And people who like to play games with friends or strangers alike.

A good library is also a

place for the community to gather; throughout the year, community-centered events take place there. The first Volunteer Fair was a huge success; there were food drives, and a drive to gather toiletries and other personal items for the homeless. The library helps celebrate all of the holidays; hot chocolate at the Parade of Lights, pumpkin painting at Halloween, and how about that petting zoo! Don't forget yoga for kids and Qi Gong for the grownups!

Of course, the library has books. Lots of them to borrow, and the Friends of the Library have an ongoing book sale, some are even free. Most of all, the library is a safe haven, a quiet place to read and think, to gather with family and friends for fun times, and a place where if you are homebound, they will get their materials out to you.

A good library is not just part of the community, often it IS the community! That is what the Millbrook Library is all about.



Photo by Judith O'Hara Balfe

Albert M. Rosenblatt was a recent author to visit the Millbrook Library.

## PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Dutchess Day School ..... 845-677-5014

Millbrook School..... 845-677-8261

Dutchess Community College...845-431-8000

Elm Drive Elementary ..... 845-677-4225

Millbrook Middle School ..... 845-677-4210

Millbrook High School ..... 845-677-2510

Marist College..... 845-575-3000

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Washington Town Supervisor

Gary Ciferri ..... 845-677-3419

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Deirdre Houston (25th District)  
 ..... 845-486-2100

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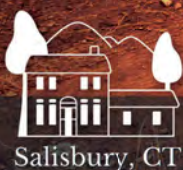
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Building Inspection Office (Tues., 2-7, Wed., 9-3, & Fri., 9-3)	518-789-3300 ext. 606
Dog Control	518-789-4504
Highway Department	518-789-4850
Town Court (Mon.-Thurs., 9-2, & Fri., 9-noon)	518-789-3300 ext. 604
Planning Board (Mon.- Fri., 9-3)	518-789-3300 ext. 608
Supervisor	518-789-3300 ext. 608
Town Clerk (Mon.-Thurs., 9-12:30, 1-3, & Fri., 9-12:30)	518-789-3300 ext. 603
Zoning Board of Appeals (Mon.-Thurs., 1-5)	518-789-3300 ext. 607

### VILLAGE OF MILLERTON

Building Inspector and Zoning Enforcement Officer (Tues. 5-7, Wed. 7-8)	518-789-3300
Village Clerk (Mon.-Thurs., 9-4, Fri., 9-noon)	518-789-4489
Village Mayor	518-789-4489
Water/Highway Department	518-789-4756

### PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY

For emergencies	911
Dutchess County Sheriff	518-789-3115
State Police	
Troop K	518-789-4411
Village Police	518-789-6355
Sun River Health, Amenia	845-838-7038
Sharon Hospital, Sharon, Conn.	860-364-4000
Millerton Fire Co. & Rescue Squad Firehouse	518-789-4645

### OTHER SERVICES

American Legion Post 178	518-789-4755
Department of Motor Vehicles Millbrook (Mon., Wed. & Fri., 9-4:45)	845-677-4080
Pauling (Tues. & Thurs., 9-4:45)	845-855-4400
Poughkeepsie (Mon.-Fri., 9-4:45)	845-486-2130
North East Historical Society	www.nemillertonlibrary.org/historical-society
NorthEast-Millerton Library	518-789-3340
North East Community Center	518-789-4259
Nutrition Site (Mon.-Thurs., 10-2)	518-789-3081

### SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Columbia-Greene Community College	518-697-6400
Marist College	845-575-3000

## North-East Millerton Library offers lots to do

BY CAROL KNEELAND

Community is what the North-East Millerton Library has been all about since it began in 1927, evolving over the years to its mission to “promote the development of independent, thoughtful, and literate citizens through the provision of open access to cultural, intellectual and informational resources.”

According to the director Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, “The library is important to the community because we can provide a place where people can learn, grow and connect, and the community is important to the library as it is the life force of the library.”

While once simply a building, she says “We are moving out as a way to meet the community where they are and show them what we have to offer.”

Sometimes that means heading to locales such as the Farmer’s Market or the Eddie Collins Memorial Park grand

opening or taking a group of children to Irondale School House for a special activity.

As community needs changed, the library moved from multiple locations to its forever home at 75 Main Street with its front lawn Memorial Garden and the nearby Annex at 28 Century Blvd.

In addition to typical library offerings and special items such as snow shoes, a thermal camera and laptops, the facilities allow for children’s programs, concerts, elections, debates, community conversations, Earth Day celebrations, town meetings, author and educational presentations, blood drives, art exhibits, craft fairs, Mahjong, quilting, and book clubs.

There is 24/7 internet access for books, magazines, movies, TV and courses as well as a speedy and extensive inter-library loan program.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Participants in a natural world discovery program offered at the library through the Cary Institute.

The library now produces the Lions calendar and a new non-profit community calendar online.

While Leo-Jameson and Youth Services Coordinator

Lynn Buckley and clerk Avery Wickwire are the keeper of the keys, she notes that volunteers also provide essential support and community connections.

Dutchess Community College	845-431-8000
Eugene Brooks Intermediate	845-373-4100 ext. 2
Webutuck Elementary School	845-373-4100 ext. 1
Webutuck High School	845-373-4100 ext. 3
Webutuck School District Office	845-373-4100 ext. 5

### PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Maplebrook School	845-373-8191
Millbrook School	845-677-8261

### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Congregation Beth David, Amenia	845-373-8264
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Faith Bible Chapel	518-789-6073
Immaculate Conception, Amenia	845-373-8193
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses	518-789-6214
Millerton Methodist Church	518-789-4926
North East Baptist Church	518-789-4840
Pine Plains United Methodist Church	518-398-5521
First Presbyterian Church	518-789-3431

### ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

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Millerton Village Mayor	
Jennifer Najdek	518-789-4489
County Legislator	
A. Gregg Pulver (19th District)	914-474-0908
State Assemblywoman	
Didi Barrett (106th District)	845-454-1703
State Senator	
Michelle Hinchey (41st District)	845-331-3810
Representative in U.S. Congress	
Patrick Ryan (18th District)	202-225-5614
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## KEY SERVICES

Assessor ( <i>Tues. &amp; Thurs., 8:30- 4:30, Fri., 9:30-1:30</i> )	518-398-7193 ext. 7
Building Department ( <i>Wed. &amp; Sat., 10-noon</i> )	518-398-7110
Dog Control	518-398-7121
Highway Department (7-3:30 p.m.)	518-398-6662
<i>After-hour emergencies</i>	518-965-1876
Planning Department	518-398-7155 ext. 204
Recreation Director	518-567-7207
Supervisor	518-398-8600
Tax Collector	518-398-7155 ext. 211
Town Clerk ( <i>Mon.- Fri., 10-1</i> )	518-398-7155
Town Justices	518-398-7194
Water Department	518-398-1411

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For emergencies	911
Dutchess County Sheriff substation	518-398-5234
State Police	518-398-0317
Pine Plains Police	518-398-8601
Pine Plains Firehouse	518-398-1311
Sun River Health, <i>Amenia</i>	845-838-7038
Northern Dutchess Hospital, <i>Rhinebeck</i>	845-876-3001
Sharon Hospital, <i>Sharon, Conn.</i>	860-364-4000
VA Clinic, <i>Pine Plains</i>	518-398-9240

## OTHER SERVICES

Department of Motor Vehicles <i>Millbrook (Mon., Wed., Fri., 9-4:45)</i>	845-677-4080
<i>Pawling (Tues. &amp; Thurs., 9-4:45)</i>	845-855-4400
<i>Poughkeepsie (Mon.-Fri., 9-4:45)</i>	845-486-2130
The Little Nine Partners Historical Society <a href="http://www.lnphs.com">www.lnphs.com</a> ; 914-474-1963	914-474-1963
Pine Plains Free Library	518-398-1927

## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Cold Spring Early Learning Center ( <i>Grades Pre-K-1</i> ), <i>Stanfordville</i>	845-868-7451
Columbia-Greene Community College	518-697-6400
Dutchess Community College	845-431-8000
Marist College	845-575-3000
Pine Plains Central School District	518-398-7181
Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center	518-398-3000
Stissing Mountain Middle/High School	518-398-7181

## RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Church of the Regeneration, <i>Episcopal</i>	518-398-5628
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# Pine Plains Free Library blossoms

BY ELIAS SORICH

Celebrating its 225th year, the Pine Plains Free Library predates even the 1823 founding of Pine Plains. Established in 1798 by Ebenezer Baldwin as the Union Library, Pine Plains, it was first a paid-members-only library. Shutting its doors between 1870-1874 after funding woes, the library reopened as the Pine Plains Free Library, and it has operated continuously since then.

With all of that history behind it, the library has more recently been thrust into the modern era. From 2017-2019 it saw a 50-60 percent uptick in use, a combination of higher foot traffic, program attendance, and circulation. Then, as the pandemic struck, that uptick morphed into a doubling in the use of online resources, from databases to digital book rentals. In the eyes of Alexis Tackett, library director since 2021, meeting those digital needs is a huge priority for the library to position itself as a modern resource to the community.

Indeed, to Tackett, a library in the 21st century is not the same as libraries of

old. Deeply passionate about the role such institutions play in providing a social safety net to vulnerable populations, she doesn't see the Pine Plains Free Library as a place where the slightest peep might elicit a shush. Rather, as a vibrant community space where events are held, information is freely given, and Wi-Fi and workspaces are available for those who need them.

"We're seeing that the physical place for the library is becoming more of a community center, more of a gathering space where people feel safe and explore their ideas."

Part of that equation is the numerous programs that the library offers, for community members young and old. From "Tech time with Annie," where users confounded by tech can come in and receive advice, to free lectures from the Pine Plains Gardening Club, to twice-weekly children's storytime sessions.

But this blossoming of programming and engagement has not come with a corresponding increase in the library's budget. Without a change, Tackett



PHOTO BY ELIAS SORICH

Library director Alexis Tackett, intern Hannah Johnson, and library assistant Annie Mallozzi.

indicated that operating the library beyond three years becomes more and more difficult. To meet this need, Tackett shared that she and the board are pursuing a "Chapter 414" initiative—meaning, they plan to put a library budget increase to a public vote in November.

More on this developing initiative soon.

The Pine Plains Free Library will be offering a walking tour of Pine Plains on May 20 to highlight all the locations the library has been located over the centuries—a list that includes the Stissing House.

First United Presbyterian Church of Pine Plains	518-398-7117
St. Anthony's Catholic Church	518-398-7115
Pine Plains United Methodist Church	518-398-5521

## ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Supervisor <i>Brian Walsh</i>	518-398-8600
----------------------------------	--------------

County Legislator <i>A. Gregg Pulver (19th District)</i>	914-474-0908
State Assemblywoman <i>Didi Barrett (106th District)</i>	845-454-1703
State Senator <i>Michelle Hinchey (41st District)</i>	845-331-3810

Representative in U.S. Congress <i>Patrick Ryan (18th District)</i>	202-225-5614
United States Senators <i>Kirsten Gillibrand</i>	202-224-4451
<i>Charles Schumer</i>	202-224-6542
Governor <i>Kathy Hochul</i>	518-474-8390





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Animal Control .....	
518-398-7121 or 518-518-8509	
Building Inspector .....	845-868-1310
Highway Department .....	845-868-7804
Parks and Recreation .....	
www.stanfordrecreation.com.	
Tax Collector .....	845-868-1310
Town Clerk .....	845-868 1310
Town Justices .....	845-868-2269
Town Supervisor .....	845-868-1310
Transfer Station (Wed. 7-1 and Sat. 7-3)	
.....	845-868-1031

### PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For emergencies .....	911
Dutchess County Sheriff .....	845-486-3800
State Police Troop K .....	845-677-7300
Stanford Health Committee .....	845-868-7320
Northern Dutchess Hospital .....	845-876-3001
Sharon Hospital, <i>Sharon, Conn.</i>	
.....	860-364-4000
Stanford Fire District .....	845-868-1313

### OTHER SERVICES

American Legion Post 178 .....	518-789-4755
Historical Society .....	845-868-7320
Stanford Free Library .....	845-868-1341
North East Community Center .....	518-789-4259
Stanford Seniors Forever Young Club	
.....	845-868-1310
Stanford Grange # 808 .....	845-868-1700

### SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Cold Spring Early Learning Center	
.....	845-868-7451
Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center	
.....	518-398-1141
Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School	
.....	518-398-7181
Dutchess Community College .....	845-431-8000
Marist College .....	845-575-3000
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.....	845-452-9600

### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

United Church of Christ .....	845-868-2286
Bengall United Methodist Church	
.....	845-868-7173
The Smithfield Church .....	845-789-1357
St. Anthony's Church .....	518-398-7115

### ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

State Senator	
<i>Michelle Hinchey (41st District)</i> .....	845-331-3810
State Assemblywoman	
<i>Didi Barrett (106th District)</i> .....	845-454-1703

## The new Stanford Free Library shines

BY CAROL KNEELAND

Following the 10 years the members of the Stanfordville community spent raising funds to build a new library that opened in August 2019, Director Christa Cerul says the community has a real “sense of ownership,” which she reinforces every time she refers to the facility as “your library.”

As a result, she says involvement in every aspect of the institution has increased from the number of patrons holding library cards to participation in the organization’s many activities.

Cerul credits part of the change to the building’s location as it moved to its highly visible home at 6035 Route 82, Stanfordville. She noted that even as construction was taking place, residents became more aware of its existence as many watched the progress as the building took shape.

She also feels that careful planning for ADA compliance means that patrons can now participate in programs in the easily accessible community room rather than in the old one in the basement whose stairs presented obstacles to many.

Programs include children’s activities, bridge,



Photo Submitted

The new Stanford Free Library opened in 2019.

knitting, foreign films, music, book clubs, meditation, yoga, watercolor and ESL classes, home school stories, STEAM workshops, Mahjong and brain games. There are passes for New York State Parks, COVID tests, battery recycling, adventure

backpacks, pickleball equipment and online programs.

Despite the more visible location, the library is still located near the community rec center which allows for easy coordination during the summer. They also

collaborate with the historical society, and the Conservation Advisory Commission and send out newsletters to keep residents informed of activities, copies of which are always available at the town hall so newcomers can learn about the offerings.

Representative in U.S. Congress  
*Patrick Ryan (18th District)*.....202-225-5614

United States Senators  
*Kirsten Gillibrand* .....202-224-4451  
*Charles Schumer* .....202-224-6542

Governor  
*Kathy Hochul* .....518-474-8390



### KEY SERVICES

Animal Control.....	860-480-7568
Assessor (Tues., 9-3; Mon., Wed. & Thurs., 9-noon)	860-824-0707
Building Official (Wed., 9-noon)	860-309-7852
Fire Marshal (by appointment).....	860-364-0909
First Selectman (Mon.-Thurs., 9-noon)	860-824-0707 ext. 23
Litchfield Hills Probate District #24	860-824-7012
Registrars of Voters (Wed., 9-noon)	860-824-0707 ext. 18
Sanitarian (Tues., 8-10).....	860-489-0436 ext. 323
Social Services (Tues. & Thurs., 8:30-3, Wed., 12-3)	860-824-9855
Tax Collector (Mon. 9-3, Wed. 9-noon)	860-824-0707 ext. 13
Town Clerk (Mon.-Wed., 9-3; Thurs., 9-noon)	860-824-0707 ext. 10
Town Garage.....	860-824-7239
Town Treasurer (Mon.-Wed., 9-3)	860-824-0707 ext. 11
Transfer Station (Tues., Fri. & Sat., 8-3)	860-824-5819
Recreation Director	<a href="mailto:recreation@canaanfallsvillage.org">recreation@canaanfallsvillage.org</a>

### PUBLIC SAFETY

#### AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For emergencies.....	911
Falls Village Fire Department.....	860-824-5298
State Police Troop B, North Canaan	860-626-1820
Sanitarian (Torrington Area Health District)	860-489-0436 or <a href="http://www.tahd.org">www.tahd.org</a>
Sharon Hospital.....	860-364-4000

### OTHER SERVICES

D.M. Hunt Memorial Library.....	860-824-7424
Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society	860-824-8226
<a href="http://www.fallsvillage-canaanhistoricalsociety.org">www.fallsvillage-canaanhistoricalsociety.org</a>	
Falls Village Day Care Center.....	860-824-0882

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Explorations Charter School, Winsted	860-738-9070
Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Falls Village.....	860-824-5123
Lee H. Kellogg School.....	860-824-7791
Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Winsted.....	860-738-6300
Oliver Wolcott Technical School, Torrington.....	860-496-5300

## Meg Sher leads the way for The Hunt Library

BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

A quick look at the David M. Hunt Library website on May 4 shows what's coming up: The regular monthly used book sale. A book talk. An art show and reception. A talk on witches in Connecticut. A spring mushroom and ecology walk. An event, geared for families with young children, with the author of a children's book. The quarterly meeting of the Friends of the David M. Hunt Library.

That's a lot of action for a small library in the second-smallest town in the state.

Executive Director Meg Sher keeps all the balls in the air, with the help of Assistant Director Devon Jenkins, Library Assistant Paula Rodgers, and Rita Delgado, whose title is children's librarian but should probably be changed to "Force of Nature."

On a recent wet, dreary afternoon, the library was buzzing. There were new books to be processed and shelved. Iby Sadeh, a ninth-grader at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, sailed in to help shelve the new stuff.

Sher said, "She just called and asked if there was anything she could do."

Sadeh was crouched down like a baseball catcher in the stacks, making room for the new arrivals.

Asked why she volunteers, she was concise.

"I like the library," she said. "I like books"

All libraries hold fundraisers. Hunt's two major events, Augustfest and the Midwinter's Night in the Village, routinely draw crowds measured in the hundreds.

The library is in the process of developing a strategic plan with a consultant. Sher said the feedback from residents was strong.

The library is also one of six in the state picked to partner with Libraries Without Borders, who will provide data about underserved residents in the town, and help the staff "get services beyond the walls of the library."

Sher, who took the helm in October 2022 and has worked at the library since 2013, was enthused about



Photo by Patrick L. Sullivan

Meg Sher is the new executive director of the Hunt Library.

intergenerational activities at the library.

"People were talking about how nice it is to have kids running around."

Delgado's regular Story Time sessions with youngsters were held outside, in all kinds of weather, during the pandemic.

"She kept everybody sane," said Sher.

Sher was grateful for the

volunteers who step up every time.

"The bookies upstairs have been doing it for 20 years," she said, referring to the volunteers who handle the upstairs part of the monthly book sale.

On the above-mentioned wet, dreary afternoon, Sher arrived for work, on foot, holding a Mason jar of coffee.

It's an easy commute. The Shers live across the street.

### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Falls Village Congregational Church	860-824-0194
St. Joseph Church, Catholic, North Canaan	860-824-7078
Trinity Episcopal Church, Lime Rock	860-435-2627

### ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

First Selectman	
Henry Todd.....	860-824-0707 ext. 23
Representatives in Connecticut General Assembly	
Sen. Stephen Harding (30th District)	800-842-1421
Rep. Maria Horn (64th District)	800-842-8267

Representative in Congress (5th District)

Jahana Hayes.....	Waterbury 860-223-8412
	Washington 202-225-4476

United States Senators

Richard Blumenthal.....	Hartford 860-258-6940
	Washington 202-224-2823

Chris Murphy.....	Hartford 860-549-8463
	Washington 202-224-4041

Governor

Ned Lamont.....	800-406-1527
-----------------	--------------





PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Ibbly Sadeh, a ninth-grader at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, stacked the shelves at the Hunt Library in Falls Village.

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.....and	860-480-8625
Assessor ( <i>Tues., 1-4, Wed., 9-3</i> )	
.....	860-672-2703
Building/Demolition Official .....	860-672-0711
Emergency Management Director	
.....	860-672-6547
Finance Officer ( <i>Mon. &amp; Thur. 9-5, Tues. &amp; Wed. 8:30-12:30</i> ).....	860-672-2707
Fire Marshal .....	860-364-0909
First Selectman ( <i>Mon.-Thurs., 9-noon, 1-4</i> )	
.....	860-672-4959
Land Use Office ( <i>Tues. &amp; Thurs., 9-noon</i> )	
.....	860-672-4957
Municipal Agent/Social Services ( <i>By appointment</i> ).....	860-672-2603
Litchfield Hills Probate District #24	
.....	860-824-7012
Recreation Director	
.....	860-672-4071
Registrars of Voters	
..... (R) 860-307-7077 (D) 860-672-0279	
Tax Collector ( <i>Mon., 1-4, Wed., 9-noon &amp; 1-4</i> )	
.....	860-672-2705
Town Clerk ( <i>Mon.-Thurs., 9-noon &amp; 1-4</i> )	
.....	860-672-2709
Transfer Station ( <i>Tues., Thurs. &amp; Sat., 9-4:30; Sun., 8-11 a.m.</i> ).....	860-672-4079

### PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For emergencies.....	911
Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department	
.....	860-672-6526
State Police Troop B, <i>North Canaan</i>	
.....	860-626-1820
Sanitarian ( <i>Torrington Area Health District</i> )	
.....	860-489-0436 or www.tahd.org
Sharon Hospital .....	860-364-4000

### OTHER SERVICES

Cornwall Child Center.....	860-672-6989
Cornwall Historical Society	
.....	860-672-0505
.....	www.cornwallhistoricalsociety.org
Cornwall Library.....	860-672-6874

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Cornwall Consolidated School	
.....	860-672-6617
Explorations Charter School, <i>Winsted</i>	
.....	860-738-9070
Housatonic Valley Regional High School, <i>Falls Village</i> .....	860-824-5123
Northwestern Connecticut Community College, <i>Winsted</i> .....	860-738-6300
Oliver Wolcott Technical School, <i>Torrington</i>	
.....	860-496-5300

# Cornwall Library makes special moments

BY RILEY KLEIN

When the people of Cornwall gather for holidays and events, more often than not they meet at The Cornwall Library. Resting in the heart of the town of Cornwall, the elegant colonial structure has become a fixture for the community.

This functional barn-style building, which opened to the public in 2002, exudes distinctly Cornwalian features. The Cornwall Library hosts guest speakers, movie nights, exhibits from homegrown artists, readings from local authors, children's events and so much more.

The main area of the library is flooded with natural light and proudly displays the work of local artists year-round. Every two to three months the exhibits change, ushered in by a warm opening reception with wine, cheese, and a packed house looking to take in the uniquely Cornwall art.

The eastern wing of the building functions as a meeting room that is regularly used by town committees and guest speakers. Whether it is a presentation from

DEEP on bears in the area, an informative speech from the volunteer fire department, or a passionate discussion on the future of Sharon Hospital, the east wing of the library is the place to speak directly to the people of Cornwall.

The children's wing is housed in the north of the library and offers exciting programs and activities to the youth, such as the gingerbread house competition held in December. Candy carpenters were judged on their designs while attendees sang carols and dined on donuts and hot chocolate, brightening up the town in the dead of winter.

On top of events and activities, the library remains a center for knowledge and learning. The library's collection boasts over 28,000 items that can be easily searched in their digital catalog system.

The Cornwall Library serves as the hub of knowledge, entertainment, and connection for those seeking to embrace their community.



Photo by Riley Klein

Vivian Dirocco and Willow Berry, both age 10, were awarded first place by judges at the Gingerbread House Competition in Cornwall Library last December.

### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

St. Bridget's Church, <i>Catholic</i> .....	860-672-6515
St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church	
.....	860-672-6897
The Chapel of All Saints, <i>Episcopal</i>	
www.allsaintscornwall.org	
for information on where services are held	
United Church of Christ in Cornwall,	
<i>Congregational</i> .....	860-672-6840
Trinity Episcopal Church, <i>Lime Rock</i>	
.....	860-435-2627

### ELECTED OFFICERS

First Selectman	
Gordon M. Ridgway.....	860-672-4959
Representatives in	
Connecticut General Assembly	
Sen. Stephen Harding ( <i>30th District</i> )	
.....	800-842-1421
Rep. Maria Horn ( <i>64th District</i> )	
.....	800-842-8267

Representative in Congress (*5th District*)

Jahana Hayes.....	Waterbury 860-223-8412
.....	Washington 202-225-4476
United States Senators	
Richard Blumenthal.....	Hartford 860-258-6940
.....	Washington 202-224-2823
Chris Murphy.....	Hartford 860-549-8463
.....	Washington 202-224-4041
Governor	
Ned Lamont .....	800-406-1527





PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

DEEP Wildlife Specialist Kyle Testerman addressed a group at the Cornwall Library as the black bear population continues to grow in the Northwest Corner.

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### KEY SERVICES

Animal Control.....	860-927-4783
Assessor (Mon. & Wed., 9-noon & 1-4)	860-927-3160
Building Department (Mon.-Fri., 9-4)	860-927-4556
First Selectman (Mon.-Fri., 9-noon & 1-4)	860-927-4627
Fire Marshal (Tues. & Thurs., 3-4)	860-927-4556
Land Use.....	860-927-4625
Litchfield Hills Probate District #24	860-567-8065
Park & Recreation.....	860-927-1003
Probate Court.....	860-927-3729
Public Works (Mon.-Fri., 7:30-3:30)	860-927-3491
Registrars of Voters (Mon., 1-4)	860-927-1953
Resident Trooper.....	860-953-9949
Social Services/Municipal Agent (Mon., 10-1, Tues.-Fri., 9-4)	860-927-1586
Tax Collector (Mon., Tues., Wed., 9-noon & 1-4)	860-927-3269
Town Clerk (Mon.-Thurs., 9-4, Fri., 9-noon)	860-927-3433
Transfer Station (Sat. & Sun., 8-3:30)	860-927-4627
Treasurer (Tues. & Wed., 1-4, Fri., 9-noon & 1-4)	860-927-0109

### PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For emergencies.....	911
Kent Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance.....	860-927-3151
State Police Troop L, Litchfield	800-953-9949
Sanitarian (Torrington Area Health District)	860-489-0436 or www.tahd.org
Sharon Hospital.....	860-364-4000

### OTHER SERVICES

Kent Chamber of Commerce.....	860-592-0061
Kent Community House.....	860-927-4627
Kent Education Center & Nursery School.....	860-927-1294
Kent Historical Society	860-927-4587
.....	www.kenthistoricalsociety.org
Kent Memorial Library.....	860-927-3761

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Explorations Charter School, Winsted	860-738-9070
Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Falls Village.....	860-824-5123
Kent Center School.....	860-927-3537
Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Winsted.....	860-738-6300
Oliver Wolcott Technical School, Torrington	860-496-5300

# Kent Memorial Library engages

BY OLLIE GRATZINGER

For Director Sarah Marshall, the Kent Memorial Library is more than a closet full of books.

The library, managed by the Kent Library Association, aims to “provide a center for collaborative engagement, education and enrichment for the greater Kent community,” according to its mission statement. Marshall added that she sees it as a place that people can gather, learn and grow.

One way it seeks to accomplish this is through a broad range of programming. “We try to have something for everybody so that there is a reason that we exist in this town,” Marshall said.

Visitors can find events and activities for all ages, including an upcoming children’s “Library Camp” and a volunteer program for teens and tweens through which they can earn a \$25 gift card. For grown-ups, the library hosts lectures, knitting groups, cooking clubs, board game nights, film screenings and more.

Having just wrapped up

a slew of programming for children on spring break, Mitchell and her staff of eight are now focusing on the summer-long book sale starting May 26. The library’s annual car raffle is also underway; The winner of a 2000 Porsche Boxster S Convertible will be announced Oct. 29 outside the Kent Town Hall at the end of the annual Pumpkin Run. Tickets can be purchased at the library or book sale for \$25 each.

While the Kent Memorial Library is one of the top-ranked libraries for programming in Connecticut, it’s also one of the least funded. Only about one-third of its operating budget comes from taxpayers, Marshall said, and the rest comes from local fundraisers — the car raffle and book sale, for example.

“We are truly a community library, because we couldn’t do that without an incredible number of people,” she said. “We couldn’t keep our lights on without that.”



Photo by Ollie Gratzinger

Kate Zarin, director of youth services, with Sarah Marshall, library director.

And if lectures, knitting groups and cooking clubs aren’t for you, the library is open to suggestions.

“The most important thing for me is that people

understand that if there’s something that they would like us to do, we’d like to do that,” Marshall said. “We want to be doing the kind of work that people want.”

### PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Kent School.....	860-927-6000
Marvelwood School.....	860-927-0047
South Kent School.....	860-927-3539

### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

First Congregational Church.....	860-927-3335
Sacred Heart Church, Catholic	860-927-3003
St. Andrew’s Church, Episcopal	860-927-3486

Temple Shalom, New Milford

860-354-0273

### ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

First Selectman	
Jean Speck.....	860-927-4627
Representatives in Connecticut General Assembly	
Sen. Stephen Harding (30th District)	800-842-1421

Rep. Maria Horn (64th District)

800-842-8267

Representative in Congress (5th District)

Jahana Hayes..... Waterbury 860-223-8412

..... Washington 202-225-4476

United States Senators

Richard Blumenthal..... Hartford 860-258-6940

..... Washington 202-224-2823

Chris Murphy..... Hartford 860-549-8463

..... Washington 202-224-4041

Governor

Ned Lamont..... 800-406-1527





Troy DeBaise,  
Construction  
Supervisor from  
Kronenberger and  
Sons Restoration,  
outside the  
construction of  
the Hotchkiss  
Library of Sharon.

PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

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PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

A children's sing-a-long held on the upper level of the Douglas Library in North Canaan.

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## KEY SERVICES

Animal Control.....	860-480-7568
Assessor ( <i>Tues. &amp; Thurs., 9-noon &amp; 1-4</i> )	
.....	860-824-7313 ext. 108
Building Official.....	860-824-7313 ext. 191
Burning Official.....	860-307-3461
Fire Marshal.....	860-824-7313 ext. 193
Highway Dept.....	860-824-7313 ext. 117
North Canaan Housing Authority ( <i>Wangun Village</i> ).....	860-824-0521
Litchfield Hills Probate District #24	
.....	860-824-7012
Recreation Director.....	860-248-0970
Registrars of Voters.....	860-824-7313 ext. 111
Resident State Trooper	
.....	860-824-7313 ext. 112
First Selectman ( <i>Mon.-Thurs., 8-4</i> )	
.....	860-824-7313 ext. 101
Social Services ( <i>Mon.-Wed., 9-noon &amp; 1-4</i> )	
.....	860-824-7313 ext. 110
Tax Collector ( <i>Tues. &amp; Thurs., 9-noon &amp; 1-3</i> )	
.....	860-824-7313 x 109
Town Clerk ( <i>Mon.-Thurs., 8:30-noon and 1-3</i> ).....	860-824-7313 ext. 106
Transfer Station.....	860-824-7313 ext. 118
Treasurer.....	860-824-7313 ext. 105
Zoning Enforcement Officer	
.....	860-824-7313 ext. 192

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For emergencies.....	911
Canaan Fire Company.....	860-824-7366
North Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corps	
.....	860-824-7219
Resident State Trooper	
860-626-1820, 860-824-7313 ext. 112	
State Police Troop B, <i>North Canaan</i>	
.....	860-626-1820
Sanitarian ( <i>Torrington Area Health District</i> )	
.....	860-489-0436 or <a href="http://www.tahd.org">www.tahd.org</a>
Sharon Hospital.....	860-364-4000

## OTHER SERVICES

Canaan Child Care Center.....	860-824-0597
Douglas Library.....	860-824-7863
Canaan History Center.....	860-453-4435
Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry at Pilgrim House ( <i>Tues., 5-7; Thurs. noon-2</i> )	
.....	860-824-7232
Geer Village Senior Community	
.....	860-824-2600
Mountainside Treatment Center	
.....	860-824-1397
Northwestern Connecticut YMCA at Geer	
.....	860-499-3195

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Explorations Charter School, <i>Winsted</i>	
.....	860-738-9070

# The winding history of Douglas Library

BY KATHRYN BOUGHTON

Douglas Library reached its 200th anniversary in 2021, making it what is said to be Connecticut's fourth-oldest public library.

The little library has a rich history.

Its origins began with a bookish bachelor, William Douglas, who spent his evenings reading beside the fireside in his "Lower City" home. Lower City was located on Route 7 where Geer Village is found today and, until 1858, was the site of the town hall, a number of coaching taverns, as well as numerous homes.

Douglas died in 1821, aged only 48, but his short life was to have lasting impact on the town.

Among the provisions made for his estate was that "one moiety" (one-half) of his library be given to his friend, John Faxon, and the other to Lemam Church. He further ordered that his executor should buy for Seth Andrews "... as a small testimony of my respect and esteem... the works of Doctor Benjamin Franklin."

But his biggest bequest

was reserved for the town itself. He set aside \$800 (the equivalent of \$20,251 today) to establish a library. He decreed that \$400 would be for the purchase of books and \$400 for an endowment to build a future collection. The collection was to be housed in the old Town Hall, a building close to the Douglas home and one he knew well as his father, Benajah, was town clerk there for 29 years.

The 1823 regulations governing the institution stipulated that books could be loaned to people who paid 10 cents for membership. If two people wanted the same book, the right to "draw" the book went to the highest bidder. Douglas Library became a true public library only in 1895, when books were circulated for free.

Douglas's home, built in 1761, still exists—albeit much altered—beside the road leading into the Canaan Country Club, but the old Town Hall burned in 1915, some 57 years after it ceased its municipal function. The original town divided into



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

North Canaan and Canaan (Falls Village) in 1858 and the division created problems in deciding what to do about the library.

In 1830, a lawyer's opinion stated that the library, which had been given to all in the town, could not be broken up. The books were moved to a town hall built for North Canaan, but it was not until 1890 that the town was allowed to buy out Falls Village's interest.

Ironically, this transaction took place just as Douglas Library was to move to its first dedicated building.

In that year, Mrs. Edmund Lawrence erected a small brick building on Railroad Street. The library was soon squeezed in this location and town father Samuel Eddy negotiated the purchase of the late Hattie Peet's home on Main Street.

The Peet building was purchased through subscriptions from some of Canaan's most influential citizens and was given to the town with provisions that the municipality maintain it.

It has remained in that location from 1927 until today.

Housatonic Valley Regional High School, <i>Falls Village</i> .....	860-824-5123
North Canaan Elementary School	
.....	860-824-5149
Northwestern Connecticut Community College, <i>Winsted</i> .....	860-738-6300
Oliver Wolcott Technical School, <i>Torrington</i>	
.....	860-496-5300

## RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Canaan United Methodist.....	860-824-5534
North Canaan Congregational	
.....	860-824-7232

Promised Land Baptist.....	860-824-5685
Seventh-day Adventist.....	860-824-5830
St. Joseph Church, <i>Catholic</i> .....	860-824-7078

## ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

First Selectman	
<i>Charles P. Perotti</i> .....	860-824-7313 ext.103
Representatives in Connecticut General Assembly	
<i>Sen. Stephen Harding (30th District)</i>	800-842-1421
<i>Rep. Maria Horn (64th District)</i>	
.....	800-842-8267

Representative in Congress <i>Jahana Hayes (5th District)</i>	
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Governor <i>Ned Lamont</i>	
.....	800-406-1527



## KEY TOWN SERVICES

Animal Control Officer.....	860-488-6476
Assessor (Mon., Wed. & Fri., 9-4)	860-435-5176
Building Official (Mon.-Fri., 8-3)	860-435-5177
Fire Marshal.....	860-435-5196
First Selectman (Mon.-Fri., 8:30-4)	860-435-5170
Litchfield Hills Probate District #24	860-824-7012
Recreation Director.....	860-435-5186
Registrars of Voters (Wed., 9-noon)	860-435-5175
Senior Services (Mon.-Thurs., 9-11 at Town Grove)	860-435-5191
Social Services (Mon., Tues., Thurs, 9:30-4:30 p.m. and Wed., 9:30-3 p.m.)	860-435-5187
Tax Collector (Mon., Wed. & Fri., 9-4)	860-435-5189
Town Clerk (Mon.-Fri., 9-12:30, 1:30-3:30)	860-435-5182
Town Grove Recreation Building	860-435-5185
Transfer Station (Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 8-4; Sun., 9-1)	860-435-5178
Zoning Administrator (Mon.-Fri., 8-noon)	860-435-5190

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For emergencies.....	911
Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance	860-435-0058 or www.salisburyambulance.org
Lakeville Hose Co.....	860-435-9981
Resident State Trooper.....	860-435-2938
State Police Troop B, North Canaan	860-626-1820
Sanitarian (Torrington Area Health District)	860-489-0436 or www.tahtd.org
Sharon Hospital.....	860-364-4000

## OTHER SERVICES

Corner Food Pantry.....	860-435-9886
Housatonic Child Care Center	860-435-9694
Noble Horizons.....	860-435-9851
Salisbury Association.....	860-435-0566
Salisbury Family Services.....	860-435-5187
Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association	860-435-0816
Salisbury Historic District Commission	866-245-1276
www.historicsalisburyct.org	
Scoville Memorial Library.....	860-435-2838

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Explorations Charter School, Winsted	860-738-9070
Housatonic Valley Regional High School	
Falls Village.....	860-824-5123

# Scoville Memorial Library looks outward

BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

At Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury, the first in the United States open to the public free of charge, books are a pathway to the world — and the present issues of change that we face.

May Castleberry, formerly a full-time New Yorker who now lives in Lakeville with her husband, an art historian and member of the Trinity College faculty in Hartford, Conn., has come on board post-pandemic as the director of the library's adult programming. Castleberry still works as an editorial consultant at MoMA in New York City, where she produces artist's books for The Library Council of The Museum of Modern Art. Prior to that, she also worked for The Frances Mulhall Achilles Library at the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Castleberry's recent programming has reflected Salisbury's intellectual and political interests.

This past December, Peter Kaufman led a conversation and Q&A at the library with military-focused journalist and two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Thomas E. Ricks on his latest release, "Waging A Good War," an examination of the civil rights movement through the lens of the United States armed conflicts. That same month, Dr. Michael W. Klemens, scientific staff at The American Museum of Natural History in New York City, and Vivian Feist Garffein who served a multi-decade career with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection lead a discussion on Pulitzer Prize-winning author Annie Proulx's non-fiction work, "Fen, Vog & Swamp" detailing the destruction of wetlands as a result of the climate crisis.

Presentations at Scoville Library on environmental issues, social and civil rights, and anti-racist activism are popular topics in Salisbury



Photo by Alexander Wilburn

Salisbury's library was the first free library in the country.

that continually draw strong crowds for adult programming, Castleberry discussed. It would seem the community is inherently interested in topics that go

beyond local issues and touch on national and global conversations.

"These are the big issues we get big responses on," Castleberry said.

Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Winsted.....	860-738-6300
Oliver Wolcott Technical School Torrington.....	860-496-5300
Salisbury Central School.....	860-435-9871

## PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Indian Mountain School, Lakeville	860-435-0871
Salisbury School.....	860-435-5700
The Hotchkiss School, Lakeville	860-435-2591

## RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

All Saints of America Orthodox Church	860-824-1340
Congregational Church of Salisbury.....	860-435-2442
St. John's, Episcopal.....	860-435-9290
St. Mary's, Catholic.....	860-435-2659
Trinity Episcopal Church, Lime Rock	860-435-2627
Lakeville United Methodist.....	860-435-9496

## ELECTED OFFICERS

First Selectman	
Curtis Rand.....	860-435-5170

Representatives in Connecticut General Assembly	
Sen. Stephen Harding (30th District)	800-842-1421
Rep. Maria Horn (64th District)	800-842-8267
Representative in Congress	
Jahana Hayes (5th District)	Waterbury 860-223-8412
	Washington 202-225-4476
United States Senators	
Richard Blumenthal.....	Hartford 860-258-6940
	Washington 202-224-2823
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Pulitzer Prize-winning author of  
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## FEN, BOG & SWAMP

A Short History of  
Peatland Destruction  
and Its Role in  
the Climate Crisis

PHOTO SIMON  
& SCHUSTER

Two recent nonfiction books sparked popular discussion events at Scoville Memorial Library, typical of their adult programming.

## WAGING A GOOD WAR

A MILITARY HISTORY OF  
THE CIVIL RIGHTS  
MOVEMENT, 1954-1968

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## KEY SERVICES

Animal Control Officer.....	860-927-4783
Assessor (Mon., 9-noon, Wed. & Thurs., 9-noon & 1-4).....	860-364-0205
Building Inspector and Fire Marshal (Mon.-Fri., 7-noon; Sat., 8-9 a.m.)	
Inspector: Mon.-Fri., 8-9 a.m.).....	860-364-0909
First Selectman.....	860-364-5789
Land Use Administrator (Mon.-Fri., 7-noon).....	860-364-0909
Litchfield Hills Probate District #24.....	860-824-7012
Recreation Office.....	860-364-1400
Registrars of Voters (Tues., 10-noon).....	860-364-5514
Social Services (Tues., Wed. & Thurs., 8-6).....	860-364-1003
Tax Collector (Mon., Wed. & Thurs., 9-3:30).....	860-364-5402
Town Clerk (Mon.-Thurs., 8:30-noon & 1-4, Fri., 8:30-noon).....	860-364-5224
Transfer Station (Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 8-4; Sun., 9-1).....	860-435-5178

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For emergencies.....	911
Sharon Fire Department and Ambulance.....	860-364-5254
State Police Troop B, North Canaan.....	860-626-1820
Director of Health.....	860-364-0909
Sharon Hospital.....	860-364-4000

## OTHER SERVICES

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon.....	860-364-5041
Sharon Day Care Center.....	860-364-5182
Sharon Historical Society.....	www.sharonhist.org; 860-364-5688

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Explorations Charter School, Winsted.....	860-738-9070
Housatonic Valley Regional High School Warren Turnpike, Falls Village.....	860-824-5123
Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Winsted.....	860-738-6300
Oliver Wolcott Technical School, Torrington.....	860-496-5300
Sharon Center School.....	860-364-5153

## RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Christ Church Episcopal.....	860-364-5260
Congregation Beth David, Amenia, N.Y. ....	845-373-8264
Sharon Congregational Church.....	

# The Hotchkiss Library reopens this summer

BY LEILA HAWKEN

Expansion and restoration work near completion. The Hotchkiss Library anticipates a mid-summer opening when the community will be invited to explore the new addition, marvel at the modern features, and appreciate the preservation of the historic old library space.

“We kept the historic part and the addition blends well,” said Troy DeBaise, Construction Supervisor from Kronenberger and Sons Restoration, Middletown, Conn. During a conversation on Monday, May 1, DeBaise said of the project, “Everyone is satisfied and happy.” He was on-site to inspect the progress of installing HVAC systems, including a new Kohler generator.

These enhancements could not have been envisioned in the 1890s by the library’s original architect, Bruce Price, known widely for his use of stark geometry. He had designed the “cottages” of Tuxedo Park, N.Y., as well as several Manhattan skyscrapers. His daughter, Emily Price Post, would

gain fame as the foremost authority on etiquette.

Attentive to the beauty of Price’s design within the current \$2.5 million project to create easy access by all patrons, QA+M Architects of Farmington, Conn. were the perfect choice. They were experienced in preservation work in small libraries.

“We will be accessible to everyone in our community and we will offer programming serving all ages,” said the library’s Executive Director Gretchen Hachmeister during a visit on Friday, April 28, affording a “sneak peek” at the interior, accompanied by David Moore, Head of the library’s Building Committee.

“So many times, when a project seeks to add on to an old building, the old building gets overlooked. We were careful to build an addition that would enhance or complement the existing historic architectural gem on the Green,” Moore said.

“There will now be two main entrances,” Hachmeister said about the addition of the ADA-



Photo by Leila Hawken

Executive Director Gretchen Hachmeister and Building Committee chair David Moore at the current construction site.

compliant rear entrance complete with a new elevator. The front entrance opens into the main floor, as always, but the new circulation desk is moved to the rear of the main floor.

The Vertical Platform Lift elevator will provide access to the main floor or descend to the new community space at the basement level, Hachmeister said, enthusiastic about the range of possibilities for activities to interest both adults and children.

As an added advantage,

the community space will be available for use even outside of regular library hours. “It is all still in the planning stages,” Hachmeister said.

One of the north-facing spaces is a digital work room where patrons can use their own computers, Hachmeister said and Moore pointed out the nearly invisible interior storm windows, in that room and throughout, a solution chosen to retain the authenticity of the historic windows.

.....	860-364-5002
Saint Bernard’s Roman Catholic Church.....	860-364-5244
Sharon United Methodist Church.....	860-364-5634

## ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

First Selectman Brent Colley.....	860-364-5789
--------------------------------------	--------------

Representatives in Connecticut General Assembly Sen. Stephen Harding (30th District).....	800-842-1421
Rep. Maria Horn (64th District).....	800-842-8267

Representative in Congress Jahana Hayes (5th District).....	Waterbury 860-223-8412 Washington 202-225-4476
--	---

United States Senators Richard Blumenthal.....	Hartford 860-258-6940 Washington 202-224-2823
Chris Murphy.....	Hartford 860-549-8463 Washington 202-224-4041
Governor Ned Lamont.....	800-406-1527





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# 2023 Summer Day Trips

More destinations appear on page 32

## Action Wildlife Foundation Inc.

435 Torrington Road, Goshen, CT,  
[www.actionwildlife.com](http://www.actionwildlife.com)

Farm zoo with animals from around the world. Drive through or walk. Petting barn, hayrides. Wheelchair accessible. Check website for seasonal hours.

## Appalachian Trail

Rte. 41, Undermountain Road,  
Salisbury, CT, [www.appalachiantrail.org](http://www.appalachiantrail.org)  
Park your car and hike the beautiful trail, dawn to dusk. Be aware of ticks.

## Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum

25 Main St., Cooperstown, NY,  
888-425-5633, [www.baseballhall.org](http://www.baseballhall.org)  
Museum open 7 days a week. Gift shop.  
Hall of Fame Induction Weekend, July 21-24. Summer hours, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

## Beckley Furnace

140 Lower Road, East Canaan, CT,  
[www.beckleyfurnace.org](http://www.beckleyfurnace.org)  
Open Memorial Day through Columbus Day, docents on site Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Historic iron furnace on the Blackberry River; Connecticut's designated Industrial Monument.

## Berkshire Botanical Garden

Rtes 183 & 102, Stockbridge, MA, 413-298-3926, [www.berkshirebotanical.org](http://www.berkshirebotanical.org)  
Courses & lectures in plant anatomy, physiology, botany, landscape design. Annual Grow Show. Display gardens and visitor center open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Columbus Day. Gift Shop. Guided tours available.

## Berkshire Museum

39 South St., Pittsfield, MA,  
413-443-7171, [www.berkshirerailroad.org](http://www.berkshirerailroad.org)  
Art, natural history and history for the entire family. Touch tank and aquarium, special outings and events. Spark! Lab hands-on, creative laboratory. Gift shop. Open Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun., noon to 5 p.m. Members & children, under 3, free. Wheelchair accessible.

## Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum

Lenox Station, 10 Willow Creek Road,  
Lenox, MA, 413-637-2210,  
[berkshireretrains.org](http://berkshireretrains.org)  
Historic Lenox Station, ride the Yard Jitney or experience a cab ride with an engineer, and tours, May through early September. The Lenox Station is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. See website for updates and museum schedule.

## Canaan Railroad Days

North Canaan, CT, 860-824-8250,  
[www.canaanrailroaddays.com](http://www.canaanrailroaddays.com)  
54th Anniversary Canaan Railroad Days,  
July 12-21. Canaan Carnival.

## Catamount Aerial Adventure Park

2962 State Highway 23, Hillsdale, NY,  
518-325-3200, [www.catamounttrees.com](http://www.catamounttrees.com)  
Aerial forest adventure, ages 7 and up,  
with 12 courses of varying difficulty, 170  
elements, 50-plus zip lines. See website for  
information and seasonal hours.

## The Children's Museum

180 Mohegan Drive,  
West Hartford, CT, 860-231-2824,  
[www.thechildrensmuseumct.org](http://www.thechildrensmuseumct.org)  
The Children's Museum offers hands-on  
fun with science and nature for younger  
children and families. Exhibits and  
demonstrations, education classes and  
activities, a live animal wildlife sanctuary,  
state-of-the-art digital science dome, movies  
and planetarium shows.

## Columbia County Fair

Columbia County Agricultural Society,  
32 Church St., Chatham, NY,  
518-392-2121, [www.columbiafair.com](http://www.columbiafair.com)  
Aug. 30 through Sept. 4.

## Connecticut Museum of Mining & Mineral Science

31 Kent-Cornwall Rd. Kent, CT,  
860-927-0050, [www.ctamachinery.com](http://www.ctamachinery.com)  
Visit website for calendar of events. Exhibits  
of antique farm and industrial machinery.  
Live demos of machines. New for 2023  
displays of Geology and Paleontology of CT.  
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Sunday from May through October.

## Danbury Railway Museum

120 White St., Danbury, CT,  
203-778-8337, [danburyrail.org](http://danburyrail.org)  
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## Dinosaur State Park

400 West St., Rocky Hill, CT, 860-529-8423,  
[www.dinosaurstatepark.org](http://www.dinosaurstatepark.org)  
Registered National Landmark, open year  
round. Picnic area, 500 dinosaur tracks,  
trails, gift shop. Special events & activities,  
school programs. Park grounds open daily,  
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed Mondays. Fee  
for Exhibit Center only, children under 5  
are free.



Photo by Patrick L. Sullivan

## Dutchess County Fairgrounds

6550 Springbrook Ave., Rte. 9,  
Rhinebeck, NY, 845-876-4000,  
[www.dutchessfair.com](http://www.dutchessfair.com)  
Check website for the full calendar of events.

## Fireman's Association State of New York Museum of Firefighting

117 Harry Howard Ave., Hudson, NY,  
518-822-1875, [www.fasnnyfiremuseum.com](http://www.fasnnyfiremuseum.com)  
More than 300 years of firefighting history on  
display. Children 3 and under free. Wheelchair  
accessible. Tours available by request. Open  
daily from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Goshen Fair

Goshen Fairgrounds, Rte. 63, Goshen, CT,  
860-491-3655, [www.goshenfair.org](http://www.goshenfair.org)  
Adult spelling bee, fireworks, hay bale toss  
contest, skillet throw contest, pie eating  
contest, parade, rides, demonstrations, food,  
live music, tractor pulls, animal shows and  
judging. Sept. 2-4, Sat. and Sun. 8 a.m. to 9  
p.m. and Mon. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## Hancock Shaker Village

1843 W Housatonic St. (Rtes. 20 & 41),  
Pittsfield, MA, 413-443-0188,  
[www.hancockshakervillage.org](http://www.hancockshakervillage.org)  
Craft demonstrations, oval box making,  
exhibits, farm animals, and more. Children  
12 and under, free. Open Monday through  
Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Presidential Library and Museum

Rte. 9, Hyde Park, NY, 845-229-5320,  
[www.nps.gov/hofr](http://www.nps.gov/hofr)  
Tours, orientation film, New Deal museum  
store, cafe. Grounds are open from sunrise  
to sunset for walking paths. Tours are daily  
from 9 a.m. -5 p.m., except Thanksgiving,  
Christmas and New Year's Day.

## Howe Caverns

255 Discovery Drive, Howe's Cave, NY,  
518-296-8900, [www.howecaverns.com](http://www.howecaverns.com)  
Visit the limestone cave discovered by  
Lester Howe, 165 feet below ground. Open  
year-round with seasonal hours.

## Innisfree Garden

362 Tyrrel Road, Millbrook, NY, 845-677-8000,  
[www.innisfreegarden.org](http://www.innisfreegarden.org)  
185-acre public garden. Open five days a  
week through Oct. 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Closed Mondays and Tuesdays, except legal  
holidays.

## The Institute for American Indian Studies

38 Curtis Rd., Washington, CT. 860-868-0518,  
[www.iaismuseum.org](http://www.iaismuseum.org)  
Museum open Wednesday-Sunday 11 a.m.  
to 4 p.m. Exhibits and events about the  
culture and history of Native Americans.  
Indoor displays, including a Children's  
Discovery Room. Outdoors visitors may  
walk on nature trails and visit a Healing  
Plants garden. See website for special events  
and information about a summer camp for  
children.



# 2023 Summer Day Trips

More destinations appear on page 31

## Kent Falls Brewing

33 Camps Flat Rd. Kent, CT, 860-398-9645, [www.kentfallsbrewing.com](http://www.kentfallsbrewing.com)  
Farm brewery with a tasting room and tours. See website for special events. Call for hours of operation.

## Kent Falls State Park

Rte. 7, Kent, CT, [www.ct.gov/deep/kentfalls](http://www.ct.gov/deep/kentfalls)  
Five miles north of Kent center. 275 acres, 200-foot waterfall, hiking, beautiful picnic area and plenty of parking.

## Lake Compounce

185 Enterprise Dr., Bristol, CT, 860-583-3300, [www.lakecompounce.com](http://www.lakecompounce.com)  
Family-friendly fun theme park. Includes roller coaster and thrill rides, water rides, classic and kiddie rides and shows. Lake Compounce serves a wide variety of food options as well.

## Lebanon Valley Speedway

1746 Rte. 20, Lebanon, NY, 518-794-9606, [www.lebanonvalley.com](http://www.lebanonvalley.com)  
Dirt-sanctioned stock car racing. Muscle car drag racing, swap meets. See website for more information.

## Lime Rock Park

60 White Hollow Road (Rte. 112), Lakeville, CT, 860-435-5000, [www.limerock.com](http://www.limerock.com)  
2023 Auto racing season. Food concessions, bring your lawn chair and cooler. Call or go online for park information including camp sites and complete racing schedule.

## Magic Wings Butterfly

### Conservatory

281 Greenfield Road, South Deerfield, MA, 413-665-2805, [www.magicwings.com](http://www.magicwings.com)  
Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in summer. Features an 8,000-square-foot indoor conservatory home to nearly 4,000 exotic and domestic butterflies in a tropical environment.

## Mohawk Mountain State Forest

20 Mohawk Mountain Road, Goshen, CT, 860-491-3620, [www.portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Connecticut-State-Parks-and-Forests](http://www.portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Connecticut-State-Parks-and-Forests)  
Scenic overlook open from 8 a.m. to sunset. Forest areas open between April-November. Hiking, youth group camping, picnic area, and pond and stream fishing.

## Mystic Seaport

75 Greenmanville Ave., Rte. 27, Mystic, CT, 860-572-0711, or 888-973-2767 [www.mysticseaport.org](http://www.mysticseaport.org)  
Maritime Art Gallery, education & special kids programs, group tours, planetarium, classes, recreated 19th-century seafaring village with shops. Climb aboard an historic tall ship. Stop by the Mystic Aquarium while there. Open daily, year-round. Members and kids under 5, free. Discounts for seniors. Check website for upcoming events.

## New England Air Museum

Bradley International Airport, 36 Perimeter Road, Windsor Locks, CT, 860-623-3305, [www.neam.org](http://www.neam.org)  
Helicopters, DC-3 airliner, WWII aircraft, jet fighters, etc. One-day activities for kids during summer. Open daily, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Children 3 and under free. Discounts for seniors.

## Norman Rockwell Museum

9 Glendale Road, Stockbridge, MA, 413-298-4100, [www.nrm.org](http://www.nrm.org)  
Largest collection of Norman Rockwell art including original Saturday Evening Post covers, gift shop, tours, cafe, beautiful ground for walking and having a picnic. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Wednesdays. Free parking, wheelchair accessible. 5 and under, free.

## Old Sturbridge Village

1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA, 800-733-1830, [www.osv.org](http://www.osv.org)  
A recreated village and outdoor history museum that brings to life the world of ordinary men and women in early 19th-century rural New England. Wheelchair accessible, free parking, children under 3, free; senior discount. New England's largest military enactment, Red Coats and Rebels, Aug. 5-6.

## Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy

55 Duck Pond Rd., Litchfield, CT, 860-567-2062, [www.ripleyconservancy.org](http://www.ripleyconservancy.org)  
Largest collection of birds in North America. Guided tours and field trips available (by appointment). Open May through November, Friday - Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. See website for other activities.

## Sharon Audubon Center

325 Cornwall Bridge Road (Rte. 4), Sharon, CT, 860-364-0520, [www.sharon.audubon.org](http://www.sharon.audubon.org)  
Eleven miles of woodland and meadow hiking trails. Pond, exhibits, gift shop, visitor center. Open year-round.

## Eric Sloane Museum

### and Kent Iron Furnace

31 Kent-Cornwall Road, Kent, CT, 860-927-3849  
Reconstructed studio and artwork of Eric Sloane. Antique machinery, rock, gem and mining exhibits. Gift shop. Fri.-Sun., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Stormville Airport Antique Show and Flea Market

428 Rte. 216, Stormville, NY, 845-221-6561, [www.stormvilleairportfleamarket.com](http://www.stormvilleairportfleamarket.com)  
More than 600 exhibitors, food court. See website for 2023 show dates. Free admission and parking, no pets. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine.

## Taconic State Park

253 Rte. 344, Copake Falls, NY, 518-329-3993, [www.parks.ny.gov](http://www.parks.ny.gov)  
Hiking trails, swimming, camping, cabins, nature center, kayaking, canoeing, fishing. 25 miles of trails. Call for schedule.

## Tapping Reeve House and Litchfield Law School

82 South St., Litchfield, 860-567-4501, [www.litchfieldhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.litchfieldhistoricalsociety.org)  
Museum includes Tapping Reeve House, Litchfield Law School and Tapping Reeve Meadow. Open Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Topsmead State Forest

Buell Road, Litchfield, CT, 860-424-4070, [www.portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Connecticut-State-Parks-and-Forests](http://www.portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Connecticut-State-Parks-and-Forests)  
Activities include birding, hiking, cottage tours, cross-country skiing. Recreation areas open 8 a.m. to sunset year round. Pets welcomed on a leash.

## Trevor Zoo

Millbrook School, 282 Millbrook School Road, Millbrook, NY, 845-677-3704, [www.trevorzoo.org](http://www.trevorzoo.org)  
180 animals, exotic species. Open daily, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Val-Kill

Rte. 9G, Hyde Park, NY, 845-229-9115, 845-229-9422, [www.nps.gov/elro](http://www.nps.gov/elro)  
The private retreat of Eleanor Roosevelt. Only National Historic Site dedicated to an American first lady. Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through October. Tours of grounds, gardens and cottage. Age 15 and younger, free.

## Vanderbilt Mansion

Rte. 9, Hyde Park, NY, 845-229-7770, [www.nps.gov/vama](http://www.nps.gov/vama)  
Gilded Age country home, grounds with walking paths. Seasonal schedule of tours every day. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.



Photo by Elias Sorich



**Salisbury Association  
Save the Summer Dates**

May 27 – Annual Bird Walk  
Schlesinger Bird Preserve – 8 AM

June 10 – Exhibit Reception  
“The Land We Protect” – 5 PM

July 4 – Independence Day  
Celebration, Town Grove – Noon

July 15 – Exhibit Reception  
“What’s in a Name?” – 5 PM

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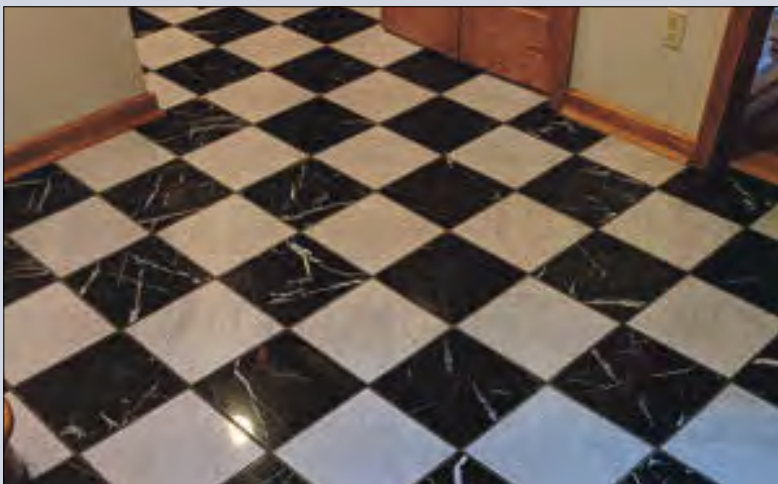
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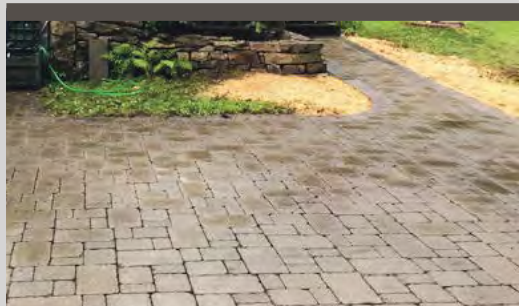
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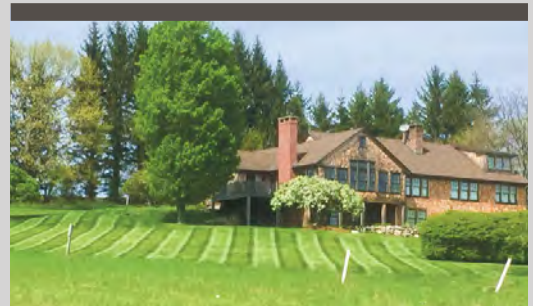
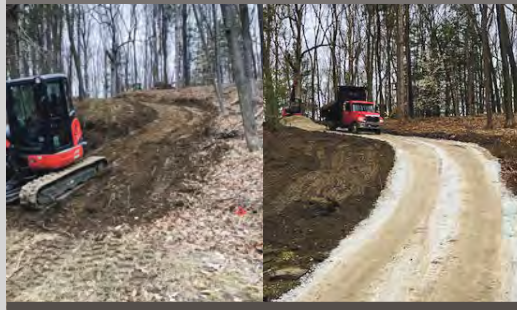
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860.671.1557



**Brian Hastings**  
860.816.9302



**Marjorie Hewett**  
917.882.1880



**Cynthia Hochswender**  
860.672.5117



**David Hurlburt**  
860.480.5975



**Kristine Jennings**  
860.387.8835



**Daniel Kramp**  
646.549.0258



**Dottie MacRitchie**  
860.248.5752



**Lenore Mallett**  
203.209.1777



**David Mallison**  
860.459.5273



**Brenda McLean**  
860.435.6700



**Tom Metzger**  
860.921.8345



**Cagney Morrison**  
646.765.3138



**Janet Nelson**  
860.488.7151



**Alan O'Doherty**  
917.993.3483



**Steve Pener**  
203.470.0393



**Judy Perkins**  
860.248.0722



**Thomas Pillar**  
646.330.8131



**Susan Rand**  
860.307.0393



**Howard Schissler**  
917.304.0871



**Mary Taylor**  
860.318.6506



**MC Taylor**  
860.248.9804



**Patricia Thurman**  
413.717.0358



**Rebecca Ward**  
860.309.3464



**Ethan Watt**  
860.671.1936

KENT 860.927.1141 | LITCHFIELD 860.567.0806 | SALISBURY 860.435.2400 | WASHINGTON DEPOT 860.868.6600

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