

The Lakeville Journal

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

Sharon Hospital ordered to keep maternity services

By Riley Klein and Maud Doyle

SHARON — The state Office of Health Strategy (OHS) denied Sharon Hospital's request to close its labor and delivery (L&D) services Monday, Feb. 5.

This is OHS' final decision in a five-year fight between Sharon Hospital and members of the local community, led by grassroots organization Save Sharon Hospital, over the closure of the hospital's labor and delivery services.

OHS determined that Sharon Hospital's application for a Cer-

tificate of Need (CON) failed to meet the statutory requirements intended to protect the "quality, accessibility, and cost-effectiveness of care" in the region served.

"The applicant has failed to meet its burden of proof" that this closure would not negatively affect local health care, the office wrote, coming up short in meeting four of the six criteria set forth in state law:

— That the closure would be consistent with the state's Health Plan.

— That it would improve quality, access, and cost effectiveness of care.

— That the hospital had good cause for reducing access to services by Medicaid recipients or indigent persons — more than 48% of Sharon Hospital's labor and delivery patients paid through Medicaid in 2021.

— That the closure would have no negative impact on the diversity of health care providers and patient choice.

The decision concluded: "Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Discussion, the Certificate of Need ap-

See HOSPITAL, Page A8

Spirit of democracy remains alive and well in Falls Village

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Secretary of the State Stephanie Thomas visited Falls Village Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 30, to bestow upon the town the Municipal Democracy Challenge Cup for the best voter turnout (68.7%) in the small town category in the 2023 election.

Keen questioning from Lou Timolat elicited the fact that Falls Village's turnout was, in fact, the best in the state.

First Selectman Dave Barger thanked Thomas for the recognition and the town's election officials for their efforts.

Thomas told the crowd of some 40 people that the voter turnout

See DEMOCRACY, Page A8



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Secretary of the State Stephanie Thomas, right, and Falls Village First Selectman Dave Barger. Thomas congratulated Falls Village for having the highest voter turnout (68.7%) in the 2023 election in the small town category, and in the state overall.

\$12 million sale of Cornwall estate sets Litchfield County record

By Debra A. Aleksinas

CORNWALL — After alternating on and off the market since 2014, tennis pro Ivan Lendl's 445-acre estate in Cornwall and Goshen sold for \$12 million Thursday, Jan. 25, to a group of Wyoming-based LLCs, setting a record for the highest real estate transaction to date in Litchfield County.

The deal shattered a previous record-high sale set in 2008 in Kent by half a million dollars.

The Lendl property, with its

custom-built, four-level, 20-room Georgian Federal-style stone mansion, had been listed for the past two years with Elyse Harney Real Estate. At the time of the sale, the asking price was \$14,995,000. Agents Elyse Harney Morris and Bill Melnick represented the seller.

Kiara Rusconi of William Raveis Real Estate in Glastonbury, who represented the purchaser in the transaction, said although her client requested anonymity, "What I can say is that it is evident that the property has been well loved by the Lendl family and its legacy will be preserved for years to come."

Land records indicate that deeds to the property were purchased

through six Limited Liability Companies (LLC) filed with the Wyoming Secretary of State on Jan. 18. They include: 400 Mile 1 LLC, 400 Mile 2 LLC, 400 Mile 3 LLC, 400 Mile 4 LLC, 400 Mile 5 LLC and 400 Mile Master LLC.

"I am still pinching myself," said Morris, several days after the closing. "Very rarely do you find this much acreage in Litchfield County, although you could go over the border in New York and find it all day long. That's what creates the privacy and the ability to say that you have that much acreage. That is a big deal."

See REAL ESTATE, Page A8



PHOTO BY TOM BROWN

Taking flight

Salisbury Winter Sports Association's 2024 edition of Jumpfest drew large crowds beneath Satre Hill on the weekend of Feb. 2 to 4. Full coverage of Jumpfest is on pages A5 and A7.

In CT's 5th District rematch, Hayes has fundraising lead

By Lisa Hagen
CT Mirror

Republican George Logan outraised U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes in the final months of 2023, but the Democratic incumbent added to her large cash advantage ahead of what is likely to be another competitive race in Connecticut's 5th Congressional District.

Logan, a former state senator who narrowly lost to Hayes in 2022, raised more than \$420,000 from October through December.

During that time, he spent about \$60,000, leaving him with about \$371,000 left in the bank in the new year.

Hayes, meanwhile, brought in over \$282,000 and spent about \$171,000 over the last three months of 2023. Without a competitor for much of last year, Hayes was able to amass a large campaign account in her race for a fourth term in Congress.

For the entire year of 2023,

See 5TH DISTRICT, Page A8



PHOTO BY MARK MIRKO/CT PUBLIC

Incumbent Jahana Hayes, left, and Republican challenger George Logan appear for the Fifth Congressional District debate at Central Connecticut State University Oct. 20, 2022.



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Regional

In The Journal this week

LEGALS.....A2	COMPASS.....B1-4
OUR TOWNS.....A3	CALENDAR.....B4
OBITUARIES.....A4	OUR TOWNS.....B5
JUMPFEST.....A5,A7	CLASSIFIEDS.....B5
OPINION.....A6	SPECIALIST.....B6

Online This Week

Children take over Hotchkiss Library

Take Your Child to the Library Day was filled with fun. 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.

Strikes embankment

On Monday, Jan. 29, at approximately 9:30 p.m., Michael Miller, 18, of Millerton, was westbound on Route 44 west of Taconic Road in Salisbury in a 2003 Pontiac Grand Am when he lost control at a curve and hit an embankment. Miller declined medical treatment and the Pontiac was towed from the scene. He was issued a written warning for traveling too fast for conditions.

McDonald's disturbance

On Tuesday, Jan. 30, at approximately 12:30 p.m., Albert Newhouse, 49, of Ellington, Conn., was involved in a disturbance at McDonald's in North Canaan. On Thursday, Feb. 1, Newhouse was placed in State Police custody and charged with criminal mischief 2nd degree and breach of peace, 2nd degree. Newhouse allegedly kicked a door as he left the restaurant, breaking the glass. Newhouse told troopers he was having a "bad day." He was released on a \$1,500 non-surety bond.

Sideswipe in no-passing zone

On Tuesday, Jan. 30, at approximately 9:50 a.m., two

vehicles were northbound on Route 41 in Salisbury in the area of Easy Street. Mouffia Alio, 25, of Waterbury was driving a 2004 Ford Econoline 3500 in a no-passing zone when he attempted to pass Dominic Capalbo, 66, of West Cornwall, who was driving a 1997 GMC Sierra 1500. While Capalbo was attempting to turn left into a driveway, Alio's vehicle sideswiped Capalbo's vehicle. Alio was issued a written warning for improper passing.

Suspicious parked vehicle

On Tuesday, Jan. 30, at approximately 2 a.m., Troop B received a call about a suspicious vehicle parked at the end of Swifts Bridge Road in Cornwall. Responding troopers found a man and a woman in the vehicle who refused to identify themselves. The involved operator, Michael Jardine, 40, of Falls Village, was arrested for interfering with an investigation and was transported to Troop B. He was charged with operating an unregistered vehicle, operating without a license, and interfering with an officer and resisting and released on \$2,500 non-surety bond.

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 john@lakevillejournal.com



PHOTO BY HEIDI M. HOELLER

Renaissance music fills the air

Crescendo Vocal Ensemble presented a concert at Saint James Place in Great Barrington, Mass., on Sunday, Feb. 4. Singing "Optime Pastor," the chorus enchanted the crowd through vocal mastery.

Help available for summer camp costs to Salisbury residents

Salisbury Family Services, a local nonprofit organization serving residents of the Town of Salisbury, will provide scholarships to summer camp for the children of qualifying families.

Assistance is given for resident and day camps, special needs, arts and sports camps. Contact Patrice McGrath at 860-435-5187 to apply.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2024-0237 by Robert Tucker for a detached apartment on a single-family residential lot at 177 Interlaken Road, Lakeville, Map 40, Lot 45. The owner of the lot is David Nathan. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 5:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at www.salisburyct.us.

Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to landuse@salisburyct.us. Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM. Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission Martin Whalen, Secretary 02-08-24 02-15-24

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on January 16, 2024:

Approved with Conditions — Site Plan Application #2023-0233 by owner The Hotchkiss School, for Dining Hall Renovations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 06 as Lot 8 and is located at 11 Interlaken Road, Lakeville.

Any aggrieved person may appeal these decisions to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §8-8.

Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission Martin Whalen, Secretary 02-01-24

NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF SALISBURY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024 7:30 P.M.

A Special Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town

meetings in the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut, will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. at Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Salisbury, Connecticut and virtually (Zoom information below) for the following purposes:

1. To receive and act upon the report of the Town Officers and to recognize the Town Report dedication.

2. To receive and act upon the audited financial report from the Chairman of the Board of Finance and Treasurer of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023

Zoom Webinar When: Feb 21, 2024 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Special Annual Town Meeting Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87554106009?pwd=O6ZRWL5j5y0XxsfJP6Nbuzxlkw8w6A.mq8KklpIiD8G7> Passcode: 444063

Or Telephone: +1 646 931 3860 US Dated at Salisbury, Connecticut this 25th day of January, 2024.

Curtis G. Rand, First Selectman Christian E. Williams Selectman Katherine Kiefer Selectman 02-08-24 02-15-24

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2024-0238 by owner Salisbury Housing Committee for "Dresser Woods" 20-unit affordable multi-family housing in the Multi-Family Housing Overlay District at 37 Railroad Street, Salisbury, Map 56, Lot 56 per Section 405 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 5:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at www.salisburyct.us. Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to landuse@salisburyct.us.

Chore Service, Litchfield Hills Chore Service consolidate

SALISBURY — The Chore Service and Litchfield Hills Chore Service have consolidated operations under Chore Service.

"Working together, the combined organization will ensure support for the most vulnerable in our community, as both organizations have done for over 20 years," said Chore Service Executive Director Jane MacLaren. "With this consolidation, residents in 13 towns in Litchfield County can rely on the familiarity and consistency they value and expect."

The nonprofit Chore Service provides in-home, non-medical assistance to older adults and people with disabilities, allowing them to live independently at home. Chore Service serves residents in Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Goshen, Kent, Lakeville/Salisbury, Litchfield, Morris, Norfolk, Roxbury, Sharon, Warren, and

Washington.

The consolidated organization will support 250 older adults and people with disabilities to remain in their homes, and will employ 45 full- and part-time workers in Litchfield County.

"This consolidation ensures the much needed and continued support for the elderly and people with disabilities across many more rural areas in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut," said Chore Service president emeritus Lea Davis.

Send news tips to editor@lakevillejournal.com

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

Check them out inside.

• Herrington's

of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated January 23, 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: David J Hubbard c/o Emily D Vail Ackerly Brown, LLP 5 Academy St PO Box 568 Salisbury, CT 06068 Megan M. Foley Clerk 02-08-24

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF SALLY ANN O'SHAUGHNESSY Late of Cornwall (24-00021)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated January 11, 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: RORY CONNOR O'Shaughnessy c/o Kevin Nelligan, The Law Offices of Kevin F. Nelligan, LLC, 194 Ashley Fls Rd., PO Box 776, Canaan, CT 06018 Megan M. Foley Clerk 02-08-24

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF ARLINE D. WARD Late of Salisbury (24-00009)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated January 24, 2023, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is: Thomas Veto c/o Emily D. Vail Ackerly Brown LLP 5 Academy St P.O. Box 568 Salisbury, CT 06068 Megan M. Foley Clerk 02-08-24

us. Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission Martin Whalen, Secretary 02-08-24 02-15-24

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF RICHARD W. WARDELL Late of Salisbury (24-00013)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated January 23, 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 fiduciaries are: Lisa Wardell Anna Heissenbittel and Sarah Wardell, c/o Donna S Hendel, LLC, 315 Highland Avenue, Suite 101, Chesire, CT 06410 Jordan M. Richards Judge 02-08-24

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF JOAN LAMOTHE Late of Falls Village AKA Joan A. Lamothe (24-00039)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated March 7, 2019, 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: Theresa M. Lamothe c/o Mary M Ackerly Ackerly Brown LLP 782 Bantam Road P.O. Box 815 Bantam, CT 06750 Beth L. McGuire Chief Clerk 02-08-24

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF ELISABETH TAN-EYCK LANSING Late of Cornwall (24-00037)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District

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• CAPERS IN SEA SALT	• DURANTE'S HOMEMADE PASTA

Our Towns

Kent names Busse to Park & Rec post

By Leila Hawken

KENT — After an extensive search that began in December and drew numerous applications, the Park and Recreation Commission named Matthew Busse of New Fairfield to the position of director of park and recreation. He will begin his duties Monday, Feb. 12.

Busse brings with him a firm understanding of the notion of community and how a town's parks and recreation program can enhance and strengthen the community it serves.

Development of recreational programs and managing recreation facilities are all included in Busse's professional background. His most recent service is as the director of aquatic operations and safety at the New Canaan Community YMCA. He has also served as a director of the Y's day camp, supervising 60 counselors, program specialists, lifeguards and assistant directors.

Past experience has also included park maintenance



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Matthew Busse

and operation including work for the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection with responsibilities in the state park system and public beaches.

Busse is currently earning his Master of Science in recreation administration at Southern Connecticut State University. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in environmental policy from Western Connecticut State University and has earned certification as a park and recreation professional as well as certification as an American Red Cross instructor in first aid.

December Salisbury real estate sales

The Lakeville Journal is resuming coverage of town-by-town recorded real estate sales as provided by the town clerk with additional information available on town tax records. These recorded sales lag actual closing dates by a number of days.

Dec. 4, 2023

28 White Hollow Road, a home built in 1850 on 1.13 acres, sold by the estate of Martha Miller to John Mason Stephens and James Frederick Lestelle for \$485,000.

Dec. 6, 2023

5 Red Bird Lane, a renovated 1962 home on 1.35 acres, sold by Red Bird LLC to Christopher Todd Page for \$1,475,000

Dec. 14, 2023

21 Mount Riga Road, a 1939 cabin of 504 square feet on .45 acres, sold by Estate of Jay Leone to Sievert A. McCabe and Eliza D. McCabe for \$22,000

Dec. 16, 2023

Salmon Kill Road, 14.075 acres of land, sold by James

J. and Melinda B. Belter and Ann and Stephen Torrey to the Salisbury Association for \$800,000

Dec. 15, 2023

55 Falls Mountain Road, contemporary 3,656-square-foot home built in 2021, sold by Thomas M. Callahan and Luis Felipe Arroyo to Falls Mountain LLC for \$3.9 million

Dec. 18, 2023

62 Reservoir Road, a 1968 ranch on 2.2 acres, sold by Matthew and Heidi Chard to 62 Reservoir LLC for \$330,000

Town of Salisbury real estate sales recorded as sold between Dec. 1, 2023, and Dec. 31, 2023, sourced from monthly Assessor Report issued by the Town Clerk supplemented by information from Town tax records.

Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

Housatonic students prep new musical

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Rehearsals for the Housatonic Musical Theater Society's production of "Beauty and the Beast" were underway Tuesday, Jan. 30.

Cast members, reading directly from their scripts, worked on their lines and movements under the watchful eyes of director Christiane Olson and musical director Tom Krupa.

The stage in the auditorium at Housatonic Val-

ley Regional High School (HVRHS) was bare. Olson said set-building will begin later in February.

Choreographer Amber Cameron put a group through their paces in the school cafeteria. To the untutored eye, the dancers seemed to have a good grasp of the piece, but Cameron moved about from group to group, adjusting something here, tinkering with something there.

The show runs March 14-16 at HVRHS.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

HVRHS students practiced choreography for the upcoming Housatonic Musical Theater Society presentation of "Beauty and the Beast."

North Canaan businesses plan a 'Valentine's Stroll'

NORTH CANAAN — North Canaan downtown businesses will participate in a Valentine's Day Stroll Friday, Feb. 9, through Sunday, Feb. 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thirteen businesses in the downtown North Canaan "T" junction of Railroad Street and Route 44 will have unique promotional offerings, activities and treats available during the three days of the stroll. Attendees can pick up a passport from any of the participating businesses and collect a secret word from each one. Completed passports can be turned in at Birdie's for a chance to win a gift basket of donated items from the businesses.

The stroll does not have a particular sponsor but is a creation of the participating businesses, including Art Bar and Cafe, which will have a lavender lemonade tasting for stroll attendees

to enjoy; Be Well Yoga, with a heart chakra and love class; Birdie's, featuring a candy hearts guessing game; the Colonial Theatre; Covered Bridge Electric Bikes; Great Falls Brewery, giving \$2 off the purchase of a customer's first pint; Hither Lane, with 10% off purchases plus a fresh flowers pop-up from Sweethaven Farm; Homegrown Cafe, giving 10% off and featuring special smoothies; Ilse Coffee, which will have a baked goods pop-up and discounts on bags of coffee; McMuckle's Market, with complimentary cookies; New England Accordion Museum, with romantic music and 10% off; Old Soul, offering complimentary cider; and Stuart's Treasures.

The drawing for the gift basket will take place at the end of the stroll Sunday, Feb. 11, at 5 p.m. For more information, contact Jaclyn Ryan of Hither Lane at hl@sophitherlane.com

Salisbury housing discussions continue

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Pope Land Design Committee met online Thursday, Feb. 1, to review its recent presentation to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission and talk over the next steps.

Committee chair Ray McGuire asked for comments from committee members. Lisa McAuliffe noted that several features of the current design proposal have been altered, including omitting a parking area near the Housatonic Child Care Center and scrapping a new storage and maintenance building in favor of expanding the existing building if needed.

First Selectman Curtis Rand said he wanted to emphasize that the Pope designs

"are nothing more than concepts."

Final plans must go through the relevant town boards and commissions, as with any other application, he said.

McGuire said he received a letter from a concerned neighbor of the Pope property and met with the man, whose concerns included the scale and density of the design concept and the effect on the Rail Trail:

"We agreed to stay in touch."

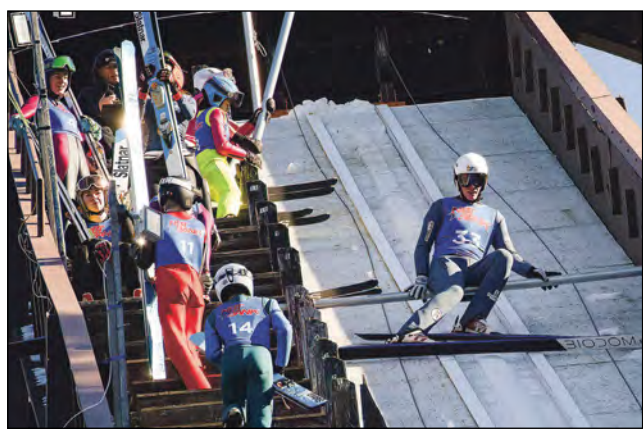
Several participants said the committee should hold some kind of public meeting on their work to date. Rand suggested waiting until spring, when residents who winter in balmy climes have returned.

The Season for Romance

No matter how you celebrate or who you share your romance with, these businesses have everything you need to help make your time together special.

Jumpfest

Photos by Riley Klein, Lans Christensen, Tom Brown and Randy O'Rourke



Above, Schuyler Klapp stared down the K65 jump in the U20 Eastern U.S. Ski Jumping Championship. Below, large crowds took in the action.



Max Fey jumped 70.5 meters in the U16 championship, the longest of the day on Feb. 4.



Youth jumpers gathered for a podium photo.



Maple Billings won gold in the U10 girls K20 contest with a long jump of 10 meters. SWSA jumpers Oona Mascavage and Aerin Sheil took silver and bronze.

Soaring to glory in Salisbury

By Riley Klein

SALISBURY — Jumpfest 2024 was filled with constant competition at Satre Hill.

The action began on Friday, Feb. 2 with target jumping under the lights. Cooper Dodds won \$500 in prize money donated by the Churchill family. He landed on the paint for a 65-meter jump.

The fan-favorite Human Dogsled Race did not disappoint. Enthusiastic teams dashed across the snow with a custom carriage in tow.

Saturday morning started with U10 females jumping on the 20-meter hill, which was won by Maple Billings of Brattleboro, Vermont. The “six-and-a-half” year-old jumped 10-meters and her combined point total from two jumps earned her 83.9 points, followed by SWSA’s Oona Mascavage with 31.9 points, then SWSA’s Aerin Sheil at 29.9 points.

In the U10 male category Wyeth Taylor earned gold with a total of 118.9 points, followed by silver medalist Caleb Bodwell at 100.4 points and bronze medalist Henry Sheil at 46.8 points. All U10 male athletes represented SWSA at Jumpfest.

Leila Fey of New York Ski Educational Foundation (NYSEF) won the U12 female competition with a total of 144.5 points. Ford Sayre’s Ava Joyal took second with 102.8 points and Catherine Chor placed third with 122.9 points.

The U12 male group was won by Dylan Cote of Ford Sayre with 152.2 total points. Andover Outing Club’s Ethan Gong took second with 141.6 points and Lebanon Outing Club’s Elet McCusker placed third with 136.4 points.

Three female SWSA jumpers competed in the K20 Open. Victoria Bertapelle won with 119.3 points, follow by Alexandra Philipp with 87.9 points and Bridget Metcalf with 84.3 points.

Proctor Academy’s Burke Pekala earned gold in the K20 Open male group with 162.3 points and the longest jump of the day from this hill: 15.5 meters. Matthew Tourville of Andover Outing Club took silver at 141.9 points and Wesley Leonard of Ford Sayre got bronze with 133.3 points.

Action the moved over to the 30-meter hill. Andover Outing Club’s Hailey Garnsey was the lone competitor in the K30 Open female

group. She jumped 19 meters and earned 91 total points.

Burke Pekala won the K30 Open male category with a long jump of 29.5 meters and 196.5 points. Spencer Jones of Harris Hill Nordic placed second at 179.5 points and Boyd Schaefer took third with 161.5 points.

Saturday’s action concluded with The Salisbury Invitational on the Big Hill, a 65-meter jump. The US Cup K65 female group got things started. Caroline Chor of Ford Sayre took gold with 85.9 points, followed by Andover’s Kerry Tole at 36.9 points and SWSA’s Islay Sheila at 32.9 points.

Jack Kroll of NYSEF took gold in the US Cup K65 male group with the longest jump of the weekend, a whopping 71 meters, and 241.4 total points. His teammates Henry Loher and Max Fey took second and third with 228.4 and 214.1 points respectively.

In the Senior and Masters K65, Evan Nichols jumped 70.5 meters, Cooper Dodds jumped 61 meters, and Seth Garden jumped 58 meters.

Sunday began with the 2024 Eastern U.S. Ski Jumping Championship to determine the eastern division of the Junior National Team.

In the Female K65 competition, Caroline Chor took gold with 83.6 points, followed by Kerry Tole 34.4 points and Islay Sheil with 21.1 points.

The U16 male title was won by Henry Loher with 237.3 points. Max Fey took second with 228.7 points and NYSEF’s Eli Larkin took third with 191.6 points.

Jack Kroll earned gold in the U20 male category with a 68-meter jump and 215.5 points. NYSEF’s Schuyler Klapp took silver with 191 points and Andover’s Mychal Reynolds took bronze with 116.1 points.

Jumpfest concluded with Evan Nichols and Seth Gardner competing in the Senior K65. Nichols won with a leap of 68 meters and Gardner maxed out at 46 meters.



Caleb Bodwell lugged his skis up the hill for the U10 male competition on Saturday morning.

HELP SAVE LAKEVILLE FROM ADDITIONAL LOSS OF GREEN SPACES, PARKS AND GARDENS TO PAVING AND PARKING LOTS



Salisbury P&Z is moving forward to officially propose from its Colliers’ Report on Lakeville Village:

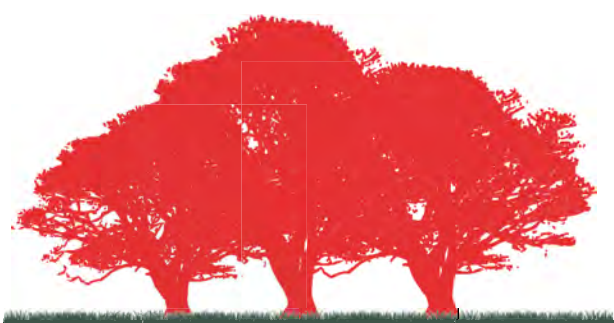
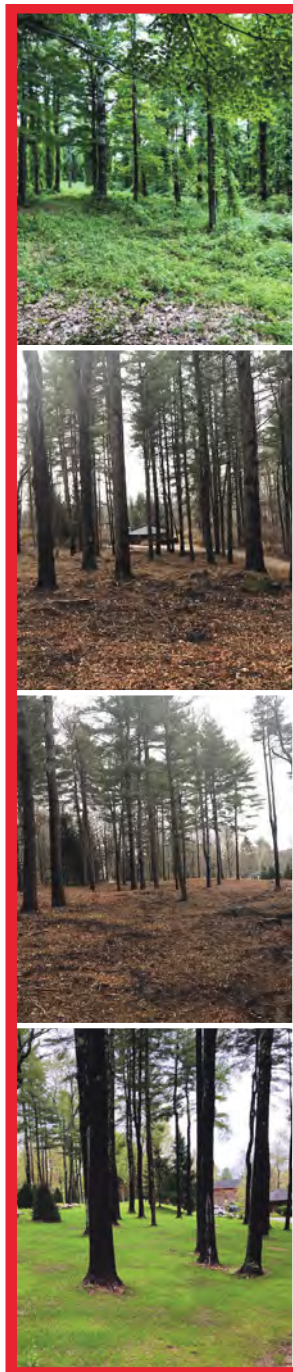
- Paving Community Field (our 89 year old public park and recreational field behind the Patco) to allow for a 36 car parking lot which is estimated to use and therefore eliminate 20%-25% of the entire greenspace.
- Installing an 8’ wide track around the perimeter of what is left of the Field after paving
- Paving walkways through Cannon Park next to Community Field and Bauer Park next to Factory Pond
- Paving a sidewalk along Factory Pond

Let your voices be heard by telling our Selectmen and P & Z Commission:

- *NO parking lot in Community Field
- *NO Paving in Community Field
- *NO Paved sidewalk by Factory Pond
- *NO Paving/walkways in Cannon Park and Bauer Park

CONTACT
P & Z Commission - aconroy@salisburyct.us

For more information on paving, planning, you may find it at:
www.salisburyct.us/lakeville-village-planning-study



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EDITORIAL Jumpfest success

The main event in Salisbury this past weekend was Jumpfest 2024, sponsored by the Salisbury Winter Sports Association at Satre Hill, and the community turned out. This year's festival marked the 98th year of this unique event that draws hundreds of people and athletes from our neighboring towns and region. The weekend offered three days of outdoor activity, including nighttime events, and serves as a testament to the hardy nature of our citizenry. When the temperature drops, everyone huddled at the bottom of the jump just grins a little wider.

Of course there are fortifications against the cold: blazing bonfires on either side of the landing zone, mac & cheese, hotdogs, beer and hot toddies. As each day unfolds, the fact that it has become a major family affair is abundantly clear. Norman Rockwell would have had a field day at Jumpfest. Its ambience exudes American culture — with a Nordic twist. The Association's roots date to the 1920s when John Satre came to Salisbury from Norway, followed by his brothers, both jumpers and skiers in Norway, to establish the Salisbury Outing Club.

The scene at today's Jumpfest reflects our community life across all generations. Friends and family 'hang' in huddled formation in the crisp cold to visit and catch up. Babies are bubble wrapped in down. Grammar school children race round in packs, indifferent to the cold and happy to sit on a carpet of snow and ice to engage in their chatter. Clusters of teenagers cruise through the crowds, cellphones at the ready, taking it all in. The athletes remain focused. The more senior generation organizes the whole affair and volunteers in myriad ways to make for a smooth Jumpfest.

It's very easy to see a multigenerational family-scape.

The mission of SWSA is to "acquaint our nearby communities, especially the children, with Nordic ski-jumping, cross-country and Alpine skiing, and to teach the skills necessary for their enjoyment and lifelong pursuit."

Congratulations to the Board of Directors and all the honorary directors past and present for providing such a rich, healthy and inspiring experience for the town of Salisbury and beyond. See you next year!

To your health

Last week we reported that Region One School District and has teamed up with Community Health & Wellness Center of Greater Torrington to bring health-related services to children and adolescents at Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS), North Canaan Elementary School and Sharon Center School. Termed school-based health centers, they will be funded through a two-year federal grant that will cover the cost of hiring an advanced practice registered nurse, a licensed clinical social worker and a medical assistant to serve all three Region One schools. The service will launch at the end of April.

HVRHS Principal Ian Strever described the high school's health center as a "game-changer for our students, providing them with convenient access to a certified nurse practitioner. This means that students will no longer need to leave the school premises to address medical concerns, as the nurse practitioner will be available to offer expert care right on site."

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — February 1924

H. Roscoe Brinton has installed a radio set at the home of Howard Curtis and now Howard says he can put his head out of the window and get Chili.

Announcement: I understand that a rumor is in circulation that I will be compelled to vacate my business quarters in the spring. I wish to state this rumor is totally unfounded, and that I will still continue business in my present quarters. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the public for their patronage and will strive to give good service at reasonable prices as heretofore. Free delivery given on all orders. Sincerely, L.M. Rudman.

William Meehan last Friday had a dangerous fall while handling ice at Kimball's ice house near Millerton. The ice house was nearly full when he slipped while reaching for a cake and pitched head foremost to the ground below. One of

the other workmen saw what had happened and made a quick reach for Meehan and the hold he secured was just enough to turn the falling man, causing him to strike on his feet instead of his head. Meehan was somewhat bruised about the hip but will suffer no permanent injury, but if the fellow workman's arm had not been there, the result would have been far more serious.

50 years ago — February 1974

With snow on the ground, Salisbury Winter Sports Association volunteers were poised at midweek for a final rush of ski jump preparations. As of Wednesday afternoon SWSA was confident that the U.S. Eastern Ski Jump Championships were "on" for this weekend. All hands were waiting for a new winter storm, "Ken," forecast for Wednesday night and Thursday.

Two Lakeville men, Robert D. Gillette and John H. Belter, have been named as outstanding young farm-

ers by Jaycee chapters in Northwest Connecticut. Both young men will attend the statewide Outstanding Young Farmer awards banquet this Saturday in Hartford.

A new Police Training Academy graduate was assigned to Troop B Canaan Barracks this week, while another trooper was transferred from Canaan to Litchfield Barracks. The new graduate, Trooper Thomas R. Fragale of Torrington, is now based at Canaan. Trooper Ronald Clark of Middlebury, meanwhile, has been assigned to Troop L at Litchfield.

25 years ago — February 1999

Salisbury's town historian is history. Virginia Moskowitz, town historian since 1987, formally tendered her resignation at a Board of Selectmen's meeting Tuesday. She was the town's first official historian and will hand her post over to Norman Sills on June 1.

Canaan resident state trooper Robert "Bob" Janco has been on the job for about two weeks, but already he's already got a list of goals to help better the town. Mr. Janco attended Monday's Board of Selectmen's meeting where he noted he was "getting settled in." An open house to introduce him to townspeople has been scheduled for Feb. 21 from 1 to 3 p.m. at town hall.

Two students from Lee H. Kellogg School in Falls Village received honorable mention awards in the 1999 Connecticut Scholastic Arts Awards show, according to art teacher Mark Alexander. Maria Grusauskas was recognized for her pencil drawing entitled "Self-portrait," while Sarah March was commended for "The Rooster," a bamboo brush and pen drawing made with sumi ink.

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clark's appointment at LJMN is a welcome one

The news that James Clark will now be publisher and CEO of LJMN Media (which was The Lakeville Journal Company, and before that, simply The Lakeville Journal going back to 1897) should be welcome to anyone who values community journalism, and is certainly very welcome to me.

Clark's two-decade career, described in last week's newspapers in depth, has taken him on a journey that educated him on every aspect of the company, which he has helped to define over that time. The current nonprofit board is fortunate to have

him at the helm, as are we who are served by this local media group.

It was a joy to work with him over all those years when I was also there. He is a creative, talented and skilled all-around community journalist and leader, who has been active over the years at the New York Press Association and at the New England Newspaper and Press Association. He cares deeply about the ethics of community journalism and knows how to implement them week to week and year to year. This is not a skill that everyone possesses.

His consistency and strength in keeping the

company on a smooth path moving forward is just what it will take, along with the support and hard work of his colleagues, to keep one of this area's most important resources alive, vibrant and healthy.

Clark is also deeply committed to the communities he serves, volunteering at and supporting nonprofit organizations.

Congratulations to Clark and to all at the company. I wish all the best of success for them, and our communities in the region, going forward.

Janet Manko
Publisher Emeritus

Lime Rock

Thanking everyone for Jumpfest support

As organizer of the Salisbury Winter Sports Association annual Snow Ball Dance, I want to send a big thank you to the many people who made it happen again this year at the Lakeville Town Grove.

Thanks to Stacey Dodge and her amazing team, the place was decorated perfectly for the event! Also, a

big thank you to the many volunteers who always come through to assist me at the event and dozens of local businesses who donated wonderful prizes to the annual Snow Ball raffle.

We had a fabulous turnout and some great music and the crowd danced the night away. We would also like to thank our friends

at the Great Falls Brewing Company for their generous support. Without these people and businesses our event would not be possible. See you at our next SWSA event!

John Sullivan
On behalf of the Salisbury Winter Sports Association

LETTERS

Praise for new publisher at The Journal

What outstandingly good news that the Lakeville Journal company (now LJMN Media) has given James Clark the titles of CEO and publisher.

I worked with James for nearly two decades at The Lakeville Journal and can say with confidence that there isn't a job at that company that he can't accomplish quickly, skillfully, gracefully and diplomatically (a major feat in a small company with so many personalities and moving parts).

Congratulations to the board on recognizing James' value and rewarding him for all the hard work he has put into keeping our community's two newspapers alive and vibrant through some very difficult years. Let's hope that the path is clear now for great success in the future.

Cynthia Hochswender
Lakeville

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Mission Statement

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

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James H. Clark
Publisher & CEO

Tom Carley
Chief Operating Officer

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1936-2011
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Jumpfest

Satre Hill shines in Jumpfest 2024

Photos by John Coston, Riley Klein, Patrick L. Sullivan, Lans Christensen, and Randy O'Rourke

By John Coston, Riley Klein and Patrick L. Sullivan

Salisbury Winter Sports Association's (SWSA) 98th annual Jumpfest was a resounding success.

The three-day winter tradition went off without a hitch.

Friday's opening night under the lights began with high expectation in the air as cars slowly filled the parking field next to Indian Cave Road. Car headlights guided everyone to a ticket booth, but from there on the way to Satre Hill was a footlight walk through the dark.

Muffled voices could be overheard talking excitedly about what was to come, and parents kept track of children who wanted to run ahead.

The scene at Jumpfest was like a stage-lit happening. There were EMS trucks at the ready flanked by food and beverage setups. Twin bonfires lighted the scene and provided warmth. A booming voice over the loudspeaker keep everybody on schedule as the evening events unfolded, beginning with Target jumping at 7 p.m. for a couple of dozen contenders.

"On the hill," was the cry from the observation post near the bottom of the jump, signaling that a jumper was on the way down.

Cowbells added to the mix and even triggered some happy revelers to yell out "More cowbell," in a reference to the "Saturday Night Live" comedy sketch with Will Ferrell and Christopher Walken.

The Target Jump, viewed as a warm-up run to the main event on Sunday, was won by Cooper Dodds of Lebanon, New Hampshire, who hit the paint at 65 meters. Dodds won \$500 in prize money donated by the Churchill family.

After some time assembling their getups and sledging rigs, several teams competed in the Human Dog Sled Race, a 200-yard round-trip course that typically results in some wipeouts at the turn.

Hooting and hollering and bent-over laughing punctuated the sidelines as onlookers watched, hoisting a brewski or hot toddy for their favorite team.

By 10 p.m., the voice on the loudspeaker called it a night and thanked the hundreds who came on opening night.

Saturday's full menu of events was met with blue skies and crisp winter air. Youth jumping began on the 20-meter hill with contestants ranging in age from 5 to 17.

More cowbell rattling filled the air as each jumper prepared for launch. Cheers and applause erupted as the young athletes soared.

The cook shack crew and Low-N-Slow food truck served up fresh meals to attendees and hungry athletes as the first round of competition wrapped up.

Jumpers climbed the 30-meter tower next for the final Jumpfest from that particular launch. A capital campaign to replace the wood jump with a steel tower is underway and a new K30 ramp will be built in the coming year.

The Salisbury Invitational followed for an afternoon of high-flying competition on the Big Hill. Crowds grew larger for the premiere contest of the day and surrounded the landing zone beneath the 65-meter jump.



Youth jumpers rested before launching from the 20-meter hill on Saturday morning.



Henry Loher jumped 69 meters on Sunday, Feb. 4.



Will Coffin competed in the U16 Male K65 competition.



Jumpers congratulated each other after competing in the Eastern U.S. Ski Jumping Championship on Sunday.



Above, the shuttle up to the jump was full of skiers on Sunday. Right, guests danced the night away at the Snow Ball in Lakeville Saturday evening. Below, SWSA President Ken Barker smoothed out the landing of the Big Hill ahead of the Salisbury Invitational on Saturday, Feb. 3.



A team of unicorns ran the Human Dogsled Race.



The cook shack crew served burgers and brats.

Pallet-fueled bonfires kept spectators warm as the sun slipped beneath the tree line and shade set in at Satre Hill. Beer, wine and hot toddies helped fight the cold, too.

Once the jumping was complete, Saturday's festivities ended with the Snow Ball at the Grove in Lakeville.

Sunday afternoon was sunny and pleasant without much wind. Spectators who opted for muck boots were vindicated, as the ground by the various food and merchandise stands was thoroughly muddy.

Joe Geraghty and Vanessa O'Connor were doing good business selling SWSA merchandise. Geraghty said he

would consider it a successful day if he came in with five bins of goods and left with one, and was on track for that result.

Anna Pattison at the cook shack confirmed what a reporter suspected — the SWSA bratwurst, with or without fried onions or sauerkraut, was the big seller.

A pickup truck on loan from the town crew stood ready to take ski jumpers back up the hill. One by one, an endless series of youngsters, sleek in their jumping clothing, piled in the pickup bed with their skis until it seemed impossible to get any more in.

But it wasn't. "Somebody carry this kid in their lap,"

said a man, hoisting a diminutive skier up and in.

Before the trial jumps began, the call went out on the loudspeaker for measurers. Mat Kiefer stood facing a circle of volunteers, advising those new to the experience to buddy up with veterans.

Outside the immediate Satre Hill area, the parking lot was completely jammed and people were parking wherever they could, including Railroad Street.

Jumpfest 2024 was well attended with roughly 600 guests on Friday, 1,400 guests on Saturday, and 1,350 guests on Sunday. Additionally, an estimated 1,000 children under age 12 took part in the weekend fun at Satre Hill.



More Jumpfest on page A5.

Realtor® at Large

UCONN is leading the way nationally in researching how invasive plants, like Cattails and Phragmites, may help in the removing of salts and heavy metals alongside our roadways. Usually, most ecologists are focused on eliminating these plants, but a group of researchers at UCONN have found that these plants actually take up salts and metals, so perhaps they could help in cleaning the environment. The study focuses on the mechanical harvesting of the plants and are experimenting with viable uses for cut plants. While simply reducing the amount of salt is the best course of action, UCONN is discovering innovative ways to address this issue. For more information on this study, please visit: today.uconn.edu/2023/09/plants-as-a-tool-for-roadside-contaminant-removal/

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ADVERTISEMENT

5TH DISTRICT

Continued from Page A1

she raised a total of nearly \$1.2 million. Hayes came into 2024 with a little over \$1 million in her campaign account.

Logan announced his campaign in October for the GOP nomination in the hopes of a rematch this fall. He entered the race a few days after the end of the last quarterly fundraising deadline.

“We know in order to defeat the status quo in Connecticut and in Washington, D.C., we need strong grassroots and financial support,” Logan said in a statement about his fundraising.

“Our campaign has inspired people from across Connecticut and the country to get involved, and I couldn’t be more fired up to keep our momentum going strong to bring common sense to Congress and get our country moving in the right direction,” he added.

Logan — who works for Aquarion, a water company owned by Eversource — lost to Hayes in November 2022 by 2,004 votes. So far, he does not face any other challengers for the Republican nom-

ination in the 5th District.

Logan, the son of Guatemalan immigrants who had roots in Jamaica, got into state politics in 2016 when he won his first election and unseated a longtime Democratic state senator. He won again in 2018 but narrowly lost reelection in 2020.

A Republican from Connecticut has not served in the U.S. House since 2009. The last Republican to represent the 5th District was former Rep. Nancy Johnson, who lost reelection in 2006 to Democrat Chris Murphy, who is now a U.S. senator.

Hayes, who became the first Black woman to represent Connecticut in Congress, announced last August she would seek another term. Prior to her time in Congress, she was a teacher in Waterbury and was named the 2016 National Teacher of the Year.

While Hayes won her two previous elections by big margins in 2018 and 2020, her most recent race against Logan was one of the most competitive and expensive in years. The 2022 race saw upwards of \$12 million in

spending between both parties and outside groups.

“I will do everything in my power to beat him yet again, so that [former President Donald] Trump and dysfunctional House Republicans do not have an ally in the district that I call home,” Hayes said in a statement after Logan’s campaign announcement last fall.

Every federal lawmaker from Connecticut was required to file campaign finance reports for the last quarter of 2023.

All five members of Connecticut’s congressional delegation are up for reelection, while on the Senate side, only Murphy faces another election. U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., won another six-year term in 2022.

Murphy, who is running for a third term in the Senate, raised about \$1.6 million in the last quarter, bringing his 2023 fundraising total to about \$8 million.

Republicans have not won a Senate seat since 1982, when Lowell Weicker won reelection.

Connecticut’s other

House members represent safer Democratic seats than in the 5th District. All of them are so far expected to run for reelection in November.

In the 1st District, U.S. Rep. John Larson raised about \$187,000 in the last fundraising quarter. He has represented his East Hartford-based district since 1999.

In the 2nd District, U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney brought in around \$150,000 for the last three months of 2023. He has represented his eastern Connecticut district since 2007.

In the 3rd District, U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro raised about \$194,000 between last October through December. She has represented her New Haven-based district since 1991.

In the 4th District, U.S. Rep. Jim Himes took in around \$194,000 for the final three months of 2023. In 2008, he won his first race for Congress, unseating the last Republican from Connecticut to serve in the U.S. House, former Rep. Chris Shays.

HOSPITAL

Continued from Page A1

plication of Sharon Hospital to terminate L&D services is hereby ordered DENIED.”

This decision in large parts echoes the OHS’ “preliminary decision,” handed down Aug. 29, 2023, which determined that L&D closure failed to meet the agency’s criteria for a CON: “public need, access to care and cost-effectiveness.”

Sharon Hospital owner Nuvance Health appealed this proposed final decision Oct. 18. The brief and exceptions filed by the hospital argued, in effect, that the Sharon Hospital primary service area has less need for an operating maternity ward than it has for the cessation of financially unsustainable services.

On Nov. 8, 2023, Nuvance counsel Ted Tucci presented an oral argument for the closure of Sharon Hospital’s L&D services, saying that the proposed final “decision threatens Sharon Hospital’s ability to continue delivering care to Northwestern Connecticut.”

Nuvance Health originally filed a Certificate of Need to close the hospital’s maternity unit with OHS in January 2022, citing an annual loss of \$3 million, staffing difficulties, and underutilization of the services as its key reasons for the proposed closure.

The \$3 million loss at the hospital’s L&D unit contributes to the hospital’s overall annual losses of over \$20 million.

In a brief statement to The Journal on Monday, Feb. 5, Sharon Hospital spokesper-

son Andrea Rynn wrote: “As a small community hospital within a non-profit health system, Sharon Hospital faces substantial financial and operational challenges to its continued operation of a Labor & Delivery unit.”

Since first announcing the intention to close the maternity ward in 2018, the hospital has faced stiff opposition from local community members led by grassroots 501(c)(3) organization Save Sharon Hospital.

Community members celebrated the state’s decision to maintain maternity services in Sharon.

Lydia Moore, president of Save Sharon Hospital, wrote her views in a statement to The Lakeville Journal: “We are so thankful and thrilled that the state has agreed with our community that the Sharon Hospital maternity unit must stay open! In its final decision, the state clearly shows its understanding that we need safe, high-quality, local access to labor and delivery, despite our rural location. Thank you to everyone in the community that helped us get here. It has been a long fight, but we did it!”

Rynn, on behalf of the hospital, said, “Sharon hospital will continue to be transparent with our staff, community, and other stakeholders regarding our efforts to ensure the sustainability of Sharon Hospital.”

She said: “We will be considering all options available as we reassess our path forward.”

REAL ESTATE

Continued from Page A1

In addition to the land, at the heart of the estate looms an 18,000-square-foot, 10 bedroom, 12-bath, Georgian Federal-style Greek-sandstone mansion designed and custom-built in 1992 for Lendl and his wife, Samantha, by the American architect Allen Greenberg.

“The symmetry, the proportions, the elegance... and the views. It’s just the epitome of luxury living. This really is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity,” said Morris.

Two pools, a gymnasium, tennis courts... and trophy room

The imposing stone mansion, situated behind grand gates via a long, winding driveway, features a light-filled entryway with a 24-foot ceiling height and grand crystal chandelier. Throughout the four-story home’s first level, French doors lead to gardens and patios.

The wood-paneled library, spacious living room, formal dining room and family room all feature fireplaces and wide-plank oak floors. A trophy room/office and eat-in chef’s kitchen and butler’s kitchen are also located on the main level.

Upper levels feature a primary bedroom suite with two oversized walk-through closets, a sitting room and an oversized bathroom, accompanied by an office with a paladin window, a children’s library and three additional en suite bedrooms on the second floor; the third floor has five en suite bedrooms.

Additional amenities, fitting a professional athlete, include an indoor pool that adjoins two locker rooms, a sauna, a workout room and a full-sized gymnasium. The outdoor amenities include a heated gunite pool with cabana, pool house with a kitchenette and full bath, tennis court, sports court and a three-paddock barn with sand arena, six stalls, hayloft, tack and storage room.

Morris said the listing attracted a handful of offers in the past two years, “but with this one we found the right buyer who really appreciated the property itself and the vast privacy it affords.”

The estate, she said, encompasses 152 acres in Cornwall and 293 acres in Goshen.



PHOTO BY BRIAN WILCOX

Tennis legend Ivan Lendl sold his 445-acre estate in Cornwall and Goshen on Jan. 25 for \$12 million, a record sale for Litchfield County. The 18,000-square-foot Georgian Federal-style mansion was designed by the American architect Allan Greenberg for Lendl in 1992.

For Lendl, a “bittersweet” deal

Morris described the process between seller and buyer, and broker to broker, as seamless:

“I couldn’t have asked for a more beautiful transition from one owner to the next. The Lendls couldn’t have been more gracious, and the buyer’s agents were incredibly nice to work with.”

Rusconi, too, had nothing but praise for the process, the sellers and their agent: “It was such a pleasure working together on such a monumental transaction for Litchfield County and for Connecticut as a whole.”

Morris noted that for the Lendl family, leaving behind not only their beloved home but the communities where they have resided full-time since 1992 was “bittersweet.”

They loved the Litchfield County communities where they were able to live, work play and enjoy. It is a normalcy that is hard to find if you’re in the spotlight.”

From 1980 to 1992, the Czech-American Lendl spent 270 weeks atop the mountain as the best player in the world during a championship-laden 13-year span, according to the International Tennis Hall of Fame (ITHF)



PHOTO BY ANNE DAY

The residence’s trophy room.

Lendl, 63, retired from professional tennis in 1994 and was inducted into the ITHF in 2001.

Morris, who is co-owner and broker of Elyse Harney Real Estate in Salisbury, noted that although “we’re super excited” to have brokered the largest sale in Litchfield

County history, her family’s independently owned agency “remains committed to selling homes to the local community. Five hundred thousand to \$2 million is really our bread and butter. I do not lose sight of that at all.”

Riley Klein contributed to this article.

DEMOCRACY

Continued from Page A1

award has been around for about 25 years, but was given out in even-numbered years, when Connecticut holds state and federal elections.

She decided to expand the award to municipal elections as well.

The original cups were donated by a private citizen of some means, and were

large and expensive, Thomas said.

That meant towns had to give them back after their two years were up, to pass on to the next winner.

This is not the case with the more modest cups given out this year.

“You get to keep these,” Thomas said with a grin.

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Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

GARDENING: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Becoming an ally to Earth

Maya Goer-Palenzuela, the founder and owner of the Stanfordville-based landscape design company Harmonyscape, is dedicated to creating and maintaining outdoor spaces that nurture the delicate bond between humans and the environment through a deeply rooted approach of listening to both the land and her clients.

Goer-Palenzuela grew up in Flushing, Queens, until she was a sophomore in high school, when her parents decided the family needed a break from city life and relocated to Rhinebeck. "I hated it," she said. "I hated the school, the area, the whole idea of moving out of the city. I was totally scared of deer, and turkey, and the woods," she laughed.

"I grew up in the city and had no idea where all these things came from,

like food. I just took it for granted," Goer-Palenzuela continued. "You go to the grocery store, and it's there. I didn't understand until I moved up here and somehow got very entrenched into the world of horticulture and organic gardening that I realized what hard work it was, and how exactly plants grow, and what it takes to provide things like groceries for people."

Goer-Palenzuela attended Dutchess Community College, where she pursued a degree in liberal arts focusing on botany, environmental biology and environmental economics. She carpooled to school each day with a friend who offered her a job at Upstate Farms in Tivoli.

Goer-Palenzuela started out managing the warehouse. "I would receive all the produce that they grew, box it up and get it ready to be

shipped out to high-end restaurants, like the types of restaurants that don't put prices on stuff," she laughed. The job served as an introduction to the relationship between the land and the food industry, an interdependent relationship that would inform her later work.

While at Dutchess Community College, Goer-Palenzuela won an award for a paper called "Cole's Legacy Emerges in Landscape." She delivered the paper at the 16th annual Beacon Conference for student scholars. Surprised by the win, she said: "I became a scholar on Hudson Valley romantic landscapes. It was a prestigious award that was basically saying, 'Now you're a scholar on this subject.'"

The Romantic period, which originated in Europe toward the end of the 18th century, championed an appreciation of

nature that went beyond the purely aesthetic. For the Europeans, as highlighted in Edmund Burke's "A Philosophical Inquiry into the Origin of Our Ideas of the Sublime and the Beautiful," there were five aesthetic elements: the sublime, the picturesque, the beautiful, the ennobling effects of beauty and its associations.

In contrast, Thomas Cole, the founder of the Hudson River School art movement, named categories as wildness, mountains, water, forests, and sky. Said Goer-Palenzuela: "One of the things that drew Europeans to this country was that it was so wild. Europe had been landscaped for hundreds, if not thousands, of years. Everything was touched and finely clipped, and the United States was not that."

Goer-Palenzuela had the opportunity to im-



PHOTO BY ROBIN ROBBINS

Maya Goer-Palenzuela in the garden with allium.

merse herself in this wilderness when she worked on an estate in Millbrook, "which was the greatest experience ever," she shared. She began her tenure there as a seasonal gardener while still in college and worked her way up to head gardener, where she remained for 13 years.

"It was a thousand acres," she explained. "The gardens had been done by two very well-known English landscape designers, John Brooks and Antony Archer Willis. The owners care very much about the gardens. They had greenhouses

and an organic garden and all these trails and installations by Andy Goldsworthy."

Having access to "the best of the best," as Goer-Palenzuela described the estate, allowed her to immerse herself in the landscape, to play and discover at an easy pace. But, she shared, "I realized that if I wanted to be a well-rounded designer, I would need to know what it's like working within a budget and under a time crunch. Now that I'm my own private business owner,

Continued on next page

BOOKS: ALEXANDER WILBURN

'North Woods' takes readers to the wilderness

For author Daniel Mason, there is no more perfect fictional character than a mountain lion.

Full of the same intrinsic desires of Captain Ahab or Heathcliff — hunger, lust, curiosity, defensiveness, a drive to kill — the inherited animal instincts of the puma concolor are as exciting to Mason as the interiority of any man. Untamed nature as a psychologically explored character is the central concept behind his 2023 novel, "North Woods," from Penguin Random House.

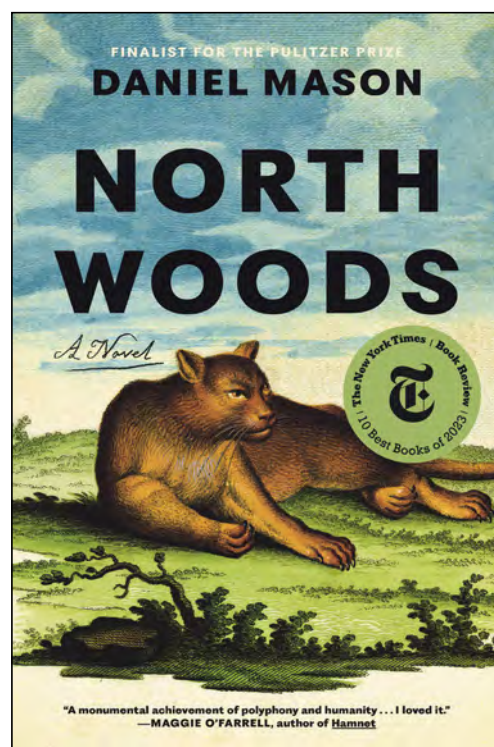
Mason was the guest author at The White Hart Inn's Speaker Series in collaboration with Ob-long Books on Thursday, Feb. 1, as he discussed the blend of nature writing and historical fiction that makes up "North Woods" with New York Times art journalist Laura van Straaten to a sold-out crowd. Named one of the best books of the year by the Times, as well as The Washington Post, Time Magazine and The Boston Globe among many other publications, Mason, the 2020 recipient of the Joyce Carol Oates Literary Prize, has

dazzled readers with his latest: a chronological account of a plot of land located in western Massachusetts.

Beginning with a pair of star-crossed Puritans gleefully abandoning their settlement in what Mason described as "an anti-Scarlet Letter" reversal of Nathaniel Hawthorne's Massachusetts Bay Colony romance, the story continues not as a generational saga but as a detailed time-lapse of the land the lovers build their home upon. Spanning multiple centuries, the story of "North Woods" was inspired by

"the incredible diversity of animal life and the sheer number of species" in New England and is told through a combination of prose, letters, songs, journal entries and fragments of historical illustrations.

It should come as no surprise that the intimate diaries of writers like American naturalist and transcendental philosopher Henry David Thoreau served as a muse and a way for Mason to mentally walk through the woods of yesterday. "Something that I love reading is the un-bowdlerized writer's notebooks," Mason said.



COVER PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE

an edited version of the notebooks, which is all the good stuff — all the great diary mentions of the famous people the writer encounters, which is interesting, but what's much more

"Because usually what happens is a famous writer dies and somebody, usually a spouse or a child, will then publish

interesting is seeing all the messy stuff. The day-to-day entries include a lot of the natural world and interactions with it: agriculture, farms and horses. Thoreau has these incredible images of traveling all over Massachusetts, walking through the town of North Adams, coming through the woods, walking out in front of a factory, and seeing the women working in the factory looking out the window at him. Then he goes through Williams College, up Mount Greylock, and walks all over this similar territory to ['North Woods']."

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JOURNALISM: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Garfield's half-century of journalism

At 70, Ken Garfield is reflecting on his 50-year career in journalism that began at his college newspaper; landed him for a while at the Morganton News Herald; saw him through 22 years at the Charlotte Observer; and now finds him independently editing, ghost writing, and penning obituaries.

But Garfield credits his time as assistant editor at The Millerton News between April 1975 and October 1976 as the most impactful year and a half of his career.

Garfield, who grew up in Long Island, attended Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts, where he studied political science. "I tell people that I'm a child of Woodward and Bernstein," he said. "I was enthralled by the power of newspapers and journalism, and I started on my college paper at Hampshire and never really stopped."

Toward the end of his senior year at Hampshire, Garfield saw a job listing on a bulletin board in the alumni of-

fice for a position at The Millerton News. Garfield recalled his journey to the job interview: "I didn't have a car at the time, so I had to get a friend to drive me to Millerton."

Garfield had the interview and then took the bus into the city. He said: "The bus stop was across from what was Dutchess Auto at the time. I don't know if it's still there. And you stood on the corner to catch the bus into the city. So I did the interview, and I got on the bus and from Millerton to New York City Port Authority, I was the only one on the bus. I'll never forget that. The whole thing was just so odd and fateful."

Garfield shared: "Meg Alexander was the editor at the time. Bob Estabrook owned The Lakeville Journal and then The Millerton News. Meg was a one-person newsroom and she convinced Bob, I

guess, to hire an assistant editor. And that was the position that I filled."

"You know, you go from a college setting in Amherst to a tiny little house on a creek in Millerton," he continued. "You'd think that wasn't the thing to do, but I loved it from the start. I just loved work. I loved journalism."

After a year and a half in Millerton, Garfield felt he needed a change. A fan of North Carolina basketball and sports in general, he applied to a bunch of North Carolina papers for a job and worked for several years in the mountains at the Morganton News Herald before joining the Charlotte Observer in 1985.

"So a year and a half, even today, is probably the life of a small-town newspaper, both in terms of career path, income, that kind of thing," he said. "But it was a supremely pivotal part of my life. That year

and a half instilled in me a love of journalism that still lasts today. I've done some other things, but it all has to do with storytelling and writing, and it all kind of took shape there."

Garfield spoke passionately about his time at The Millerton News and recalled the excitement he felt every week when the paper was released. "I remember the first time I went to get the paper," he said. "The paper came out Wednesdays at sunset. I was living in Falls Village in a boarding house, and I drove to town in my little Toyota Corona and parked at Terni's store to get the paper. When I pulled up, I noticed there were all these other people who were waiting at Terni's store to get the paper. And it was a gorgeous April night, the sun was setting, and I thought, 'Oh my goodness, all these people are here to read the paper and to read what I wrote in the paper.'"

"You know, I still have that sort of skip-a-heart-



PHOTOS BY MATT GARFIELD

Ken Garfield

beat kind of feeling that I got for the first time in Millerton at Terni's store. I'll never forget that. Of course, people don't do that anymore. They read their newspaper on the phone. Terni's store is gone. Most newspapers are gone. But that moment for me still endures. Always has."

Garfield is now working for himself as an editor and sometimes ghostwriter. One of his side gigs is writing obituaries. "It's so interesting what shapes a journey,

what leads a person in a certain direction," he shared. "When I write obituaries for people, most people want their jobs and where they grew up and what civic clubs they belonged to. But I'll always ask about that moment where their life turned or, late in life, what memory comes back to you. And it's always something sort of technically small that had sort of a cosmic influence on them. For me, The Millerton News was like that."

...earth

Continued from previous page

I have a timeline, I have a definite budget, and I have to outsource things like a mason to build a wall."

Goer-Palenzuela left the Millbrook estate for a job at the Kent Greenhouses while pursuing a landscape design certificate at the New York Botanical Garden: "There, I really learned a lot of the nuts and bolts that were missing. I had this wonderful love for plants and all of the beautiful things that they can do for the psyche and the body, but I needed to learn more about making it work on a flexible scale where people who have a definite budget could also benefit from something like having a little garden."

Harmonyscape began eight years ago. Mostly serving private homes, Goer-Palenzuela's design ethos involves reimagining spaces as they might have been before human intervention, aiming to restore natural balances. Using about 95% native plants in her work she shared, "I've learned to use things like eco-regions more than state borders, because borders were put here by people, and plants and animals don't see those things."

In her work, Goer-Palenzuela also prioritizes creating habitats for wildlife, understanding the crucial interdependence between humans and nature: "I try and provide a space for wildlife, to see what they need and then I can

implement a lot of those things, to encourage the relationship that I think is so spectacular and necessary."

When the conversation turned to how humans can become better allies to nature, Goer-Palenzuela spoke with both passion and practicality. She emphasized the importance of eschewing chemicals in everyday life. "Never use any kind of chemicals," she advised, "from just trying to get rid of mice in your home, the weeds in your yard, or the bugs on your plants."

Another key aspect Goer-Palenzuela highlighted was the significance of being mindful about what goes down our drains. "Be careful with what you put down the drain. That's a big one," she asserted, pointing out the often overlooked impact of household waste and chemicals on ecosystems.

Recycling, for Goer-Palenzuela, goes beyond the mere act of sorting trash. She is a fervent advocate for a more comprehensive approach to reusing materials. Sharing a personal anecdote, she said: "We have this beautiful baby now, and I was more than happy to accept everybody's hand-me-downs, from toys to clothes to bottles. There's no need for anyone to throw this stuff away; it's in great shape. I will use it; I love it, and I love that it came from so many people."

Goer-Palenzuela

also touched upon the creative and practical use of natural resources, especially for those with land. She recounted her own experience with a spongy moth infestation at her home in 2017. Instead of seeing it as a mere problem, she and her husband, a former carpenter and current supervisor at Metro-North, saw an opportunity. They responsibly harvested the affected oak trees, utilizing the wood in various ways.

"We use it for a wood stove that heats our home almost exclusively," she explained. The wood was not only used for heating but also creatively integrated into their home infrastructure and garden. "He cut some of the wood into boards and planed them, faced our whole basement with oak wood, and we created vegetable garden beds with the wood," she described. Even the smaller branches were repurposed, stacked on dead trees to create natural habitats for wildlife.

Through these practices, Goer-Palenzuela illustrates how being an ally to Earth isn't just about grand gestures, but also about the small, everyday choices and actions that collectively make a significant impact. She shared: "My biggest mantra is 'leave it alone.' People always want to know what they can do and sometimes the best answer is to just let it be. It'll fix itself. Trust me. Or it was never meant to be."

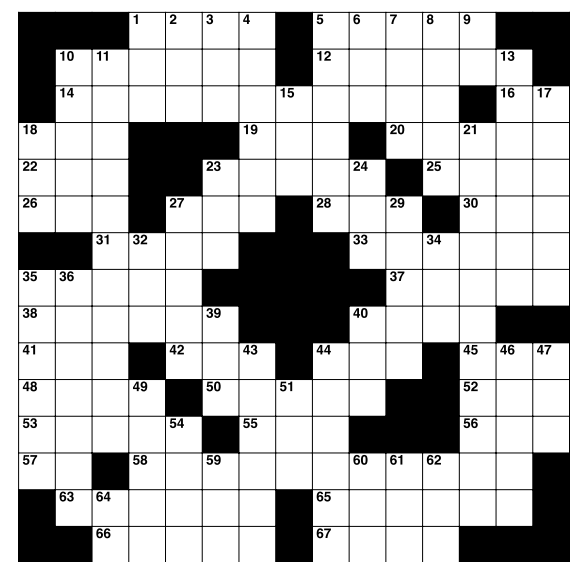
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. Gene type
5. Persian male given name
10. Type of protection
12. Cloud
14. One who returns to life
16. Gym class
18. General's assistant (abbr.)
19. Baby's dining accessory
20. Enchantress
22. Prefix denoting "in a"
23. Spiritual leader
25. Cavities
26. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
27. Foot (Latin)
28. Sweet potato
30. Pharaoh of Lower Egypt
31. Land
33. More inquisitive
35. Dog breed: ___ Apso
37. Stood up
38. Direct and uninhibited
40. Authorless
41. Blocking type of drug (abbr.)
42. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
44. Root mean square (abbr.)
45. Macaws
48. Actress Remini
50. Polynesian wrapped skirt
52. City of Angels hoops team (abbr.)
53. Fitzgerald and Baker are two
55. Bowling alley must-have
56. A way to cool down
57. Ethnic group in Asia
58. A way to alter
63. Set of five
65. Removes from the record
66. Dummies
67. Set period in office

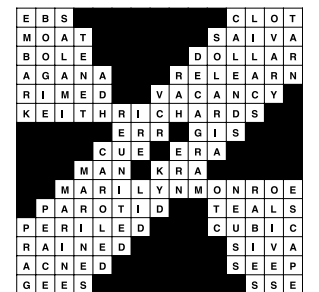
CLUES DOWN

1. DC Comics superhero
2. Brew
3. Play
4. Single-celled animals
5. Rough to the touch
6. Small island (British)
7. Often noted alongside cons

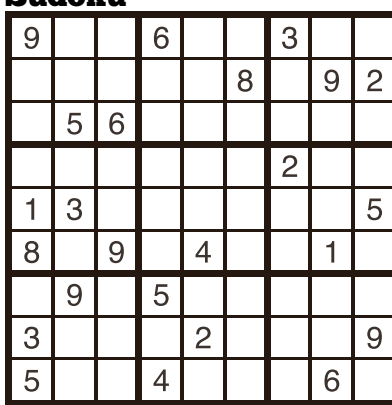


8. Preparation of rootstock
9. Atomic #44
10. Egyptian unit of capacity
11. About secretary
13. Particular groups
15. Poke fun at
17. Make certain that something occurs
18. Financial term
21. Justify
23. Arbiter
24. 007's creato
27. Czech name for Prague
29. Groans
32. American time
34. No seats available
35. ___ Stahl, journalist
36. Cleft lip
39. Talk incessantly
40. Expresses atomic and molecular weights (abbr.)
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Curdled milk
46. Running competitions
47. A team's best pitcher
49. Carthaginian explorer
51. World-renowned city
54. Most common Japanese surname
59. The bill in a restaurant
60. They ___
61. City of Angels football team (abbr.)
62. Distinctive practice
64. One quintillion bytes

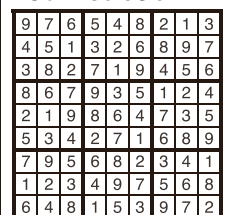
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COMPASS

MUSIC: KATHRYN BOUGHTON

Music in the Nave to present children's concert Feb. 11

The Music in the Nave series presented at St. Andrew's Church in Kent is branching out, bringing ever more diverse entertainment to patrons.

On Sunday, Feb. 11, at 3 p.m., it will present Francis Poulenc's classic composition, "The Story of Babar, the Little Elephant" its first-ever concert aimed at a very young audience.

The program will be narrated by Emmy Award-winning actress Margo Martindale, who has appeared on television, film and stage, and who has owned a home in Kent since 2015.

The program will begin with cellist Eliot Bailen playing his "Ferdinand the Bull" with daughter Julia Bailen narrating, followed by Bailen and pianist Margarita Nuller performing

Saint-Saens' "The Swan" from "Carnival of the Animals."

"Basically, we have rethought the whole series," said Matthew Harris, head of the Music Commission for the church. "We wanted the series to not be confined to one style or genre — to have it be a nice smorgasbord. So we started two years with Steve Katz, who was with Blood, Sweat & Tears, and we did a cabaret-style concert with wine and cheese in the Parish House. People loved it and said, 'Find more old classic rockers.'"

The response was encouraging, but the commission members did not completely abandon their previous core music. They continued with the popular "Messiah Sing-in," at Christmas,

but instead of hiring local voices, brought in a conductor from New Haven and let him "find the hottest young singers" from that city.

That program was followed by an appearance of the Manhattan String Quartet and concerts by Livingston Taylor and the Whiffinpoofs, the a cappella singing group from Yale. "They were great, and we sold out," reported Harris. And, instead of an "old rocker," they reached out to a young performer who plays modern folk music on acoustic instruments. "That was our second season and now we have a full-fledged children's concert," said Harris, a composer, educator and musicologist. "We're excited we can now bring in the whole family and have little kids."

Their choice for the

program fell on Poulenc's charming little adaptation of "Babar." "This is still serious music, even though it will be a lot of fun," said Harris. "The story is that Poulenc was visiting relatives in 1940 and was playing the piano when a little niece came over to him and said, 'Play this.'"

Poulenc obliged and improvised around the spoken narrative. "It works perfectly well with a piano," Harris observed.

Poulenc enjoyed the memory of that day and in 1946, played it on the air assisted by French singer Pierre Bernac, who did the narration. "L'histoire de Babar" became one of Poulenc's most popular compositions.

The narrator is central to the production, however, and Bernac being



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Margo Martindale

long since gone, Harris and his colleagues cast around for a candidate. They found the perfect choice in Martindale, who agreed to participate. "We were all excited to have a big name," said Harris.

"Babar" lasts only a half-hour, so to fill out the program, the commission reached out to the Sherman Chamber Ensemble, which has long performed in the Music in the Nave series. "We went to Eliot [Bailen, founder of the ensemble], and said, 'You do children's concerts, what do you have?' He had 'Ferdinand the Bull.' Then, we needed one more thing, so we picked 'Swan Song' by Saint-

Saens and decided that would be nice between the two narrated pieces."

There is special pricing for this children's concert. Tickets for adults are \$20 and are available here or at the door. Young people 18 and younger will be admitted free.

The series will have two other concerts this year, one with Kent's own George Potts, who brought out an album a year ago that is currently in the Top 40 listing for folk music. The second concert will revisit the concept of Mozart in May and will feature the Manhattan String Quartet.

Courtesy of The Kent Good Times Dispatch.

Downward facing dogfish

We're at the time of year when prudent anglers start getting in shape for the long slog ahead.

By "prudent anglers" I mean "hardly anybody."

Many years ago, when I was a callow youth of some 45 years, my off-season routine was simple. When I wasn't working I rested.

I noticed, however, that when I first got into a big river like the Housatonic or Farmington in the spring, I didn't have the leg strength I was used to.

Quite by chance I discovered the elliptical machine. You know, like a treadmill but harder to fall off.

The motion on an elliptical is very similar to wading in moving water.

So the next winter I ellipticalled like crazy. When spring rolled around, I was ready.

I found other ways to flounder, but I didn't have trouble wading.

I also noticed an increasing tendency to stiffness. Think the Tin Man, before Dorothy got busy with the oil can.

I drew on my imperfect recollection of decades-old yoga sessions, and worked out a series of stretches that can be done in waders.

In fact they are best done in waders, if only for the shock value.

Anglers are, by and large, a small-c conservative bunch, very wary of change.

Doing my favorite angler's yoga position, The Barfing Crane, stream-side causes comment.

Fast-forward to 2023.



TANGLED LINES
PATRICK SULLIVAN

Something that would be portable, and not require a gym membership.

I blush with shame to admit that I own a yoga mat.

I also consulted with my cousin Jean, a yoga teacher.

She said I should strengthen my core.

"I don't think I have a core," I said.

"Everybody has a core," she replied, patiently, as if speaking to a nitwit. Which she was.

She got me on crunches and planks. I added squats, with a 10-pound kettle bell, to replace the elliptical leg strength routine, because the old gym closed and I'm too cheap to sign up elsewhere.

And I use stretchy things, also known as resistance bands, for the upper torso, to loosen things up.

This regimen has undoubtedly delivered the goods. I have been holding steady at 170 pounds for months, and all my pants are too loose.

More to the point, when a fishable moment arises, I will be ready physically.

Mentally? That's a discussion for another edition of Tangled Lines.

I found to my horror that I was weighing in at just a hair under 200 pounds, by which I mean 207 pounds.

This would have been bad enough when I was 5 feet 9 inches.

But cruel fate shrank me to 5 feet 7 and a half inches. I have avoided measuring lately. I don't want to know.

So I went from being chunky to being positively spherical.

I went on a diet, which consisted mostly of avoiding bread and pasta.

This takes some getting used to. The worst part of carbohydrate-based post-acute withdrawal is waking up at 3:17 a.m. in a cold sweat after dreaming of buttered toast. Luckily this phase only lasts a year or two.

Haha! Just kidding. More like a week or two.

I added some exercise. I wanted something I could do at home, in the morning, without a lot of equipment or fuss.

Step 1: Grasp your hands behind you. Ignore creaking sounds. Maintain tension.

Step 2: Slowly bend forward from waist, maintaining tension.

The Lakeville Journal

The MILLERTON NEWS

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 www.tricornernews.com/contribute 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!

Noreen Doyle

Noreen Doyle, Chair

James Clark

James Clark, CEO, Publisher

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

PHOTOGRAPHY: LEILA HAWKEN

Dance photography exhibit opening Feb. 9

Drawing from its extensive curated collection of thousands of photographs created by the artful camera work of local photographer Fran Kelsey, the Sharon Historical Society will showcase Kelsey's works in a series of exhibitions.

The first exhibit in the series will be celebrated with an opening reception Friday, Feb. 9, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the historical society. The exhibit is titled: "Ballet

Through the Lens: Photography of Fran Kelsey." The theme of dance will expand within the society in February, as the traditional juried art show by local artists will open Saturday, Feb. 17, featuring works that interpret the idea of "Let's Dance."

The photographic works of Kelsey, currently being digitized and preserved by the historical society, largely chronicle the arts community in Sharon, spanning decades.

The opening exhibition will present Kelsey's photographs of the Sharon Ballet School and the students who participated during the 1950s and 1960s. Featured will be photos of youthful ballerinas, as well as a variety of dance performances and group shots of dancers and their costumes.

Former students who attended the Sharon Ballet School might want to plan a visit to the historical society in February.

FEBRUARY 9

Bingo Night at Millbrook Fire Department

Millbrook Fire Department, 20 Front St., Millbrook, N.Y.

There will be a bingo night at the Millbrook Fire Department. Doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo at 7 p.m. Cash prizes and jack pot. 18 and over. No smoking on premises. Food and beverages available for purchase.

The Conceivable Future

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

The Cornwall Library will present Meghan Elizabeth Kallman and Josephine Ferorelli, authors of "The Conceivable Future: Planning Families and Taking Action in the Age of Climate Change" at 6:30 p.m. 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. Registration required cornwalllibrary.org/events

FEBRUARY 10

Writing Workshop: Valentine Chocolates and Love Letters with Author Laura Brown

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org

From 2 to 3: 30 p.m., join the for a workshop that will begin with an assortment of fine chocolates, coffee, tea and literary inspiration, including readings from philosophers of love and lines from celebrated love letters and poetry. With guidance and prompts from Laura Brown, you will write your own love letters to people, places, or things that stir your heart.

Author of the Amazon No. 1 best-seller "How to Write Anything: A Complete Guide," Brown has taught writing and literature at Columbia University and has over 25 years experience providing customized writing coaching.

Registration is required. To register, please visit scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/11907093

Current Fiction Book Group

Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org

From 4 to 5 p.m., join SML's Current Fiction Book Group leader Claudia Cayne for a discussion of "Maame,"

by Jessica George. George's novel about a young Ghanaian immigrant in London deals with contemporary themes with humor and poignancy.

Registration is not required.

Indoor Tag Sale

Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville, N.Y.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., there will be an indoor tag sale at Stanford Grange Hall. Proceeds will benefit the Grange's continual community service projects and maintenance for the Grange Hall. No donations of items for the sale, please, since there is no room to store them. Please call Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869 for more information.

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, from 7 to 10 p.m. (snow date Sunday, Feb. 11, 6-9 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-memorial-hall-inc/dewey-hall-celestial-ball

For more information, contact 413-429-1322 or deweyhalloffice@gmail.com

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 in Falls Village will hold its annual winter fundraiser, A Midwinter's Night in the Village, at the library 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 non-alcoholic refreshments are included in the ticket price. Tickets are \$20, and \$10 for children ages 3-17, and can be purchased by stopping by the library, visiting huntlibrary.org/midwinter or by calling 860-824-7424.

FEBRUARY 11

CPR Class

Emergency Services Center, 188 Route 7 South, Falls Village, Conn.

The Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department is collaborating with Nuvance Health to offer a Friends and Family CPR and Stop the Bleed training on Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This class is being offered free of charge. You must preregister in order to attend. You may contact either Andrea Downs, 860-671-1147 or Michelle Hansen, 860-671-0585 to register.

Sip 'n Shop

Whiting Mills, 100 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn.

The Makers Shoppes of Whiting Mills are excited to announce their "Second Annual Valentine's Sip 'n Shop," to be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors are invited to explore artisan shops throughout the historic Mill building while indulging in complimentary refreshments. Live acoustic music will be provided in the upper lounge area. Silk & Steel Earth Music with Conrad Doty and Patti Wilton will perform from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Acoustic guitar by Andreas Blachere can be enjoyed from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Book Signing and Presentation

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

Get ready for Valentine's Day with one of America's most iconic couples: Joanne Woodward and Paul Newman. 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 at 4 p.m. Seating is limited and registration is required at hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/11843350



PHOTOS BY DANDELION COTTAGE DESIGNS AND TOM FAHSBENDER

Leslie Watkins of Dandelion Cottage Design held a Valentine card-making workshop at the Norfolk Library on Friday, Feb. 2. Artist Watkins is a landscape painter, botanical illustrator and garden designer. She has designed note cards for Caspari, Gordon Fraser and Tiffany & Co.



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Our Towns

Hands-on with Sharon Audubon

By Riley Klein

NORFOLK — Insects, reptiles and birds are not typically welcome guests inside a library, but four special friends from Sharon Audubon were greeted with open arms at Norfolk Library on Wednesday, Jan. 31.

Bethany Sheffer of Sharon Audubon educated and entertained a group of 12 children who departed the school bus at the library. She brought with her a stick bug, a box turtle, a ball python and a dove, along with a table of touchable items like turtle shells and snake sheddings.

Each of the critters resides at Sharon Audubon nature sanctuary and are unfit for release for various reasons. Sheffer shared both the individual histories of each animal with the group as well as the unique aspects of the different species.

Stick bugs, also known as “walking sticks,” Sheffer explained, are a unique species of insect that are highly adept to camouflage. At a quick glance, they look identical to wooden sticks and can sell the act to predators by posing in unusual stances.

“See his arm in the air right now? He’s like, ‘Maybe if I pause with my arm up, all of you guys won’t see me,’” said Sheffer.

The stick bug at Norfolk Library did not have a name, so Sheffer requested suggestions.

“Princess,” shouted one attendee.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Attendees got a hands-on experience when Sharon Audubon came to Norfolk.

“Twiggy,” exclaimed another.

“Princess Twiggy,” remarked a third.

Sheffer then brought out a box turtle named Bao who was sent to live at Sharon Audubon after a dog cracked his shell. The damage restricted Bao from being able to recluse into his shell and left him vulnerable to predators.

Guests took turns holding the turtle to get an up-close look.

“He feels wet,” said one child as she hesitantly held Bao.

A ball python then made an appearance. Named Togo, this snake was originally a pet that was surrendered to the Audubon. Sheffer explained that ball pythons are native to West Africa and are constrictor snakes, not ven-



Bethany Sheffer from Sharon Audubon shared four animals with guests, including Paloma the dove.

omous snakes.

“Animals only ever bite if they’re scared and feel they need to protect themselves or if they’re hungry and they’re biting their food,” she said.

Finally, Sheffer shared a white dove named Paloma who arrived at Sharon Audubon in need of recovery.

Paloma was released as part of a ceremony, probably a wedding, and was found injured. She was reportedly

featherless upon arrival in Sharon. Through treatment at the Audubon, Paloma’s plumage has returned but she remains flightless.

After learning about each animal and getting a feel — literally — for how each one lives, the children concluded by touching all of the related objects on the display table.

“This feels like bubble wrap,” said one child while rustling a snake skin.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

The dugout congratulated Cooper Bunce after a HR.

Steve Blass little league registration now available

NORTH CANAAN — Northwest Connecticut Steve Blass Little League signups for the spring 2024 baseball season have begun.

Boys and girls aged 4-15 from the towns of Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon are eligible to register.

The deadline to sign up is Sunday, March 10. Registration can be completed online at the team website: leagues.bluesombrero.com/nwctsbll

Contact league president Bob Foley with questions at nwctll.pres@gmail.com.



Jamison Boone celebrated on second last season.

Salisbury kindergarten registration dates announced

Salisbury Central School kindergarten preregistration for the 2024-2025 year is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 28; Tuesday, March 5; and Wednesday, March 6.

Children must turn 5 before Sept. 1 to be eligible to

enroll in kindergarten. If a child turns 5 between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31, they will be eligible to enroll in the early kindergarten program at Salisbury Central School.

Call Pat in the school office at 860-435-9871 for info.

To Place an Ad Call 860-435-9873 or visit www.tricornernews.com/classifieds

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PROJECT SAGE IS HIRING: a Family and Child Advocate! Please visit <https://project-sage.org/employment> for details.

SHARON PLAYHOUSE IS HIRING FOR 2024 SEASON: for positions such as Leadership Assistants, Box Office Manager, Props Manager, and more! Go to sharonplayhouse.org/employment to apply.

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REAL ESTATE

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