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The Lakeville Journal

lakevillejournal.com

16 PAGES IN 2 SECTIONS VOLUME 127 NUMBER 40

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THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024 \$3.00

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



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Jessica DeCarlo at the grand opening of her shop, Rosemary Rose Finery where she will be selling her internationally known jewelry designs which she will customize for weddings and other occasions. Here she stands at a table where visitors could make their own perfume with essential oils.

Herbal jeweler brings something new to Main St.

By Robin Roraback

SALISBURY — The grand opening of Rosemary Rose Finery took place May 4 at 19 Main St. in Salisbury.

Rosemary Rose Finery's owner, Jessica DeCarlo, was based in Brooklyn for sixteen years and has recently become a resident of Amenia.

Jessica said, "I am thrilled to be part of this beautiful community. I am happy and excited to be here, and I feel lucky to be part of this beautiful town. It is important for me to have community and to experience joy." She hopes to impart that to her customers.

DeCarlo has been making jewelry since she was a teenager. She worked in the corporate world as an adult but made the choice to go back to making jewelry and began selling her jewelry at Brooklyn Flea. Her designs are now sold globally.

She uses the "last wax process" in many of her designs. These pieces are carved in wax and then cast in metal. Her designs are influenced by nature, her world travels, and her life in the city.

At her shop in Salisbury, DeCar-

lo is excited to offer "Jewelry, both modern and vintage, gifts," and "artful objects for the home and heart." She plans to feature "small batch apothecary items, like locally made perfume and plant-based products."

She selects and makes the items in her shop with the idea of giving her customers, "little moments that make you feel happy."

She will have monthly lectures on plant education "highlighting season medicinal plants by community herbalists." DeCarlo herself

See FINERY, Page A10

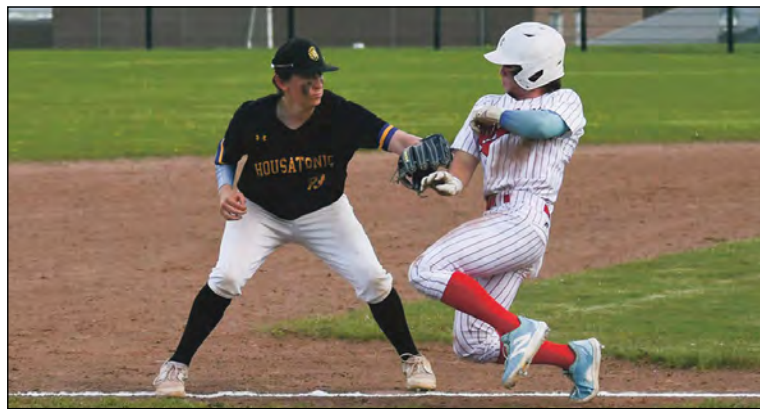


PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Rundown

Anthony Foler caught Chase Ciccarelli in a pickle when HVRHS baseball met Wamogo Wednesday, May 1. Full story on Page A9.

Medical Desert Rx:

Wellness center a salve for rural healthcare crisis

By Debra A. Aleksinas

NORTH CANAAN — When the state-of-the-art, federally qualified health center (FQHC) welcomes patients in early June, it will usher in a new era for healthcare in the state's rural Northwest Corner, one that health advocates are hailing as critically needed and long overdue.

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) put it this way: "The new regional healthcare center for the Northwest Corner will act as a catalyst on our rural healthcare crisis, becoming one of the most necessary and exciting projects in the history of our

region."

The multi-level North Canaan facility on East Main Street marks the realization of a decades-long effort by Community Health & Wellness Center (CHWC), aided by a coalition of community partners, to address what CEO Joanne Borduas

"The new regional healthcare center for the Northwest Corner will act as a catalyst on our rural healthcare crisis, becoming part of one of the most necessary and exciting projects in the history of our region."

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64)

described as a "healthcare desert" in the Northwest Corner.

Residents living in healthcare deserts, also referred to as medical deserts, may face inadequate access to primary, emergency, mental

See HEALTHCARE, Page A10

Students SOAR in Salisbury

By Natalia Zukerman

SALISBURY — For more than two decades SOAR (Seek Originate Aim Reach) has been helping Salisbury Central School students reach new heights.

A nonprofit founded in 2000 by Zenas Block, SOAR's enrichment program provides supplemental education to fill the gaps left in traditional classroom curriculums.

In the 2023-24 school year, more than 100 students took SOAR classes each trimester.

The program's offerings range from jewelry and bookmaking to abstract painting and gardening. More than a dozen classes are available each trimester to cater to a diverse selection of talents and interests.

"We want to provide options that resonate with every child," said Executive Director Lauren Brown.

Brown's vision for the program reflects her professional expertise and her deep understanding of the needs of students and their families.

"SOAR was always doing great



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Papermaking with guest artist and teacher Suzanne Lynn Lacke.

things," Brown shared, "but when COVID hit, it became a lifeline for families desperate for ways to keep their children engaged and connected."

From remote dance classes to innovative online workshops, SOAR adapted to meet the evolving needs of its community.

Central to SOAR's success is its partnership with Salisbury Cen-

tral School, where "the support is amazing," Brown shared. The school allows the program to utilize classrooms and collaborates on curriculum enhancement.

SOAR maintains a commitment to inclusivity and accessibility, making sure that no child is turned away due to financial constraints.

See SOAR, Page A10

Bidding adieu to the blackboard

FALLS VILLAGE — After nearly a century of combined teaching experience at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, three longstanding pillars of education will retire at the end of the 2023-24 school year.

Warren Prindle, Alan Lovejoy and Scott Fellows will be

packing up the classroom for good as they say "so long" to their last groups of students in the Northwest Corner.

Each educator sat down with The Lakeville Journal to reminisce on their careers at HVRHS and offer a glimpse of what is to come in retirement.

For more, see Page A8.



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Our Towns

In The Journal this week

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Online This Week

Planning for Memorial Day

At its May meeting, the North Canaan Board of Selectmen announced restoration of the Doughboy statue will be done by Memorial Day. More at www.lakevillejournal.com

Town Hall to remain open on Election Day

North Canaan has updated its policy for municipal hours of operation at Town Hall on voting days. More at 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.

False incident report

On Tuesday, April 30, at approximately 4 p.m., Troopers from Troop B responded to an address on Main Street in Falls Village to serve an active arrest warrant for Nikki Cesta, 33, of Falls Village. Cesta was transported to Troop B where she was processed for the charge of false reporting of an incident, 2nd degree, and disorderly conduct. She was released on a \$2,500 non-surety bond.

Rail crossing arm struck

On Thursday, May 2, at approximately 9 a.m., a commercial truck struck the railroad crossing arm as it was lowering at the intersection of Route 44 and Route 7 in North Canaan. The crossing arm was bent, causing minor

damage. The truck continued eastbound. Anyone who believes they have information about this event is encouraged to call Trooper Ribadeneira at 860-626-1820.

Asleep at the wheel

On Saturday, May 4, at approximately 11 a.m., Hector Ocasio, 52, of Hartford, was traveling north on Twin Lakes Road in Salisbury in a 2023 Ford Econoline E350 when he fell asleep at the wheel. The truck left the road and collided with a tree. Occasio sustained minor injuries and was transported to Sharon Hospital. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

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.

Recognizing National Day of Prayer

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — About 40 people turned out for a National Day of Prayer event at Salisbury Town Hall Thursday evening, May 2.

Organizer Barbara Schoenly thanked the attendees and readers and introduced Zeira Collins, a fifth-grade student at Salisbury Central School and Amber Ramcharran, a senior at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, who led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Speakers included First Selectman Curtis Rand, Sara

Woloszyn, Selectman Chris Williams (filling in for State Senator Stephen Harding, who was in Hartford with the state legislature in session), resident State Trooper William Veras, David Bayersdorfer, Father Bruce Czapla, Alan and Marylene Friedman, Lou Bucceri, Deirdre Broderick and Carolyn Picirelli.

Michael Brown (and his electric piano) played the National Anthem, "God Bless America" and "America the Beautiful."

Other communities in the region held similar events in their respective towns.

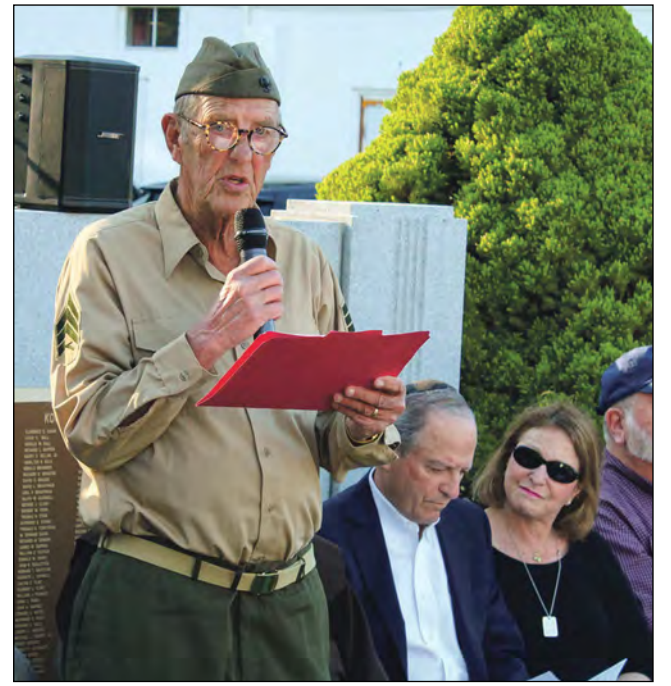


PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Dave Bayersdorfer recited a prayer in Salisbury Thursday, May 2. National Day of Prayer is observed across the country each year on the first Thursday of May.

Support Hotchkiss Library at Spring Gala May 18

SHARON — The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon's Annual Spring Gala and Auction will be held Saturday, May 18, from 5 to 7 p.m.

This annual fundraiser celebrates the role of the library in the community. This year's event is sponsored by Tri-Corner FEED (Food, Equity, Education and Distribution) and will be hosted by James and Linda Quella at their gorgeous hilltop home on Sharon Mountain Road.

Bid on both silent and live auction items including a limited-edition Jasper Johns lithograph, a romantic getaway at Glenmore Mansion, a custom portrait of your home by painter Colleen Maguire, fine dining gift certificates, beautiful housewares, artwork, an historical nineteenth-century map

of Sharon, and a children's birthday party at the Hotchkiss Library.

All proceeds will support the operating expenses of the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, including enticing books and materials for all ages, as well as entertaining and educational programming for the entire family. Please join us in celebrating and supporting the library and our community.

Tickets cost \$175 per person. To purchase tickets please visit bit.ly/annual-library-gala-auction. For more information, please call the library at 860-364-5041.

Kent Firemen's Ball June 8

KENT — The Kent Volunteer Firemen's Ball will be held at the Fire House at 28 Maple Street, Saturday, June 8. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres at 6 p.m., dinner starting at 7 p.m.

The firefighters and

emergency medical service responders are ready "At A Moment's Notice," the theme of this year's Ball. Admission is \$50 in advance; \$60 at the door. To reserve online go to www.kentfire.org/ball for individuals or tables of 12.

FFA Open House starts May 15

FALLS VILLAGE — The Housatonic FFA chapter is hosting an open house Wednesday and Thursday, May 15 and 16 during the school day, and from 6 p.m.

to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15. Join the agriculture education students on the HVRHS lawn to witness their final project presentations for the school year.

LEGAL NOTICES

BAUER FUND AND FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Through grants to colleges, The Bauer Foundation provides indirect scholarship assistance for undergraduate college education to students residing in The Connecticut Regional School District One based on merit and need.

The Bauer Fund operates in the same manner. However, grants from the Fund are limited to students attending either Cornell or Wellesley. Students attending Cornell or Wellesley should apply to the Fund. All others should apply to the Foundation.

New and returning application forms for the 2024-2025 school year are available at: www.bauerfundfoundation.org.

Completed and fully documented applications must be returned to The Bauer Foundation at PO Box 1784 Lakeville CT 06039-postmarked no later than June 20 2024. Scholarship awards will be announced by August 20 2024.

05-09-24
05-16-24
05-23-24
05-30-24

business proper to come before such meeting.

Dated at North Canaan, Connecticut this 9th day of May, 2024.

Anthony J. Nania
Warden
05-09-24

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2024-0244 by the Salisbury Housing Trust for new multi-family housing construction in the Multifamily Housing Overlay District at 26 & 28 Undermountain Road, Salisbury, Map 56, Lots 05 and 06 per Section 405.3 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at www.salisburyct.us. Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to landuse@salisburyct.us. Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission
Martin Whalen, Secretary
05-09-24
05-16-24

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 33-887 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, that DAVISIGA, INC., having its principal office in the Town of Kent, has been dissolved

by resolution of its members, and by action of the office of the Secretary of State.

All creditors, if any, are warned to present the nature and amount of their claims to Mitchell J. Melnick, Esquire, Cramer & Anderson LLP, 51 Main Street, New Milford, Connecticut 06776. Any creditor that has such a claim against the Company will be barred from making that claim as provided by Section 33-887 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is brought within three (3) years of the date this notice is published.

05-09-24

Town of Salisbury Water Pollution Control Authority Notice of Public Hearing immediately followed by a Special Meeting Thursday, May 16, 2024 5:00 pm

A public hearing called by the Water Pollution Control Authority will be on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 5:00pm with the following agenda:

1. To receive public comment on 20% rate increase to go into effect July 1, 2024.

There will be a Special Meeting immediately following the public hearing.

This hybrid public hearing and meeting will be held in-person and via Zoom, where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The agenda and meeting instructions to join via Zoom will be listed at www.salisburyct.us/agendas. Written comments may be submitted to the WPCA, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT 06068 or via email to townhall@salisburyct.us.

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05-09-24

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Our Towns

Sobering drill teaches safe driving awareness

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department staged a mock disaster drill at Housatonic Valley Regional High School Thursday morning, May 2.

The scenario was a two-car accident involving an adult woman driving alone and a second car with three high school students leaving an end-of-the-school-year party.

The party was hosted by adults, who took car keys from guests as alcohol was served.

The student who was driving had a spare set of keys, however. She had consumed two beers and decided to leave with two friends.

The drill proceeded step by step, just as if it was real.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

First responders cut the roof off a car to show how complex an auto accident scene can be. The drill was held at Housatonic Valley Regional High School on May 2.

Andrea Downs from the Falls Village ambulance service provided narration and

context. Starting with a 911 call, with Judy Jacobs describing

the scene to a dispatcher, the arrival of the first responders from Falls Village, the

subsequent arrival of the Salisbury and North Canaan ambulances and the State Police, the drill ended with the student driver (played by Amber Ramcharran) being led off in handcuffs and a deceased victim (played by Aron Ladanyi) being removed from the vehicle after firefighters cut the roof off and placed in a hearse from the Newkirk-Palmer funeral home in North Canaan.

The third student victim was played by exchange student Tara Djeladin, and the solo driver by athletic director Anne MacNeil.

Downs also went through a phone call to Sharon Hospital to determine where the living victims should be sent, as they required a higher level of care.

She emphasized how remote the Northwest Corner is, noting that transport by ambulance to Waterbury Hospital would take a little under an hour and to Hartford, a little over an hour.

And that bumpy ride would be in an ambulance with paramedics working to stabilize the patient and dealing with any issues that might arise.

In the scenario, LifeStar helicopter support was not available.

The crash was staged on the football field, and students watched from the bleachers. Afterwards, HVRHS assistant principal Steve Schibi told the students to be careful as the end of the school year approaches. "Don't be a statistic."

Kent OKs affordable housing land transfer

By Kathryn Boughton
Kent Good Times Dispatch

KENT — The townspeople voted 120-21 at a special town meeting Friday, April 26, to enter a conditional agreement with Kent Affordable Housing for the transfer of 1.16 acres of land adjacent to the South Commons affordable housing project for the construction of about 10 additional dwelling units.

The parcel of land is surrounded by town-owned properties dedicated to municipal uses such as the transfer station, Park and Recreation and the Department of Public Works. Much of the discussion at the meeting was dedicated to whether it is best to use the land for affordable housing—seen as a pressing need—or for possible future expansion of the other municipal uses.

It was noted that Kent, which has become a popular destination place for both daytrippers and second-home owners, will inevitably grow in coming decades. "It is not a question of if the Department of Public Works will need to expand, but when," said resident Lynn Harrington.

Others echoed her concerns about the need to expand the transfer station, as well, which is currently grandfathered and does not meet existing codes.

First Selectman Marty Lindenmayer said there had been extensive negotiations with Park and Recreation and the Department of Public Works about the potential transfer of the land to Kent Affordable Housing and that the original request for 1.6 acres had been pared down

to 1.16 acres.

"The parcel was trimmed," he said. "Park and Rec and the DPW found it acceptable—not optimal, but acceptable. We came to the conclusion to allow Kent Affordable Housing to consider it under certain conditions. There are rigorous constraints and it can't be transferred until it passes all of them."

If Planning and Zoning and the Inland Wetlands Commission, for instance, cannot approve applications for development of the land, it will revert to town ownership. KAH must also go through application processes for state and federal funding.

In response to repeated comments that the town should be cautious about giving away property it might need for municipal needs, Lindenmayer said, "This has been ongoing for quite a while and other boards have looked at this. Do we want DPW and the transfer station to expand in the middle of town? There are no plans for those areas now. That parcel is available to expand South Commons. It's contiguous to South Commons ...and this is the best way, we think, to help our community."

It was noted that there are wetlands on the property that the town would have to contend with before it could extend any municipal uses.

Justin Potter, president of Kent Affordable Housing, said use of the parcel for affordable housing is referenced in the town's Plan of

Conservation and Development while there is no mention of using it to expand the transfer station or the DPW.

He said the availability of sewer and water is crucial to the creation of high-density affordable housing. "Only a tiny portion of [available] land in town has public water and sewer. We went to Cardinal Engineering and it found the South Commons infrastructure could support additional units. The Department of Housing is only interested in projects of 10 units or more and here we have the existing infrastructure."

"The need for affordable housing is now."

Austi Brown, Kent Resident

Gary Ford, a member of KAH's Board of Directors, said, "If you are talking about concerns and issues, we need to take into account three big problems. Young people have no place to live, a way disproportionate number of young people are living with their parents. Old people often move away because there is no place for them to go, and we can't get enough workers for our retail and restaurants, because people in those jobs can't afford to live here."

Meghan Haney, who leases land from the Kent Land Trust for her Marble Valley Farm, said she has had multiple applicants for the farm from "great candidates who then withdraw their applications because they can't find housing. It has definitely impacted my farm. I've had to cut back my scale of farming 50 percent in the last five years."

But Lynn Harrington,

former treasurer of Kent Affordable Housing, questioned the wisdom of transferring the land. She recounted the evolution of the town from a busy farming community to the destination town it has become today.

She listed reasons the parcel would not be appropriate for affordable housing and urged caution in giving away land that could be used for expanded municipal services. She mentioned other ways to provide affordable housing, including inclusionary housing, where the residents could set their own policies, and the imposition of a tax on the sale of expensive properties to create a fund for land acquisition. She said "no frills, deed-restricted" homes could be developed on the land.

Austi Brown recognized the "valid concerns" being expressed but noted that the need for affordable housing is acute. "The 10 units ... is just a small portion of what is needed," she said. "The need for affordable housing is now. There's a lot of discussion about who applies for and get housing. We can't limit it to just Kent, but most people who end up here have a connection to Kent."

Potter addressed the issue of funding, saying it would come from the state and federal governments. Operating expenses come from rents," he said adding that local taxation will benefit because the land would come back on the tax rolls. KAH pays some \$25,000 in taxes each year.

A sea of hands shot up when the question of approving the conditional agreement went to a vote.

Salisbury real estate sales in April 2024

By Christine Bates

SALISBURY — Listed below are real estate sales during the month of April filed with the Town of Salisbury. Only transactions with a monetary value are included while transfers without consideration are excluded.

April 5, 2024

31 Belgo Road — a 1,852 square foot home built in 1820 with 3 bedrooms, and 3 bathrooms sold by Katalin Banyai to Thomas Callahan and Luis Felipe Arroyo for \$750,000.

April 19, 2024

14 Sunrise Ridge Lane — a 2 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home sold by the estate of Geraldine Daniels to Jeanmarie and Felix Bustillo for \$370,000.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

This historic home on Belgo Road was purchased by the seller for \$425,000 in 2002 and was first listed for sale in October 2022 for \$895,000.

April 26, 2024

500-508 Twin Lakes Road — four homes on 2 parcels totaling 8 acres with 310 feet of lakefront sold by 500-508 Twin Lakes Road LLC to Salisbury School Incorporated for \$896,494.

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Joshua Goldstein, PhD
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Our Towns

Closing ceremony for photo exhibit highlights Hallaway

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The exhibit “From the Great Falls to the Hilltops: Early 20th Century Photography from the Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society” wrapped up Friday evening, May 3, with a slide show and notes on the research associated with the exhibit.

Garth Kobal led the presentation.

Kobal, using archived items from the Connecticut Western News and The Lakeville Journal, provided details on some of the people featured in the photographs.

The photographs are glass slide and silver nitrate film negatives from the estate of Mabel (Dean) Hallaway (1893-1991) that were donated to the historical society.

Kobal recalled being advised of their existence by the society’s Judy Jacobs, who said with considerable understatement, “I think you’ll find these interesting.”



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mabel Dean Hallaway was an early photographer in the Northwest Corner.

Mabel was a lifelong photographer, not the easiest or most accessible hobby in the early 20th century when equipment and supplies were expensive.

At around the same time,

noted photographer Clarence H. White was running a school of photography in East Canaan and then North Canaan. White also owned the house across the street from the South Canaan

Meeting House, then an active Congregational church. Mabel Dean was the organist.

So it seems likely the two knew each other.

Kobal turned up interesting tidbits from the newspaper archives. “Newspapers were the social media of the time,” he said, with items such as noting that Grace Silvernale (featured in one of the photos) and a gentleman friend had attended a showing of “The Foundling” starring Mary Pickford.

Kobal said he wasn’t sure, but he suspected there might have been two Grace Silvernales in the North Canaan/Falls Village area at the time.

After the presentation members of the historical society, plus Dan Karp, who teaches photography at Bard College at Simon’s Rock, answered questions.

Karp talked about how many of the photos were created using a process called contact printing, which did not allow for enlargement.

“The enlarged prints here would have been stunning” to their subjects at the time.

It emerged from the discussion that the historical society has another batch of photos, glass slides from the same era.

About 500, in fact.

“So I guess we have some work to do,” said Kobal.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Noah Sher and other young Padawans traversed the laser maze while training as Jedis on May the Fourth.

Jedi training at Hunt

By Sulpa Ickan

FALLS VILLAGE — Upon entering the David M. Hunt Library Saturday, May 4 participants in the Star Wars “May the Fourth Be With You” activity encountered a large sign with instructions on how to create a Star Wars name.

It’s a straightforward procedure. For the Star Wars first name, combine the first three letters of one’s real last name and the first two letters of the first name.

The Star Wars last name is formed using the first three letters of the real first name and the last two of the last name. This reporter’s nom de Star Wars is Sulpa Ickan. The reporter asked if he could substitute something like “Mylar Ovaltine,” but no, rules are rules.

Brittany Spear-Baron, Assistant Director and Youth Programming Coordinator at the library, took charge, first reading a Star Wars story

to the group of a dozen or so children, ranging in age from very small to middle school.

Then everybody was issued a light saber, in the form of a foam pool noodle.

The initial activity was seeing how long a Jedi knight in training could keep a air-filled balloon aloft using the light saber. This required great skill and concentration, as it was breezy and the balloons popped at the slightest provocation.

Eli Sher showed great promise at keeping his balloon in the air, tapping it with the saber a whopping 46 times before it touched the ground.

“I’m the master of the Force!” he declared.

“Ahh, that’s just light saber training,” said another Padawan.

After the warmup exercise, the trainees maneuvered through a laser field and a bed of molten lava. Then the tired Jedi knights went inside for refreshments.



PHOTO BY BRIDGET STARR TAYLOR

Norfolk book pop-up

A wide selection of popular books and treasured volumes are for sale at Dog’s Ear, a pop-up in the Arcanum Building in Norfolk. Proceeds benefit the Norfolk Library Associates. Michael Selleck, right, helps Anne Collins, center, and Caroline Collins. It runs through May, open Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Swap Shop improves organization

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — New banner signs are up at the Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station’s popular Swap Shop. The signs indicate what may and may not be put in the Swap Shop, and where the items should go. Items that do not meet Swap Shop criteria can usually be accommodated elsewhere at the facility.

Transfer station manager Brian Bartram said the Swap Shop was closed for cleaning and to install the banner. The shop reopened Saturday, April 27, and there were two tables staffed with volunteers, one at the Swap Shop to explain the changes, and one by the compost



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

New signage improves organization at the Swap Shop.

collection bins, to explain how single stream recycling and the food scrap collection program work. About 15 new households signed up for the latter.

Bartram said, “Some of the Swap Shop ‘regulars’ have been making an effort to tidy up the Swap Shop, and to better organize the books. That has been very helpful”

New director named for Little Rascals

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — After a rigorous search process, Sharon Parks and Recreation announced on Friday, May 3, that Guy Gnerre has accepted a position as the new director of the summer Little Rascals Program, scheduled to begin in June. Matt Andrus-Mette, Director of Parks and Recreation made the announcement.

Little Rascals has served the community for many years, offering summer employment for local youth and low-cost daytime recreational activities for children (ages 5-12) of families who live or work in Sharon. Beginning the day after school closes for the summer, the affordable summer-long program is located at the Sharon Town Beach on Mudge Pond. It op-

erates daily, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Full or half-day participation is offered.

In addition to beach and swimming activities, the Little Rascals program offers a range of other fun pursuits, including arts and crafts,

sports, and theme weeks.

Information regarding the program and registration procedures can be found on the Sharon Parks and Recreation website, sharonct.org. For more information please call 860-364-1400 or email sharon.rec.ctr@snet.net.

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

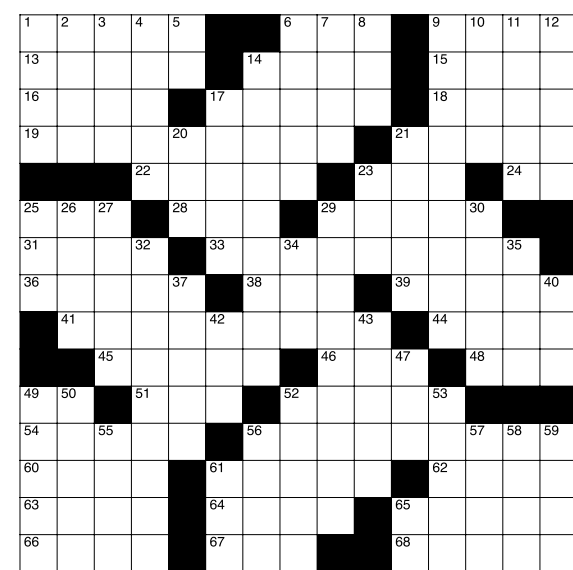
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- It wakes you up
- A place to sleep
- Czech village
- Appetizer
- African country
- Dark brown or black
- Parent-teacher groups
- Saturates
- ESPN personality Kimes
- Songs to a lover
- Cavalry-sword
- Begat
- Patriotic women
- Famed Princess
- One who does not conform
- Neither
- Nigerian monetary unit
- Body parts
- Hit Dave Matthews Band song
- Depicts with pencil
- Make into leather without tannin
- Plants grow from them
- Alias
- Fingers do it
- More dried-up
- Clod
- Senior officer
- A way to listen to music
- The bill in a restaurant
- Historic center of Artois region
- Cyprinid fishes
- Poisonous perennial plant
- Scottish Loch
- Heads
- Extra seed-covering
- Wings
- Britpop band
- Forearm bones
- Small immature herring
- Female sibling
- Hymn

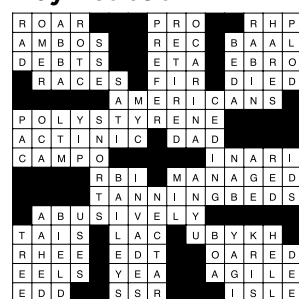
CLUES DOWN

- Vipers
- Not on time
- Resembling a wing or wings
- Tears down
- Professional designation
- Noise a sheep made
- Type of lodge

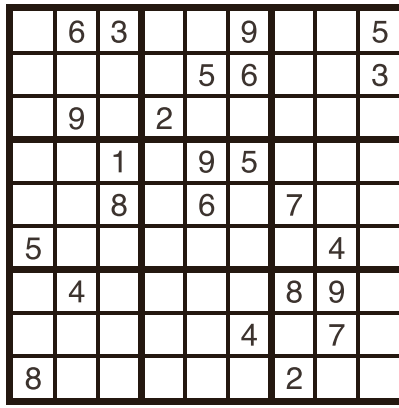


- Speak poorly of
- Ties the knot again
- Apron
- Studied intensively
- City in Finland
- One who monitors
- 18-year astronomical period
- Trent Reznor’s band
- Takes to the sea
- Split pulses
- Valentine’s Day color
- Wyatt —
- Type of rail
- One from the Big Apple
- Asteroids
- Made more sugary
- Change in skin pigment
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- Koran chapters
- A place to relax
- Young woman ready for society life
- Female horses
- Half of Milli Vanilli
- Icelandic poems
- Indiana town
- Golden peas
- Closes tightly
- It’s mined in mountains
- Cliff (Hawaii)
- Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- Monetary unit
- Primordial matter
- TV station
- Rise

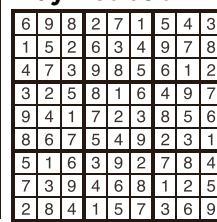
May 2 Solution



Sudoku



May 2 Solution



Level: Intermediate



Senior Living • Rehabilitation • Skilled Nursing

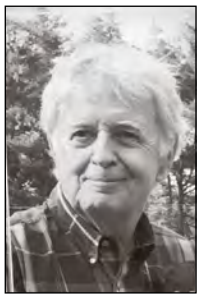
A nonprofit organization
17 Cobble Road, Salisbury, CT 06068
(860) 435-9851 • www.noblehorizons.org



OBITUARIES

Harold Posselt

KENT — Hal Posselt, 76, passed away in Connecticut on Oct. 1, 2023. Hal was born in Sharon on April 5, 1947, to Oscar and Lisbeth (Griesser) Posselt, who both left Germany in 1930. He leaves his wife, Edith (Edie) Parker Posselt, and many nephews, nieces, cousins and good friends.



opinionated but argued for a kinder, more inclusive viewpoint in general. Many of his former students kept in touch with him for more than forty years. After his official retirement, Hal tutored young refugee students in English as a Second Language.

Hal is remembered as having made a difference at Concord High School, Kennett Jr./Sr. High, Bow High School and Broken Ground School in New Hampshire and MacKay School in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. During his years as an educator, Hal lived in Fitchburg, and Snowville, Concord, Canterbury and Portsmouth, New Hampshire before moving to Storrs in 2020.

Hal grew up in Kent and attended Kent Center School, South Kent School and graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1965. He received a B.A. from the University of Connecticut in 1969. As a senior, Hal participated in UConn's first Urban Teaching Program in Hartford before student teaching and receiving Masters degrees in Counseling and Education.

Hal met his beloved wife, Edie, in 1977 when they both worked as guidance counselors in North Conway, New Hampshire. They married in 1980 and undertook a partnership of adventure and collaboration for forty-three years, welcoming family, friends and former students into their lives.

As a teacher and guidance counselor in schools in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, Hal was known as a caring and involved educator. Students sought his advice and guidance in planning for college and work and getting through the minefield of teenage life. He was an advocate for students and is remembered as kind and understanding. At the same time, he was direct and uncompromising regarding the need for commitment, hard work and planning. Hal wasn't judgmental or

An enthusiastic outdoorsman, Hal loved being active and encouraged others to discover the joy of hiking, skiing, rock-climbing and biking. He loved traveling and enjoyed visiting relatives in Germany and the western U.S., and friends in Australia, Venezuela, Switzerland and elsewhere. Hal was a spirited UConn basketball fan and found pleasure in the music and other offerings of the college campus. He loved cats, Siamese in particular.

In addition to his wife, Edie, Hal is survived by his sister Catherine Posselt Bachrach (Bill) of Kent, their daughters Jaime Bachrach (Tim Clew) and Andrea Bachrach Mata (Keith Morse) as well as by nephews Theo Posselt (Doug Ng), Daniel Posselt and Abram Barker. His sister, Elisabeth Posselt Barker, and brother, Ted Posselt, predeceased him.

Dorothy Winder Okie Beach

CORNWALL — Dorothy Winder Okie Beach, born in 1927, died peacefully on Jan. 26, 2024, after a week-long hospital stay that was rich with family, phone calls, laughter, tears and song. She managed to live all of her 96 years at home surrounded by the music, flowers, dogs and birds that nourished her soul.

Born in Berwyn, Pennsylvania, Dorothy was the cherished later third child (and a girl at that, with two older brothers) to her parents, William R. and Charlotte (Laird) Okie. She described a vibrant early life with relatives flowing easily in and out of her country homes, the second of which was inspired by 'Uncle Brog', whose 'Okie Influence' informed not only architecture at the time, but also the renovation of her own Irvington home; its wide floorboards and hand-beaded trim were a daily reminder of where she came from and what she loved.

Dorothy attended Baldwin School, Mt. Holyoke (Class of 1950) and American University, ultimately working as an inner-city librarian, but all the while studying as a pianist in what she had learned on the fly while accompanying her big brothers and their college friends in song when they made their brief, thrilling appearances at home.

At 21, Dorothy married Brewster Yale Beach,

Episcopal priest and later a Jungian analyst. They moved from Youngstown, Ohio, to Basking Ridge, New Jersey, before settling in Wilmington, Delaware with their three children. For several years, she served on the Board of Directors of the Episcopal Seminary of the Caribbean in Puerto Rico. A family cottage in West Cornwall, part of the "Yelping Hill" community, drew them northward in the summer.

Divorced in her 40s, Dorothy forged a new home and a new life for herself in Hastings-on-Hudson and then Irvington, New York, becoming the long-time organist and choir director at Tarrytown's Christ Church. She ran Dial-A-Writer for many years, a writers' referral service that had her striding across Times Square to the 19th floor of '1501'. Matching writers to those with stories to tell was also a wonderful match for this curious and attentive listener who loved hearing the intimate and often strange tales from her callers (one of whom, famously, was Oprah Winfrey!).

In what was a major accomplishment, she earned a place at Manhattan School of Music in their master's program in piano accompanying. Playing for top-notch

musicians, she featured many of them in the acclaimed Music for a Sunday Afternoon series which she founded in 1974.

Dorothy possessed a deep contentment in connection, keeping close tabs on her many friends and her children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews with frequent phone calls, loving notes and whimsical birthday poems. She delighted simply in being alive, whether she was making music or playing cards, tending roses in her Irvington garden or surrounded by nature at Yelping Hill, lingering over breakfast while admiring the songbirds on the outside feeder or walking in the woods with

a big stick and her 'current' beloved dog. When she was no longer able to garden, a kind landscaper entered her life, planting flowers around her yard that were an endless source of pleasure.

Imbued with a strong sense of home and family, Dorothy joyfully made the world her home and transformed every stranger she met into part of her family.

She is survived by her three children, Nancy Beach, Robert Beach (Dongxian Yue) and Louise Beach (Brian Skarstad), her four grandchildren, Will, Sam, Anna and Maya, and her two great-grandchildren, Vigo and Miles.

A private memorial service will be held for Dorothy in the spring at the church she grew to love, St. Barnabas, Irvington.



Send obituaries to johnc@lakevillejournal.com



Worship Services

Week of May 12, 2023

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

Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon
9 South Main, Sharon CT
Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M.
Transitioning through prayer
All welcome to join us
860-364-5260
www.christchurchsharon.org

St. John's Episcopal Church
12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT
Rev. Paul Christopherson
SUNDAY SERVICE
10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II)
In-Person and on You-Tube
www.stjohnssalisbury.org
860-435-9290

North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC
Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people
172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT
Worship services Sundays at 10 am
www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational
860-824-7232
FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm
www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org

Congregation Beth David
A reform Jewish Synagogue
5344 East Main St., Amenia
SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM
Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org)
ALL ARE WELCOME
Rabbi Jon Haddon
845-373-8264
info@congbethdavid.org

The Lakeville United Methodist Church
319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039
9:15 a.m. Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-435-9496
Lakevillemethodist@snet.net

The Sharon United Methodist Church
112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green
Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care
No Sunday School in Summer
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-364-5534
sharonumc5634@att.net

Falls Village Congregational Church
16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
Coffee Hour
A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!!
860-824-0194

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

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

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

The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.
30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT
Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!
Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming
www.salisburyucc.org
Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy!
(860) 435-2442

Trinity Episcopal Church
484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville
Offering companionship along the Way
Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9 a.m.
Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org
Misa en español al mediodía (12 pm) el último sábado de mes
The Revs. Heidi Truax & Felix Rivera
trinity@trinitylimerock.org
(860) 435-2627

Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT
Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons
The next meeting will be Sunday, May 12 at 10:30 a.m.
Planning for the future of our Fellowship
For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com
All are Welcome

Chabad of Northwest CT
On the Green
69 West St. Litchfield, CT 06759
chabadNW.org
860.567.3377 | office@chabadNW.org
Rabbi Joseph & Mina Eisenbach
A home away from home, a gathering place where unity is paramount.
We are here for you, welcome to the family!
WINTER SCHEDULE
Sunday 10:30 AM - Hebrew School
Wednesday 8:00 PM - Parsha In My Life
How The Weekly Portion Relates to ME!
Thursday 11:30 AM - Women's Tea & Torah
Saturday 9:30 AM - Shabbat Services
Followed by a Congregational Kiddush
Children's Camp | Jewish Newspaper
Smiles on Seniors | Cteen | YJP

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH
Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk
St. Joseph, 76 Main Street, Canaan
St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville
MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church
Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary
Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church
DAILY MASS SCHEDULE
Wednesday 6pm
St. Joseph Chapel or Church
Thursday 8am
Immaculate Conception Church
Friday 8am
Church of St. Mary
ALL ARE WELCOME!
For information, please call 860-824-7078

UCC in CORNWALL
Cornwall Village Meeting House
Worship Sunday, 10 am
Outstanding Church School (10 am)
Mission Opportunities
Warm Fellowship following Worship
860-672-6840
www.uccincornwall.org
Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister
Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community

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

Sharon Congregational
25 Main Street, Sharon, CT
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services
Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org

All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church
313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT
Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M.
Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M.
Special Services Online
Rev. John Kreta
860-824-1540 | allsaintsofamerica.us



PHOTO PROVIDED

A photo circa 1880 showing the Cornwall Historical Society Building.

NorthEast-Millerton Library offers free New York Times access

By Carol Kneeland

MILLERTON — Fans of news of all sorts now can thank the NorthEast-Millerton Library for free full access to The New York Times through the library website.

Library Director Rhianon Leo-Jameson said, "for years, the only newspapers anyone ever asked for were The Millerton News and The New York Times."

The News — including archived editions dating back to 1930 — has been available at the library for sometime both in print or on microfilm. With a newly launched website, articles and photos from the paper edition and more are now available for free at www.millertonnews.com with print and digital replica editions accessible through subscriptions.

However, full access to the Times presented more of a problem for the library and its patrons.

Leo-Jameson said, "Every few years we would look into subscribing, but the cost was prohibitive, especially since they could not guarantee same day delivery through the mail service."

Not to be denied, however, because "we always strive to provide the things our community is asking for" early in the budget year, Leo-Jameson began checking into the possibilities again. She learned that The Times was providing an online library subscription service

"with the cost not out of reach for a community our size" and immediately began the sign-up process.

As a result, The New York Times online is now up and running through the library site with free full access to everything in the paper from news to podcasts, games, athletics, and cooking literally at patron's fingertips.

Leo-Jameson says readers can come to the library and "sit and read to their heart's content" or access the paper from anywhere, including their homes.

Readers that access the paper through the library's account, they receive unlimited access with the ability to re-open the site every 24 hours.

To register, follow the directions on the library's website at nemillertonlibrary.org/nytimes or visit the main building at 75 Main St. For info call 518-789-3340.

NCCF awards \$8,000 to historical society

CORNWALL — The Cornwall Historical Society announced it has received a grant of \$8,000 through the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation Ruth and Robert Cron Endowment Fund, and the Making Cents Fund.

The grant will support the upkeep of the Society's ca. 1865 Italianate-style carriage house, which serves both as its headquarters and as a local historical museum. Funding will be used to repair and

paint part of the building's street-facing façade, which has suffered from weathering and wear.

The Cornwall Historical Society relies on grants and donations to produce exhibitions, provide educational programs, and provide for the upkeep and care of its building. The Society is located at 7 Pine Street in Cornwall. For more information, visit www.CornwallHistoricalSociety.org or call (860) 672-0505.

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860-435-2700



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PHOTO BY DANIELLE MELINO

La Sagrada Família basilica in Barcelona, Spain.

Student Travelogue:

HVRHS Travel Club explores Iberia

By Elinor Wolgemuth



PHOTO BY ELINOR WOLGEMUTH
Monkey in Gibraltar.

Vibrantly colored buildings lined the crowded streets, inviting tourists to stop and stare at their joyous shades of yellows, pinks and blues. A ceaseless swarm of visitors slowly meandered among souvenir shops and gelato stores. Beneath our feet, carefully laid tiled roads twisted in patterns of black and white. In the distance, beautiful homes were perched among the mountains, creating the illusion that we had been magically transported to a fairytale village.

While Sintra, Portugal, felt like the perfect place to explore, other locations the Housatonic Valley Regional High School International Travel Club visited during our 12 days abroad were each unique in their own way. After spending four days touring sunny Lisbon, peaceful Évora and coastal Algarve, we continued to Spain and experienced the lovely climates of Seville, Costa del Sol, Granada, Valencia and Barcelona.

Thanks to the fundraising from Northwest Corner: Students Without Borders and the annual Wine Dinner and Auction last fall hosted by the White Hart Inn, 21 students, two teachers and our principal were able to travel to Portugal and Spain over spring break. Overcoming a few hiccups in the schedule, our tour guide, Samuel, guided us through any challenge

and determined the best ways to get the most of our time abroad.

Every student gained something from the experience. Some of us had a wonderful time watching a demonstration of how tiles are made that are similar in style to those in the Alhambra, while others relished seeing the famous works of Antoni Gaudí and exploring old cathedrals with beautiful stained-glass windows. Many of us loved trying paella, a Spanish dish consisting of rice, mussels and shrimp, while some marveled at the Moroccan coastline and the Barbary macaque monkeys in Gibraltar.

By the end of our whirlwind travels, we were thoroughly exhausted. After trying so many new foods, exploring beautiful palaces and cathedrals and speaking some Spanish, everyone was immensely grateful for our opportunity to experience other cultures.

Elinor Wolgemuth is a junior at HVRHS and visited Spain and Portugal with the Travel Club over spring break. She plans to travel to Thailand with the club in 2025.

Protect Honey Hill and the Housatonic River

The Housatonic Valley Association has carefully considered the resubmitted special permit application for a twenty-unit subdivision off Honey Hill Road and Highland Lane in North Canaan. We again conclude this subdivision is bad not only for North Canaan which has no public recreational access to the Wild and Scenic River that forms its western boundary, but also for its neighbors across the river in Salisbury and those downstream. We remain unconvinced that the best thing to do for the forest ecosystem that the applicant has invested time and resources to steward is to carve it up into house lots. We offered the applicant a significant financial proposal to permanently protect his undeveloped property in North Canaan but were unable to persuade him to make conservation his legacy.

The permit application

now before the Town of North Canaan Planning and Zoning Commission is substantially the same as the one withdrawn back in January that did not comply with statutory referral requirements. The plan now shows a three-hundred-foot wide "Conservation Easement" running across the back of numerous lots along the length of the River. No reputable conservation entity will accept such a conservation easement today. Conservation easements crossing multiple parcels in subdivisions are of limited ecological value and a nightmare to enforce, routinely leading to violations and expensive court actions. Nor does the plan provide a legal way for the easement holder to access the conservation area without passing over other private land not subject to the easement. There is no provision for public access to the

conservation easement area from a public road, without which the only access would be reserved for members of the private homeowners association.

If the applicant proposes a conservation easement over a portion of the subdivision, it should not be over more than one parcel of land. Either it should comprise a single parcel owned by the homeowners' association, or cover a portion of a single parcel under single ownership. In either case, the protected area needs to include frontage on Honey Hill Road for public access and for the easement holder to enter the easement area to monitor compliance with its terms and conditions. The conservation purpose needs to be made explicit, together with specific easement language that will prevent clearing the remaining forest for private views, allow public recreational

access and protect sensitive habitats from erosion, sedimentation or additional impairment through development upslope. Likewise, the culturally sensitive areas identified by the applicant's own archeologist need to be formally investigated and those within the easement area expressly protected under its terms and conditions.

In such a potentially disruptive development proposal, the applicant should be willing to provide a fully drafted easement with a conservation partner ready to accept it, instead of leaving those details for after the approval process. Anything less is just a green-wash. The continued public hearing resumes May 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the North Canaan Town Hall.

Tim Abbott
Conservation Director
Housatonic Valley Association

North Canaan

Protect the rail trail

We cherish our Rail Trail, a pathway of beauty, a ribbon of green and forest glade joining Lakeville and Salisbury. We hike it most every day, along with neighbors, their dogs, and children in strollers, while grandparents on the benches hold hands as they watch for birds.

Favorite stops include the above-grade side trail through the woods, the pond where geese touch down on their migration journeys and ducks raise their little ones, the stunning view across land within the Historic District — a hayfield in summers — and gently rolling hills beyond; and the playful Wachocastinook Brook, a trout habitat into which melted winter snow rushes. The Rail Trail is an essential component of why our villages are widely considered among the loveliest settings in New England.

Yet there are threats to the Rail Trail. The recent Colliers consultant study of Salisbury Village recommends in conjunction with the development of the Pope Property adding a "vehicular traffic lane," a two-line road over Wachocastinook, accompanied by "oversized re-cast box culverts," features that would "contribute to village vibrancy."

Life itself has enough vibrancy: the Trail is a treasure that allows us to return to nature easily, to partake of the sylvan solitudes, a major source of joy in our semi-rural life.

Even more shocking, a Planning and Zoning Commission member is in favor of paving the entire section of the Rail Trail from Library Street to Salmon Kill Road, to make a two-way road for cars and trucks with an adjoining pedestrian pathway, a

proposal that other members deemed worthy of serious consideration. The Colliers study further suggests that in the section of the Trail near Dresser Woods, "there may be a need to reduce the buffer space between roadway and pathway." Must the Rail Trail shrink to "accommodate" cars and trucks — and their accompanying noise, pollution, and safety issues?

Of course the Trail can stand some sensible improvements, such as filling in a few sections that become muddy after rain — sturdy logs would make such passages easier. Litter boxes and a pet-waste station or two would be useful. Yes to these modest enhancements, but converting the Rail Trail into a two-lane paved road?

No, thank you!
Further alarming is that the proposed 64 affordable housing units on the Pope

Property will adversely impact the adjacent Rail Trail. Much of that tract is unbuildable wetlands, and the Historic District's part has been in hay for years, a use commensurate with the District's mandate to preserve our heritage. While affordable housing is a moral imperative that we support, a smaller footprint and number of units would...protect the Rail Trail.

We are among a group of citizens who have formed to fight back against excess urbanization of our village. We encourage you to join us, to take a stand for preserving our green heritage for future generations, and against turning the Rail Trail into an asphalt and concrete traffic road.

Loch K. Johnson
and **Tom Shachtman**
Salisbury

Jahana Hayes helps ease housing shortage

Through passion and hard work, Congresswoman Jahana Hayes has succeeded in increasing funds for affordable housing in numerous towns in Connecticut's 5th district. She keeps searching for better ways to ease our housing shortage, whether through increasing funding for affordable rentals or with home ownership assistance

as illustrated by her recent meeting with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA).

She knows we have to pursue multiple approaches to ensure everyone has a safe place to call home and local businesses, schools and medical facilities can find the staff they need to operate. It's a job that will never be finished.

As a single mother, Jahana Hayes knows what it's like to live on a tight budget. As someone who has worked to increase affordable housing in my own town of Salisbury, I know we cannot make a difference in our region without the support of our local

government representatives. Thank goodness we have Jahana Hayes in our corner helping us.

Mary Close
Oppenheimer
Commissioner,
Salisbury Affordable
Housing Commission

More letters appear on A7.

LETTERS

Call for banning sale of 'nips' in Connecticut

I would like to see the sale of Nips banned in Connecticut. I've read that they are a growing litter problem. The real problem is those who are drinking from them and driving, but the Nips are what we see. Alcoholism is another issue.

My daughter Anne lives on Martha's Vineyard where they have just passed a law forbidding the sale of Nips on the Island. Technically it's Dukes County, Massachusetts, which is made up of seven communities. Litter was becoming a huge problem. Maybe we could ban Nips in Litchfield County as a start. Think about it.

Carolyn McDonough
Canaan



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly, and to foster the free flow of information and opinion.

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Viewpoint

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — May 1924

Mr. Wm. Lampson has started a laundry at his place on the Lime Rock Road.

William Wilson is out again after a 6 weeks' tussle with a severe case of blood poisoning in his feet especially the left one. Mr. Wilson believes that the dye in the hose he was wearing was responsible for the infection.

James B. Landon, the veteran farmer of Tory Hill was in town calling on his various acquaintances on Monday. Mr. Landon, who is now one of the oldest citizens of the town, says he passed a good winter and appears to be in excellent health. He is as keen as a young fellow and keeps up with the doings of the day. His many friends about the village were glad to shake his hand and extend bushels of good wishes to him. Spring this year is generally considered late in arriving. Mr. Landon says farmers can tell this is so because many of them are nearly out of hay — a true indication according to the average tiller of the soil.

Municipal affairs in New Brunswick, N.J., were given over to a new set of rulers, all boys, promptly at 11 o'clock Friday morning, when Mayor Weston Ashman and his Board of City Commissioners took up the reins of government in connection with the observance of Boys' Week. Commission members for the occasion are boyhood friends of 'Mayor' Weston. Also in connection with Boys' Week, a new county judge was seen at the regular session of Juvenile Court, in the person of Barry Rumble, and as a further feature of the observance there were five traffic officers on duty. At the City Commission meeting, conducted entirely by the boys, Mayor Ashman gave a five-minute talk and resolutions looking toward city improvement along various lines were presented. This item is interesting from

the fact that 'Mayor' Weston is the grandson of Daniel M. Ashman of Salisbury.

A valuable German police dog belonging to W.S. Halliwell was the victim of strychnine poisoning last week and this coupled with the loss of E.A. deLima's police dog recently from the same cause is proving alarming to owners of dogs. The State Police are now working on the case.

50 years ago — May 1974

Dena Kenny of Sharon is coxswain of the Marist College (otherwise) all-male freshman heavyweight crew. Rated the finest freshman crew in the Poughkeepsie, N.Y., school's rowing history, Dena's rowers have lost only to Syracuse in a string of contests this spring. Dena, the first female cox at Marist, also gets high ratings. A 1973 graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional High School, she reports modestly that she just walked into the coxswain's job. It helps not to be too big, she says.

Paul Harney, young son of Mr. and Mrs. John Harney of Lakeville, is recuperating at home after suffering a broken leg in a tractor accident last Saturday. He spent several days at Sharon Hospital.

An appeal for "seed money" to restore the town-owned Swift house was made at last Friday's Board of Finance budget hearing. Speaking for the Kent Historical Society, Emily Hopson requested the inclusion of \$5000 in the budget as a start toward the exterior refurbishing of the building which dates back to the early years of Kent's settlement.

Canaan firemen got a taste of the good old days last Wednesday when they were called to extinguish a blaze at the sanitary landfill site. Fire Chief Allyn Gatti theorized that some magnesium may have been mixed with the old tires and other rubbish and that the blaze

erupted in the rain. He said that if it were magnesium that started the blaze he did not know how it found its way into the landfill.

Falls Village Miles Blodgett told his colleagues at Monday night's selectmen's meeting that the town has now received state permits which will allow it to open its new sanitary landfill site on Route 63. The selectman said that the dump will open on Tuesday morning.

25 years ago — May 1999

Robert Blum, perhaps best known in the Northwest Corner as the founder of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, will celebrate his 100th birthday on May 8. He will celebrate this milestone birthday quietly at his home at Lion's Head in Salisbury with his son John "Jack" Blum of Lakeville, his daughter Alice Yoakum, also of Lakeville, and their spouses.

A 19-acre region of the Mohawk Mountain black spruce bog in Cornwall came under the highest level of state protection April 26 when Gov. John G. Rowland announced a total of 871 acres of state-owned land would be designated as natural area preserves. Cornwall's protected region encompasses an acidic bog located within the Northwest Uplands ecoregion that has long been recognized to have one of the few such plant communities of its type in the state.

Always a fun and profitable time for the Sharon Day Care Center, Saturday's Trot for Tots and carnival were no exception. Radio personality Steve Charney got lots of giggles from the younger set when he sang a song about something near and dear to them — potty chairs.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Greenland has lost only 1.6 percent of its ice

If you've been listening to the climate experts for the past 30 years, you certainly would have concluded that Greenland has lost most of its ice by now.

Indeed, NBC and other major media recently reported that "an estimated 11,000 square miles of Greenland's ice sheet and glaciers have melted over the past 30 years — an area roughly nine times the size of Rhode Island."

This certainly sounds

catastrophic until you read the context which was buried in many reports: the 11,000 square miles of lost ice is "equivalent to around 1.6% of Greenland's total ice cover."

That's right. After decades of screaming about rising oceans and melting poles, Greenland, which NBC calls "ground zero of the climate crisis," still has virtually 99 percent of its ice!

I've been trying to get this

fact printed in a letter in The Lakeville Journal for over a month now, but the publisher says they prefer letters of "local interest." That's nonsense, of course. Climate change is of local interest. I think the real problem is that Greenland's actual ice loss is so small that it doesn't fit the media's "existential threat" climate narrative.

Mark Godburn
Norfolk

More letters appear on A6.

The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. each Monday. To submit a letter, email publisher@lakevillejournal.com

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Thank you for Prayer Day

Our hearts are filled with thanks to our wonderful Salisbury/Lakeville community for sharing the goodness of the Lord as we celebrated the National Day of Prayer.

God blessed us with a perfect spring day and you all came out. There was a warmth of fellowship and spirit with Michael Brown at the keyboard and heart felt prayers of participants that encouraged and inspired.

From all different walks of life, we united in prayer for government, fire, police and

emergency workers, military and vets, schools, churches, families, business, arts and media.

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy lives to focus on things of eternal value from the one who can help. As President John F. Kennedy has said, let us go forth to lead the land we love, asking God's help and blessing.

Newt and Barbara
Schoenly
Salisbury

Lower Manhattan: Cell 1530

Representative government and trial by jury are the heart and lungs of liberty. Without them, we have no other fortifications against being ridden like horses, fleeced like sheep, worked like cattle, and fed and clothed like swine and hounds.

—John Adams

"Cell" 1530 is occupied four days a week from nine-thirty to sometimes past five by a large, power-fueled accused defendant seated as required at an assigned table, to his right twelve silent jurors, to the front one seated witness, one seated clerk, one standing attorney, and seated higher than all, the clearly in-charge Judge. Backing the accused is an oft empty row designated for family and friends. A limited number who have acquired coveted access to the live proceedings are in the room's rear public seating. Indictment 71543-2023, convening in a court house at the bottom of Manhattan, daily fills an over-flow Room 1523 for the media and a curious public.

"Cell" 1530 is actually the courtroom for New York vs Trump — Room 1530, Supreme Court at 100 Centre Street, New York City. For Trump this is an incarcerated space — a space where he speaks only when spoken to, where he is required to follow judicial court procedures as defined for any defendant, where he cannot interject, interrupt, mutter, or order a diet Coke — where a judge presides in a lofty position of power — where he, the judge, is looked up to, is the person bringing the room to its feet. There are short pauses/breaks where the accused can address, outside the courtroom amid oodles of aluminum barriers, a gaggle of press, not to refute the facts presented but to loudly proclaim his victimhood, his privilege of being immune from the judicial system in place for commoners in the United States for nearing 250 years, for being exempt, as usual, from responsibility for his behaviors. Here the accused's comments during breaks are void of fanfare — without energetic music from any military band or a flurry of red, white and blue flags.

Although foretold, there is no chock-a-block riot of protesters, banners and manners ablaze as oft commanded by the accused in tweets, at rallies. Rather the exterior of the New York Supreme Court at 100 Centre Street is populated with press and onlookers, milling. Cell 1530 is not positioned amid a boisterous, dramatic display — it is justice as usual. The accused finds himself not in the regal swell of a Henry, Louis, or even his compadre Victor — he is not the sovereign, the commander, the monarch but an American in a court of law not luxury,

OPEN SPACE

BY KATHY-HERALD MARLOWE

accused of crimes against the people of New York and the nation.

The accused in New York vs Donald J. Trump has become situationally "sentenced" to weeks of silence, in a staid space where he has no official, welcomed, or imposing voice. He is required as a defendant to be present and to follow judicial procedures inside and outside (iffy) of the courtroom. Trump's previous appearances at his E. Jean Carroll civil case were completely voluntary. In that case, the accused's scornful, disrespectful behavior toward trial participants and court proceedings resulted in a \$83.3 million jury award to the defamed plaintiff. In Cell 1530 a criminal case is underway for the accused who is ordered to be present daily — given a pass only for May 17 to attend his son's high school graduation. Trump had to ask the judge for permission, his lawyers had to plead for their defendant under bond.

The current criminal trial is for many — certainly not all — a punitive spectacle for Trump, again as in the January 6 Select Committee hearing, witnesses are Trump-based: prime promoters for his 2016 presidency campaign or persons in his employ. The trial is punitive for its scandal rich content (nearly \$300,000 paid in 2016 to hush all details), punitive for Trump's total subservience to the court, punitive for the lack of follower misbehavior. The trial is poised as a strategic 2024 campaign maneuver for

Trump: a near daily reminder of his "victimhood," his being unconstitutionally "gagged from testifying" at his trial (false), perhaps a continuous affirmation of his disregard for democracy, for the rule of law.

For many, the spectacle is of a former President, the presumed GOP 2024 Presidential candidate, on trial for election fraud — a felony—while three other major cases and a slew of others, criminal and civil, swirl in our national ethos. Though campus protests are the newsworthy political protests of the day, they haven't overtaken headlines regarding the former President, a could-be President being tried in a criminal court on multiple felony charges.

On trial, the accused is subject to the stipulations, norms and rights engraved in our judicial system, subject to prescribed behaviors dictated by others in authority. Being treated as an American, any ole American, is a major punishment for the accused in New York vs Donald J. Trump. The nation observes the would-be-for-a-day dictator subject to the rule of law. The outcome of this trial is pending judicial examination and decisions, the exam underway is common, everyday adherence of the court to the accused's rights and the accused's compliance as a citizen to legal requirements and norms. Behold.

An equal dispensation of protection, rights, privileges, and advantages, is what every part is entitled to, and ought to enjoy.

—Benjamin Franklin

Kathy Herald-Marlowe
lives in Sharon.

Status Report

More volunteers are needed for Trade Secrets, Project SAGE's annual rare plants and garden antiques sale. Volunteer opportunities at Trade Secrets include check-in greeters, garden cart captains, hospitality tent assistants, pick-up & drop-off assistants, signage clean-up, site clean-up, supplies transport, and more. Call 860-364-1080 for more information.

KENT — Resident Trooper Vicky Donohoe clocked several motorists traveling upwards of 40 MPH when entering town on Route 7 and Route 341. Donohoe created a Facebook post to remind drivers the speed

limit is now 25 MPH on those roads.

NORFOLK — Danielle Whitaker found a mastiff roaming without a collar on Laurel Lane. Animal Control picked him up, knew who the owners were, and returned him home.

CORNWALL — Last Friday, Gretchen Carlson sighted rose-breasted grosbeaks for the first time in many years. The two males and two females stopped at her feeder on their long journey from South America to Canada. Carlson urged residents to dim porch lights, which can disrupt their migration pattern.

Realtor® at Large

An issue came up recently of who is responsible if a neighbor's tree falls onto your property and damages your house? It seemed logical that the neighbors insurance would take care of it as it was, after all, their tree. To our surprise, under CT law, this event is deemed as an act of God and one's own homeowners insurance policy would be responsible for any costs. The only way that the neighbor might be held liable is that if there was negligence on the part of the neighbor. For more information, please see the CT Gov website at: portal.ct.gov/cid/searchable-archive/natural-catastrophe-information/homeowners-storm-claims-faqs?language=en_US.



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Retirees



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Warren Prindle looked back on a career in “the people business.”

Warren Prindle

Art teacher — 21 years

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Warren Prindle, who has been teaching art at Housatonic Valley Regional High School full-time since 2003, is retiring at the end of the current school year.

He took a few minutes to reflect on his career on Thursday, April 25.

He said the suggestion that he teach at the high school came from then principal Jack Mahoney.

“He said ‘Why aren’t you teaching at the high school? Because you’re clearly not making it as an artist,’” Prindle recalled fondly.

Mahoney helped Prindle obtain teaching certification.

What was on Prindle’s mind this day was his familial legacy.

He showed his computer screen to the reporter, there was a list of names, including Hezekiah Goodwin, who died in 2000 and was one of a long line of Hezekiah Goodwins living in and around Lime Rock going back to the 18th century.

“How many people know this now? Zero?”

His ancestors are the Prindle’s and Browns of Sharon (Prindle’s middle name is Brown).

“I looked up 20-odd Browns in Sharon. But

there are no more Browns around.”

What concerns him is this: “The legacy is evaporating.”

And that brought him to the legacy of teaching.

“The teaching legacy does live on,” he said.

There are the HVRHS graduates who studied art and went on to good careers, such as animator Mitchell Blass.

And then there are the students “who aren’t going to art school.”

“I hope they had a good experience, or at least were not turned off from creativity,”

Asked about his memorable students, Prindle thought for a moment.

Then he spoke.

“I’m in the people business.”

One of the people was a young man with bad body odor.

Prindle knew the student’s family was not well-off. “I’m not sure they had running water.”

Finally, he decided to say something.

What did he say?

“I told him I was really glad to have him in my class.”

The boy’s eyes lit up, and the moment passed.

“That may have been my best day.”

Trio of longstanding HVRHS educators to retire when school lets out for summer



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Scott Fellows plans to teach graduate and undergraduate students next year.

Scott Fellows

Math teacher — 35 years

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Scott Fellows has been teaching math at Housatonic Valley Regional High School for 35 years.

He is retiring at the end of the current school year.

Interviewed at the high school Thursday, April 25, he revealed that HVRHS was his first interview out of college.

Asked how education has changed over his career, he said, “We know a lot better now how people learn and how the brain operates.”

But as teaching practices

evolved, some things did not change.

He cited former HVRHS principal Jack Mahoney’s influence.

“There was always the expectation that we do things in interesting ways.”

Fellows, who holds a doctorate in educational leadership, said he plans to return to that field and teach undergraduate and graduate students, and do research.

The goal?

To answer this question: “How do we make everything we do better and stronger for the kids?”



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Alan Lovejoy looks forward to spending time with his grandchildren and cycling in retirement.

Alan Lovejoy

Science teacher — 37 years

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Alan Lovejoy is retiring from the science faculty at Housatonic Valley Regional High School after a 37-year career.

Interviewed in the classroom Friday, May 3, Lovejoy said he started at Lee H. Kellogg School in Falls Village and stayed there 20 years before moving over to HVRHS in 2007.

Asked how education has changed, he thought for a moment.

“When I started at Kellogg, there were no lockers. The students had cubbies. If you needed to make copies, you had to give the originals to the secretary.”

Technology has certainly changed, he added. “We went from a computer room to laptops on a cart to every student having a Chromebook to now, where most kids have phones.”

Are smartphones a distraction?

Lovejoy said they can be, but there are legitimate uses too.

“We use them in physics.”

With enormous resources a click away, Lovejoy said he thinks some students may have lost something. “There’s not the same perseverance.”

“But with tech we can do a lot of other stuff, get more in depth.”

“COVID was really tough,” he continued. “I’m not sure they’ve all really recovered.”

Lovejoy said he found chaperoning overseas trips rewarding.

“Seeing these kids who have never been out of Northwest Connecticut actually go and live with a family, it was great.”

Asked what he plans to do in retirement, Lovejoy laughed and said, “lots of delayed maintenance.”

At his property in Amesville, the barn needs work and “the chicken coop needs bear repair.”

He plans to spend time with his grandchildren.

And on the list for the summer of 2025 is to ride the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route, which runs 2696 miles from Banff, Alberta to Antelope Wells, New Mexico.

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Sports

Housatonic softball takes down Webutuck 16-3

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — The battle for the border between Housatonic Valley Regional High School and Webutuck High School Thursday, May 2, was won by HVRHS with a score of 16-3.

The New Yorkers played their Connecticut counterparts close early on and commanded the lead in the second inning. Errors plagued the Webutuck Warriors as the game went on, while the HVRHS Mountaineers stayed disciplined

and finished strong.

The sun was beating down as the game got underway in Falls Village. A cloudless sky led to a toasty match between these two teams with temperatures hovering around 76 degrees. Gnats were also hovering around.

Looking to earn its first win of the season, Webutuck got off to a good start. A line drive by Aria Griskauskus brought Ciara “C.C.” Gray home. Housatonic responded with a run in the bottom of the inning to keep the game even through one.

Webutuck retook the lead in the second inning when Abby McEnroe logged an RBI on a bunt. The lead persisted until the bottom of the third inning, when HVRHS took over.

Fueled by powerful hitting and a series of errors by the Warriors, HVRHS piled on four runs in the third to pull ahead 5-2.

The score remained until the fifth inning when the Mountaineers climbed ahead. Haley Leonard got the inning rolling with a solo home run. Abby White



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Grace Riva slid safely into home when Webutuck visited HVRHS for an interstate softball match on Thursday, May 2.

sent Hadley Casey home on a single before Kylie Leonard brought White home with a double.

Webutuck scored its third run of the game in the top of the sixth inning. Olivia Wickwire hit an RBI double to bring the score to 8-3.

Housatonic responded by “finding the barrel,” as Coach Pete Foley instructed from third base. The Mountaineers swung for the fences and tacked on eight more runs.

The game ended in a 16-3 decision in favor of HVRHS. The Mountaineers’ record advanced to 7-5 this season while Webutuck moved to 0-8.

“We’re in a good spot,” said Foley on his team’s performance. “We’ve got a chance to be where we want to be, but we need to get more bats going.”

HVRHS was led offensively by Haley Leonard, who hit 4-for-5 at the plate and brought in three RBIs in addition to her solo home run. Grace Riva batted 3-for-5 with three RBIs, Kylie Leonard hit 2-for-3 with two RBIs, Madison Gulotta hit 1-for-4 with two RBIs, and Anne Moran hit 2-for-5 with two RBIs. Anne Moran pitched four strikeouts for the Moun-



Diana Portillo scooped an infield grounder and connected with Haley Leonard for the out at first base.

taineers.

For Webutuck, Abby McEnroe went 2-for-4 at bat with one RBI, Aria Griskou-

skus hit 1-for-3 with an RBI, and C.C. Gray batted 2-for-3. Lyndsay Johnson threw three strikeouts from the hill.

Mountaineer baseball falls 3-0 to Wamogo Regional

By Riley Klein

LITCHFIELD — Housatonic Valley Regional High School varsity baseball dropped a 3-0 decision to Wamogo High School Wednesday, May 1.

The Warriors kept errors to a minimum and held the Mountaineers scoreless through seven innings. HVRHS freshman pitcher Chris Race started the game strong with no hits through the first three innings, but hiccups in the fourth gave Wamogo a lead that could not be caught.

It was a bright spring day in Litchfield on May 1, partly cloudy and about 72 degrees at game time. Adjacent to a dairy farm, the ball field at Wamogo boasts the distinctive ambiance of “moos” resonating in tandem with the umpire’s spirited strike calls.

The game started slowly and was dictated by lights-out pitching from both bullpens. Wamogo’s Derek DeNigris and HVRHS’s Race each pitched a shutout until the fourth inning.

In the bottom of the fourth, Quinn Coffey hit a pop fly to right field for a two RBI double to put Wamogo on the board. The infield got



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Owen Riemer reeled in a pop fly to center field, May 1.

HVRHS out of the inning with back-to-back run-downs.

Race made it out of the fifth inning with no hits and freshman reliever Wyatt Bayer took over on the hill in the sixth inning. A balk on Bayer’s first pitch sent the runner on third home and gave Wamogo its final run of the game.

The Warriors won 3-0 and advanced to 5-4-1 for the season. HVRHS moved

to 3-8.

Offensively, HVRHS was led by Wyatt Bayer who hit 2-for-3. Wes Allyn and Sam Marcus each logged a single for the Mountaineers. Race threw two strikeouts and Bayer threw one.

For Wamogo, Derek DeNigris hit 1-for-2, Patrick Weaving hit 1-for-2, and Josh DeLello hit 1-for-3. DeNigris logged seven strikeouts and the Warriors committed zero errors throughout the game.



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Andrew Volgende slid safely into first base Wednesday, May 1.

Kent loses 14-4 to Westminster

By Lans Christensen

KENT — Westminster school, from Simsbury, came to Kent and soundly defeated the Kent Lions Wednesday, May 1.

The game began quietly but at the end of the 3rd inning, the Westminster Martlets took a 2-0 lead, which grew to a 4-0 lead at the bottom of the

fourth.

Kent’s batters came alive and the bottom of the fourth was the day’s bright spot for the Lions. The first two batters walked, then a sacrifice fly, a single by Andrew Volgende, and a double by Owen Maher and the game was tied at 4-4.

Unfortunately, that was Kent’s last happy

inning. The Martlets scored steadily and often in the next 3 innings.

Wild pitches, errors, walks and missed swings became Kent’s undoing, and Westminster finished the game with a 14-4 victory.

Westminster’s record improved to 10-5 while Kent’s moved to 2-10 for the season.



A close play at first base.

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HEALTHCARE

Continued from Page A1

health, and dental care as well as a lack of public transportation and public health services, Borduas noted.

"Rural towns are often isolated" and have a disproportionately higher population of older adults over 65, who are more likely to require care for chronic conditions, she said.

"Access to services is important for overall disease prevention, life expectancy, quality of life and overall population health."

A report by the American Medical Association revealed that while overall mortality for Americans has been decreasing, mortality rates for rural residents between 25 and 64 years old have risen by about 12 percent.

A lone primary care doctor

"Access to health care has been a challenge for decades," said Borduas, a problem that is exacerbated by a critical physician shortage.

North Canaan, she noted, has only one practicing primary care physician, and there are no free-standing urgent care centers in rural Northwest Corner, forcing some patients to travel a distance to receive emergency care.

"Think about it. Sharon Hospital is the only Connecticut hospital in the Northwest Corner and there is only one primary care provider [in North Canaan]. The ability to access a hospital for emergencies and to have a local primary care provider are real concerns for rural communities."

To make matters worse, attracting and retaining physicians in rural communities has been a major challenge for decades, and this phenomenon is hardly contained to Northwest Connecticut.

A 2023 survey of physicians by the Association of American Medical Colleges found that 68 percent of newly graduated doctors preferred to work in hospitals than jobs in family practices which are more common in rural areas. In addition, only 4 percent had a desire to work in a community of 25,000 residents or fewer.

Additionally, according to the Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform, 104 rural hospitals have closed since 2005 and across the country, 600 more are at risk of closure.

'Pockets of affluence' hide the need

The launch of the new regional health center marks a culmination of decades of effort among community partners.

The request to build an FQHC to serve the Northwest Corner began decades ago when the need for mental health services rose.

In 2017, Borduas joined forces with Nancy Heaton, President and CEO of the Sharon-based Foundation for Community Health (FCH). They applied for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grants to build a new access point but didn't meet the benchmark for low-income needs.

"There are a lot of pockets of affluence here that obscure the need...the numbers got skewed," recalled Borduas. "Two years later, the Foundation for Community Health said, 'We will help you with what you need,' so we started looking at property."

FCH played a pivotal role, contributing \$1.3 million for the property purchase and project needs, along with an additional \$650,000 for start-up costs, adding to a \$3 million bond secured with the help of Horn from the state of Connecticut toward construction.



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Joanne Borduas, CEO of Community Health & Wellness Center, at the newly furnished regional healthcare center in North Canaan. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for Friday, May 10, followed by an open house on Saturday, May 11, after which patients can call or stop by the center to schedule appointments beginning in early June.

FCH also awarded CHWC a multi-year, \$75,000 grant aligning with their mission to invest in health, well-being and equity of the community.

Additional funding partners include Sharon Hospital/Nuvance Health which pledged a multi-year, \$650,000 gift to include \$300,000 in funding and an additional \$350,000 of in-kind services.

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation contributed \$155,000 including \$40,000 from its fund for the Northwest Corner to support physician recruitment and strategic planning for a new fundraising and development program which CHWC officials said will be "critical to expanding and sustaining the health center."

"Now here we are making the vision, and the ask, a reality," noted Borduas.

FCH's Heaton noted that the new regional health cen-

ter could not have come at a better time.

"Yes, I have been thinking about, and working on bringing the health center into the Northwest Corner, and North Canaan specifically, for nearly 20 years, but with the current primary care and other healthcare provider shortages, it is needed now more than ever."

"For that reason," she said, "I am even more excited about looking forward and seeing the positive impact the center will have on increasing access to a full range of healthcare and prevention services for our rural communities."

Working with Medicaid

In March, Borduas, on behalf of CHWC, gave testimony before the Connecticut General Assembly's Human Services Committee in opposition to Section 5 of House Bill 5373: An Act Concerning Various Revisions to Hu-

man Services Statutes, which makes it harder for health centers and other providers to obtain reasonable rates for the state's HUSKY Medicaid program.

Borduas noted that approximately 59 percent of CHWC's patients are on HUSKY.

Since the pandemic, said Borduas, the face of those who need Medicaid has changed significantly. They are friends and neighbors, seniors and young adults, co-workers and young families.

"You could be standing by anyone in the grocery store who just lost their job and the only way to make it work is to get on Medicaid, there is no shame in that."

Looking to the future

The original vision for the North Canaan facility had included plans for onsite laboratories, a pharmacy and dental services, but wetlands restrictions caused CHWC to "pivot our plans" and downsize the facility, said its CEO.

"We will focus on mental health and primary care to start with. Dental services will go to our Winsted location, lab services and imaging will go to Sharon Hospital, and Walgreens will handle pharmacy. We do whatever we can do to collaborate and build community relations that benefit our patients," said Borduas.

Although currently no urgent care centers exist in the Northwest Corner, they can be beneficial in rural communities as another point of access, because they can fill a need for urgent services when primary care offices are not open. She cautioned that urgent care centers "should not be a replacement for establishing care in a primary care office, where continuity is better handled."

A needs assessment in about six months will "determine the utilization of our services. People keep asking me about dental and urgent care, they are the next things on the list of priorities to address. We can't do everything at once," she explained.

But for now, she said, the state-of-the-art regional health center, which is being unveiled this weekend with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday (May 10) and an open house on Saturday (May 11), "is answering the call to a rural crisis."

The vision is to build on what the community needs, said CHWC's CEO. "Everyone has a right to health care. It should not be a privilege. If you keep people well, that will keep your communities healthy."

FINERY

Continued from Page A1

learned about herbs when she did an apprenticeship at an herbal education school.

She will also offer lectures from local artists. Eventually she hopes to have classes for children.

DeCarlo distills her own essential oils for her perfume in a "big old fashioned glass distiller." She said that she harvests her own plants. She added that to distill the oils, she must harvest a lot of

plants, such as wild bee balm or sage, and may end up with only five drops of oil.

There will also be "alternative bridal options" like custom engagement or wedding bands, and she will do other custom jewelry designs.

At the grand opening celebration there were opportunities for anyone visiting the shop to make their own perfume and sage bundles.

SOAR

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

SOAR students take part in a wide range of arts and crafts activities at Salisbury Central School.

With support from grants, donations and an endowment through the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Brown explained.

"We do charge a nominal fee, but we offer financial aid, and we've gotten grants from Salisbury Family Services to help offset some of those requests. We've had more people request financial aid, which is great because we want every kid to be able to have the opportunity."

Each session runs for six to eight weeks and prices range from \$9 to \$12 per class, which includes all materials. SOAR also provides teacher grants that makes things like field trips, speakers, and assemblies possible.

Looking ahead, Brown is planning for further expansion of the program, with a summer camp in the works and outreach to neighboring schools like Kent and Sharon Center Schools.

The demand for SOAR's programs is evident, with enrollment numbers steadily increasing. "We're trying to expand in ways that are meaningful and stay within our mission," said Brown. "You know, we've got a great art program (at Salisbury Central School), but classes are only 45 minutes to an hour each week. There's just

a need for more," she continued.

Through Brown's enthusiasm and connections in the community, she has been able to bring in an impressive lineup of guest teachers. She shared, "I've gotten professional artists who have come in and maybe don't have experience with kids and then do amazing work with them."

Brown also opened the program to kindergarten students. Classes are typically once or twice a week and are an hour to an hour and a half in length.

Brown's own journey in education is one from classroom teacher to administrator. Previously a third-grade teacher at Indian Mountain School where her wife still teaches, her transition to leading SOAR was driven by a desire to reassess her priorities, particularly in the wake of the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The shift couldn't have come at a better time and Brown excitedly shared, "It was a big decision to leave the classroom...but now I'm able to balance my life and work and make connections with the community. It is really amazing."

To find out more about the SOAR program, go to www.soarkids.org

About Community Health & Wellness Center

By Debra A. Aleksinas

In 2002, CHWC was established on Migeon Avenue in Torrington at a former community grocery store, and in 2009 it became a federally qualified health center (FQHC), which makes services available to all regardless of ability to pay, and accepts regular commercial insurance, the uninsured, sliding scales and payment plans.

In 2014, the CHWC launched a 24,000-square-foot renovation to expand services, add 21 exam rooms, 10 dental operatories and behavioral health service.

Today, CHWC has a network of centers in Torrington, Winsted, and as of this week, a new regional health center for the Northwest Corner based in North Canaan, which will serve approximately 17,000 residents

in North Canaan and surrounding towns of Cornwall, Falls Village, Norfolk, Kent, Lakeville, Salisbury and Sharon.

In addition, CHWC has nine other satellite locations in Torrington schools, a food bank partner and on April 29 launched its school-based health centers in three of the Region One schools.

CHWC, which is one of 17 FQHC's in Connecticut, serves 24 towns with a combined population of 143,648, with low income comprising 26,365, or 17%, and is the only comprehensive FQHC in the Northwest Corner.

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, or to schedule an appointment for either primary care or mental health services starting in early June, call (860) 362-5101.

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Afghan artists find new homes in Connecticut

The Good Gallery, located next to The Kent Art Association on South Main Street, is known for its custom framing, thanks to proprietor Tim Good. As of May, the gallery section has greatly expanded beyond the framing shop, adding more space and easier navigation for viewing larger exhibitions of work. On Saturday, May 4, Good premiered the opening of "Through the Ashes and Smoke," featuring the work of two Afghan artists and masters of their crafts, calligrapher Alibaba Awrang and ceramicist Matin Malikzada.

This is a particularly prestigious pairing considering the international acclaim their work has received, but it also highlights current international affairs — both Awrang and Malikzada are now recently based in Connecticut as refugees from Afghanistan. As Good explained, Matin has been assisted through the New Milford Refugee Resettlement (NMRR), and Alibaba through the Washington

Refugee Resettlement Project. NMRR started in 2016 as a community-led non-profit supported by private donations from area residents that assist refugees and asylum-seeking families with aid with rent and household needs.

This is also not the first time two men have shown work in Connecticut together, as they both recently exhibited at the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury in an exhibit curated jointly by The Boston Museum of Fine Art, The Munson-Williams Proctor Arts Institute, and The Mattatuck Museum, which was on display from fall 2023 through spring 2024. The exhibition covered topics of diaspora, immigration, and displacement across the 20th century, including the Jim Crow era Great Migration, the plight of American Indigenous communities, as well as leading up to the international refugee crisis of the modern day. As the U.N. reported in 2023, "Afghan refugees are the third-largest displaced population in the world after Syrian and Ukrainian refugees."



Alibaba Awrang, left, with family and friends at the opening of his show at The Good Gallery in Kent on Saturday, May 4.

PHOTOS BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

Awrang and Malikzada, who both have young children, found themselves and their families whisked away from Kabul, the large capital city in the eastern part of the country, by the United States as chaos erupted following the Taliban's takeover in August 2021. The surge in instability and insecurity, as well as the threat of violence in Afghanistan, propelled their separate evacuations.

Malikzada's pottery, beautifully adorning the front windows of The Good Gallery, shows off both the craftsman's extreme precision — this is not the "flaws and all" farmhouse style that has become trendy in the U.S. — and his strength in building up large, voluminous vases that finish on a delicate neck and slightly curved opening. As The Museum of Fine Art in Houston wrote, "Matin [has] revitalized a nearly lost art of symmetrical design and turquoise glaze derived from natural pigments unique to Istalifi pottery."

One of the most striking pieces in the show by Awrang is "Pomegranate Blood," which infuses the mediums of acrylic paint with watercolors and gold leaf to create an ar-

"Afghan refugees are the third-largest displaced population in the world."

resting blend of fiery colors and ornate textures woven into the paint like a poem. As the master calligrapher wrote in the show notes, "Kandahar [an Afghan city on the Arghandab River] is one the provinces of Afghanistan where pomegranates are famous for their sweetness. It is a time of celebration. When I was in Kabul, we had pomegranate parties every year at the house of a dear friend. For this reason, I see the pomegranate as the heart of all and it is blood sugar."

The show notes provide a journey for gallery viewers as they can travel from the Japanese ink painting "Through The Ashes and Smoke," noted as the last calligraphy piece Awrang did before leaving Afghanistan in 2021, up to more recent 2024 paintings like "Fall," a mix of intense pinks and blues that serve as his interpretation of the autumnal New England serenity that yearly envelops the town he's come to call his new home.



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Students presented to packed crowds at Troutbeck.

HISTORY: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Students share work at Troutbeck Symposium

The third annual Troutbeck Symposium began this year on Wednesday, May 1 with a historical marker dedication ceremony to commemorate the Amenia Conferences of 1916 and 1933, two pivotal gatherings leading up to the Civil Rights movement.

Those early meetings were hosted by the NAACP under W.E.B. Du Bois's leadership and with the support of hosts Joel and Amy Spingarn, who bought the Troutbeck estate in the early 1900s.

Students from Arlington High School in LaGrange, New York, Kara Gordon, Nicolas Giorgi, Justin Meneses Aquimo, Akhil Olahannan, and Sheik Bowden together with their teacher Robert McHugh, made the historical marker possible by pursuing a grant from the Pomeroy Foundation.

"We believe strongly that markers help educate the public, encourage pride of place, and promote historical tourism," said the foundation's research historian and educational coordinator.

The ceremony began with a land acknowledgement by students Kennadi Mitchell and Teagan O'Connell from Salisbury Central School who gave thanks to the Muncie Lenape, Mohican and Schaghticoke people

by saying, "This guardianship has brought us to this very moment where we may learn from one another. We honor and respect the continuing relationship that exists between these peoples and this land."

The crowd was then welcomed by Charlie Champalimaud who, with her husband, Anthony are the current owners of Troutbeck. Speeches were then given by Kendra Field and Kerri Greenridge, co-hosts of the event and founders of The Du Bois Forum, an annual retreat of writers, scholars, and artists engaged in historic Black intellectual and artistic traditions.

Field noted, "It is our genuine hope that the dedication of new historical sites, most especially this one, as part of our larger commitments, will make more complex, more diverse, and more complete the answer to the simple question 'what happened here?' and the closely related question, 'what might happen next for generations to come?'"

MaryNell Morgan enchanted the audience with her a capella renditions of several of Du Bois's "Sorrow Songs."

Du Bois used these songs as part of the presentation of his 14 essays in his seminal work "The Souls of Black Folk," first published in 1903.

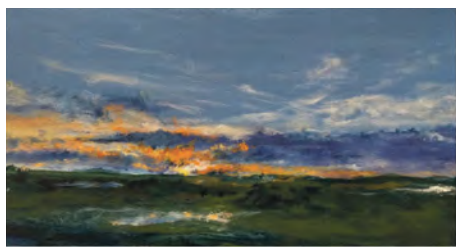
A graduate of Atlanta University where Du Bois taught twice, Morgan sang a medley of songs explaining that the best way to understand "The Souls of Black Folk" is to understand the songs. In attendance at the evening event were also local officials, Amenia Town Supervisor Leo Blackman, and New

Continued on next page



"Pomegranate Blood" by Alibaba Awrang.

Ann Kraus "Sky-Scapes" Art Exhibit
May 11 & 12 • 11am-4pm • Learning Center



Ann Kraus is an abstract landscape artist who grew up in Newton, Massachusetts. Her paintings represent her interaction with the natural environment and capture the essence of feelings evoked by a specific time and place. Her use of acrylic paint as the main medium allows an immediacy and vibrancy of color and texture. The exhibit will open on weekends from 11-4 until May 12th.

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PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

The team at the restaurant at the Pink House in West Cornwall, Connecticut. Manager Michael Regan, left, Chef Gabe McMackin, center, and Chef Cedric Durand, right.

FOOD: JENNIFER ALMQUIST

The Creators

Gabe McMackin's ingredients for success

The Creators series is about people with vision who have done the hard work to bring their dreams to life.

Michelin-award winning chef Gabe McMackin grew up in Woodbury, Connecticut next to a nature preserve and a sheep farm. Educated at the Washington Montessori School, Taft '94, and Skidmore College, McMackin notes that it was washing dishes as a teenager at local Hopkins Inn that galvanized his passion for food and hospitality into a career.

Working at Sperry's in Saratoga, The Mayflower, Blue Hill at Stone Barns, Thomas Moran's Petite Syrah, Robert's in Brooklyn, Gramercy Tavern, then becoming corporate chef for merchandising at Martha Stewart, McMackin learned the ropes from some of America's greatest chefs. His own culinary jewel, The Finch, so named for the birds that Darwin believed illustrated natural selection through their diversity, opened in Brooklyn in 2014. Ten months later McMackin was awarded his first Michelin star. In March of 2017, The New

Yorker reviewed The Finch favorably saying, "... it's the intrepid eater who will be most rewarded." After closing The Finch, due in part to the pressures of Covid, McMackin became Executive Chef at Troutbeck in Amenia.

This June, McMackin is coming home. He and his team are opening the Restaurant at The Pink House on Lower River Road in historic West Cornwall, just south of the covered bridge. Their opening date is to be announced. McMackin described his new endeavor:

"Our style and techniques are informed by cuisines from around the world, but the lens is very much focused on West Cornwall. The food that will be served is seasonal American food. It's what makes sense here and now, it's what we're able to get our hands on from people close by. It's casual first and foremost, but it can also be a little dressed up. We want people to feel excited to be with us! The Pink House will be a place for everyone in the community to celebrate, a place to meet friends, a place to feel well taken care of and well fed."

The Creators Interview

Jennifer Almquist: Tell us more about you as a young person, as a child. What were some of the inspirations that began this passion for cooking food?

Gabe McMackin: So much about this time of year takes me to my origins. Springtime, to listen to new life happen around here, seeing different colors change. I loved seeing things come out of ground. As a little kid seeing what was happening in the garden, getting excited for those first things that I could eat like asparagus, or things that were wild. To make a salad out of wood sorrel and garlic chives, things that were not going to be super tasty, but I could make, was an exciting thing as a little person. Recognizing what different things tasted like felt natural. I liked this thing, I didn't like that thing as much; this one was bitter, and I didn't like it at all. I was not manipulating things as much as just tasting them, touching them, feeling them. Appreciating what a raspberry

Continued on next page

...Troutbeck

Continued from previous page



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

York Assembly Members Didi Barrett and Anil Beephan. Closing remarks were given by Hasan Kwame Jeffries, Associate Professor at Ohio State University and one of the panelists for the Symposium.

Over the next two days, more than 200 middle and high school students from 16 regional public and independent schools converged to present and discuss their year-long research projects, uncovering the often-overlooked local histories of communities of color and other marginalized groups, answering the questions posed the night before, "what happened here and what might happen next for generations to come?"

Rhonan Mokriski, history teacher and educational director for the Troutbeck Symposium, emphasized the student-led nature of the forum by saying the directive was to "give it to the students and let them run with it."

Through visual art, documentaries, personal and historical narrative, photographs, and multiple forms of storytelling, students skillfully presented their findings, revealing truths—often difficult ones—in the tradition of their predecessors who did so in the very same location.

Said Jeffries, "It's one thing if the kids were doing research and then presenting in the, let's say, school gymnasium, right? But to be able to do it here at Troutbeck, it adds the power of place and makes it all the more powerful."

Student presentations ranged in topics from the Silent Protest of 1917 and its connection to the Amenia conference of 1916, the links between

Lorraine Hansberry, Langston Hughes and Nina Simone, to local families, Amy Spingarn's quiet activism, reimagining Du Bois's 'The Crisis' through a modern contextualization that included the recent Supreme Court action on Affirmative Action.

Jeffries and Christina Proenza-Coles, a professor at Virginia State University spoke after each set of presentations, responding to and contextualizing the students' work.

"These projects themselves are commemorations," Poenza-Coles said. "They are themselves peaceful protests that are pointing us to a more just future." Poenza-Coles emphasized the interconnectedness of past and present and stated, "Spaces that we would have thought about as white spaces, in fact, were also black and brown spaces from the beginning of history. Histories are completely intertwined."

Blake Myers, programming, marketing, and culture manager at Troutbeck spoke passionately about the community effort it takes to put on the event year after year. She said that while making sure the program is sustainable, "It really is a replicable model," and hopes to see other institutions, schools, and foundations adopt it as a teaching tool.

The rooms, walls, and wooded paths of Troutbeck reverberated for three days with stories, past and present, celebrations and revelations of untold narratives and marginalized voices.

Said Jeffries, "America is a product of decisions and choices that were made, and often those

were bad decisions and bad choices from the perspective of somebody committed to human rights and to equality. But that's our foundation, that's how we started this whole thing.

"So, you have that on the one hand, but then despite the systems of oppression that are designed to do just that, you always have people willing to fight against it and people who are willing to carve out spaces to preserve, promote and protect their own humanity."

Left to grapple with the complexities of historical memory and its implications for contemporary society, Jeffries offered, "The work that's being done here, connected with Troutbeck, it's not just about recovery and discovery, which is critical. But then the question is what do you do with it (the information)? How do we commemorate?"

"What do we put in place physically so that we don't forget. Often, we think about history and this question of 'if you don't remember the past, if you don't remember the systems that are created, then we are doomed or bound to repeat it.' But we're not going to repeat anything because most of the stuff, we never stopped doing."

There was some laughter from the audience and Jeffries concluded, speaking to the students, "But you're waking up, remembering, focusing, and bearing witness so that we can finally disrupt it. We can finally stop doing the things from the past that have created and generated inequality in the present by focusing on this community that is very much doing the work."



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NATURE: BETHANY SHEFFER

2024's World Migratory Bird Day

By now, many of us have watched with rapt attention (or, if you're like me, with sweaty palms) movies or television series where zombies wreak havoc on planet earth in some horrifying apocalyptic scenario. They're usually graphic, disturbing, and unfathomably disruptive to human existence.

In some instances, as portrayed in the HBO series "The Last Of Us," there's an unsettling angle of how something in nature (in this case, a fungus) turns against us and it all just goes bad.

But what if a scary scenario like this wasn't caused by the mutation of something in nature, but the removal of it? Many of you have probably heard terms like "insect collapse" and "insect apocalypse" in reference to the steep decline in these animals during the



PHOTO BY JAMES CLARK

past half century.

Renowned entomologist and conservationist, E.O. Wilson, had a lot to say about the importance of insects in our global ecosystems and how those ecosystems would be impacted by

their loss. His apocalyptic scenario is just as harrowing as those we've seen on screen, noting that most plants and land animals would become extinct because of their reliance on animals like bees, butterflies,

moths, ants, and beetles. And not over a long period of time, either. Within a few months.

Whoa. Not just because these animals help pollinate our crops and allow forest plants to reproduce, but because they also form the foundation of our terrestrial ecosystems.

Any animal you can think of likely consumes insects at some stage in its lifecycle, whether it's a frog, a bear, a bird, or another insect.

One group of animals particularly reliant on insects is birds. Shorebirds, wading birds, and even some birds of prey rely on these tiny animals in both their larval and adult stages. Perhaps you've observed your backyard Bluebirds plucking caterpillars off the ground, or watched acrobatic Tree Swallows catch winged insects in mid-air.

The degree to which the birds that we love rely on insects is profound. A single pair of Black-capped Chickadees, for example, was found to have fed 6,000-9,000 caterpillars to just one single brood of chicks during two weeks' time. And now, during

this magical month of May that bird enthusiasts in Eastern North America anticipate, insects are an ever-critical source of energy to these birds as they make their incredible journeys, sometimes across entire continents, to the places where they will raise their young.

So if our insects are declining, what does that mean for our birds? A study published by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in 2019 concluded that we have lost 3 billion birds since 1970. May of the causes of this decline are attributed to the ways in which we have altered our natural environments to make them inhospitable toward insects, whether that's through shrinking the available spaces for insects, polluting them, or simply eliminating them altogether.

Thinking back to E.O. Wilson's connections between insects, healthy ecosystems, and even our own human existence, shouldn't we be preserving them?

Fortunately for us, this is the turning point in the zombie apocalypse film where we learn what we can do to save ourselves. And in our real-life scenario, for our birds and other wildlife, too. The choices we make in our own backyards can have real

impact, whether that involves eliminating pesticides, reducing our lawn and replacing it with native plants, or turning off unnecessary lights at night. At Audubon we believe that creating healthy environments for birds creates healthy environments for people, and that couldn't be truer when it comes to protecting our insects. With our own lives intrinsically connected to the survival of our world's insects, so it is for the birds we love, too.

Learn exactly how you can get started on ensuring there plenty of insects to feed your local birds and other wildlife by coming to the Sharon Audubon Center's World Migratory Bird Day event on Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., where there will be partnering organizations, activities, games for kids, bird walks, short presentations, and more.

Partnering organizations include Audubon Connecticut, the Sharon Energy and Environmental Commission (SEEC), Litchfield Hills Audubon Society, Lights Out! Connecticut, Homegrown National Park, The Xerces Society, Linder, and more.

Bethany Sheffer is Volunteer Coordinator and Naturalist at the Sharon Audubon Center.



PHOTO PROVIDED

...Creators

Continued from previous page

tasted like as opposed to a blueberry, or a wild grape.

As I got older, I seemed to appreciate things less, I stopped paying close attention. I was still sensitive to things and food, but I stopped as excited about it. There were things that came back to me in waves, allowing me to see things in a fresh light. I might think about that in terms of food or in terms of hospitality, and it would affect my perspective.

I got a job in a restaurant washing dishes at the Hopkins Inn in New Preston when I was 17 and learned about how to wash dishes well. That's the foundation that every restaurant is built on. If you don't have a happy dish washer, if you don't take care of your plates well, you can't really serve your guests well. The rhythm being in that place was infectious.

JA: From your elemental experience of a raspberry, do you still seek pure essence in your cooking?

GM: If it doesn't taste like the raspberry you're missing that spirit, you're missing that essence of raspberry. If it's not there, why is it on the plate? If you are not using something well, you show the ingredient disrespect, plus you're not using all the magical things available. I love the idea of sticking to what is from here. The food that's going to make the most impact is going to be the one most full of life.

JA: Is cooking like poetry to you?

GM: Yes, the best

words and the best order; it's the best ingredients with the least amount done to them.

JA: Did you have traditional training in a culinary school? Have you been able to remain yourself, not too influenced by another style or chef?

GM: I've been able to work for very talented people. My apprenticeships working with people informed my understanding of technique. Some chefs have palates that have amazed me. The way they think creatively about building flavors and dishes, telling stories in food has been very powerful. The education that I've gotten in food, or in hospitality, has not only been from restaurants, but it has also come from the world. I haven't done culinary school, but I know how to learn. I can turn that magnifying lens on a peach for the essence of that peach. I want to study animal butchery, I want to learn how to fix problems, or build a vinaigrette tolerant of high temperatures.

JA: It has been said of you that you remain an oasis of calm. How do you maintain that in a busy kitchen?

GM: I've had good mentors that helped me see the dance for what it is. To know each table has its own rhythm. If you are choreographing the whole dance, each table can be perfectly in sync with the other tables, with the kitchen, with the bar.

JA: Has there been a downside, a dark moment when you were against the wall?

GM: All the time.

Closing The Finch was a difficult decision. Covid forced me to make that choice. We did not want to pivot into being a different kind of a space, like a grocery store. Others chose that path to keep the lights on. I did not have the money to put into retooling, and didn't have the appetite to fight with the landlord I was always in conflict with. Getting a restaurant open is tremendous success, telling the story is tremendous success, yet we hold ourselves to the standard of existing forever and making tons of money. I worked so hard to make that restaurant profitable, that when we shut down it was in some ways a relief. The opportunity to be there was magic.

JA: Were you sad that last moment closing the door to The Finch?

GM: I was one of many people doing that during Covid. Yeah, it's still very hard.


JA: They say you made something great from nothing.

GM: I took a tattoo parlor and turned it into a restaurant.

JA: Please share with us your farewell to The Finch.

GM: I am overwhelmingly grateful. We have gone beyond what we thought was possible in making this restaurant live. It has been an honor, and we are full of the memories you helped us create. But it is time to close The Finch and find a new path.


Full interview on www.lakevillejournal.com



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MAY 9

Poetry Reading: Irene Mitchell

Roeliff Jansen Library, 9091 Route 22, Copake, N.Y. roejanliblibrary.org

On Thursday, May 9, at 6 p.m., The Roeliff Jansen Community Library will host local poet Irene Mitchell on Thursday, May 9. Mitchell will read from and discuss her most recent book of poetry, *My Report from the Uwharries* (Dos Madres Press, 2022).

Mitchell is a long-time teacher of English and Writing in inner city and rural New York Mitchell is the author of several books.

Formerly Poetry Editor of Hudson River Art Magazine, Mitchell is known for her collaborations with visual artists and composers..

MAY 10

It's Only A Play by Terrence McNally

The Marilyn & Bob Laurie Gallery at the Claverack Library, 629 NY-23B, Claverack, N.Y.

It's Only A Play by Terrence McNally - It's the opening night of *The Golden Egg* on Broadway, and wealthy producer Julia Budder is throwing an opening night bash in her Manhattan townhouse. Downstairs the celebrities are pouring in, but the real action is upstairs in the bedroom, where a group of insiders have staked themselves out to await the reviews.

The play will run on May 10, 11 and 12 and the following weekend of May 17, 18 and 19, 2024. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinee is at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for Students & Seniors. Please call for Group Rates. For advance reservations visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call 518-758-1648.

MAY 11

Salisbury Forum

Salisbury School, 251 Canaan Road, Salisbury, Conn.

The next installment of the Salisbury Forum, NUCLEAR ENERGY – A SOLUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE with Joshua Goldstein, PhD, will take place at Salisbury School May 11 at 6:30 p.m. Joshua S. Goldstein is an award-winning scholar of international relations who has written and spoken widely on war and society, including war's effects on gender, economics, and psychological trauma, and on peace and diplomacy. His book, *A Bright Future* (with Staffan Qvist) is on international responses to climate change, especially Sweden's success in rapid decarbonization using nuclear power. Visit www.salisburyforum.org for more info.

Health Center Open House

6-8 East Main St., North Canaan, Conn.

Community Health & Wellness Center (CHWC) is thrilled to announce an Open House event for its

new Regional Healthcare Center in North Canaan on Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event celebrates the grand opening of the latest addition to CHWC's network, providing comprehensive medical and mental health services to the Northwest Corner of Connecticut. The Open House provides a unique opportunity for the public to tour the new facility and learn about the range of services offered. Visitors are encouraged to meet the CHWC team (many of them local residents) and discover the comprehensive care available at the new center.

Copake Grange Flea Market and Bake Sale

Copake Grange, 628 Empire Road, Copake, N.Y.

From 8 a.m. to noon on May 11 there will be a flea market and bake sale at Copake Grange!

Are you Spring cleaning, getting rid of things you no longer want but are still in good condition? The Grange wants your stuff! Help us give your things a new home!

We are accepting kitchenware, household goods, art, linens, accessories, small furniture, gifts, toys, gardening tools and supplies. No CDs, DVDs or books. Items MUST be in good condition. Worn out or unusable items will not be accepted. Drop off times: Wednesday, May 8, 1 to 2 p.m.

Art Workshop

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

Join local artist Erika Crofut for a two-part "Book Bird Book Art" workshop on May 11 and 18 from 10 a.m. to noon. Erika will guide participants in different book art techniques using recycled books, folding, feather, paint and fun! We will work from an interesting pile of culled books along with some pre-cut patterns, templates, paints and more. Each artist will be able to choose their own book and using cutting, folding, fur, feathers and paint we will make an aviary! This program is designed for focused artists aged eight and up, children ages five to seven are welcome with an adult. Register by calling (860) 824-7424 or emailing the library dmhuntlibrary@gmail.com

Art Show

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

MAY 14

Film Screening

Triplex Cinema, 70 Railroad St., Great Barrington, Mass.

Sam Kassow, a leading historian of Polish Jewry and the Holocaust, and Stockbridge resident Aaron Lansky, the founder and director of the world-famous Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, Mass. will be in a talkback after the showing of the documentary film "Who Will Write Our History." The event, a benefit for the Triplex, will take place on May 14 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$100 per person.

Reading of "Cucumber Sandwiches" by Leigh Curran

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

There will be a reading of "Cucumber Sandwiches" by Leigh Curran on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 7 p.m., with Mimi Lieber and Leigh Curran, directed by Elaine Vaan Hogue, with stage directions read by Frances Roth. It will be at St. James Place, 352 Main St., Great Barrington, Mass. as a part of the Great Barrington Public Theatre's New Play Festival

Experience the first public reading of a comedy-drama about a life-long friendship between two well-heeled women that goes awry when deeply held secrets come to life. Make a reservation by emailing Tristan at Tristan.greatbarringtonpublic@gmail.com

MAY 15

Coworking on Main

The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.

Calling all freelancers, entrepreneurs, creatives, retirees, and anyone else seeking a change of scenery from your home office or studio! Enjoy the camaraderie of a shared working space while tapping into your individual workflow; wifi and coffee provided. Drop in anytime, but if goal setting and accountability is helpful to you, arrive at 9 a.m. to join a brief go-around where we'll share what we're each working on. The event continues until 1 p.m.

MAY 16

Around the World in 80 Gardens

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

The David M. Hunt Library will present "Around the World in 80 Gardens" with Professor Richard Benfield on Thursday, May 16 at 4 p.m. In this session, he will show garden enthusiasts and laymen alike the different and unique gardens and floral kingdoms of the world. This program is free and open to the public.

MAY 18

Plant Sale

Douglas Library, 108 Main St., North Canaan, Conn douglaslibrarycanaan.org

Douglas Library of North Canaan will hold its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Vegetable plants, annuals, dahlias, geraniums and perennials will be available to name a few. The library welcomes plant donations; please leave any potted donations behind the building near the elevator entrance. Book sales will also be ongoing during this event. For further info, call the library at 860-824-7863.

Author Talk

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

Caroline Paul will discuss her new book, "Tough Broad: From Boogie Boarding to Wing Walking — How Outdoor Adventure Improves Us as We Age," at Cornwall Library Saturday, May 18, at 6 p.m. This is a live event. Registration is required on www.cornwalllibrary.org. A recording of the talk may be available a few days after it takes place.

Paint and Sip

Art Bar & Gallery, Union Station 2nd Floor, 1 Railroad St., North Canaan, Conn.

Paint and Sip at the Art Bar & Gallery in North Canaan Saturday, May 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$30 and include all art supplies plus the first drink of the night. Limited spots are available. Contact Jessie at (860) 671-9818 to reserve a seat.

North Canaan Spring Fest

North Canaan, Conn.

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 the Colonial Theater, 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 and games for kids. For times and info, find NCEC on Facebook or email northcanaaneventscommittee@gmail.com.

Art Festival

Lawrence Field, North Canaan, Conn.

The Litchfield Art Festival is coming to North Canaan! Saturday May 18 and Sunday May 19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Lawrence Field (at the intersection of Rt. 7 and 44) will be transformed into an open-air gallery. This art festival features fine artists from seven states both with functional and non-functional art, including paintings,

sculpture, photography, jewelry, glass and leather, etc. Free and open to the Public.

Noble Horizons Auxiliary Book & Tag Sale

Noble Horizons, 17 Cobble Road, Salisbury, Conn.

The Noble Horizons Auxiliary in Salisbury will hold its semi-annual Book & Tag Sale, Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19 in the Community Room at Noble Horizons from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free on both days; on Friday only, EARLY BIRDS pay \$10 from 8 to 9 a.m.

This popular event attracts antique dealers, book lovers, and bargain hunters. In addition to hundreds of books, there will be a wide variety of furniture, china, glassware, jewelry, linens, and household and garden items.

Donations are needed and appreciated. Before May 11, bring used items (no clothing and electronics) to Noble's Wagner Reception Desk. Between Sunday, May 12 and Thursday, May 16, all items should be taken directly to the Community Room. For where and when to drop off bulky, large items, please call 860-435-9851.

Wassaic Project '24 Summer Exhibition

Maxon Mills, 37 Furnace Bank Road, Wassaic, N.Y.

Tall Shadows in Short Order is the Wassaic Project's 2024 Summer Exhibition. There will be an opening on Saturday, May 18, from 4 to 6 p.m. It will be on view Saturdays and Sundays through September 14.

It will feature 30 artists throughout all seven floors of Maxon Mills, with a focus on large, site-specific installations. These include an interactive outdoor site for rest and exchange of plant knowledge by Tiffany Smith, a thirty-language broadcast of the US national anthem by Daniel Shieh, a mountain range made from maps of the US and Argentina by Luciana Abait, a narrative wheel about psychic children in Vietnam by Petra Szilagyi, and, on the top floor, an alternate version of Wassaic in miniature from Cate Pasquarelli's Museum of Embellished History.

Home Grown Plant Sale

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

Homegrown Plant Sale on the weekend of May 18 and 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on

Sunday. Falls Village's own growers, gardeners, and CSAs will provide a wide variety of plants, including a large selection of tomatoes, vegetables, annuals and perennials, and houseplants including potted geraniums and hanging baskets from HVRHS. Proceeds benefit the Hunt Library and HVRHS. For more information, or to donate plants and pots, call the library at 860-824-7424 or visit huntlibrary.org.

Hike Cornwall

Hare Preserve, Popple Swamp Road, Cornwall, Conn.

Discover Hare Preserve with Terry Burke May 18 at 10 a.m. Enjoy a short hike in a magical wood of mixed forest, a small Brook running into two small ponds, a statue by Monty Hare and his poem for the Preserve. The Hare Preserve is also a very pleasant short walk from the village. Park at the Hare Preserve on Popple Swamp Road.

Book Talk

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

On Saturday, May 18, at 6 p.m., The Cornwall Library presents a book talk by Caroline Paul, author of "Tough Broad: From Boogie Boarding to Wing Walking – How Outdoor Adventure Improves Us as We Age," which is already the #1 best-seller in solo travel guides on Amazon. In her new book, Paul dives deep into the current research on aging, and interviews older women who exemplify the confidence and well-being that come from embracing the outdoors. Among them are 93-year-old hiker Dot Fisher-Smith; 80-year-old scuba diver Louise Wholey; and her own mom, Sarah Paul, who began bicycling later in life. This event is live only (no Zoom). Registration on the library website is required, at: cornwalllibrary.org/events/

MAY 19

No Service: A Phone-Free Art-Making Space for Non-Artists

The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.

Join us for two hours of phone-free connection from 10 a.m. to noon, where you will be guided through a creative process that uses art as a tool for meaning making. Suggested donation \$15. Space is limited; advanced registration required: www.thecenteronmain.org/events

Continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

Kiss the Ground Film and Panel Discussion with Berkshire Community Land Trust's Farmstead for Farmers

The Triplex Cinema, 70 Railroad St., Great Barrington, Conn.

On Sunday, May 19 at 4 p.m. at The Triplex Cinema in Great Barrington, Farmsteads for Farmers presents Kiss the Ground, a film about regenerative farming and climate followed by Berkshire farmer's panel.

Considered by many to be the "Most Important Film You'll Ever Watch", Kiss the Ground draws a straight line from regenerative farming to offsetting climate harms. The screening will be followed by a panel moderated by Katy Sparks (Edible Natural World) featuring Berkshire County farmers Elizabeth Keen (Indian Line Farm), Anna Houston (Off the Shelf Farm), and Will Conklin (Sky View Farm/Greenagers).



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Cinco de Mayo

The opening event for the Bang Family Concert Series at The Smithfield Church on Saturday, May 4, celebrated the festive Mexican holiday, Cinco de Mayo, with a performance by the popular husband-and-wife guitar duo, Judy Handler and Mark Levesque. Their program titled "Fiesta!" featured Spanish and Latin-American music performed on guitar and mandolin.



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

"Flamingo" by Andrea Sanchez at The Art Bar.

Pink Flamingo and Cocktails

The Art Bar, the new cocktail lounge located on the second floor of Great Falls Brewery in North Canaan, unveiled a splashy series of paintings on its walls on Friday, May 3. Artist Andrea Sanchez is a Connecticut native with ancestral roots in the Caribbean Sea. With ties to Puerto Rico through both of her parents, Sanchez's acrylic on canvas works draw inspiration from the island's scenery and wildlife, and possibly from Puerto Rican artists like Raul Ortiz Bonilla, whose bold-colored scenes of nature are housed in the National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture. For more on Andrea Sanchez, follow her on Instagram @kisstheheavens_art.

— Alexander Wilburn

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TAG SALES

SALISBURY, CT

NOBLE BOOK & TAG SALE: The Noble Horizons Auxiliary in Salisbury will hold its semi-annual Book & Tag Sale, Fri, May 17 and Sat, May 18 in the Community Room at Noble Horizons from 9am-2pm. Admission is free on both days; on Friday only, EARLY BIRDS pay \$10 from 8-9am.

CORNWALL, CT

TAG SALE SAT. MAY 11: 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. Furniture, household items, sports equipment, pictures, clothes, books, and more. 27 Cemetery Hill Road, West Cornwall CT.

ANCRAM, NY

VINTAGE GARDEN FURNITURE AND DECORATIONS SALE: Contents of a vintage estate greenhouse, stone, teak, wrought iron, rattan, wicker, and terracotta pots of all sizes. Classic to funky. Benches, urns, statues, harvest tables, wire Bertoia chairs, pots, garden books, vintage linens, misc. antiques. No plants. RAIN OR SHINE Saturday, May 11, 9 am to 4, Sunday May 12, 9 am to 2. No early birds please. 177 Doodletown Road, Ancram, NY.

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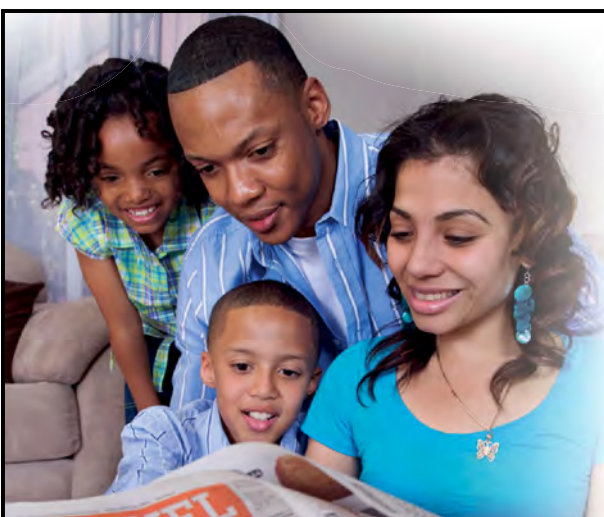
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