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THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 \$3.00

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

Behind the scenes of NYT's 'Places to Go'

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY - Amy Virshup, travel editor of The New York Times, spoke about the newspaper's "52 Places to Go in 2024" digital presentation and how the list is put together at the White Hart Inn on Saturday, Jan. 20.

The event was sponsored by the Scoville Memorial Library, and the library's Karen Vrotsos acted as moderator.

The proceedings suffered from computer difficulties. The desired web page appeared for a few seconds. Then the screen went blank and the cycle started again.

This didn't faze Virshup.

She said the process of assembling the annual list of destinations starts right after Labor Day, when correspondents, bureau chiefs and photographers are asked to submit nominations for 52 places.

No. 1 this year is "The Path of Totality, North America."

From the Times: "From the

beaches of Mazatlán, Mexico, to the rugged coves of Maberly, Newfoundland, the sky will be the stage on April 8 as a total solar eclipse sweeps across North America. This year, the moon will be near its closest point to Earth, resulting in an unusually wide swath and long-lasting totality."

"It's so exciting," Virshup said. She was asked if she was going to Mazatlan.

"I wish," she replied. "I'll be in Vermont."

Virshup said that the 52 places are not rankings per se, except for the top spot.

"No. 1 is a standout. Everything else has to have a spot."

What makes a destination worthy of inclusion?

"We really focus on news value" when sifting through the hundreds of nominations.

For instance: Paris made the list, not because it's Paris, but because

See TRAVEL, Page A12

PHOTO BY PAUL VENTI

Boy Scouts constructed shelters out of cardboard boxes during a Dec. 8 sleep-out on the Winsted Green to raise awareness of homelesssnes in the Northwest Corner.

Advocates buoyed by new state initiative to end homelessness

By Debra A. Aleksinas

Advocates who provide services to a growing number of unhoused people throughout the rural Northwest Corner and state are applauding Gov. Ned Lamont's establishment last week of a new interagency council tasked with tackling the problem of homelessness.

The panel, consisting of leaders of multiple state agencies, will be known as the Connecticut Interagency Council on Homelessness and will be responsible for strengthening the state's homeless prevention and response efforts.

Chronic underfunding and bureaucratic obstacles to services have hampered past efforts by community agencies in caring for the unhoused, problems that advocates said will hopefully be addressed.

"The program has a lot of promise," said Julia Scharnberg, vice president of community engagement for the Northwest CT Community Foundation (NCCF).

Scharnberg manages the foundation's grant-making process and is an active participant in regionwide issues including homelessness.

"It's something that has been expressed by others in the homelessness sector, that it would be so helpful if we had something like that," she noted.

The council will consist of leaders of state agencies that are responsible for housing and intervention support services. According to a press release issued by Lamont, it will build upon existing efforts already undertaken by several state agencies, including the departments of housing, social services and mental health and addiction services.

Historic Norfolk church's steeple repaired after years of planning

By John Coston

NORFOLK — With much anticipation, the steeple on Norfolk Church of Christ, Congregational's iconic building was lifted back into place Thursday, Jan. 18, three years after it was removed for repairs.

Three years is an equivalent blip



See HOMELESSNESS, Page A12

in time for this village landmark, designed more than 200 years ago in 1813. The excitement of onlookers on a chilly January morning reflected years of planning — and praying — after learning in 2015 that the tower was unsafe in winds above 40 miles per hour. Since then, the church has been enlisting consultant help and commissioning an engineering firm to come up with a solution.

In June, a Raise the Steeple Committee of the church announced a \$200,000 grant from the State Historic Preservation Office. Individuals and organizations had committed donations and grants for the project, and a fundraising dance party event was held.

When the committee submitted its grant application, project estimates topped \$400,000, and

See STEEPLE, Page A12



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Pastor Erick Olsen, center in long coat, watches on Thursday, Jan. 18 in Norfolk as a crane lifted the repaired steeple back on top of the United Church of Christ, Congregational.

Affordable housing coming one step at a time

By Riley Klein

As the need for attainable housing in Northwest Connecticut grows, Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity (LCCHO) reported that progress is being made one step at a time.

Jocelyn Ayer, director of the center, addressed the Northwest Hills Council of Governments at its January meeting for an update.

Her presentation explained the various efforts underway by regional organizations and the roadmap for what is to come in 2024.

"We are supporting a pipeline of 143 new affordable housing units that could be in construction by the end of this year if we can work together with the local housing nonprofits, the towns and the Department of Housing to get them funded quickly," said Ayer.

The 143 new units will be spread across the county with 18 distinct projects in development. Locations include Barkhamsted, Cornwall, Falls Village, Goshen, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, Norfolk, Salisbury, Sharon, Warren, Washington and Winchester.

Each project is being developed with input from municipal stakeholders in the respective towns.

Ayer also reported a new planning grant opportunity to promote partnerships between local housing organizations, conservation groups, and town leaders. Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative, Housatonic Valley Association and LC-CHO awarded a combined \$19,500 toward this effort.

See HOUSING, Page A12

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Regional

In The Journal this week

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Online This Week

Falls Village proposes new ordinances Selectmen recomended three ordinances to go to town meeting. More on www.lakevillejournal.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.

Rollover on Route 44

On Tuesday, Jan. 16, at approximately 11:45 a.m. Mouffa Alio, 25, of Waterbury, was traveling east on Route 44 in North Canaan when the 2004 Econoline E350 crossed the roadway, struck a tree and rolled on its side. The driver and a passenger were unhurt. Alio was issued a written warning for traveling too fast for conditions and failure to maintain lane. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

R/R-crossing gate crash

On Wednesday, Jan. 17, Matthew Manka, 29, of Bethlehem, was eastbound on Route 44 in North Canaan, driving a 2019 Ford Transit registered to William Perotti & Sons, Inc., and failed to stop for lowered railroad crossing arms. The front windshield was damaged and Manka was issued an infraction for failure to obey a stop sign/railroad crossing.

Strikes Eversource pole

On Friday, Jan. 19, at approximately 3:30 p.m., Garrett Argir, 23, of Westfield, Indiana, was eastbound on Route 44 in East Canaan in a 2018 Nissan Altima when the vehicle lost control at a curve and struck a utility pole. Argir was transported by EMS to Charlotte Hungerford Hospital with minor injuries and the Nissan was towed from the scene. Argir was cited for traveling too fast for conditions.

Sharon break-in attempt

On Friday, Jan. 19, shortly after 6 p.m., Troopers from Troop B responded to a residence on Still Meadow Road in Sharon on a criminal mischief complaint. Troopers determined that an attempt at a break-in had been made, causing damage to an exterior window frame. The case is under investigation.

Snowy embankment

On Saturday, Jan. 20, at approximately 3 p.m., Astrid Sprigman, 17, of Stony Brook, New York, was traveling east on Route 44 in Norfolk in a 2014 Subaru and collided with a snowy embankment and lost control. The vehicle struck a wire rope guardrail and had to be towed from the scene. Sprigman was issued an infraction for failure to maintain lane.

The Lakeville Journal will publish the outcome of police charges. Contact us by mail at P.O. Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039, Attn: Police Blotter, or send an email, with "police blotter" in the subject line, to johnc@lakevillejournal.

New eatery coming to Great Barrington

GREAT BARRINGTON, Mass. — Berkshire County restaurateur Josh Irwin will open a unique food establishment in a space adjacent to the Triplex Cinema.

"I was looking for something on a different scale, something much more accessible, simple," said Irwin, "but with a real systematic approach in mind."

Plans call for a 550-squarefoot space, accessible from both the interior of the Triplex and the exterior on the Triplex patio via a takeout window.

Juju's will open in May to kick off the summer season. The Triplex patio will be open for outdoor eating in the warmer weather.

"There will be tables inside the theater lobby and upstairs," said Irwin. "In the spring, summer and fall, we're going to deck out the patio



PHOTO SUBMITTED The Triplex's Sam Handel, left, turns over the keys to

with tables and chairs, try and pump some energy into that space."

restaurateur Josh Irwin.

Irwin and his wife, Emily, rose to fame in the Berkshires as the chef and owners of the beloved New Marlborough hotspot Cantina 229, which

closed in February 2023 after nearly eight years in business. Irwin is also a partner

in the popular Mooncloud cocktail bar, located around the corner from the Triplex on Railroad Street, and is also embarking on a number of

in Torrington, Winsted, and

a newly built center in North

Canaan. The organization ex-

Don't Miss

This Week's

Special Inserts!

other new local food-related ventures.

The fast-casual food concept of Juju's will feature a specially created popcorn-sized fried chicken as well as popcorn-sized fried vegetable treats, two salads packed with items, and Irwin's beloved soft serve ice cream in cones and cups.

"I don't mess around when it comes to flavor, and with a very concentrated menu, I'm excited to land some pretty awesome flavors right off the bat and keep them coming bright and strong," Irwin said.

Also on the menu will be homemade mint iced tea and lemongrass lemonade. Additional beverages will be available in the adjoining Triplex lobby.

Emily Edelman contribut*ed to this article.*

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CHWC names development director

CHWC's mission. Together, TORRINGTON — The Community Health and we look forward to expand-Wellness Center (CHWC) ing access and building a has appointed Kelly Baxter Spitz as director of development in a move that highlights its commitment to "sustaining growth and enhancing healthcare" in the

CHWC is a Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (FQHC) that provides a range of services in the Northwest Corner, including medical, dental, chiropractic, nutrition, podiatry, and behavioral health, as well as an in-house lab and pharmacy.

region.

Spitz will join CHWC in January. At volunteers in Medicine in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, she was part of a the launch of a \$10 million campaign.

Joanne Borduas, CEO of CHWC, said, "[Spitz's] expertise and passion for health equity align seamlessly with

Correcting Errors

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

Sales and more! Check them out inside. Salisbury Winter Sport Association

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

A certified list of 28 Democratic party-endorsed candidates for the Town of Salisbury for election as Members of the Town Committee At-Large is on file in my office at 27 Main Street, Salisbury,

Members of the Town Committee at Large is on file in my office at 63 Main Street, Sharon, Connecticut and copies are available for public distribution. The number of Town Committee Members to be elected,

As soon as the tax becomes delinquent, it shall be subject to interest at the rate of 1.5% per month from January 1, 2024 until the same is paid.

Bills may be viewed and paid online by going to the Tax Collector's page on the

stronger, healthier communitends its impact by offering ty, particularly by improving physical and mental health services through schoolhealth outcomes and increasbased health centers in all Torrington schools, with plans to expand to three schools in the Region One

ly diversifying its revenue sources and positioning itself for sustainable growth to support our rural commu-

ning 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization and the sole FQHC in the Northwest Corner, serving over 6,000 patients with health centers

ing accessibility for all." With less consistent governement funding available, CHWC said it is "proactiveschool district.

nities."

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Connecticut and copies are available for public distribution. The number of Town Committee Members to be elected, under party rules, is 30.

A Primary will be held March 5, 2024 if 8 candidacies (which is at least 25% of the number of town committee members to be elected by such party in the municipality) are filed in accordance with § §9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, of the General Statutes, by persons other than party-endorsed candidates, not later than 4:00 p.m. of January 31, 2024, provided the number of such candidacies plus the number of endorsed candidates, exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than such 25%, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies, may be obtained from Jennifer Law, Democratic Registrar of Voters, 27 Main Street, Salisbury, Connecticut.

Patricia H. Williams Town Clerk of Salisbury 01-25-24

Legal Notice **PARTY - ENDORSED** Candidates for the **TOWN COMMITTEE AT-LARGE**

A certified list of 25 Democrat party-endorsed candidates for the Town of Sharon for election as

under party rules, is 25. A primary will be held March 5th, 2024 if 6 candidacies (which is at least 25% of the number of town committee members to be elected by such party in the municipality) are filed in accordance with Conn. General Statutes 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, by persons other than party endorsed candidates, not later than 4:00 p.m. of January 31, 2024, provided the number of such candidacies plus the number of endorsed candidates, exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than such 25%, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies, may be obtained from Marel E. Rogers, Democratic Registrar of Voters, 63 Main Street, Sharon, CT. Linda R. Amerighi-CCTC Sharon Town Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF KENT

01-25-24

The second installment of the Real Estate, Personal Property and the Motor Vehicle Supplemental tax for the Grand List of 2022 is due and payable January 1, 2024. The second installment of the Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicle Supplemental tax for the Grand List of 2022 will become delinquent on Friday, February 2, 2024.

Town of Kent website at www.townofkentct.org.

There are two options for online payment: credit card or electronic check.

The Tax Collector's office will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. There is a red drop box next to the front door of the Town Hall for payments.

Payments are also welcome through the mail at P. O. Box 311, Kent, Connecticut 06757.

Deborah Devaux CCMC Tax Collector 12-21-23 01-04-24 01-25-24

NOTICE TO CREDITORS **ESTATE OF MURIEL KAY PITCHER** Late of Salisbury (24-00029)

The Hon.Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated January 18, 2024, 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: Tina Pitcher 60 Hooperfield Drive Po Box 444 Sharon, CT 06069 Megan M. Foley Clerk 01-25-24

Norfolk nonprofit launches fresh start with new name

By Jennifer Almquist

NORFOLK — Thanks to the vision and energy of a few committed residents originally calling themselves The Norfolk Foundation, the town has renewed vitality.

To more accurately reflect the mission of this nonprofit group to enhance the resources of the community, support local business, and create cultural programs in the arts and literature, the name of the organization has been distilled to The Norfolk Hub — a fresh start, with a new logo design, for a group that has already been improving life in Norfolk, reviving the town center, and focusing on the future by serving the technological demands of life in the 21st century.

"Over the last seven years the Hub has become a centerpiece and a place that everyone in town feels positively about. It seemed like the right time to simplify our identity," said Lisa Atkin, co-president of the Norfolk Hub.

"We are a hub — a center of activity and connectivity for the town," said Libby Borden, The Norfolk Hub founder and co-president. "We aim to serve everyone in the community by partnering with other nonprofit groups to help them advance their missions, and we contribute to the vibrancy and vitality of the community through programs in the arts and nature — programs that reflect who we are, how we've evolved over time, and that will continue to shape Norfolk's future."

It is rare to have such a nexus of activity in a small New England town. Back in 2015, Libby Borden got together with friends Pete Anderson and Steve Melville and planted the first seeds of the now essential 501(c)(3)private operating foundation. Borden envisioned a general store to spark the commercial center of town. The Norfolk Foundation encouraged Ryan Craig to move his Cornwall-based sandwich shop, and 6 Station Place, now known as the Berkshire Country Store, was born.

Two Station Place, the brick-and-mortar space across from The Royal Arcanum Building, known as The Hub, provides community gathering and workspaces for individuals, and member and nonmember organizations.

New additions to the Norfolk Hub staff include Christal Preszler, former deputy director of economic and community development for Newtown, Connecticut. She has joined the Hub as special projects and grants manager, and Dianna Hofer, former owner of The Healing Nest and certified art teacher, came on board to support operations and event planning.

"The Norfolk Hub is unique in our community," explained Atkin. "Because we are fortunate to have the resources to support other local nonprofits, we function as a utility player, helping by providing support staff, office space and other resources, as needed. In other words, we can serve as an extension of their organizations."

Founder Steve Melville wanted a greater emphasis on the arts, and the Haystack Book Festival was established. Norfolk Hub board member Michael Selleck organized another successful



Lisa Atkin, co-president, and Libby Borden, president of The Norfolk Hub.

the Hub and 6 Station Place

Haystack Book Festival in September as well as readings earlier in the summer.

As reported in Norfolk Now, the event has grown, "From a small conversation six years ago with a biographer of the poet John Ashbery, into a multiday exploration that remains true to its roots in literature but now ranges into criticism, religion, history, foreign affairs, journalism, domestic politics and usually quite a bit more."

The Norfolk Hub also sponsored the Yale Summer School public art lecture series Freedom to Form. "We sponsored several lectures at the Yale Art School with an eye towards establishing a rapport with the Stoeckel Estate and the Yale campus, recalled Atkin." Plans to collaborate with the Yale program in the future are being considered.

In addition to owning

(the Berkshire Country Store), with the support of the William and Mary Greve Foundation, the organization acquired The Royal Arcanum building with the purpose of ensuring that the historic structure is preserved and occupied. The Arcanum rents out office space, is the home of the Norfolk Pub, and is currently renovating five apartments on the second floor for affordable housing, thanks to a \$500,000 Connecticut state grant received earlier this year. The apartments will be subleased to the Foundation for Norfolk Living, a provider of affordable housing in Norfolk. A vacant space in The Arcanum Building is now dedicated to attracting entrepreneurs with ideas for pop-up stores such as the artisans, bakers, woodworkers scheduled over the coming months.

PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

In June, the CT-Asia Cultural Center, The Norfolk Library and the Hub celebrated the traditional Chinese holiday Dragon Boat Festival with crafts, a sample dragon boat, food and a parade.

In November, Norfolk's Billy Gridley, president of Aton Forest Inc., moderated a panel discussion on "Forever Wild: Rewilding New England: A Vital Solution to



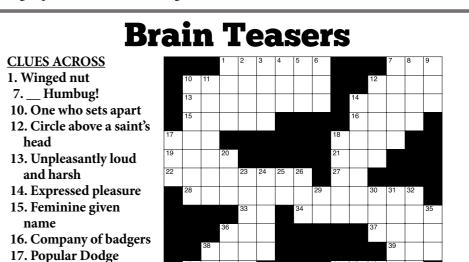
Norfolk Hub's new logo.

Climate Change, Biodiversity Loss, and Threats to Human Health."

In partnership with Mission Impact, the Norfolk Church of Christ UCC youth group and the Rev. Erick Olsen and Norfolk Hub board member Vishal Grover organized the first annual Haystack Pet Parade, which was a big hit.

Atkin concluded: "I've felt engaged, inspired and dedicated to the Foundation since joining because there is an essential spirit of getting things done. Being on the board has provided me the opportunity to meet many members of the community it might have taken me decades to meet. In a town like Norfolk, in today's political and cultural reality, it's easy to point to the things that are not working, but my feeling about our work has always been that we aren't afraid to take on a project if that project had the possibility to improve the lives of this community. While there is a lot more to be done, I feel like the Norfolk Hub has stimulated some momentum towards an evolution of this wonderful small town."

Learn more at norfolkfoundation.net



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.

To donate, please visit lakevillejournal.com/donate or fill out the form below and mail a check. For information on donating shares of stock, please email donation@ lakevillejournal.com.

Thank you for your continued support!

Nonen Doyle

Noreen Doyle, Chair

Susan Hassler, CEO, publisher

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human creativity

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Sharon Hospital awaits word on L&D

By Riley Klein

SHARON — The final decision on the fate of Sharon Hospital's labor and deliver (L&D) services is expected to be handed down by the Office of Healthcare Strategy in the coming weeks.

Nuvance Health, owner of Sharon Hospital, initially submitted a Certificate of Need (CON) to close its maternity unit in January 2022. Nuvance cited a loss of \$3 million annually and underutilization of the services as its key reasons for closure.

The application was denied by OHS in its proposed decision in August 2023. OHS conditionally ordered Sharon Hospital's maternity

services to remain in effect pending an appeal from Nuvance.

The decision stated that the hospital had not succeeded in providing adequate evidence of either financial or safety concerns, nor adequate plans or alternatives for women in labor.

Nuvance subsequently filed an appeal with the state. On Nov. 8, 2023, Nuvance counsel Ted Tucci presented an oral argument for the closure of Sharon Hospital's L&D services.

"This decision threatens Sharon Hospital's ability to continue delivering care to Northwestern Connecticut," said Tucci.

Tucci claimed there were "four major flaws" in the

Cornwall explores new solar options

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — With a flurry of solar projects popping up in surrounding towns, Cornwall's Board of Selectmen (BOS) discussed ways to increase renewable energy in town at a meeting of the board Tuesday, Jan. 16.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway met with representatives from the Sharon Energy Environmental Group and the CT Green Bank the week prior to the meeting. Two potential sites were evaluated: Cornwall Consolidated School and the transfer station.

"We talked about what's going on in Sharon, what's happening in some of our other nearby municipalities as far as large-scale solar installations in their town to help control the cost of electricity," said Ridgway, noting new initiatives at the state level that offer incentives to towns expanding renewable energy sources. "Connecticut is ambitious. They're looking to go all renewable fuels by 2040." submitted to the Green Bank either in February or August.

"We're not going to be ready for February... hopefully we'll be lined up for August," he said.

BOS will release more information on upcoming solar plans as it develops. **Town updates**

State. Rep. Maria Horn

(D-64) has offered assistance to Cornwall in gaining approval for food composting services at the transfer station. After applying for a composting permit in 2023, Cornwall was told the town does not qualify because the transfer station does not offer leaf composting.

Ridgway said after he expressed the difficulty Cornwall has encountered, Horn was "all ears" and got to work to expedite the process. BOS planned to continue to work with Horn and DEEP to move forward with composting services.

Cornwall's town garage added a truck to the fleet in January. A 2011 International with plow attachment was purchased from the Town proposed decision: "First, it both violates and at the same time misapplies CON statutory guidelines. Second, it violates the legal standards required for sound agency decisions. Third, review of the reliable record evidence also only supports one conclusion, and that conclusion is that the CON should be approved. Fourth, when you look at the reasons in the proposed decision for refusing to close the L&D unit, those reasons are arbitrary and unreasonable."

Nuvance added that an annual \$3 million loss in the L&D unit is unsustainable for Sharon Hospital.

"The decision says that this \$3 million annual loss is 'negligible.' I guess that's true when compared to the nearly \$24, \$25 million deficits that the hospital is running," said Tucci. "Sharon Hospital is in crisis."

On the issue of adequate plans or alternatives for women in labor, Nuvance proposed the women can find a new hospital.

"There are five other area hospitals that can easily absorb Sharon Hospital's minimal volume," said Tucci.

Concerned citizens and members of the Save Sharon Hospital group are also eagerly awaiting the final decision.

"Our community continues to require access to local, high-quality labor and delivery services. If OHS chooses to accept Nuvance's application to close the maternity unit at Sharon Hospital in its Final Decision, there could be dire consequences. Pregnant families should not have to drive long distances on country roads to deliver a baby, especially in emergent situations. I am confident that OHS will confirm its well-researched and well thought out Proposed Final Decision, and will deny Nuvance's application to close maternity at Sharon Hospital," said Lydia Moore, president of Save Sharon Hospital, in a statement to The Lakeville Journal.

Moore gave birth to her daughter at Sharon Hospital in 2023. The pending decision from OHS will decide if Moore's child was among the last babies born at the hospital.

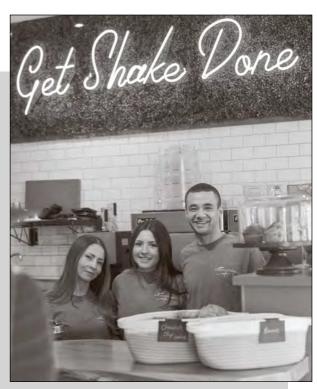


PHOTO BY COLIN BAZZANO

Nutritional cafe reopens

Homegrown Cafe closed in December after three and a half years of success. A little over a month later, the popular spot on Railroad Street in North Canaan reopened with a similar menu of protein shakes, energy drinks, granola acai bowls and other health offerings. Husband-and-wife owners Darius and Valeria Sanchez opened Tuesday, Jan. 16, with help from Valeria's mother, Lucy Arango, left, who is also seen as an owner.

P&Z approves solar array with conditions

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — In the wake of a town-wide referendum Friday, Jan. 5, when voters registered their support for plans to install a solar array on town-owned property adjacent to Sharon Center School, the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z), at its regular meeting Wednesday, Jan. 10, voted unanimous approval for the site plan application submitted by Verogy and the CT Green Bank organization. The solar array installation will stand on one-third of an acre and consist of 456 solar panels, encircled by an existing educational nature trail that had been intended to serve as a pollinator haven but has subsequently suffered from neglect and incursion by invasive plants.

Responsive to residents' concerns about the project at 64 Hilltop Road, the P&Z discussed and approved four conditions to be attached to the approval, some conditions that must be met in advance of the start of construction.

Leading the discussion was land use administrator Jamie Casey, who had identified the four areas to be resolved by the P&Z.

Under the conditions of the approval, CT Green Bank and Verogy must submit a screening plan to the P&Z for its approval before construction begins, and the Town of Sharon will assume responsibility for maintenance of the nature trail that surrounds the solar panel footprint. In addition, a storm water management and maintenance plan must be submitted to the P&Z for approval before construction begins, and Verogy will be responsible for removal of the panels when they become obsolete or unusable.

Each of the four points was discussed in detail. To the hypothetical circumstance where Verogy might be no longer operating as a business, leading to the question of who would remove the panels, it was determined that in that event, the town would assume responsibility for the future of the panels or for their removal.

Free Library Programs
FEBRUARY 2024

Over the next several months, BOS will further discuss solar options in town and develop a full proposal.

"It does provide a sustainable path forward for towns like Cornwall. I think it's win-win and we should continue to advocate and pursue it," said Selectman Rocco Botto.

Ridgway said proposals for renewable projects can be

of Harwinton for \$27,000. The truck was reportedly well-maintained by the Harwinton mechanic and is expected to run for another 10 to 15 years.

"It is orange, so you will see an orange truck on Cornwall roads," said Ridgway. "It's actually pretty slick."

BOS appointed Caroline Daifotis to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate.

THE SALISBURY FORUM Where Ideas Matter THE U.S. AND CHINA POST-SUMMIT





Bonnie Glaser

Biden described his meeting with Xi at the November APEC Summit as the "most constructive and productive" since he came to office. Bonnie Glaser, managing director of the German Marshall Fund's Indo-Pacific program, returns to the Forum to discuss what the U.S. can really expect.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024 7 P.M.



Go to www.salisburyforum.org to register for this free Zoom event.

rent. Find us on 🗗

www.salisburyforum.org

MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Families @ Scoville

Saturday, February 3, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY

It's a Wonka takeover at SML! Oompa Loompas are on the loose, and special effects artist Tyler Green will be transforming a lucky golden ticket holder into an Oompa Loompa before your eyes!

Saturday, February 10, 11:00 am - 12:30 am LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION:YEAR OF THE DRAGON

Join us for a special dragon themed story time, tasty Chinese treats, crafts and a fun paint and pin a scale on the dragon in the children's library in celebration of the Lunar New Year and very auspicious Year of the Dragon.

Saturday, February 18, 10:30 am - 11:30 am EXTRASPECIALFABULICIOUS SATURDAY STORY TIME!

Join Miss Rita in the Buttons Garden or around the story time rug in the children's library for stories and sweets! Please register for this program to ensure there are plenty of sweet treats to eat! We'll celebrate February birthdays!

COZY WINTER STORY TIME

Gather on the story time rug for a fun morning filled with cozy stories, rhymes, songs, games, and crafts. *Every Wednesday at 10:30 am.*

For a complete listing of these and other ongoing activities, visit www.scovillelibrary.org or call us for more information!

Activities for Teens

Saturday, February 10 & 24, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm INTRO TO KNITTING

Interested in the textile arts? Learn the basics and complete a small project with your new skills.

Sunday, February 25, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm SOPHOMORES & SENIORS YA BOOK GROUP

A book group for teens and retirees to get together and discuss YA literature. The discussion will be led by Hotchkiss students Olivia and Solfe. This month's title is Imposter Syndrome and Other Confession of Alejandra Kim by Patricia Park

Activities for Adults

Saturday, February 10, 4:00 PM CURRENT FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION

This month's title is *Maame*, by Jessica George. Led by Claudia Cayne.

Saturday, February 10 , 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

VALENTINES, CHOCOLATES & LOVE LETTERS

Join Laura Brown, author of How to Write Anything, for this literary adventure in the language of love and write your own love letters to people, places, or things that stir your heart.

Thursday, February 15 , 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm LUNCH AND LEARN

Expert Matthew Myers presents a talk on the tradmark and copywright process, from product to registration. Lunch will be provided.

Friday, February 16 , 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

STORIES: A COMMUNITY ART SHOW

Join the artists and SML staff at a reception celebrating our 2nd Annual Community Art Show. Refreshements will be served.

SCOVILLELIBRARY.ORG | 860-435-2838 | 38 MAIN STREET, SALISBURY, CT

This advertisement has been made possible by donations to the Scoville Memorial Library.

OBITUARIES

Alan Honour

MILLERTON — Alan

year resident of Millerton, and a two year resident of Sheffield died peacefully on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, at his home in Sheffield with his loving wife Anne at his bedside. Mr. Honour was a retired

dairy farmer. He owned and operated the Honour Farm in Millerton, a family farm which was in continuous operation for 122 years.

Born July 9, 1945, in Sharon, he was the son of the late Henderson and Mary (Westfall) Honour. Mr. Honour attended school in Pine Plains, and also in Webutuck. On April 15, 1972 in Sheffield, he married Anne Saunders. Their loving marriage lasted nearly fifty-two years. Mrs. Honour survives at home in Sheffield.

Mr. Honour had a lifelong passion for farming and raised some of the finest dairy cattle in Eastern Dutchess County. He was a longtime member of the Holstein Association and will forever be remembered as a neighbor and friend who would always lend a hand to a colleague in need and was the go-to-guy and jack-ofall-trades when anything needed repair. His love for the land and his respect for his noble profession created many wonderful memories for both his family and his contemporaries. In his later years, Mr. Honour became a woodworking and metal fabrication artisan and produced many artisanal pieces with his skill and attention to detail. He will be dearly missed by his beloved family and his many friends.

KENT — In loving memory of Doris Palmer, a devoted wife, mother, Nana, sister and friend.

She passed peacefully on

The family would like to Honour, 78, a seventy-six extent their deepest appreciation and thanks to the nurses and staff at Hospice Care in The Berkshires for their compassionate care during Alan's final days. Their kindness and understanding will not soon be forgot-

ten. In addition to

his wife, Mr. Honour is survived by three children; Holly Aragi and her husband Louie of Sheffield, Alan Honour, Jr. of Sheffield and Adam Honour of Connecticut; three grandchildren, Rebecca Pratt, Abby Finn and Hope Coon all of Sheffield; four great grandchildren, William Wyllys "Ochie" Pratt VIII, Elijah Henderson Pratt, Lillian Coon and Madalyn Finn; his brother, Danne Honour of Amenia and his sister, Melanie Vladick and her husband George of Clinton Corners, New York and several nieces and nephews. Mr. Honour was predeceased by his brother Dale Honour in 2002.

A private family viewing will be held on Monday, Jan. 22, 2024 at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton. A private funeral service at the funeral home will follow. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. Burial will take place in the family plot at Smithfield Cemetery in Amenia. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice Care in The Berkshires, 877 South Street, Suite 1W, Pittsfield, MA 01201 or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Doris Palmer

Throughout her life she set an example of service to others and her community. She launched a church nursery school, served as

SALISBURY — Kitty Benedict died Jan. 11, 2024, at Geer Village after several years struggling with Alzheimer's disease. She died peacefully surrounded by her compassionate caretakers at Geer and her niece, Nancy Bayersdorfer. Nancy and her husband, David, looked after Kitty selflessly with love, cared for all her needs while living at home and since 2022 when she went to Geer Village.

Kitty was born in Summit, New Jersey, on Sept. 6, 1934, the daughter of the late Katherine Taber Benedict and the late Horace Guion Benedict. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Foxhall Parker Jones and her much missed sister, Anne Nightingale.

Kitty graduated cum laude in English, from Smith College in 1956. "Smith was a great place to study. I loved the challenges of new subjects, exams, writing, singing, touring England, France, Italy, Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia, implanting in me a never-ending desire to travel, particularly Italy."

After graduation Kitty worked at Harper and Brothers (Harper Collins) in New York City managing to work her way up from a 'shorthand taking' secretary to senior editor. Kitty took a few leaves from Harpers. One was to study Russian at Yale, another on a Fulbright to live in Italy and another on a Johns Hopkins scholarship to live in Bologna, Italy and then back to work at Harpers where she was the editor for Dan Rather's book, "The Palace Guard."

After Harpers, Kitty went on to work at Macmillan Publishers for a few years and then on to help a friend set up his own trade paperback house.

Kitty wrote 3 books. One on the French Revolution, another on the first five presidents and one on eminent women writers for young adult readers. She put together a book for the Connecticut Housing Coalition lobbying group dedicated to affordable housing.

Kitty Crain Benedict

many choruses, her favorite

being Crescendo Chorus, directed by Christine Gevert. Kitty continued her love of opera, often going to the Met in NYC for performances. She claimed one of the most exhilarating experi-

ences she had was being in "My Fair Lady" at the Sharon Playhouse in 2015.

Kitty met the 'love of her life', Foxhall Parker Jones who also worked at Harpers, and they were married in-1974, "a very happy, fortunate choice. He was an adorable, kind, loving and funny husband with 5 children! Fox's brilliant blue eyes, red hair, sweet face, his deep laughing voice, his touch; everything about him pleased me. How lucky I was to have known and loved him for 36 years." Kitty held numerous roles

serving as a board member, committee member, a fundraiser for nonprofit organizations, community groups and charitable foundations. This list is just a few of her countless contributions: Scoville Library, Housatonic Mental Health Center, Crescendo Music, Salisbury Family Services, Hospice of Litchfield County, Housatonic Child Care Center, Berkshire Hills Music and Dance and Democratic Town Committee. Over the years, she could often be seen standing with the peace vigil group on Saturdays on the Salisbury green. To quote Dan Dwyer, a good friend. "Kitty was a real swell smart, witty, engaging and engaged. She worked effortlessly on several fundraisers here in town with me. And she was faithfully one of the 'usual suspects' who would take to the barricades for issues locally and beyond."

Kitty was a beautiful athlete. Tennis was her favorite. She was one of those people who played golf a few times a year, but played as if she practiced every day. She loved doing her swimming laps at Lion's Head pool and

school. She has sung with step-children, L. Parker Jones (Parkie) of Newburyport, Massachusetts,

and her daughter, Lily Baker of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Howland Jones (Casey) of Danbury and son, Sam Foxhall Jones of Wilton, Molly Westbrook Jones of Little-

ton, Massachusetts, Brian Strong Jones, of Brooklyn, New York, and Dylan Russell Jones of Boston, Massachusetts. Kitty's 3 nephews; Frank Nightingale of Phoenix, Arizona; Guion Nightingale and wife, Darla of North Owasso, Oklahoma and Tom Nightingale and his wife, Karen of Alta Loma, California and many great nieces and nephews. Her niece, Nancy Russell Bayersdorfer and husband, David Bayersdorfer of Lakeville, Leslie Jones Allyn and husband, McGee Allyn. And Nancy and Leslie's respective children and grandchildren.

Kitty leaves her many cousins originally from Montgomery, Alabama, whom she spent much time with as a young girl and had such fond childhood memories. She leaves many great friends from kindergarten to more recent times.

We thank all who cared for Kitty at Geer Village. You are angels on this earth.

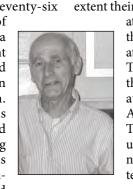
Family and friends are invited to her funeral service at Trinity Lime Rock Church, 484 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville, CT. on Feb. 17, at 11 a.m. Please join us for a reception at the church following the service. Burial will be at a later date.

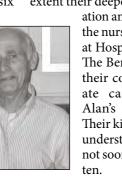
Ryan Funeral Home, 255 Main St., Lakeville, is assisting Kitty's family with arrangements. (ryanfhct.com)

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Crescendo Music (crescendomusic.org) or Scoville Memorial Library (scovillelibrary.org)



For more obituaries, see page A8





Jan. 2, 2024. Born on Aug. 5, 1933, to Alvin and Marion Peterson in Queens, New York, she is now reunited with her husband, James A. Palmer, and son, Douglas.

Doris is survived by her sons; James Palmer Jr. and his wife Karen, Scott Palmer and his wife Lori, and daughter Kathy Brown and her husband Winn. She leaves behind her cherished grandchildren Jeffrey, Christopher, Melaney, Jessica, and Jennifer. She is also survived by her brother Frederick, his wife Joy and family, her nephew William Palmer and his wife Klara, and other extended family who were touched by her warmth and guidance.

Doris was an accomplished quilter, finding joy in creating beautiful works of art and generously shared her passion by teaching others and gifting her quilts .

Do you have a family member or friend in the military who would be interested in the news from home?

Remember

The Lakeville Journal Company offers free online subscriptions to our website, tricornernews.com, for active duty military personnel from the Tri-state region. For more information or to set up a subscription, contact Sandra Lang at circulation@ lakevillejournal.com or 860-435-9873, ext. 301.

> With thanks to those who serve.

President of the Board of the New Milford Visiting Nurse Association, coordinator and driver for FISH of Kent, assistant registrar of voters and long time poll worker, and a member of the Kent Garden Club and Kent Quilters. She was a long active member of St. Andrews Episcopal Church.

Doris leaves behind a legacy of love, creativity, and a deep connection with those fortunate enough to have been part of her life. May her teachings and memories continue to inspire.

Her warm spirit, love, and dedication will be dearly missed.

A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date.

Contributions in memory of Doris can be made to the Kent Community Fund, P.O.Box 262, Kent, CT 06757 or The Kent Garden Club at P.O.Box 771, Kent, CT 06757.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Opera, musical theater and music has been a passion for Kitty since junior high

would play paddle tennis during the winter. Kitty leaves her 5

Jennifer N. Carroll

Mill Street, died unexpectedly on Monday, Jan. 15. She was the loving mother of Michael Rodriguez.

Jennifer was born in Brooklyn, New York, on June 6, 1970, the daughter of Fatimah Ab-

dullah and the late Patrick Ribustello. Jennifer attended Webutuck School and the Job Corps. She moved back to Dutchess County to raise her son.

She worked for McCabe and Mack Law Firm for 26 years as a legal secretary. She had a love for animals which kept her in touch with nature. She would rescue and

POUGHKEEPSIE — fix stray cats. She was a vol-Jennifer N. Carroll, 52, of unteer for many years at the

SPCA. She was a dedicated mother, a good friend and had a kind heart.

Besides her son, Michael and her mother Fatimah, Iennifer is survived by sisters Rachel Carroll and Heath-

er Barney and a brother Nick Cicarelli. Besides her father she was also predeceased by a brother, Vincent Cicarelli.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, Jan. 26 from 4-6 p.m. at the Kenny Funeral Home, 41 Main Street, Sharon, CT. Burial is private at Ferncliff Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the SPCA.



CHRISTOPHER E. RYAN, SR RYANFHCT.COM

JONATHAN J. RYAN

Congregation Beth David A reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org

The Lakeville United **Methodist Church** 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 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net

The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Steet, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nurserv Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net

Falls Village **Congregational Church** 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

The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building

Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts – Open Minds – Open Doors Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!

The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall

Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall

On The Green 69 West St. Litchfield, CT 06759 Childrens Camp | Shabbat Services Hebrew School | Cteen | YJP Iudaism With A Smile! chabadNW.org 860.567.3377 | office@chabadNW.org

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH

Immaculate Conception 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 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

UCC in CORNWALL

Cornwall Village Meeting House Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org

Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community

Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, Cl

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org

for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or

info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org

Promised Land Baptist Church

29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welco Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting – 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org

All Saints of America **Orthodox Christian Church** 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 | allsaintsofamerica.us



Dutchess County

The Lakeville Lournal

EDITORIAL PAGE A6

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024

EDITORIAL Hospital scorecard

The past few months have been witness to a string of decisions from the Connecticut Office of Health Strategy (OHS) regarding applications from rural hospitals that want to end labor and delivery services.

OHS was created in 2018 to develop and implement a comprehensive healthcare vision for the state, and requires certain types of providers to obtain state approval prior to making major changes in the healthcare landscape. The current OHS scorecard shows two proposed denials and one approval. But it's not over yet.

Sharon Hospital has been at the forefront in our corner. Last August, the state issued a proposed final decision denying the hospital's request. Citing losses of more than \$20 million in a single year, the hospital, part of Nuvance Health, estimated that closing the maternity unit would save \$3 million in large part by enabling the hospital to employ some 18 fewer staff members, and cut down on physician fees incurred by after-hours surgery and anesthesia services. In its proposed final decision, denying the request, OHS noted that despite losses in fiscal year 2021, its parent Nuvance Health had an excess of revenue over expenses. Many factors are under scrutiny, including an aging demographic that wants access to primary and preventative care, behavioral health care and maternal and child health care. Births occur on only 45% of days in the year at Sharon Hospital.

Approval with terms

Last month, the state granted approval to another rural hospital across the state that sought permission to end labor and delivery. Windham Hospital near Willimantic had been denied permission the year before. The Hartford Healthcare hospital's green light this time came with terms. It must conduct an independent study of the need for a birthing center, and if one is justified Windham Hospital must find a provider or operate such a facility itself. In addition, the hospital will be required to provide transportation for expectant mothers in addition to providing prenatal and postpartum care.

And just last week, OHS denied Trinity Health of New England's application to close the labor and delivery unit at Johnson Memorial Hospital in Stafford Springs. OHS noted that the hospital failed to demonstrate that closing the labor and delivery service would improve accessibility and cost effectiveness of healthcare delivery in the region. Johnson Memorial has a channel of appeal.

In Sharon Hospital's case, its oral appeal took place in November before OHS's Executive Director Deirdre Gifford. Lawyers for Sharon Hospital cited four major flaws in OHS's proposed final decision, and they concluded that the "policy choice that best serves patients is to transform Sharon Hospital into a resource that delivers the right care in the right place at the right time." (See story on Page A4.)

Opinion



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FCH is neglecting the primary mission

The paper presented an impressive celebration of the 20 years' work by the Foundation for Community Health, initially funded by the assets from the proceeds of the conversion of Sharon Hospital, carefully cataloged as well as the subject of the Editor's opinion.

Plainly, Ms. Heaton and her board, currently chaired by Tom Quinn, have been hard at work allocating funds to groups in need in a broader area, beyond its prescribed region (bylaws, Article 1 Section C). They have carefully stewarded the assets by substantially growing them in the past 20 years.

In all of what was shared, it is abundantly clear to me, that today the Foundation for Community Health, does not view supporting access to complete Maternal health care nor the maintenance of the services at the Sharon Hospital as a part of their purpose, despite what the by-laws state (Article 1, Section 1.3A iii) The residents of the Sharon Hospital area, mentioned the bylaws, want the

care, state of Connecticut has shown a way, the Office of Health Strategy wrote an impressive decision, the Attorney General agrees, but not this Foundation.

again.

ical facilities.

Hospital.

This Foundation could

create a dining hall at the

Sharon Hospital that could

help feed the hungry and

guide nutritional programs

at the local school and med-

support the hiring of a chap-

lain at the Sharon Hospital.

have saved the lab at Sharon

of the Foundation, we are

forming Friends of Sharon

Hospital. Our primary goal

is to maintain complete ma-

ternal services at the Sharon

Hospital, as they have been

available for over 110 years.

vision for the public health

of our community than

the current Foundation for

Community Health, I know

I do. It is my hope you will

join our growing assembly by

contacting FriendsofSHospi-

Do you have a brighter

This Foundation could

This Foundation could

In response to the failures

For all their monetary gains in the past 20 years the Foundation is neglecting the primary mission: To maintain and improve the physical and mental Health of all of the residents of the area historically served by Sharon Hospital Inc.

Sharon Hospital united with the Foundation could beacon of caring innovation. The Foundation could be supporting the maintenance

of the maternity and pediatric services at the Sharon Hospital.

This Foundation could create a concierge medical practice beside a family practice which would include birthing at the Sharon Hospital supporting all range of citizens.

This foundation work with a Medical School to create a rural residency program in family practice, as it once did with nursing students and should do

LETTERS

Reelect Jahana Hayes: The **Right Choice**

The State of Florida now has accepted one million signatures from voters to put a woman's right to choose on the 2024 ballot. Republicans have fought against abortion rights all over the country and Florida's Governor, Ron DeSantis, has proposed to his Republican legislature, a six week abortion law. Most women do not know they are pregnant at six weeks.

Our Congresswoman, Jahana Hayes, is a member of the Pro-Choice Caucus and she is compassionate about helping women who must face these important health issues. She has been pushing this Republican Congress, to force a vote on the Women's Health Protection Act, which would put into law reproductive freedom and bodily autonomy for all seeking abortion care. Her Republican opponent in the 2024 election, would not vote to make women's right to choose a national law.

It is so important to reelect Jahana Hayes this November 2024, so she can make women's health issues a national law and that would protect all women in the USA.

Sharon

Lizbeth Piel

The views expressed here are not necessarily those of The Lakeville Journal and the Journal does not support or oppose candidates for public office.

We accept gifts, grants and sponsorships from individuals and organizations for the general support of our activities, but our news judgments are made independently and not

OHS's Gifford will have the final say, which is anxiously awaited in hospital's primary service area in the Northwest Corner and in eastern Dutchess County where the Save Sharon Hospital group has been campaigning against the change for years.

tal@gmail.com.

Our inaugural activity will be exhibits held in the lobby of the maternity entrance to the hospital. Each exhibit will showcase a town in the Sharon Hospital catchment area and the current birthing services available. The exhibits will be open to the public at times to be determined by Ms. McCulloch, President of the Sharon Hospital.

We welcome your engagement.

Deborah Moore

Sharon

on the basis of donor support.

Deadline for letters is Monday at 10 a.m. Send to publisher@ lakevillejournal.com.

Thursday, January 25, 2024

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago -January 1924

In the award of prizes to the school children last Friday morning for the collection of tent caterpillar egg masses, care was taken to thank the children for their services to the town and to express the hope that their interest would be kept up so that the collection might continue until the hatching season.

Martin Merriman this week received a very valuable bird from a friend in Albany.

Ice measures 9 inches and the ice men are soon to begin drawing it.

Grandma Lorch has been ill the past few days.

The following committee has been appointed to consider the matter of abolishing the rental of church pews: Messrs. Walter W. Norton, Hiram J. Bissell, and Charles L. Warner. The committee is to report to a specially called meeting of the Church and Society called later in the year.

The series of revival meetings which have been held nightly during the past two weeks came to an end on Sunday. The meetings were well attended and resulted in much spiritual benefit for many.

It is reported that whistling swans have been seen at Twin Lakes recently. This is an arctic bird and has been often seen in New York state but never later than Christmas

50 years ago — January 1974

The Lakeville Journal won first place for the best editorial page among weekly newspapers of its circulation class for 1973 in the annual contest conducted by the New England Press Association. "Spring Tonic," the Journal's annual homes, furnishings and decorating section, won third place for supplements among all the entries.

Arnoff Moving and Storage Inc., one of the oldest moving firms in the Berkshires, is entering its Golden Anniversary year with a major expansion program. President Richard Arnoff announced the opening of new offices and the promotion of key personnel. The new offices are in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and Great Barrington, Mass. Richard Arnoff's grandfather Abraham founded the business. In the years before 1924 he ran a cartage operation, hauling loads of freight by horse and wagon between New Haven, Canaan and Lakeville. "He never drove anything but a horse and wagon," Richard recalls of his grandfather, "even after the business was established here in the 1920s. He was in a way the last of the peddlers."

North Canaan town officials were notified last week that an application to restrict through truck traffic on North Elm Street has been approved by the State Traffic Commission. The Canaan Selectmen requested permission from the state to post the road last fall, when it was learned that signs put up locally could not legally prohibit the trucks. The State Police can only enforce restrictions imposed at the state level.

25 years ago -January 1999

Although hospitals usually have more patients during the winter than any other time of year, a recent increase in overnight patients has Sharon Hospital getting creative to find space to put people. Ken Roberts, director of community relations at the hospital, said they have had an average census of 60 patients. When the census reached 63 last week, he said a waiting room was converted back to its original use as a patient room and chairs were put into the hallway for people who would use a waiting room.

The approximately 200foot covered bridge over the Housatonic River on Route 128 in West Cornwall will once again be renovated. Gordon Barton, principal engineer and bridge designer for the state Department of Transportation, said the project will replace the roof covering, the timber wearing surface and the siding. The bridge will also be stained instead of painted for increased durability. The cost - between \$300,000 and \$400,000, with the DOT paying the bill.

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

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Editor and **Publisher Emeritus**

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Viewpoint

The case for sustainably managed forests

onnecticut is a state with so much to be proud of when it comes to the stewardship of our forests. The climate friendly, and socially just, conversations about forests in Connecticut must be centered on advancing multiple-use forest management.

Consider our state forests which are the oldest in the nation and were founded on the premise of restoration and sustainable management by what was then a young profession of forestry. These 175,000 acres of public lands provide sawlogs to meet international demand for housing and wood products, firewood that heats rural homes instead of oil, and sap for the production of maple syrup.

Connecticut's forests concurrently provide natural filtering of municipal drinking water, rich recreational opportunities, abundant wildlife and biodiversity, and climate mitigation.

The Yale-Myers Forest is an example of excellence in forest management. Like most of Connecticut's forests, it was reforested after historic grazing and clearing for agriculture. For over 100 years this forest has been stewarded by Yale foresters, who have helped it persist through hurricanes, invasive species, and development pressures, all while providing forest products and a living laboratory for research and education.

The value Connecticut's State Forests and Yale-Myers Forest in demonstrating long-term sustainable forest management is perhaps their best superlative, and they are not alone in the state as we could just as equally highlight other multiple-use forests such as Great Mountain Forest and the many public-private municipal water company lands.

People have influenced Connecticut's forests since our region was post-glacial treeless tundra. Taking human intervention out of the equation now would be



CT Viewpoints Joseph Orefice

unprecedented and reckless. In fact, this has been termed "The Illusion of Preservation" by scientists in our region because preventing forest management only results in our society's exploitation of greater resources from less privileged and more ecologically sensitive places in the world.

Change in Connecticut's forests is occurring whether we utilize wood resources from them or not, yet using wood is critically important for climate mitigation. Invasive pests, anthropogenic-induced climate change, and fragmentation due to development are new and increasing pressures on our forests. Forest management, including periodic timber harvesting, is the method we have to ensure that our forests under pressure will be resilient to change, and are able to develop into the forests we want and need for the future.

We have an excellent understanding of how Connecticut's forest ecosystems function and how to use native species to regenerate natural stands of trees. Foresters in our state rarely plant trees to start a new for-

est, and this is because they have the knowledge to plan timber harvests in ways that favor growing native species from natural seed and seedling banks. Our forests are some of the most studied in the world, one of the fun aspects of living in a state with many universities and the oldest graduate forestry program in the country, originally known as The Yale Forest School. For over 100 years, foresters from around the globe have come to Connecticut to learn about using diversified native species and applied ecology in sustainable forestry.

Forest management and nature enjoyment are not mutually exclusive, which is one reason why foresters are documented to have the happiest and most meaningful jobs in the U.S. Forest management, with timber harvesting as one example of application, is periodic and can occur in harmony with other uses such as recreation. Even the intrinsic desire for big trees can be enhanced with management. A recent study in New England demonstrated that trees were healthier and had more carbon sequestration potential under certain types of management compared to preserved forests in which trees were not harvested.

Connecticut needs to socially and politically support sustainable forest managePHOTO BY CT.G

ment. Instead, there is a small movement in our state to discredit all of those amazing things sustainable forestry can do, based on a false narrative that nature only exists when it is disconnected from the influence of people. My argument is not that every forest needs to be managed all the time; it is that keeping forest management options on the table as tools allows our society to plan for the future and adapt when needed.

Nature does not exist in Connecticut's forests without human influence: climate change, a history of colonial agriculture, invasive species, and historic timber exploitation are still changing the dynamics of our forests today. Management is what enables forest stewards to balance these adverse effects on forest ecosystems by periodically nudging the forest in a more resilient direction.

While poorly planned and implemented timber harvesting can and does occur, we should not limit sustainable management by dismissing timber harvesting altogether. Instead, Connecticut must incentivize forestry practices which promote resilient and productive forests, and especially champion these practices on our public lands.

Joseph Orefice is a Lecturer and Director of Forest and Agricultural Operations at the Yale School of the Environment.



Battle for the bed beneath the boss's desk

wo hands for two dogs. Balance in the universe. Right? Wrong.

"Who has more sur-

Editor's Notebook Riley Klein

face area contact with dad? Who is he looking

at? Why did he say good boy? He should be saying good girl!"

The feud for affection is endless. A constant struggle in the pursuit of cuddles.

As the eldest, Tito has certain inherited privileges. He gets the first scoop of chow at mealtime; he gets his leash attached first before a walk; the first treat always gets thrown in his direction.

This keeps Penny hungry, working the angles and conniving her way to a score. She can't win everywhere, but she capitalizes where she can.

Take the case of the Battle for the Bed Beneath the Desk. A work-from-home job means considerable desk time. If the dogs join forces, they can both achieve foot contact atop the coveted memory foam bed stationed underneath. But that's a big "if."

Tactical positioning by the first arrival is routine: plop dead center. This minimizes the entry paths to the vacant space near the wall and prevents a sideby-side arrangement.

Brute force by the outsider can be effective at forcing a repositioning. If that doesn't work, strategy comes into play.

A tried-and-true approach by Penny is to look out the window and begin to growl. The proposition of a perimeter breach is too juicy to pass up for Tito, causing a dash to the window on high alert.

That's when Penny strikes. She moves in on the bed under the desk and claims her throne.

Tito can't let that slide. But Penny has grown resistant to his usual tactics.

Tito grabs a rope from the toy basket and flails it wildly. "Grrrr." he mutters.

Ears perk up. "I'm not falling for this again," Penny glares.

More growling and flailing provokes a lift of the head, and nothing more.

Parried. Tito drops the rope. Time for Plan B: aquatic assault.

Some gulping at the water bowl loads up the slobber cannon and then it's straight to Penny's ears.

"Gross," she recoils. "I'm out of here." Tito is Duke of the Desk once more. Poor Penny is relegated to the larger, more comfortable bed directly next to the desk. For now.

Neutered English: No more manhole?

s a living language English is constantly changing and rightfully so.

But in recent years a trend based on good intentions may be going too far, namely that of neutering the language.

It arises from the desire to undo the prejuduce against women that characterized the English language and acknowledge women's increased role in public life.

The French language is gender specific, strictly designating all nouns as being either masculine or feminine.

Were you speaking with a Frenchman (or Frenchwoman) and referred to a house as le maison rather than la maison, he (or she) might have trouble understanding you and think you were engaging in a verbal spoof.

English is much less formal, lending itself to frequent alterations and variations.

Titles that change the end of a word from -man to -woman such as chairman and chairwoman are fine but why would anyone want to call the leader if the group "chair" thereby turning a person into a piece of furniture?

For centuries female performers have been called actresses, male performers

Occasional Observer Mac Gordon

actors; now, more and more female performers are calling themselves actors. But why, since (at least in this day and age) actresses and actors are equal, just biologically different? Glenda Jackson's bravura performance a few years ago as King Lear notwithstanding, would anyone want actors and actresses to have to compete against each other for Academy Awards?

The word man in mankind has often been used to denote humankind thereby demeaning half the human population. Nowadays, this seems both predjudicial and quaint.

More people than ever now consider themselves as being non-gendered and are rejecting either male or female designations and pronouns for themselves and others of like mind. In a sentence normally calling for a he or him, or her, they use the plural (and asexual) word "they" thereby violating normal grammar to assert their personal bent. Should the rest of us feel obliged to follow their special misuse of **English grammar?**

Of course there are some words or terms that might be better changed to help put women on an equal footing with men. Unions calling themselves "The international Brotherhood of...", or signs saying "Men Working" both seem, at best, unfriendly to women.

Many organizations including the U.S. Congress have asked their members to no longer refer to brothers and sisters but instead to siblings, a perfectly good word but a much less descriptive one. Next, son and daughter may have to be replaced by child or offspring and husband and wife by spouse. Thus far parent has not been mandated to replace father and mother.

There are instances where a new designation seems to sound better than simply changing from man-towoman, for example, postman became letter carrier and stewardess, flight attendant.

But what could be wrong with leaving a gender designation in a title as long as it did not discriminate against the other sex? A few years ago, the (mostly female) members of the Berkeley, California, City Council voted to discontinue the use of the term manhole which has been in use for centuries, replacing it with utility hole.

Seriously.

Residential real estate agents in California are starting to use the term owner's suite instead of master bedroom to avoid the sexual (and class) bias inherent in the word master.

But we still refer to both male and female students in their first year of college as freshmen and probably will continue to do so, unless a more euphonic, gender neutral term is found. Also, the academic title fellow continues to be applied to women as well as men; since no one has come up with a suitable feminine equivalent.

Some gendered words are better left as is. Manspreading, the term referring to males spreading their legs while riding buses and subways refers to what has been exclusively a masculine activity; unless women take it up, let's leave it alone. While there is no female equivalent of yes men (who would want one?), we could call such people of either sex obsequious persons — but let's not. Women are seldom if ever the subject of a manhunt; maybe we can also keep that as is. May we leave the Isle of Man unchanged? And what do we do with manure?

Architect and landscape designer Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville.

Riley Klein is managing editor of The Lakeville Journal.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Tito holds his ground on a dead-center plop.



With this cold weather, a frequently asked question is how to prevent ice dams on your roof. The solution is relatively simple ie: ensuring that your roof is the same temperature as the eaves. To accomplish this, make sure that you have adequate insulation in the attic and no heat leaking into the attic from the house that will result in the formation of ice dams. Ventilation in the attic is also a key which will help prevent ice dams. The danger of ice dams is that water will make its way into the house resulting in unnecessary damage. For more information, please visit This Old House at: www.thisoldhouse.com/ roofing/21017660/how-to-get-rid-

of-ice-dams.



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Town Meeting affirms Kent's farm-friendly philosophy

By Leila Hawken

KENT - Residents attending a town meeting Thursday, Jan. 18, voted to approve strengthening changes to an existing farm-friendly ordinance to ensure that farmers and their farming operations would not be subject to nuisance complaints.

Although a "Right to Farm" ordinance had been in place since 2015, the Board of Selectmen had received complaints from a homeowner objecting to ongoing farming activities on the farm that operates next door to his home. In response, the selectmen asked the Conservation Commission to examine the ordinance to strengthen its specificity so that it would definitively protect farmers from nuisance complaints.

Reviewing the recommended changes to the former "Right to Farm" ordinance, Conservation Chairman Connie Manes said that the title of the relevant section would be changed to "Protection of Farmers from Nuisance Claims." Additional changes to the wording of the second paragraph in the ordinance define specific types of such disallowed nuisance complaints to include noisy roosters, odor, pigs, dust, other animal noises, and agricultural machinery including tractors. Manes explained that the wording changes are intended to clarify the purpose of the ordinance.

The issue had first arisen a few years ago when the selectmen received a resident's complaint about noisy roosters at the farm interfering with the ability to work from home during the pandemic.

First Selectman Marty Lindenmayer noted that there is presently no other nuisance ordinance on the books for the town. An example that was discussed was a neighbor's boombox operating on high volume.

"This is the start of an ordinance," Lindenmayer observed.

Voters went on to unanimously approved three appointments to the Park and Recreation Commission. Appointed were Naomi Joseph, Rufus deRham (completing an unexpired term), and Karen Iannucci.

The remainder of the town meeting considered the town's draft of the capital expenditure plan, looking ahead five years, giving residents an early opportunity to understand the plan and proposed changes. There will be another public hearing in the spring during the budget approval season, offering an additional opportunity for comment.

The capital plan actually looks forward to a 10-year horizon, Lindenmayer explained, but the five-year portion is part of the budget process. The drafted plan is being furnished to the Board of Finance for its review.

"The selectmen have met with each department," Lindenmayer said. "We try to listen and understand, and we generally reach an agreement with each department," he added, explaining that such agreements might involve simply moving requests around.

Selectwoman Lynn Worthington explained that the town meeting would be focusing on capital spending in the year 2029, four years out from the present budget year.

Lindenmayer noted that the Board of Finance had met with the selectmen and determined that 15% of the annual expense budget would be directed to the capital plan.

"There is no policy governing capital planning, only guidelines," Lindenmayer said.

"It's not a rigid document," Board of Finance chair Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick agreed, adding that it's like an old-fashioned Christmas Club, for those old enough to understand the reference.

Reviewing each town department in turn, Lindenmayer led discussion. Residents sought information on fire department equipment replacement, opening a lengthy discussion of new or used, and moving toward hybrid in time.

Discussion of the Park and Recreation department was led by Worthington, who said that she had not agreed with some of the selectmen's changes, as they focused on 2029. Changes included elimination of basketball for Kent Commons Park. However, a splash pad was still in for Kent Commons at a cost of \$250.000.

"A splash pad is like a big sprinkler," Worthington explained, with Lindenmayer adding that an ARPA grant of \$100,000 had been awarded toward the project, significantly reducing the cost.

Returned to the budget was \$25,000 to cover needed drainage work along state route 341.

Conditions at Emery Park were of concern to residents, some of whom asked about the pool that is now closed and who noted that there is funding in place for development of a Master Plan for the parks.

Worthington said that when there is a new Park and Recreation director in place, that department will need to come back to the town to request reallocation of funding.

Long discussion ensued about the handling of unexpended funds within the capital budget, and how those funds might be reallocated, along with the need for specifics in the highway and bridge repair costs.

"This year we will create a calendar for the town website showing planned road and bridge improvement projects in a timeline," Lindenmayer said.

Lime Rock Park seeks permit for non-racing events

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) held the first round of a public hearing on Lime Rock Park's (LRP) application for a blanket special permit for up to 25 non-racing events per year Tuesday, Jan. 16.

LRP president and CEO Dicky Riegel said the track is asking for up to 25 events per year that are not "customary

During questioning from commissioners, Riegel said he was agreeable to establishing limits on events, such as the time of events, when the band at a wedding has to stop

> attendees. P&Z chair Michael Klemens said at the outset that the hearing would be continued to the commission's regular meeting Tuesday, Feb. 20, to allow the track time

(10 p.m., for example) and

the maximum number of

the passing of our dear mother and my wife, Lucy Josephine L. (Locantore) Soper of Lakeville. Lucy was born on May 22, 1933, the daughter of Joseph and Katie Locan-

tore. She was born

in Bronx, New York, at that time referred to as "Little Italy." During WW2 so many Italians moved from Italy to the United States and seemed to settle in this area. Lucy enjoyed her childhood in the Bronx and later in New London, Connecticut, with her sisters Hyacinth and Linda. She was predeceased by both sisters; may they be reunited in heaven.

She leaves behind her loving husband Joe, two devoted sons, Glenn and David, four Grandchildren, Katie, Ben, Chris and William as

LAKEVILLE — With Lucy was a wonderful cook sorrow and love, we share and baker. She enjoyed pre-

Lucy Josephine L. Soper

her extended family. She was also known in town for her delicious

baked goods. Her baked goods were always in big demand at the annual church fundraiser.

paring wonderful

Italian meals for

Once Joe and Lucy became empty nesters they began vacationing often on the East Coast and taking cruises with her sister Hyacinth and brother-in-law Paul.

In later years they moved to Noble Horizons where they enjoyed their remaining years together.

The family would like to thank the wonderful caregivers who helped support her through her last few years, including Hasmik, and staff from Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County and Noble Horizons. The love and kinship she engendered around her was truly remarkable. Every one of the caregivers enjoyed her beautiful smile. We all are humbled and grateful for the time spent by her side. Calling Hours are Friday, Jan 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home in N. Canaan CT. Funeral will be on Saturday Jan. 27 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Church in Lakeville CT At the request of the family, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County, 32 Union Street Winsted, CT 06098

HUDSON - Jean E. Stone and Saratoga Casi-

area resident, died Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024 at Ghent Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Ghent, New York. Mrs. Brendline

OBITUARIES

worked as a waitress at the Cozy Corner in Amenia, and at the Waldorf in Sharon, where

she was loved and admired by her many loyal patrons. Later in her life, she served as a facilitator for the Hamilton Snack Program in Hamilton, New York for over ten years. The Brendline's resided in Dutchess County for decades, they also lived in Hamilton for over twenty years prior to returning to this area.

Born Sept. 18, 1934 in Poughkeepsie, she was the daughter of the late Lester F. and Estelle (Pikula) Palmatier. She graduated with the class of 1953 from the Pine Plains High School. On Feb. 5, 1955 at Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia, she married Calvin Edward Brendline. Their loving marriage lasted sixty-five years, until Calvin's death on May 19, 2020. Mrs. Brendline was a longtime parishioner of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia and she enjoyed playing bingo, baking and word search puzzles in her spare time. "Beaner or Watchdog" as she was affectionately known by her family, loved casinos and was an avid gambler at Turning

Brendline, 89, a lifelong no Hotel. She will be dearly missed by her loving family and many friends.

Jean E. Brendline

Mrs. Brendline is survived by her daughter, Gayle Harrison of Hudson and three sons, Gary A. Brendline of Wappingers Falls, Robert H. Brendline and his

wife Karen of Simsbury, and Paul J. Brendline of Hudson; her sister, Doris Glusenkamp of Pougkkeepsie; a sister-inlaw, Linda Kaye of Millerton; six grandchildren, Heather LaMont, Heidi Roger, David, Danielle and Joshua Brendline and Kristin Garcia; eleven great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews and many friends. She was predeceased by her son, Calvin E. Brendline, Jr. and her sister, Renee Tanner of Florida.

There are no calling hours. graveside service and buri-

well as two nieces: Paula and Lisa and a nephew Steven.

Lucy worked for the Phone Company in New London, as secretary to the president for several years. She was a stenographer and loved her occupation.

Joe first met Lucy at a place called "Roseland Ballroom" in New York City. Within a few months they were making wedding plans. On Oct. 22, 2023, Joe and Lucy celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary.

Lucy and Joe lived in Lakeville for 58 years where they raised their two boys and enjoyed the pleasures of a small, close-knit town.

al will take place on Monday, Jan. 29, 2024, at 10 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Route 22, Amenia, New York. Memorial contributions may be made to the Greenport Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 275, Hudson, NY 12534. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or plant a tree in Jean's memory, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

For more obituaries, see page A5

or incidental" to normal race track operations.

Riegel said this includes events such as weddings, birthdays, family reunions, anniversaries and celebrations of life. He said the track is asking for up to 25 such events so it does not have to come before the commission for a special permit for each event.

Riegel said LRP had one such event, a wedding with about 50 people, in 2023.

to respond.

He noted that 12 letters had come in, and he read the letter from the Lime Rock Citizens Council (LRCC) because that organization represents some 200 people.

The LRCC's letter challenged the notion of a "blanket" special permit and expressed concerns about noise. All 12 letters oppose granting the application as presented. Several cited the lack of details on events.



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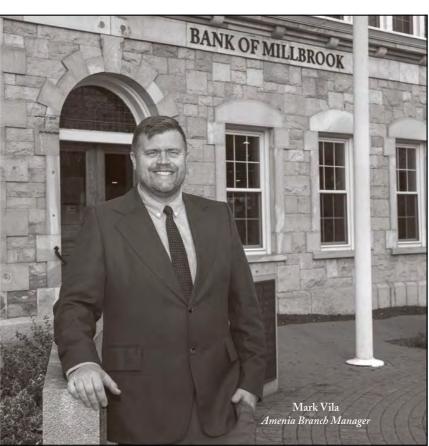
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CELEBRATING MILESTONES IN BUSINESS 1891 - 2024 and Beyond

Congratulations on all the years of doing business in our communities MORE ON PAGE A10 & A11

Milestones in Business

January is traditionally the month during which business owners reflect on the year that is past, and the year that is to come, trying to get a good handle on the economic future. This year, extraordinary in so many ways, has continued to be a challenge for all businesses, but especially small businesses, due to labor shortages and economic uncertainty. Yet, small businesses are an extremely important part of what makes the economy in the Tri-state region work. So, we are focusing this month, as we have for years at this time, on the businesses in our area that would like our

readers to know when they were founded, or some other milestone they feel is significant.

They are mainly what the U.S. Small Business Administration defines as "small" – but together they have real and very meaningful influence on the region's fiscal health. We salute all those who have maintained and strengthened their businesses and organizations through, and only hope for their continued success beyond.

Please support these businesses, which employ many of us and improve the quality of life for all in the region.

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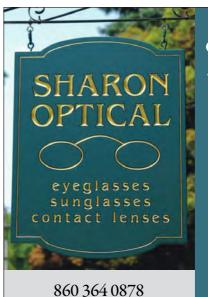
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Sports



A faceoff between Kent captain Giovanni DiGiulian and Salisbury captain Seamus Latta. The Jan. 20 match was the second time these two rivals met this season.

Salisbury hockey tops Kent 5-1

By Lans Christensen

KENT — Salisbury School varsity hockey traveled to Kent School on Saturday, Jan. 20, for the second of their two seasonal games.

Salisbury was looking for vengeance after Kent won the first match 4-2 on Dec. 9. Since then, each team has performed more or less evenly against conference competition. Kent's record before the Jan. 20 game was 11-4-1, while Salisbury stood at 11-5-1.

When the two teams met in Kent, the first period confirmed how evenly matched they were. A back-and-forth dance for 18 minutes saw an attack by one team met with great defense by the other, and then the same scene would unfold at the other end of the ice.

Intensity grew with every passing minute.

Salisbury seized control of the momentum thanks to precise passes by forwards Ryan Hedley and Duke Gentzler. Each assisted captain Seamus Latta as he scored the first two goals of the game. Gentzler then got in on the action with a goal of his own to put Salisbury up 3-0.

Salisbury's disciplined



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN Above, Salisbury's Anthony Blakabutaka attacked the net. Below, Duke Gentzler flung a shot at the net.



control of possession and pace continued into the third period. Finally, with six minutes left in the third, captain Giovanni DiGiulian scored Kent's sole goal. Salisbury tacked on two more in the

third to bring home a decisive 5-1 win over Kent.

Salisbury balanced the season record against Kent and surpassed them in New England Prep Hockey League standings.

HVRHS boys basketball falls to Terryville 71-48

By Riley Klein

TERRYVILLE — Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) boys basketball lost 71-48 to Terryville High School on Friday, Jan. 19.

The Mountaineers played the Kangaroos even at the start, before a second-quarter run by Terryville put HVRHS behind by double digits. Terryville's swarming defense forced turnover after turnover and allowed the Kangaroos to hop their way to a win.

HVRHS opened the game with the stretch offense centered around the big men, Wes Allyn and Flynn Ryan, down low. The tall lineup gave the Mountaineers a strong presence in the paint on both offense and defense. After the first quarter, Terryville led 12-9.

In the second quarter, HVRHS subbed out the bigs and switched to gears to play small-ball. Terryville adjusted to full-court press and opened the quarter with four consecutive forced turnovers, resulting in a 13-1 scoring run for the Kangaroos.

Captain Jesse Bonhotel recognized the momentum shift and urged his team to feed the forwards.

"Get the ball to Wes in the post," Bonhotel shouted to his teammates.

Turnovers continued to plague the Mountaineers and by halftime, Terryville led 32-18.

The pressure persisted into the third quarter, but HVRHS began to adapt and overcome. Passing accuracy improved and the Mountaineers were getting the shots they wanted.

Terryville kept its foot on the gas offensively and pushed the lead to 55-29 by the end of the quarter.

In the fourth, guard Anthony Labbadia hit a





PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN Above, Jesse Bonhotel battled against a defensive trap set by the Terryville Kangaroos. Left, Owen Riemer went to work down low with his back-to-thebasket post game. Below, Wes Allyn led the charge on a fast break downcourt for the Mountaineers when they played Terryville on Friday, Jan. 19.



hot streak by nailing four 3-pointers. HVRHS outscored the Kangaroos in the final quarter 19-14, but time simply ran out.

Terryville won 71-48. HVRHS was led in scor-

ing by Labbadia with 19 points and six threes. Allyn finished with 11 points for were Christian Disapio with 16 points and Deon Dao with 13 points.

HVRHS varsity basketball moved to 1-9 this season and Terryville advanced to 6-3.

The Mountaineers will travel to Gilbert High School on Friday, Jan. 26. Junior varsity is scheduled to tip off at

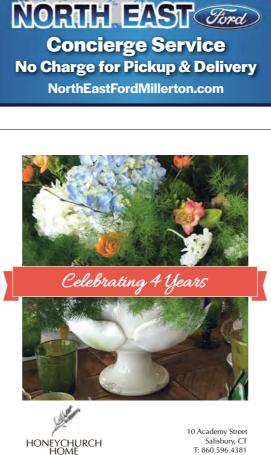
the Mountaineers. 5:30 p.m. with varsity to fol-Terryville's top scorers low at 7 p.m.

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MORE ON PAGE A9 & A10







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	RASPBERRIES IN ARMAGNAC

TRAVEL

Continued from Page A1



Amy Virshup, travel editor of The New York Times.

in 2024, the city is hosting the Summer Olympics, a celebration of 150 years of Impressionist art, and the scheduled reopening of the Notre Dame cathedral after a fire in 2019.

Yamaguchi, Japan, made the list because it offers travelers something different than popular and crowded destinations such as Kyoto.

Once the nominations are in by the end of September, the Times travel staff gets busy "whittling" hundreds of entries down to 100 or so.

Then they go through it all again.

Virshup said the final decisions are arrived at by consensus, with the quality of the photographs being a critical factor.

Asked what happens to the photos that don't make the cut, Virshup said they are stored in the Times' database.

She pointed out that the Times' photographers have to shoot both horizontally (preferred format for desktop computers) and vertically (for cell phones), or submit photos that can be cropped either way.

The Times list hasn't always had 52 destinations. In 2006, the list had 16 places.

The Times went to 52

category. Keeping on top of the list

isn't easy, she continued. Of the articles that come in, she said "everybody files two times as long" as needed.

Asked how the COVID-19 pandemic affected travel in general and the Times Travel section in particular, Virshup said the Times stopped the print version of the section when pandemic restrictions on travel kicked in. She added later in the discussion that the paper does not plan to revive the print Travel section.

During the pandemic, the Times "tried to explain to people what they could and could not do" as regards travel.

The Times assembled a list of places people could go to, and kept it updated for 18 months.

Asked if events overtake publication, Virshup pointed to Quito, the capital of Ecuador and one of this year's destinations.

Not long after the 2024 list was published online, Ecuador's president declared a state of emergency in response to a wave of criminal violence.

The Times added an exanatory note and warning

Homelessness

Continued from Page A1

The governor is tasking the new group with focusing its work on three main goals, including strengthening current programs, improving the effectiveness of the homelessness response system, and meeting the demands of housing.

The council will collaborate on maximizing the use of funding for housing assistance, increasing the supply of permanent supportive housing, improving the effectiveness of rapid rehousing, and evaluating and finding solutions for expanded access to safe and affordable housing for all with an interagency approach of tailoring support to each individual's needs.

Lamont has appointed Housing Commissioner Seila Mosquera-Bruno to serve as the council's chairperson, and leaders from the following offices will serve as members: Department of Housing, Department of Aging and Disability Services, Department of Children and Families, Department of Correction, Department of Labor, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of Social Services, Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Police and Management, Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch, and the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.

Additionally, representatives of several state offices will serve as ad hoc members. Those include the Department of Developmental Services, Department of Economic and Community Development, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and the Department of Public Health.

Also, the state Department of Education, Department of Trans-

portation, and Department of Higher Education. "Everyone should have access to a safe, warm place to call home," said Lamont in making the

> announcement. "State and

> > local governments, along with our nonprofit partners, need the resources available to them to ensure that fewer people face the possibility of becoming homeless," said the governor.

> > "Between building new housing units, addressing mental health issues, improving access to education and health care, and increasing job support, this issue must be addressed in a holistic manner."

Scharnberg said the goal is to "try to wrap people around a team that best serves their needs." For example, she said, the chronic homeless are likely to need "very long-term services, versus a hiccup in someone's life who just needs a light touch to get back on track."

Sarah Fox, CEO of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH),

said the establishment of the interagency council will help "weave together our resources." The Northwest Corner, she said, has experienced a "lack of consistent funding" in terms of homelessness response efforts, yet it encom-

"I don't want this to be just about the red tape. We don't need another study. This has been studied to death. What we need is staffing, funding, flexibility and resources behind the effort."

— Julia Scharnberg, vice president of community engagement for the Northwest CT Community Foundation

> passes a vast geographical area

"I don't think fairness comes into play when talking about homelessness," said Fox, who experienced homelessness as a child.

She said there needs to be a "shared understanding" of the problem so that municipalities and small towns can better coordinate strategies to be part of the solution, and so that the financial burden doesn't fall on just a few understaffed and overburdened regional agencies.

Deirdre DiCara, executive director of the FISH (Friends in Service of Humanity) homeless shelter that serves Northwest Connecticut, explained that several unhoused individuals from the more rural communities are currently living at the shelter.

"I am short-staffed right now," she said. State funding

only covers about half of her nonprofit agency's annual operating costs, "and the other half comes from fundraising.

Where is the support from the community?

"The recent \$250,000

received from the state for our Northwest Corner, that's paying to have a temporary overflow shelter open for four to five months," DiCara explained.

Regardless, she said she is buoyed by the news of the re-

newed effort to solve homelessness. "It's a wonderful thing, really. We're very pleased."

The FISH executive director said the recent media coverage of the homelessness problem in rural Northwest Connecticut by The Lakeville Journal and other local and state newspapers in recent weeks has helped to shed light on the homelessness crisis and likely put pressure on the state to take action.

While optimistic about the new interagency council's appointment, Scharnberg cautioned that efficiency will be the key to its success:

"I don't want it to be just about the red tape. We don't need another study. This has been studied to death. What we need is staffing, funding, flexibility and resources behind the effort. That's my hope."

HOUSING

Continued from Page A1

The funds were granted to benefit Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation and Foundation for Community Health's common service area: Canaan, Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, and Warren.

"We all need conserved open space and we all need affordable housing, so how do we really create an environment where we can have those conversations as opportunities come up to make the best use of the limited land that we have available

restored by the spring and

a townwide celebration will

includes: co-chairs Jan Gra-

ham Jones and Marie Civco,

and Hope Childs, Betsy Gill,

Kate Johnson, Rowland Den-

ny, Erick Olsen. Consultants

included Ann Havemeyer

and Barry Webber.

The Steeple Committee

be planned.

out there?" said Ayers.

To track affordable housing demand and available stock, LCCHO is unveiling a new online platform with data from all Litchfield County towns. The platform is expected to be completed in February, at which time it will be shared with town leaders throughout the region.

for your town and get specific housing data on your housing stock, your demographics, and your housing needs," said Ayer. In 2023 there were 1,111 households on waiting lists for affordable rental housing in the 21 towns that comprise the COG. 2024 legislative outlook Also at the January meeting of the Council of Governments, Betsy Gara, executive director of Connecticut's Council of Small Towns, provided an outlook for the upcoming legislative session. She highlighted the issues worth keeping an eye on, including a push for increased state funding toward special education costs, the promotion of shared services between municipalities, and the potential repeal of the state car tax.

"There is a task force that has been meeting quite regularly to look at whether or not the state can eliminate the car tax in entirety and then replace it with some alternative revenue streams," said Gara. "We are very concerned about that because the car tax — hate it or love it — is a considerable amount of revenue for our towns and "You'll be able to search we are nervous that if they

not be sustainable over time."

Gara acknowledged the lack of progress in regard to municipal solid waste management. Following the closure of the incinerator in Hartford, Connecticut towns are on their own when it comes to trash removal.

"It's continuing to be a very difficult issue for our municipalities," said Gara.

Contracts with the state expire in 2027, by which time placing it with an alternative towns will need a new place to put the trash.

places in 2014.

"Every year we try to improve it." This year's version allows searching the list by

to the story.

"That's something we can do digitally that we can't do in print."

end up eliminating it and rerevenue stream that it may



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STEEPLE

Continued from Page A1

prices have continued to rise. The project includes restoration of the clock face and a new clock and chimes controller from the Verdin Company; upgrading the lightning protection on the church by Associated Lightning in Millerton, New York; and the entire restoration of the steeple by Valley Restoration LLC of Litchfield. The weathervane, cross, spheres and clock dial digits have been gold-leafed.

The total cost will be between \$750,000 to \$800,000, according to a spokesperson for the Steeple Commitee.

Now in place atop the church, the steeple exterior work will be completed



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Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

BOOKS: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Second chance at love in Robinson's new novel

ornwall resident and author Roxana Robinson's newest novel explores the unique challenges of finding love later in life.

"Leaving" is the story of two high school lovers, Warren and Sarah, who are reunited decades later. Their passion reignited, they must now grapple with the nuanced difficulties they bring to their new/old love story after two separate and full lives spent apart.

The intricate dynamics and emotional landscapes of the characters allow for an exploration of some difficult questions.

"Leaving, in terms of this novel, is about the way we part from things in our lives," Robinson explained. "Sarah and Warren parted from the idea of their relationship originally for a reason that was completely false," she continued. "I think that for many of us, those relationships that you have in your late teens and early 20s are based on so many complicated and possibly absurdly superficial things. There are all sorts of very flimsy reasons that we connect or leave a relationship, or even just a conversation. We

are the reasons that you stay fixed on your course? And what is that course? What does that mean to you? It's exploring all those questions."

Asked about her process, Robinson shared that "the characters write the book," emphasizing her organic, exploratory process that shuns rigid outlines in favor of character-driven storytelling. "I write novels about things that really sort of trouble me and make me curious," said Robinson.

Her second novel, "This Is My Daughter," which came out in the '90s, explored the challenges of blended families and the inner lives of characters grappling with significant life choices.

"I was watching this [people embarking on second marriages] all around me and seeing people who were saying, 'It's great! We all are so happy, and the kids love us.' I just didn't think that was really what was happening. It was what Americans wanted to believe, but it wasn't really what was true. So, I wrote about that issue, that problem of trying to reconnect families, because it was very prevwhat you want. You are always bound by personal connections to place, to children, to commitments you've made. So, it was really interesting to me to sort of explore that issue."

Robinson's writing routine is as disciplined as it is exploratory. She writes first thing in the morning, every morning, guided by themes and characters that tug at her curiosity. This process has led her to explore diverse and challenging topics, from the aftermath of the Civil War to the return of a marine from Iraq to a character struggling with heroin addiction.

Her books have required meticulous research and empathy. She wrote "Leaving" in about three years, which is considerably less time than she usually spends on a novel; she said, "I didn't have to do any research."

Her teaching at Hunter College's MFA program underscores her commitment to literature as she revisits literary classics with her students, finding new layers in each successive reading of "Madame Bovary," "Anna Karenina," "To the Lighthouse,"



PHOTO BY BEOWULF SHEEHAN Roxana Robinson

where and everything, there is a hint of O'Keeffe in Sarah, one of the main

characters in "Leaving." Robinson said of the comparison to Sarah's self-sufficiency and independence: "It's true. Sarah is very comfortable living alone. She

Tickets for Sharon Playhouse's summer

has a beloved dog. She has a job. She has work that interests her. She has children that interest her. And you don't see her as being needy because she's alone, which is rare."

Continued on page B3

just turn away. And in part, that's necessary. We can't stay open to everything our whole lives."

Indeed, as the plot unfolds and the characters' motivations are explored, the reader is left pondering the ways in which we often turn away from and abandon ourselves throughout the course of our lives.

Said Robinson: "What

alent at that time."

Of "Leaving," Robinson shared: "This is about people in the second half of their lives who are having a romance, and it's much more complicated. You sort of think, 'Oh, my kids are gone. I'm where I want to be in my in my career. And now I'm free to do what I want.' And you are never free to do "House of Mirth" and "whoever else seizes our fancy that semester," said Robinson.

"I'm probably the only person you know who has read Anna Karenina 15 times," she remarked with a laugh, highlighting her dedication to both her craft and her role as an educator.

Robinson's biography of Georgia O'Keeffe, suggestion to the book's publisher by her husband, Tony Robinson, catapulted her into writing O'Keeffe's biography, a task she initially doubted she'd be approached for, considering her pivot to fiction.

praised by Calvin Tom-

kins of The New Yorker

as "without question

the best book written

about O'Keeffe," offers a

profound exploration of

the artist's life. It's a work

that not only showcases

Robinson's narrative

prowess but also her

deep understanding of the visual arts, a skill

honed during her time in

department at Sotheby's.

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This expertise, coupled

with a serendipitous

"It was a great project," said Robinson. "She was a wonderful subject to write about."

As art mimics life and inspiration for writers often comes from every-

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The Sharon Playhouse has unveiled the lineup for its 2024 season of summer stock theater in Sharon, Connecticut. The MainStage series will begin with the progressive rock jukebox musical "Rock of Ages" directed by Hunter Foster (June 21-July 7). After that will be a production of the recent Broadway musical comedy "The Prom" directed by Carl Andress (July 26-Aug. 11). The lineup continues with Robert Harling's Southern stage play "Steel Magnolias"



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directed by Jackson Gay (Aug. 30-Sept. 8), and concludes with the musical based on Charles M. Schulz's comic strip characters, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" directed by Julia Murney (Sept. 20-Sept. 29). Eric Thomas Johnson will act as the music director for the season and Judy Bowman will oversee casting.

The YouthStage series will feature a teen adaptation of William Shakespeare's comedy "As You Like It," as well as a children's adaptation of Roald Dahl's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" titled "Willy Wonka Kids"; a children's adaptation of Disney's "High School Musical"; a new youth play titled "Sassy Cinderella" written by Michael Kevin Baldwin; as well as a production titled "Sharon Playhouse Stars" devised by Sarah Cuoco. Tickets for these performances are now on sale at www.sharonplayhouse.org



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FILM: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

A dish best served cold

was feeling surly recently, so I dialed up "revenge movies" on the streaming gizmo. There are a lot of re-

venge movies. I skipped obvious ti-

tles that I've seen multiple times, like the "Death Wish" flicks starring Charles Bronson.

But I didn't skip John Boorman's oddball entry from 1967, "Point Blank," in which Walker (Lee Marvin, wearing a very sturdy pair of wingtips) wreaks all kinds of havoc in order to recover the \$93,000 that was his share of a previous caper.

This was the 1960s, so the film's story is "non-linear," meaning the viewer wonders what the heck is going on.

But who cares when you've got Angie Dickinson wearing as little as the producers thought they could get away with, and bad guys like Carroll O'Connor and John

Vernon.

William Lustig's 1982 "Vigilante" is a coherent film that stars Robert Forster as Eddie, a regular guy pushed to extremes by indifferent policing and general societal breakdown.

Here we get into what is critical in a revenge movie: The hero has to pretty much kill everybody and break everything.

This one gets bonus points for giant land yachts and overall greasiness.

Brian Helgeland's 1999 "Payback,", based on a novel by Donald Westlake (as is "Point Blank"), has Mel Gibson rampaging around the nameless city that just happens to look a lot like New York in order to get back at the creep who double-crossed him on a heist and left him for dead.

This one has kinky

sex, always a plus when you're in a bad mood, and like "Point Blank," the hero has a similar obsession with recovering the exact amount of money — no more, no less.

He also kills everybody and blows up what he doesn't break.

Moving into a contemporary mode, there are three more or less current franchise films that explore the revenge angle.

The "Taken" series, starring Liam Neeson as retired CIA guy Bryan Mills, starts with Mills' daughter getting kidnapped in Paris by Albanian sex-trafficking thugs. Mills hops on a plane and kills everybody in creative ways and breaks everything. Oh, and gets his daughter back.

But one of the Albanian thugs has a grieving father who's got the same



A billboard by Bard College student James Wise was displayed at 3391 US-9in Hudson from Dec. 20 through Jan. 17. Titled "How Long Will We Be Driving?",



Lee Marvin, Angie Dickinson, Carroll O'Connor and a cigar.

general idea as Mills when it comes to killing everybody, etc.

This forms the basis for the imaginatively titled "Taken 2."

In the third installment, Mills is framed for the death of his ex. There's some unnecessary plot involved, but Mills gets to waterboard his deceased ex's smarmy second husband and eventually wipes out the sinister Russian mobster.

What's fun about these flicks is Mills' ability to MacGyver, or to find simple solutions to knotty problems.

MacGyver used a Swiss Army knife a lot. Mills, when trying to prevent the private plane from taking off, simply crashes the stolen Porsche into the plane's landing gear.

Would an ordinary Toyota or Subaru have done the trick? Sure, but viewers can crash their own regular cars. How often do you get the chance to destroy a



LIONS GATE ENTERTAINMENT

seems absolutely necessary.

There are three of these movies, and darned if I didn't feel just about revenged out by the time the credits rolled on the third.

The revenge movie exercise took about two weeks, and there were numerous flicks that did not make the cut. As a general rule, I avoided anything that has been mocked by the guys at Rifftrax, and I did not go back to the black and white era, when you couldn't throw a brick without hitting someone en route to a showing of a revenge movie.

the billboard questions the increasing dependence on artificial intelligence and its consequences. The billboard was part of Shandaken Projects' public art initiative 14x48.

ART: ROBIN RORABACK

Public artworks by Bard College students

by James Wise of the Bard College class of '26 was on view at 3391 US-9 in Hudson from Dec. 20, 2023, to Jan. 17, 2023.

Titled, "How Long Will We Be Driving?", the billboard came about through a partnership with Bard Community Arts Collaborative, the Center for Civic Engagement at Bard, and Shandaken Project's Public Arts Initiative.

Wise's piece was chosen from projects done by students in an extended media studio course at Bard College taught by Julia Weist.

Her students made 2D projects that were reviewed by Shandaken, and 3D projects that were reviewed by the Village of Red Hook's chair for the Public Spaces

billboard with art Initiative Committee. The 3D works were installed at Richard Abraham's Memorial Park in Red Hook. The pieces ranged from interactive sculptures to large-format photographic prints to sculptures of wood and metal. This exhibit was not open to the public; it was a pilot program with the idea of future collaborations in mind.

Student Elena Schneider '27 said, "Being able to make something to be displayed in the landscape where we live pushed me to create something I really care about and am proud of."

Of the class, Weist said, "If you can create art that affects a viewer, moves a viewer in the

Continued on Page B3

Porsche?

The soaking wet Keanu Reeves stars in the four "John Wick" movies, which are darn near interchangeable. John Wick is a retired assassin but this idiot son of a Russian gangster steals his restored Mustang and kills his puppy, which is good for about 12 hours total of mayhem and destruction in several parts of the world.

These locations have one thing in common it is almost always night, and it has just rained.

And if there is any chance for John Wick to get drenched, he does. The momentum lags by the time you get to the fourth flick, which

injustice, which requires killing everybody and breaking everything.

John Wick is wet again.

spends at least 40 min-

utes in kung fu exercises

in neon-lit rooms featur-

ing lots of easily broken

Denzel Washington

is the star of the "Equal-

izer" series, as another

one of these retired CIA

hitmen, Robert McCall.

He works in hardware

stores and as a rideshare

driver, but darn it all,

he keeps running into

glass stuff.

This knight-errantry requires a more subtle touch from director Antoine Fuqua, who spends more time showing McCall drinking tea than







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BOOKS: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

'When hatred gets out of hand'

elice Cohen, a journalist, writer and professional organizer, spoke about her 2010 book "What Papa Told Me" to an online audience via the David M. Hunt Library Thursday, Jan. 18.

The "papa" in question was her grandfather, Murray Schwartzbaum, from Szczekociny, Poland, who as a Jewish boy survived five years in eight different Nazi concentration camps during World War II.

Cohen said as a child "I had no idea" about the Holocaust until she read Elie Wiesel's "Night," in middle school. The book, published in 1960, is a memoir about the Holocaust.

The subject scared her. It wasn't until she was in college that she became curious. One subject of her curiosity was the death of her grandmother, which she had been told was from cancer.

It turned out the grandmother died by suicide.

She asked her grandfather about it, and in order to explain, he had to go back to the Holocaust and the Lodz ghetto.

After Nazi Germany invaded Poland and the country was split up between the Germans and the Soviet Union, Polish Jews and Roma were forcibly moved into areas known as "ghettos," where they were kept apart from the non-Jewish population.

Conditions in the ghettos were appalling, and nobody knew when they would be sent on to one of the labor or death camps.

Schwartzbaum told Cohen that her grandmother was staving in one room with her sister and her boys when the Germans came for the sister.

As she was dragged out, she asked Cohen's grandmother to look after the children.

The next day the Germans returned and took the boys. The day after that, they sent the grandmother to Auschwitz.

Both sisters survived, but the boys did not. And years later, when the sisters were reunited, Cohen's grandmother was asked by her sister why she hadn't saved the boys.

Cohen's grandmother sank into a deep depression. Treatment was inef-

Continued from previous page

fective, and she eventually hanged herself.

Cohen wrote about this unhappy history in college, and Schwartzbaum suggested he tell her his story as well.

Cohen said it took 18 years to put "What Papa Told Me" together. Her grandfather lived in Florida, and she was in New York, so she visited frequently, with tape recorder and notebook at the ready. A sample:

At the Treblinka extermination camp in Nazi-occupied Poland, Schwartzbaum and others were ordered outside in winter and told to form a circle.

An officer in a Jeeptype vehicle drove into the circle. In the vehicle was a Jewish prisoner with an apple in his mouth.

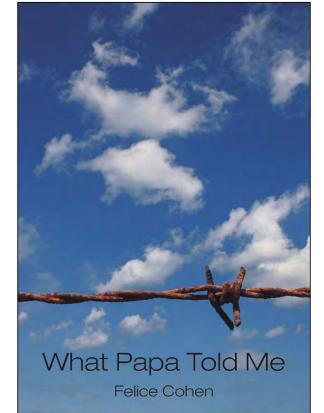
The Nazi drove around the circle for everyone to get a good look.

He stopped and announced that the man had been caught stealing an apple.

As punishment, he was forced to hold the apple in his mouth, like a roast pig.

"But a Jew is no better than a pig," yelled the Nazi before shooting the man in the head.

Cohen recalled being overwhelmed, not only by the savagery but by the realization that these



DIVIDENDS

and similar memories had been in her grandfather's mind "for decades."

The book came out in 2010, and Cohen did not expect massive sales. When 150 people bought it, she was thrilled.

But by a happy set of circumstances, the book took off.

Cohen was living in a miniscule apartment in New York, and agreed to participate in a video shoot about how to live in small settings. Visible in the video was her computer screen with the book cover showing.

The video took off, with views in the millions. Much of the

response was on the subject or organizing, which is Cohen's area of expertise.

But after that response tapered off, people began getting in touch about the book.

According to the Amazon.com listing, some 35,000 copies have been sold, and Cohen has spoken at libraries, schools, and other venues.

Schwartzbaum died eight years ago, Cohen said. But he was thrilled at the book's success.

"This is one man's story, for 6 million others," she said. "It tells us what happens when hatred gets out of hand."

...Bard College



PHOTO COURTESY OF BARD COLLEGE

A Bard College student installs her sculpture at Richard Abraham's Memorial

Park in Red Hook. The installation was part of a pilot program with the village of **Red Hook's Public Spaces Initiative.**

parking lot of a grocery store, which is where our billboard project is located, you've succeeded profoundly as an artist."

Wise's piece was selected for the billboard outside of Hudson by Shandaken as part of its Public Art Initiative 14x48, which has exhibited "new work by contemporary artists across New York State since 2021."

The title refers to the increasing reliance of society on artificial intelligence (AI) and the

(518) 789-3462

potential loss of human independence with such things as self-driving cars, Wise has explained; it questions the very use of cars in the face of global warming. The figure at the center of the work, an avatar created with AL reminds viewers that AI is a field dominated by white males.

Explaining his approach to the work, Wise said: "My main concern was in conveying my concept as clearly as possible. I wanted the billboard to blend in,

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so I researched local insurance billboards for a base." He added: "After layering and collaging the AI images I'd generated from various local insurance-themed prompts, I ended up landing on the final product. I was always cautious to keep my work as close to the source material as possible, while still subtly distinct under closer inspection." Wise created the billboard by layering more than 50 AI generated images.

UTOMOTIVE

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In true O'Keeffe fashion, the characters in "Leaving" break with convention in order to really investigate what it means to love.

As for what is next for Robinson, she said, "I'm always at work on a book, so I have another

book that I'm engaged by." Her eyes then wandered to the corner of the book-lined room. "That's it," she laughed, "that's what writers do."

"Leaving" (W.W. Norton & Company), Robinson's 11th published book, will release Tues-

day, Feb. 13, with a book launch at The White Hart in Salisbury and a conversation with writer Dani Shapiro. Robinson will also discuss the book in conversation with Gillian Blake at The Cornwall Library Saturday, Feb. 17 at 4 p.m.



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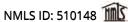
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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

JANUARY 27

Cornwall Author Talk

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn cornwalllibrary.org

On Saturday, Jan. 27, at 4 p.m., The Cornwall Library is starting off its 2024 book talks with an event that should enthrall literature fans throughout the area. Distinguished bestselling novelists and memoirists Dani Shapiro and A.M. Homes will discuss their work, with novelist and biographer Roxana Robinson moderating. This event is live only (no Zoom). Registration on the library website is required at:cornwalllibrary.org/ events/

Art Exhibition

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org

David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village will host WINTER WONDERLAND, an exhibition of painted winter scenes by art students at Lee H. Kellogg School. There will be a reception for the public, and parents of the artists, on Saturday Jan. 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The exhibition will remain on display during operating hours through Feb. 23.

JANUARY 30

Startup Community Night

The White Hart, 15 Under Mountain Road, Salisbury, Conn

The NCCC **Entrepreneurial Center is** hosting a local business Startup Community Night on Jan. 30 from 5 to 7 p.m. Attendees will have the chance to pitch their business, network with the entrepreneurial community, contribute to community economic development, and mentors will pay forward the support and knowledge from their years of experience. Complimentary food and drink will be provided. Visit nwcc.edu/startup for more info.

as we embrace the Danish idea of making a warm atmosphere and enjoying the good things in life with good people. Snacks and crafts will be available at the library or to take home. This event is free and open to the public, registration is not required.

The Orchestra Now (TŌN) Season Premiere

Fisher Center at Bard, Sosnoff Theater, Manor Ave. Annandale-On-Hudson, N.Y. fishercenter.bard.edu

On Saturday, Feb. 3, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 4, at 3 p.m., The Orchestra Now presents its season premiere: Stephanie Blythe Sings Brahms.

The Orchestra Now, the visionary orchestra and master's degree program founded by Bard College president, conductor, educator and music historian Leon Botstein, returns to launch its 2024 winter/spring season at Bard's Fisher Center with a concert featuring Metropolitan Opera star Stephanie Blythe in an all-Brahms program. The performance also features tenor Joshua Blue. Tickets: Priced at \$15-\$35 are available online at fishercenter. bard.edu, or by calling 845.758.7900. Patrons can RSVP for the free concert at Simon's Rock at ton.bard.edu/events/ schumann

Crescendo Concerts

Trinity Church, 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville. Conn

The Crescendo Vocal Ensemble and instrumentalists will present two concerts of early motets on Feb. 3 and 4. This program features sacred four- to seven-voice works by these composers. A central subject in the program is the plea for peace, featured in several compositions. The performances take place Saturday, Feb. 3, at 3 p.m. at Trinity Church, Lakeville, Conn., and on Sunday, Feb. 4, at 4 p.m. at Saint James Place, Great Barrington, Mass. Please visit Crescendo's website www. crescendomusic.org for online ticket purchases, more details, and other season concerts, or call 860-435-4866. Tickets will also be sold at the door 45 minutes before each performance.

Millerton, N.Y

The North East Historical Society's popular Dine Out for History series returns this month. On select dates through March 11, participating Millerton restaurants will host their own Dine Out for History nights, where 10% of the proceeds from all patrons that night will be donated to the historical society to support its research, digitize its collection and make historic content more available to the public, particularly educators.

Sunday, Feb. 4, Oakhurst Diner, 19 Main St., 5-8 p.m., 518-592-1313.

Thursday, Feb. 15, Willa, 52 Main St., 5-9 p.m., 518-789-0252. Reservations requested.

Monday, Feb. 26, Round III, 5523 NY-22, 5-9 p.m., 518-592-1240.

Monday, March 11, Golden Wok, Railroad Plaza, 2 Main St., 5-10 p.m., 518-789-9236. Takeout only.

FEBRUARY 6

Virtual Book Talk

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org

On Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 6 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library will host a virtual evening with C.W. Goodyear, author of "President Garfield: From Radical to Unifier." In this book, the most comprehensive biography of Garfield in decades, Goodyear charts the life and times of one of the most remarkable Americans ever to win the Presidency. This virtual event is free and open to the public. Register for this event tinyurl.com/

Registration required cornwalllibrary.org/ events

FEBRUARY 10

Dewey Hall's Celestial Ball

Dewey Memorial Hall, 91 Main St., Sheffield, Mass

Dewey Hall is celebrating the final night of its **Reaching for the Stars** annual fundraising campaign with a Celestial Ball on Lunar New Year, Saturday, Feb. 10, from 7 to 10 p.m. (snow date Sunday, Feb. 11, from 6 to 9 p.m.). Attendees are encouraged to dress to shimmer, shimmy and shine in sequins, sparkles, and glitter and come prepared to dance the night away to DJ BFG. There will be music for dancing, hors 'd'oeuvres, event tarot card readings by Emily Schuhmann of GettinIntuit, a cash bar, an otherworldly photo station, glittery face painting, and a silent auction of extra special items. Tickets cost \$25-\$75 and can be purchased online at secure.givelively.org/ event/dewey-memorialhall-inc/dewey-hall-scelestial-ball

Midwinter's Night in the Village

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org

The Friends of The David M. Hunt Library will hold its annual winter fundraiser, A Midwinter's Night in the Village, at the library Saturday, Feb. 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. (snow date Sunday, Feb. 11, 2 p.m.). The main feature is the library's famous 16-foot-long bread board piled high with a variety of homemade baked goods ranging from sweet dessert loaves and hearty savory breads to delicious hors d'oeuvres and chocolate treats. Wine, beer, and nonalcoholic refreshments are included in the ticket price. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children ages 3-17 and can be purchased inperson or online.

FEBRUARY 11

The Art of the String Quartet

Saint James Place, 352 Main St., Great Barrington, Mass.

Close Encounters With Music presents the notable Avalon String Ouartet returns with another Berkshire

premiere pm Sunday, Feb. 11 at 4 p.m. "For Such a Time as This" is a retelling of the biblical Esther story for string quartet and vocalist, from a feminist perspective. Afterglow **Reception in Saint** James Place's Great Hall following the concert in the Sanctuary Space. You are invited to meet the artists and enjoy bites and beverages.

Book Signing and Presentation

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibrary.org

Get ready for Valentine's Days with one of America's most iconic couples: Joanne Woodward and Paul Newman. Their love story wasn't always a fairytale, but it is the stuff of legend. Newman and Woodward's daughter Melissa will offer a uniquely personal look into her parents' lives and love affair, as presented in her book: "Head Over Heels." Newman will lead a presentation and book signing on Sunday, Feb. 11 at 4 p.m. Register at: hotchkisslibrary.libcal. com/event/11843350

ART: EMILY EDELMAN Sculpture at The Mount

he Berkshires-based SculptureNow outdoor art exhibition, which has been hosted at The Mount in Lenox, Mass., for the past nine years, has been adopted as an official Mount program.

The newly renamed

The change comes on the heels of the announcement of the retirement of Ann Jon, who founded Sculpture-Now in 1998 and served as its executive director. "By formally integrating SculptureNow into our programming, there is great synergy between

Wissler, executive director of The Mount, in a statement.

Set to encompass approximately 25 works, Sculpture at The Mount will open Friday, May 24, and run through Sunday, Oct. 20. Artist submissions for this year's exhibit are being accepted through Friday, Feb. 9. For exhibition and submission information. see edithwharton.org/ calendar/sculpture

FEBRUARY 2

Art Exhibition

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. huntlibrary.org

On Friday, Feb. 2 at 4 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library and the Falls Village Equity Project will host a Banned Book Club. This month we will be discussing the book "Clap When You Land" by Elizabeth Acevedo. Copies of the book are available at the library. This group is open to anyone high school aged and older.

FEBRUARY 3

Hygge Party/Take Your **Child to the Library Day**

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn huntlibrary.org

Join us on Take Your Child to the Library Day, Saturday Feb. 3, at 10:30 a.m. for a Hygge Party of Coziness. Dress in your pajamas and bring a blanket for our cozy story time, warm up with hot chocolate, and settle in with books or puzzles

FEBRUARY 4

The North East Historical **Society Dine Out for** History

u8bx5ajj

FEBRUARY 9

The Conceivable Future

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. cornwalllibrary.org

The Cornwall Library is excited to present Meghan Elizabeth Kallman and Josephine Ferorelli, authors of "The **Conceivable Future: Planning Families and** Taking Action in the Age of Climate Change." They will discuss the ways in which the climate crisis is a reproduction crisis, and what you can do about it. A Q&A and book signing will follow the discussion. Attend in-person or by Zoom.

Sculpture at The Mount will continue to present the work of rising and longtime artists while maintaining the variety of styles and mediums that visitors to the popular showcase have come to expect. The exhibit entertained over 55,000 guests in 2023.

Wharton's literary legacy and the compelling narratives expressed through contemporary sculpture," said Susan

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Spongy moth and what it is doing to our forests

By Robin Roraback

MILLBROOK, N.Y. -One of the major factors in the cycle of the spongy moth and their proliferation - or lack of proliferation — turns out to be acorns.

Spongy moths, formerly referred to as Gypsy moths for their itinerant ways, were the topic of a lecture Thursday, Jan. 11, by scientists Clive Jones, who has studied the spongy moth for 30 years, and Charles Canham, who has studied northeastern forests for 40 years. Both are emeritus scientists of Cary Institute of Ecosystems Studies, which hosted the lecture.

Spongy moths, natives of Europe and Asia, came to North America in 1868 or 1869, to Medford, Massachusetts. Amateur entomologist Etienne Trouvelot believed he could crossbreed them with silkworms in an attempt to "make a hardy silkworm."

"He got some egg masses of the spongy moth and set them on the sill of his open window. When they blew into his garden, he could not find them," said Jones.

By 1891, there was mass defoliation in the Medford area and spongy moths were found in a 200-square-mile area. From there, they began to spread throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Alone, the spongy moth travels by ballooning on silk threads; assisted, humans unwittingly transport eggs laid on cut logs or vehicles.

The life of the spongy

moth could be said to begin in July and August, when the flightless female moths emit pheromones to tell males that they're ready to mate.

They each lay a few hundred eggs, often at the bases of trees. If the moth population is high, they lay eggs anywhere, on garden furniture or on the bumper of a car.

Then, the following May, the eggs hatch. The larvae spend May and June ballooning to new locations on silken threads. They rest under trees during the day, then go up into the tree canopy at night to feed. They prefer oaks but also eat maple, beech, apple, hickory, willow and birch trees, among others.

When the population is very dense and the competition for food is fiercer, they may eat all day and night. Once a tree is defoliated, they'll move to the next canopy.

In late June and July, the larvae pupate — a caterpiller to moth metamorphosis that lasts a couple of weeks then they emerge and breed and the cycle begins again.

Acorns and outbreaks

Jones explained that "outbreaks" — or high densities of spongy moths — "occur about every 10 years on average, but like any average, it does not mean there will be outbreaks like clockwork."

Spongy moths have been defoliating local forests for the last three years running; in June 2022, trail hikers re-



PHOTO BY CARY INSTITUTE OF ECOSYSTEM STUDIES / LORI QUILLEN Female spongy moths lay eggs masses on a black oak tree at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, N.Y.

ported that the caterpillars were falling from the canopies "like rain."

There are two major causes of outbreaks, he continued. One is "high female fecundity," for example: If one moth laid 500 eggs and 250 were female, 125 of those would live to maturity and lay eggs. So, in year two, there would be 125 females laying eggs, and the third year, over 15,000 would result.

The other cause of outbreaks is the collapse of the white-footed mouse population, he said. White-footed mice eat the pupae as a part of their omnivorous diet.

At this point, we reach the subject of acorns:

"The number of mice is determined by the number of acorns the previous fall,"

Jones continued, saying that if there is a moderate to large acorn crop in the fall, more mice survive the winter and begin breeding earlier in the year, in late winter or early spring. When that happens, there is an extra generation of mice, meaning more mice to eat more moth pupae.

Studies at the Cary Institute concluded that "moderate to high mouse densities keep moth populations low," while it was found "that when the mouse population declines, the spongy moth population increases."

However, defoliation of oaks can cause the trees to produce fewer acorns, meaning less food for the mice, meaning fewer mice the following spring, meaning more moths, and so on, until the

moth population collapses again.

Spongy moth population collapse

There are three major causes of population collapse among the moths.

One is a fungus, Entomophaga maimaiga, which kills the moth at moderate and high densities. It likes cool, wet springs and is more abundant in those conditions.

The more common cause of collapse is Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus (NPV): When the moths are at high density, they are more stressed by the struggle to find food. Their immunity drops, they are more likely to catch the virus, and many are killed.

The third cause of moth population collapse is lack of food: When they defoliate a large area of trees and run out of food too early, they can't mature and proceed to egg laying.

Jones said that Cary Institute scientists predict an NPV collapse in 2024: "Whether or not there'll be a lot or a little defoliation [this year] will really depend on how fast the virus moves through the population. If it moves slowly, there'll be complete defoliation. If it goes through fast, there'll be incomplete defoliation." The defoliated tree

Canham continued the lecture by saying, "Defoliation by caterpillars is rarely a direct and immediate cause of tree mortality."

Canham explained that and-forests

this is due to "carbohydrate economy": "Basically, photosynthesis during the growing season produces the sugars needed to produce new tissues, and the energy those tissues need for their metabolism.

"But the even more important outcome of a good growing season is the profit leftover after meeting those immediate needs, and that profit is in the form of sugars and starches that act as reserves for use next year."

Usually, unless the tree is weakened by other factors, it will draw on its reserves to get through this defoliation and produce more leaves that same year.

An exception that Canham has observed at Cary Institute is the understory hemlocks, which don't make as many reserves and, after a couple years of defoliation in a row, may not recover. Needle trees, DEEP has noted, can be killed if they lose more than 50% of their foliate.

The bottom line

Canham said he worries more about the devastating effects of the emerald ash borer, longhorn beetle, spotted lantern fly and hemlock wooly adelgid than about the spongy moth. He said if a tree is in crisis, a way to help it is to water it to "help replenish its reserves."

For more information or to view the lecture video, go to www.caryinstitute.org/ news-insights/lecture-video/spongy-moth-our-yards-

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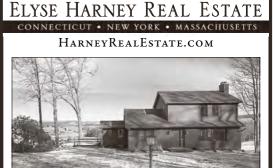
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