



Spring  
Cleanup  
Special banner  
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# The Lakeville Journal

lakevillejournal.com

16 PAGES IN 2 SECTIONS VOLUME 127 NUMBER 37

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THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024 \$3.00

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

## Major construction begins on Route 44 in Norfolk

By Jennifer Almquist

NORFOLK — For the next five years, travel on Route 44 will be reduced to one lane in Norfolk, also known as Greenwood Road West, for the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) to replace existing retaining walls and stabilize the slope along the north side of the road for the safety of the highway.

Last week, DOT Project 97-95, as the extensive undertaking is called, was green lit to begin. Over time the stone retaining walls along the roadway have bulged from the pressure exerted by the angle of the slope and years of heavy rains. In 2010 a mudslide occurred in the affected section of highway which



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Slope being cleared of trees at the junction of Route 44 and Old Colony Road in Norfolk as part of CT DOT Project 97-95

See CONSTRUCTION, Page A10

## Elevating eco-conscious tourism in Litchfield Hills

By Mike Cobb

NORFOLK — Manor House Inn has been awarded a Connecticut Green Lodging Certification, and will re-open just in time for Earth Day.

When Rachel Roth and her husband bought the 125+ year-old inn in February 2022, the property was in need of considerable repairs. They spent the first seven months balancing accommodating guests and updating the property. Roth's son worked hard restoring much of the interior space, patching walls, painting, and serving as property manager.

Roth's initial vision was to develop the property as a wedding venue, but resistance was met by neighbors who were concerned about how that business model would impact Norfolk's quiet ambiance.

"We received candid feedback from neighbors who expressed concern about the level of activity and traffic. Although I believe we could have executed a venue well with minimal disruption to the neighborhood, I want to build a business that is welcomed by the community," Roth said.

Other unforeseen events challenged her business. On Nov. 5, 2022, the biggest gas spill in Connecticut history happened right outside. A truck capsized on Route 44, spilling 8,200 gallons of gasoline into the earth and storm sewers, some of which converged on Roth's



PHOTO BY KRISTEN JENSON

Rachel Roth

property.

Guests were evacuated, power was turned off and no one could tell when it would be safe to reopen. They were forced to close indefi-

nately with heavy excavation and drilling expected for months.

"Since purchasing the property in Feb of 2022, we've been closed for more months than we've been open," said Roth.

Manor House reopened primarily on weekends, ensuring guests were aware of the situation. Roth closed again this past winter to address fire code updates. With Maple Avenue torn up in front of their property for environmental remediation, it has been a challenging journey for Roth that has forced her to rethink her initial vision.

"We purchased the Manor House with the desire to restore

See TOURISM, Page A10

## Region One announces 2024 Superintendent Award winners

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Eason Zhang and Kara Franks are this year's winners of the Superintendent's Award from Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

Kara is the President of the Housatonic Valley FFA chapter, and an officer in the high school's National Honor Society chapter. She plans to attend college for a nursing degree in the fall and works as a host at the Bulls Bridge Inn in Kent on weekends. In her spare time, she likes to work with horses.

Eason told The Lakeville Journal he is the first in his family to finish high school, much less go to college. He will attend Brown University in the fall.

Eason is captain of the varsity cross-country and track squads. He works in his family's business, the Shanghai Restaurant in Kent. He said he is interested in "environmentally sustainable entrepreneurship" and plans to study computer science. He also tutors younger children in math at Kent Center School and area private schools.

See more winners on Page A4.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Pharmacist Nasir Mahmood, Pine Plains Pharmacy, is advocating for independent community pharmacies to allow them to continue serving their communities.

## Local pharmacists look to Congress to help loosen Rx squeeze

By Leila Hawken

Local pharmacies are historically central to community life and have been for generations. If they offered a soda fountain counter with round swivel stools, so much the better.

Today's family pharmacists throughout the area, however, are struggling under an oppressive pharmaceutical insurance middleman system that strips away profit from their prescription counter.

Beginning in the 1960s, Pharmacy Benefits Managers (PBMs) came upon the scene to process drug claims for insurance companies. By the 1970s they were serving as middlemen between manufacturers, insurance companies and pharmacies, adjudicating prices.

Today, PBMs not only adjudicate claims, but now they develop and manage pharmacy networks, determine the list of drugs to be covered by insurance, set co-pay amounts and serve to channel the patient to a particular choice of pharmacy.

According to the Pharmacists Society of the State of New York (PSSNY), PBMs can own their own pharmacies, retail and mail order, and profit from sales and services. The work of the PSSNY is to

propagate and protect community pharmacies.

The effect of this progression as PBMs have become "invisible middlemen" has been devastating to local family-owned pharmacies in area towns in New York and Connecticut, endangering their existence and the invaluable service they provide to their patients and the communities they serve.

Today, the three largest PBMs control nearly 80% of the prescription benefits market share in the U.S., according to the PSSNY.

"We are so lucky to have this pharmacy. It's a blessing," said Pine Plains resident Ann Noone, a regular customer of the Pine Plains Pharmacy, commenting on Monday, April 8 about the local business and its pharmacist. "He's done a lot for this town."

Pharmacist at the Pine Plains Pharmacy since 1989, and owner of the historic corner drug store since 2006, Nasir Mahmood has witnessed the financial squeeze on area pharmacies with some forced to close their doors, victims of the PBM system.

It is the PBMs that pre-determine how much each drug covered under the plan should cost, and this

See RX, Page A10



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# Our Towns

## In The Journal this week

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### Online This Week

**Selectmen discuss Community Center lease**  
Sharon is redying lease drafts for new affordable housing units. More on [www.lakevillejournal.com](http://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.

**Swerving to avoid vehicle**  
On Monday, April 8, at approximately 4 p.m., George Cafiero, 54, of Wassaic was southbound on Route 41 in Sharon in a 2017 Volkswagen Jetta when the vehicle swerved off the road, striking a DOT wire rope guardrail. Cafiero said he swerved to avoid a northbound vehicle that was in his established lane. The Jetta was towed from the scene and Cafiero was issued a written warning for failure to maintain lane.

**Up an embankment**  
On Tuesday, April 9 at approximately 4:10 p.m., Mavis Richardson, 70, of Torrington, was southbound on Route 63 north or Hautboy Hill Road in Cornwall in a 2017 Honda CR-V. The ve-

hicle exited the roadway up an embankment. Richardson did not sustain injury. The Honda was towed from the scene Richardson was issued a written warning for failure to maintain lane.

**Traveling too fast**  
On Friday, April 12, at approximately 8 a.m., Emily Wagner, 40, of North Canaan, was westbound on Route 44 in Norfolk and failed to negotiate a curve, and exited the roadway, striking an embankment. The 2016 Honda Fit was towed from the scene and Wagner was issued a written warning for traveling too fast for conditions and failure to maintain lane.

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

## North Canaan Spring Fest 2024

NORTH CANAAN — The North Canaan Events Committee (NCEC) will host Spring Fest Saturday, May 18. Activities will include a vendor market in the municipal lot, a free movie at Colonial Theatre, a plant sale

at Douglas Library, a paint and sip event at the Art Bar & Cafe in Union Station, rock painting with the Recreation Commission, and fun ang games for kids. For times and info, find NCEC on Facebook or email [northcanaaneventscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:northcanaaneventscommittee@gmail.com).

The committee invites residents and visitors to attend Town Hall during monthly meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

## Budget hearing in Salisbury April 22

SALISBURY — The Board of Finance will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2024-25 municipal and school budgets Monday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

After the hearing the board will vote on sending the budget proposals to town meeting.

### Correcting Errors

We correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention.

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Check them out inside.  
• Ocean State Job Lot

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# Kent Library's car raffle returns

By Leila Hawken

KENT — Tickets for the 22nd annual car raffle to benefit The Kent Memorial Library have been on sale for a while and will continue right up until the drawing on Sunday, Oct. 27, at the end of the Pumpkin Run road race. The drawing will be held at the Kent Town Hall.

Residents who purchase a ticket, or more than one if so inclined, can be in the running to win this year's raffle car, an all-wheel drive 2021 Jeep Compass Limited. The color is white and the condition is described as "like new."

The car features a nine-speed automatic transmis-



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Raffle tickets for this 2021 Jeep Compass on sale now.** sion, a power front sunroof and fixed rear sunroof and a premium alpine speaker system for people who like

the annual Library Book Sale. Or, residents can send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Kent Memorial Library Car Raffle, P.O. Box 127, Kent, CT 06757, enclosing a check for \$25 per ticket, being sure to include phone number to allow the staff to complete the information on the raffle ticket. Or, to save a stamp, residents can drop that same envelope into the Library Book Drop slot.

Whichever means of purchase used, other than in person, the library will mail the raffle ticket stub to the purchaser.

Proceeds of the traditional car raffle support the Library's annual operating budget, assisting the library with raising the more than 70% required to provide for its programs and essential services to the town.

## Forensic lab to help crack cold cases

Forensic genealogy helped solve two notorious serial sexual assault cases in recent years in Connecticut and now the Division of Scientific Services at the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection has grants available to police departments and prosecutors for long dormant cold cases.

Forensic genealogy is attracting growing interest as investigators use DNA analysis and traditional genealogy research to turn up new leads for unsolved violent crimes, often in cases that are decades old. By comparing DNA samples from a crime scene to the millions of DNA samples now publicly available through genealogical companies, investigators can link a family tree to a particular suspect.

In Connecticut, leads developed through forensic genealogy led to the conviction in 2022 of Michael Sharpe, a former charter school administrator in the Hartford area, after investigators used genealogy databases to link him to the sexual assaults of four women in 1984. Police used the DNA samples Sharpe's relatives had submitted to GEDMatch, a genealogy website. In another case, police arrested Angelo Alleano of Vernon using DNA data publicly available from a specific family tree. He later pleaded guilty to four counts of sexual assault.

The average cost of analyzing a DNA sample is about \$7,500. Grants are now available to cover the costs of the additional genealogy research.

## Young Eagles aviation June 1

NORTH CANAAN — Triumph Airfield will offer flights to children aged 8 to 17 at the Young Eagles Rally on Saturday, June 1.

The Young Eagles program is an initiative of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) to promote careers in flight to the next generation of pilots. This free event requires parental

approval. From 9 a.m. to noon, EAA Chapter 1097 will offer 15-minute flights with certified pilots. Soaring above the Berkshires, boys and girls will learn about how airplanes operate form the co-pilot chair. For more information or to register, visit [www.EAA1097.org](http://www.EAA1097.org) or call Billy Segalla at (860) 248-0800.

## CCS Kindergarten registration

CORNWALL — Cornwall Consolidated School Kindergarten Registration for the 2024-25 school year will be held during the month of May.

For children (born in 2019) that are 5 years old before Sept. 2, 2024, registration will be on Wednes-

day, May 15. For children (born in 2019) that are 5 years old on or after Sept. 2, 2024 through December 31, 2024, registration will be on Friday, May 17.

Please call the school office (860) 672-6617 to schedule a time for your child/children or for more info.



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## A letter from Dr. William M. Kirber

This is to notify any of my patients who did not receive a letter that after more than 41 years, I am retiring from my ophthalmology practice as of 4/1/2024. Dr. Avinash Tantri will continue to see patients at our office at 31 Porter Street, Lakeville Connecticut. Connecticut Eye Consultants, P.C. also has offices located in Danbury, Prospect, Southbury, and New Milford. Should you wish to seek care elsewhere, please send a request for your records to: Connecticut Eye Consultants, PC 69 Sand Pit Road, Danbury, CT 06810-4005

Thank you for entrusting me with your care. My best regards,

William M. Kirber, MD

# Our Towns

## Connecticut's long lost Western Reserve

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Horace Greeley's advice to the young man may have been valid later in the 19th century, but at the dawn of that century, when area families contemplated going west to the uncharted Western Reserve, mapped as "New Connecticut," the going was not for the faint of heart.

During a talk titled, "To Certain Western Lands: Connecticut Stories from the Western Reserve," Alex DuBois, Curator of Collections at the Litchfield Historical Society, described the realities faced by those who ventured west, leaving New England for a variety of reasons. The lecture was presented by the Sharon Historical Society on Saturday, April 13, following its annual meeting and election of officers.

Noting that his information about Connecticut's role in settling of the Western Reserve has taken years to assemble, DuBois began the timeline with the original charter in 1666, when the state's western boundary was undefined so that in theory the colony extended from the western border of the colony of Pennsylvania all the way to the Pacific Ocean. Due to the vast distance involved, the western boundary was eventually decided to be the Mississippi River, DuBois indicated.

After the American Revolution, DuBois said Connecticut gave most of its claimed western lands over to the new American government, but it "reserved" 35 million acres in the northeast of present-day Ohio from Pennsylvania to the lower tip of Lake Erie for its continued



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Alex DuBois presented a lecture Saturday, April 13.

use and settlement. This area was named the Connecticut Western Reserve, also known as "New Connecticut."

Sharon native and surveyor Amos Spafford was instrumental in the early surveying of those lands, not an easy task to map townships defined by precise single square miles arranged in blocks of 25 or 36, a concept known as five-by-five or six-by-six.

DuBois recounted that once the land was mapped, investors could either set about to farm the land themselves or they could sell to Connecticut residents who might move to the land. The Connecticut Land Company, specializing in speculation, was actively involved.

In the course of events, Ohio's native tribes were being displaced. Numerous military actions were always ended by treaties that invariably called for the tribes to cede land.

"It's harder to find their voices," DuBois said of his work to uncover the tribal historical record. He spoke of Seneca and the Wyandot Nation.

As for the families who went to the Western Reserve as migrants, DuBois said that

the ads promoted the idea as a good move, while in reality it may not have been so.

"When you went, and how much money you had predicted your outcome," DuBois said.

People who sought freedom found their way to "New Connecticut." Freed slaves found it to be a place of opportunity. Slavery was not permitted in Ohio, but the prohibition was not enforced, and slaves were regularly seen working the fields. Fugitive slaves were returned to their owners as a matter of course.

In time, however, the Western Reserve became aligned with the abolitionist movement.

"It's an important story for Connecticut," DuBois said.

Re-elected to their positions as officers at the historical society were Chris Robinson, president; Jodi Scheurenbrand, vice-president; Stephanie Plunkett, secretary; and Douglas Rick, treasurer.

## North Canaan budget heads to hearing

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — The Board of Finance has sent the 2024-25 spending plans to public hearing scheduled for May 15 at 7 p.m. in Town Hall.

During the board's April 10 meeting, one change was made to the municipal spending proposal. The Housatonic River Commission's request for \$400 was approved and added to the town budget. Salary negotiations with the highway department remain ongoing, which may lead to another adjustment.

There are three parts to the budget: municipal spending, elementary school spending, and Region One's high school assessment.

The selectmen's spending proposal showed a total of \$3,642,536 in municipal expenses, a reduction of \$24,166 (0.67%) compared to 2023-24.

North Canaan Elementary School showed a bottom line of \$4,536,112.70 for next year, an increase of \$110,075.87 (2.49%) over 2023-24.

North Canaan's total Region One assessment came in at \$5,565,923, down \$136,960 (2.4%) from last year.

Overall, the combined budget totals in 2024-25 \$13,344,971.70, a reduction of \$51,150.13 (0.38%) compared to last year.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Professionals shared insights with Salisbury Central School students on Career Day, April 12.

## Students glimpse into professions at Career Day

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — It started to rain Friday afternoon, April 12 outside the lower building at Salisbury Central School.

This did not make any visible difference to the group of eighth grade students visiting with Salisbury Resident State Trooper Will Veras and Department of Energy and Environmental Conservation officer Ed Norton.

The students ignored the raindrops as both law enforcement officers showed the students their equipment. Veras allowed a couple to sit in the driver's seat of his vehicle, to demonstrate the locking mechanism that only allows him to drive it.

Norton described his routine, saying that he covers over 40 towns and has a wide amount of discretion as to how he spends his time.

Veras noted that even though he is the resident trooper for Salisbury, he is still part of the team at the State Police Troop B barracks

in North Canaan.

Marine Mechanic Colin Brooks was prepared for the rain, with a tent over the bed of his pickup. In the bed was an engine, and he demonstrated how he goes about diagnosing and fixing mechanical problems.

Inside Michael Baldwin, a SCS graduate and the Associate Artistic Director and Director of Education at the Sharon Playhouse, told a group of students that he caught the performing bug early.

"I was in a Christmas pageant at age five."

It made a lasting impression.

"I looked for every opportunity" to perform after that.

Upright bassist Jeff Hill talked about his career in between playing the bass.

"My job is to make everybody else sound good."

He asked the students if they knew how to read music, with mixed results.

"I think everybody should do it."

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## Awards

# Region One Superintendent Award Winners

Each spring, students throughout Region One School District nominate a standout classmate for the Superintendent Award. This honor recognizes individuals for outstanding academic performance, commitment to school sports and clubs, and dedication to the community. Below are winners for 2024.

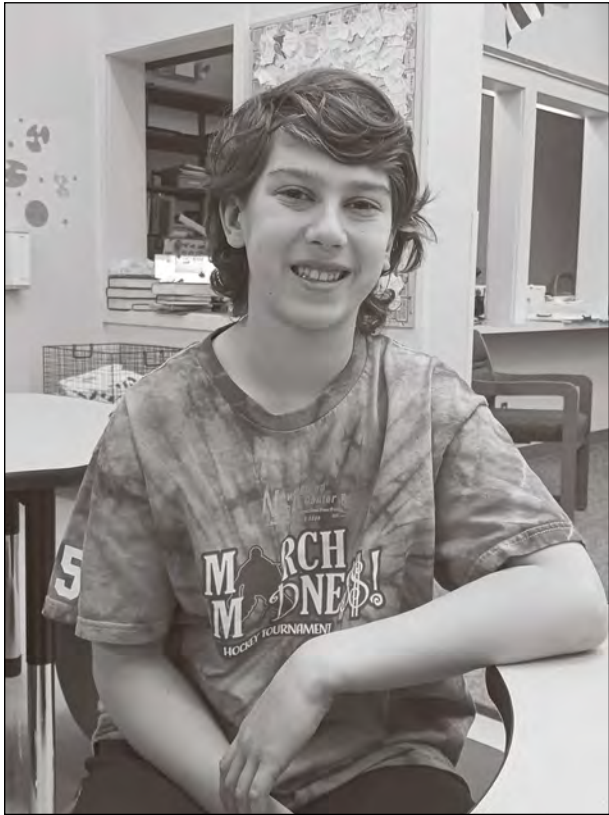


PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

### Allie McCarron

#### Kent Center School

By Leila Hawken

KENT — With a strong record of academic achievement, Allie McCarron was selected as the Superintendent Award winner at Kent Center School (KCS).

She is involved in the Student Council and the Litchfield Rowing Club where she engages in competitive rowing. She shares her talents readily with younger students, providing a positive role model with a positive attitude.

During an interview on Wednesday, April 10, Allie

recalled that she entered Kent Center School for the Second Grade, her family having moved from Kennett Square, Penn. She has participated in the school band since the Fourth Grade, playing alto saxophone.

While she has enjoyed her time at KCS, Allie singled out the sense of community among her fellow students and the teaching staff as the highlight. She said that she has appreciated the spirit of collaborative service within the school.

Allie plans to attend HVRHS in the fall.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

### Nate Young

#### Cornwall Consolidated School

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — An active participant in the community, Nate Young was selected by his classmates as Cornwall Consolidated School's 2024 Superintendent Award winner.

Nate is an active Boy Scout and proud leader of the CCS morning announcements team.

For his eighth grade exploration project, Nate is repairing a 1974 Land Rover.

"It's awesome," said Nate. "I spent probably two or three hours this weekend draining the fuel system... it had like 15-year-old fuel in it."

"The fuel was older than you?" asked a Lakeville Journal reporter.

"Yeah," Nate responded.

Nate will be attending HVRHS next year and is looking forward to continuing his passions for baseball, cross country running, saxophone, chorus, and agriculture education.

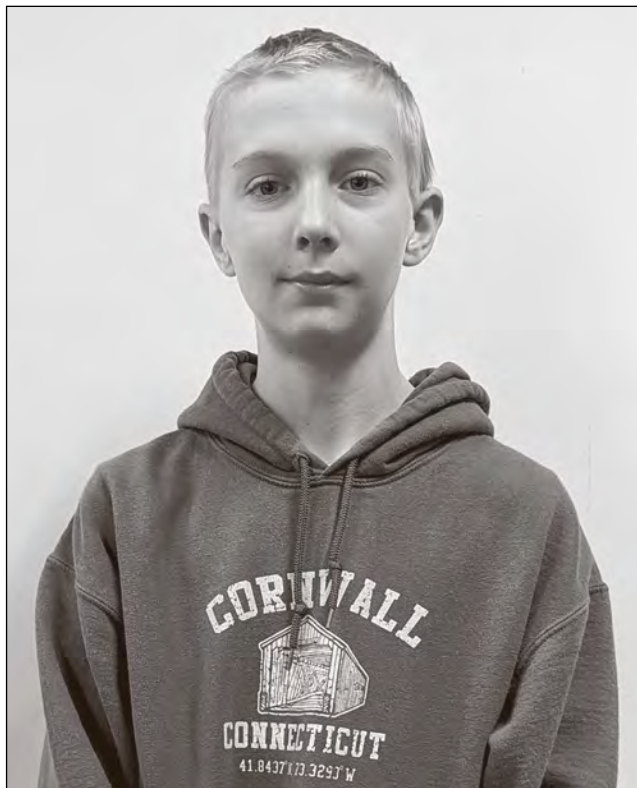


PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

### Logan Miller

#### Lee H. Kellogg School

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Logan Miller is this year's winner of the Superintendent's Award from Lee H. Kellogg School. Logan is a trumpet player in the LHK and Region One bands.

He runs track, plays hockey and baseball, and serves as a hockey referee.

As treasurer of the Student Council, he runs the school store, and he is the man inside the

Falcon costume at pep rallies.

He told The Lakeville Journal that he is headed to Housatonic Valley Regional High School, where he plans to get involved with the agriculture education program and the Robotics team.

Beyond high school, he is thinking about studying science at (perhaps) Boston College, Boston University, or Quinnipiac University. "Somewhere with good sports."

### Mia Belter

#### Salisbury Central School

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Mia Belter, an 8th grader at Salisbury Central School, is described as "mature, polite and kind-hearted. She is a role model who starts each day with a smile."

When asked why she won the 2024 Superintendent's Award for Salisbury Central School, she thought for a moment.

Then she said, "I'm nice to people, and I get good grades."

Mia plays basketball and soccer and plans to run track this spring.

She is a big reader, with fiction of any kind a favorite. She admits to having two books going at a time.

"I used to read during nap time."

Mia plans to attend Housatonic Valley Regional High School.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

### Jayden Milton

#### Sharon Center School

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Students at Sharon Center School (SCS) have chosen Jayden Milton as the 2024 Superintendent Award winner.

Presenting himself well with strong communication skills, Jayden wins SCS praise for his commitment to learning and for his qualities for being consistently respectful and responsible. He displays strong habits of mind in academics and within the school community.

He said that he has enjoyed working with the early-Kindergarteners and

Grade 4 students, sometimes reading to them, but engaging in other activities at other times. Jayden performs with the Jazz Club as a percussionist, and he is serving as stage manager for the school musical.

Interested in serving the larger community, he has recently become a Junior Firefighter and received training in hazardous chemicals and how to deal with them.

Jayden plans to enroll this fall at Oliver Wolcott Technical High School with an interest in the machine tool program. Eventually, he hopes to pursue engineering studies.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

### Federico Vargas Tobon

#### North Canaan Elementary School

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — Federico Vargas Tobon of North Canaan Elementary School has been chosen as the school's 2024 Superintendent Award winner by his peers.

On what the award means to him, he said, "It means a lot because all the work I've done finally pays off."

An academic leader who excels in all sub-

jects, Federico takes pride in his efforts on the student council, sports teams, and theater productions.

Federico played the Prince in NCES's recent production of "The Little Mermaid." He looks forward to continuing his passion for drama at HVRHS next year.

Federico plans to play on both the basketball and soccer teams when he becomes a Mountaineer next year.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN





PHOTO PROVIDED

Senior Reporter Patrick Sullivan shared tales from a career in journalism for Career Day at Sharon Center School, April 11.

## A Reporter's Career Day

SHARON — I was a guest speaker at Sharon Center School's Career Day on Thursday, April 11.

For a week prior I carefully rehearsed and refined my remarks. I made careful notes.

Then I forgot to bring them.

I did remember my props. To wit, a pile of back issues of The Lakeville Journal and two stacks of Real Official Reporters Notebooks, as endorsed by H.L. Mencken, Woodward and Bernstein, and Clark Kent.

There were about a dozen of us. I knew Tom Bartram, who was representing the Sharon fire department along with Nikki Blass, Beth Klippel and Quentin Leibrock. Also on hand were Adam Smith, art sculptor; Ashley Coon, formulation engineer; Sarah Coon, Owner of Paley's Gardens; Zachary Rodriguez, electrician and Devon Sheehan, Sharon Center School nurse/hospital nurse.

At the appropriate moment we were herded into the gym/auditorium so the students could get a good look at us, and then it was off to the classrooms.

We each had three groups of six or eight students in rotation, each for about 15 minutes.

It's a bit of a blur, but I explained what the Journal is, how I came to work for the paper, how we go about putting the paper together, how the seasoned reporter operates, and answered questions.

I found the way the middle school girls stared at me completely unnerving. As if they couldn't quite believe it.

But as a whole the students were

polite and engaged, asked good questions and even followed up a couple times.

One student asked how I became a reporter and received the unorthodox answer ("by accident") with aplomb.

Another asked if a degree in journalism is required. Feeling diplomatic, I suggested that working on a newspaper — any newspaper — is the best way to learn the craft.

Good thing I brought the notebooks. That and the subsequent note taking advice chewed up five minutes easy.

The advice part went something like this:

Me: You should type or rewrite your notes as soon as possible after the class or event, before you forget what they mean. (Show page of old notebook to students.) Can you read that?

Students: No.

Me: Me neither. And I wrote it! It's been a long time since I stood before a classroom to impart Knowledge [sic on the capital K]. I admit to being a little rusty.

But by the third time through I was ready to take on all comers. Unfortunately, Career Day was over.

On the way out I thanked my host, School Counselor Elizabeth Foster, and reminded her that Lakeville Journal Managing Editor Riley Klein is much younger, considerably taller and overall a vastly better choice for such activities in the future.

— Patrick L. Sullivan



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Left out of Richard Haass's Forum talk

I recently attended the Salisbury Forum's lecture to hear Richard Haass on his new book "The Bill of Obligations: The Ten Habits of Good Citizens." While I agree with his 10 obligations, believe our country would be a better place if more of us adopted these habits, I was dismayed by his failure to follow his own advice. Mr. Haass, a career State Department employee, spent the first half of his talk on the state of the world and U.S.'s role in it. He mentioned climate change, foreign policy, the upcoming presidential election, a possible Trump second administration, the Ukraine War, Taiwan and the situation in Gaza. He had an attentive audience and confidently gave his opinions on what sounded like a State Department briefing.

Mr. Haass said U.S. dominance on the world stage has led to peace and kept us free from another world war. While it's true we have not seen another global conflagration, given events in Ukraine and Gaza and resulting world tensions we are closer to the precipice of a nuclear war today than we have been for many years.

What I found distressing were Mr. Haass's comments about the ongoing Israel war in Gaza. First, he began by focusing on the events of Oct. 7, which he accurately described as horrible. However, Oct. 7 was not the beginning of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. That conflict has spanned several decades but Mr. Haass, a State Department veteran, made no mention of the historical context. He omitted reference to the 1948 Nakba or catastrophe that dispossessed 750,000 Palestinians from their homes and killed

15,000, the 1967 war that led to the occupation of Gaza and the West Bank, the five military assaults since 2014 on occupied and blockaded Gaza, and since Oct. 7, a bombing campaign in which 100,000 civilians, a majority of whom are women and children, have been killed and maimed with life altering wounds. Nor did he mention the siege that is literally starving 2.2 million people of food, water, fuel, healthcare and clothing.

He did not refer to the International Court of Justice declaration that Israel has been plausibly engaged in genocide and ethnic cleansing over the last six months in Gaza.

And he made no mention that through all of this the United States has continued to provide the bombs and artillery shells dropped daily by Israel on the civilian popu-

lation under the pretext of hunting for Hamas leadership.

These inconvenient truths were left out of Mr. Haass's analysis of world events and his view of U.S. foreign policy. These relevant and material facts, if presented, would have informed his audience more fully of the historical context of the events taking place in Gaza, a historical context we hear so little about in the mainstream commercial media but which affects how we see and understand world events.

Leaving aside for the moment the valuable contribution his book makes to public discourse, Mr. Haass left his audience without the facts needed to achieve his number one goal, an informed citizenship.

Leonard Polletta  
Lakeville

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

### THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

(USPS 303280)

An Independent Connecticut Newspaper  
Published Weekly by LJMN Media, Inc.  
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; Noreen Doyle, Chair  
64 Route 7 North, Falls Village, CT 06031  
P.O. Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039-9989  
(860) 435-9873 • lakevillejournal.com • editor@lakevillejournal.com

Volume 127, Number 37 Thursday, April 18, 2024

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LJMN Media, Inc. 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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Subscription Rates - One Year: \$120.00 in Litchfield County, \$147.00 outside county. Known Office of Publication: Lakeville, CT 06039-1688. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Lakeville, CT 06039. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to LJMN Media, Inc., PO Box 1688, Lakeville, Connecticut 06039-1688.

## Supporting Hayes' Caring for Survivors Act

In response to an April 11 letter, a "genuinely nice man" does not a great representative make! What we don't need is another empty suit lobbyist. And when his choice for President "takes the 5th" in his upcoming trial, our Representative Jahana Hayes will be taking the 5th District's concerns to DC.

On April 10, she did what she has been doing for the last four years: walking the walk — over to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on behalf of her proposed Caring for Survivors Act. She testified persuasively that not only should veterans get adequate benefits but

that their survivors must be properly compensated for providing care. When a service member dies in action or becomes a veteran, their survivor receives a monthly check called DIC (Dependency and Indemnity Compensation). But since 1993, those family members have had to make do with less than they deserve.

As Hayes testified, her bill raises surviving spouse benefits from 43% to 55% of the compensation given to a totally disabled veteran, bringing it to a level consistent with other federal survivor programs.

"This would ensure that surviving spouses get the benefits their loved ones

have earned," said Hayes.

That additional \$400 a month will be a big boost for those family members! Representative Jahana Hayes has been a longtime supporter of vets and their families. Hers is the only New England district office to be designated a Purple Heart Office of Distinction, and The Veterans for Foreign Wars is one of seven organizations supporting her legislation. Let's follow them on that Purple Heart Trail. It is sure to lead to the best place in our hearts! Urge the U.S. House to pass Hayes' Caring for Survivors Act.

Molly S. Fitzmaurice  
Sharon

## 2024 brings the 73rd National Day of Prayer on May 2

The National Day of Prayer belongs to all Americans. Every year local, state and federal observances are held from sunrise in Maine to sunset in Hawaii bringing together citizens from all backgrounds to pray for our nation.

It is a vital part of our heritage since the first call to

prayer in 1775 when the Continental Congress asked the colonies to pray for Almighty God's wisdom in forming a nation.

This call to pray has continued throughout our history including President Lincoln's proclamation in 1863 and President Truman's signing of

a joint resolution by Congress in 1952 declaring an annual National Day of Prayer.

Each year every president signs a proclamation encouraging all Americans to pray on this specially designated First Thursday in May.

Thank you, community members, for your past faith-

ful observance.

Please join us once again as we gather on Thursday, May 2 at the Salisbury Town Hall Memorials at 6:00pm. If it rains: Salisbury Congregational Church.

Mary T. Davis  
Lakeville

## Viewpoint

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago –  
April 1924

The nuisance of needless noise from automobiles is sharply dealt with in Document 15 of the Motor Vehicle Department, especially the practice of tooting at intersections to signify plan to hold speed and grab right of way, instead of slowing down and using eyes. Similar abuses are calling people with the horn, tire chains slapping, brakes shrieking, etc. All unnecessary noise is illegal and subject to fine.

The last of the ice left the lake on Tuesday, a somewhat later date than usual.

Daylight saving in New York and Massachusetts goes into effect on Sunday, April 27th. This state does not recognize daylight saving as regards the changing of the clocks, but many towns along railroads will of necessity change their hours of business to conform to the changing of train schedules.

John Eggleston of Lime Rock is having his house wired for electricity.

Some of the residents of Lime Rock Road decided the other day that enough cars had been stuck in the quagmire between the main road and the railroad, and took a hand in draining it. Judge Landon, among others, turned to with a shovel. Ridges were broken down and the stuff was thrown into the ruts, driving off the water, which was guided down the newly-opened gutters. Drains under the road, clogged for years, were cleaned out or rebuilt. Fresh gravel was drawn into the worst of the holes, both there and further down the road. The town scraper finished the job and Lime Rock Road is now navigable without sails or paddles.

50 years ago –  
April 1974

Astonishment and doubt continue to reverberate throughout Northwestern Connecticut, nearly one week after the Superior Court jury convicted Peter

A. Reilly of first-degree manslaughter for the September slaying of his mother, Barbara Gibbons. The unanimous guilty verdict by five women and seven men was announced Friday afternoon after more than nine hours of deliberation spanning two days. The trial began March 1.

A handful of angry and worried horse-owners from Canaan and Salisbury stormed a closed-door session of the Connecticut Equine Advisory Council in Hartford Tuesday night in an effort to block an animal medical research center from being moved from New Jersey into Canaan. The Animal Medical Center, which has been doing research on equine infectious anemia, wishes to bring 50 of its test animals to the former Segalla Stables in Greenacres. The horse owners fear that EIA, which is a fatal disease readily transmitted by flies, mosquitoes and other biting insects, will find its way into the area's horse population from the infected stock. Connecticut has the densest horse population in the country.

A black leather wallet belonging to the deceased Barbara Gibbons, which was reportedly stolen before her death, was found approximately six weeks after she was brutally killed Sept. 28. It was found in tall grass, about 400 yards south of the Gibbons house, some 30 feet from Route 63, and encrusted with mud. Police reportedly investigated the robbery at the time, but it is not known what the police learned.

The Housatonic Valley Regional High School Board voted last Thursday to use surplus funds from this year's budget to buy outright a computer the math department has been using on a lease-purchase arrangement. The move will cost over \$8,000, but will save over \$5,000, the board said, thanks to state reimbursement and savings on annual payments.

25 years ago –  
April 1999

LAKEVILLE – Friends and family of Paul Nichols Jr. were shocked this week by news that the young man met his end in a raging house fire early Sunday morning. He was 29 years old. The fire began on a couch on the second floor of the Fisher Homestead on State Line Road, according to Terrence Graves, who also lived in the house. After trying to put out the fire and drag the burning couch outside, down the stairs, the couch caught on the stairwell and couldn't be moved. Mr. Graves ran around outside to the back stairs, but the burning couch in the stairwell had a chimney effect in the old house, propelling immense heat and smoke upwards, according to Fire Marshal Mike Fitting, who lives near the house and was one of the first ones to respond. Firefighters found Mr. Nichols in the bathroom on the second floor and managed to bring him out. Emergency medical personnel went to work on him immediately, but it was too late. Mr. Fitting said the house will be demolished. Mr. Nichols was a graduate of the Lee H. Kellogg School and Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village.

NORFOLK – Illegal burning was blamed for a brush fire that covered about five acres, demanded the work of about six volunteer fire companies and resulted in extensive damage to a fire truck. Fire Marshal Richard Healy stated that the fire, reported around noon last Thursday, was the result of a grounds maintenance worker burning brush without a permit on Summer Road, a private dirt road near Doolittle Lake. The driver of the 1976 Oren pumper truck that responded told police that the truck began sliding on the muddy, narrow dirt road leading to the fire scene before hitting a tree head-on.

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

## Status Report

NORTH CANAAN—Pastries by Hanna has moved into the commercial kitchen beneath the Colonial Theatre, further fueling the downtown revival. The baker collaborates with nearby Ilse Coffee and Hither Lane at the Colonial to sell her creations.

FALLS VILLAGE—A trio of horses was spotted trotting down Route 7 last Sunday. Troopers helped corral them back to their home on Venessa Pereira's farm. It is suspected that a mare jumped the fence and the two males followed.

Salisbury Recreation Commission's ultimate frisbee program has room for more participants. The program is open to Region One students in 5th to 8th grade. Call Lisa McAuliffe at (860) 435-5186.

SHARON — Lara Dittkoff's 13-pound black and white domestic shorthair cat that went missing March 31 has found its way home safely.

NORTH CANAAN — Master mason Karl Munson began the restoration process the Doughboy War Monument last week.

NORTH CANAAN—Word is that Arnold's Garage will reopen its auto repair bays with limited service (not emissions). In June 2022, Arnold 'Arnie' Agar ended a 47-year run by closing repair and emissions testing, while keeping the towing business.

Tucker, a 3-year-old yellow labrador retriever, is available for adoption from North Canaan Animal Control. He would do best in an active home. Contact ACO Lindsay Burr at (860) 480-7568 for more information or to schedule a visit.

## A loose legal Cannon

*Judges are the weakest link in our system of justice, and they are also the most protected.*

Alan Dershowitz

A loose legal cannon presides in the Southern District of Florida over a federal espionage case dealing with the removal of national security-related and classified documents which when sought for return and official archive storage were denied: denied they were present, denied they were anything but the personal property of a President who had just failed his re-election bid.

No need to recount here the current plethora of Trump criminal and civil cases — some tried, some with guilty verdicts — many pending. Here of interest is the peculiar, perplexing and perfidious behaviors of the US vs Trump espionage case's presiding official Judge Aileen Cannon and her legal processes deterring public access to evidence, facts, the behaviors of a Presidential candidate. From a former President proclaiming innocence of all indictments, let's hear it — Judge Cannon ought help Trump refute false claims if they are false — in her court.

Nominated by Trump in

## OPEN SPACE

BY KATHY-HERALD  
MARLOWE

May of 2020, at 40 with scant trial experience, Cannon was appointed in November just days after Trump's 2020 re-election failure with a 56-21 Senate Confirmation — 22 not voting. In 2018, Dan McGahn, then White House Counsel, boasted of the Administration's rigorous judicial nominee interview process "... the President (is) nominating ... people who have some experience, if not expertise, in dealing with government..." However, Judge Cannon's trial experience and lack of law expertise has been lambasted by judges and law professionals across ages, partisan alignments, and institutional positions as scant — wanting. She is deemed as possessing — by evidence of her repeat behaviors — little knowledge of the legal landscape related to national security/confidential documents and the Espionage Act along with an unceasing proneness to questionable judgments, requests, and non-rulings. Her legal and trial shortcomings have resulted in her being overturned and reprimanded by the 11th Circuit Appeals Court twice in the past year.

Cannon has recently indicated, in her briefs and calls for prosecutor and defense response, that for her a civil statute — Presidential Records Act — trumps the criminal statute Espionage Act under which the document case criminal indictments are set.

She has delayed clear

pretrial rulings, clear so say key legal experts, and more alarmingly perhaps is positioning the case for her dismissal after a Jury is sworn in — precluding an appeal — if and when a date for trial is set and commenced. In Cannon's legal career, criminal trial law was not her focus, rather she concentrated early on appeals — the appellate system — is this where her expertise lies — when, where and how to progress or block an appeal?

Cannon was "randomly" assigned THE federal espionage case of the nation's history with the former President as plaintiff, the "luck of the draw." Amazingly, formal qualifications for federal judges, are almost none — no age requirement, no minimal experience — not even a requirement for legal training. Any one confirmed by the Senate as a District Judge has Article III protections of life tenure and non-reducible salaries. A District Judge is removable only by Congressional impeachment. So, liken to SCOTUS, big questions about our Judiciary: what qualifications drive judicial confirmation, what assures sustained ethical and legal behavior of Judges, and how are these positions of such powerful impact restricted in tenure and accountable for behavior? Time to do something.

*The bedrock of our democracy is the rule of law and that means we have to have an independent judiciary, judges who can make decisions independent of the political winds that are blowing.*

Caroline Kennedy

*Kathy Herald-Marlowe lives in Sharon.*

## Love and romance, swiping left or right

Johnny Lee recorded "Looking for Love in all the Wrong Places" for "Urban Cowboy" and that seems like the perfect metaphor for dating at this stage of life.

When most of us first entered the dating world several decades ago, we met each other at parties, college, where we lived, the gym, bars, or while shopping. I met my first husband at a small menswear store on the Upper West Side, although for the life of me I have no idea what I was doing there, and I recall one fellow I met in line waiting to vote — he worked for the FBI and I remember every time he came into my apartment he took off his gun and my biggest fear was that the cat would somehow get to it!

I met my late husband at the gym — that was really the ideal place to meet although I joined it simply because it was nearest to my office — it was in the World Trade Center, where all of us Wall Street crazies arrived when it opened at 6 a.m. We found ourselves on adjoining treadmills (along

RETIREMENT—  
WHAT NOW?

GWEN GREENE

with then Mayor Ed Koch), progressed to running across the Brooklyn Bridge together, and what ultimately ensued was a glorious 37 years! Not surprisingly, that pushed many of my girlfriends to join a gym; as a bonus, I also met some women who have become my dearest friends over the years.

Dating was easy, frequent, often casual, challenging, and sometimes led to heartbreak, but for most of us, it was part of the process of finding a spouse, of meeting THE person we thought we could spend the rest of our life with. We had very definite rules and tended to judge each other critically — would our friends like the person, would our parents, did we agree on everything, were we similar in every way imaginable, and could we finally STOP dating and get married.

Fast forward to 2020 after my husband's passing and I

realized I could have a wonderful life flying solo, but I wanted to try dating again. I was still living in the City, and anticipated meeting someone "organically" at dinner parties or at the gym (again), at benefits or at the bookstore, through business or volunteering. I assumed it would be as simple as it had been 40 years before, but I was SO wrong. For starters, I didn't have the energy to go out all the time, let alone "flirt" as I used to, and I wasn't even sure what that would look like at this stage of life. A friend once complained to me that men no longer looked at her on the street, and I pointed out that men still looked at me, but they were just much older than I remembered!

There was always the possibility of being "fixed up," but in a world where single older women far outnumber single older men, the likelihood of that declined with each passing year. A friend mentioned a man she knew in Boston who was recently widowed and she felt confident we would really hit it off. He suggested we Face Time, and when we did I thought

he was delightful — attractive, intelligent, charming — he told me after about a half hour that we weren't suitable for each other and ended the call rather abruptly. I was stunned, and deeply offended, but it was a fast preview of what dating life could become. I no longer had the energy to look my best every day, to sign up for classes where I might meet someone, to be the extra person at a dinner party of married couples, to travel alone, and to check on whether or not a man was wearing a wedding ring (which I realize that many of us who are widowed, often still do for some period of time after our spouse passes away).

I needed a new way to meet men, and in upcoming columns will discuss online dating — the ugly, the bad, the good and sometimes you just hit the jackpot!

*Please reach out to Gwen with your thoughts or questions at GwenG@millerton-news.com*

*Gwen lives in Pine Plains with her partner Dennis, her puppy Charlie, and two Angus cows (who are also retired!).*

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Salisbury's Conservation Commission this year is continuing to identify and catalog the numerous vernal pools across our township. The point is to be aware of these sites in order to protect them from development pressures. The research shows that the pools as well as the land surrounding them are critical to the amphibians who use them to breed. These amphibians, such as peepers, wood frogs and salamanders, use the pool for a short time in the spring but spend the rest of the year in the forest or wetlands that are surrounding and if either habitat is disturbed, the consequences are dire for their populations. A wonderful primer to become more aware of this issue is published by Maine Audubon, entitled *Best Practices - Pool Breeding Amphibians in Residential and Commercial Developments in the Northeastern United States*.



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# Spring Cleanup

Spring has arrived and that means it's time to tackle some of the many projects we've added to our lists throughout the winter. Whether you need landscaping, gardening, remodeling, building, general spring cleanup or ongoing maintenance, you can count on each of the businesses on this page to assist from start to finish. And when you call, let them know you saw their ad in *your* community weekly newspapers, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News.

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# Sports

## Housatonic baseball falls 3-2 to Northwestern Regional

By Riley Klein

WINSTED — A back-and-forth baseball game between Housatonic Valley Regional High School and Northwestern Regional High School ended 3-2 in favor of Northwestern on Tuesday, April 9.

The Highlanders played a disciplined defensive game and kept errors to a minimum. Wyatt Bayer pitched a strong six innings for HVRHS, but the Mountaineers fell behind late and were unable to come back in the seventh.

Despite the proximity of these two schools, this was far from a rivalry game. Players on both teams were more than familiar with the opposing roster after teaming up each fall for several seasons of Gilbert/Northwestern/Housatonic co-op football.

Fans could not have asked for a better spring day to take in the game April 9. Clear skies illuminated the field with temperatures around 72 degrees in Winsted. Singing birds gave way to chirping dugouts as the match got underway.

Wyatt Bayer worked the mound from start to finish for HVRHS. He opened the first inning with a strikeout, but one Northwestern runner reached home before the inning was out. The Highlanders took a 1-0 lead which lasted through the third inning.

In the fourth, Hunter Conklin launched a deep double into center field. He brought home two runners in the process and put HVRHS up 2-1. Northwestern evened



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Freshman pitcher Wyatt Bayer threw three strikeouts against Northwestern.

the score in the bottom of the fourth to tie it up at two.

The tie persisted through the fifth inning before Northwestern pulled ahead in the bottom of the sixth. Bayer got on base with a single in the seventh, but the Highlanders got out of the inning ahead.

Bayer threw three strikeouts for HVRHS and went 2 for 3 from the plate. Conklin led the Mountaineers offensively with a 2 RBI double.

For Northwestern, Ben Crone batted 2 for 3 with a triple, Gavin Deloy hit 2 for 3 with a pair of singles, and Robbie Ayers hit 2 for 4 and touched home twice including the game winning run.

HVRHS moved to 0-2 for the season. The Mountaineers will host Shepaug Valley High School Friday, April 19, at 3:45 p.m.



Northwestern's Ty Devita and Housatonic's Wes Allyn were opponents on Tuesday, April 9, but will be teammates come football season.



PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Leo Clayton gave it his all against Shepaug on April 9 but came up short in the tiebreaker.

## Shepaug tennis defeats HVRHS

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — The Housatonic Valley Regional High School boys tennis team dropped a match 4-1 to Shepaug Valley High School Tuesday, April 9.

HVRHS's Manny Matsu-daira won a third set super tiebreaker over the last year's Berkshire League runner-up.

Coach Jeff Tripp said Leo Clayton "lost a tough match in 3 sets."

"He won the first set 6-1 and then lost the second set 6-4. Instead of a full third set, we play a 10 point super tiebreaker to decide the match. Leo lost that 10-6."

"Tennis is so unique in

that there is no clock to run out" Tripp said. "So when you get a lead, you have to keep winning points and games to win the match."

"It was a really well played match from both players with a lot of attacking at the net and great lobs to counter. Leo is a senior but only playing tennis for his second season. He's gotten much better really fast and hopefully this match will provide him some lessons moving forward."

This spring HVRHS is playing matches at the Salisbury town courts in Lakeville, as the courts at the high school, which are slated for improvements, did not weather the winter well.



Clayton started playing tennis two years ago.



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## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF SHARON BOARD OF FINANCE

All Registered Voters and Property Owners in the Town of Sharon are hereby Warned and Notified that a public hearing will be held Friday, April 26, 2024 at 7:00PM at the Town Hall for the purpose of reviewing the Board of Education's and the Board of Selectmen's proposed budgets for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025. Copies of the proposed budgets are available at the Town Hall and on the Town Website. Dated at Sharon, Connecticut this 18th day of April 2024.

Thomas H. Bartram  
Chairman  
Sharon Board of Finance  
04-18-24

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF KARIN WOODRUFF JACKSON

Late of Maine  
AKA Karin  
Zetterstrom Jackson  
(24-00135)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated April 4, 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:  
Robert B. Jackson  
c/o Linda M Patz  
Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP  
7 Church Street, P.O. Box 101, Canaan, CT 06018  
Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
04-18-24

### 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 March 28, 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:  
Thomas Veto  
c/o Emily D Vail  
Ackerly Brown, LLP  
5 Academy Street  
PO Box 568  
Salisbury, CT 06068  
Beth L. McGuire  
Chief Clerk  
04-18-24

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF JOHN DESMOND

Late of North Canaan  
AKA John J. Desmond  
(24-00145)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated April 9, 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:  
Rachel Cary  
c/o Andrea Doyle Asman  
Litwin Asman, PC  
1047 Bantam Rd.,  
P.O. Box 698  
Bantam, CT 06750  
Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
04-18-24

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF EUGENE F. GREEN

Late of Salisbury  
AKA Eugene Green  
(24-00164)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated April 2, 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:  
Patricia Barry  
c/o Linda M Patz  
Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP  
7 Church Street  
P.O. Box 101  
Canaan, CT 06018  
Beth L. McGuire  
Chief Clerk  
04-18-24

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF JUDITH CHATFIELD SCHWERIN

Late of Sharon  
(24-00169)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated April 9, 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:  
Frederick W. Schwerin, Jr.  
c/o Michael Downes  
Lynch  
Law Offices of Michael D. Lynch, 106 Upper Main Street, P.O. Box 1776, Sharon, CT 06069  
Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
04-18-24

## CONSTRUCTION

Continued from Page A1

extends from just west of Memorial Green to east of Old Colony Road. In 2019 DOT installed temporary concrete bin blocks, or Mafia barriers (so-called because cement production of them used to be controlled by the mob), along the base of the existing walls due to their movement.

Amy Hare, head engineer for Project 97-95, emphasized the level of preliminary work necessary. Already one family has had to relocate, and their hillside home was just razed. Currently, the town's water company, Aquarion, is analyzing and relocation of underground water pipes from that section of highway.

Next, Eversource will remove and reconfigure all affected utility poles. Many trees need to be cleared on the slope and on Old Colony Road. The entire site was surveyed. To stabilize the slope during excavation, timber lagging (involves wiring series of wooden slats together to form a blanket) followed by soil anchors will be driven into the hillside to create a supporting wall. Mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) held by metal straps will also be used. Stones removed from the old walls will be available for use by the Town of Norfolk.

The Renkert family, who lost their home, said that they were approached 10 years ago by the state about the need for this construction proj-

ect. They were sad to leave Norfolk after having raised their children in that home for 19 years and having put considerable work into its renovation.

Mrs. Renkert noted that "the guys from the state were compassionate — really terrific — businesslike, responsive and professional." The Renkerts say that they were fairly compensated by the state and are comfortable in their new home.

While many adjacent areas will be affected by the construction, DOT is exercising caution to avoid disrupting the cemetery on Old Colony Road. Established in 1757, Norfolk's historic Center Cemetery is located on the ridge above the unstable slope. Care has been taken to ensure that the integrity of the sacred space will not be violated. Working closely with cemetery officials, project planners established strict protocols to protect the graves and historic markers. Work vehicles entering the cemetery must fit between the two stone gate markers. Radar will be used to establish gravesites. Vulnerable areas will be clearly marked, and a temporary alternate access road will be built. All work will stop when there is a funeral. During the construction process, the public will continue to have access to all burial areas.

Traffic flow on Route 44

is already feeling the impact of the work. One lane will always be kept open wide enough for trucks to pass. An alternate 45-minute detour truck route was devised to move traffic south on 272 (near the Norfolk Library), to Route 4 to Goshen, to Route 63, then looping back up Route 7 to Canaan. Large interstate truckers can either use the suggested detour or go north to use the Mass Pike. For the smaller, local trucking companies the impact will be more severe. Delays that cut down the number of daily runs they can drive will affect their bottom line, according to the folks at George's Garage in Norfolk. It is too early to fully predict the degree to which travel will be affected. Temporary illumination will be in place for night traffic.

When Project 97-95 is complete, the map area designated as Site #1 will have a retaining wall 1,030-feet-long, 30 to 42-feet-tall, with decorative fencing along the top. Site #2 will have a retaining wall approximately 490 feet long and will be 6-19 feet tall. The current steep slope of 1:1 (45 degrees) will be reduced to 2:1 (27 degrees). The multiple drainage systems along Route 44 that discharge directly into Blackberry River will be reconstructed and consolidated.

The improved highway will have 12-foot-wide lanes. Carving back the banks for

the walls will create a wider roadway. Existing narrow shoulders will be widened to five feet allowing for a safer bicycle route. Route 44 is part of the statewide bicycling network.

The retaining walls will be made of segmented pre-cast concrete panels with an architectural "natural stone" finish to be selected by the town of Norfolk. Turf replacement using conservation grass seeds, and small plantings (to retain sightlines) will be established, following environmental and native-species guidelines.

The estimated cost of Project 97-95 is \$24 million, with 80% coming from federal funds, and 20% from state funds. While Norfolk will not have to pay directly for the project, the indirect cost and inconvenience will be significant.

Norfolk First Selectman Matt Riiska acknowledged both the cost and the need, "This project has been discussed for a long time. The amount of planning and coordination has been the Department of Transportation's focus for many years. We have neglected our infrastructure for far too long. Unfortunately, it is going to be another disruptive project for the residents in Norfolk, but these things must be done."

Salvatore Aresco is the Project Manager for CT DOT Project 97-95.

## Rx

Continued from Page A1

is the amount it reimburses all pharmacies except the large-chain ones they own. Often the reimbursement rates are well below the cost of the drug, putting pharmacies in the position of having to fill a prescription at a loss.

"We cannot wait for PBM reform," said Mahmood on Wednesday, March 27, describing the current tenuous status of bi-partisan federal legislation awaiting vote in Washington, D.C.

Having served as president of the PSSNY for two years in 2008-09 and having finished a two-year term as chairman of the PSSNY Board in March, Mahmood now continues as a member of that board. He also serves on the National Legislative Committee within the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) working with other pharmacists' professional organizations promoting new legislation to place limits on PBMs and create an equitable structure of reform and accountability.

Bipartisan bills have passed out of committee and are awaiting floor vote that would provide strict regulation and transparency to the work of the PBMs, improve patient access and lower costs, Mahmood said. The NCPA has achieved some recent success in the long process of bringing bills to the floor for a vote.

A series of Senate and House bills received bipartisan support and convincing vote margins as they emerged from committees. With passage, the various pieces of legislation would bring lower drug costs, greater transparency in the process, require the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to define their contract terms, and require PBMs to operate with greater transparency.

The legislation was attached to the government funding package that was passed in late March to avoid a government shutdown, but Mahmood said that at the last minute the PBM bills were stripped out of the package.

Continuing their commitment to PBM reform, however, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Ranking Member Mike Crapo (R-ID) pledged to press on with efforts to enact the legislation before the end of this congressional year.

The NCPA further reported that on Friday, March 22, a bipartisan group of 21 senators and 51 house representatives signed a letter to their respective leadership, asking for immediate action on PBM reform measures.

Advocacy groups are actively pursuing passage of the legislation having arranged a conference drawing pharmacists from across the U.S. to the national headquarters of the NCPA in Alexandria, Virginia, for a two-day meeting to begin on Wednesday, April 17.

"We've come a long way with continued advocacy year after year," Mahmood said, contemplating his participation in the upcoming meeting. Senators and representatives will be reporting to the conference and encouraging continued advocacy strategies to promote passage of the bipartisan PBM legislation.

One bill would bring transparency to Medicaid drug pricing with annual savings of \$1 billion. Another would remove PBMs from negotiating CMS services, and the third would provide for greater transparency, oversight and enforcement through the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Independent pharmacies throughout the area have expressed their concern about the issue and joined in the hope that the current efforts toward passing legislation will be successful.

Meanwhile, local and area pharmacists remain in the balance, squeezed by the PBM system and locked out of the price negotiation process. During an interview, Mahmood noted that there is not one independent community pharmacy left open in Columbia County.

"It's not fair," he said.

## TOURISM

Continued from Page A1

it to a condition worthy of its history while building a business that contributes to the local economy and community life," said Roth.

She explained that before buying the inn, her initial business plan was based on the goals outlined in Norfolk's 2019 Plan for Conservation & Economic Development; specifically, to bring more young people into town by offering a wedding venue.

She aimed to support economic development (e.g. an upscale hospitality property brings guests who spend money in local shops and restaurants), and to maintain and enhance community assets (e.g. the Manor House is an architectural treasure; one that needs to be financially viable to be well-maintained).

"Ultimately, I believe that vibrant businesses increase property values, reduce the tax burden on property owners, draw young people and visitors into town, and improve the overall quality of communal life," Roth said.

Now, Manor House has rebranded itself as an eco-friendly luxury boutique hotel with a commitment to sustainable hospitality prac-

tices. It has been awarded the Connecticut Green Lodging Certification by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP CT) and the Connecticut Office of Tourism, which offers a certification program for hotels called "Connecticut Green Lodging — Accommodating You and Our Environment."

"Regarding the Green Lodging Certification, it is a self-certification program set up by DEEP CT and based on accumulating points associated with environmental practices. After researching all the eco-friendly updates we could consider, we made as many changes as possible and submitted our application for state review," said Roth.

Her new management company, Ray Hospitality Inc., prioritizes environmental stewardship efforts with green initiatives including energy-efficient technologies, eco-friendly amenities, green cleaning products, water conservation measures, waste reduction programs, and locally sourced seasonal culinary offerings that appeal to eco-conscious travelers.

"As stewards of this histor-

ic property, we are driven to preserve its timeless charm while embracing sustainable practices that minimize our environmental impact," she said.

Energy-efficient LED lighting, low-flow water fixtures, and optional linen/room refreshes allow visitors to indulge in premium amenities while conserving precious resources. The inn has also embraced a "reduce, reuse, recycle and upcycle" culture, minimizing single-use plastics and repurposing materials wherever possible.

Sustainably sourced foods complement the eco-friendly accommodations. Guest

chefs and food educators are welcomed onsite to offer specialized cooking classes, including an upcoming class on May 11 with Terry Walters from Clean Food, whose focus is on crafting nourishing, seasonal, plant-centric recipes.

"Our development plans will encourage nature-immersive experiences in the Northwest Corner to support wellbeing. It's truly an enchanting place that I'm passionate about sharing.

Manor House Inn plans to open April 18.

For more information, see the website: [www.manor-house-norfolk.com](http://www.manor-house-norfolk.com)



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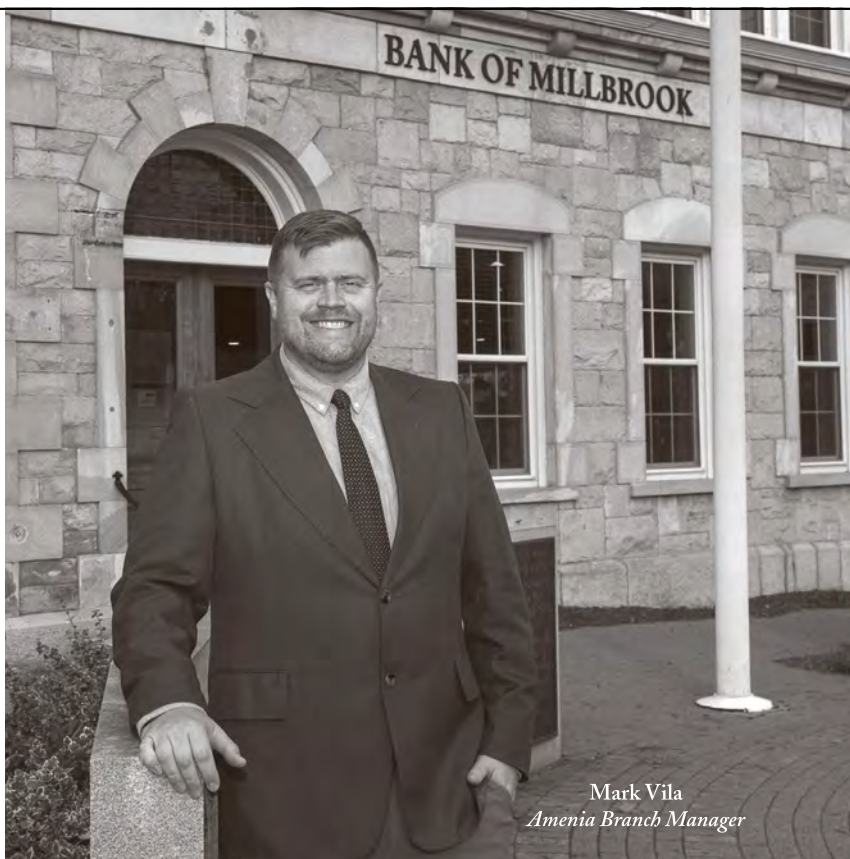
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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment



PHOTO COURTESY OF CORNWALL LIBRARY

Above, "Flowers," and below, "Cow," both by the late artist and writer Joelle Sander.

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN

## The artistic life of Joelle Sander

The Cornwall Library unveiled its latest art exhibition, "Live It Up!," showcasing the work of the late West Cornwall resident Joelle Sander on Saturday, April 13. The twenty works on canvas on display were curated in partnership with the library with the help of her son, Jason Sander, from the collection of paintings she left behind to him. Clearly enamored with nature in all its seasons, Sander, who split time between her home in New York City and her country house in Litchfield County, took inspiration from the distinctive white bark trunks of the area's many birch trees, the swirling snow of Connecticut's wintery woods, and even the scenic view of the Audubon in Sharon. The sole painting to depict fauna is a melancholy near-abstract outline of a cow, rootless in a misty haze of plum and

Persian blue paint. Her most prominently displayed painting, "Flowers," effectively builds up layers of paint so that her flurry of petals takes on a three-dimensional texture in their rough application, reminiscent of another Cornwall artist, Don Bracken.

Sander's first book, "The Family: The Evolution of Our Oldest Human Institution," was published in 1978 while she worked as an instructor with the Institute of Children's Literature. She described the history book, which took young readers on a journey of the evolving family unit from the Ice Age to the 1970s, as a kind of anthropological tour. "Kids are exposed to so many families in this culture," she told The Lakeville Journal at the time. "I felt the book would give them a perspective on families in other cultures, both historical and contempo-



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

rary. In 1992, The Lakeville Journal reviewed another of her published works, "Before Their Time: Four Generations of Teenage Mothers," which Sander wrote as a faculty member at Sarah Lawrence in Westchester County, N.Y., where she served as the associate director of The Center for Continuing Education and taught modern American poetry. She was also a volunteer at a New York YMCA. At this YMCA, she met a young single mother named Leticia, whose trauma,

struggles and hopes for the future inspired Sander to share Leticia's story as told through the personal histories of the women who had come before her. Lakeville Journal writer Richard O'Connor called the book's psychological exploration of cyclical poverty both "wonderful and disturbing."

Her first slim volume of poetry, "Margins of Light" was available for attendees of the show to read while they examined Sanders' paintings, a dual experience to take in the twin passions of her lengthy artistic career.

"Live It Up!" will be on view at The Cornwall Library through Saturday, May 18.



PHOTO PROVIDED



PHOTO BY ZIVAR AMRAMI

Lala Tamar, left, and Rabbi Zach Fredman.

LIFESTYLE: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

## A Seder to savor in Sheffield

On April 23, Race Brook Lodge in Sheffield will host "Feast of Mystics," a Passover Seder that promises to provide ecstasy for the senses.

"The Feast of Mystics" was a title we used for events back when I was running The New Shul," said Rabbi Zach Fredman of his time at the independent creative community in the West Village in New York City.

He has since relocated with his family to Germantown and founded Temenos, "a home for ritual and creativity that honors the wild humanity of all people," as the website explains (temenosnyc.com). At these feasts, Fredman and his brother, a chef, would create a menu to highlight the symbolism and mythology of certain Jewish holidays.

"People loved it," explained Fredman. "It's kind of a two-pronged approach, a way to engage and digest symbolism through the belly." The Seder (which means "order" in Hebrew) at Race Brook will be such an immersive experience: a four-course meal conducted in four parts, echoing the four cups of wine consumed during the ceremony.

Alex Harvey, arts programmer at Race Brook, and his wife, Sophia Akilova, have known Rabbi Fredman through various communities and music circles for many years. After moving to the Hudson Valley from Brooklyn, Akilova was "looking everywhere

for some kind of Jewish community that was dynamic. There's plenty of progressive Jewish communities," Harvey continued, "but she was looking for something way more particular, a community that is rediscovering active prayer, actually somatic spirituality."

Fredman spoke of Passover as an opportunity to reconnect with tradition while investigating present day reality through the core liberatory framework of the holiday. He said, "One of the major successes in Judaism is that the tradition was conceived as living. There's the written material that's passed on, that's unchanging, but it's always accompanied by oral teachings, teacher to student, teacher to student. And so there is a sense that tradition is alive and dependent on people making it fresh, making it new."

The tradition will be made new once again with the addition of music at Race Brook by the powerful and virtuosic Duo Andalus with vocalist Lala Tamar. Tamar and Fredman, who is an incredibly accomplished musician as well, have been collaborating through Fredman's group Epichorus for many years. Fredman will join Duo Andalus throughout the evening and the following evening (April 24), Epichorus featuring Tamar and Yacouba Sissoko, who plays the African Kora, will perform.

There are four questions that are asked during a Passover Seder, traditionally by the youngest person at the table. One of those questions is: "Why is this night different from all other nights?" Much of the rest of the Seder is in response to this question. When asked this particular question, Rabbi Fredman offered, "It's been so overwhelming to watch the news cycle. It's been a year where Judaism, Jewish identity, Jewish ethics, all of these

Continued on next page



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PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Andy Dobos led a group on a successful search for edible wild plants at Great Mountain Forest.

LIFESTYLE: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

## Foraging around in Falls Village

Andy Dobos of Forest Wolf Programs led a group around the perimeter of Great Mountain Forest's chestnut orchard on Undermountain Road in Falls Village on a chilly Saturday morning, April 13, in search of edible plants.

He started with Queen Anne's Lace, also known as wild carrot.

This was a good plant to start with because it's common and relatively easy to identify, he said. "Relatively" easy.

Dobos said when he was first learning about plant identification it took him a year to learn how to identify Queen Anne's Lace in all four seasons.

"It took another year to be confident about it."

Throughout the presentation, Dobos stressed caution in ingesting wild plants.

He said most plants that are toxic to humans will be easy to identify by the taste.

"Most toxic plants

taste really bad," he said cheerfully. "You're going to know."

Except for mushrooms, where toxic varieties are harder to differentiate from edible varieties by taste.

The rule of thumb: "Know what it is before you swallow."

Walking with the group of about a dozen people, Dobos spotted and delivered impromptu lectures on mustard garlic and trout lily, passing samples around and

encouraging the participants to examine them closely without actually eating them.

He had some advice for the group on sources of information about plants.

He said he uses Peterson Field Guides, saying they are good for identifying plants, but the information on edibility is sparse.

He also recommended Samuel Thayer's "Forager's Harvest" and "Nature's Garden."

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN

## Art scholarship now honors HVRHS teacher Warren Prindle

Legendary American artist Jasper Johns, perhaps best known for his encaustic depictions of the U.S. flag, formed the Foundation for Contemporary Arts in 1963, operating the volunteer-run foundation in his New York City artist studio with the help of his co-founder, the late American composer and music theorist John Cage. Although Johns stepped down from his chair position in 2015, today the Foundation for Community Arts continues its pledge to sponsor emerging artists, with one of its exemplary honors being an \$80 thousand dollar scholarship given to a graduating senior from Housatonic Valley Regional High School who is continuing his or her visual arts education on a college level. The award, first established in 2004, is distributed in annual amounts of \$20,000 for four years of university education.

In 2024, the Contemporary Visual Arts Scholarship was renamed the Warren Prindle Arts Scholarship. A longtime art educator and mentor to young artists at HVRHS, Prindle announced that he will be retiring from teaching at the end of the 2023-24 school year. Recently in 2022, Prindle helped establish the school's new Kearcher-Monsell Gallery in the library and recruited a team of student interns to help curate and exhibit shows of both student and community-based professional artists. One of Kearcher-Monsell's early exhibitions featured the work of Theda Galvin, who was later announced as the 2023 winner of the founda-



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Warren Prindle

tion's \$80,000 scholarship. Prindle has also championed the continuation of the annual Blue and Gold juried student art show, which invites the public to both view and purchase student work in multiple mediums, including painting, photography, and sculpture.

HVRHS students who have received the scholarship from the Foundation for Community Arts have continued their education at notable institutions like Pratt Institute, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Parsons School of Design at The New School, Florence Academy of Art in Rome, The Fashion Institute of Technology, San Francisco Art Institute, Tisch School of the Arts at New York University, The Rhode Island School of Design, and The Savannah College of Art and Design.

HVRHS students can receive application forms for the scholarship from their teachers or counselors and the winner will be announced shortly before the end of the school year. The deadline for the scholarship application process has been extended to April 24.



PHOTO BY MAUD DOYLE

### Songs for Smiles

Musicians from The Hotchkiss School raised \$1,000 for Corner Food Pantry of Lakeville April 14. Bluenotes, who introduced themselves as Hotchkiss's "best-looking, best-sounding and only all-male a cappella group," opened the program at the Salisbury Town Grove with "Life Could Be a Dream." Left to right: Gunn Pongsivapai, Hayden Scott, Anthony St. Clair, Alejandro Zheng, Tyler Rosenblum, Ethan Choi, Philip Lee.

## ...Seder

Continued from previous page

things are completely different from what we thought they were even a year ago." Fredman went on to speak about the fracturing that is occurring within the Jewish community and offered, "One of the functions of ritual, especially a ritual like this one, is to create space for people to have the conversations that we need to have."

Creating a safe container for difference and for questioning is a tall order and one that Fredman meets with humility and curiosity. Of the Passover Seder he shared, "I'm hoping that in addition to the elements of food, and music, and teachings that there's also space for people to be vulnerable and sift through some other profound experiences, painful experiences of the last six months and then, you know,

investigate, turn things over and find something about themselves that helps us make sense of a disorienting moment."

Reservations for Feast of Mystics, and The Epichorus featuring Yacouba Sissoko and Lala Tamar can be made at rblodge.com.

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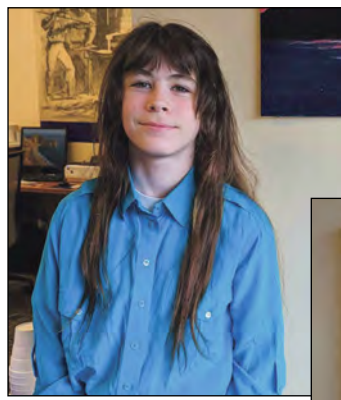
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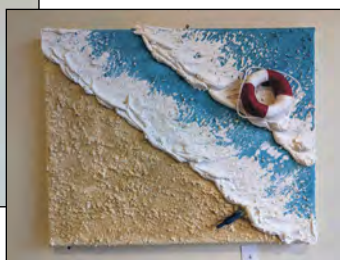
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# COMPASS



Donald Polk III has been selling his art for two years, and he's only in seventh grade.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

ART: RILEY KLEIN

## Young painter presents works

At just 13 years old, Donald Polk III has compiled a series of paintings for his first solo show at National Iron Bank in Cornwall Bridge.

Polk, a seventh grade Cornwall Consolidated School student, finds inspiration in nature, often depicting bright and captivating landscapes in his work. Some of his paintings were made at the Region One ArtGarage while others were done in his West Cornwall home.

Polk said he began selling art "two years ago at the farmer's market" and was excited to present his work in the bank. Polk also sells lemonade and iced tea at the

Cornwall Co-op Farmer's Market and plans to add baked goods to the menu this season.

Several of Polk's classmates attended the April 12 opening reception at National Iron Bank. His lemonade and iced tea was served, along with a sample of baked goods.

In no time, "sold" stickers began appearing beneath several paintings. When asked how it felt to see his art being sold, Polk simply responded "it's fun." By the end of the opening reception, nine pieces had sold.

Polk's art ranges in price from \$25 to \$75 and will be on display at the bank through the end of April.

## Crescendo presents "Trial by Jury" one-act operetta

Crescendo concludes its 20th anniversary season with two semi-staged performances of light opera compositions by the famous English librettist/composer duo: Sir W.S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan.

Their works feature intentionally absurd plots in which authority and the rigid norms of society are cleverly made fun of, as the music combines elements of the parlor ballad, Victorian church music, and the operas of Donizetti, Bellini, and Verdi.

The program showcases some of their most beloved choral numbers, and a few of the most famous solo roles from several of their fourteen operettas, loosely tied together by brief narration, and the complete one-act operetta Trial by Jury.

The Crescendo chamber chorus of 18 amateur and 12 professional singers is joined by soloists and actors from New York City to Europe who specialize in this genre.

The production is co-directed by John-Arthur Miller, an experi-

enced Gilbert & Sullivan performer and long-time soloist and section leader at Crescendo, together with Crescendo's founding artistic director, Christine Gevert.

These concerts have been made possible in part with support from funding provided by the Connecticut State Department of Economic and Community Development/Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) from the Connecticut State Legislature.

There will only be two performances: on Saturday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m. at Trinity Church, 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lakeville, CT, and on Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 p.m. at Saint James Place, 352 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA. Tickets are \$40 (general seating), \$75 (preferred seating), and \$10 (youth under 18 years).

Purchase your tickets online at [www.crescendomusic.org](http://www.crescendomusic.org). A limited number of tickets will be available to be sold at the door, starting 45 minutes before each performance.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Alexis Fedorjaczenco

POETRY: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

## Verses and visions

The David M. Hunt Library celebrated National Poetry Month Saturday, April 13 with a program of readings.

Participants read their own work or that of others.

Alexis Fedorjaczenco did a little of both, using the "cut-up" method of parsing other writers' words, literally cutting the material up, and then reassembling it, with often surprising results.

On this occasion she used a little Emily Dickinson, an Audubon book about Massachusetts, and New York Times articles about fires in

Holyoke, Mass. She said she found a surprisingly large number of Times pieces about Holyoke conflagrations, going back to the mid-19th century and petering out in the 1970s.

David Capellero of Millerton, who has been published by CAPS (Calling All Poets), read his pithy original pieces.

Sarah Tames opened the proceedings with three of her own works, including the wry "Sympathy of Woe."

Other participants included Barbara Deinhardt, Jerry Stanton, Fedora Maier, Robert Cronin, Betsy Sprague and Lonnie Carter.



PHOTO COURTESY NE-MILLERTON CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY

The Was-Eckstrom family from Wassaic won the 2023 Earth Day composer raffle at the Millerton-North East Earth Day celebration. Another composer will be awarded to the winner of this year's raffle at the Amenia Town Hall on April 20, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

## 2024 Earth Day activities set for Norfolk

The Norfolk Earth Forum is a collaborative initiative designed to enlighten and inspire participants toward improved care of our planet. The Earth Forum is convened by Church of Christ, Congregational (UCC), Norfolk, and co-hosted with Aton Forest, Botelle School, Great Mountain Forest, the Norfolk Conservation Commission, the Norfolk Land Trust, and the Norfolk Library. Through the generosity of the hosts, all events are free and open to the public.

Events  
April 20, 10 a.m. - "Books and Boots" Hike and Talk - Hike the Billings Trail while discussing Ben Goldfarb's book, Crossings. Meet at the trailhead (0.4 miles east of the intersection of Grantville and Winchester roads).

April 20, 2 p.m. - "Connecting Community and Nature" Lecture - Rebecca Henson of the Rachel Carson Springsong

Museum in MD describes Rachel Carson's influence on the modern environmental movement. Meet in Battell Chapel on the Green, 12 Litchfield Rd.

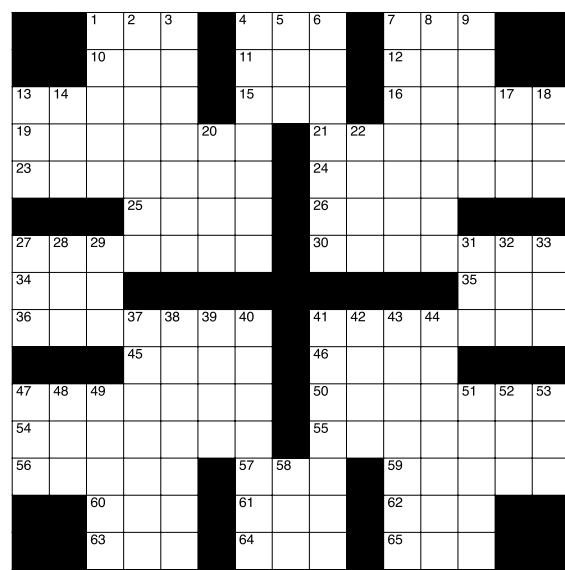
April 21, 11 a.m. - Children's Event: "Help the Pollinators" - Children of all ages may learn about pollinator pathways, start seedlings to bring home, and craft a garden steppingstone.

Meet in Battell Chapel, 12 Litchfield Rd. April 21, 2 p.m. - "A Sense of Wonder" - Stage, film, and television actress Kaiulani Lee presents a one-person play (with a PG-13 rating and parental guidance advised) based on the life and writings of Rachel Carson. Donations will be received. Meet at Botelle School, 128 Greenwoods Road East.

## Brain Teasers

### CLUES ACROSS

- Midway between south and southeast
- For each
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Photographs
- They —
- It's important in respiration (abbr.)
- Monetary unit
- Cool!
- A son of Jacob
- Cut off
- Devour
- Agent of one's downfall
- Best
- Network of nerves
- Partner to "oohs"
- Origins
- Sewing utensil
- Alias
- Swiss river
- Greek mythological figure
- Type of whiskey
- Lay to rest
- "Rule, Britannia" composer
- Select jury
- Feeling
- Action regarded as morally wrong
- Makes angry
- Act incorrectly
- Defensive nuclear weapon
- Class of escort aircraft carrier
- To what degree
- Buzzing insect
- The human foot
- "The Leftovers" actress Dowd
- A place to stay
- Sun up in New York

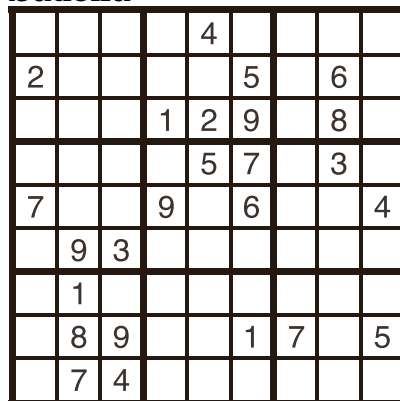


- Hebrew prophet
- Supporter
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Liberty Mutual mascot
- Georgia rockers
- A place where building is done
- Large, deep-bodied fish
- Clothing retailer
- Supplement with difficulty
- Annoy constantly
- Founder of Babism
- Indigenous person in parts of Asia
- Sea eagle
- Leave behind
- Time of day
- Colorless crystalline compound
- They lay out course requirements
- A diamond has three
- Algerian coastal city
- Remove cover
- Rechristened
- Distinctive practice
- Defunct phone company
- Turkish officer of high rank
- Eliminate from the body
- Witness
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Founding Father Franklin

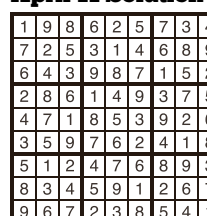
### April 11 Solution



### Sudoku



### April 11 Solution



Level: Intermediate

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## TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

### APRIL 19

#### Poetry Workshop with Sally Van Doren

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

On April 19, 2 to 4 p.m., join Sally Van Doren from for this intensive, immersive workshop designed to give writers the time they need to generate new work and hone in on whatever it is that begs to be brought to the page. Guided by prompts, we will dive deep and emerge transformed. Sally Van Doren is the author of four books of poetry and a winner of the Walt Whitman prize. Registration is required. Please visit [www.scovillelibrary.org](http://www.scovillelibrary.org).

### APRIL 20

#### Dutchess County Spring Sheep and Wool Farm Tour

Dutchess County, N.Y.

On April 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Dutchess County Sheep & Wool Growers Association presents its spring farm tour, which is the perfect chance to see the animals, shop the farm stores and see the beautiful countryside of the Hudson Valley. Please leave your pets at home and remember to wear farm-friendly shoes to explore these beautiful farms across Dutchess County including Point of View Farm at 41 Ludlow Woods Road in Standfordville, N.Y. and Black Sheep Hill Farm at 1891 Route 83 in Pine Plains, N.Y.

Free and open to the public.

To learn more, contact [dcswgmembership@gmail.com](mailto:dcswgmembership@gmail.com)

#### All Things Trinity Art/Craft/Book Sale

Walker Hall, 484 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville, Conn.

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of Trinity Episcopal Church Lime Rock there will be an art/craft/book sale held on April 20 and April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day and April 27 and April 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. Trinity parishioners will be selling original art, photographs, prints, cards, wood working, jewelry and books by Trinity authors and more will be for sale. The sale will take place in Walker Hall at the church 484 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville, Conn.

#### Film Screening

Triplex Cinema, 70 Railroad St., Great Barrington, Mass. [thetriplex.org](http://thetriplex.org)

Noted Berkshire County actor David Rasche will visit the Triplex Cinema April 20 to screen and discuss the satirical black comedy "In the Loop." Written and directed by Armando Iannucci ("Veep") "In the Loop" is a wicked satire of British-American politics and the Iraq Invasion. The film was nominated for Best Adapted Screenplay at the 82nd Academy Awards in 2009.

#### Chicken Casserole Dinner

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

On Saturday, April 20 at 5 p.m. Stanford Grange #808 will be offering a take-out dinner of Chicken/Rice/Broccoli/Cheese Casserole, Carrot Salad, and Lemon Poke Cake for dessert. Donation is \$17 per dinner. The dinner will be take out only. Drive up to the Grange Hall back door, pay for your dinner, get your dinner through your car window, and take it home to enjoy! For reservations, contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

#### The Amazing World of Local Wild Mushrooms with David Paton

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

On Saturday, April 20, 4 to 5:30 p.m., join Lakeville resident and legendary forager David Paton for a talk on the amazing world of wild fungi, featuring a wide variety of mushrooms that reside locally, including species that are beautiful, edible, medicinal, and even deadly. Learn why the "foolproof five" edible fungi are far from foolproof. Registration is required. Please visit [www.scovillelibrary.org](http://www.scovillelibrary.org).

### APRIL 21

#### Design in Focus

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. [hotchkisslibrary.org](http://hotchkisslibrary.org)

Free Sunday events at Hotchkiss Library of Sharon continue April 21 at 4 p.m. with Design in Focus, a lecture series about design. Design historian Abbey Nova will delve into the fascinating world of 19th-century America, a time when a burgeoning middle class began to acquire and display silver objects as symbols of wealth and status.

Nova will explore how an increased demand for silver led to one of the most productive and innovative periods of American silver production. Please register at: [hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/12148766](http://hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/12148766).

#### Film Screening

Triplex Cinema, 70 Railroad St., Great Barrington, Mass. [thetriplex.org](http://thetriplex.org)

Berkshire-based actress Karen Allen will join the Triplex for a screening of the award-winning film "A Stage of Twilight," a love story set in the final chapter of the lives of a married couple. Allen stars along with veteran actor William Sadler. Tickets for this special event are available at the Triplex website ([thetriplex.org](http://thetriplex.org)) or at the Triplex box office.

### APRIL 22

#### Foil Fencing

Cornwall Consolidated School, 5 Cream Hill Road, West Cornwall, Conn.

Cornwall Park and Recreation invites children and adults to learn the most beautiful and complicated weapon in Olympic fencing called the Foil. One hour classes are available at CCS starting Monday, April 22. The cost is \$125 for four sessions. Register on [www.cornwallparkrec.org](http://www.cornwallparkrec.org)

### APRIL 26

#### Choreography on the Edge at the Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts

Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts, 957 NY Route 82, Ancram N.Y.

Choreography on the Edge will be performed on Friday and Saturday, April 26 and 27 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 28 at 3 p.m. at the Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts, 957 NY Route 82, Ancram NY.

For more information, contact Zack Jacobs at (845) 453 - 8673,

ChoreographyontheEdge@gmail.com or [zjlights@gmail.com](mailto:zjlights@gmail.com).

### MAY 2

#### National Day of Prayer

Salisbury Veterans Monument, 27 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

Since 1952, all U.S. presidents have proclaimed the first Thursday of May to be a National Day of Prayer. All are invited to the 73rd celebration of the National Day of Prayer

at 6 p.m. on May 2 next to the war memorials at the Salisbury Town Hall. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held across the street in the Congregational Church. Members of the town will offer prayers for government, schools, businesses, arts/media, churches, families, military/veterans, as well as fire, police, and emergency responders.

### MAY 11

#### Art Show

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. [huntlibrary.org](http://huntlibrary.org)

On Saturday, May 11 from 4 to 6 p.m., the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village (CT) will host an opening reception for A Star Danced: The Paintings of Mary Anne Carley and Theresa Kenny. The exhibition features the work of two Sharon-based painters who happen to be mother and daughter. Mary Anne Carley uses a multitude of media in her abstract and impressionist paintings and monoprints including acrylic, watercolor, and ink. The exhibition will be on display at the library during operating hours through June 7.

### JUNE 2

#### The 2024 4-H A-Fair To Remember

Wilcox Memorial Park, Rt. 199, Stanfordsville, N.Y.

A 4-H Fair will be held on June 2, 2024 at Wilcox Memorial Park in Stanfordsville, N.Y. from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### JUNE 29

#### Real People, Real Stories by Ancram Center for the Arts

The Hilltop Barn at Roeliff Jansen Park, 9140 NY Route 22, Hillsdale N.Y.

Everyone has a story to tell. With each edition of Real People, local residents recount captivating tales that celebrate community and personal connection.

It's an audience favorite and mainstay in Ancram Center's seasonal programming. The RPRS approach involves a series of storytelling workshops. In these workshops, local residents develop and

shape their monologues with guidance from program director Paul Ricciardi. The results are an array of poignant, humorous, and captivating tales that celebrate community and personal connection.

Contact Paul Ricciardi at [paul@ancramoperahouse.org](mailto:paul@ancramoperahouse.org). No prior storytelling experience needed; each storyteller receives 5-6 hours of individual training and rehearsal time to craft a compelling narrative and to hone the telling of their story.

This event will take place at 7:30 pm on June 29.

### ONGOING

#### Art Show

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

"Spring Forth," an art show of paintings by Lynn Lena Curtis and works in mixed media by Lisa Keskinen, is on view at the Parish House of the United Church of Christ in Cornwall.

#### Live It Up!

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. [cornwalllibrary.org](http://cornwalllibrary.org)

Cornwall Library presents "Live It Up!," a selection of bold, vivid landscape and abstract works by artist Joelle Sander (1942-2023) that fully justify the name of the show. Her joyful use of color was last on view at the library in February 2018, in her aptly named exhibit Comfort Me with Color. The exhibit will be on view through May 18.

#### Art by Deborah Hanson Greene

The Norfolk Library, 9 Greenwood Road East, Norfolk, Conn. [norfolklibrary.org](http://norfolklibrary.org)

Watercolors by Deborah Hanson Greene will be on display at the library during the month of April. A resident of the Berkshires, Greene paints primarily still-life studies, and to a lesser extent, landscapes à plein air. Her paintings have been accepted into juried exhibitions at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, VA, and the Maryland Art League in Annapolis. Work was featured in two Annapolis galleries and

various coffeehouses and cafés in Annapolis and Baltimore. Since returning to her childhood home in rural western Massachusetts, where she lives and works, she has exhibited at the Berkshire Co-op Market, The Marketplace Café, The Sheffield Collection, and Real Gustavian.

#### Art Exhibition

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. [huntlibrary.org](http://huntlibrary.org)

Through May 3, the David M. Hunt Library will host an exhibition of early 20th-century photography from the Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society. "From the Great Falls to the Hilltops" allows a vivid peek into the past of Falls Village's people and places.

#### Parent and Child Book Group

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

Join a Parent and Child Book Group at the Scoville Memorial Library for children in the third, fourth and fifth grades and their caregivers, hosted by Miss Rita. The group meets the first Friday of every month for reading and discussion. Register in advance to receive your own free copy of the book being read.

#### Sunday Meditation

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

Begin your Sundays with a peaceful meditation session from 9 to 10 a.m., led by Kathy Voldstad on Zoom. For more information, visit [scovillelibrary.org](http://scovillelibrary.org) and click on the Events tab.

#### Play Bridge!

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

On Wednesdays from 2 to 4 p.m., learn the basics or join in a game with more seasoned players. Play Bridge meets every weekly under the guidance of local Bridge guru John Dippel. For more information, visit [scovillelibrary.org](http://scovillelibrary.org) and click on the Events tab.

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# Our Towns

## Sharon readies budgets for hearing Paving plans on hold in Falls Village

By Leila Hawken

After weeks of meetings, the Board of Finance voted unanimously at a special meeting on Wednesday, April 10 to send the proposed 2024-25 annual budgets for the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education to public hearing.

The proposed spending plan for Sharon Center School anticipates total expenditures of \$4,328,390, a reduction from the current year by \$185,937 (4.12%). When the Region One assessment is added, the total education budget rises to \$6,045,960, but overall education costs still exhibit a

savings of \$57,396 (0.94%) when compared with the current year.

The Board of Selectmen's budget proposal anticipates total town spending of \$5,791,308, an increase of \$461,580 (8.66%) over the current year. When expected revenues are taken into account, the total town

spending budget is reduced to \$4,969,207, an increase of \$262,630 (5.58%) over the current year.

A portion of the increase in the selectmen's budget is the result of recent negotiation of a three-year union contract for highway department employees, bringing wage levels closer to those offered by area towns similar to Sharon, First Selectman Casey Flanagan reported. Alignment with area towns improves retention rates among employees and ensures applications from qualified candidates when vacancies occur.

Residents can review the budget proposals on April 26 at a Board of Finance public hearing, at the Town Hall, beginning at 7 p.m. Copies of the proposed budgets are posted on the town website at [www.sharonct.org](http://www.sharonct.org).

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Board of Selectmen tabled a discussion of road work on Undermountain Road during the regular monthly meeting Monday, April 8.

Highway crew chief Tim Downs said he would prefer to redo the entire road from Route 63 to Route 7, rather than the stretch between Route 63 and Barnes Road, but doing so would require shifting some unexpended funds around in the current budget.

After a discussion of road work priorities, the board tabled the matter in anticipation of additional information from Downs.

The selectmen acknowledged that \$30,000 in capital funds that was originally in

the school board's budget proposal for 2024-25 has been shifted to the municipal budget proposal at the request of the town's auditing firm, King and King.

The town received about \$1,700 in opioid lawsuit settlement funds. First Selectman Dave Barger said as per a previous agreement the funds would be turned over to the Northwest Hills Council of Governments for regional use.

At the April 8 meeting of the Board of Finance, the selectmen were asked to find \$130,000 in spending cuts from their proposed spending plan for 2024-25. The current proposal has an increase of \$124,593.

Both boards are holding special meetings Tuesday, April 16.

### UCC Salisbury recognized for going green

SALISBURY — Congregational Church of Salisbury (United Church of Christ) was one of sixteen national Interfaith Power & Light (IPL) 2024 Cool Congregations Challenge awarded a \$500 runners-up prize.

UCC Salisbury won an Energy Saver award

for decarbonizing their buildings by switching to LED lighting, replacing oil furnaces with heat pumps, and installing solar.

The annual contest accepts applications from religious congregations around the United States who are doing work to address global warming

by reducing their carbon footprint as they create models of sustainability within their communities.

IPL is mobilizing a religious response to global warming in congregations through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy.

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**EXTRAS SCHOOL-AGE CHILDCARE PROGRAM:** is hiring staff for our summer camp in Salisbury CT! Full or Part Time positions available. Email extrasprogram@gmail.com with a resume to apply, or for more information.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT MAINTAINER:** The Town of Cornwall has a full-time job opening for Highway Department Maintainer. For more details and to apply, contact Jane Hall in the First Selectmen's office: 860-672-4959.

**HOME HEALTH AIDE:** Active senior woman seeks assistance with light home and care, including, some cooking, drive to doctors, shopping, occasional dog sitting. Flexible work arrangement. Possible live-in large one-bedroom apartment. Rent negotiable. Call Vicky at 860-435-2106. Leave message.

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

### Remember

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# Real Estate

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**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:** Equal Housing Opportunity. All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1966 revised March 12, 1989 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap or familial status or national origin or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. All residential property advertised in the State of Connecticut General Statutes 46a-64c which prohibit the making, printing or publishing or causing to be made, printed or published any notice, statement or advertisement with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age,

## REAL ESTATE

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## WANTED BOAT LAUNCH MONITORS

The Twin Lakes Association in partnership with the Town of Salisbury is hiring eight to ten individuals to monitor vessels entering and leaving the Twin Lakes at O'Hara's Marina. These are new positions. No experience is required. Candidates should be at least 18 years old, outgoing, confident, and comfortable conversing with strangers.

Job duties include greeting boaters and explaining and distributing educational materials related to the spread of invasive plants threatening the lakes. You would collect data and inspect boats and trailers for potential invasive weeds before they enter the water. **Training will be provided.**

The positions pay \$30/hour. Duty hours are Friday through Sunday and on holidays from May 24 through Sept. 2. Within that time frame, hours will be as flexible as possible. We expect to staff a morning shift 5:00 am - 12:00 noon and an evening shift 12:00 noon - 7:00 pm each workday. At times, you would be working alongside local volunteers.

For more information, or to apply, please email Adam Mayer at [adamsmayer@gmail.com](mailto:adamsmayer@gmail.com).

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