



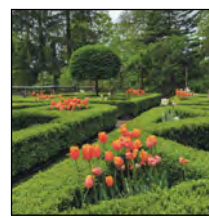
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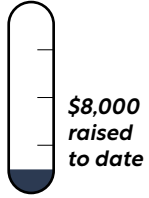


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lakevillejournal.com

52 PAGES IN 3 SECTIONS

VOLUME 127 NUMBER 42

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THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024 \$3.00

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

## Barriers in place at East Twin to thwart 'Godzilla of invasive plants'

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — In mid-April the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), at the urging of the Twin Lakes Association (TLA), placed a line of boulders at the state boat launch to prevent trailered boats from accessing East Twin from that location.

They didn't stay put for long. Within a few weeks, unknown individuals had moved the hefty rocks aside, "presumably to allow boaters to launch there once again," the TLA noted in its recent newslet-

ter, and as evidenced by tell-tale tire tracks leading to the water.

Alerted to the boulder breach by the TLA in late April, DEEP officials returned to the state boat launch on May 6 to put them back into position, this time burying them deep into the ground to deter movement.

"This launch was never intended to be used by trailers, is unimproved and has been returned to its original use as committed to the TLA in 1991 by the state, for car-top carrier boats only," such as kayaks and canoes, explained Grant Bogle, the lake association's president.

He noted that in 2020 the boulders were removed by the state to provide greater access for handicapped boaters, which led to a "significant increase" in trailer access and parking issues in recent years.

"In addition, we believe hydrilla was brought in via boat at the state launch," as well as the nearby O'Hara's Landing Marina, where patches of the invasive plant were discovered last summer, said Bogle.

The findings made East Twin

See HYDRILLA, Page A10



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Hayden Ball of Cornwall stands beside the 1955 Hough Payloader he restored for his Housatonic Valley FFA final project.

## Firefighters upgrade equipment thanks to hefty donation

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — Canaan Fire Company purchased new extrication tools thanks to Ben Wolfhert's generosity.

Wolfhert donated \$15,000 to the volunteer fire crew in 2023. Months of diligent research and multiple product demos later, the firehouse has upgraded equipment.

Chief Mike Foley, Assistant Chief Pat McGuire, and Captain Ryan Foley stopped by Wolfhert's home on Tuesday, May 14, to thank him for the contribution.

The new battery-powered tools are made by Holmatro and serve a critical, often life-saving purpose for rescue teams. Otherwise known



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Assistant Chief Pat McGuire and Captain Ryan Foley with Canaan Fire Company's new battery-powered extrication tools.

See FIRE COMPANY, Page A10

## FFA Open House sows seeds for rural development

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Miniature horses, goat living arrangements, drone operations and more were on display at the FFA Open House at Housatonic Valley Regional High School Wednesday evening, May 15.

The annual agriculture education symposium showcased the final projects of Housatonic Valley FFA students. As shown throughout the HVRHS campus during the Open House, ag-ed encompasses a

wide range of studies.

Sneakers, a miniature horse belonging to the school, was the first thing a visitor saw if coming from the grassy oval in front of HVRHS. Kelly Eiserman of Lakeville was minding Sneakers on the way in. Ayla Hill of Salisbury had Sneakers duty on the way out.

Hill told Tracy Atwood, one of the judges, all about different horse types.

Inside, Hayden Ball of Cornwall

See FFA, Page A10

## Memorial Day observances

By Riley Klein

Northwest Corner towns will honor the fallen Monday, May 27, with a full complement of Memorial Day events. Times and information for each town listed below.

Cornwall will begin the day at 9:30 a.m. with a ceremony at the North Cornwall cemetery. At 10 a.m., Seaman's memorial service will take place at the covered bridge in West Cornwall. The parade will begin at 11 a.m. and culminate in Cornwall Village with a carnival at

the United Congregational Church.

The Falls Village parade route begins at Lee H. Kellogg School and ends at the Town Green on Main Street, starting at 9:45 a.m. from the school and with a commemoration ceremony on the Green at around 10 a.m.

North Canaan will line up for its parade at Town Hall at 10 a.m. and the marching will start at 10:30 a.m. The route through town will end at the Doughboy statue on Route 44. The renovated statue will be unveiled with new names added to the plaques. A ceremony will follow. Sharon's parade will start at 10

See MEMORIAL DAY, Page A10

### Back-to-back-to-back

Salisbury School baseball won its third consecutive league championship after defeating Canterbury School 2-1 in the WNEPBL title game Sunday, May 19. Full story on Page A9.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN



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# Regional

## In The Journal this week

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### Online This Week

#### North Canaan to vote on budget

The town's proposed spending plans will be voted on at Town Hall Thursday, May 30, at 7 p.m. More at [www.lakevillejournal.com](http://www.lakevillejournal.com)

## POLICE BLOTTER: TROOP B

The following information was provided by the Connecticut State Police at Troop B. All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

#### Assault charge

On Sunday, May 12, at approximately 10:30 p.m., Samantha Granbery, 32, of Salisbury, walked into Troop B and was taken into custody on an active arrest warrant on charges of disorderly conduct and assault third-degree on an elderly or other victim. She was released on a \$5,000 nonsurety bond.

#### Liquor store larceny

On Monday, May 13, Alyssa Armillei, 30, of Amenia, was served an arrest warrant in Hartford Superior Court on charges of larceny in the 6th degree related to an incident on March 21, 2023, at Stateline Wine and Spirits in North Canaan. Armillei allegedly was captured on store video removing four bottles containing alcoholic beverages without paying for them.

#### Failure to appear

On Monday, May 13, Angelisa Deberry, 28, of Canaan, was taken into custody on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear in court, 2nd degree. Cash/surety bond was set at \$5,000, which was not posted.

#### Avoiding a cat

On Friday, May 17, at approximately 1:30 p.m., Katherine Libby, 35, of West Cornwall, was westbound on Route 128 in Cornwall in a 2014 Volkswagen Jetta when a cat crossed the road. Libby swerved to avoid the cat and struck a parked 2013 Ford Focus, which then struck a fence. Both vehicles sustained damage and were towed from the scene by Arnold's Garage. Libby was issued an infraction for failure to maintain lane.

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

## State Senate

# Potter to take on Harding in CT's 30th

By Kathryn Boughton  
Kent Good Times Dispatch

KENT — There was a meeting of Republican Convention delegates from the 30th District at the Kent Town Hall on April 29. The meeting had a pep rally aura, according to Kent Republican Committee delegate Joseph Agli.

The event was chaired by John Morris of Litchfield, the longest-serving member of the Republican State Central Committee. GOP candidates George Logan, who is challenging U.S. Representative

Jahana Hayes for the 5th District seat, and Barbara Breor, who is running against State Representative Maria Horn in the 64th District, were in attendance.

Representatives were also sent from 30th District State Senator Steve Harding's and U.S. Senate candidate Gerry Smith's campaigns. Harding is running against Kent political newcomer Justin Potter, who received the Democratic Convention's endorsement this week. Gerry Smith is facing incumbent U.S. Senator Chris Murphy.



PHOTO BY KATHRYN BOUGHTON  
George Logan, GOP candidate for Congress, spoke at the Republican Convention in Kent.

## Trivia fundraisers in Canaan

NORTH CANAAN — Trivia night fundraisers in support of the Salisbury Rotary Club and Canaan Child Care Center will take place at Great Falls Brewery, 75 Main Street, on June 2 and 15.

"NWCT Throughout the Years" on June 2 will feature local history. Admission is \$5 and benefits the Salisbury Rotary Club. Pizza can be

ordered from 5 to 5:45 p.m. Trivia begins at 6 p.m.

"Star Wars" will be the theme on June 15. Admission is \$5 and benefits the Canaan Child Care Center. Pizza can be ordered from 5 to 5:45 p.m. Trivia begins at 6 p.m.

Team sizes are capped at eight members each night.

## Horn runs for fourth term

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — The Democratic Convention at Cornwall Town Hall on May 15 nominated Maria Horn to run for a fourth term as the 64th District's state representative.

Horn accepted the nomination and set her sights on the election in November. In a statement, Horn wrote: "I pledge to give my all to the campaign and hope to see my Democratic colleagues elected to join me in Hartford to protect your rights, your health, our environment, our economy, and our democracy. There is certainly a lot to do!"

## Salisbury to recognize Gun Violence Awareness Day June 2

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Salisbury is joining other towns and cities across Connecticut to proclaim Sunday, June 2 Gun Violence Awareness Day in

front of the White Hart Inn, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Everyone is encouraged to wear the color orange that day.

Lawn signs saying "Stop Gun Violence" will be available for \$10 each.

## CONTACT US

**John Coston**  
Editor-in-Chief  
[johnc@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:johnc@lakevillejournal.com)

**Riley Klein**  
Managing Editor  
[rileyk@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:rileyk@lakevillejournal.com)

**Alexander Wilburn**  
Special Sections Editor  
[alexw@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:alexw@lakevillejournal.com)

**Sandra Lang**  
Circulation Manager  
[circulation@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:circulation@lakevillejournal.com)

**James H. Clark**  
Publisher, CEO  
[jamesc@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:jamesc@lakevillejournal.com)

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Check them out inside.  
• Ocean State Job Lot

**21st Century Fund**  
DID YOU KNOW ....?  
The 21st Century Fund is hosting a **FREE Ice Cream Social** on June 23rd from 3-5PM under the tent @ HVRHS  
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Read more at: [21stcenturyfund.net](http://21stcenturyfund.net)

## 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](http://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

#### Legal Notice Liquor Permit

#### Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I, Maria Munoz, 39 Great Hollow Road, West Cornwall, CT 06796 have filed an application placard 05/13/2024 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the

premises at Pink House Kitchen, LLC, 34 Lower River Road, West Cornwall, CT 06796.

The business will be owned by: Pink House Kitchen LLC Entertainment will consist of: Acoustics (not amplified), Live Bands. Objections must be filed by: 06-24-2024. Visit: <https://portal.ct.gov/remonstrance> for more information.

Pink House Kitchen LLC  
05-16-24  
05-23-24

#### Legal Notice

Pursuant to CT State Library, Office of the Public Records, Form RC-075, regarding the disposition of public records, Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Falls Village, CT, announces plans to dispose of remaining archived cumulative records for all years prior to 1974. Please contact the Registrar at 860-824-5123 ext. 1170 to arrange a time if you wish to pick up records prior to the disposition. A government issued photo i.d. will be required for verification. All forementioned records will be disposed of no earlier than Friday, May 24, 2024.

05-16-24  
05-23-24

#### Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following actions were taken by the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on May 13, 2024:

Approved with Conditions - Application

2024-IW-007 by Allied Engineering for the replacement of drainage pipes. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 7 as lot 11-1 and is known as 235 Farnum Road, Lakeville. The owner of the property is Jessica Weiser-McCarthy.

Approved with Conditions - Application 2024-IW-006 by DM Hock Enterprises for the replacement of a driveway. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 34 as lot 1 and is known as 31 Robin Hill Lane, Lakeville. The owner of the property is Elizabeth Oestreich.

Any aggrieved person may appeal this decision to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §22a-43(a) & §8-8.

05-23-24

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF INGRID M. CENKNER Late of Sharon (24-00093)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 7, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:  
Edward Bixler  
95 Gray Lane  
Goshen, CT 06756

Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
05-23-24

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# Our Towns

## Catching memories at fishing derby

By John Coston

NORTH CANAAN — “I heard somebody caught a turtle.”

That was the mood on Sunday, May 19 at the annual fishing derby held by the Connecticut Rod and Gun Club.

Holly Hunt, who ran the event with many club volunteers who were busy cooking burgers and dogs, hauling ice and taking measurements of the day’s catch of bass, trout and bluegill.

Hunt said 65 anglers signed up for this year’s event, which she has personally run for almost 20 years at the club’s pond off Route 7 South.

Parents, grandparents and uncles and aunts all showed up with newbie anglers who ranged in age up to 15.

James Martindale, 6, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, reeled in a 10-inch bluegill, and held his beaming smile for as long as it took Eleiana Morel to dash over to measure his prize.

Families drove from all



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

**James Martindale, 6, of Pittsfield, Mass., bagged a 10-inch bluegill Saturday, May 19.**

over the Northwest Corner and beyond to enjoy a pondside morning with worms and minnows provided by Jim’s Bait & Tackle in East Canaan.

The water’s edge was lined with small-fry competitors outfitted with rods, reels, bobbers, nets and tackle boxes as families parked in folding chairs right behind them.

A significant contingent spent energy on catching frogs and running around.

Tristan Landry, 5, of Southington, received guid-

ance from his grandmother. An even younger Benjamin Walley, 4, of North Canaan, was comfortably seated in a pint-sized lawn chair, eyes fixed on the water for any sign of movement.

Seven-year old Holden Belmonte of Milton and his sister, Sawyer, 4, cast their lines in sequence as their father watched, while holding a babe in arms.

Emmett Lozier, 11, of Bristol, looked like a pro as he surgically added weights to his line with a pair of needle-nose pliers.

“Yeah,” was his answer for any question posed about how it was going.

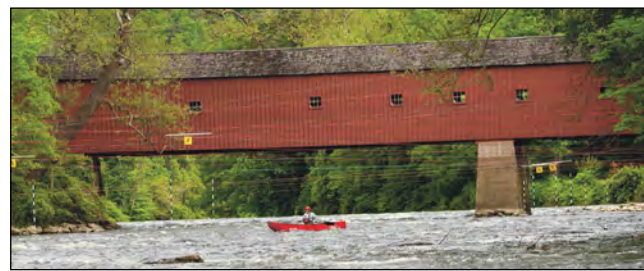
Harper Nivolo, 5, of North Canaan, landed a 14 1/2 inch largemouth bass with one minute to go before all lines had to be pulled from the pond under derby rules.

Everyone got a prize in the end, but six competitors who caught the biggest fish in their age group won a bicycle. All others got to choose prizes as their tickets were drawn from a bucket by Hunter.

The six who went home with bicycles were: Harper Nivolo, Finn Lyon, Ava Cole, Jaxon Romanchick, Emma Sprague and Mason Torrent.

It was a ‘catch and release’ event. So all the fish returned to the pond, after dining all morning on worms and minnows.

Dominik Romanchick, 4, of North Haven, caught four fish Saturday. As his grandfather helped him undo the hook and pose for a photo, Dominik thoughtfully inserted the minnow back into the gaping mouth of the 14 3/4 inch bass.



PHOTOS BY TOM BROWN



### Whitewater racing

Canoe racing returned to the Housatonic River in Cornwall Saturday and Sunday, May 18 and 19, for the Covered Bridge Slalom. Part of the 10-race New England Slalom Series, the annual event draws racers of all ages and abilities. Results for each class can be found at [www.nessrace.com](http://www.nessrace.com).



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## Subdivision hearing continues in North Canaan

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — The Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) held the continuation hearing May 13 for an application to create a 20-lot subdivision along the Housatonic River.

This was the second public hearing for the resubmitted River Woods Housing application, otherwise known as the Honey Hill development. Three prior public hearings were held for the original application in late 2023, early 2024.

Allied Engineering’s

George Johannesen addressed previous concerns over the use of Honey Hill Road for entry to the proposed subdivision. After exploring several options, the addition of a cul-de-sac was suggested, as opposed to two entry points for the new lots.

North Canaan has an existing regulation limiting the number of houses on a cul-de-sac road to 10 total. The applicant requested a change to this regulation increasing the number of permitted homes on a cul-de-sac to 20.

The hearing was continued to allow time for the

regulation change to be reviewed. A hearing on the ordinance change will be held May 30 in Town Hall at 7 p.m. The continued hearing for the subdivision application will follow on the same day.

The Housatonic River Commission and the Housatonic Valley Association each submitted letters to P&Z opposing the River Woods project. Both organizations cited threats to the wellbeing of the Housatonic River in a federally designated Wild and Scenic Area.

An archaeological review

was requested to ensure no artifacts will be disturbed in construction. A botany review was suggested to perform a complete survey of plants on the property.

### Bed and breakfast

Anne Dekker of 15 Honey Hill Road submitted an application to create a bed and breakfast in her home.

Her proposal allowed for a maximum of four guests at a time. Dekker said she loves the Northwest Corner and hopes to share it with travelers. A public hearing on the bed and breakfast application was set for June 10 at 7 p.m.

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# Our Towns

## Falls Village budget vote set for June 1

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Board of Finance voted to send the proposed 2024-25 spending plans from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education to a town meeting scheduled for Saturday, June 1, 10 a.m. at the Emergency Services Center.

The Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen met Monday, May 13.

The finance board voted unanimously to send the education spending plan of up to \$3,670,854 to the town meeting.

The board voted to send the town spending plan of up to \$2,328,687, with temporary chair Amy Wynn (filling in for David Wilburn) dissenting.

At the May 13 selectmen's meeting, First Selectman Dave Barger stated he was notified the Town of Canaan did not receive a state Trans-

portation Rural Improvement Program (TRIPS) grant applied for last year. He will reapply in the next round.

Barger said he had been informed that invoices from Allied Engineering Associates in North Canaan dated November 2023 had not been paid. He said he would investigate the matter and make sure the bills are paid.

Barger said the latest delay on the sale of 35 Railroad St. is due to scheduling problems with surveyor Mat Kiefer, but the survey is now underway.

The selectmen voted unanimously to appoint Tracy Wilson as cemetery sexton for all cemeteries except Grassy Hill, which is looked after by Dick Heinz.

The selectmen voted unanimously to reappoint Mark Rosen as an alternate on the Planning and Zoning Commission, for a six-year term.



PHOTO PROVIDED

## Hartford HealthCare donates defibrillator to VFW

Veterans, town officials, emergency responders, and representatives from Hartford HealthCare gather outside VFW Couch-Pipa Post 6851 May 14 following the donation of a new AED for the Auxiliary, May 14.

## Salisbury adjusts town sewer rates

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Water Pollution Control Authority held a public hearing Thursday, May 16 on raising the rates for town water and sewer use.

After the brief hearing, where there were only two attendees (one a reporter), the WPCA voted unanimously to raise the water rate by 20%.

WPCA chair Don Mayland explained that the water system has undergone significant infrastructure improvements recently.

In considering the rate increase, the WPCA opted for the 20% figure, the lowest of three considered, because the

WPCA has sufficient cash on hand to make up the difference for two years.

As of July 1, water for a home with three bedrooms or less will go from \$350 a year to \$420. A four or five bedroom home goes from \$524 to \$630, and six bedrooms and up from \$1,049 to \$1,230.

Apartment buildings are charged per unit, from \$350 to \$420. The hook-up charge for sewer service remains at \$500.

Mayland noted that the WPCA looked at water rates in other towns, some nearby and some further afield, and the new rates are right in the middle of the pack.

## Salisbury passes annual budget

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The 2024-25 budgets for municipal and education spending were approved at town meeting Wednesday, May 8 (held online and in person).

The Board of Finance met immediately after the town meeting and set the 2024-25 mill rate at 11.0 mills, same as 2023-24.

Board of Finance Chair Pari Forood opened the meeting. She said the expected total revenues from sources other than property taxes to be approximately \$1,650,000 and that the town's operating surplus is

about \$500,000.

The Board of Selectmen budget had a spending increase of 4.8% for a total of \$8,619,572 budgeted in 2024-25. The Board of Education budget has an increase of 3.09% for a total of \$6,535,939. The Region One budget, which was approved at the May 7 referendum, includes Salisbury's assessment of \$4,408,013, a 5.55% increase.

The total of all three budgets is \$19,563,524, which is an increase from last year's total budget of 4.4%.

The vote on the combined budget passed unanimously, 12 yes to zero no votes.

## OBITUARIES

### James Edward Hurley

NORTH CANAAN — James Edward Hurley, 87, fondly known as Jim, died on Dec. 23, 2023, after suffering a stroke in Staunton, Virginia. Before moving to Virginia in 2004, Jim was a resident of North Canaan.

James was born on Dec. 19, 1936, to Charles and Helen Hurley in Bridgeport. After graduating from Housatonic Valley Regional High School, he went on to study Political Science at Syracuse University. As a graduate of Syracuse University, Jim was an avid SU football fan and rarely missed a game.

He was also a passionate lover of classical music and spent many evenings at Tanglewood in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

James is survived by his two children; Greg Hurley and Christine Hurley Mills; his granddaughter, Kaitlin Mills and his sister Sabina Hurley Campbell. He is predeceased by his wife, Marilyn May Hurley.

### Memorial Service

### Judith Schwerin

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 25 at Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon.

Instead of flowers, please send donations to the Little Guild of St. Francis in Cornwall, Conn.

For more obituaries, see page A5



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Bill Beebe and Denny Jacobs work atop the caboose.

## Sprucing up Falls Village's caboose

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Bill Beebe and Denny Jacobs spent part of Sunday, May 19, atop the old caboose in downtown Falls Village, painting.

Both men plus Judy Jacobs did the lion's share of the work of obtaining, installing and restoring the 1944 caboose 30 years ago.

"We laid the tracks," said Beebe. "We pounded the spikes. By hand."

"We were young guys then. Be a little tougher to

do it now.

"We have one more ingredient now," added Jacobs. "Advil."

The job took a couple of years.

"At one point we had it stripped down to almost the wheels" Jacobs said. "I thought we'd better put it back together before we forget how."

Jacobs and Beebe were assisted by students from the Housatonic FFA chapter, who did prep work on the caboose last year.

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### A letter from Dr. William M. Kirber

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

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

William M. Kirber, MD



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### EDITORIAL



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Levi Elliott explains the process of restoring a 1950s Farmall tractor to FFA Open House judge Riley Klein, managing editor of The Lakeville Journal.

### Hands-on learning

As legend goes, when Ian Strever first became principal of Housatonic Valley Regional High School he asked a Lakeville Journal reporter who was familiar with the school if he had any advice going into the new role.

“Whatever you do, don’t mess with FFA.”

Agriculture education is a pillar of the HVRHS curriculum and has been for generations. The Housatonic Valley Agriculture Science and Technology Center of the school greets visitors as the foremost department on campus and has become home to timeless Northwest Corner traditions.

Production Night in November offers all-natural wreathmaking for the holiday season. The student-run Holiday Store provides Christmas trees, poinsettias, and delicious chocolate milk each December. Elementary schools and child care centers from across the region visit during the annual Open House in May. Hayrides, a trip to the petting zoo, equipment demonstrations, and student presentations all take place right on HVRHS’s campus.

The Open House continues into the evening where student presentations are displayed for hundreds of guests. Here, the reason Principal Strever was advised to keep the program running as it has for years becomes clear. Housatonic Valley FFA rewards individual interests and keeps rural culture alive.

Students are encouraged to explore their passions, even those that don’t directly align with standard high school education. Under the umbrella of agri-science, pursuits include environmentalism, mechanical engineering, animal care, business management, food production, and specialized trade professions.

Levi Elliot, freshman FFA student, demonstrated his custom rebuilt 1950s Farmall tractor at the Open House May 15. He and his grandfather modified the machine from top to bottom to compete in tractor pull competitions. Elliot explained the ins and outs of how each component contributes to the overall goal of pulling up to 1,000 pounds in tow.

Dana Saccardi shared a presentation on The Local in West Cornwall, a community market that sells locally sourced goods. Farmers and crafters bring their wares to The Local and when products sell, the market keeps 10% and the remaining 90% goes to the seller. Items include baked goods, fresh produce, local meats, honey, maple syrup, pottery, woodwork, and even 3D printed nightlight covers. Saccardi has worked at The Local for the past year.

Kara Frank presented the art of western tack along with her partner, a horse, on the oval lawn in front of HVRHS. Tack refers to the various accessories and equipment used in horseback riding. Western tack differs from English tack in several areas, and Frank explained why she prefers western-style riding. The sitting style on the saddle allows for more tilt and longer stirrups. A horn sits on the front of Western saddles, often used for securing a lasso. Spurs are used in western tack, but Frank assured guests the spurs are dull and do not hurt the horse.

A far cry from dioramas and book reports, the presentations at FFA’s Open House highlight what sets the agriculture education program apart. When students are encouraged to explore their passions, no matter how niche, the results are inspiring. Hands-on learners thrive while building essential skills for life in the Northwest Corner.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

### Field work



The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. Monday. You may email letters to [publisher@lakeville-journal.com](mailto:publisher@lakeville-journal.com).

Please provide phone number for confirmation and town of residence.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## A Housing Plan for the Pope Property

The consultant’s proposal to the Pope Committee is concise, elegant and clear for a plan that will be re-imagining Salisbury for the indefinite future. This initiative is more than soccer fields and rental units. It asks for a plan to bring Salisbury into the future.

There is one overarching requirement in the proposal that “The resulting comprehensive plan will be a new neighborhood that is an extension of Salisbury center. The existing Housatonic Child Care Center and Visiting Nurse Association buildings will be an integral component of the new neighborhood. Safe and universally accessible connections will be provided to the town center. The existing Rail Trail will be a vital connection between the neighborhoods.”

The methodology: “The

plan will need to be produced based on science, land use best practices, and aesthetic sensibilities in a way that is thoroughly defensible.”

Looking at the initial designs from the consultants that massed the housing along Salmon Kill Road, I suggested “Let’s keep the hedgerow and place the housing behind it as a village around a Green.” I was inspired by my recollection of small parks in Savannah Georgia. This concept was well-received, and the consultants did their own promising rendition.

Soccer fields in front conserved the rural feel of Salmon Kill Road. With the housing moved to the north of the property, the concept of extension of the Town center was obvious and easy. Coming from Town you pass the library, step across

Wachocastinook Creek and you are in the new Village. Think left bank, right bank in Paris. You are in the same town, only a different district. We had two workable proposals that could meet the requirement: Extension of Town center, connectivity of neighborhoods with Rail Trail connecting.

Then a Committee Member said, “We can’t have a road along the Rail Trail, people and cars don’t mix.”

But we do have a road along the Rail Trail. Railroad Street goes 1300’ along the Rail Trail through town, apparently without daily fatalities.

This “no road” edict was accepted without thoughtful discussion or any reference to safety standards about walkways along a road. This 10mph, 12’ wide, one-way road is 40’ from the path,

totally safe.

Another Committee member suggested rotating the consultant’s proposals to put the Green up against the Rail Trail, eliminating that road. Ironically, this created a far more dangerous cul-de-sac, and would also reduced the value of the Green for the residents. Still worse, this new proposal was neither an “extension of the Town Center” nor a good provider of the “easily accessible connections.”

For a wonderful place to live, a safe flow of traffic, adequate parking, a new Town park, and a plan for some Housing Trust condo ownership, take a look at my proposal. Please email me [geomassey@yahoo.com](mailto:geomassey@yahoo.com) with subject heading “Housing Proposal.”

**George Massey**  
Cornwall

## Setting Record Straight on Affordable Housing

Accurate facts are vital to civil discourse about public policy initiatives. This is why I am saddened by the “Why We Need Affordable Housing” letter published in these pages last week.

This letter misinterpreted my earlier “Protect the Rail Trail” comments (co-authored with a neighbor) on several counts, and I write to correct those misinterpretations.

With reference to the construction plans for the Pope property, the authors of the letter professed a devotion to “facts and clarity of intent.” Yet consider their response to my letter.

While I emphasized that “affordable housing is a moral imperative,” they maintain that I “reveal affordable housing as [our] intended target.” Under no circumstances am I opposed to much needed affordable housing in our community.

Their letter goes on to opine that “affordable housing is urgently needed in Salisbury.”

Of course, it is; and that lies at the heart of my “moral imperative” statement. They say further that teachers, nurses, and others in our community need affordable housing — as if I didn’t understand and deeply embrace that objective. They add that our community should welcome “young and old” and “people across the economic spectrum.” Of course, we should — and we do.

That objective is also patently central to the “moral imperative.” So to portray me

as an opponent of “affordable housing” is counterfactual and, indeed, deeply hurtful. I am happy to compare my progressive views on society with those of anyone else.

What seems to have incensed these critics is the question raised in my letter about dangers to the section of the Rail Trail between Library Street and Salmon Kill Road, which runs adjacent to the Pope property. This is one of the most beautiful vistas in our villages. My letter presented — in quotes from its report — recommendations advanced by an influential consulting firm that would make radical changes to the Rail Trail near the center of Salisbury, transforming the pathway from a bucolic walking and cycling experience into a “vehicular traffic lane.”

Added to that, my letter noted that a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission (as quoted in this newspaper) seeks to pave this entire upper Trail expanse for use by automobile traffic. Much of this disregard for sanctity of the Trail and the Historic District Line results from the government proposal offered in its “Schema No. 6” to erect 64 housing units on the limited buildable land within the Pope property. I observed, echoing the opinion of a good many of our fellow citizens, that such high-density housing is a mistake. I advocate a lower density objective.

I oppose the warehousing of future citizens into a barracks-like setting, while simultaneously irreparably

scarring — or eliminating altogether — the northern tier of the Rail Trail.

Let me put this in caps to avoid further misunderstandings about my position:

Affordable housing — absolutely yes. High density housing that encroaches into our historic district and diminishes our rail trail — absolutely no. The central fact is that we can protect the Rail Trail and pursue the moral imperative of affordable housing. We just have to be smarter about seeking both

vital objectives.

The critics of my letter maintain that the housing proposed in Scheme 6 for the Pope property “protects the Historic District” and “would not have an impact” on the Rail Trail. I urge readers to examine the consultant’s report, as well as Schem 6 based on this report (both documents are available online), then draw their own conclusions.

**Loch K. Johnson**  
Salisbury

### THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

(USPS 303280)

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

Volume 127, Number 42 Thursday, May 23, 2024

#### Mission Statement

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

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LJM Media, Inc. is a  
501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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

## Viewpoint

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

## 100 years ago – May 1924

SALISBURY — A fire caused by a passing locomotive made things lively at Clark's woods last Saturday afternoon. A number of men were kept busy fighting the fire for about three hours before the blaze was checked.

On Monday afternoon a pair of horses belonging to A.S. Martin and drawing a load of hay became frightened at a well digging machine working at Mrs. John Thorpe's on the Lime Rock road. They proceeded to run away, throwing Messrs. John Phillip and Edward Stanton off the load, which later was scattered through all the route, till the team struck the large elm tree near the water trough at the low end of the park. The shock and jar took all the running ambition away from the horses and the affair came to a sudden end. Fortunately Messrs. Phillip and Stanton were not hurt and the horses escaped injury. The wagon and harness were battered considerably and the hay was later gathered up piecemeal.

To Rent 10 room tenant cottage on farm, Taconic Road. Rent \$12.00 monthly. Apply at Lakeville Journal.

## Status Report

WINSTED — World War II veteran Ted Marolda celebrated his 101st birthday May 4 at Monaco's Ristorante.

NORTH CANAAN — Marisa "Missy" Ohler was honored at a recent send-off celebration that was held May 11. Ohler retired after six years as a dedicated and reliable fixture in the Town Hall's front office.

SHARON — The black and white pitbull found by Animal Control Officer Lee Sohl two weeks ago has not been claimed. Now named "Micah," the pup is in need of a forever home. Contact Animal Control at 860-488-6476 for more information.

NORTH CANAAN — Victoria Nagy's debut art exhibition is on display at Homegrown Cafe on Railroad Street. It will remain up through the end of May.

Tri-State Chamber of Commerce's 27th annual Murphy Open golf game will be held at The Links at Unionville in Lagrangeville, New York, Monday, June 5. Mid-round contests will include putting competitions and hole-in-one prizes. Raffle tickets will be sold and a silent auction will accept bids during lunch. Golfers can book foursomes by contacting Lisa at 860-671-0136. Sponsors and raffle donors can reach out to Lisa at the same number. The beneficiary of this year's Murphy Open is the Jane Lloyd Fund, a fund established at Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation to provide direct support for cancer patients' day-to-day living expenses.

Dr. W.B. Bissell has received his new Buick Four Sedan which he recently purchased of the Dutchess Auto and Supply Co.

Peter Flynn has advantageously disposed of a second hand Ford limousine.

Dr. E.B. Johnson has not been able to conduct his dental work owing to what he thinks is an attack of neuritis in one leg which makes continuous standing on his feet very painful to him.

## 50 years ago – May 1974

An investigation of possible jury misconduct in the Peter Reilly trial has been continued into Thursday at Litchfield Superior Court. Sentencing of Reilly was postponed a second time last week, when defense attorneys entered a motion last Friday requesting an investigation of possible improprieties by jurors during their deliberation.

Rose O. Ford of Falls Village and Walter Becker of Cornwall were named this week by State Police Commissioner Cleveland B. Fuessenich to a newly created Connecticut State Police Advisory Council. The 28-member council will act as a forum on matters of public interest and concern affecting police-community relations, Commissioner Fuessenich said.

Donald G. Kobler of Lakeville, teacher at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, has been appointed as a regional judge for the 1974 Achievement Awards in Writing competition of the National Council of Teachers of English.

The children of the Kent Community Nursery School are now enjoying a brand new set of four swings and a double see-saw made possible by the fund drive conducted this year by the nursery school board. The new equipment, of a long-lasting commercial quality made for schools, replaces the backyard swing set which had become dilapidated. Members hope that in the near future a slide and a jungle gym will be added to the playground.

O'Hara's Trading Post on East Twin Lake in Taconic has changed hands, with Bernard Haab and his son David taking charge. They have plans to expand services catering to area fisher-

men and their families. The Haab family also owns and operates Brookwood Marine in Millerton.

## 25 years ago – May 1999

Region 1 just said "no" to Coke. In what some members saw as a blow against American corporation culture, the Region 1 Board of Education rejected a proposed licensing agreement with Coca-Cola. The offer would have committed Housatonic Valley Regional High School to serve only Coke-sanctioned beverages for the next decade.

Acquisition of 848 acres of land on Blackland and North Goshen roads will soon become property of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. The state is purchasing the land from Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield to keep it in open space. The purchase of the property is in addition to the more than 1,820 acres the state has acquired over the past six months through the DEP's Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Fund.

A brand new Snack Shack reopened for business Monday. The lines at the food window were long during peak meal periods, even though an abundance of help behind the counter kept the burgers and fries moving. The problem was, nobody could resist heading back to what was a favorite dining spot in Canaan for three decades. Canaan businessmen Dave Ohler and Billy Segalla are partners in the new Snack Shack. They bought it from Burt and Jen Veronesi, who ran it for 27 years. The Veronesis had bought it from the original owner, Stanley Segalla, Billy Segalla's father.

Sightings of bears around the Northwest Corner are becoming more commonplace. But when they show up in the center of town, that's really newsworthy. Lucy Lomonaco of Ethan Allen Street called to say she spotted a "huge" black bear at the edge of Factory Pond Saturday night. He was clawing at a nearby tree (our ubiquitous photographer Mark Niedhammer got a photo of the markings) and then lumbered off toward the lake. "It was scary," reported Mrs. Lomonaco.

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

## After a Cricket

Hope holds despair as much as despair holds hope. Despair has to keep hope out of mind somewhere, like that fine-tooth strumming I heard over lunch from what couldn't have been a cricket. It was too cold in the fall, too sunny in the day. Hope—hard hope—doesn't tune out but listens through despair for sounds of life.

For the foreseeable century, the climate will gleam on us, with a fixed gleam that breaks down anywhere at once, as any expression will if it's held too long. Over lunch the next day I heard the same sound. So I went outdoors and followed the strumming to what, sure enough, was a cricket, running one forewing down the other, somewhere in the noontime shade of the braided wisteria vine in pod. I felt his strumming deepened the shade he basked in. But I knew he wasn't playing for me or only to please himself.

The next day, nothing. So I went out and I listened to a silence in the shape of a strum. The strummer, I like to think, hadn't given out but met up with an admirer. His hope would have held. He played like it would never have occurred to him to stop before he was done.

John Shoptaw

*From a new collection, Near-Earth Object, published by Unbound Edition Press (Atlanta)*



PHOTO BY ELIZA OSBORNE

Burial at Arlington Cemetery for member of the 303rd bomber group, Hell's Angels.

## Remembering father on Memorial Day

My parents were buried at Arlington National Cemetery this past October. They had, in fact, both died some time earlier, but the family member who had volunteered to oversee arranging the interment delayed doing that for some time. Eventually he died himself, and my daughter took over. Burial at Arlington is cut and dried: you have a right to it or you don't, but arranging it can take some time. Sometimes burial is limited to the columbarium there (a wall with pigeonholes), but my father was entitled to burial on the grounds.

My father, born in 1922, was a child of immigrants. His father had arrived in the United States, alone, at age fourteen. We are uncertain as to what his name was, or how it was spelled; changes were apparently made at the immigration point. My grandfather and his wife worked hard all their lives, and my grandfather died too young of damage done by working in jobs that were, by today's standards, environmentally hazardous. They were extremely poor.

My father, who used to throw his lunch sandwiches over a fence because he was embarrassed not to have the same sort as the "American" kids, was, however, an extremely gifted athlete (basketball and football) and was, as well, smart. He was offered full scholarships by thirty-five colleges, including the University of Pennsylvania and Princeton. He had no guidance except from his coach (who had bought him a suit so that he could attend a recognition ceremony), so he chose the school with the best reputation for sports. At the University of West Virginia he was on a basketball team that, at Madison Square garden, won a national championship in what was the predecessor to the NCAA. There is a record of this online, with a photograph of the team.

He enlisted during World War II, and was chosen for officer candidate school. He did his training in South Carolina, where he met and married my mother, a descendant of the Scottish diaspora that populated a lot of the Southeast in the 18th century; it is unlikely that they would ever have met otherwise. My

GUEST COMMENTARY  
PAMELA OSBORNE

father was very good at math, and so he was trained as a navigator and was eventually sent to England, where he joined a crew flying bombers from there to Germany. He was part of the 303rd bomber group, Hell's Angels.

## Life expectancy for bomber crews was short. My father didn't talk about this period in his life much...

Life expectancy for bomber crews was short. My father didn't talk about this period in his life much, and most of what I know is from looking things up myself. The chance of returning from every mission was less than fifty percent. Very few crews survived more than eleven missions, and twenty-five missions was considered a complete tour of duty. My father's crew, flying a plane named "The 8 Ball" out of Molesworth, beat the odds and re-upped, flying more than thirty-five missions — I don't know the exact number. In the early days the fighter planes that guarded the bombers were limited in range because of fuel capacity, so they were able to go only so far before they were forced to turn back. At that point the bombers were on their own, and the Luftwaffe quickly learned to wait for that moment before attacking. So many bombers were lost that, at the end of 1943, flights were made only at night in order to present as less visible targets. I can only imagine the terror of this. My father did say once that a bombardier on his plane was shot and killed through the open bomb bay. The average age of bomber crews was twenty-five. My father was twenty-one years old.

I should also say that

my father was a lucky man, who always got a parking spot in front of wherever we were going the day after Thanksgiving, and who often got winning (small) lottery tickets. I think his luckiness rubbed off; it is amazing that he and his crew survived so many missions. I still have his silk pocket handkerchief, printed with a map, that was given to airmen in case they needed to bail out. Many of those who did, if they survived, spent the rest of the war in prisoner of war camps.

After the war, his athletic career in the past, he went to Clemson University on the G.I. Bill, studying engineering. He graduated first in his class, and also graduated first in his class when he earned his master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the University of Michigan. I have newspaper articles confirming these. I remember my mother, who worked nights at a Kaiser aluminum plant near Ann Arbor, baking things to keep him going while he was studying. She was a farmer's daughter who also earned a master's degree, summa cum laude, and was an elementary school teacher for many years, and through several military moves.

My father stayed with the Air Force after graduation — happy childhood years for me and my brother — and was eventually sent to Command and Staff school in Montgomery, Alabama. He left the military while we were there, I think because he wanted a chance to earn more money. He stayed in the Reserve, though, eventually rising to full Colonel rank.

I won't describe his work career post-military. But I would like to say, as this year's Memorial Day approaches, that we believe believe my father illustrates the best of America, a child of immigrants who worked hard, who was brave, who did his best for his country and his family. He was proud that he had the right to be buried at Arlington, as was my mother. I think of my parents every day.

*Pamela Osborne lives in Salisbury.*



## Realtor® at Large

The Connecticut Forest and Park Association was founded in 1895 as the first private, non-profit conservation organization in the state. Their mission is simple: connecting people to the land, which will then help in protecting our state's natural resources. The CFPA manages 825 miles of trails across the state, all marked in blue. They can be found at: [ctwoodlands.org/trails/](http://ctwoodlands.org/trails/). Every year, the CFPA sponsors the CT Trails Day on June 1st and 2nd and there are over 100 opportunities across the state to experience the wonder of our great outdoors. For example, in Sharon there will be a walk on the Mary Moore Preserve and in Cornwall, the walk will be exploring the Furnace Brook Preserve. On some events, there is a requirement to register, others are open; to find out more about this celebration of nature, please visit: [trailsday.org](http://trailsday.org)



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Associate Broker with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty  
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**Email:** [jharney@wpsir.com](mailto:jharney@wpsir.com)  
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# Troutbeck Symposium comes to Salisbury

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Student projects from the recent Troutbeck Symposium were on display at the Salisbury Association's Academy Building for a couple of weeks after the main event.

The Troutbeck Symposium focused on aspects of local history often overlooked, particularly as they relate to Indigenous communities and communities of color.

The schools involved were Salisbury Central School, Salisbury School, Housatonic Valley Regional High School, and North Canaan Elementary School.

The latter's efforts were described as such:

"The eighth-grade students at North Canaan Elementary School created these tiles to depict, through art, the tools, costumes and cultural traditions of Connecticut's Indigenous tribes. Their goal is to tribute to and raise awareness of the rich history of the Indigenous peoples who have inhabited and protected this land for generations."

Other exhibits included



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

**Student presentations from Troutbeck Symposium were on display at Academy Building.**

original poetry from Salisbury Central School students. Entries from HVRHS included a look at the civil rights movement in popular culture, a discussion of the participants in the 1916 Amenia Conference, held at Troutbeck by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and a discussion of how race was treated by authors such as James Fenimore Cooper and Harriet Beecher Stowe.

One of the HVRHS projects was on Dolores Branch James-Johnson, a

1952 graduate of HVRHS and longtime employee of Salisbury Central School who became active in the Civil Rights movement. She marched with Martin Luther King Jr. to Washington, in the Selma-Montgomery March in 1965, and was highly active in Concern, a local Civil Rights organization.

Salisbury School's projects were in video form, including Tino Harper and DJ Duntz on "The Brotherhood of Black Hair." The videos can be seen on YouTube under "Coloring Our Past."



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN



## Smelting at Sloane

Eric Sloane Museum in Kent opened the summer season with an Iron Smelting demonstration. Master blacksmith Steve Mankowski worked alongside fellow smith Eric Dennis to smelt and harden metal from slag. The demonstration stretched over two days with the smelting on Saturday, May 18, and the forging on Sunday, May 19.

## Voters adopt new budget in Cornwall

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — The annual budget for fiscal year 2024-25 passed unanimously at a Town Meeting held in Cornwall Consolidated School May 17.

Taxes will rise after a year of increased expenses, largely due to weather damage in the summer of 2023. The mill rate for 2024-25 was set at 15.3, an increase of 4.05% compared to last year.

Cornwall's total expenditure for next year is up to \$8,061,110, an increase of

\$292,537 (3.77%) compared to 2023-24. A new line was added next year for storm damage. The hope is by allocating \$100,000 for weather related repairs, the town will not have to dip into the reserve fund like last year.

Total education expenses in Cornwall are up to \$4,772,108. The elementary school budget rose \$113,319 (4.3%) and Cornwall's Region One assessment is up by \$177,768 (9.62%) compared to last year.

The selectmen's budget was set at \$3,128,979, an in-

crease of \$186,290 (6.33%) over 2023-24.

To balance the budget, Cornwall transferred \$200,000 from the unassigned general fund. This is less than was transferred last year (\$350,000) in an attempt to rebuild the town's reserves.

**Affordable Housing**  
At the May 17 meeting, Cornwall approved an ordinance to form the Affordable Housing Fund.

The creation of this fund is intended to expedite efforts to build more affordable dwellings in town.

# ANNOUNCING

## \$100,000 Matching Grant to Support Your Community News



Local news is trusted, and it is essential reading for people who want to know what's happening around them.

*The Lakeville Journal* tells you about our towns, our schools, local events, and all the cultural and natural resources that make this region so special. It is produced by, for, and about our neighbors and the places we know and love.

With your help, we can continue to strengthen our news coverage, continue to add reporters and editors, newsletters and events, and expand digital storytelling beyond our beloved newspapers. With your donations, news on our website can stay available for all. And with your support, *The Lakeville Journal* will remain the heart of our community for generations to come.

Board members of *The Lakeville Journal* have pledged \$100,000 to match donations through June 30. The money raised will all go directly to creating the local news you want, when you want it.

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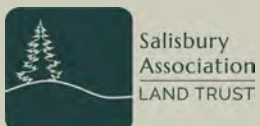
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### NEW SALISBURY ASSOCIATION LAND TRUST EXHIBIT: Imperiled Species in Our Community: The Biodiversity Crisis at Home



An exhibit on view at the Academy Building from May 25 through the end of July tells the story of a dramatic decline in the biodiversity of local animal species. Come learn how you can help the at-risk Eastern Pearlshell, Bobolink, Slimy Sculpin, American Bittern, Bombardier Beetle, American Kestrel (pictured), and other species important to our local environment.

A reception celebrating the exhibition will take place on Saturday, June 1, from 4-6 PM. All welcome.



Salisbury Association  
Academy Building  
24 Main Street  
Salisbury, CT 06068

860.435.0566  
[salisburyassociation.org](http://salisburyassociation.org)



# Sports

## Salisbury 'three-peats'

By Riley Klein

SALISBURY — The Crimson Knights secured back-to-back-to-back Western New England Prep Baseball League (WNEPBL) titles with a 2-1 win over Canterbury School Sunday, May 19.

Salisbury Coach Kevin Huber's trophy case has grown to four championships in the last eight years (two of those years had no tournaments due to Covid-19). The Knights capped off a dominant season in style with a big win in the title match.

Salisbury earned the top seed in WNEPBL standings after completing the season with a 13-1 league record. The Knights went 20-4 overall this season and were the fifth ranked prep school baseball team in the nation by MaxPreps.com before tournament weekend.

(1) Salisbury won 3-1 in the semifinal game against (3) Cheshire Academy Saturday, May 18. The Knights scored all their runs in the second inning. Salisbury's Ty Deperno pitched a shutout until the sixth inning when Cheshire scored its lone run.

In the other WNEPBL semifinal game, played in Easthampton, Mass., (4) Canterbury School defeated (2) Williston Northampton School 6-0. The Canterbury Saints then made their way to Salisbury for the championship game Sunday, May 19. When these teams last met on April 17, Salisbury won 4-3 in extra innings.

Conditions were perfect for baseball in the title match. Sun was shining with a light breeze, about 65 degrees. Students, parents and fans filled the ballfield at Hilltop for game time.

Salisbury never trailed



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN



Top, Danny Rogers is hyped after scoring Salisbury's second run. Middle, catcher Thomas O'Connell is ready for his ring after the 2-1 win over Canterbury. Lower, The three-time champs rejoice in the infield.

against rival Canterbury. The Knights took a 2-run lead in the second inning and maintained a scoring advantage throughout.

Canterbury got on the board in the third inning on a sacrifice fly. Salisbury's pitcher Jasper Nadel held the Saints to one run until he was relieved by Mike Plummer in the sixth inning. Plummer launched rockets down the middle to close out the game with a 2-1 victory.

The Knights rejoiced in the infield, completing the rare and coveted "three-peat." Salisbury has won four of the last six WNEPBL tournaments (2017, 2022, 2023, 2024 — no tournaments in 2020, 2021).

Of Salisbury's winning roster, 12 seniors have committed to college programs next year. Additionally, three underclassmen have already committed to NCAA Division One schools.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Kyle McCarron (leader) will look to improve on his 1600-meter time at states.

## Mountaineers head to states

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — Dozens of Housatonic Valley Regional High School athletes will compete in the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference playoffs this spring.

Girls lacrosse and softball teams both qualified for the Class S postseason along with 11 HVRHS track and field athletes.

The softball team will look to improve on a quarterfinal playoff run in the 2023 season. With no seniors last year and improving the regular season record to 11-7 in 2024, the Mountaineers are seeded 16th in the field of 28 qualifying Class S teams. Two regular season games remain, offering a chance for HVRHS to earn homefield advantage in the first round.

Girls lacrosse ended the regular season with a record of 5-6 and gained HVRHS entry to the Western Connecticut Lacrosse Conference playoffs. The girls beat Watertown 17-16 in a nailbiter semifinal game and advanced to the championships against top ranked St. Paul Catholic High School. Round one of the lacrosse Class S state tournament will be played May 28.

The Berkshire League track and field tournament

meets took place in Litchfield Saturday, May 18, and Tuesday, May 21. HVRHS had 11 athletes qualify for the Class S state meet, to be held at Willowbrook Park in New Britain Wednesday, May 29. Last year distance runner Kyle McCarron placed 3rd in

the 3200-meter and 4th in the 1600-meter races. Now a junior, McCarron has his sights set on gold. All athletes who place in the top five at Willowbrook will advance to the CT Open meet, which will include athletes from all CIAC divisions.

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## HYDRILLA

Continued from Page A1

the first of about a half dozen Connecticut lakes to become infested with the aggressive hydrilla variant which has been wreaking havoc on the Connecticut River for several years. Its discovery prompted rapid response by the TLA and a coalition of scientists, biologists, environmentalists and state and local lawmakers to stop the non-native plant from overtaking Twin Lakes and contaminating other bodies of water.

"Hydrilla is the Godzilla of invasive plants," said Bogle, noting that it is the responsibility of everyone who uses the lake to become its guardians.

"It is very aggressive and will outcompete native species," he explained. Scientists describe hydrilla as one of the "world's worst" aquatic weeds.

"It alters the oxygenation and chemistry of lake systems, which may negatively impact fish and other native lifeforms," noted Bogle. "It forms thick mats that are nearly impossible for boats to traverse, and there is a risk that wildlife like bald eagles, which are present on Twin Lakes, may ingest hydrilla which may contain a neurotoxin that can be fatal."

The state boat launch was sanctioned years ago as an entry point for roof-top vessels, and the threat from hydrilla prompted the TLA to ask the state to restore that status and return the boulders to ensure that all boats entering the lake from a single point can be monitored.

A boat launch monitoring program is now in place at O'Hara's Landing Marina under the direction of the TLA and the town. The goal of that effort is to greet boaters and alert them to the hydrilla threat, distribute educational materials on best practices for preventing spread of the invasive weed, and make a visual inspection of boats entering and leaving the marina.

Other measures are in place this year to suppress hydrilla growth as it begins, typically in June.

TLA board members Rich Haupt and Russ Conklin recently installed a barrier under the Isola Bella bridge. The modestly lit "limno" barrier, with its neon yellow float holding it in place, is designed to keep hydrilla fragments from following the natural current from the northeast cove, where the in-



PHOTO BY ERICA COHN

**Rich Haupt helped install a barrier under the Isola Bella bridge, the latest step to curb the spread of invasive hydrilla.**

vasive plant has been identified in multiple places, to the northwest cove.

While lake association officials recognize that the barrier, which they said will not impact natural lake rhythms, is an inconvenience as it blocks passage for kayaks, canoes and swimmers, it is only a temporary fixture until hydrilla is under control.

Earlier this month a team of scientists, joined by TLA directors, toured the lakes to assess the hydrilla threat and discuss treatment strategies. While no hydrilla was found this early in the season, there was agreement that it will begin to show itself by July.

## Mount Riga beach, campsites close for 2024 season due to hydrilla threat

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — Mount Riga, Inc.'s (MRI) Ostrander Guest Beach and all campsites will remain closed for the 2024 summer season in response to the threat of invasive hydrilla entering the waters of its 159-acre North Pond and 143-acre South Pond, its president, Ana Maria Chrysler, announced last week.

The decision, she said, was made "in light of the presence of hydrilla and other invasives in local lakes, and there being no efficient and acceptable method for eradicating them."

Mount Riga's main concern is the irreversible growth of hydrilla once it is established, Chrysler explained.

"MRI does not have the resources to monitor the beach/campsites during all hours of operation like Lakeville's Town Grove and the boat ramp at Twin Lakes."

Her organization also does not have the resources to combat hydrilla, she said, noting that the Twin Lakes Association anticipates spending \$250,000 annually

trying to contain hydrilla and other invasives.

Chrysler said the difficult decision to close the guest beach and campsites was made in consultation with limnologists at North East Aquatic Research (NEAR).

MRI issues between 200 and 250 beach passes annually, according to its president.

"NEAR did a plant survey last fall and reported that neither of our lakes had hydrilla. We have scheduled another plant survey for July 2024," Chrysler explained.

MRI will take this summer season to "create a long-term lake management plan and develop protocols to mitigate the risk of exposure to these harmful weeds. The Mount Riga community realizes this decision might be disappointing to those who use Ostrander Guest Beach and regrets any inconvenience the closures may cause to residents of Salisbury."

"Mount Riga is hopeful that everyone respects our passion and dedication to keep the lakes pristine for the health of our community and environment."

## FFA

Continued from Page A1

was standing in front of the enormous 1955 Hough Payloader that had been sitting around in a state of neglect for 10 years or so before Ball decided to make it his project.

"It was dead when I started," he said. "Three flat tires." It only took three days to get the thing running.

Luckily his father had all the manuals.

"I could take it apart, put it in a box and rebuild it"

Taylor Green of Kent explained to a judge that building a goat pen is one thing. Building a goat pen that keeps the goats penned is quite another.

She said goats are highly intelligent and can quickly learn how to unlatch gates, among other escape tactics.

Goats are also very agile. They leap into the air, attaining the stratosphere with seemingly little effort.

Which is why the five-foot



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

**Alana Tatro showed Maximilian Tripler a baby goat at the FFA Open House Wednesday, May 15. Inside the barn Taylor Green provided pointers on keeping goats inside their pens.**

high fence should probably be nine or 10 feet high.

Levi Elliott of Miller-ton fixed up a McCormick Farmall tractor "for pulling only." He regaled Lakeville Journal Managing Editor Riley Klein, who was a judge, with the details.

Carson Riva of North Canaan explained to visitors how trout stocking works.

Behind him in a tank, were brown, brook and rainbow trout that will be released into the Blackberry River in Norfolk.

And Daniel Moran of Norfolk kept everyone entertained by flying a drone around the campus and surrounding areas, keeping tabs via a large TV screen set up outside.

## FIRE COMPANY

Continued from Page A1

as the jaws of life, extrication tools are used to cut, pry and spread open metal surfaces, most commonly in car wrecks.

The two tools work together with one operating as the "cutter" and the other as the "spreader." Captain Foley said the ease of use with the new models offers "really quick deployment" when responding to emergencies.

"It's replacing a portable hydraulic pump with hoses, and actually these have more cutting and spreading power," he said.

"It's amazing how much faster they are, and obviously more powerful," said Assistant Chief McGuire, adding that "the battery on them lasts approximately 45 minutes" while in use.

A former member of the Canaan Fire Company from 1989 to 1994, Wohlfert was excited to see the new tools when the firefighters came by his house. The tool being replaced was in operation when Wohlfert was on the crew.

"Holy \$#!& these things have changed," remarked Wohlfert. "I'm so happy I got that for you guys. Those are gonna save some lives."

Wohlfert said he spent a lot of time at the firehouse as a child when his father was on the crew. His grandfather was assistant chief of Canaan Fire Co. in the 1970s, so firefighting runs in the family.

He said the inspiration to donate funds for new extrication tools came from an early memory he has. As a young child, he witnessed the jaws of life used in Torrington to save someone from a car crash.

"It just stuck in my mind," said Wohlfert. "It's incredi-

ble."

Chief Foley noted it has been decades since the company received a donation of this size from an individual. Without Wohlfert's generosity, Foley said the department was "nowhere near" financially ready to replace its extrication gear.

"We needed the upgrade," said Foley.

When asked if the donation came at a good time, McGuire responded, "They always come at a good time."

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## MEMORIAL DAY

Continued from Page A1

a.m. and will go down Main Street to Veterans' Memorial near the clock tower. A ceremony will be held to pay tribute to the fallen.

In Salisbury the parade starts at 10 a.m. and proceeds from Town Hall and the Scoville Memorial Library to the cemetery via Main Street and

Undermountain Road. At the cemetery there will be a ceremony.

Kent's parade will begin at 9:30 a.m. and make stops at the memorial sites and monuments in town. Small ceremonies will be held along the route and a military flyover is expected around 11 a.m.

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

**LIFESTYLE: ALEXANDER WILBURN**

## Quellas host Hotchkiss Library of Sharon gala

The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon held its annual spring gala and auction on Saturday, May 18, at the Sharon home of James and Linda Quella, best known in the area for their family-run poultry farm, Q Farms, where they humanely raise chickens in their pastures.

The spring gala is a major event each year for the library to raise funds for its annual budgeting cost, explained Hotchkiss Library Director Gretchen Hachmeister. "We raise about 65% of our annual operating budget just through fundraising events. We get about 25% from the town and the rest, some grants, and then the rest

is fundraising. The general budget supports just opening the doors and helping us do everything we do."

Silent auction items at the gala included a hand-crafted dinnerware set by DBO Home in Sharon — which has provided dining wear to restaurants like ABC Kitchen and Blue Hill at Stone Barns in New York, and Troutbeck in Amenia — as well as art by Patty Mullins and the late Cleve Gray, and a dahlia subscription provided by English Garden Grown in Salisbury. Also notable was a throw woven with wool collected from Hachmeister's own Shetland sheep she raises.

"We are passionate about community and

community is about people and bringing people together," James Quella said on hosting this year's library gala. "Mission-driven is a way a community can be brought together. The mission here is that Hotchkiss Library is a community center. It's a place where the community can gather, learn, educate themselves, educate others, and provide a way station for people who don't have internet connectivity. A place to reach out to members of the community who may not feel welcome, and we want everyone in our community to feel welcome. [My wife,] Linda is on the library's



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

Continued on page B3 James and Linda Quella hosted the spring gala at their estate in Sharon.

**GARDENING: NATALIA ZUKERMAN**

## Trade Secrets still 'a success' in year 24

Landscape enthusiasts traveled from far and wide for garden tours and rare

finds at Project SAGE's annual Trade Secrets event May 18 and 19. The origin of the rare

plant and antiques fundraiser traces back to a serendipitous moment in the winter of 2001, when interior designer and author Bunny Williams found her greenhouse overflowing with seedlings, thanks to her then-gardener Naomi Blumenthal's successful propagation of rare primroses.

What started as a simple idea to clear space evolved into an extraordinary event that has become the primary fundraiser for Project SAGE, a non-profit domestic violence agency serving Northwest Connecticut and the surrounding areas.



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Bunny Williams opened her garden for Trade Secrets tour visitors.

The first Trade Secrets event was held on May 19, 2001, on Bunny Williams' and John Rosselli's stunning fifteen-acre property in Falls Village. The event drew over 450

attendees with vendors chosen by Williams who would "wow" the attendees.

Williams recalled, "We didn't think it would be a success. And it was such a success. What I'm so proud of is that it really funded Project SAGE to become what it is." She added, "Proj-

ect Sage, which was called Women's Support Services back then, was only a hotline. They had no facility. And I said, 'Why don't we make this a charity? We'll sell some plants.' Naomi was on the hotline for Women's Support Services, and she said, 'Let's give it to them.' And it was just like, why not?"

Since its inception, Trade Secrets has grown exponentially, moving from Williams' private home to various larger venues, including Wake Robin Inn in Lakeville, LionRock Farm in Sharon, and now in its third year at Lime Rock Park in Lakeville. Despite the changes in location, the core mission remains intact: to raise funds for Project SAGE. Over the years, the event has evolved to include garden tours, guest speak-

**Colors Cornacopia Art Opening**  
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Join us on Friday May 24 from 4-6 in the Learning Center for the opening reception of "Colors Cornacopia" by artist Janet Newman. Meet the artist behind these colorful works while enjoying wine, light snacks, and great conversation. All are welcome to attend. Janet believes the wow factor of brilliant colors often ignites a happy, joyous feeling of emotions and her goal is to inspire others to include more color in their lives and have fun with it.

Exhibit will stay open for viewing on Saturdays and Sundays from 11-4 until June 16th.



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Continued on page B3

GARDENING: RILEY KLEIN

# North Canaan in bloom for Spring Fest

The inaugural North Canaan Spring Fest filled the town center with festive fun Saturday, May 18.

Turning in any direction led to something worth discovering with local vendors and businesses going all out for the day. From Litchfield Art Festival at Lawrence Field to the craft market in the municipal parking lot and nearly all the shops in between, North Canaan was on full display.

"We worked really hard to get the whole town involved," said North Canaan Events Committee's Director of Public Relations Jessie Lawrence.

About 55 vendors from the tri-state area set up booths to take part in municipal parking lot market. Fine woodwork, clothing, pottery, plants, tarot card readings and custom-made pens were available. Tony Bouceri, pen maker, said patrons of his products would be in good company. He has sold to Oprah, the Pope, "and even James Bond girls."

Douglas Library's front lawn was buzzing for the plant sale featuring a wide assortment of greenery, mostly donated by Freund's Farm in East Canaan. Library Direc-

tor Norma May said the plant sale is one of the library's largest fundraisers of the year and she was thankful to both Freund's Farm and the customers. Items were moving fast with about half the inventory sold by 10:20 a.m.

Nerdy Visions Tattoo hosted a "flash tat" event with discount ink. For as low as \$75, customers could select from a wall of images to add to their body. Owner Joe Atherton said his parlor was pleased to take part in Spring Fest and get some new ink in North Canaan. At night, the shop transformed into an arcade for the community.

Dozens of artisans set up shop in Lawrence Field for North Canaan's first installation of the Litchfield Art Festival (LAF). Expanding beyond Litchfield and into the County, Litchfield Art Festival brought unique creations to town. LAF was organized by The Voice of Art, a nonprofit visual art organization founded in 2017. Director Hannah Jung said, "Canaan provides what we need, so we're very happy to be here."

Canaan History Center's Kathryn Boughton led a guided walking tour in the afternoon. Throughout the day, live

music filled the air courtesy of Paul Ramunni at New England Accordion Museum. Tours of the Canaan Union Depot Station railroad museum went on as the polka played.

Businesses took part in the fun too with piggy bank decorating at NBT Bank, smoothie specials at Homegrown Cafe, dog treats at Husky Hound Handlers, furniture painting at Old Soul Vintage, free one-hour demos at Covered Bridge Electric Bike, and candle making at Hither Lane inside Colonial Theatre. The theater put on a screening of "Field of Dreams" for some air-conditioned relief in the afternoon.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Products at Douglas Library's plant sale, part of North Canaan Spring Fest, were moving fast with about half the inventory gone by 10:20 a.m. Most of the plants were donated to the sale by Freund's Farm in East Canaan.

DANCE: JAMES H. CLARK

## Spring recital in Falls Village

Students, ages 4 to adult, of Blue Studio Dance in Lakeville presented their Spring concert to a standing room only crowd at HVRHS on Saturday, May 11. Among the performances was a dance set to "Alligator Stroll", which had children snapping their arms like alligator jaws. A contemporary/hip hop dance set to a modern rendition of "Que Sera, Sera" was a



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

crowd favorite.

Blue Studio offers a summer camp for ages

3-6 and 7-10 in June and July and two weeks of a dance intensive in Aug.

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# COMPASS

## ...Trade Secrets *Continued from previous page*

ers, book signings, and a wider array of vendors, enhancing its appeal and reach.

Kaitlyn Robitaille, director of appeals and fundraising events at Project SAGE shared, "It's our only fundraiser that we host yearly, and it raises approximately a quarter of our annual operating budget," which is

reported at \$1.5 million. "But this year we've exceeded every fundraising goal we've set, which is a first," said Robitaille.

Asked what she thought this might be attributed to, Robitaille shared, "I think that being at Lime Rock in 2022, the first year, it was such a stark contrast to LionRock farm. It was

very different. And I think people either liked it or they didn't. So, last year we made a lot of changes, having been here once before, and it was so much better. So, I think a lot of people probably heard that it's better here now. And now they're coming back."

Now in its 24th year,

## ...library gala *Continued from previous page*

board, and her mission to join the board was to create that kind of sense of community. To have everyone here at our house, to get connected, and to believe in the mission of The Hotchkiss Library, it's ecstasy. It makes us happy. It's not even a job."

Hotchkiss Library Board of Directors member Linda Quella cited the sponsorship of Tri-Corner F.E.E.D. (Food, Equity, Education, and Distribution) as a major opportunity in partnering with the library. Founded by James and Linda Quella, Tri-Corner F.E.E.D. connects with farmers in communities experi-

encing food scarcity and provides resources, as well as allows farms to receive advance payments for their produce in order to secure a reliable flow of income. "Tri-Corner F.E.E.D. is about providing food security and food access for all members of our community. By sponsoring this event we wanted to raise awareness of our farming and agricultural community and make sure that all the food here at the gala is provided by the farmers that are in our community. We want people to understand and start having an awareness of the level of food security in the area. It's one of

the things that we hope to bring to some of the library programs"

For those unable to attend the spring gala but with interest in supporting The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, Hachmeister said, "We welcome support of all kinds. We'll be marching in Sharon's Memorial Day parade, for example, to raise the profile of the library. If anyone would like to participate, they are welcome. Our annual appeal is also ongoing until Sunday, June 30. We welcome everybody at the library. We provide our services free of charge, but it costs us something to do that."



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Guests of the rare plant and antique sale took in the sights and smells Sunday, May 19.

the two-day event began May 18, when attendees had the opportunity to explore six exceptional gardens. Alongside Bunny Williams and John Rosselli's home, other notable gardens included Maywood Estate Gardens in Bridgewater, three estates in Millbrook including Sharpstone Farm Gardens, and Wethersfield in Amenia.

Tricia Van Oers, a classically trained Dutch musician and Bunny Williams' master gardener (along with her husband Robert Reimer) for the last six years shared, "It's exciting. It's always nice to see so many people excited about gardens and about vegetables also. It's nice to see how Bunny is always excited because she likes to share her property."

On May 19, Lime Rock Park transformed into a paradise for plant lovers and garden aficionados. With 45 vendors, the rare plant and garden antiques sale provided a unique shopping experi-

ence for customers.

The planning and execution of Trade Secrets requires months of preparation and the efforts of more than 200 volunteers. These volunteers assist with everything from marketing to vendor coordination, ensuring the event runs smoothly. Robitaille said, "We have a planning committee comprised of volunteers that help all year with planning and aesthetics, everything down to reaching out to the vendors to see if they're interested. And, we have a part time staff member, Brenna Doyle, who works on planning all year at the agency too."

Trade Secrets has

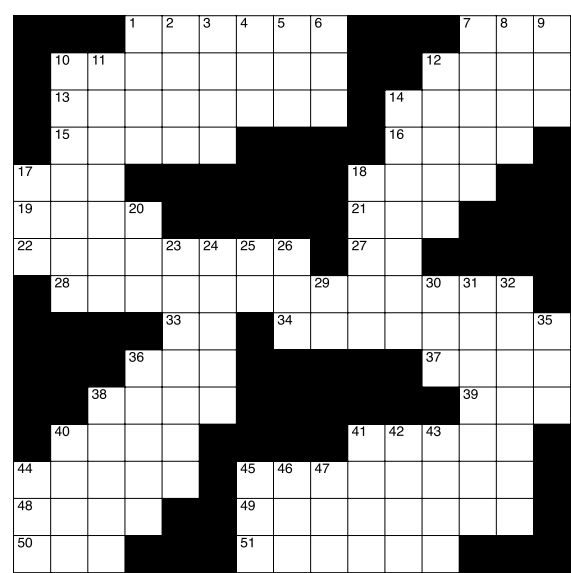
enabled Project SAGE to expand its services and facilities. From its humble beginnings in a small, rented space, Project SAGE now operates from a larger home in Lakeville, and offers a range of services including a 24-hour confidential hotline, emergency shelter, counseling, and education programs.

As Trade Secrets continues to flourish, it remains a cherished annual tradition fueled by passion and generosity. What began as a simple effort to clear space has blossomed into a significant force for good, profoundly impacting the lives of many through the work of Project SAGE.

## Brain Teasers

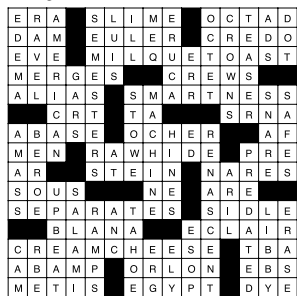
### CLUES ACROSS

1. Lunatic
7. Doctor of Education
10. Able to make amends
12. Tight-knit group
13. Gland
14. Intestinal pouches
15. Fungal spores
16. Erstwhile
17. Engine additive
18. Nasal mucus
19. Fit a horse with footwear
21. Consumed
22. Settle
27. Larry and Curly's pal
28. Basketball's GOAT
33. Exclamation of surprise
34. Made tight
36. Before
37. Actor Nicolas
38. Not hot
39. Talk
40. Pledge
41. Abandon a mission
44. Trims by cutting
45. Aspects of one's character
48. Boxing GOAT's former surname
49. Holy places
50. Body art (slang)
51. Attributes



11. Lebanese city
12. Type of watercraft
14. A way to twist
17. Soviet Socialist Republic
18. Greek island
20. Medical practitioner
23. \_\_\_ DeGaulle, French President
24. Partner to "ooohed"
25. Atomic #52
26. Santa's helper
29. Rapper \_\_\_ Rule
30. Month
31. Word formed by rearranging letters
32. Nullifies
35. Young woman ready to enter society
36. Unemployment
38. Weight unit
40. Formal party
41. Computer language
42. Residue formula in math
43. Duty or responsibility
44. Part of (abbr.)
45. Time zone
46. Body part
47. Nucleic acid

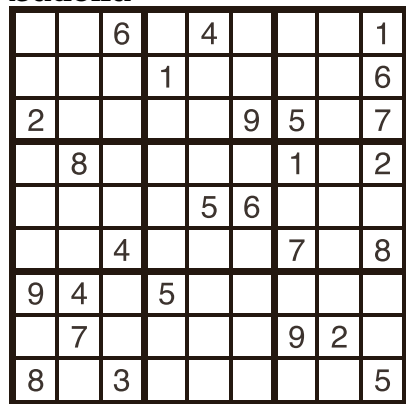
### May 16 Solution



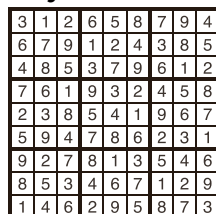
### CLUES DOWN

1. How one feels
2. American Nat'l Standards Institute
3. Information
4. Licensed for Wall Street
5. Keyboard key
6. Born of
7. Choose to represent
8. Small European freshwater fish
9. Everyone has their own
10. Line from the center of a polygon

### Sudoku



### May 16 Solution



Level: Intermediate

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## TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Items are printed as space permits. Send calendar items to [editor@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:editor@lakevillejournal.com)

### MAY 23

#### Extreme Entomology! Researching the Wekiu Bug with Shepherd Myers

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

On Thursday, May 23, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., join entomologist Shepherd Myers for a slide show about his experience researching the unique Wekiu bug, found only in the alpine desert atop Mauna Kea in Hawai'i. Amidst complex conflicting interests and stakeholders, Shepherd's research uncovered a deeper understanding of a rare insect's range, behavior, population, and life cycle.

To register, visit [www.scovillelibrary.org](http://www.scovillelibrary.org).

### MAY 24

#### Stephen Bennett

The Art Bar, 75 Main St., North Canaan, Conn.

From 7 to 10 p.m. on May 24, Stephen Bennett will be playing his great-grandfather's harp guitar, his 1930 National Steel or a standard 6-string. Stephen Bennett is a musician to hear. His playing has won awards and critical praise. In live performance and on record, his diverse musical influences and interests are joined with a lifelong love affair with the sound of guitar strings.

### MAY 25

#### Season Opening of The Irontale Schoolhouse

Irontale Schoolhouse, Millerton, N.Y.

Enjoy a FREE ICE CREAM SUNDAE. Starting at Noon. Bring the whole family.

#### Imperiled Species in Our Community

Academy Building, 24 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

A new exhibit, "Imperiled Species in Our Community," will be on view starting May 25 at the Academy Building, 24 Main St., Salisbury. Sponsored by the Salisbury Association Land Trust, the exhibit will include photos of these species and others. Learn about their preferred habitats, the roles they play in our environment, and what we can do to help them. Also included in the exhibit is a short film, Follow the Forest (part 2), produced by the Housatonic Valley Association. The Salisbury Association will hold a reception celebrating the exhibit on

Saturday, June 1 from 4 to 6 p.m. The show will run through the end of July.

#### Artist Reception

The Souterrain Gallery of The Wish House, 413 Sharon Goshen Tpk, West Cornwall, Conn.

The Souterrain Gallery will be hosting an Artist Reception on May 25, from 3 to 6 p.m., for Joseph Clarke's exhibit titled INCIPIENCE. The exhibit will be running through July 31. Open Thursday to Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Joseph Clarke is a Connecticut based artist living in Litchfield County and working from his Kent studio.

### MAY 26

#### Open Creative Studio

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

Start or continue a creative project in the company of others who are doing the same! Local art therapist Jaimie Sadeh will be there if you have questions or are looking for some creative guidance. All ages welcome; kids under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. BYOP (project), or use the provided art materials (suggested donation: \$5). 10 a.m. to noon.

#### Craft Beer Grand Prix

Lime Rock Park, 60 White Hollow Rd, Lakeville, Conn.

May 26 from noon to 4 p.m. Connecticut Craft Beer Grand Prix presented by Great Falls Brewing Co. at Lime Rock Park is set to be even bigger than previous years with more breweries vying for the Best Craft Beer in Connecticut for the third consecutive year. Curated by Great Falls Brewing Co. and Lime Rock Park to support the popular Trans Am Memorial Day Classic weekend.

### MAY 28

#### QPR Training

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

On Tuesday, May 28 at 5:30 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library will partner with McCall Behavioral Health Network to host a QPR Suicide Prevention Training followed by a Naloxone administration training at 6:30 p.m.

QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer — three simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. The Naloxone administration training will include overdose prevention strategies, signs and symptoms of

an overdose, and local resources and support. Participants may attend one or both training sessions, email Donna Bielefield at [donna.bielefield@mccallbhn.org](mailto:donna.bielefield@mccallbhn.org) to register.

### MAY 29

#### Watercolor Sketching on Location with Artist Peter Cusack

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

Each Wednesday, May 29 to June 19, from 10 a.m. to noon, join West Cornwall artist and art teacher Peter Cusack for pencil and watercolor sketching en plein air in Salisbury. Each week we'll gather at a new location near the library and practice on different techniques. Enjoy the outdoors, the comradeship of other sketchers, and the pleasure of learning new skills. Materials provided. To register, visit [www.scovillelibrary.org](http://www.scovillelibrary.org).

#### 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 30

#### Book Discussion with Project SAGE: Demon Copperhead, by Barbara Kingsolver

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

On Thursday, May 30, 5:30 to 7 p.m., join the staff of Project SAGE for a book-club-style discussion of Demon Copperhead, by Barbara Kingsolver. This 2023 Pulitzer Prize winner and NY Times best-seller transports Dickens's David Copperfield to current-day rural American, weaving a story of poverty, opioid addiction, and fierce perseverance through the voice an indomitable, engaging main character. To register, visit [www.scovillelibrary.org](http://www.scovillelibrary.org).



PHOTO PROVIDED

Allison Brown will headline Infinity Hall Norfolk on Thursday, June 6.

### MUSIC: MIKE COBB

## Banjo Business in Norfolk

Bridging the banjo spectrum from Harvard to Hazard, Grammy-winning musician Allison Brown will headline Infinity Hall Norfolk June 6.

Brown grew up in North Stamford, Conn., and started playing guitar when she was eight. She soon discovered another stringed sound that piqued her interest.

"I was taking guitar lessons from Paul Guernsey. He brought a copy of Flatt and Scruggs' "Foggy Mountain" album. That was my introduction to the banjo, and I just loved the sound. Paul gave me a few banjo lessons, and when my family relocated to La Jolla, California in the mid 1970s, I discovered the San Diego Bluegrass Club. My focus shifted to banjo after that," Brown says.

She learned to play Scruggs-style 5 string banjo (with 2 finger picks and a thumb pick on her right hand). Though her music veers into other styles (jazz, Latin, Celtic), she primarily uses Scruggs' technique.

Her path to success has been unusual. After completing undergraduate studies at Harvard and receiving an MBA from UCLA, Brown

worked in investment banking. But she missed bluegrass so much that when Alison Krauss called looking for a banjo player, she dropped her Wall Street career to pursue music. She toured with Alison Krauss and Union Station, and Michelle Shocked before forming her own group, The Alison Brown Quartet, in 1993.

"The lure of the banjo was just too much to resist. And I just couldn't muster that much passion for tax exempt bonds. But I've put my MBA to work as co-founder of Compass Records, which will celebrate its 30th anniversary next year," Brown says. Since then, she has

performed at festivals throughout the USA and Europe. Her band traveled to Latin America and to Japan as Friendship Ambassadors on behalf of the Nashville Mayor's office to celebrate a new sister city relationship between Kamakura, Japan and Music City.

Brown has played with many of the greats, including Alison Krauss and Steve Martin.

For her show at Infinity Hall Norfolk, Brown will perform with John Ragusa (flute), Mason Embry (piano), Garry West (bass) and Bryan Brock (drums). She also has family onboard.

Full story at [www.lakevillejournal.com](http://www.lakevillejournal.com)

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# COMPASS

ART: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

## Rediscovering Jenny Simont Ireland

Curated by her son Sumner Ireland, the upcoming show "Jenny Simont Ireland: A Painter's View," opens Saturday, May 25 (and runs through July 6) at The Cornwall Library, offering viewers a glimpse into the treasure trove of work that the artist created over her long life.

Ireland was born in Paris in 1919 to Catalan parents. Guided by her father, José Simont Guillen, an esteemed illustrator and recipient of the French Legion of Honor, Ireland honed her craft at the renowned Académie Julian and Studio Bornet

in Paris. Her talent was recognized early on, with an exhibition at Galerie Charpentier at the tender age of 18.

Living interchangeably in Paris, Barcelona, and New York, Ireland's artistic pursuits intertwined with her diverse experiences. While she rarely exhibited publicly, her paintings found homes among family and friends, spanning continents and cultures. Notable exceptions include showcases at the Friends of Rose Algrant Show in Cornwall and a memorable exhibition at The Cornwall Library in 2013.

Sumner Ireland fondly remembers his mother's artistic milestones, from celebratory Italian dinners to exhilarating go-karting adventures in Torrington. "I have taken around 30 plus painting down to the art show and they're ready to be hung... I don't have that many left, actually," said Sumner from his home in Sharon. While he shared that he has mixed feelings about parting with his mother's work, he added, "My idea is that these things have been following me and my mother around for many years. They're on people's walls and the rest are in

the basement. We have dehumidifiers going all the time but even so, I'd much rather have them on people's walls than in my basement."

Ireland's passion for painting remained unwavering throughout her life. She died peacefully in 2014 after a short stay at Noble Horizons in Salisbury.

All paintings displayed are available for sale, ensuring her artistic legacy endures for generations to come. An opening reception will be held May 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. Registration is requested for the reception on [www.cornwalllibrary.org](http://www.cornwalllibrary.org).



PHOTO PROVIDED

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