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# The Lakeville Journal

TriCornerNews.com

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGEVINE FARM

A baling machine secures a customer's tree at Angevine Farm in Warren.

## Christmas tree shortage leaves farms stumped

By Debra A. Aleksinas

Christmas tree farms in the region are feeling the pinch this year with rising operational costs and a shortage of trees to sell due to loss of crops from recent droughts, summer floods, a late-May freeze and destructive deer.

That combination of factors means that Northwest Corner families seeking that perfect Christmas tree this season may have to look harder to find it and spend a little more for it than in past years, both on farms and on tree lots.

Large trees, particularly those in the 7- to 10-foot range, which were all the rage with customers during the height of the pandemic, are particularly in short supply, said growers.

"It's due to climate change. The reason there are not enough trees

is that we have had so many losses from the various weather insults on our trees," said Richard Cowles, an agricultural scientist with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES), who also runs a small family tree farm.

The rising operational costs to farmers like himself to install irrigation and draining systems to deal with severe weather events, coupled with rising costs of fertilizer and loss of crop, has resulted in higher prices, said Cowles. "It's a matter of supply and demand."

The average retail price for a harvest-your-own Christmas tree in Litchfield County ranges from \$70 to about \$90, and about \$120 in Fairfield County, according to Lisa Angevine-Bergs, executive director of the Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers' Association (CCTGA) and owner of Angevine Farm in

Warren, one of Litchfield County's oldest family Christmas tree farms, established in 1868.

This past May's frost, she said, devastated 300 to 400 concolor fir trees at her farm, which sprouted new buds only to have them freeze, causing young seedlings to die and older trees to become deformed.

She estimated that since 2016, more than 30,000 trees were lost to flooding and drought conditions. "We won't know how many were actually lost until next year when the trees bud or die," said Angevine-Bergs, noting that trees in higher elevations were hit the hardest.

Then there were this summer's torrential rains, which "created havoc with the crop," due to root rot, and devastation from deer, which damaged about 1,000 mature 7-to-8-foot trees that would have otherwise been available for

See TREES, Page A10

## Cornwall Friendsgiving

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — Park and Recreation hosted a potluck Friendsgiving at Cornwall Consolidated School on Saturday, Nov. 18.

Friends and neighbors gathered in the cafeteria for a spread of all the classic Turkey Day dishes, prepared by attendees.

After the meal, the gathering moved to the gymnasium to kick back and watch The Super Mario Bros. Movie.

Director Jennifer Markow said she and the Park and Rec commission members are thankful for "having a community that comes together."



PHOTO BY MICHELLE SHIPP

Friends and neighbors shared a potluck spread at CCS with all the Thanksgiving staples.



## Uniting as Mountaineers

Now in its third year, the Region One Middle School Athletics and Activities program has brought teens from across the region together. Read more on Page A9.

CELEBRATING 127 YEARS of Fostering the Free Flow of Information and Opinion

## Interfaith vigil calls for peace in Middle East

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Speakers at a vigil held at the Salisbury Congregational Church Tuesday, Nov. 14 were unequivocal in their support for Israel in its war with Hamas.

The speakers also decried what one described as "an incredible outbreak of anti-Semitism" in the U.S. following the outbreak of war when the Palestinian Hamas organization attacked Israel on Oct. 7.

Betsy Beck, the church moderator, opened with a disclaimer. She said the church has traditionally been used for public gatherings and meetings and the church neither endorses nor opposes any point of view expressed



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

John Haddon, rabbi at the Congregation Beth David synagogue in Amenia, spoke at the Nov. 14 vigil in Salisbury.

See VIGIL, Page A10

## Migrants arrive to network of support

By Heather Bellow  
Berkshire Eagle

GREAT BARRINGTON — Amid the state's inability to provide shelter to all who seek it, 84 migrants have arrived at hotels in Great Barrington and Pittsfield to stay until they settle either in the Berkshires or elsewhere.

Along with the state — through its Right to Shelter emergency family program — a slew of nonprofits, agencies and community leaders are working hard to support the newcomers with necessities that include navigating medical care

and legal assistance as well as providing translators.

For instance, the state has contracted with restaurants and food providers to make sure the new families have three meals delivered every day, said Pittsfield Mayor Linda Tyer, who has convened a "Community Care Team" composed of city and state officials and nonprofit leaders.

"There's this entire ecosystem of care that's happening primarily by local partners, which honestly, I am so in awe of and inspired by the way that we have come together," Tyer said in a phone interview.

Most of the newcomers are from Haiti. Around 33 people arrived on Oct. 27 in Great Barrington, then the rest to Pittsfield the following week.

"They need absolutely everything," said Gwendolyn VanSant, Founder and CEO of Multicultural BRIDGE, whose staff and volunteers have helped them in a variety of ways.

One organizer said that this influx isn't really so unusual. While it may appear dramatic because it was through the state's shelter program, it isn't out of the ordinary to have people, including migrants — either individually or in groups — arrive here.

"People come in every day who are vulnerable and we take care of them," said Deborah Phillips, director of Southern Berkshire Rural

See MIGRANTS, Page A10



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# Regional

## In The Journal this week

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## Online This Week

### Salisbury appoints committee members

The Board of Selectmen made the following appointments at the board's regular monthly meeting Monday, Nov. 6. Learn more on [www.tricornernews.com](http://www.tricornernews.com)

## 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.

### Head-on Route 7 crash

On Sunday, Nov. 12, at approximately 3:45 p.m., Olivia Montanaro, 21, of Darien, was traveling southbound on Route 7 in North Canaan in a 2018 Jeep Wrangler when she drove across the double yellow line and struck a northbound vehicle head-on. The second vehicle, a 2021 GMC Sierra, was driven by Kirk Harrington, 56, of West Cornwall. Harrington was transported to Waterbury Hospital for minor injuries. His passenger, Tadgha Harrington, 6, with a child restraint protection system, was not injured in the collision. Montanaro was transported to Sharon Hospital with minor injuries, and was given an infraction

for failure to maintain lane. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

### Pickup evades accident

On Wednesday, Nov. 15, at approximately 7:30 p.m., Tamara Newell, 33, of Canaan, was traveling west on Route 44 in North Canaan prior to Allyndale Road. Another vehicle, a pickup truck that was attempting a left hand turn from Allyndale Road onto Route 44, pulled in front of Newell's 2005 Ford F150. Newell attempted to avoid the pickup but was unable to and struck the driver's side rear of the turning truck. No injuries were reported and no tow truck was needed. The operator of the turning pickup evaded the scene, continuing to travel east on Route 44 toward Norfolk. No registration plate was observed and the case is under investigation. If any information is known, Troop B requests a contact at 860-626-1820.

### Correcting Errors

We correct errors in news stories when they are promptly called to our attention. We correct factual and/or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning.

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 [johnc@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:johnc@lakevillejournal.com).

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

Check them out inside.

- Ocean State Job Lot
- The Lakeville Journal Co.



### DID YOU KNOW ....?

The HVRHS Academic Bowl Team won CT Geography Championship 3 times, finished first in CT 3-2-1 competition 10 times, and once ranked 7th in the country.

Read more at: [21stcenturyfund.net](http://21stcenturyfund.net)

# Adopt A Tree

Dear Friends,

We hope this letter finds everyone happy, healthy, and enjoying the crisp Fall we are having. It is hard to imagine that Christmas is right around the corner, but it is!

This year will mark the 20th anniversary of our Adopt A Tree Program, where the beautiful main streets of Salisbury, Lakeville, Sharon, and Canaan are lit with Christmas Trees sponsored by our Chamber members, sponsors, and residents of these towns. Each year at this time, The Tri-State Chamber of Commerce appeals to the community for support for this annual holiday tradition that brings smiles to all those who pass through our quaint town. Smiles were certainly aplenty last year with the return of the Parade of Lights with 29 participants in the parade and a packed Green at the White Hart listening to music by the Salisbury Band and caroling by the cast of Elf from the Sharon Playhouse all leading up to the lighting of the Christmas Tree by Santa himself!

As you are all aware, the setup of these trees requires many hours of volunteer time and some paid expertise in the fields of horticulture and electricity. The Tri-State Chamber, along with the Salisbury Garden Center and the Salisbury Town Crew, will stake, place, and tie the trees and string the lights. We will leave one extension cord at the base of each tree, and it will be the home and or business owner's responsibility to plug the tree into an outlet. It will also be the home and or business owner's responsibility to purchase additional extension cords if necessary. For those businesses in Salisbury and Lakeville with cords that will cross the sidewalk, we will have an electrician come to your locations and keep the cords off the ground and plugged in.

Please consider adopting one of these happy little trees, as none of this is possible without your support. You can also purchase a star to commemorate a loved one if you wish.

Trees may be purchased on our website [tristatechamber.com](http://tristatechamber.com).

Questions? Please reach out to Lisa Duntz at 860-671-0136 or email [treasurer@tristatechamber.com](mailto:treasurer@tristatechamber.com).

**Adopt a Tree for \$65.00 • Add a Star for \$20.00**

Trees will be put up on Monday, November 27th, 2023.

With Many Thanks,

The Tri-State Chamber of Commerce-Board of Directors

# Letter from the farm: garlic planting

By Janna Siller

FALLS VILLAGE — Colder weather, overnight frosts and shortening days mean that most production on local farms slows considerably in November.

Tree fruit and most vegetables had better all be harvested and stored away; hay and grain for animal feed is stocked up in barns; hens lay fewer eggs; meat is in the freezer; and farmers set to the long-neglected tasks of fixing broken things, cleaning up the fields, analyzing sales, and perhaps getting a breath of rest.

There is one fresh beginning around the Thanksgiving season, however, for those of us growing vegetables: garlic. Most veggie plantings get scuttled into the ground at a breakneck pace in April and May; they take off immediately, rapidly doubling in size under the long hours of sunlight, and needing constant watering and weeding. But garlic gets its start with the unhurried energy of fall.

There are two types of garlic: hard neck and soft neck. Soft neck is the kind you sometimes get at the grocery store, with tiny cloves: It grows in warmer climates and can be braided, as you may have seen as decorations in Italian restaurants. Hard neck garlic is better adapted to grow in our region. It likes to go through a period of cold weather; it is the one vegetable that we plant during the dark, liminal moments of autumn.

Most growers plant garlic from last year's stock. It doesn't grow well from seed, but each clove will grow a nice head, genetically identical to the one it came from. At Adamah Farm, at the Isabella Freedman Jewish Re-



PHOTO BY JANNA SILLER

### November garlic planting garlic at Adamah Farm.

treat Center in Falls Village, we set aside one-seventh of the heads we harvest each July. We select the largest heads for replanting, so that the genetics of our crop have potential for great yields.

On planting morning, we gather the full farm community together and pop apart the garlic heads, filling our individual buckets with single cloves, warming our icy fingers every so often with breath and pockets, having chosen dexterity and the pleasure of feeling flaky garlic skins and smooth cloves against our fingers, to the awkwardness of trying to do the work in gloves.

In the low angle light and long shadows of late October,

we'd prepared the garlic beds meticulously: They have been forked and covered in our farm-made compost.

Now, in November, we begin the planting together. With each clove we press into the soil, we offer blessings and intentions: for peace, for a healing planet, for living in harmony across difference, for abundance.

We then help a neighboring hay farmer clean out his

barn, gathering bits that have fallen from his bales. Back at Adamah, we mulch the whole garlic planting with his hay. This will keep the soil temperature and moisture more even over the winter, and prevent weeds from taking root.

In the spring, each clove will send up the first green shoots in our fields. Over the summer, it will grow into a head. In June the plants will produce garlic scapes, the flower stalks of the plants which, left attached, will inhibit the head from sizing up. They also happen to be delicious, making them a perfect bonus harvest.

In mid-July, the garlic will be ready for harvest. We will sell and eat most, saving one-seventh to be planted when the temperatures and light and farmers next fall into that November rhythm.

Janna Siller is the Farm Director at Adamah Farm.

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The Lakeville Journal | MILLERTON NEWS

## PUBLISH YOUR ENGAGEMENT, WEDDING, BIRTH OR ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENT

The fee for an announcement in The Lakeville Journal or The Millerton News is \$50 for text with a picture, \$25 for text without a picture. Maximum length is 125 words.

Text and a reproducible photograph are due two weeks before the desired publication date. If sending a photograph (.jpg or .tiff file), please include the names of everyone in the picture in the body of your email.

For more information, or to submit your paid announcement, please email [publisher@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:publisher@lakevillejournal.com).

## LEGAL NOTICES

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF SHARON NOVEMBER 29, 2023

The Legal Voters of the Town of Sharon and those qualified to vote in meetings of said Town are hereby warned and notified that a Special Town Meeting, of said Town will be held at the Sharon Center School on November 29th, 2023 at 6:30 PM.

The meeting is to consider the following purpose and question, which will be removed from Town Meeting consideration to a referendum.

To discuss the following question and to submit same to a referendum to be conducted pursuant to a proper petition duly filed per the provisions of Chapter 90 of the Connecticut General Statutes: "Shall the Town of Sharon voluntarily relinquish community recreational property at the Sharon Center School playground extension for the purpose of leasing that land to a third party for the installation of a 400+ solar panel array?" Thereafter, the Town Meeting will be adjourned and the foregoing question will be voted on at a referendum from 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m. at the Sharon Town Hall on Friday, January 5th, 2024, the date set for such vote by the Board of Selectmen. Dated this 14th of November, 2023.

Brent M. Colley  
First Selectman  
Dale C. Jones  
Selectman  
Casey T. Flanagan  
Selectman  
11-23-23

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF EDWARD J. CALANDRO AKA EDWARD CALANDRO Late of Falls Village (23-00292)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated November 9, 2023, 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:  
Carolyn M. Calandro  
c/o Linda M Patz  
Drury, Patz & Citrin LLP  
7 Church Street, P.O. Box 101  
Canaan, CT 06018  
Beth L. McGuire  
Chief Clerk  
11-23-23

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF RICHARD V. MUNCH Late of Canaan (23-00425)

The Hon. Jordan M.

Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated November 9, 2023, 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:  
Elizabeth J. Munch  
c/o Ellen C Marino  
Ellen C Marino  
596 Main Street  
Winsted, CT 06098  
Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
11-23-23

### TOWN OF CANAAN PUBLIC NOTICE STEVEN DUTTON VARIANCE

The Zoning Board of Appeals for the Town of Canaan (Falls Village) will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, November 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Falls Village, to hear an application for variance of Section 3.2, minimum rear yard setback, of the Zoning Regulations for Steven Dutton, 64 Route 7 N. A copy of the application is available at the Town Hall.

Richard Heinz  
Chairman  
11-16-23  
11-23-23

# Our Towns

## North Canaan welcomes new Board of Selectmen lineup

By Riley Klein

**NORTH CANAAN** — The 2023 election ushered in a new administration in North Canaan.

Outgoing First Selectman Charles Perotti vacated his seat for newly elected First Selectman Brian Ohler on Tuesday, Nov. 14. During the same meeting, outgoing Third Selectman Christian Allyn was replaced by incoming Third Selectman Jesse Bunce.

Perotti and Allyn were both elected to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) in 2017 and served three terms. Attendees of the meeting shared tales of their tenure during public comment at the start of the Nov. 14 meeting.

Tom Zetterstrom praised Allyn for leading the charge against knotweed in North Canaan.

“While you can say Salisbury has a knotweed problem, you can’t say that about Canaan. Canaan solved its knotweed problem in large part to the administration’s support, the town crew, and Christian Allyn,” said Zetterstrom.

Ohler said to Allyn, “Your commitment to the town, your passion to nonprofits, to a number of things throughout the tri-state area, it’s clear that your name is associated with a lot of good deeds.”

Ohler said to Allyn, “Your commitment to the town, your passion to nonprofits, to a number of things throughout the tri-state area, it’s clear that your name is associated with a lot of good deeds.”

Second Selectman Craig Whiting, who was reelected to a fourth term on Tuesday, Nov. 7, thanked Perotti for his guidance and leadership over the past six years. Whiting and Perotti were running mates when they joined the board in 2017 and had previously served together in the Canaan Fire Company for nearly two decades.

“Always supportive and I always knew that when I called you, you would first-off answer the phone and then be receptive,” Whiting said to Perotti. “With Brian as First Selectman now, this will be the first time not having you to call. You might get some calls anyway. But I appreciate everything.”

“It’s been a pleasure,” said Perotti.

The new administration then began the regularly scheduled BOS meeting agenda and approved a pro-



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Newly elected First Selectman Brian Ohler, left, and Third Selectman Jesse Bunce, at right, joined Second Selectman Craig Whiting on the Board in North Canaan, Tuesday, Nov. 14.

posed project at North Canaan Elementary School to update the heating and air conditioning system using ductless mini-split units.

“This is just simply a formality to put this project into motion,” said Ohler. “It’s in its infancy.”

Schematics for the HVAC project will be drafted for the new system and reviewed at a later BOS meeting.

North Canaan’s Parade of Lights will be held on Sunday, Nov. 26. Participants will gather behind Stop and Shop

at 5:30 p.m., and the parade will march to Lawrence Field.

“At the end of the parade, everyone’s invited back to the pavilion, where Santa will be. Music will be provided by the Hot Cocoa Band,” said Ohler.

At the end of the meeting, Ohler discussed how the new administration plans to improve public engagement with the BOS.

“Starting with the agenda next month...we start every meeting with a feel-good story,” Ohler said. “We want to hear the feel-good stories

from the community, and that really sets the tone for a positive meeting. It encourages that engagement, that feedback.”

He said the new board will strive for transparency and thoroughly identify funding sources for town projects.

He added: “We have our own vision now and it’s going to take a little bit to implement that. But I’m confident, with Craig and Jesse, we can work together and we can be the team that North Canaan needs.”



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

A fading sign for the North Greenway in North Canaan is adjacent to North Canaan Elementary School and near the town pool.

## Group focuses on bringing Greenway back to life

By John Coston

**NORTH CANAAN** — The Great Falls Brewing Co. on West Main Street was the setting Thursday, Nov. 9, for a discussion about sprucing up the town’s greenways that have suffered from a lack of maintenance and use over the years.

Mike Reagan of North Canaan organized the get-together to gauge interest in re-viving the trails that date to the 1990s when community leaders and citizens created the small network of greenways.

Reagan focused the discussion on the North Greenway, which opened in 1998 and is located near Whiting Drive, north of the town pool and North Canaan Elementary School (NCES).

The group of about a dozen people decided to hold a fall cleanup on the North Greenway, but the plan changed after Rich Forman took advantage of recent warm weather to get a head start. So, the first Saturday in December, Dec. 2, at 11 a.m. will commemorate a trail re-opening.

The group envisions a second spring spruce-up day around Earth Day in April.

The North Canaan Greenway network had its start in 1990 with discussions at the state Department of Transportation (DOT) level and with the Inland Wetlands Commission about a parcel of land on North Elm Street.

In the spring of 1991, a

Greenway Committee was formed, which was followed by the creation of the South Greenway that runs from the north side of Route 44 near McDonald’s northeasterly to North Elm Street across from the Bitterman Center.

A third Greenway — Camp Brook Trail — was once operational and was the site of a disc golf course, but it is now off-limits because the town, is DOT-owned.

In 2019, a singles tournament sanctioned by the Professional Disc Golf Association was held at Camp Brook, drawing 72 competitors.

The Camp Brook Trail opened in 1995. The state has been trying to sell the land at auction. A recent auction ended on Oct. 11 without a submitted bid for the 27.45-acre parcel. The state lists the property with an asking price at \$200,000. It has frontage along Route 7 and Granger Lane.

Reagan proposed that the group put its focus on getting something started again with the North Greenway near NCES, proposing that it could become an educational resource for teachers.

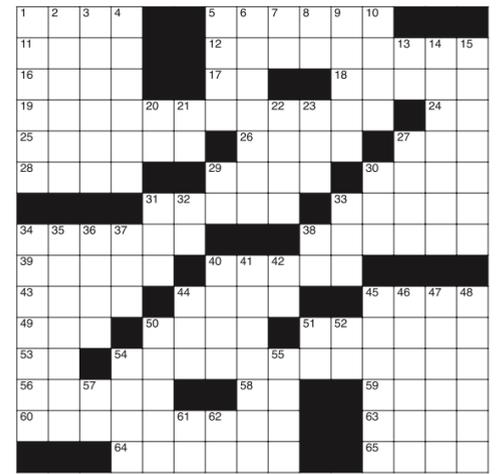
The discussion also centered on whether local Boy Scouts could be enlisted to help in some way in restoring the North Greenway to draw people back.

“Most people don’t know it’s there,” he said. “Let’s just get something done in this town.” Reagan said he was pleased about the turnout.

## Brain Teasers

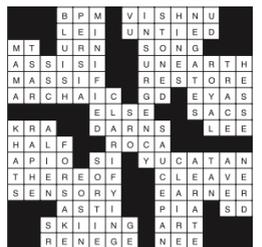
### CLUES ACROSS

1. Nocturnal S. American rodent
5. Requesting
11. Give temporarily
12. Happiness
16. Military branch
17. —, denotes past
18. Middle Eastern city
19. Air hostesses
24. Partner to Pa
25. Percussion instrument
26. Popular computers
27. Decrease light
28. Valley in the Osh Region
29. “To \_ his own”
30. Absence of difficulty
31. Notice announcing intended marriage read out in church
33. Trims by cutting
34. Impact
38. Military member
39. A French river
40. Member of prehistoric people in Mexico
43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
44. Musician Clapton
45. Greek sophist
49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
50. Narrow valley
51. A way to disentangle
53. Indicates not an issue (abbr.)
54. Recommending
56. Genus of legumes
58. Friend to Larry and Curly
59. Off-Broadway theater award
60. Fencers
63. Small Eurasian deer
64. Denoting passerine birds
65. Separate by category



14. Japanese three-stringed lute
15. Type of cat
20. Cools your home
21. The ancient Egyptian sun god
22. Pouches
23. Trigraph
27. Form of Persian spoken in Afghanistan
29. \_ route
30. Body part
31. Bridge building degree
32. Indicates position
33. Political action committee
34. Tasty snack
35. Part of a quadruped
36. Locate
37. Pitching statistic
38. Of I
40. City in Utah
41. Football players in the trenches
42. Hammer is one
44. A “nightmarish” street
45. Performers
46. Slang for cut or scrape
47. More breathable
48. Most slick
50. Provokes
51. Home to college’s Flyers
52. Sodium
54. Large fish of mackerel family
55. Zero
57. \_ and behold
61. The Palmetto State
62. Popular Tom Cruise movie franchise (abbr.)

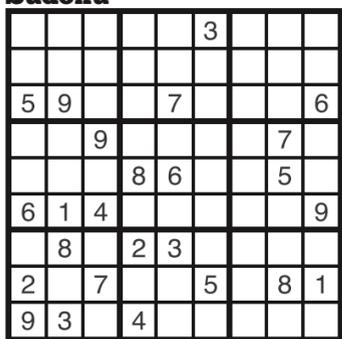
### Nov. 16 Solution



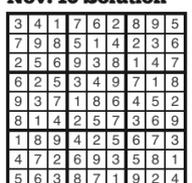
### CLUES DOWN

1. Colorless fluid part of blood
2. Of a main artery
3. Photographic equipment
4. Confirms a point
5. Developed over time
6. Not the leader
7. \_ Lang (country singer)
8. Adults need one
9. Nests of pheasants
10. Antelopes
13. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)

### Sudoku



### Nov. 16 Solution



Level: Intermediate

## ALL FALLS VILLAGE

stay connected

this advertisement, courtesy of plantin' seeds

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# Our Towns

## Abstract art at Souterrain Gallery

By Leila Hawken

WEST CORNWALL — Promising an exhibit of creative output spanning 20 years, Mount Washington artist Elizabeth Kasevich will be featured in a solo exhibit at the Souterrain Gallery. An opening reception will be held Saturday, Nov. 25, from 3 to 5 p.m.

“My paintings are abstracts, mostly painted in water-based oils on canvas,” Kasevich said of her exhibit, adding that she will also show a couple of acrylic drip paintings on unprimed canvas. And she has selected some tissue-paper collages, and one that she titled “Amended Photograph.”

“I do not consciously start by painting a naturalistic landscape. I usually follow my unconscious impulses,” Kasevich explained about two works that eventually became representations of Bash Bish Falls and Lakeville Lake. Both works are included in the exhibit.

Noting that she has been painting for the past 30 years, she has, however, been involved in art since the age of 8.

“I remember having my first painting lessons in the Scoville Memorial Library with local artist George Bae,” she said.

“Having an exhibit in the Northwest Corner feels like coming home,” Kasevich said. “I am pleased to be having this exhibit in West Cornwall as I love the magical feeling of the Wish House and the Souterrain Gallery.”

Kasevich grew up in Lakeville and graduated from

Housatonic Valley Regional High School, going on to the University of Hartford to earn degrees in English literature and archetypal psychology, followed by a certificate in fine arts from Lesley University in Boston.

“Many years ago, someone asked what art meant to me. Without hesitation I replied ‘Life.’ Today I find the answer remains the same,” Kasevich said, seeing art as a spiritual journey, with visual art making the experience visible.

The Souterrain Gallery is open weekly, Thursdays through Sundays, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Elizabeth Kasevich's new art show opens Nov. 25.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Wendy Summer founded The Sweater Project.

## From wool to warmth

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Wendy Summer detailed how her charity, The Sweater Project, helps women in Afghanistan produce sweaters for street children at a presentation at the David M. Hunt Library on Saturday, Nov. 4.

Summer lives in West Chester, Pennsylvania, and previously lived in Warren and Salisbury.

There was a slide show of her photos from Afghanistan running throughout the talk. As an image of half a dozen Afghan men sitting down to a meal was on the screen, she joked, “I bet these men never thought their picture would be shown at the library in Falls Village!”

Summer has a business background in apparel. She said, when she gave that up, she started scouting around for volunteer work, initially looking at opportunities in India, where she had experience.

Despite her background, she was told she was not qualified.

She kept on pressing, finally connecting with an organization that concentrated on helping women in “post-conflict” countries such as Afghanistan.

She first visited the country in 2006, but not before getting some cultural training.

For example, Summer said that in Afghan culture, a woman should never make eye contact with a man. She forgot about this when she met the Afghan consul in New York when applying for a visa, but the awkward moment passed.

Summer said the Western practice of coming to a business meeting at an appointed

time and getting straight to the point “is considered very rude” in Afghanistan.

But she persevered and made connections with educators and others that proved invaluable.

The Sweater Project's premise is simple: Wool yarn is produced in Kabul. Many, if not most, Afghan women are handy with needle and thread but have limited opportunities to earn income. This situation has gotten worse since August 2021, when the Taliban took over the country.

There are also a lot of children in Kabul who work on the street, begging, shining shoes, etc. And it gets very cold in the city.

A \$25 donation buys enough yarn for one woman to make four or five sweaters per month, thus earning some much-needed income for both the yarn sellers and the women who make the sweaters in a country with a poverty rate of 93%.

The sweaters are then given to the legions of street children.

Summer said she initially thought about collecting used sweaters in the U.S.

“But who profits from that? FedEx, DHL. And it's not sustainable.”

Summer said that since the Taliban took over the job has become more difficult but not impossible.

And she was enthusiastic about the Afghans themselves.

Starting with her first trip in 2006, she was struck by the welcoming nature of the people she met.

“Wherever I went, they were so hospitable. And these are people who have nothing!”

More information on [www.thesweaterproject.org](http://www.thesweaterproject.org)

## North Canaan narrowly approves recreational cannabis

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — Nearly 60% of voters turned out in North Canaan on Election Day and approved the sale of recreational marijuana by a 17-vote margin.

In a 542-525 decision, the town Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) is now authorized to regulate and issue recreational cannabis licenses.

“You're never going to get more people than that voting on this issue. So, now we have a charge,” said P&Z Chair Tim Abbott at a Monday, Nov. 13, meeting of the commission. “And luckily we spent the last

year and a half thinking about it.”

P&Z has held two workshops on recreational marijuana since it was passed by the state in 2022. Following the municipal vote, P&Z arranged for a third workshop to be held on Monday, Nov. 27, at Town Hall at 7 p.m.

“The moratorium that we put in place and extended expires next February,” said Abbott, after which point town regulations must be in place, or the moratorium can be extended again.

Through the upcoming workshop and regularly scheduled meetings over the next 90 days, P&Z will draft ordinances on how

the town will proceed with cannabis licensure.

“My proposal to my fellow members is going to be for a zoning overlay district,” said Abbott in a conversation with The Lakeville Journal.

Changes to town regulations will eventually require proposed text changes and a public hearing. Abbott was confident that this can be accomplished by February.

The Nov. 27 workshop will review zoning overlay options for the various license types in commercial and industrial zones. P&Z will also discuss hours of operation and signage regulations.

# grateful

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# OBITUARIES

## June Elizabeth Shippa

CANAAN — June Elizabeth (Anderson) Shippa, 92, of 99 South Canaan Rd., formerly of Falls Village, died Saturday night Nov. 11, 2023, at Sharon Hospital.



June and her late husband, Lewis Shippa, were residents of the Town of Falls Village for well over 50 years. June and Lewis were married on Feb. 14, 1954. June was born June 27, 1931 in Ashford, Massachusetts, daughter of the late Hilmer Oxel and Eleanor May (Galbrath) Anderson.

June loved gardening and baking. She was proud of her home and made sure all felt warm and safe there. She also was a caring and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Her family was everything to her. She was known as the "community mom" as all the children from the neighborhood were welcome and loved at her home.

June is survived by her three children: Diane Shippa-Paden and her husband Steven of Sheffield, Massachusetts; Brian L. Shippa and his wife Nikki of Canaan; and Jennifer Shippa-Trudeau

and her husband Herman of Canaan. Her beloved grandchildren: Lucas Wells of Canaan, Michael Wells of Waterbury, Mitchell Blass of Westwood, Massachusetts, Noah Shippa, Myles Shippa, and Savannah Shippa all of Canaan; Kaitlynn Shippa of Bethlehem, and Megan Shippa of Canaan and her four dear great-grandchildren. June was predeceased by her loving granddaughter Christine Wells.

Funeral services were held on Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. in the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. North Canaan, CT 06018. Burial followed the service in Mountain View Cemetery Sand Road, North Canaan, CT 06018. Family and friends were invited to meet the family at the funeral home from 11:00 a.m. until the time of the service.

Memorial donations may be sent to either the North Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corps PO Box 178 Canaan, CT 06018 or to the Falls Village Ambulance Service 188 US-7S Falls Village, CT 06031.

## Charles Olbricht

ANCRAMDAL — Charles G. Olbricht (known as Chuck) passed away Oct. 31, 2023, after a year of health problems. His life partner of 54 years was with him when he died.



Chuck was born on Jan. 7, 1940, the second son of Evelyn P. Olbricht and Henry G. Olbricht. His childhood was in Great Neck, New York. In 1948 the family moved to a farm in Ancramdale.

Chuck graduated from Pine Plains High School, matriculated at Georgetown School of Foreign Service and graduated in 1961.

In 1962 Chuck was drafted, he joined the Army Intelligence Unit preparing to be stationed in Verona, Italy. He spent the next three years teaching Vietnamese history to U.S. Army draftees at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Discharged as a Sergeant First Class, he began his business career working for ABC tele-

vision. In 1969 he met his life partner Charles Hewett Jr. on Feb. 7. Later that year Chuck joined Ford Motor Company Northeast Public Affairs office in New York. Retiring as manager after 26 years, he then worked for the Business Council for International Understanding for seven years.

Later he volunteered for various organizations including the Asia Society.

He and his life partner Chuck ("The Two Chucks") traveled extensively, agreeing that India was the most fascinating place they had visited.

He did not want a party or service. His ashes will be buried in Ancramdale and in the family plot in New Paltz Cemetery.

Gifts in his memory should be made to the Columbia-Greene Community College.

## SWSA Ski and Skate Sale Dec. 2

SALISBURY — Salisbury Winter Sports Association will host its annual SWSA Ski and Skate Sale on Saturday, Dec. 2, at the Lakeville Hose Company in Lakeville.

The sale will include a large display of new winter sports equipment and clothing including ski hats, gloves, goggles and socks as well as downhill and cross-country skis boots and bindings. Snow shoes, parkas and other winter wear will also be on display at discount prices.

Of course there will be the usual inventory of used equipment—skates from \$2 and up, skis and snowboards starting around \$50, and ski boots for \$10 and up. Guests can bring equipment to be sold Friday, Dec. 1, from 4 to 7 p.m. No equipment will be accepted on the day of the sale. No clothing please.

The sale Saturday will run from 8 a.m. to noon. From noon to 1 p.m., sell-

ers can pick up their money or unsold equipment. Any remaining equipment after noon Saturday will become the property of SWSA.

Proceeds from the sale will benefit several SWSA youth ski programs.

## E. Bloxom Baker

SALISBURY — E. Bloxom (Bloxy) Baker, IV passed away on Nov. 12, 2023, at his home in Salisbury. Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Feb. 18, 1945, he was the son of Marjorie and Elias B. Baker III.



Bloxy grew up in Princeton, New Jersey, where he attended Princeton Day School. He later graduated from St. George's School in Newport, Rhode Island. He was a member of the Class of 1968 at Princeton University where he was a member of the Cap and Gown Club.

Upon graduation from Princeton University, Bloxy served in the Army's 3rd Cavalry Infantry Division as a cobra helicopter pilot in the Blue Max Squadron stationed in Bien Hoa, Vietnam. He was awarded a Bronze Star for his service and the Broken Wing Award for safely landing his helicopter when his tail rotor blade was blown off. After his tour of duty, he was stationed in Fort Hood, Texas and trained in advanced flying techniques. He later was stationed in England and served as an instructor for British pilots.

After his discharge, Bloxy worked as a commodities broker in New York before moving back to Princeton to fulfill a dream held since college. He bought the Grover Lumber Company and was president of the company for

20 years until it was sold to Princeton University. During this time, Bloxy was also an avid "hockey dad" and served as a coach for many of his three sons' youth hockey teams.

In 2000, Bloxy married Nancy Luria of Lakeville and moved to the Northwest Corner.

He loved sailing on the lake, playing cards and backgammon, and listening to favorites like Tina Turner, Etta James, and Otis Redding. He was also a lifelong hockey player and continued playing in the Old Men's League well into his 60s.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and his three sons with his former wife Nancy H. Rogers; Charles of Sarasota, Florida, Henry and his wife Tiffany of Wilton, Connecticut, Peter and his wife Wendy of Montvale, New Jersey. He is also survived by his two stepdaughters Cary Ullman and her husband Edmund of Lakeville, Samantha Harlow and her husband David of Middlebury, Vermont, three grandchildren and five step grandchildren. He leaves three siblings; Gertrude Millar of Marshfield, Massachusetts, Leanne Baker of Nantucket, Massachusetts and Warren Baker of Chicago, Illinois.

A memorial service will be planned for the spring.

## William Lee

SHARON — Bill (William) Lee, 86, of Sharon and New York, New York, died in Manhattan on Nov. 15, 2023. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1938 to Clara and Arthur Levy. He drew the best banana in his Brooklyn kindergarten class, and since then, he kept going on to bigger and better things, including one of his first freelance positions: illustrator of the assembly directions for the very first Barbie Dreamhouse (1962).



He attended the School of Visual Arts (1960-1964), which prepared him for his career as a cartoonist and general Media. The satirist and self-described "Investigative Cartoonist" won many awards throughout his life, including the International Humor Award, and his work has been featured in such publications as Compute,

Cosmopolitan, Esquire, Evergreen, National Lampoon, Omni, Penthouse, Playboy, and Spin.

He traveled the world and was among the first to enter many countries that had been closed to travel by U.S. citizens, including China (1979), Russia (1983), and Cuba

(1999). He often described his hobbies as relaxing with a drink and listening to music that ranged somewhere between Hank Williams and Mozart. He was widowed by his wife, Dona Johnson-Lee and is survived by his daughter Jennifer. While he would probably have loved well-wishers to raise a glass of Jack Daniels in his memory, they can also donate to the cancer charity of their choosing, as the loss of his wife of many years to cancer in 1997 made it his nemesis.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

## Sharon Lynn Tompkins Roy

FALLS VILLAGE — Sharon Lynn Tompkins Roy, 82, wife of the late Robert "Bob" Lee Roy, passed away Nov. 14, 2023.



A native of Falls Village, Connecticut, daughter of the late Nicholas "Nick" and Decima "Dee" Anastasia Merriman Tompkins, she was a retired administrative assistant and of the Christian faith.

Surviving are one daughter, Robin L. Roy of Zephyrhills, Florida; two sons, Todd M. Roy of Phoenix,

Arizona and Darren M. Roy (Cindy) of Greer, South Carolina; three grandchildren, Conor, Sierra, and Kelley; and four great-grandchildren, Bentley, Brinley, Hensley, and Haizley. Mrs. Roy was predeceased by one son, R. Nevin Roy.

The family will be at their respective homes.

Online condolences may be made to [www.thewoodmortuary.com](http://www.thewoodmortuary.com).

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PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039

**Worship Services**  
Week of November 26, 2023

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

<p><b>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon</b> 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 <a href="http://www.christchurchsharon.org">www.christchurchsharon.org</a></p>	<p><b>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.</b> 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10:00 a.m. <a href="http://www.salisburyucc.org">www.salisburyucc.org</a> Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>
<p><b>St. John's Episcopal Church</b> 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on You-Tube <a href="http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org">www.stjohnssalisbury.org</a> 860-435-9290</p>	<p><b>St. Thomas Episcopal Church</b> 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 <a href="http://www.stthomasamenia.com">www.stthomasamenia.com</a> A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p><b>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC</b> Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am <a href="http://www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational">www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</a> 860-824-7252</p> <p><b>FISHES &amp; LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH</b> is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm &amp; Thursday 12-2 pm <a href="http://www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org">www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</a></p>	<p><b>Trinity Episcopal Church</b> 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at <a href="http://www.trinitylimerock.org">www.trinitylimerock.org</a> Misa en español a las 4 de la tarde el último domingo de mes The Revs. Heidi Truax &amp; Felix Rivera <a href="mailto:trinity@trinitylimerock.org">trinity@trinitylimerock.org</a> (860) 435-2627</p>
<p><b>The Lakeville United Methodist Church</b> 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 <a href="mailto:Lakevillemethodist@snet.net">Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</a></p>	<p><b>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT</b> The next meeting will be Sunday, December 10 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at <a href="mailto:jokialoi@gmail.com">jokialoi@gmail.com</a> All are Welcome</p>
<p><b>The Sharon United Methodist Church</b> 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-564-5634 <a href="mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net">sharonumc5634@att.net</a></p>	<p><b>Chabad of Northwest CT On The Green</b> 69 West St. Litchfield, CT 06759 Childrens Camp   Shabbat Services Hebrew School   Cmeil   YJP Judaism With A Smile! <a href="http://chabadNW.org">chabadNW.org</a> 860.567.3377   <a href="mailto:office@chabadNW.org">office@chabadNW.org</a></p>
<p><b>Falls Village Congregational Church</b> 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>	<p><b>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH</b> Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p><b>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church</b> 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. <a href="http://www.thesmithfieldchurch.org">www.thesmithfieldchurch.org</a> 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p><b>UCC in CORNWALL</b> Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am North Cornwall Meeting House 115 Town Street, Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p><b>Canaan United Methodist Church</b> 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 <a href="mailto:canaanct-umc.com">canaanct-umc.com</a> <a href="mailto:canaanctumc@gmail.com">canaanctumc@gmail.com</a> We hope you will join us!</p>	<p><b>Sharon Congregational</b> 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website <a href="http://sharoncongregationalchurch.org">sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a> for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or <a href="mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org">info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a></p>
<p><b>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall</b> Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Email Rev. Mary Gates at: <a href="mailto:mmgates125@gmail.com">mmgates125@gmail.com</a> for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone.</p>	<p><b>Promised Land Baptist Church</b> 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! <a href="http://www.promisedlandbaptist.org">www.promisedlandbaptist.org</a></p>
<p><b>Congregation Beth David</b> A reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly - Followed by Oneg (Calendar at <a href="http://congbethdavid.org">congbethdavid.org</a>) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 <a href="mailto:info@congbethdavid.org">info@congbethdavid.org</a></p>	<p><b>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church</b> 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340   <a href="mailto:allsaintsofamerica.us">allsaintsofamerica.us</a></p>

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### EDITORIAL

## Thankful for FOI

This week it's traditional to consider the things in life for which we're most grateful. Along with all the more personal items, we should also count the strong Freedom of Information laws in Connecticut as one of them. Connecticut is unique among the states in its long-term commitment to open information and transparent government, its Legislature having unanimously adopted the Freedom of Information Act in 1975.

Mitchell W. Pearlman was the executive director of the state's Freedom of Information Commission (the world's first Freedom of Information enforcement agency) from 1975 to 2005, and has been very active not only in the state, but nationwide and worldwide in recommending formal approaches to keeping government accountable to its constituents. Pearlman was key in founding the Connecticut Foundation for Open Government (CFOG), a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the open and accountable government so essential in a democratic society, and the education arm of the state's open government organizations.

Also key to CFOG's vision was the late Robert Estabrook, editor and publisher emeritus of The Lakeville Journal, who worked with Pearlman and others to form CFOG and ensure its continuation.

Estabrook created the culture for The Lakeville Journal's involvement with and commitment to freedom of information and open government over all the years since 1975.

CFOG sponsored an awards ceremony last Thursday, Nov. 16, to honor three people: a state public official, a member of the public, and a journalist, whose use of the state's freedom of information laws have greatly benefitted their fellow citizens.

The official honored for fostering open government was Rhonda Stearley-Hebert, the deputy director of communications, education and outreach for the state Judicial Branch, whose responsiveness to the media in requests for access to all things relating to the courts has been stellar over many years. In the general public category, CFOG recognized Kevin Brookman, a blogger who has used the FOI Act to uncover critical issues in Hartford government, often finding stories that the media then follows his lead on.

The journalist honored was Bill Cummings, who was selected for his groundbreaking story in August 2022 that revealed Connecticut state troopers had been accused in 2018 of fabricating traffic stop tickets for professional gain. Cummings had used the state Freedom of Information Act to obtain internal affairs documents after seeing the category of "fictitious traffic tickets" in a spreadsheet log he had received after an earlier FOI request. This July, an audit found that hundreds of troopers had falsified information on more than 25,000 traffic stops from 2014 to 2021, skewing reports on the race and ethnicity of drivers who had been pulled over. The scandal prompted Gov. Ned Lamont and the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate the allegations, according to the CFOG website.

— Janet Manko, *Publisher Emeritus, CFOG Board member*

We are grateful, too, to our many readers, advertisers, supporters and donors. Without you, we would not be able to continue our mission of helping members of our communities make more informed and inspired decisions through comprehensive news and arts coverage. Enclosed in this week's edition is a preaddressed envelope and appeal letter. With your continued support, we will be able to serve our communities for years to come.

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago —  
November 1923

LIME ROCK — John Eggleston is the new milk peddler in town.

Ponds and brooks took on a thin coating of ice on Monday night for the first time this season. The sudden cold snap of Monday morning reminded us that winter is just around the corner.

While removing an electric light globe from the gas pump at Martin's Garage on Monday morning, George Roebuck had the misfortune to fall from the ladder striking his head on the cement walk. He was unconscious for about an hour and a half but at present appears to be suffering no bad results from his fall.

Mr. Earle W. Day and oth-

ers report having seen a flock of about a dozen evening grosbeaks about the village. These birds are seldom seen east of the Mississippi River.

A.S. Martin is having his gasoline pumps moved back to a point near the sidewalk and will construct a cement roadway between the sidewalk and what is now the stone curbing. This will make it much more convenient for automobilists to park their cars when filling the gas tanks.

50 years ago —  
November 1973

Sharon's Post Office opened for business Monday morning in new quarters at the south end of the Sharon Shopping Center. Although not all details of the move have been completed, Postmaster George Lamb expressed pleasure at the

thought of some 750 square feet of additional space in the new structure. It will help with the Christmas rush and should enable the Post Office to do a better job, he said.

Home heating oil prices, on the rise in the tri-state area, now range from 23.6 cents to 30.2 cents per gallon, according to a Lakeville Journal survey taken Tuesday afternoon.

Cornwall's dump master has announced that he will be happy to cut and burn wood to keep warm and save on heating fuel, if someone will donate a chunk stove to the town dump.

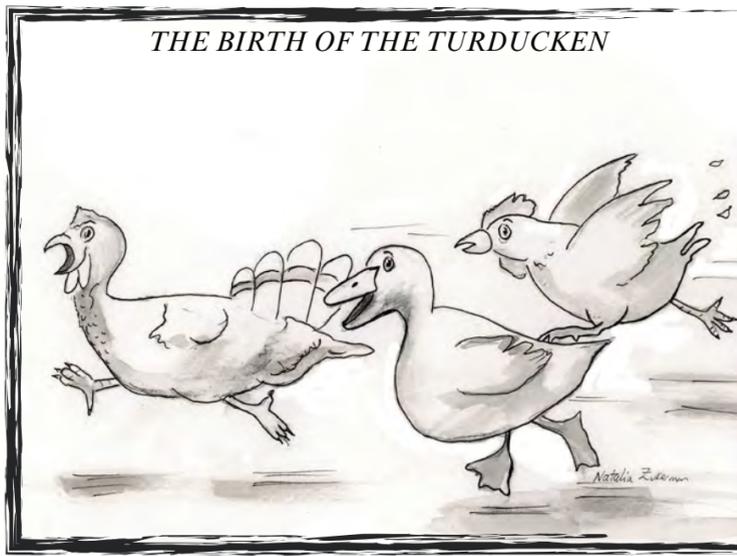
It has been reported that since the rejection of its first female candidate for membership, the Kent Fire Department has received

several applications from prospective firewomen.

25 years ago —  
November 1998

Although the fire chief is new, the last name is not. Donald Reid has stepped down as commander of the Lakeville Hose Company and his brother, Darin Reid, has assumed control. The change took place during the fire company's annual elections Nov. 2. After serving as a line officer for 20 years and chief for the past 10, Donnie Reid decided to pass the torch. However, he is not going anywhere — he still drives the truck to fire scenes.

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



"You want us to get inside *where?*"

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Protecting our children's future — the facts

Sharon Energy and Environment Commission is endeavoring to acquire a solar installation for Sharon Center School. Our purpose is to provide clean energy to help ensure a liveable future for our town's children. This solar array will provide 85 percent of electrical power to the school at a discounted rate and thus save money for the taxpayers of Sharon.

A petition has been circulated expressing several concerns about the siting of the solar array which we would like to address here.

- The site, once a building lot, was given to the town in 1992. In 1997, Mr. Kelemen funded a nature trail at the site. This trail has not been maintained or utilized. In recent years bittersweet has taken over some of the trees. Posted field guides are no longer legible and wooden structures have deteriorated badly.

- Historically, there was some use of the field for school activities. However, according to the school custodian and the former principal, it has not been used by the school in recent years. The nature trail around the field will be maintained and enhanced after the solar installation is built. Our hope is that the site will demonstrate to the children of the school how solar energy is produced as well as indicating that our generation is concerned for their future.

- The site is not a part of the school playground. The state of Connecticut mandates 75 square feet of outdoor space per child. Sharon Center School has more than 4 acres of play area, giving each child more than 1800 square feet of recreation space, not including the field in question, which

is not mowed, but brush hogged once a year.

- The petition refers to a third party. That third party is the Connecticut Green Bank, established by the Connecticut General Assembly in 2010 to promote cleaner, less expensive, and more reliable sources of renewable energy in the state. Under a special program, the CT Green Bank would finance, design, construct, own, and maintain a solar field at no cost to the town of Sharon. The Sharon Center School is the only municipal building that qualified for this program. Several critical factors eliminated the school roof from consideration for the solar panels.

- The town has agreed to purchase all the electricity produced by the solar array at a fixed price for 20 years. Significant savings will come from avoiding the distribu-

tion portion of the electrical bill for 85% of the school's electricity consumption.

Renewable energy is an indisputable benefit because it replaces fossil fuels which drive global climate change. Sharon is woefully behind in adopting alternative green energy to provide our children with a viable future.

A town meeting regarding this project will be held at Sharon Center School on Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m.

**Helena Barnes, Katy Kinsolving, Roger Liddell, Oscar Martinez, Lyn Mattoon, Michael Nadeau, Doug Rick, Shrevie Shepherd**

Members of the Sharon Energy and Environment Commission

*More letters next page.*

## Thank you, Sharon Hospital staff

As we enter the holiday season and round out the calendar year, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks to Sharon Hospital's caregivers and staff members. Their unwavering compassion and dedication to serving our community and supporting one another does not go unnoticed, and helps our rural hospital deliver high quality care to our community.

As we reflect on the past year, there are many accomplishments to celebrate. Sharon Hospital once again received a 5-star rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. We also made investments to optimize our patients' experiences and outcomes

— including upgrading our helipad to create a smoother and safer experience, installing new state-of-the-art technology in our imaging department, and expanding the Virtual Health Office at Sharon Hospital to include in-demand specialties such as neurology and endocrinology. We also continued to partner with community organizations across our region to combat the behavioral health crisis and address the social determinants that have a crucial impact on our patients' wellbeing. All of these accomplishments were made possible by our dedicated members of the Sharon Hospital family.

I am joined by Sharon Hospital and Nuance

Health's leadership teams, our board of directors, and our patients in recognizing and applauding Sharon Hospital's staff for their dedication in service to our hospital and community. Our combined team, no matter the role or job title, plays a vital role in our region's health, and it is a true honor to lead this passionate, skilled team. I would also like to close by expressing gratitude for our Sharon community and their continued support for our hospital and caring staff.

Looking forward to the year ahead!

**Christina McCulloch, MBA, BSN, RN**  
President, Sharon Hospital

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### Mission Statement

The Lakeville Journal Company, Publishers of **The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News**. Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, and to foster the free flow of information and opinion.

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# Viewpoint



PHOTO BY TOWN OF STRATFORD

Drainage improvements to the Bruce Avenue railroad underpass in Stratford.

## CT must fight climate change locally by repairing infrastructure, staffing

One of the major consequences of climate change facing Connecticut is a significant increase in flooding.

This July, Norfolk experienced severe flash flooding due to torrential rain. Roads were damaged, and its drainage infrastructure was unable to handle the crisis. This is just one example of the increase in frequency and severity of flooding facing Connecticut due to climate change.

Two factors exacerbating this threat are Connecticut's aging drainage infrastructure and a growing lack of technically skilled municipal workers. Filling the gaps in Connecticut's municipal work force and repairing the decrepit infrastructure is essential to address climate change on a local scale in a practical manner.

Climate change is a global issue, flooding is a New England issue, old infrastructure is a state issue, and unfilled planning specialist positions are a municipal issue. It's a chain binding each of us to the big monster at the

**CT VIEWPOINTS**  
BY LUCY HENDRICKSON

top, and the best way to get a hit in at that spectre is to move, link by link, back up the chain.

It is critical that we focus on the local consequences of climate change (flooding, bad drainage, lack of municipal workers) rather than waiting for a global response. The challenge is that climate change is a global issue, and it is true that it needs to be addressed on a global scale. However, the effects of this global issue are felt locally, and local people can address those local issues — and in this way they are fighting climate change. If we wait for the UN to solve climate change before we prepare for flooding, we will be living in a puddle.

Activists like Greta Thunberg get a lot of attention from the international me-

dia, and her work is important. But demonstrative activism is only one position of many in our irregular climate task force. Other positions in that task force which desperately need to be filled are the open town hall worker job listings in Connecticut and citizen support for the kind of local, unheralded work that they do. Filling these disparate positions will let us strike at the big monster on all kinds of levels with all kinds of tools.

Sure, flashy stories like the Just Stop Oil activists in the UK throwing tomato soup at centuries-old art get attention, but after the attention there must be action. The work facing Connecticut, complicated and understaffed, is the kind of action we need, the kind we can do, the kind that matters.

*Lucy Hendrickson lives in Groton.*

*The Journal occasionally will offer articles from CTMirror.org, a source of nonprofit journalism and a partner with The Lakeville Journal.*

## State's voter participation far worse than reported

**THE CHRIS POWELL COLUMN**

Drawing on data from the secretary of the state's office, Connecticut's Hearst newspapers reported last weekend that while voter participation in the state's municipal elections long has been poor, participation in this month's municipal elections improved slightly, from 32 to 33%. But in fact participation is far worse than that and is always far worse than is officially reported.

For one, the percentages from the secretary's office are based on the number of people who are registered to vote in the state — 2,130,142 as of Election Day — not on the total population of adults eligible to vote. According to the U.S. census, Connecticut's population of legal residents of voting age eligible is much greater than 2,130,142. It is 2,803,538, not counting the estimated 113,000 people living in the state illegally.

So Connecticut has about 673,000 people who are eligible to vote but who are not registered.

That is, about 24% of Connecticut's eligible adult population couldn't care less about elections. So the voter participation data from the secretary's office must be discounted by 24% to produce the real participation rate, and the real participation rate in the recent municipal elections was not 33% but more like 25%.

Similarly, though Connecticut's voter participation rate in the 2020 national election was officially reported as 80%, the real participation rate was more like 61%, and though the participation rate in the 2022 state election was officially reported as 58%, the real rate was more like 44%.

The implication here is that nearly 40% of Connecticut's legal adult residents don't care much about their

country and more than half don't care much about their state.

What explains the lack of participation in municipal elections?

Of course municipal government may be considered less important than state government, which in turn may be considered less important than national government. But then voters may have more contact with and influence on municipal government than the others.

What explains the lack of participation in elections generally? That is, what explains the lack of caring by so many people even about their country and state?

One might like to think it is because people are disgusted by political leaders and alienated from politics. If that is the case, then people at least would know something about their government.

But it is more likely that participation in elections is low because civic engagement and patriotism are declining. Many people can't identify major elected officials in the state and their towns. Young people long

have graduated from high school without knowing what the three branches of government are, nor when the Civil War and the world wars were fought and what happened during them, nor anything about the heroism and sacrifices of the country's armed forces in defense of the nation's freedom and the heroism and sacrifices of the civilians who worked to expand that freedom.

Indeed, many Connecticut residents and Americans generally take their freedom and standard of living for granted.

It all seems like the old corruption of prosperity. A country ascends with the basic virtues of work, learning, thrift, faith, and hope, only for later generations to consider their prosperity to be the natural order of things, not something that has to be constantly earned again.

Yes, freedom isn't free. Nearly everyone has to do some work to maintain a community, a state, and a country.

Woody Allen said 80% of success is just showing up. What will become of Connecticut and the country now that half the people are not showing up?

*Chris Powell has written about Connecticut government and politics for many years. (CPowell@cox.net)*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### We have only one planet

As much as people feel 'we can survive anything,' the conflict in the Middle East historically and currently mandate that we all try to learn the possible options to move forward as a world to not let the balance be upset even more in Israel.

Being kept in the dark about the financial systems in the world, who makes decisions and for what 'reasons or values' needs to be better understood by more of humanity. "Winner take all" mentality in sports or other business or political fields needs rethinking.

We only have one planet and there are over 8 billion people being affected in profound ways. Tikkun.org is one think tank offering ideas to address the serious humanitarian and political concerns in Israel. Being allowed to explore historical, religious and cultural events and patterns needs to be part of the critical thinking and current concern dialogues even if not between parties directly. Mediation and advocacy groups play a key role to map out possibilities. The efforts by St. John's to offer

a place to gather and reflect without being linked to what is discussed is a brave meaningful example. Few other religious or non-profits would allow or venture in that direction.

Inspired by others for a few decades, I have been trying to get more people to collaborate even among issues in schools, faith and civic organizations to work together and share resources in the Northwest CT and MA/NY tri-corner area. Thankfully a lot of progress is made but is not inclusive or open to input, so I do share ideas online and at many forums I attend for cell tower (RF and EMF effects,) women's issues, domestic abuse, parenting, safety, current world affairs. Promoting peace, health and friendship can be a shared goal on all levels. Women, youth and especially minorities or those underserved are often poorly represented. Let's make strides to have all counted in and protected. Then the world community can evolve to be the home each deserves.

**Catherine Palmer Paton**  
Falls Village

## How's our mental health?

Have you ever asked yourself whether there are any "normal" people in the world? Don't we all struggle with something? Well, the answer is: yes! How do I know?

I took a stroll through the 816 pages of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, that are devoted to psychiatric diagnosis. This is the most recently available edition. I then created a list of the most common diagnoses and their "prevalences" as listed in the manual.

Prevalence is a number representing how many of the people out of a hundred in a given sample or study carry a diagnosis. It is important to understand that these numbers are very difficult to come by and should definitely be taken with a grain of salt. (Still, significant efforts have been made to establish such things through various nationwide surveys.)

Also, it is important to remember that some people may be given more than one diagnosis, since, after all, psychiatry is such a limited science, forced mainly to focus on the classification and lumping of symptoms and behaviors and very limited in its ability to get into the actual chemical pathways in the brain that these things are caused by. Also, we human beings are complicated creatures.

However, below is a list of 25 of the 60 diagnoses and

**GUEST COLUMN**  
BY ANNA TIMMEL, MD

their known prevalences, most of which I have encountered at some point or other in my 40 years of practicing family medicine. When I added all the numbers up, taking the lowest in any given range, the total percent of human adults with a diagnosis came to 143%. Putting my tongue in my cheek, I have to say that not one of us is entirely normal!

I would like to point out that homosexuality is not

considered a disorder in the DSM-5 but tobacco use is. I would also like to point out that gender dysphoria is rare, making me wonder why so many people are making a big fuss about it. Furthermore, when the DSM-5 alludes to "associated factors" that might make having a diagnosis more likely, socio-cultural factors were very common.

This means things like childhood neglect or abuse, lack of education, poverty, inadequate nutrition, toxic exposures, inadequate shelter, inadequate opportunities to learn social skills, inadequate opportunities to develop self-esteem, etc. etc.

In my opinion, we will

not ever begin to address the mental health "crisis" in our country if these socio-cultural factors are not addressed first. This means we have to redistribute our wealth.

Secondly, we should create a list of priorities for mental health funding and then spend as much on that as we do on our military. There's no point in living in a country that is safe from outside attack if everyone on the inside is unhappy and/or dysfunctional.

*Anna Timmel practiced medicine in Connecticut and New York State, retiring in 2020 after 40 years in practice.*

### Diagnoses (prevalence per 100 people)

- From the DSM-5: Prevalences of Mental Disorders in Adults
- 1. Intellectual Disability 1.0
- 2. Autism Spectrum Disorder 1.0
- 3. Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder 2.5-5.0
- 4. Delusional Disorder (eg. some conspiracy advocates) 0.2
- 5. Schizophrenia 0.3-0.7
- 6. Bipolar I and II 0.9
- 7. Major Depressive Disorder 7.0
- 8. Chronic Depressive Disorders 2.0
- 9. Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder (ie. severe PMS) 1.8-5.8

- 10. Specific Phobias (eg. snakes, airplanes, elevators, bridges, taxis) 7.0-9.0
- 11. Social Anxiety Disorder (always at home) 7.0
- 12. Panic Disorder 2.0-3.0
- 13. Generalized Anxiety Disorder 0.9-2.9
- 14. Obsessive Compulsive Disorder 1.2
- 15. Hoarding Disorder 2.0-6.0
- 16. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder 3.5
- 17. Female Orgasmic Disorder 10.0-42.0
- 18. Gender Dysphoria 0.005-0.014
- 19. Conduct Disorder (your average bully) 4.0

- 20. Alcohol Use Disorder (withdrawal symptoms if they stop) 8.5
- 21. Cannabis Use Disorder (withdrawal symptoms if they stop) 1.5
- 22. Tobacco Use Disorder (withdrawal symptoms if they stop) 21.0
- 23. Antisocial Personality Disorder (no conscience) 0.2-3.3
- 24. Narcissistic Personality Disorder (only love themselves) up to 6.2
- 25. Obsessive-Compulsive Personality Disorder 2.1-7.9

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Hunting season is in full swing on both public and private lands for deer and shortly for turkeys. It is good to be aware of the regulations before going into the woods to hike, horseback ride or mountain bike. A great source of information is found in the CTDEEP Hunting and Trapping Guide at: [portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/hunting\\_trapping/pdf\\_files/2023-CT-Hunting-Guide.pdf](http://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/hunting_trapping/pdf_files/2023-CT-Hunting-Guide.pdf). It is recommended to wear orange clothing or a vest to be more visible and to be aware that the prime hunting times are either early in the morning or late in the afternoon. For more information on staying safe, please read the States recommendations for Outdoor Safety found at: [portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Hunting/Outdoor-Safety-Tips#:~:text=Wear%20bright%20clothing%20\(400%20square,when%20hiking%20in%20hunted%20areas.](http://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Hunting/Outdoor-Safety-Tips#:~:text=Wear%20bright%20clothing%20(400%20square,when%20hiking%20in%20hunted%20areas.)

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# Our Towns

## Cornwall sends capital plan to town meeting

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — At a regular meeting Thursday, Nov. 16, Cornwall's Board of Finance reviewed the town's five-year capital plan and sent the proposal to a town vote.

The plan showed an annual net spending increase of \$50,000 over Cornwall's current annual expenditure. The hike was due to a newly created tree removal fund, aimed at eliminating the dead ash and oak trees throughout town.

While presenting the plan, First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said Highway Director Jim Vanicky spent the past summer mapping dead trees in Cornwall. He found that trees "are dying all over town."

"There are hundreds of them," said Ridgway. By allocating funds toward tree removal in the capital plan, Cornwall will be able to verify the expense when applying for reimbursement grants. "This particular new budget item will be a complete match from the state if we

get the grant," said Ridgway.

All other line item increases in the plan were balanced by decreases in other categories.

The plan will be posted online ahead of the vote Friday, Dec. 8, which will also include votes for the adoption of a housing commission and the approval of increasing building official fees.

Ridgway provided an update of the recent tax lien sales of two properties in town. One sold for the full cost of back taxes owed and the other sold for half the total back taxes owed. This generated \$131,000 for the town. "A good day to get those properties, longtime delinquencies, into, I think it's fair to say, better hands," said Ridgway.

The abandoned factory near Cornwall Bridge was bought by a Waterbury contractor who plans to fix it up for his nephew, a Brooklyn-based art frame dealer. The second property, a roughly 12-acre lot, was bought by a housing advisor who plans to look into building affordable housing.

## Sharon sets referendum on solar project

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Responding to a petition carrying 209 signatures calling for a town meeting on the proposed Hilltop Road solar project, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously at its meeting Tuesday, Nov. 14, to schedule a town meeting for Wednesday, Nov. 29, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Due to anticipated high attendance, the meeting will be held at Sharon Center School.

The informational town meeting will then adjourn to a referendum vote scheduled for Friday, Jan. 5, 2024. Polls will be open between noon and 8 p.m. No vote will take place at the town meeting.

"We are not here to discuss what the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) may decide," Town Clerk Linda Amerighi emphasized to the selectmen, referencing the project application that is awaiting decision within the statutory 65 days of deliberation allowed by the P&Z process. The application envisions a ground-mount solar photovoltaic array in-



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

After 10 years of serving together as Sharon's Board of Selectmen, the outgoing officials paused for a photo, Nov. 14, marking the end of their tenure. From left, Selectman Dale Jones; First Selectman Brent Colley; Selectman Casey Flanagan, who has been elected First Selectman in the coming term; and Tina Pitcher, long-serving executive assistant to the selectmen.

stalled on town property adjacent to the Sharon Center School grounds.

The selectmen noted that the petition had been examined by the town attorney both for wording of the question and validity of the signature process, and he had found the petition to be fully

valid.

"Why are we obligated to hold a town meeting?" asked selectman Casey Flanagan, seeking clarification about the process.

"Because there was a town meeting that agreed to sign the contract," replied Amerighi about the contract

signed with Verogy in conjunction with the Connecticut Green Bank organization. Even though a previous town meeting had approved the contract's signing, a petition process with a sufficient number of signatures can serve to reopen the issue.

Discussion focused on timing, allowing enough time between the town meeting and the vote for accommodate absentee, mail-in ballots.

"At the end of the referendum, I want everyone to be satisfied," Amerighi said.

Resident Patee Hecht spoke of the importance of public understanding of the issue and that community concerns need to be addressed, favoring the call for a town meeting.

First Selectman Brent Colley said that the informational town meeting will allow for greater clarity on the proposed solar project. Selectman Dale Jones concurred, favoring the transparency offered by the town meeting process, especially in view of the controversy over the project.

## Trust your banking to the same great team.



From left to right: Kevin Cantele, Tara Decker, Nicole Chase, Steve Brandfield, Adam Higgins, Andrea MacArthur, Andreas Kapetanopoulos, Deb Oakliff, Aidan Gilligan, Meaghan Bain, Michael Hogan, Jessica Elliott

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# Sports



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Wyatt Bayer pitched for the Region One Mountaineers last spring and is now a freshman at Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

## Uniting as Mountaineers

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — Moving from a small middle school to a regional high school can be a challenging transition for teens.

Now in its third year, the Region One Middle School Athletics and Activities program has alleviated this pressure by uniting students across the Northwest Corner.

With six sports, an art program, and a science and technology workshop, the middle school Mountaineers have brought students together “neath a veil of rosy hue,” as the school song goes.

Athletic director Anne MacNeil said the implementation of regional middle school activities has created Mountaineer pride, promoted bonding between the various schools, and eased the entry into high school for participating teens.

“We are trying to instill that sense of pride. That sense of belonging, connection, with our students,” she said. “The anxieties that our students have coming into the high school is lessened because they know other people.”

The program offers baseball, basketball, cross-country, softball, and track and field to Region One middle schoolers along with the Artgarage and a science and technology center workshop.

MacNeil said the popularity of the program has prompted goals of expansion.

“If you build it, they will come,” she said, noting that a regional band, chorus, theater workshop, and book club have been discussed. Hockey, swimming and volleyball have been eyed as the next sports to offer. “This is the opportunity to really spark some interest.”

Running coach Frank Handelman praised the program’s success in uniting student-athletes.

“They become teammates and friends really fast,” said Handelman, the team coach of cross-country and track and field.

Handelman, member of Sharon Park and Recreation, said he was thrilled to learn about the regional middle school program in 2021.

“I saw they were going to start this program, I saw it in The Lakeville Journal actual-

ly, and I called Anne and she hired me,” said Handelman.

Handelman has run competitively for years and was an avid marathon runner. He previously coached at Hunter College, Delphi University, and headed up training teams for the New York City Marathon.

He said coaching the middle schoolers “gives [him] great pleasure” and fulfills his “desire to be more involved in the community.” Along with assistant coach Elizabeth Foster, Region One middle school runners have had experienced leadership to learn from.

“Most of the kids had never run before,” said Handelman on training seventh and eighth graders. “Within a few weeks they all seem to get comfortable.”

In addition to getting comfortable with running, the athletes also get to know their regional teammates.

“Many of the kids probably don’t know each other until ninth grade,” he said. “By the time they get to Housatonic, they are connected. They don’t feel alienated.”

Despite the many options to choose from when it comes to high schools in the area, participants of the Region One Middle School Athletics and Activities program have selected HVRHS as their top choice.

“Most of them end up at the high school and most of them continue running either track, cross-country, or both,” said Handelman. “In varsity cross-country this fall, four of the top five runners all came out of our program.”

“They wear the blue and gold,” said MacNeil.

## Noble ends Hotchkiss field hockey season

By Riley Klein

LAKEVILLE — The Hotchkiss School varsity field hockey team wrapped the 2023 season with a 1-0 loss to Noble and Greenough School in the New England Prep School Athletic Conference (NEPSAC) Class A quarterfinal game Wednesday, Nov. 15.

A gridlocked matchup with disciplined defense from both sides led to a scoreless game until the final minutes. Hotchkiss captain and keeper Steph Ionescu’s seven saves kept the Bearcats in the game, but a late goal by Noble ended the match in regulation and allowed the Bulldogs to advance to the semifinals against Taft School.

With a regular season record of 11-2-1, Hotchkiss was seeded fourth in the tournament, giving home field advantage over fifth-seeded Noble (13-3) to start the post-season. A piercing wind blew over the Hotchkiss fields with overcast skies, about 50 degrees as the game got underway.

Hotchkiss came out strong in the first. The Bearcats controlled the ball in Noble territory and found several good looks at the net. None connected.

Noble balanced the game in the second quarter and pushed the fight to the Hotchkiss defenders. The Bearcats stood tall, and the scoreboard stayed blank through the half.

The Bulldogs kept up the pressure into the third and fired several shots-on-goal. Ionescu was a brick wall.

Hotchkiss reclaimed control in the fourth and started to find a rhythm offensively. Noble’s defense rose to the challenge and denied the Bearcat attackers.

With just under four minutes remaining, Noble scored the sole goal of the game. The Bearcats gave it all they had as time ticked away but were unable to score.

Noble won 1-0 and moved on to the NEPSAC Class A semis. Hotchkiss field hockey ended with the second best record in the Founders League at 11-3-1.

The game concluded Bearcat athletics for the fall.



Eleanor Helm wound up for a shot late in the fourth quarter.



MaryHelen McCooley took corners for Hotchkiss.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Bearcats and Bulldogs exchanged ‘good game’ high-5s.

## The Lakeville Journal FOUNDATION

Dear Friends and Readers,

There is GOOD NEWS to report about The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News! We have added more journalists to our staff, expanded our news coverage and we are about to launch new websites for both papers with seven-day-a-week news coverage.

Like many newspapers across the country, we face financial pressures that threaten our ability to continue this vital work. Even after a successful matching campaign, we still need your help. As a non-profit news organization, we must close the gap between what we earn by selling newspapers and ads and our operating expenses. That’s why we are reaching out to you, our loyal readers and community members.

The papers led the way this year in reporting on important issues to our community: Sharon Hospital, affordable housing, and environmental challenges to our lakes and state parks. And, of course, we remain the place to catch up on the police blotter, town meetings, local elections, local sports, festivals, movies, and the latest bear and wildlife sightings.

Since The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News were converted to non-profit status last year, you have kept us in business with your generous contributions. We are asking you once again to consider a tax-deductible contribution as part of your year-end giving. Every donation goes to support our journalists and the mission to deliver the stories that matter to you.

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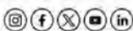
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Cody O’Kelly

## TREES

Continued from Page A1

sale at Angevine Farm. "It was just another one of those 'You're kidding me,' moments," said Angevine-Bergs.

Cowles said he has been working with CCTGA members to help them minimize deer damage and has formulated nontoxic, all-natural lanolin into a sprayable emulsion that repels the formidable pests. "It works really unbelievably well," said the CAES scientist.

"Deer are a problem on two counts," he explained. They are turning to fir trees for food due to a shortage of acorns, beech nuts and chestnuts, and the bucks damage the bark of the trees when they rub the velvet off their antlers, marking their territory.

"They target the 4-foot trees, which have a nice springiness to them. They rip all the bark off at a certain height on the trees. The bucks think it's eau de cologne, making them smell sexy."

Cowles said despite erecting an electrical fence on his tree farm, he recently saw a



**"We'd be sold out in the first week. We couldn't handle that safely."**

*Lisa Angevine-Bergs, owner of Angevine Farm and executive director of the CT Christmas Tree Growers' Association*

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGEVINE FARM

**Angevine Farm in Warren has been drawing generations of families from throughout Litchfield County in search of the perfect Christmas tree.**

buck walk through one section of the property "and in one pass, he probably destroyed about 10 trees."

The scientist is also in the early stages of introducing genetically superior Christmas trees, known as Turkish and Trojan firs, to Connecticut, but that research, he said is still in the early stages as the test specimens have not yet produced cones.

John Gilbert, owner of Bees, Fleas & Trees in Litchfield with his wife, Carole, is in his 48th year of growing

Christmas trees. He served as past president of the CCTGA at a time when there were about 450 members. Membership is half that today, he said, as farmers call it quits due to low profitability and a lot of hard work.

"The problem is, a lot of children don't want to take them over," noted Angevine-Berg of dwindling family farm operations.

"It's a physically demanding job," explained Gilbert, who retired at age 53 to grow trees, and has downsized the

operation to about 5 acres over the years. "We'll probably be selling fewer trees this year."

While his crop of Fraser/concolor fir, blue/white/Meyer spruce and white pine did not suffer from this summer's deluge of rain as many other farms did, the May 18 frost is what caused havoc.

"It did damage to trees that had broken bud and then froze," he said. "They put out a second coat, but on a few you can see dead needles on the outside."

He charges \$69 per tree, including tax and bale, for customers from across Litchfield County who have been returning for generations for the old-fashioned holiday experience of choosing the perfect tree, sipping hot chocolate and taking in the scents of the season. A red mailbox at the farm accepts letters to Santa.

Because anxious customers are starting their tree shopping earlier to get the best selection and before trees sell out, several farms have instituted "reservation only" policies due to lower inventories.

Angevine-Bergs is one of them. At Angevine Farm, tree reservations — all 1,000 of them — are already sold out for 2023.

The farm will still offer holiday activities to the public on weekends, such as a food truck on Thanksgiving weekend, a Christmas barn with wreath making and other activities, tree trimmings, snacks, and visits from Santa.

"The word on the street is to get there early," said Angevine-Bergs of the potential after-Thanksgiving tree-buy-

ing frenzy.

Had she not started taking reservations, "We'd be sold out in the first week. We couldn't handle that safely. This is a way to safely spread it all out over a couple of weeks, plus have a calm, enjoyable experience. More and more farms are doing it as the inventory depletes."

The co-owner of a small family tree farm in Salisbury contacted for this article declined comment due to an early and expected sell-out of trees.

Angevine-Bergs' advice for families looking to find that special Christmas tree is to not panic, and to consider a smaller tree in the 6- to 7-foot range as an alternative to a towering one, which may be more difficult to find.

## VIGIL

Continued from Page A1

at such times. Pastor John Nelson said the same in a letter to The Lakeville Journal published Thursday, Nov. 16.

Tom Morrison of Salisbury, one of the organizers, said security was a concern at the event. He asked people not to take photos, thanked resident Trooper Will Veras for being on hand, and noted the organizers had also arranged for private security. The event was deliberately not publicized out of security concerns.

Jay Abramson, who is the pastor emeritus of the Valley Community Baptist Church in Avon, said he was disturbed by anti-Semitic demonstrations in the U.S. in the wake of the Oct. 7 attacks.

He said that Judaism is at the root of the Christian faith: "Without Judaism there is no Christianity."

He asked the audience to pray for both Israeli and Gazan citizens.

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) emailed the organizers to explain she had a prior commitment. She included a statement, which was read aloud:

"I am heartbroken by the accounts of what Israeli civilians experienced at the hands of brutal and violent terrorists, and I fear for the safety of the hostages. I hope your event brings some solace to those most affected."

State Sen. Steve Harding (R-30) said "We need to make it clear in our communities, person by person, that we stand with Israel and

against anti-Semitism.

"Anti-semitism in every form should be taken away from this Earth."

John Haddon, rabbi at the Congregation Beth David synagogue in Amenia, spoke at length and led prayers.

He said, "Israel never gets a break or the benefit of the doubt in the media, except for Fox News."

He continued, "With apologies to John Lennon, we need to give war a chance."

He said saying that "hurts me more than I can express."

A ceasefire and other measures urged by some groups and politicians will not work, he argued.

"This approach at this time will only lead to more war, more deaths."

Haddon said nobody is asking Hamas for a ceasefire, just Israel, and he asked what other army agrees to four-hour pauses in operations, warns civilians of impending actions, and delivers supplies to hospitals.

"Israel retaliated. That's what a civilized nation does."

George Logan, a Republican who lost a close race against incumbent U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-5) last year and is running again, recalled that his immigrant mother worked for a Jewish family and developed lifelong friendships.

Logan said it is "important to support our Jewish friends. Show them there are more of us than the terrorists."

"Imagine someone just barging in here and killing

any one of us."

Logan said he thinks many Americans don't understand Israel or anti-Semitism: "What we see now is there are folks who hear things from others, don't realize what anti-Semitism is, don't understand why Israel is reacting the way they are."

Mike Abrams read a statement from Hayes: "For over a month, we have watched the devastation unfold in Israel and Gaza. The rise in anti-Semitism and Islamophobia across the globe is truly heartbreaking. On Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas launched a violent terrorist attack on Israel, slaughtering 1,200 civilians and taking at least 240 hostages. In Gaza, the mounting humanitarian crisis is appalling and cannot be ignored. I condemn all forms of hatred and any assault on innocent civilians. Additionally, I call for a safe return of all hostages in Gaza. It is imperative we come together and pray for peace during these troubling times."

Abrams added: "Let's not kid ourselves. Israel is in a fight for survival." Alan Friedman cited signs carried by pro-Hamas demonstrators: "death to Israel, Gas the Jews," and openly displayed swastikas. "Here tonight we have Salisbury's answer," he said. "Your presence here tonight means more than you can imagine."

Gary Jones of the Con-

necticut branch of the Anti-Defamation League said the issues are not complicated, describing Hamas as a "genocidal terrorist organization" with considerable funding and promotional skills. Jones said nobody should be surprised at the actions of Hamas, and to take a look at the organization's charter.

"Its reason for existence is to eliminate Israel and murder Jews." He added, "What happened Oct. 7 was unconscionable and Israel has the right to respond."

An Israeli man who has lived in Great Barrington for 20 years with his family said he was awakened as the Oct. 7 attacks were underway by a family member in a kibbutz near the Israel/Gaza border.

Some of the residents, including several family members, managed to get to a safe room but the Hamas attackers shot into the room and tried burning them out.

Three family members were killed, including a 9-month old baby.

"This is only one story out of many. We were very broken but we're standing tall."

The man asked that his name not be printed because he has been receiving threats.

Haddon returned to the microphone at the end of the vigil and thanked the crowd of about 75 for turning out.

He finished with this:

"To be silent when we should speak is to be an accessory.

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

MUSIC: JENNIFER ALMQUIST

## Home is where the heart is

Every seat in the Great Hall of the Norfolk Library was full. The audience ranged from toddlers held in their parents' arms to gray-haired couples eagerly waiting to experience the music of the Dinuk Wijeratne Trio. Percussionist Nick Halley, bassist Jon Suters and Dinuk Wijeratne on piano, spent the next hour dazzling the grateful crowd with original compositions, superb musicianship and stories that wove a theme of "home" throughout the evening.

To award-winning composer, conductor and pianist Wijeratne — who was born in Sri Lanka, raised in Dubai, educated in the UK and at Juilliard, and now lives in Ottawa — home is many places: "Dubai was a melting pot of South Asian and Middle Eastern culture. Simultaneously I was being trained as a Western musician. I heard Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 21 randomly when I was 12, and then I was hooked. It was my first spiritual experience."

Wijeratne began the performance by saying: "Home is an ephemeral window in time, and perhaps the bittersweet quality of home is when we suspect that window in time has passed. I wrote this piece, 'Homecoming,' in 2015 as a commission for piano and oud for the opening of the Museum of Immigration in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It was also the year I gained my Canadian citizenship."

Recalling the origins of his composition "Damascene," which was

performed by the trio in the library Nov. 13, Wijeratne smiled: "I had traveled with the great Syrian clarinetist, Kinan Azme. We spent a few magical days in his home city of Damascus. It was a very precious time; it seemed like time had stopped. We have all had that feeling when you are perfectly at home in a new, strange place. Is home a state of mind? Is it the people we love? Or is it purely geography?"

A world-renowned musician, Wijeratne made his Carnegie Hall debut in 2004 playing with Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble. He has been described by The New York Times as "exuberantly creative"; the Toronto Star called him "an artist who reflects a positive vision of our cultural future"; and the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra referred to him as "a modern polymath."

Wijeratne has conducted the Calgary Philharmonic and the Qatar Philharmonic in Doha. His work "Two Pop Songs on Antique Poems" won both the 2016 Canadian Juno award for Classical Composition of the Year and the 2016 East Coast Music Award for Classical Composition of the Year.

For percussionist Halley, the performance was a return home. When Norfolk Library director Ann Havemeyer introduced the threesome, she noted that the first time she heard Halley perform in the library, he was 10, singing Beatles songs with Chorus Angelicus, a children's choir started in 1991 by his Grammy-award winning



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Jon Suters, Dinuk Wijeratne, and Nick Halley.

father, Paul Halley.

Halley smiled and said: "It is meaningful to be back in Norfolk, and to feel the warm embrace of this special community. It is heartening to see so many familiar, gorgeous faces, everyone aging so gracefully. And the fact that they took the time to come and hear us, to support the amazing work that Eileen [Fitzgibbons] and Ann [Havemeyer] and the others at the library are doing makes this sort of homecoming that much more encouraging."

Fitzgibbons is the events coordinator and children's librarian for the Norfolk Library, all of whose music and arts programs are funded by The Norfolk Library Associates, which started in 1974.

Halley and his young family now live in Halifax, Nova Scotia: "By the time I got to Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 2008, Dinuk was already 'Halifamous' and well on his way nationwide. So

*"It is meaningful to be back in Norfolk, and to feel the warm embrace of this special community."*



The trio performed a "home" themed show at Norfolk Library.

I heard a lot about him long before he showed up to a gig of mine. Of course, I was terrified of him at first, but soon discovered what a gentle, magnificent soul he is. Playing-wise, it was love at first sight: of course, being so rhythmically compelling along with everything else, his music is any drummer's dream, but I think he even liked me right off the bat, too."

In 2010 the young Halley founded Capella Regalis, a Canadian charity dedicated to training singers, which includes a boys choir, a girls choir, and a professional men's

choir, offering a free music education and performance program for children and young adults in Nova Scotia. In 2012, Halley was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of his contribution to Canada and Nova Scotia through the arts. For the 2013-14 season, Halley was the host of CBC's national radio program, "Choral Concert."

When asked about his dreams, Halley mused: "In one sense, I'm living my dream with Capella Regalis. I just want to keep building it. We've started an endowment,

for instance. I would like to take them to England. Bring some coals to Newcastle and such. There is so much music I love within that genre; we will never get through it in my lifetime. I want future generations of kids to continue encountering that world of beauty."

Suters is as tall as his standing bass. He lives in New Marlborough, Massachusetts, with wife Samantha Halley (Nick Halley's sister) and their children: "Each of my five children has been encouraged to play music and all of them have some facility with at least a couple of different instruments as well as vocalizing. We have homeschooled them all and music is a big part of our approach."

Suters plays piano, guitar, string bass, cello, didgeridoo, banjo, mandolin, lute, violin, trombone, saxophone, drum set and percussion, and steel drums.

Suters has taught at Berkshire Country Day School, Indian Mountain School, Salisbury School, and Simon's Rock of Bard College: "Teaching has enabled me to constantly go back to the fundamentals of music making



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Continued on next page



PHOTO BY MARY CLOSE OPPENHEIMER

FOOD: MARY CLOSE OPPENHEIMER

## Adding flavor to pork tenderloin

**P**ork tenderloin is very lean and can be quite bland. The sauce with this dish explodes with flavor and makes it a memorable dish.

### Pork Tenderloin with Hot, Sweet, Sour Peanut Sauce

**Pork Tenderloin**  
Recipe for a package of 2 tenderloins, about 2 lbs.

*Serves 4-6*  
Trim bits of fat and

tendon from pork. Marinate for at least 1 hour in soy sauce or teriyaki sauce, lemon juice, lots of minced garlic and ginger, and peanut oil. Proportions are flexible.

Grill over charcoal or in your broiler until cooked through, but don't overcook. Pork should be slightly pink in the center or it gets too dry.

Tent with foil and let rest for 5-10 minutes. It will continue to cook a bit, so remove from heat

when it's a touch underdone.

### Hot, Sweet, Sour Peanut Sauce

4 tablespoons (1/4 cup) natural peanut butter, salt-free and unsweetened

4 tablespoons soy sauce

2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

1 tablespoon firmly packed brown sugar

Up to 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper. This will be quite spicy, so start with 1/2 teaspoon and taste for

heat as you go.

3 to 4 tablespoons dried cilantro

Whisk all ingredients together and let stand for at least 1 hour. It should be a thickish sauce, so if it's too thin, add more cilantro.

If you like the sauce quite spicy, you can divide it into 2 parts and add cayenne to only 1 when serving company.

This is a bit skimpy for 2 tenderloins, so you might want to make a larger batch (1 1/2 times)

## ...where the heart is

Continued from previous page

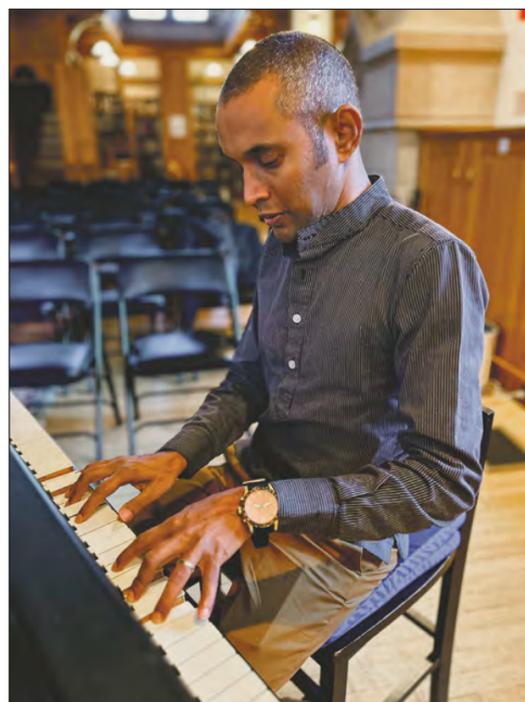


PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Wijeratne played the keys at Norfolk Library.

and demonstrate and talk about them with students. I teach bass guitar, drums/percussion, keyboards, fiddle, brass instruments, and this has helped me to understand the relationships between the different instruments in an ensemble."

When asked about his musical influences, Suters replied: "I am also a classical guitarist and grew up listening to my virtuoso piano prodigy brother play all the greats, so basically everyone from Bach to Scott Joplin, plus the usual rock influences: Jimi Hendrix, Led Zeppelin, classic jazz greats like Miles and Coltrane and more modern ones like Pat Metheny and Herbie Hancock. Brazilian composers and musicians like Villa Lobos, Garoto, Paulo Bellinati, African artists such as Youssou N'dour, Ali Farka Toure, and Indian musicians such as L Shankar, Talvin Singh, and Shakti."

Suters has appeared on stage with James Taylor, Taj Mahal, Doctor John, Rickie Lee Jones, Martin Sexton, Madeleine Peyroux, Eugene Friesen, Paul Halley, Ed Mann (Frank Zappa) and Charles Neville of the Neville Brothers.

One evocative composition, "Chloe" by Wijeratne, is based on Italo Calvino's book "Invisible Cities." The composer illuminated the ideas behind the music: "Chloe reads like some bustling street scene, full of shady characters. There are twins wearing coral jewelry, a blind man with a cheetah on a leash — all very odd scenes. They don't speak. When I read that the city of Chloe 'has a voluptuous vibration to it,' I knew I had to write this piece. Calvino wrote, 'If everyone acted on their impulses, the carousel that is Chloe would come to a stop.'"

In each piece, the music flowed into the room like ocean waves,

rhythmic and soothing. Wijeratne played piano with crystalline precision and emotion, the bass of Suters poured through the notes like honey. Halley's wild percussions, played mostly with his fingers on drum kit, frame drums bendhir and riq specifically — "and the odd bells and whistles, doctoring up the kit with old shirts and weird stuff like that," laughed Halley — provided the structure beneath the music. Playing together, the three musicians created an instinctual harmony in a language unspoken.

Composer and philosopher Wijeratne explained the spiritual origin of each of his compositions. "Lebanese/American Poet Kahlil Gibran, in a poem called 'Upon Houses' from his book 'The Prophet' describes the home not as an anchor, but as the mast of a ship. At first the home is a place for consolation, safety and comfort. Thereafter, home becomes the beginning of a journey of curious exploration. I find that to be a beautiful sentiment, so I wrote this piece I call, 'Whose Windows are Songs and Silences.'"

The trio's final piece ended with an immediate standing ovation. Half-asleep children and their parents and grandparents were clapping; the players held hands and bowed deeply. Fitzgibbons, who organized the event, felt the concert "was an exciting evening full of complex chords and improvisations... wrapped around with old friends and new."

The combination of global musical traditions, jazz improvisation, poetry and literary influences, musicians at the top of their game, and the warm "welcome home" from the Norfolk community created an evening no one will easily forget.

### Cornwall Reads Cornwall

The Cornwall Library will hold its annual "Cornwall Reads Cornwall" event Saturday, Nov. 25, at 4 p.m. in the Town Hall, 24 Pine St.

This event features Cornwall residents reading Cornwall writers.

In the past this has included local denizens, such as Blair Brown and Kurt Andersen, reading the work of local writers, such as James Thurber and Laurie Colwin.

This year the library is looking across the pond:

the readers will be from Cornwall, Connecticut, but the writers will be from Cornwall, UK. The four featured writers will be the droll and witty poet John Betjeman, the spellbinding novelist Daphne du Maurier, best known for her 1938 bestseller "Rebecca"; the famous spy novelist John le Carré, known for his fictional Cold War character, George Smiley; and the groundbreaking modernist Virginia Woolf, known for her luminous novel, "To the Lighthouse." All these writers have written from or about

the beautiful, wild and remote county of Cornwall, England. Is there is a cultural connection between the two Cornwalls? You decide.

The readers of this splendid literary array will be local Cornwallians: teacher and illustrator Jonathan Arnold; writers Jane Garmey and Roxana Robinson; and Canadian interloper Duncan Webb, who has mended his ways and become an engaged local resident. The distinguished radio producer Kerry Donahue will be master of ceremonies.

This event is in-person only, and advance registration is required. Register at [cornwalllibrary.org](http://cornwalllibrary.org)

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# COMPASS

THEATER: EMILY EDELMAN

## Sharon Playhouse brings home Berkie

**T**he world is in such a tumultuous place right now, and I feel that it is so paramount for us to continue to tell the stories that both reflect on the world and also represent a bit of respite," said Allyn Burrows, artistic director of Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, Mass., as he accepted the award for Outstanding Production of a Play on behalf of his Company at the seventh Berkshire Theatre Awards Monday, Nov. 13, at Zion Lutheran Church in Pittsfield, Mass.

The Berkies, as the awards are affectionately known in the local theater community, are accolades for "outstand-

ing" achievements rather than the traditional "best" seen in many awards lists. "I don't think there is anything called 'best' in the theater," said Berkshire Theatre Critics Association (BTCA) president J. Peter Bergman. "But what is 'outstanding' is what you can't forget. And that's what we award for: things that are so special that you just can't forget about them."

This year's ceremony was hosted by Bergman along with board member Macey Levin, whose long career in theater includes a 14-year stint as artistic director of the former Salisbury-based Aglet Theatre Company.

There were ties in several categories this year, including Outstanding Production of a Musical, which was shared by Barrington Stage Company of Pittsfield for "Cabaret" and Sharon Playhouse in Connecticut for "Something Rotten." Carl Andress, Sharon Playhouse's artistic director, accepted the award, saying, "Something Rotten' at our theater was truly something spectacular, as with all the work that is being honored here tonight, and we just couldn't be happier to receive this."

BTCA held its first awards ceremony in 2016, the idea of the organization's late founder,



PHOTO BY EMILY EDELMAN

Representing Sharon Playhouse at the Berkshire Theatre Critics Awards Monday, Nov. 13, at Zion Lutheran Church in Pittsfield, Mass., were, from left, Carl Andress, artistic director; Rod Christensen, managing director; Emily Soell, board president; and Michael Kevin Baldwin, associate artistic director and director of education.

Larry Murray, who was also the inspiration for the Larry Murray Award for Community Outreach

and Support Through Theater, which was given this year to Jean-Remy Monnay, founder of the

Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate New York.

"When I started the company," Monnay said, "I was one of probably four or five Black actors in the area. I said, 'The local theater companies have to do better, have to be more diverse.'"

In 2012, Monnay launched his first big production and said he "didn't know if I was going to find seven Black men to do it... Today, to go around, to see three or four theater companies doing all Black plays, all Black actors, it's a great thing to see."

Emily Edelman is on the board of the Berkshire Theatre Critics Association

ART: JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

## Art in the Loft at the Millbrook Winery

**W**hether you're there for the art, the wine, the ambiance, or for all three, Art in the Loft at the Millbrook Winery is always a good place to be, and this year, the 23rd since it began, was no exception.

On Sunday, Nov. 12, the air was too chilly to spend time in the vineyard or on the patio, but inside, it was warm and friendly — the food by Simply Gourmet was grand and music by The Swing Vipers was swinging!

A collaboration between Millbrook Winery and Arts Mid-Hudson, a number of art pieces are chosen each spring and judged by a juried panel to hang on the walls of the gallery at the winery. Visitors not only enjoy seeing the artworks, but they vote on them, as well.

With a point system of three points for first, two points for second and one point for third, the votes are tallied in November and the winners are announced at the Art in the Loft reception held at the winery. On that day, 20% of all wine sales purchased by reception guests is donated to Arts Mid-Hudson, a nonprofit group that has been active since 1964.

David Bova, general manager and vice president of the winery, recalled the history of the Chateau Mouton Rothschild, the celebrated French vineyard, and its tradition of having leading artists design its labels, starting with Jean Carlu in 1924. In 1945 it resurrected the idea and had young, unknown artist Phillippe Jullian design a label celebrating the Allied victory and

the return of peace. Miro, Chagall, Braque, Picasso, Dali, Francis Bacon, Jeff Koons and King Charles of England among others are some of the artists who have since designed labels for the French winery.

Bova said that it was this Rothschild tradition that inspired him, along with marketing director Stacy Hudson, to form the partnership with Art in the Loft. Art in many forms can be submitted, although the majority are paintings in different mediums as well as photographs.

There were 16 artworks hanging in the exhibit. Bova said that over 20,000 people had visited the winery this year and a total of 2,400 votes made. Hudson added that seven out of the 16 paintings were sold prior to the judging, to be picked up after the winners were announced.

The winner not only gets the recognition, but the winning artwork is made into a label for a special wine, and for each bottle of wine bearing that label, the artist will receive 10% and Arts Mid-Hudson will get 10% of the sale.

This year's winner was Linda Lavin of Rhine-



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Art in the Loft first-place winner Linda Lavin with her painting "Starry Night."

beck for "Starry Night," a print on giclee canvas. She is an occupational therapist who has been painting for about 10 years, and is inspired by color. Not always certain about what her subject will be, she is inspired by color and shape, and said her work is an appropriation — it has been a real process. Her work received 759 votes.

Second place went to Arquimedes Mejia for "Winery Lake," an oil on canvas, with 615 votes.

Third place, with 470, went to Maureen Lohan-Bremer for an archival pigment print titled

"The Mighty Hudson."

The Millbrook Vineyards and Winery is located at 26 Wing Road.

For more information about Arts Mid-Hudson go to [www.artsmidhudson.org](http://www.artsmidhudson.org)

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## TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Items are printed as space permits. All entries can be found at [www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar](http://www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar). To submit calendar items, email [editor@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:editor@lakevillejournal.com)

### NOVEMBER 24

#### Benefit Concert for Prime Time House

Battell Chapel, Battell Road, Norfolk, Conn.

Please mark your calendars for Friday, Nov. 24 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Battell Chapel in Norfolk for a concert featuring Michael Cobb performing family-friendly rock & roll with his band Sasquatch Inc. Also performing will be singer-songwriter-guitarist Julia Autumn Ford. There is a suggested donation of \$10 to benefit the mental health programs at Prime Time House.

#### Tree Lighting

Cornwall Bridge, Conn.

The Cornwall Association will host the annual tree lighting in Cornwall Bridge on Friday, Nov. 24. Guests are invited to take part in the seasonal merriment beginning at 5 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 25

#### FFA Holiday Store

246 Warren Tpke, Falls Village, Conn.

The Housatonic FFA's Holiday Store is open for business starting Saturday, Nov. 25. The hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. until Dec. 22. Come and get your holiday trees, wreaths, poinsettias, cheese and more before they sell out.

### DECEMBER 1

#### Comedy Night

Colonial Theatre, 27 Railroad St., Canaan, Conn.

Laugh it up and help out a worthy cause when "Friends From Work: 10 Years of Comedy" hosted by veteran hometown comic Ronnie Reed comes to the Canaan Colonial Theatre on Friday, Dec. 1. The fun night of adult humor will also include long-time stand ups Jerrold Benford, Dan McRitchie and an appearance by Vemilo Evergreen. A portion of the profits will be donated to Fishes and Loaves, a Canaan food bank. Tickets (\$27 each) for the two-hour laughfest are available online at [canaancolonial.com/public-events](http://canaancolonial.com/public-events). Doors open at 7 p.m., show runs 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

### DECEMBER 2

#### A Christmas Carol: Marionette Performance by the Puppet People

Roeliff Jansen Library, 9091 Route 22, Copake, N.Y. [roeliffjansenlibrary.org](http://roeliffjansenlibrary.org)

On Saturday, Dec. 2 from 3 to 4 p.m., The Roeliff Jansen Library in Copake, N.Y. will host a spectacular marionette performance of Charles Dickens's classic tale, A Christmas Carol, presented by the Puppet People. This puppet spectacular features beautifully handcrafted marionettes, shadow puppets, gorgeous masks, lavish costumes, vivid sets, a professional soundtrack that includes

many holiday favorites, a giant 9-foot parade puppet, and guaranteed smiles! Experience this literary masterpiece that reaches far beyond the holiday season. For more information see [www.roejanlibrary.org/library-calendar](http://www.roejanlibrary.org/library-calendar)

#### Books and Bling Sale!

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. [scovillelibrary.org](http://scovillelibrary.org)

On Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the Friends of Scoville Library (FSL) are hosting their 3rd annual 'Books and Bling' during the Merry & Bright Salisbury Hometown Holidays weekend. Donated jewelry and present-worthy books and puzzles will be for sale upstairs in the Library. Downstairs, the FSL stacks will be open for additional book buying. All proceeds benefit children and adult programs at the Library.

#### Old Time Dance

Cornwall Town Hall, 24 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn.

Come jingle your bells to contras, circles and squares on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Cornwall Town Hall. Live music by Kitch n Sync with a caller teaching all of the dances. Beginners and left feet welcome, no partner necessary. Non-electronic donation requested to pay the caller. For more information call Debra at 860-672-0229.

#### Annual Christmas Fair

UCC Parish House, 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall, Conn.

Shop local crafts and vendors, baked goods, and attic treasures at the UCC Parish House Annual Christmas Sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2. There will be a basket raffle, apple pie contest, crèche display, and soup/chili take-out. Pre-ordered wreaths will be available for pick-up. To order, call the church office at 860-672-6840.

### DECEMBER 3

#### Holiday Market

4 Brook St, Lakeville, Conn.

The Lakeville Hose Company Ladies Auxiliary Holiday Vendor Market is Sunday, Dec. 3, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the firehouse, 4 Brook St. in Lakeville. Unusual gifts, food and fun.

### BOOKS: JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

## Baron talks Trump, Bezos and The Washington Post

It's pretty certain that Jeff Bezos, Donald Trump and a host of other world-famous people remember Martin Baron as editor of, first, The Boston Globe, and then The Washington Post.

Some of the most important stories over the past 25 years crossed his desk. He made the decisions concerning what was printed and what wasn't, always with integrity, fairness and the evidence to back it up.

Baron was at Merritt Bookstore in Millbrook on Wednesday, Nov. 15, for a talk and a book signing for his book "Collision of Power. Trump, Bezos, and The Washington Post." He began his talk by introducing the fact that, after only seven months as editor at The Washington Post, it was bought by Jeff Bezos. He also described a dinner at the White House with newly elected president Donald Trump, relaying the fact that Trump would speak disparagingly of the paper and then jab Baron with his elbow.

In spite of the fact that there was a president in power who had campaigned against the media and who, all through his tenure, waged war against the press, The Washington Post wrote groundbreaking news, including covering stories about the NSA surveillance in the U.S., and the scandals that took place at the Secret Service.

The book is written in a straightforward, factual manner, with the journalist's desire to answer all questions and the editor's wisdom in knowing how to handle a barrage of information. The outcome leaves one satisfied, but not overwhelmed with unnecessary information.

Baron talks about people we have only heard about but wish



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

From left, author, journalist and editor Martin Baron with Merritt Bookstore owner of Kira Wizner and lawyer Nicholas Diamand.

we knew, and some others we know about and wish we didn't. He gives us insight into how the media works, and what happens when it doesn't work the right way. He even had tidbits about other newspapers and media that make it really interesting and gives one a feeling of knowing much more when we finish the book than when we started it. In some places it's dark; in others, it's fun.

One of the most interesting parts of the evening was during the questions asked by the audience and mediated by lawyer and Merritt friend Nicholas Diamand. When asked what Baron considers his "best" work, he answered that the assignment he handed over to a team of journalists in 2001 when he was at The Boston Globe will always be the most

important. That was the expose that brought about the investigation into the abuse, by defrocked priest John Geoghan, of more than 80 young boys. This, in turn, brought about the unmasking of the extent of the abuse by many other priests in many other places, and investigations are still going on today. That story ended up being made into the award-winning movie "Spotlight."

Questions were also asked about the future of print newspapers; Baron stated that, 20 years ago, he thought they had about 10 years left. He feels that they are existing now on borrowed time.

He does see a future for news and journalism in the digital age, as media becomes digitalized as the norm. Things are recorded as they happen, in real

time, and can be seen immediately. More and more newspapers have begun to print less and less often, and most no longer deliver. Baron thinks that at some point, most newspapers will only print on Sundays, and the format will be more magazine than newspaper.

With that said, it's a fascinating journey to read his book, to note the changes over the years that he wrote about, and a wonderful bonus is two sections of color photos in the book with people you will recognize. Also a bonus is Baron's personal and up-close observations of people we all know and love or love to hate, and his insights as to why things may have happened as they did. It's current, but it looks back just a bit while giving one a peek into the future.



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# Our Towns

## Christmas concert Dec. 3

SALISBURY — The Congregational Church of Salisbury will present its annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, Dec 3, at 3 p.m. at 30 Main St.

The concert will feature the church's Bell Choir, Adult Choir, instrumentalists, guests, and a special appearance by children of the Sunday School program.

The choir will sing music of Mendelssohn, Gjello, Lauridsen, Handel and Vivaldi, along with traditional carols for all to sing along. There will be a jazz piano trio playing some audience favorites as well.

Free to the public, director David Baranowski's musical gift provides a time of reflection surrounded by inspiring, soul-nourishing classical repertory. The Meeting House will open at 2:30 p.m., and masks are optional.

## Hometown Holidays Weekend

On Friday, Dec. 1, holiday season festivities will kick off with a "Making Spirits Bright Stroll" in downtown Salisbury.

Local business will be open from 5 to 7 p.m. with special events and free food and beverages. Visitors can take part in a raffle for a grand prize made of gift cards and items donated from the participating businesses.

Saturday, Dec. 2, will feature activities throughout the day and evening, including a holiday market, food vendors, Scoville Library Books

& Bling, Noble Horizons Festival of Trees, choral concerts, and a holiday cocktail party at the White Hart.

Sunday, Dec. 3, will wrap up the weekend with a Parade of Lights, Santa Claus and the tree lighting at the White Hart and Town Green.

Donations will be collected for the local food pantry. Guests are asked to bring a nonperishable food item or two to deposit in one of the many collection boxes around town. Visit [www.merrybrightsalisburyct.com](http://www.merrybrightsalisburyct.com) for more information.

## Warm clothing for children

NORTH CANAAN — Fran Chapell, director of the Canaan Child Care Center, is partnering with FISH/Friends in Service to Humanity of Northwestern Connecticut Inc., to provide warm clothing to children at her center.

Warm the Children is a program that provides new winter clothing and footwear for local children in need. Families to be served are chosen by local social service agencies, and schools.

For more information call 860-824-0597.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

## Fiddler in Falls Village

The opening scene from Fiddler on the Roof Jr., as performed by students from Salisbury Central School at Housatonic Valley Regional High School on Nov. 17 and 18. The show was sponsored by SOAR, the enrichment program at SCS, and directed by Darcy Boynton and Stephanie Hahn.

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Interested candidates should send cover letter and resume to: M. Donecker at [mdonecker@salisburyjournal.org](mailto:mdonecker@salisburyjournal.org). Applications may also be submitted online at [www.salisburyschool.org](http://www.salisburyschool.org).

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