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



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Fire Chief Matt Hansen led the FVVFD crew into the tent during the department's 100th birthday gala.

Falls Village celebrates 100 years of volunteer emergency responders

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department held a gala Saturday evening, June 22, at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. It was part of the ongoing celebration of the department's 100th anniversary.

The fire department used the same tent that didn't get used on Friday, June 14 for the HVRHS graduation because of the threat of thunderstorms.

Just before the event began, a sudden blast of wind blew all the ta-

ble decorations everywhere and the whole thing had to be set up again.

A bit after the scheduled starting time of 6 p.m. the weather had returned to a sullen, still heat.

This didn't seem to bother anybody, as the attendees got at the drinks and hors d'oeuvres, kidded each other about their neckties, and told stories.

State Representative Maria Horn (D-64) and State Senator Stephen Harding (R-30) were both on hand, greeting each other amiably and

See FIRE DEPT., Page A10

Regional affordable housing need remains critical

By Sadie Leite

The Northwest Corner needs affordable housing. While each town has taken steps to address the issue, the need remains.

Jocelyn Ayer, director of Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity (LCCHO), summed it up: "Overall, our communities, these towns just don't have different housing options for different points in people's lives. A vast majority of our housing stock was designed for

families with children," said Ayer. "For example, 90% of the housing stock in Salisbury is all one kind of housing: single family detached housing."

The LCCHO is in its third year of operations, working under its parent company The Housing Collective. Ayer and her coworkers provide project management support to affordable housing nonprofits in Litchfield County.

As part of its public information campaign, LCCHO created

the Litchfield Housing Needs Assessment Tool, a guide explaining housing needs in the county with exhaustive data on the 26 towns.

"We all benefit from having housing opportunities in our community for everyone, including volunteers with our fire and ambulance services, young teachers, and older folks who can't afford to stay in their homes," said Ayer.

In 2022, the region had 61,000

See HOUSING, Page A8

Lake expenses rise 10-fold since hydrilla's invasion of East Twin

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — Starting this week a "very critical" lake aquatic plant survey is being conducted by Northeast Aquatic Research (NEAR), the results of which will guide the Twin Lakes Association's (TLA) second herbicide attack in mid-July on non-native hydrilla, which was identified in East Twin last summer in the marina and northeast cove. The survey will also aid in the treatment of invasive milfoil, focused mainly in East Bay and along the south shore.

That news was among the updates presented at the Twin Lakes Association's 90-minute membership meeting at Camp Isola Bella on Saturday, June 22, attended by a standing-room-only crowd of more than 100 attendees.

See LAKE, Page A10



PHOTO PROVIDED

A team of scientists and Twin Lakes Association board members recently toured the Twin Lakes to evaluate the status of the known hydrilla beds and discuss treatment strategies for 2024.

Sanctifying spokes and spirits in Salisbury

By Sava Marinkovic

SALISBURY — In early afternoon on Sunday, June 16, the quiet rustling of leaves gave way to the roar of engines as a curving column of motorcyclists arrived at All Saints of America Orthodox Church in Salisbury.

The bikers — nearly 60 riders between 44 bikes and trikes — journeyed from throughout Connecticut and neighboring New York to receive the church's seventh annual Blessing of the Bikes.

A prayer opened the event, with bikers and regular parishioners as-



PHOTO BY SAVA MARINKOVIC

Bikers gather at All Saints of America Orthodox Church in Salisbury for the Blessing of the Bikes, led by Father John Kreta.

sembled in the road alongside the stretch of wax-shined bikes. Father John Kreta, the parish's priest-in-charge, intoned an invitation to prayer in the traditional Orthodox manner before all the gathered joined in a spoken recitation of the

Lord's Prayer.

"It's a joy to be with everyone and to share a meal," said Fr. John, "but we worry about everyone on the roads, too." To that end, blessings serve riders and their passengers as both offers of protection and calls

to mindfulness of biking's perils.

Over each vehicle, Fr. John signed the cross with a water-saturated brush, saying: "This motorcycle is blessed with the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, amen."

After every bike was visited and blessed, ample food and refreshments were offered — distributed to attendees alternately sitting, standing, or lying in the grass to bask untroubled in the sun of an early-summer's day.

The turnout, although nominal, somewhat less than that of the previous installment, comprised a great deal of newcomers alongside long-time supporters of the yearly

See BIKES, Page A10

Sharon pays highest per-pupil education rate in state

By Alexander Wilburn

SHARON — State Representative Maria Horn (D-64) as well as Sharon's Board of Selectmen attended a meeting of Sharon's Board of Finance in Town Hall on Tuesday, June 18. Horn was in attendance to discuss the declining student population at Sharon Center

See EDUCATION, Page A10



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Riley Klein, managing editor, works with Simon Markow, 2024 intern.

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Online This Week

Sharon Beach and Transfer Station stickers
Town stickers for 2024-25 are for sale in Town Hall. Full story at www.lakevillejournal.com

Breakfast at the Farm
Freund's Farm invited the community for breakfast. Watch the video on Instagram @lakevillejournal

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.

Litchfield warrant served

On Monday, June 17, Troop B was requested to assist Troop B in a warrant service at a residence on Cathole Road in Litchfield. Nathaniel Dileo, 22, of Litchfield, was placed under arrest and transported to Troop B for processing on charges of risk of injury to a child and sexual assault in the second degree. Dileo posted bond and was scheduled to appear in Superior Court.

Picked up on warrant

On Monday, June 17, at approximately 1 p.m., Troop B received a call from an unknown party stating that Kayla Mathers, 41, of Salisbury, was at an address in Salisbury. Troopers arrived on the scene and made contact with Mathers, who was processed on an active warrant for failure to appear in the second degree. Mathers was released on bond and scheduled to appear in Superior Court.

Traffic stop charges

On Friday, June 21, at approximately 9:45 a.m., a traffic stop was made by State Police on Town Street in Cornwall, and the owner of the vehicle, Nicholas Winsser, 28, of West Cornwall, was arrested and transported to Troop B on charges of operating an unregistered vehicle, operating a commercial vehicle without minimum insurance, operating a motor vehicle under suspension and reckless driving. Winsser was released on \$1,500 cash

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Athena sells 5 CT nursing homes

By Dave Altamari and Jenna Carlesso
CT Mirror

Financially troubled Athena Health Care Systems has sold five of its Connecticut nursing homes to a former competitor that has agreed to pay back taxes and debts owed to vendors and add \$2.6 million to cover unpaid employee health insurance costs.

The purchase price was not disclosed.

The state Department of Public Health recently approved the deal, transferring the five facilities to National Health Care Associates, a long-time nursing home provider based in New York.

The five homes that are now owned by National are the Newtown Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, Beacon Brook Health Center in Naugatuck, Montowese Health & Rehabilitation Center in North Haven, Sharon Health Center and Evergreen Health Care Center in Stafford Springs.

The five nursing homes have about 500 residents combined as of the end of May, according to state Department of Social Services data. The homes are at about 67% occupancy, lower than the statewide percentage of

86% occupancy.

The terms of the DPH licensure agreement highlight some of the financial difficulties that have befallen Athena — which, with this sale, is no longer the largest nursing home provider in the state. Athena still owns 14 nursing homes, down from 22 a year ago.

As part of the licensure transfer, DPH is requiring National to pay all vendors that Athena owed money to within 120 days, pay any back taxes owed to the towns where the facilities are located and contribute \$2.6 million to its employees' health care insurance fund to cover all medical bills.

Athena owed nearly \$47,000 in back taxes to four of the communities where the nursing homes are located, records show.

Kevin Battistelli, National's chief development officer, said the company has delivered quality post-acute care to residents throughout the northeast for more than 30 years. National already owns 14 nursing home in Connecticut, according to its website.

"We look forward to providing the same quality and compassionate care to these centers," he said.

Full story at ctmirror.org



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

Chore Service in bloom

Chore Service, Inc. held its annual fundraising garden party at the home of Ann Goodbody in the Sharon hills on Saturday, June 22. The nonprofit shines as a lifeline for Litchfield County's aging community, powered by dedicated volunteers who bring relief to elderly, disabled, or immobile residents. Whether it's grocery shopping, household cleaning, snow plowing, or lawn care, these volunteers ensure that those they assist can live safely and independently in the comfort of their own homes. Left to right, Chet Krayewski, Peter Pileski, Chore Service Board Member Priscilla McCord and Marina Kothoubey.

Fourth of July in Salisbury

SALISBURY — All are invited to celebrate Independence Day at the Town Grove in Lakeville.

The annual festivities will begin at noon with a reading of the Declaration of Independence by Heman Allen (a.k.a. Lou Bucceri). Both Heman and his famous

brother, Ethan Allen, lived in Salisbury for a period of time.

Following the reading, the Salisbury Band will perform a variety of patriotic music and other tunes. Pack a picnic lunch or enjoy hot dogs and soft drinks sold by members of EXTRAS, the after-school and summer day-care program in Salisbury. Bring chairs or a blanket to set on the lawn. Festive holiday decorations are welcomed.

The event is sponsored by the Salisbury Association Community Events Committee. There is no rain date. Hope for sun.

Sharon Land Trust awards student scholarship

The Sharon Land Trust has awarded its 2024 scholarship to Sharon resident Cyrus Kearney.

The scholarship is given to local students with exceptional academic performance and leadership who plan to study natural, biological, or environmental studies at a college or university.

Cyrus graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) in 2022 where he was also a four-year member of the HVRHS academic bowl team and a member of his school's Envirothon team.

He represented Connecticut in 2019 as a member of its North American Nationals Envirothon team. Since graduating from high school in 2022, Cyrus has worked for a local livestock farm and has

spent time volunteering in Ecuador at a wildlife conservancy. This fall, he will start his studies at the University of New Hampshire, and plans to pursue a degree in Sustainable Agriculture.

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Our Towns

Song circle greets summer solstice

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — A small but enthusiastic group came to the Center on Main Friday night, June 21, for a “Solstice Singing Circle” led by the Center’s Creative Administrator, Rebecca Bloomfield.

There were eight adults, two boys whose participation varied, plus one infant, and a reporter. (The latter actually sang audibly at one point.)

Bloomfield started the group off with a wordless melody after saying that the song circle “is not about talent or skill” but about the willingness to participate.

And for the next 90 minutes or so, the group took on melodies — with words — of slowly increasing complexity.

There was also room for improvisation in the words.

The group was a little hes-



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Rebecca Bloomfield led the solstice singing circle at Falls Village’s Center on Main, June 21.

itant at first, but by the end everyone was singing away without obvious self-consciousness.

In a June 2 interview, Bloomfield said a key part of the ongoing plan for the Center is “to get more people into the space.” The singing circle is part of that effort.



PHOTO BY TOM BROWN

Cornwall student’s story among top 12 in state

Skylar Brown, rising seventh-grader at Cornwall Consolidated School, was among twelve student-writers selected to read at Spring Hill Vineyards in New Preston June 21. Hosted by ASAP!, a Connecticut arts-education program based in Washington Depot, the 19th annual Celebration of Young Writers recognized the top writing submissions from across the state with live readings. Brown’s story was a folk tale about a girl who gets lost in a forest and befriends a lynx that guides her back to the village.

Kent real estate transactions in May 2024

By Christine Bates

KENT — There were five recorded real estate sales in Kent in May with four of them under \$500,000 and only one close to a million at 24 Dolldorf Road. According to Smart MLS 9 homes and 3 land parcels are actively listed for sale in Kent from \$300,000 to \$1,250,000 with only 4 single family residences pending or in contract ranging in price from \$825,000 to \$1,220,000. At the end of June there were still seven furnished rentals available during the summer for \$6,000 to \$37,500.

Recorded Transfers

80 Main Street North 3A4: 2 bed/2 bath condo sold by Leslie W Spence to Michaela H. Lawrence Living Trust and

Donald M. Klein Living Trust for \$400,000 on May 1.

2788 Kent Cornwall Road: 3 bedroom/1 bath home on 3.39 acres sold by Estate of Robert H. Bauer to Jessica and Kyle Haas for \$378,900 on May 1.

24 Dolldorf Road: 2 bedroom/3 bath home sold by Kevin R. Alger to Joanna Mandl Revocable Trust for \$965,000 on May 10.

80 Kent Hollow Road: 3 bedroom/2 bath house sold by Jee Mee Kim and Peter Diaz to Daniel and Amy Koscielina for \$450,000 on May 17.

Kane Mountain Road: Land Parcel sold by Michale A. M. Keehner to Leigh A. and Barin N. Rovzar for \$120,000 on May 20.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

24 Dolldorf Road sold for \$517 a square foot with 2 bedrooms and 2 baths on a 1.16-acre lot near the Kent School equestrian center.

* Town of Kent real estate sales recorded as sold between May 1, 2024 and May 31, 2024 provided by Town of Kent, Town Clerk. Current market activity sourced from Smart Matrix MLS. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby’s International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

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SHT's Undermountain housing proposal meets mixed response

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Planning and Zoning Commission continued the public hearing on the Salisbury Housing Trust's application to build two homes on a town-owned lot on Undermountain Road after a lengthy second session of the hearing Monday, June 17.

The hearing will recommence Monday, July 1, at 6:45 p.m. online.

In the first session of the hearing June 3, two design options were presented. But at the June 17 hearing, both designs were scrapped and the SHT proposed building two houses on the middle "piece" of the parcel, with the front piece, now used for parking, and the rear piece remaining as open space. Under this proposal, the town would retain control of the front and rear pieces.

This idea was met with mixed reception from the

commissioners. Chair Michael Klemens wondered aloud if such an arrangement would survive a legal challenge and expressed concern about the large old oak trees on the property.

Commissioner Allen Cockerline didn't think much of the open space in the rear, saying it's too small to be of much use, and suggested the SHT build one house, not two.

Cockerline said trying to get three uses — parking, housing and a park — out of such a small area was "asking too much."

Commissioner Bob Riva supported two houses but said after visiting the site, he has reluctantly concluded that the informal parking area in the front of the parcel should be eliminated.

Vice Chair Cathy Shyer was also in favor of getting rid of the parking lot, saying that parking in the village is a bigger topic that needs to be

addressed separately.

Public comment was similarly mixed, with those opposed restating their objections to the effect of the housing on the neighborhood, while those in favor said that Salisbury's need for affordable housing is "critical" or "desperate."

Klemens said that rather than work out a complicated arrangement with the town and the SHT co-owning different pieces of the parcel, he would rather have the Trust take over the entire parcel, including the responsibility for the health of the oak trees.

SHT President John Harney was agreeable to this suggestion.

A motion was made to continue the hearing for the purpose of determining "the degree of land ownership" on the parcel. This will require a response from the Board of Selectmen, who also meet Monday, July 1, at 5 p.m.



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Classic cars at CAMA

On Saturday, June 22, the Housatonic Valley chapter of the Antique Automobile Club, held its 46th Annual Classic Car Show at Kent's CAMA property. With 16 different classes of entries, there were still some outstanding classics. Kent's own Steve Brooke (above) showed his 1972 Cutlass Supreme and said, "I'm an engineer so everything has to be right. But it's still built to drive."

OBITUARIES

Earl Robert Johnson

LAKEVILLE — Earl Robert Johnson 94, of 21 Furnace Rd. died peacefully at his home on June 18, 2024. He was the husband of Laura (Holmes) Johnson. Earl and Laura were married for 71 years. Earl was born in Brooklyn, New York, on March 14, 1930, son of the late Theodore Ralph and Emma (Letterman) Johnson.

After attending high school Earl enlisted in the U.S. Air Force Feb. 14, 1950.

He remained in the Air Force until his discharge on Feb. 13, 1956. After leaving the Air Force Earl became a carpet mechanic. He began his career with the Housatonic Valley Rug Shop and later established his own business.

In addition to his wife, Laura, Earl is survived by his son Eric Johnson of Sheffield, Massachusetts, and his daughter Elisa MacKendree of Winsted. He is also survived by his granddaughter

Arielle MacKendree of Vass, North Carolina.

Earl was predeceased by his son Earl Robert Johnson, Jr., his fraternal twin brother Theodore R. Johnson, Jr. and his sister Cynthia DeProdocini.

Funeral services will be held at the convenience of the family. Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. Canaan, CT 06018.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Anna Sobel performs to an energetic audience at Scoville Memorial Library.

Puppeteer plays Scoville Library

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Anna Sobel of Talking Hands Theatre came to the Scoville Memorial Library Sunday afternoon, June 23, for an energetic children's program featuring, in no particular order, a squirrel, an owl, and assorted seasonal fairies.

Sobel played the lead role, which was a tree. She adjusted the costume to reflect the seasons while her animal and fairy puppets discussed what season it was, bringing the eight youngsters into the conversation.

Using alternately squeaky and deep voices, depending on the characters, Sobel suc-

ceeded in getting the children to suspend disbelief and buy into the scenario.

Before the show Sobel said she has been a profes-

sional puppeteer since 1998 and studied at Wesleyan University and New York University. She lives in Shutesbury, Massachusetts.

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AKA Betty
Baldwin Bernoi
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The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated June 11, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
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Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP
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101, Canaan, CT 06018
Megan M. Foley
Clerk
06-27-24

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF

RUTH R. SHIBUYA
Late of North Canaan
(24-00214)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 23, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

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c/o Stephan Gellman
Shipman & Goodwin,
LLP
One Constitution Plaza
Hartford, CT 06103
Megan M. Foley
Clerk
06-27-24

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF

CAROL A. KNUTSON
Late of Sharon
(24-00241)

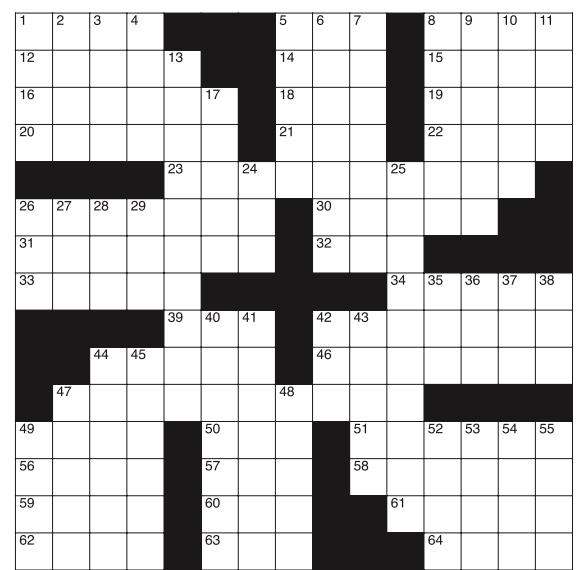
The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated June 11, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Stephen Knutson
480 Cornwall Bridge
Road
Sharon, CT 06069
Beth L. McGuire
Chief Clerk
06-27-24 656169

Brain Teasers

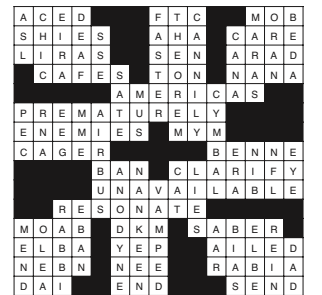
CLUES ACROSS

1. Volunteer school groups
5. Cash machine
8. Title of various Muslim rulers
12. Indian hand clash cymbals
14. Scarf
15. Easily manageable
16. Cry
18. Financial term
19. Reactive structure in organic chemistry (abbr.)
20. Clean out a riverbed
21. Seaport (abbr.)
22. English seascape painter
23. Bring back again
26. Subtracted from
30. Related on the mother's side
31. Mooches
32. Commotion
33. Boer War general
34. Silklike nylon fabric
39. CNN's founder
42. Sarcastic in a bitter way
44. Minute reproductive unit
46. Nourishment
47. Large predatory tropical fish
49. Small, rich sponge cake
50. Drink a small amount
51. Golfer Rodriguez
56. Norse personification of old age
57. Large flightless bird
58. Capsized
59. Convicted American spy
60. Music genre
61. Makes tractors
62. Undergo cell disintegration
63. Patti Hearst's captors
64. Self

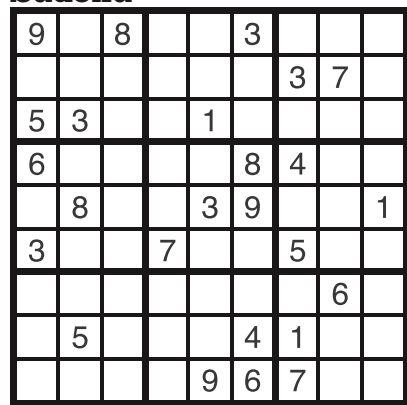


8. Small round hole in a leather cloth
9. Fertilizer
10. State of affairs that seems deliberately contrary
11. Count on
13. One who discriminates against
17. New Hampshire city
24. One who cares for teeth
25. Sent off
26. Mutual savings bank
27. Initial public offering
28. Denial
29. Northeastern institution of higher learning (abbr.)
35. A doctrine
36. Consumed
37. Trent Reznor's band
38. Perform in a movie
40. Schoolhouse implements
41. Mathematical term
42. Man who behaves dishonorably
43. Expression of regret
44. Martens
45. Approval
47. Pleasantly warm
48. The Eurasian hoopoe
49. NBAer Bradley
52. Engineering organization
53. Horsefly
54. Type of sandwich
55. A day in the middle of the month

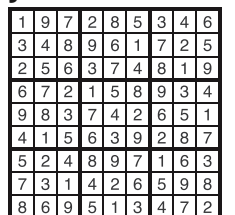
June 20 Solution



Sudoku



June 20 Solution



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OBITUARIES

Carlo Andrew Ciancio

MILLERTON — Carlo Andrew Ciancio, age 96, passed away peacefully, on the morning of June 18, 2024, at Upstate Hospital, in Syracuse, New York.



Born on Feb. 19, 1928, in Poughkeepsie, Carlo graduated from Arlington High School. In 1946, Carlo enlisted into the United States Army and deployed to Korea. Upon his return, Carlo pursued his passion for craftsmanship and opened his own shoe repair business in Millerton. He operated this successful business alongside his devoted wife, for 42 years.

In 1952, Carlo married the love of his life, Rose Carmella Gasbarra, at the Church of the Assumption, in Peekskill, New York. Their marriage was a testament to enduring love and partnership, lasting nearly 72 years and bringing them two cherished daughters, Carmella and Carla and later, many beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Carlo was a man of many interests. He loved spending time outdoors, tending to his yard and creating a serene environment for his family to enjoy. An artist at heart, Carlo enjoyed painting and had a deep appreciation for opera and classical music. His greatest joy, however, was the time spent with family, creating lasting memories filled with stories, love and laughter.

Carlo was predeceased

by his daughters, Carmella (Ciancio) Prose and Carla Anne (Ciancio) Smith. He is survived by his wife, Rose; his grandchildren: Christopher Edward Prose, Peter Andrew Prose, Aleta Sophia (Prose) Cunningham, Andrew Martin Smith and Alessandra Anne (Smith) Miller. Carlo also leaves behind several nieces, nephews, cousins and great-grandchildren, who will miss him dearly.

Friends and family are invited to celebrate Carlo's life at his calling hours, on Thursday, June 27, 2024, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the Enea Family Funeral Home, 220 North Washington Street, Herkimer, New York. A Funeral Mass will take place on Friday, June 28, 2024, at 10 a.m., at the Church of Saints Anthony & Joseph, 229 S. Main Street, Herkimer, New York.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Carlo's memory may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105.

(Envelopes will be available at the funeral home).

Carlo's legacy of love, dedication and artistic spirit will be remembered and cherished by all who knew him.

Carlo's family friends, Enea, Ciaccia & Applegate Funeral Directors (315) 866-1011, have been honored to serve the family.

An online memorial page has been established at www.eneafamily.com.

Margaret LeMere Kessler

NORTH CANAAN — Margaret LeMere Kessler, 77, died peacefully at Geer Nursing & Rehabilitation on Thursday, June 20, 2024, following at long illness.



Margaret was born on July 29, 1946, in New Marlborough, Massachusetts. She was the daughter of the late Jules and Anna Belar LeMere. Margaret worked for many years at Geer. She is survived by her children, Tammy Cooper and her husband Rob of Millerton, Brian Barney of Torrington, David Barney also of Torrington, Carrie Olsen and her husband Chad of Falls Village, and Joseph Barney and his wife Mary of Morris.

She was predeceased by a son, Michael Barney.

Margaret is also survived by two brothers, Lee White and his wife Mary of Arcadia, Florida, and Robert Le-

Mere and his wife Christine of Fort Myers, Florida. She was predeceased by her brothers, Earl, Pat, Pete, Joe, John, Otis, Phil and Gene as well as her sisters, Anne, Berniece and Shirley.

Margaret is also survived by nineteen grandchildren and eight great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will take place on Friday, June 28, 2024 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546.

A private burial will take place at Irontdale Cemetery in Millerton on Saturday. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree in Margaret's memory, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Sandra Watson Schafer

SALISBURY — Sandra Watson Schafer, 90, of Salisbury passed away peacefully in her home on Monday, June 24, 2024. A memorial service

will be held on Saturday, July 6 at the Falls Village Congregational Church with the time of the service and a full obituary in next week's paper.

WEBUTUCK — Brian Scott Cook, age 76, of Plattsburgh, New York, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, June 9, 2024, after a long battle with pancreatic cancer.

Brian was born Oct. 3, 1947, in Sharon, Connecticut, to Helen and Robert Cook of Amenia.

An only child for the first 10 years of his life, Brian enjoyed many sports including high school soccer, archery, and skiing.

In later years, he liked to tell the story of how his father would race the train home in their car from the neighboring town of Wassatic, sparking a lifelong interest in railroads.

The family spent time in the summers at Augur Lake in the Adirondacks. In his teens, Brian was joined by siblings Kevin N. Cook, Judith A. Cook, and Gerry R. Cook.

He graduated from Webutuck High School in 1965, and from Syracuse University with a degree in business in 1969. While at Syracuse, he met wife Judy E. Cook in a snowball fight; they married St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Rochester, New York, on June 28, 1969.

Brian enlisted in the Coast Guard during the Vietnam War, and was stationed at Governors Island in New York City from 1969-1973. Son Paul F. Cook was born in New York in 1972. The family relocated to Rochester in 1973, where Brian joined the marketing department of Itek Corporation, a manufacturer of photographic equipment.

His second son, Jason R. Cook, was born in 1976 in Rochester. The young family spent many happy weeks at summer cabins in the Thou-

sand Islands and in Vermont.

Itek was later acquired by A.B. Dick Company, and in 1990, rather than move to Chicago, Brian set out on a second career with Gould's Pumps in Seneca Falls, New York, where he worked for 25 years. His marketing roles provided the opportunity to travel to Japan, Austria, and Italy.

In later years, Brian and Judy enjoyed traveling as a couple to England, France, Germany, Austria, and Italy, as well as within the United States.

Brian was involved in the Lutheran Church from the time of his marriage, first at St. Matthew's and later at St. Mark Lutheran in West Henrietta, New York. He held many church leadership positions over time, including a year as interim lay minister at St. Mark, and most recently as President and Secretary of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Plattsburgh. Brian was also highly involved in the Boy Scouts of America, serving as Scoutmaster of Troop 7 in Henrietta and spending many of his summer vacation weeks with his sons and other scouts at Camp Gorton in Central New York. His lifelong hobbies were model trains, gardening, and genealogy. Brian worked on and off for 50 years on a model train layout of the Harlem Valley Railroad near his childhood home, and he enjoyed learning about railroads in other parts of the country such as his son Paul's home in Colorado.

Brian and Judy relocated to a new home in Plattsburgh

Brian Scott Cook



near son Jason in 2012, where Brian developed a large property by the Salmon River with gardens and walking paths.

Brian charted his family tree back into the Middle Ages, and he served as a genealogist for the Valcour Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution.

He was also a member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, and the Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor.

Brian was the author of a book of family history titled "Wessex Legacy: The Cook Family Story." He also authored two small volumes on the history of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Henrietta, and the Presbyterian Church of Amenia.

Brian is survived by wife Judy Cook (Plattsburgh); sons Paul Cook (Lisa, Westminster, Colorado) and Jason Cook (Kelley, Plattsburgh); grandchildren Aaron Cook

(Plattsburgh), Ruth Cook (Westminster, Colorado), Claire Cook (Plattsburgh), and Julia Cook (Westminster, Colorado); siblings Kevin Cook (New Paltz) and Judy Westfall (Doug, Millerton); and niece Alyssa Valerio (Michael, Wethersfield, Connecticut).

He was predeceased by his parents and brother Gerry Cook.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, July 22, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 10 Adirondack Lane, Plattsburgh, N.Y.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 10 Adirondack Lane, Plattsburgh NY 12901.

Arrangements are in the care of the Hamilton Funeral Home, 294 Mannix Road, Peru, (518) 643-9055. To make a floral purchase, offer an online condolence, share a symbolic gesture, or share a photo in memory of Brian Scott Cook please visit www.hamiltonfuneralhome.com

Worship Services

Week of June 30, 2023

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

<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>	<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-person and on YouTube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org Misa en español al mediodía (12 pm) el último sábado de mes The Revs. Heidi Truax & Felix Rivera trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232</p> <p>FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons The next meeting will be Sunday, September 8 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoui@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>Congregation Beth David A reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org</p>	<p>Chabad of Northwest CT On the Green 69 West St. Litchfield, CT 06759 chabadNW.org 860.567.3377 office@chabadNW.org Rabbi Joseph & Mina Eisenbach A home away from home, a gathering place where unity is paramount. We are here for you, welcome to the family!</p> <p>WINTER SCHEDULE Sunday 10:30 AM - Hebrew School Wednesday 8:00 PM - Parsha In My Life How The Weekly Portion Relates to ME! Thursday 11:30 AM - Women's Tea & Torah Saturday 9:30 AM - Shabbat Services Followed by a Congregational Kiddush</p> <p>Children's Camp Jewish Newspaper Smiles on Seniors CTeen YJP</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Cornwall Village Meeting House Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>	<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!</p>	<p>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>
<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	

Send obituaries to johnc@lakevillejournal.com

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For more obituaries, see page A4

Editorial

Affordable Housing

Our vitality as a community and our quality of life are at stake if affordable housing continues to remain beyond the reach of everyday workers. In this issue we take a look at steps taken across the towns in the Northwest Corner to address the need, and revisit the underlying factors that define that need.

In story after story about the shortage of affordable housing in our communities, we have cited the long waiting lists that families and individuals face for a home they could afford. In a Page One story, Sadie Leite, a former Lakeville Journal intern who will pursue graduate study in journalism this fall at Northwestern University, provides a town-by-town status report of completed projects, ongoing efforts and the remaining need for affordable housing.

There are tens of thousands of positions across our county in small businesses, volunteer emergency services, healthcare facilities and in other fields — like daycare and banks and schools— that are essential to our way of life yet pay under \$50,000 a year. At that pay scale, those families and individuals would qualify for affordable housing if it was attainable. In the Northwest Corner, many households spend more than half their income on housing. Many workers commute more than 45 minutes because they can't afford to live closer to work.

The problem is exacerbated by an aging populace. Nearly half the population of Litchfield County is 55 and older. And for the past quarter century, the trend has shown an increase in the number of households with people over 65 and a decline of those with members under 18 years old.

The housing stock in our communities and its price point no longer meets the needs of a diversified community. Almost two-thirds of households in Litchfield County have one or two members, but only about one-third of housing stock is suited for such a household.

As the older population ages, a three- or four-bedroom home no longer makes sense for aging-in-place, while downsizing with less upkeep appeals to many. Yet, absent those options in many communities, older residents often stay in their multi-bedroom homes.

The supply of homes for sale remains somewhat limited, yet prices have been rising beyond the reach of many of our most in-demand jobs. Second homes can comprise up to a third of the housing stock in some of our communities, impacting availability.

We applaud the work of housing advocates, planners, housing trusts and committees and citizens in Salisbury, Cornwall, Sharon, Kent, Falls Village, North Canaan and Norfolk to address affordable housing needs. That praise also goes for the Litchfield County Center for Housing Development that supports housing nonprofits in the county.

Affordable housing is a national problem that we face in our own back yard and our future depends on what we do as a community to address the problem.

Appreciating Lakeville Hose Company rescue

On Father's Day we faced a traumatic situation. Our ten-year-old dachshund was lost in the crawl space under our house with a mother raccoon and her babies. We tried to rescue the dog, but we didn't have the necessary equipment. We called the Lakeville Hose Company and several men arrived with saws and other paraphernalia. Also present was Lee Sohl, the area's animal warden. They worked diligently and with great concern for us and all the

animals in the space. Their combined efforts saved our dog.

We want to thank them for the concern they showed us, the way they worked, and especially for giving up part of their Father's Day.

We all rely on our civic and service organizations and should donate to them. They are always there when needed.

Macey Levin
Gloria Miller

Lakeville

On the Grasshopper and the Cricket

The poetry of earth is never dead:

When all the birds are faint with the hot sun,
And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run
From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead;
That is the Grasshopper's — he takes the lead
In summer luxury, — he has never done
With his deliriums; for when tired out with fun
He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.

The poetry of earth is ceasing never:

On a lone winter evening, when the frost
Has wrought a silence, from the stove there shrills
The Cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever,
And seems to one in drowsiness half lost,
The Grasshopper's among some grassy hills.

— By John Keats (1795-1821)



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

Please provide phone number for confirmation and town of residence.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Supporting two affordable homes in Salisbury

The Salisbury Housing Trust is planning to build two affordable homes at 26-28 Undermountain Rd., across from the White Hart parking area. Housing Trust homes are owned by families who live, work or volunteer in Salisbury. Several issues have arisen in discussions about this plan.

Neighbors. The people living around the site do not want houses there. They would prefer the vacant land. We can only speak from our own experiences with neighbors. On one side our house sits 20 feet from the property line; and the neighbor's house is the same. We talk, visit back and forth, eat together, enjoy life. Some years ago, a former neighbor in that house sketched a picture of our girls and their friends drawing with chalk on their driveway. We have it as a lovely remembrance. We much prefer neighbors to an empty lot next door.

Open Space. There are several small parks in Salisbury. Stiles Meadow, Vincent Preserve which is designated Forever Wild; pocket parks next to the post office and next to Sweet William's; and the library has open area next to Salmon Kill.

Open Land. There are a number of pleasant areas for walking near the town center. The Rail Trail is always great. A walk down Indian Cave Rd. takes you to the amazing ski jumps. Dark Hollow Preserve from Salmon Kill to Farnum Road has been kept unspoiled, a beautiful, pristine trail. Pope Preserve, just past Lion's Head, is a nice loop of about one mile. There are more than 10,000 acres of preserved land in Salisbury.

Playground at the Site. We have passed the area at least a thousand times in the past 40 years and have never seen children coming in, going out, or playing there.

Finding Homes to Re-

model or Land on Which to Build. We have been told that there are other places to build. It has been very, very difficult to find suitable homes or land for affordable houses. If you don't believe this, please do some searching, and let us know what you find. We will follow up. Our first and most successful effort was at 62 – 68 East Main St., Dunham Drive. We have eight homes there. The neighbors never complain.

Town Meeting There will be a town meeting soon to offer information and seek public support for the building of these two homes. We hope you will come out to support the plan.

Leo Gafney,
Housing Trust
President Emeritus
Judy Gafney,
Housing Trust
Board Member

Salisbury

Status Report

A nation-wide heat wave caused 90-degree temperatures for most of last week. At its peak more than 100 million Americans lived in "severe heat warning" zones. In the Northwest Corner the heat broke over the weekend with a series of thunderstorms.

CORNWALL — Alison Dutton spotted six black bears in a single day last Tuesday: One in the morning on Scoville Road, four on Lake Road in the evening, and the last one on Town Street near sunset.

Northwest Gymnastics (based in New Hartford)

competed in the AAU National Championships in Daytona Beach, Florida, June 20 to 23. The young gymnasts represented the Northwest Corner in several events.

The Cornwall Conservation Trust, Inc. awarded nine scholarships from its 2024 Student Grant Program. Awards were granted to Nathan Benjamin and Dana Saccardi of Cornwall; Kayla Jacquier of East Canaan; Aiden Cherniske, Taylor Christen, Ashley Wilkins, and Brennan Wilkins of Kent; Wade Barillaro of Lakeville; and Anne Moran of Norfolk.

Thanks for community support at Arty Party

It is with full hearts we wish to say, thank you. Thank you for coming to our coming out party on June 14 at The White Hart Inn. They were the perfect hosts and we had such fun mingling with everyone and seeing our community come together. Thanks to our partners, Elizabeth Macaire and Simon Kristoph of Macaire-Kristoph for curating the exhibit and sale.

In the wake of the Arty Party we would like to take a moment to reaffirm why we were all there: East Mountain House, a soon to open (Spring 2025) community sanctuary to support those close to the end of life and their loved ones.

While East Mountain House is our gift to the community, we are dependent upon each other. We need ongoing support like we saw at the party to provide

contemplative care and assistance to our neighbors. Working with our local visiting hospice, we will provide the supporting palliative and pastoral care in our home, as in one's own home, regardless of the ability to pay. Collective community death care is coming to town.

We look forward to our next get together. Stay tuned!

For more detailed information about East Mountain House, visit: www.eastmountainhouse.org

Send us questions or comments please write to us: helpme@eastmountainhouse.org. We are a member of the Omega Home Network, a national organization promoting the development of community homes for dying people.

Keavy Bedell, Co-founder
Craig Davis, Co-founder
Lakeville

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Thursday, June 27, 2024

Mission Statement

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

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Viewpoint

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago – June 1924

George Parsons of Salisbury has fireworks on sale.

Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Stalker motored to Great Barrington Sunday and took dinner with their daughter, Mrs. F.E. Andrus, and with the Andrus family motored to Queechy lake.

D.C. Dakin of Millerton has installed a new milking machine at F.H. Reed's.

The stone sign post is now in place at the junction of the roads near the park. The work of dressing the stone and placing it in position was done by John H. Garrity and his men and they certainly have done a nice piece of work. The sides of the tower bear metal plates with arrows showing directions and the top is surmounted by an electric lantern of antique pattern. The new tower is not only a great ornament to that particular section, but is proving a great convenience to passing automobilists. The committee having the work of installing the new sign post have a right to feel proud of the successful culmination of their efforts.

Interlaken Inn will open July 1st under the management of its new proprietors Mr. and Mrs. John C. Percy of Brooklyn who recently purchased the property. Some extensive improvements are being made in preparation for the opening.

Summer heat has been with us, but it is thought the Democratic Convention in New York has nothing to do with the increase in heat.

State Policeman Ringrose suffered a spill while rounding the curve at Dufour's Garage last Saturday. The street had been wet down to keep down the dust and Officer Ringrose's motorcycle skidded and threw him. He received a few bruises but not any of a serious nature.

The many friends here of Arthur Baldwin of Canaan were sorry to learn of his recent accident in a baseball game, when his jaw was fractured in three places.

50 years ago – June 1974

Northwest Connecticut was shocked by the death Sunday of high school teacher Andrew A. Casale, 62, of Lime Rock. Mr. Casale accidentally drowned while fishing the Housatonic River in the Amesville section of Salisbury. Connecticut State Police recovered his body just before 7 p.m. Sunday after dragging the Housatonic for several hours just below the Hartford Electric Light Company power plant in Falls Village.

For the Class of '74 it was a commencement that had everything: pomp and ceremony, laughter and nostalgia, seriousness, sentiment – and streakers. One hundred forty-six seniors received their diplomas under threatening skies last Thursday night at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. The commencement address of Dr. Elbert Gross was interrupt-

ed briefly when three young males, wearing only motorcycle and football helmets, suddenly appeared, running along the Warren Turnpike Road 100 yards behind the audience. Though partially concealed by a row of parked cars, the streakers were highly successful, bringing the crowd to its feet amid shrieks, laughter and applause.

Area dairymen, now caught in a major struggle with higher production costs and low milk prices, say the outcome will determine for many whether or not they continue working their farms. "It's a lot tougher than it looks from the outside," said Lakeville dairy farmer Henry Belter. "Milk prices are low," Amenia dairyman Ray McEnroe III commented, "and grain prices are high. Unless something is done about it, a lot of farmers are going to be in a lot of trouble."

Canaan town officials will learn tomorrow (Friday) if the State Bonding Commission approves an additional \$256,000 for the town's housing for the elderly project. If granted, the money will allow the town to construct an additional 16 units, bringing the total number of apartments to 40. Housing Authority Chairman Arthur Baldwin said Tuesday night that there is "almost no doubt" that the town will receive the money. Sen. Lewis Rome last week announced that he has urged the Bonding Commission to grant the money.

The graduation exercises at North Canaan Elementary School were delayed by 20 minutes last Wednesday when a tree fell across power lines on Clayton Road leaving the school without power. After the power was restored it took principal William Wyshner and his assistants several minutes to re-regulate the school public address system and fire alarm. Finally, the 50 graduates were assembled and marched down the aisle while 500 parents and friends looked on.

Sen. Lewis Rome (R-8th), Senate Majority Leader, has notified Canaan town officials that he will try to arrange for the former Eddy Playing Field on East Main Street to be returned to the town without charge. The town has requested that it be allowed to repurchase the property for recreational purposes.

25 years ago – June 1999

FALLS VILLAGE – The last remaining dairy farm in town was singled out for praise Friday, as Dennis Jasmine and his family received the Dairy Farm of Distinction Award from agriculture Commissioner Shirley Ferris. Out of the three winners, the Jasmine farm earned the highest score.

LIME ROCK – Bethesda Softworks of Rockville, Md., is proud to announce the development of Skip Barber Racing, the consummate computer racing simulation based on the techniques of the well-known racing and driving school. Combining

the excitement of Formula Dodge race cars with an in-depth simulation that includes a thorough driving tutorial section, Skip Barber Racing is set to offer race car fans a fun and educational experience.

The Scoville Memorial Library, the Salisbury Association and the town of Salisbury invite one and all to a community party in honor of Virginia (Ginny) Moskowitz, town historian and library genealogist. Mrs. Moskowitz is retiring from these positions after 12 years of service to the town. As a busy community volunteer over the years, Mrs. Moskowitz chaired Salisbury's 250th anniversary observance in 1991 and served as a member of St. John's Church vestry, among other activities. The party will be Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m. on the lawn in front of Scoville Memorial Library, rain or shine. The Salisbury Band and the Morris Dancers will perform and there will be refreshments.

After nearly two decades of splitting her time between Lee H. Kellogg School in Falls Village and Cornwall Consolidated School, physical education teacher Jo Loi has accepted a full-time position in Cornwall. Ms. Loi said she started in 1970 teaching just two days a week in Cornwall. After several years her time there increased to three days and when she wasn't in Cornwall, she was in Falls Village, where she spent 17 years. Ms. Loi said she will miss Kellogg, adding she hopes the school will be able to find someone to replace her.

A new emergency services radio tower is nearing completion on Canaan Mountain. On Tuesday, a crane was brought to the site to allow the last 135 feet of the structure to be erected. Plans to build the 195-foot tower brought some opposition from local residents. They said it would be an eyesore on the mountain, which has become primarily a preservation area. But Litchfield County Dispatch officials said the tower is vital to solving problems with emergency communications in Canaan and surrounding towns.

Laidlaw Bus Company employees Sheldon Sinclair, Denise Richardson, Melodie Markey and Kate DeVries were at Lee H. Kellogg School last Friday to thank students for their help in raising funds for the Children's Miracle Network of Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Mr. Sinclair, Ms. Markey and Mrs. DeVries are Kellogg School bus drivers, while Mrs. Richardson is a dispatcher. The youngsters were given ice cream as a reward for collecting \$406 by selling bear placards. In all, the local branch of the bus company, which was a corporate sponsor of the cause, raised \$1,200.

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

Reducing residential food waste

As a small boy disdainfully eyeing my unfinished dinner I remember my visiting aunt begging me to eat the rest of my meal saying "remember all the starving children in China..." At the time her appeal struck me as inane but I still remember it. And today it seems to make sense.

While China these days seems to have enough food, many places all over the world do not. Malnutrition is common throughout the world with conditions in Gaza, parts of Africa and the Middle East being desperate right now. As an act of war, Russia has been intentionally destroying Ukraine's agricultural land, in the process diminishing Europe's food supply. As global warming and famine increase, food scarcity will worsen. Wasting food, therefore, is more and more becoming a global problem.

Nearly a third of our country's vegetable produce is not eaten but thrown away or otherwise wasted and is the largest volume of material sent to our landfills and incinerators. When uneaten food decomposes in landfills it produces enormous quantities of methane and other polluting greenhouse gases.

For various reasons, 20% of American grown food is lost at the farm. Stores, restaurants and industrial kitchens throw out food that doesn't sell. And in homes, many people discard food that's still safe to eat, in part because "best by" labels can be confusing and don't necessarily indicate when food is spoiled.

Reducing food waste for most of us might begin at the grocery store. Americans now consume more meat per capita than any other people. Probably the most effective way to reduce food waste would be to consume less meat and dairy products, especially beef. It's not just household waste; cows require more land, water, fertilizer, medicine, manpower, etc. than other animals to become food on your table. And as ruminants (along with sheep and goats), cows produce large amounts of greenhouse gas emissions through belching and farting, amounting to one third of all

OCCASIONAL OBSERVER

MAC GORDON

global methane emissions according to the EPA.

When we consider residential "food waste," we need to think beyond just the food in our kitchens but also all the waste involved in producing and getting it there including the land, water, handling and transportation.

Northwest Corner residents who have dogs, cats and other pets might save themselves some money by cutting back on packaged pet food and feeding their animals the family's dinner table scraps.

The World Resources Council reports that the average American family could save \$1,800 a year were they to reduce their food waste by 20%. Making a shopping list may help in determining what and how much of various foods you actually need. Also, keeping the freezer and refrigerator at the optimum temperatures will help preserve leftovers longer. Growing your own food crops, where possible, will reduce waste and may save money.

Northwest Corner residents who have dogs, cats and other pets might save themselves some money by cutting back on packaged pet food and feeding their animals the family's dinner table scraps, thereby cutting their food waste to nearly nothing. Standard "kibble" could supplement the "people food" when necessary to assure their pets high quality meals. Certain foods we eat such as chocolate, alliums and citrus fruit may be toxic to dogs; a prior consultation with the family veterinarian would be a good idea.

Several years ago I bought a backyard composter, a large

metal barrel mounted horizontally on a frame with a handle to rotate the barrel and aerate its contents, thus accelerating the composting process. Unfortunately, the unit wasn't robust enough for the corrosive compost materials and the unit failed. But I still like the concept and recommend some stronger version to those interested in home composting their food waste. A home compost pile is possible but requires some regular effort to turn the pile so as to ventilate the material to speed the decomposition and avoid producing methane.

For those with ample outdoor space, regular scattering of small amounts of vegetable waste in field grass, weeds or the woods works well during the warmer months; during the winter it still works but discarded material may be more visible for a while. Yes, it may attract hungry animals but they will leave behind their own wastes which will help enrich the soil. Scattered handfuls of corn husks are not likely to attract bear.

Nearly 30% of the waste that goes into the garbage dumpster at the Transfer Station could be composted. In 2021, the Salisbury/Sharon Food Waste Collection Pilot Program was begun by Barbara Bettigole and Brian Bartram. Once Salisbury/Sharon residents sign up, they may bring their food scraps to special bins at the Transfer Station and from there it is transported by Curbside Compost to a facility in New Milford where it is composted and then sold. Currently there are over 440 subscribers to the program but this number is expected to grow considerably with the addition of more town residents and local restaurants.

The Food Waste program provides special home use receptacles to facilitate residents' collection and disposal. For information or to register for the program, contact The Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station, (860) 435-5178 or email: foodwastepilot@gmail.com

Architect and landscape designer Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Summer wit

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

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Since 2012, the Emerald Ash Borer has infected and decimated most of the Ash trees in Connecticut that have not been sprayed with insecticide. The Emerald Ash Borer larvae damage the trees ability to transport water and nutrients from the roots to the rest of the tree, hence killing the tree within 2 to 4 years. The strong advice of arborists is to take the tree down sooner than later, as the tree dries out rapidly and becomes structurally unstable. So the point is to have a licensed professional promptly take down the dead ash tree to ensure safety to both life and property. Please visit the following for more information: www.purdue.edu/fnr/extension/timely-tree-removal/



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HOUSING

Continued from Page A1

jobs, in small businesses, volunteer emergency services, and health care facilities, etc. Ayer said, “A lot of the most in-demand jobs in Litchfield County pay under \$50,000 a year—that would make all those folks eligible to live in affordable housing if we had it. Still, we have long waiting lists. In Salisbury, there are over a hundred households on the list.”

People have stayed on wait lists for up to five years, leaving many to pay more than the recommended 30% of their income on housing.

LCCHO has partnered with four nonprofits in the county, two of which are in Salisbury and Cornwall, on a 10-unit scattered site affordable homeownership project. “Scattered sites” are a trending use for parcels of land owned by local housing groups. It is a challenge for one or two units to be competitive for funding opportunities, so LCCHO combines these smaller nonprofits under one application to the Department of Housing. The hope is that together the sites will receive funding. It is an attractive model and if more towns see more donations of smaller units of land the LCCHO can attempt further scattered sites.

Below is a breakdown by town of completed projects, ongoing efforts, and remaining need for affordable housing in the Northwest Corner.

Salisbury

Of all the Region One towns, Ayer said, “Salisbury is walking the walk and talking the talk.”

The Salisbury Housing Trust is a nonprofit working toward affordable homeownership. Two of their projects are part of the above mentioned 10-unit scattered site initiative.

The Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) and a town meeting on July 7, 2022, approved plans for the Perry Street project which will have two houses. Ayer hopes to break ground on construction in late fall, so the site can be finished in about a year.

SHT’s Grove Street School Site, now called Undermountain Road, is awaiting approval from P&Z. A continuation of the public hearing was held Monday, June 17, to discuss plans for two single family affordable homes, which resulted in another continuation to be held July 1 (See full Undermountain housing story on Page A4).

After a site is approved by P&Z, a town vote will be held to donate the specified land to the nonprofits. Ayer said, “If it’s not ready, it’s not ready. We can’t build until it goes through the town meeting vote.”

A second nonprofit, the Salisbury Housing Committee Inc., helps with affordable rentals. Sarum Village III is the first of three ongoing projects. There are 10 new units under construction, expected to be ready this fall.

The Dresser Woods site has P&Z approval for 20 units. Salisbury submitted a Small Cities application for infrastructure funding.

A concept to develop 64 units of affordable housing has been proposed for the town-owned Pope property on Salmon Kill Road. Discussions are ongoing with P&Z and the Pope Land Use Committee.

In Lakeville, Holley Place, is 14 units, with P&Z and town meeting approval. It is seeking funding. Also in Lakeville, the occupied rentals in Lakeville Apartments are undergoing renovations.

Cornwall

In Litchfield County, most residents own as opposed to rent. Individuals and families

for whom renting is the more accessible financial option often cannot find a rental property. Throughout the county, 75.5% of occupied units are owned, 24.5% are rented. In Cornwall, the split is higher at 79.3% and 20.7%.

A recent regulation approval by P&Z will allow for duplex and triplex homes to be constructed by private developers. Previously only nonprofits could apply to build multi-family homes. By implementing this change, the town is optimistic that more rental units will be built.

The larger scattered site homeownership program, also working with Salisbury, is helping the Cornwall Housing Corporation build on three available lots. The group needs funding for construction and hope to start building this fall.

There are ongoing renovations at the existing affordable rental units at Kugeman Village. Residents of Kugeman speak highly of the village and state they would not be able to live in Cornwall if the units weren’t available.

Last December, Cornwall formed an Affordable Housing Commission to advocate for more opportunities and seek grants.

Ayer said, “They are looking out for other opportunities for their next project.”

Sharon

On Thursday, June 13, nonprofit Sharon Housing Trust got approval for a lease agreement with the Board of Selectmen for their Community Center Building project which will have four 2-bedroom units of affordable housing. The town is working now on a grant application for renovation funding.

A press release from the SHT released further details. If they receive funding in the next 15 months, the lease will be for 99 years, \$1 per year, so long as the space is used for affordable housing. On Friday, June 14, the Town of Sharon submitted a Small Cities application for a \$1 million grant.

Casey Flanagan, Sharon first selectman, stated, “I am pleased with the thorough process the Town completed to arrive at the decision that the conversion of the Community Center into affordable housing was the best use of the property. We look forward to the day the renovation of the building is completed as it will give an opportunity to people who are in desperate need.”

On a lot adjacent to the Community Center Building site, the trust acquired space has three buildings of six affordable rental housing units. Sharon applied for state funded renovations here as well. The hope is to unify all the spaces into a community with funding.

Kent

Completed in several stages from 2010 to 2020, Stuart Farm in Kent houses 13 rental units. The apartments were developed and maintained by nonprofit Kent Affordable Housing near the town center. Residents qualify by earning less than 80% of the median income for the area.

A town meeting April 26, 2024, approved access for KAH to start on a 10-unit site at the South Common Development. The group needs P&Z approval and an architect to move forward.

This new land is next to the existing South Commons Development for affordable rental housing. Additional renovations there just finished.

KAH is collaborating with the Kent Volunteer Fire Department in hopes of creating new homes for firefight-

ers. LCCHO helped write a funding application for three housing units for KVFD volunteers. It’s a unique case for the emergency service workers.

Ayer said, “If you’re going to build with state or federal funding, you can’t limit it to only volunteer fire department members.”

Falls Village

The Falls Village Housing Trust is the nonprofit in the Town of Canaan. It acquired two houses for a five-unit property for affordable rental housing, and state funding to pay back acquisition loan and cover renovations.

Ayer said, “That’s the first dedicated affordable rental housing in that town.”

The larger River Road Homes for 16 energy efficient rental units got P&Z approval and awaits infrastructure funding. The funding is critical for well and septic, as the town doesn’t have public water or sewer systems. In their attempts to raise money, they recently received a positive environmental review.

North Canaan

In North Canaan, 19.4% of households are paying more than 50% of income on housing; the third highest rate of all the towns in Litchfield County.

As of the 2022 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) there were 125 dedicated affordable dwellings in North Canaan. The POCD breaks down that figure:

“40 of these homes are for seniors and disabled at Wangum Village which is overseen by the North Canaan Housing Authority (by a board made up of North Canaan residents.). 34 homes are for seniors at Beckley House on the campus of Geer Village. 37 homes are at Station Place in downtown North Canaan which has 4 3-bedrooms, 24 2-bedrooms, and 9 1-bedroom apartments. 14 of these are homes that received mortgage assistance through the CT Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) or USDA.” (Note: the North Canaan Housing Authority has since dissolved, but Wangum Village remains.)

On May 6, First Selectman Brian Ohler called for plans to reinstate North Canaan’s housing committee to address its lack of affordable housing. The town does not have a housing trust or an alternative nonprofit like other towns in the region.

LCCHO helped write the town’s housing plan, which calls for a housing trust. Ayer said, “I will say, interestingly, if you look at the data, a lot of North Canaan’s households spend more than 50% of their income on housing costs, more than the other towns we are talking about.”

Norfolk

In Norfolk, 51.8% of the houses were built before 1950. Converting such homes into multiple units for affordable housing requires considerable funding.

The historic Royal Arcanum Building, built in 1902 for the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department and the Royal Arcanum secret fraternal benefit society, partnered with the nonprofit Foundation for Norfolk Living. The separate Norfolk Foundation, the entity that owns the property, will help the nonprofit with five affordable rental housing units.

Haystack Woods is another ongoing project under the nonprofit for 10 units of single-family homeownership. It will be the first Net Zero community development in the state, fit with solar panels. It’s seeking construction funding.



Riley Klein, managing editor, works with Simon Markow, 2024 intern.

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Sports

Torrington summer B-ball tips off

By Riley Klein

TORRINGTON — The 41st season of Torrington Summer Basketball League began Friday, June 21, on the court at Torrington Armory.

Housatonic Valley Regional High School is represented in the TSBL by participating athletes from both girls and boys varsity teams.

The boys team from HVRHS played the season opening game against Nonnewaug June 21 with an 8:30 p.m. tip off. Varsity Coach Kurt Johnson was calling the shots courtside for HVRHS.

In years past, varsity coaches were not permitted to coach their team in the summer league, but Johnson said, “they changed the rules this year so we can get in there.”

There was another highly anticipated change that did not come to fruition for the 2024 season: air conditioning. Fortunately, the week-long heatwave had broken by game time after a series of thunderstorms late Friday. While the temperature dropped to about 70 degrees outside, the thermostat within the Armory read 84 at tip off.

All TSBL games consist of two 20-minute halves with a running clock, meaning each game is less than an hour of real time. The fast-paced nature of the league allows for four to five games to be played in the Armory every night.

HVRHS’s lineup appeared to have put in some work since the most recent varsity season ended. Smooth footwork under the basket created strong scoring opportunities, but their



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Above, Coach Kurt Johnson shares words of encouragement to the team Friday, June 21. Below, Jacob Marcus splits the defense for a layup.



PHOTOS BY COPEY ROLLINS

Campers stay hydrated on a hot day at Veterans Field.

Fun in the sun at baseball camp

By Copey Rollins

SHARON — The first of three summer athletic camps hosted by Sharon Parks and Recreation came to an end on a muggy afternoon Wednesday, June 19.

The program lasted three days and was open to kids ages 8 to 14, with about 30 kids in attendance, and gave players a chance to learn skills and then use them in competitive games.

The camp has been run for the past decade by James Smith, who has coached baseball for around 20 years and who teaches physical education at Sharon Center School. He was joined by two coaches from other schools

in the area.

The activities occurred during last week’s heat wave. “It’s a little steamy,” remarked Smith while campers worked their way through a challenging drill, “but the heat hasn’t really affected anything.”

Smith worked to give the kids “more information than less,” knowing that most of it would stick for the older kids and hoping that the younger campers would leave with at least some of it.

The campers ended their final day with a home run derby, using many of the skills that they had focused on. Another coach, Deron Bayer, looked on at the kids and said, “We’re working hard and having fun.”



Coaches James Smith (red hat) and Deron Bayer share baseball tips with campers while cooling off in the shade.

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LAKE

Continued from Page A1

Among topics discussed was a lake management report including rising expenses and recent grants, updates on land conservation efforts and a watershed study being conducted in conjunction with Housatonic Valley Association (HVA), and the status of a recently instituted ramp monitoring program at O'Hara's Landing Marina.

TLA board member Russ Conklin, who was appointed vice president of lake management, gave an update on measures taken this year to eliminate hydrilla and other aquatic weeds and an overview of future initiatives.

Conklin noted that when hydrilla was discovered last summer near the East Twin Lake marina, making it the first lake in the state to become infected with the worrisome weed, the association was on its own in dealing with the environmental threat. By the end of 2023, he said, the TLA assembled a formidable coalition of state, national and environmental experts and scientists, a handful of whom hold PhD's, he said, noting, "it has helped us a lot."

A team of scientists toured the lakes in early May to assess the hydrilla threat and discuss treatment strategies for this year. At that time, hydrilla was still dormant, but it was expected to begin to show itself by July, despite a herbicide treatment last fall.

Keith Hannon of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, which is part of the TLA coalition, is running six pilot tests of herbicides in the Connecticut River, which has been battling the non-native hydrilla for several years, the data of which will be available by the end of the year.

Hydrilla is not the only nuisance weed at the lakes, as milfoil, invasive Curly Leaf Pond Weed, and an early algae bloom in West Twin, are also on the TLA's radar.

Conklin reported that the association worked with New England Aquatic Services

to clear invasive Curly Leaf Pond Weed around the boat launch at Salisbury School, and that with continuous treatment or hand pulling, this invasive weed can be eliminated from Twin Lakes over the next three to five years.

Conklin also noted an unseasonable algae bloom in West Twin, which may be the result of nutrient-rich runoff, possibly from a faulty septic system. While the unsightly algae is not harmful, he reminded property owners to pump their tanks every year or two. Recent heavy rains, he said, could also account for the phosphorus input.

The focus this year in terms of lake management, Conklin said, is on hydrilla and milfoil, and specific treatment locations for milfoil and hydrilla will be informed by the aquatic plant study by limnologist George Knoecklein of NEAR, kicking off this week. The public and TLA community will be notified in advance.

Given the rare and endangered plants in the northeast cove, said officials, the TLA is committed to surrounding any beds of hydrilla with limno barriers to prevent the migration of plant fragments and to measuring concentrations of herbicide levels both within and outside the barriers.

One audience member asked if a permit was sought by the TLA before blocking off passage under the Isola Bella bridge with a barrier to keep hydrilla from spreading, and if not, questioned the association's legal authority to prohibit public access.

In response, TLA President Grant Bogle noted that it was a "collective recommendation" by several coalition members, including the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEEP) and Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES), among others, "that we close this passage off, and we did." Thunderous applause fol-

lowed. Bogle continued: "This plant doubles in mass every two weeks. This is not an issue to take lightly. We anticipate we can get this under control in the next several years."

Focus on the watershed
In other business, the TLA is proposing bylaw changes "designed to reflect our new reality as an organization with a vastly larger budget and greatly expanded responsibilities." The membership voted unanimously to add "the watershed" to the existing language of areas the association protects and preserves.

Tim Abbott, Regional Conservation and Greenprint Director with the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) noted that "what is happening in the watershed is affecting the quality of your lake and is equally important downstream."

"HVA is delighted to be working with the TLA on a watershed study primarily focused on the draining into the lakes and Schenob Brook," noted Abbott. The study is being funded by a \$75,000 grant from the Bates Foundation to formally examine the watershed's impact on Twin Lakes.

"There has been a tremendous amount of conservation within this watershed, and a lot of it in Massachusetts," noted Abbott.

TLA member John Landon, co-chair of the Salisbury Association Land Trust, reported progress on conservation efforts involving several key parcels of undeveloped land within the watershed.

Bogle reported that a critical membership drive is underway as the TLA seeks to raise awareness of funds related to the battle to contain and eventually eradicate hydrilla, and that membership dues have been increased from \$25 to \$50 per member. The association is also looking to boost its membership through direct mail and

outreach efforts, and beef up fundraising efforts.

TLA expenses, he said, have increased more than 10-fold to \$250,000 a year since hydrilla's arrival. The association applied for, and received this spring, a \$75,000 grant, the maximum amount awarded, from DEEP through its Aquatic Invasive Special Grant Program. The funds are earmarked for control and management of hydrilla and Eurasian Water Milfoil.

Bogle said the aquatic plant surveys, which cost about \$65,000, are "very critical" to lake management and

will be repeated several times through October.

"We are out on the lake frequently doing post-treatment surveys to see if hydrilla has moved. And the herbicides, they're expensive," as are the needed control tools, like the limno barriers, divers, he explained. "Water quality testing costs us \$2,500 every time a boat goes in. But it's essential, and it's the only measurements we have for what's going on in the lake."

The TLA is footing the cost of the new boat ramp monitoring program at the marina. Adam Mayer, who oversees the project, now in

its 7th week, reported that more than 300 boats have been inspected, roughly two-thirds of which are from Connecticut. Only two boat owners, he said, refused the voluntary inspection. All boats going in have been clean so far," said Mayer.

Bogle said heightened fundraising and monetary donations by the membership will go a long way toward keeping the TLA budget afloat while waging the hydrilla battle. "It's going to be a game of cat and mouse for some time, and we can't count on the DEEP grant every year."

BIKES

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY SAVA MARINKOVIC

The groups of bikers and congregation members gather for a group photo.

tradition. "Almost half of the bikers were visiting for the first time," noted Fr. John, optimistic about the prospect of the event's growth in coming years.

On behalf of those the blessing has already served in years past, organizer Jimmy Dunn spoke of the event's significance. "It has helped so many of us," said Dunn, "and even comforted those who have lost loved ones."

"We're all trying to help each other live more spiritually," continued attendee

Mike, noting that bringing everyone together annually for the blessing has strengthened their collective resolve to do so. Around him, those seated signaled their affirmation, testifying how both motorcycling and adherence to a shared faith have helped the bikers to overcome life's hardships and preserve bonds with friends and family — those both near and distant.

The warm and convivial mood that seemed to pour out from the group made the

fact of this apparent, with the comfort of lifelong friendships obvious in the easy conversation that abounded.

Toward the close of the picnic, a call was made to organize the various subgroups that would accompany each other home or to further activities. Photographs snapped and hands shaken, some ambled into the church to reflect or pay their respects. The rest mounted their motorcycles to begin their winds away, the sound of engines once again overtaking all else.

FIRE DEPT.

Continued from Page A1

talking with their constituents.

Les Fleming took the word "gala" seriously. He was wearing proper evening dress. Corinne Fleming said the couple have a wedding to attend later this summer, so they thought they'd give the tuxedo a test run.

The fire department members were herded out of the tent and to the steps in front of the school for a group photo.

Then Andrea Downs and Thom Wilson called them into the tent, one by one, starting with Fire Chief Matt Hansen, and they all lined up on the dance floor, pretty much filling it.

To honor the century celebration, there are some items



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Falls Village First Selectman Dave Barger and Kent Allyn at the FVVFD 100th birthday celebration.

of interest regarding the fire department on display at the Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society.

Put together by Bill Beebe and Tracey Wilson, they

include a jacket and helmet from the 1970s, and a bass drum and photograph of the department's marching band in 1956, with 31 people in the image.

EDUCATION

Continued from Page A1

School, as the elementary school costs resident taxpayers what is now the highest per-pupil amount in the state.

Connecticut State Department of Education's Bureau of Fiscal Services expense report for the 2022-23 school year (released in Jan. 2024) showed Sharon's per-pupil costs at \$48,021. Cornwall ranked second in costs at \$37,019 per-pupil. Region One was listed as the most expensive district rate in the state at \$37,624. The statewide average that year was \$21,310.

"The whole state is shrink-

ing. Every town is shrinking. Certainly, these towns are shrinking," Horn said.

She plans to meet with the State Department of Education to address the school's budget. Sharon Center School's building has been the focus of many town-funded projects, including replacing the air conditioning, roofing, and the oil tank. The hope is to achieve future repair projects through the town and capital plan budget, so as not to further inflate the school's budget.

Sidewalks

The town has been award-

ed a \$1 million dollar grant for the cost of sidewalk construction, but \$66,000 dollars will be needed for the design and engineering before construction can begin.

As of June 18, First Selectman Casey Flanagan noted Cardinal Construction as the preferred firm to go forward with this project. The timeline is not set in stone, but optimistically ground may be broken in spring of 2025. The design for the sidewalk project will have to go through many approvals, including Planning and Zoning, the Historic District Committee, and the state.

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FOOD: LEILA HAWKEN

New Restaurant: Panacea is coming to Amenia

Residents of greater Amenia and a wide radius beyond have a penchant for world-class food served in country ambiance, a reason that Serevan, hosted by Chef Serge Madikians, became a destination for so many. In recent months, Madikians decided it was time to retire and the important restaurant closed.

Before long, new owners saw the potential and purchased the restaurant. So much about it was right. The new owners from Manhattan would open a new restaurant to be named "Panacea."

The enthusiastic new owners are Chef Jacob Somers and his fiancée Khendum Namgyal. Pausing the hard work of preparing to open a restaurant, Somers took the time to provide some details on Wednesday, June 12, just days following the purchase. The couple will be married

soon, and at that point, the two will co-own Panacea, Somers said.

One of Namgyal's talents is fresh house-made pasta, although her duties will be varied, as needed to align with her talents.

The couple met in 2019, serving as chefs at Union Square Café, the landmark spot in Manhattan. Somers said that Namgyal will run the front-of-house operations in addition to kitchen work.

"In short, we'll both be doing a lot of everything," Somers said.

Eager to open, Somers said they are aware that this is peak season, both for diners and for garden-fresh produce. Namgyal has past tenure at Natoora, a Brooklyn-based distributor of seasonal produce from local farms directly to restaurants. Seasonality is a key word indicating that the freshest of ingredients will drive the



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Serevan, the restaurant in Amenia has been sold recently by Serge Madikians to new owners, Chef Jacob Somers and his fiancée Khendum Namgyal. The restaurant located along Route 44 West, is targeting an opening date in early July. Its new name is Panacea.

menu.

Asked to categorize the Panacea cuisine, Somers resisted a broad label because the emphasis will be on season-

ality.

"If I had to generalize, it would be 'New-fare, eclectic, Americana Continental cuisine,'" Somers said, adding, "similar to

Union Square Cafe."

"I've been cooking professionally in NYC for around 14 years now," Somers said. He began as a line cook at Clinton Street Baking Company on the Lower East Side and moved on to a few other spots before traveling to Alsace, France for an internship that was life changing.

Returning to Manhattan, he worked for Chef David Burke and then the Hudson Clearwater where he immersed in seasonality. From there he moved on to the Union Square Café, gaining lifelong friends, colleagues, and fellow chef, Khendum.

"I am so excited to become part of Amenia," Somers said, having first visited the area in late October and been drawn to it. Then he saw the Serevan property in Amenia.

"My jaw dropped," Somers said. "It looked so similar to my Alsace

experience. I knew from the moment I laid my eyes on the property that I had to make it a reality."

Clearly, there is a love story embedded, as Somers said, love of cooking well, love of the setting, and the love he has for Khendum, all coming together in Panacea.

On to the present, Somers reported that he and Khendum are unpacking, repairing and getting ready to open Panacea's doors to diners, probably in July, maybe by July 4.

Somers was delighted to report phone calls from people already seeking reservations but they are not quite ready yet.

The property was listed for \$890,000 and sold on June 6 for \$800,000. Listed for sale in July of 2023 according to First Key MLS. 7 acres with restaurant equipment and 2,645 square foot building.

ART: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Between myth and reality: Catherine Haggarty and Dan Gunn at Geary

Catherine Haggarty and Dan Gunn's joint exhibition at Geary Contemporary in Millerton opened with a reception on Saturday, June 15. The work offers a compelling exploration of contemporary themes through distinctly personal and artistic lenses. Both artists, each with their unique backgrounds and approaches, create a dialogue that is both introspective and engaging.

Catherine Haggarty, born in 1984 and currently residing in Brooklyn, has had her work on the pages of Bomb Magazine, Artnet, Hyperallergic, and other beacons of cultural resonance. She is a visionary force behind NYC Crit Club and The Canopy Program where she channels her artistry into mentoring the next wave of creative voices. The NYC Crit Club is an alternative, education-based platform that offers inclusive, low-cost courses in critique, connection, and community, fostering growth without financial stress. "We built a program for people who want to be connected to the New York

art world while avoiding the system that's really difficult to gain entry to," said Haggarty. "The program helps bridge the gap between ageist, classist opportunities for people that are interested in being artists"

Jack and Dolly Geary, the owners of Geary Contemporary, have been working with Haggarty since 2022. "We'd known about Catherine through the Crit Club and then Dolly and I both did a studio visit and we've been working with her ever since," said Jack Geary.

In Haggarty's pieces entitled "Just Drawing,"

abstract and figurative elements dance together, creating narratives that blur the line between reality and dreams. Drawing is at the heart of her practice, and her playful experimentation with light, planes, and textures invites viewers into a world that is both whimsical and deeply introspective. Through the use of repetition, there is an added layer of engagement that creates an immersive experience.

"I think you have to make something for it to teach you something,"

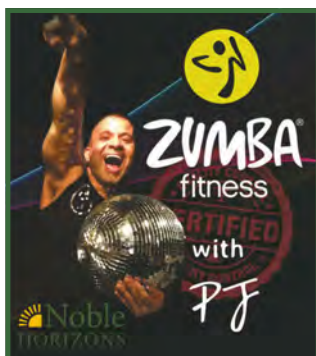
Continued on page B3



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Catherine Haggarty and Dan Gunn at Geary Contemporary.

CHAIR ZUMBA with Placido Birriel



Every Friday at 10:30 a.m. in the Community Room. This is a complementary program, but registration is required. Please register at www.noblehorizons.org/events



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MUSIC: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Down County Jump returns for year two

The second Down County Jump Music Festival will take place at Race Brook Lodge in Sheffield on June 28 and 29 and promises to be two days of jubilant, spirit-lifting, feet-tapping fun.

Musical worlds will collide, cultures will meet and merge, and roots that are tangled and intertwined will be unearthed in the most beautiful patchwork of sound. Imagine New Orleans Funk dancing cheek-to-cheek with Old Time Crooning, or early jazz forms sharing a secret with traditional Hawaiian music. It's like finding a letter in a bottle that's traveled the world before it reached your hands.

"The Jump is a patchwork quilt of musical

styles that all have one thing in common; they are forms of culture-based music that are rooted in some kind of blending/evolutionary process," said artistic programmer, Alex Harvey. "Sure, we call this all roots music, but the roots are all intermingled, often in ways that are shocking and revelatory."

Racebrook will be partnering with Brooklyn's historic Jalopy Theatre for this event, a venue known for its authentic approach to music programming. "Jalopy is a performance venue, record label and school that prizes the handmade, the analog, the authentic face to face experience of participatory musical traditions transmitted across gen-

erations," said Harvey.

This year's highlight includes a Sacred Harp Singing event led by Tim Eriksen, famed for his contributions to the "Cold Mountain" soundtrack. This antique form of open-throated singing, known as shape note singing, will be an open community sound installation under the pavilion on the river from 2 to 4 p.m. on June 29. Guests are invited to witness or participate in this unique musical experience.

The name "Down County Jump" has its own serendipitous story. Dave Rothstein, the original visionary of Racebrook Lodge, coined "Down County" to capture the essence of the area's vibrant music scene. Matt Downing,



PHOTO BY KIP BEACCO

Rosy and the Bros at the Down County Jump, Sept. 30, 2023.

Kip Beacco, and Alex Harvey, brought together by a shared love of dance music and a whimsical nod to Mark Twain's celebrated jumping frog, knew "Jump" was the perfect fit. It's a name that invites movement, joy, and a bit of whimsy.

So, pack your curiosity and your dancing shoes. Let yourself be swept away by Gypsy Waltz, Swamp-Pop, Son Jarocho, Olde Time Rags, Hawaiian Hapa Haole, post-war New Orleans R&B, and more. The Down County Jump Music Festival is

where you'll find some of the most danceable shuffles, where every beat tells a story, and every step is a leap into the unknown. For a complete schedule and to purchase tickets, visit: https://www.viewcy.com/e/down_county_jump_2024

ART: MAUD DOYLE

Berkshire Botanical series embraces power of nature

For the last three years, in an old Cornwall farmhouse, Peter Gerakaris has been developing "Microcosms," his show dedicated to endangered species and their habitats. His kaleidoscopic icons and mosaics, psychedelic "tondos" (paintings in the round), and vivid origami sculptures—"I love color," he says, and you can tell—are on view at the Berkshire Botanical Society's Leonhardt Galleries in Sheffield, Mass. through August 4.

It is the icons that are, perhaps, the most arresting. Traditional icons are venerated Christian images, typically paintings of Christ or the Madonna, that serve worshippers as an opening into the realm of the sacred unseen. Gerakaris began making icons of endangered species shortly after a 2017 trip to Rome delivered him to a Byzantine basilica in Trastevere, where he was struck by the power of the form.

As an art student in Rome, he had learned the traditional technique, using egg tempera and gold leaf to paint a Madonna and Child icon, which his Greek grandmother later had consecrated. In 2017, he had recently begun to work with depictions of endangered species, he said, "and I thought of this crazy parallel—these ancient art forms of iconography are almost as endangered as these animals. What better way to reinforce the contemporary scarcity of these creatures than by using this very rare, sacred, time-honored but kind of endangered process?" The resulting paintings reframe these animals and their endangered

habitats as windows into the sacred, and demand that we look these rare beings in the eyes.

"There's a pygmy owl painting in the show. Pygmy owls are endangered and threatened in American southwest because their habitats are being destroyed, due to many reasons but mostly because of brush fires. The figure of the owl is a static silhouette, but in patterning the internal plumage, I allow myself to just kind of cut loose. I found myself painting—and this just

kind of came out—if you were to crop that and forget about the rest of the painting, it could be an abstraction of fire and smoke," Gerakaris said. "I'm deeply humbled by the natural world. For me personally, walking in the forest is my own version of going to a cathedral. I experience a sense of wonder that makes me realize there is some power out there far greater and transcendent than us mere mortals. For me painting is a matter of evoking that feeling."



A piece on display in Gerakaris' new exhibit.



Peter Gerakaris

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Research and Development continues

Saturday, June 15 was clear and blessedly cool, ahead of what the weather ninnies assured me is a massive unprecedented disastrous heat wave.

I had one main item on the agenda, the angler's flea market in Riverton.

So I figured I would prowl Sandy Brook beforehand.

Sandy Brook in Colebrook is a secondary tributary of the West Branch of the Farmington. I know this because I am a highly trained observer, and because I found a United States Geological Survey map that says so.

I am happy to report that getting the map from the USGS website was simple. Go to usgs.gov and look for The National Map, which is exactly what it says it is.

The state stocks Sandy Brook, twice this spring. With what exactly I do not know.

I've fooled around in this stream a couple times before, with minimal results. But I always came at it moving upstream, off Route 8.

This time, coming downstream on Sandy Brook Road (another triumph of clarity in labeling) I saw the stream and a couple of pull-offs with DEEP signs regarding creel limits and so on.

So I pulled off and suited up.

Water temperature at 8 a.m. was 63 in a shallow spot next to the bank. Not ideal, perhaps, but not terrible either.

I noticed the stream running roughly north-south, was almost completely shaded over at that hour, with the sun just starting to get through the canopy from the east.

This is good. Streams that have an east-west flow get the full brunt of the sun during the course of the day. In the summer, this means warmer water.

The first thing I noticed was this bucolic, babbling brook is misnamed. It should be called "Super Slippery Brook." It's a lot of rock shelf and getting around is like the proverbial tap-dancing on ball bearings dipped in motor oil. Some actual sand would have been nice.

Next time I will wear felt soled boots with studs.

I deployed an eight-foot nine-inch four weight rod. There was plenty of room for casting and the four weight allowed for turning over a dry-dropper rig while not making a huge splash.

The rig was a Chubby Chernobyl on top and a size 16 Zug Bug, tied on a jig hook and with a heavy tungsten beadhead, on what started as two feet of 4X fluoro tippet tied to the hook

TANGLED LINES

PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

of the Chubby with an improved clinch knot. (And don't ask what an unimproved clinch knot is because I have no idea.)

This produced an immediate hangup and I lost the Zug. So I shortened the dropper to about 14 inches and put on another Zug.

This produced two immediate hookups of brook trout in the eight-to-10-inch range.

So far, so good.

I clambered downstream, because it looked slightly less slippery than upstream.

It wasn't.

I found one cleft running into a deep, wide slot that just had to have fish in it. I worked it hard for 30 minutes, abandoning the dry-dropper and chucking the heavy artillery into the depths: Big Bread and Butter nymph, a Walt's Worm, which has more lead than a .22 short, and Joe's Weenie.

Bupkis. Infuriating.

Then I went back to the Chubby-Zug Bug rig and proceeded to catch a dozen more fish, including some browns and one lone rainbow.

I have no idea of the proportion of wild to



PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Mike Barker provided a couple of well-crafted crawfish imitations.

stocked here. I can't believe the state stocks eight-inch brookies, but maybe there's some deep fish reason I don't comprehend.

Around 11 a.m. I packed it in and went down to the flea market, which was in the little public space across the street from the post office.

A modest number of vendors were there, including Harold MacMillan who still runs Housatonic River Outfitters in Cornwall, albeit without the brick-and-mortar shop.

We exchanged fishing gossip, and he sold me a

grab bag of bass poppers for an eminently reasonable 10 bucks.

Most of the vendors were selling conventional gear, which doesn't interest me, but I did spot Mike Barker of Ansonia.

Barker is a garage door installer in real life, and ties flies as a side gig. He said it "calms the nerves" after a busy week driving all over the state installing garage doors.

He's been tying and selling for about three years.

He had a couple of poppers the approximate size of Oklahoma, which he said were for getting the attention of big fish.

Like the star of "Jaws."

I picked up a couple of beautifully crafted crawfish imitations. I generally make do with a Woolly Bugger for this, but I like to encourage the up-and-comers.

So the Research & Development ratio was nice and balanced. I established that Sandy Brook is not very sandy but has a lot of hungry fish in it, and it probably stays cool enough to be plausible most of the time.

I found a cost-effective way to replenish the bass bug box.

And I contributed in a small way to a young fly tier's craft.



This cleft on Sandy Brook should have been full of fish. It wasn't.

...Geary

said Haggarty. "So, I draw a lot and that's why this show was really important; to make a show just about drawing as a serious medium, not just something that often is used as a preparatory system for making larger things." Cost was also a factor in the decision to have a show of drawings on paper. Haggarty explained, "Drawing for me is incredibly important, and philosophical, and also materially diplomatic. The whole show is just about drawing, which is

enough."

In a captivating contrast to Haggarty's introspective drawings, Dan Gunn unveils his series "The Ungrateful Son," (which takes its name from a Brother Grimm fairytale) where larger-than-life stoneware toads, which double as functional floor lamps, merge folk art tradition with contemporary resonance. Drawing inspiration from his suburban Kansas roots and weaving in cultural and political reflections,

Continued from previous page

Gunn's amphibious creations delve into themes of masculinity, myth, and intergenerational tales, prompting viewers to reinterpret familiar symbols through a fresh and thought-provoking lens.

Tara Foley, one of the assistants at the Geary Contemporary shared, "I like the mix of the mundane and the mystical, that pull between almost opposites."

The show runs through July 28 at Geary Contemporary (34 Main Street, Millerton).

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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JUNE 27

Art Talk - Robert Cronin: Serious Paintings

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

At the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, on Thursday, June 27 at 5:30 p.m., Robert Cronin will have an art talk in conjunction with his current exhibition, Serious Paintings, which is on display through July 12.

Book Talk with Peter Kaufman

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

Thursday, June 27, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., join Peter Kaufman for a discussion of How to Win an Information War: The Propagandist Who Outwitted Hitler, by disinformation expert Peter Pomerantsev. We will discuss Pomerantsev's account of propaganda methods used to undermine German's faith in Nazism and reflect on how such methods might counter disinformation in our own era.

Registration is requested. To learn more and to register, visit www.scovillelibrary.org.

Event page, full description: scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/12318001

JUNE 28

Big Talk

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

On Friday, June 28, from 7 to 9 p.m., venture out of the default small-talk zone with strangers and friends, guided by a facilitator. Equally satisfying for extroverts and introverts, this program provides the opportunity for meaningful connection. Suggested donation of \$10. Non-alcoholic drinks provided. Ages 18+. Space is limited; advanced registration required: www.thecenteronmain.org/events

JUNE 29

Sharon Methodist Tag Sale

Sharon Methodist Church, 112 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn.

Sharon Methodist Church is having a tag sale on Sat., June 29, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Vintage Dolls & Doll Clothes, Vintage Books, jewelry, 2 flat screen TV's, new microwave, dishware, flatware, utensils, small appliances, frames, puzzles, huge post card collection, and books.

Summer Concert Series

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

The David M. Hunt Library and the Falls Village Recreation Committee are excited to offer a summer concert series on the lawn of the David M. Hunt Library. The series kicks off on Saturday, June 29 at 6 p.m. with the Berkshire Resilience Brass Band. On July 27 at 6 p.m. the library will host Vance Cannon. The final event on Saturday, August 24 at 6 p.m. will be a community talent show/open mic night. Pack a picnic, bring chairs or a blanket, and join us on the library lawn for music this summer! These events are free and open to the public.

Book Talk

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

Cornwall Library will host James Traub, author of "True Believer: Hubert Humphrey and the Quest for a More Just America," for a book talk Saturday, June 29, at 5 p.m. Traub recounts Hubert Humphrey's role as twentieth-century American liberalism's most-dedicated defender and its most public and tragic sacrifice. In-person attendance only at the library (no Zoom).

James Traub is an American journalist. He is a contributing writer for The New York Times Magazine, where he has worked since 1998. From 1994 to 1997, he was a staff writer for The New Yorker. Registration is required for this June 29 event beginning at 6 p.m. cornwalllibrary.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/cornwalllibrary/eventRegistration.jsp?event=1289

Ancram Center for the Arts' REAL PEOPLE REAL STORIES Returns for the Summer Season

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

Ancram Center for the Arts announced that its perennial audience favorite REAL PEOPLE REAL STORIES will return to the Hilltop Barn in Roeliff Jansen Park on Saturday, June 29 at 7:30 p.m. REAL PEOPLE REAL STORIES features area residents sharing poignant, humorous, surprising true tales, and has been a signature part of every Ancram Center season since 2016.

This production of REAL PEOPLE REAL STORIES is underwritten by

Herrington Fuels. The Hilltop Barn is located at 9140 NY Route 22, Hillsdale, N.Y. 12529. Tickets can be purchased online at ancramcenter.org, or at the door. Price: \$25 general admission, \$15 with student ID. Beer and wine will be available for purchase at the show.

JUNE 30

Drop In Art Making Space

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

On Sunday, June 30, from 10 a.m. to noon, drop in to our Art Making Space and start or work on an existing creative project in the company of others who are doing the same! All ages welcome; kids under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. BYOP (project), or use the provided art materials (suggested materials donation: \$10).

JULY 2

Summer History Talks

South Canaan Meetinghouse, 12 Rt. 63, Falls Village, Conn.

The Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society's Summer Talks series will feature Jerry Calabrese, former CEO of Lionel Trains, on Tuesday, July 2, at 7 p.m. in the South Canaan Meetinghouse. The talks are free and open to the public, however, donations are appreciated. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call (860) 824-8226.

JULY 5

First Friday Music

Congregational Church of Salisbury, 30 Main St., Salisbury, Conn.

The Congregational Church of Salisbury will present its monthly First Friday Music in the Meeting House on Friday, July 5 at 12 p.m. at 30 Main Street, Salisbury. The Meeting House will open at 11:30 a.m. This month's program will feature guitarist Kevin Dolan, also known as "The Old Guitarist," who will play a varied program. Free to the public.

Let Them Eat Cake: Live Cake Auction and Cocktail Party

Sharon Historical Society and Museum, 18 Main St., Sharon, Conn.

On Friday, July 5, at 5:30 p.m. there will be a live cake auction and cocktail party at the Sharon Historical Society and Museum. Tickets and Sponsorship Opportunities available on our website: sharonhist.org/event/let-them-eat-cake-2024/

JULY 7

Connect to Nature at Trinity Forest Preserve

Trinity Forest Preserve, Dibble Hill Road, Cornwall, Conn. cornwallconservationtrust.org

On Sunday, July 7 at 11 a.m., Mare Rubin will lead an introductory

hike to the Trinity Forest Preserve. The hike will leave from the trailhead on Dibble Hill Road down to a lovely pond where the beavers have assembled a spectacular dam. Mare will lead a short meditation to connect to the sights,

sounds, and touch of the nature and add another 10 minutes of silent meditation as we walk back up the trail, leaving time at the end to share experiences. Mare is a certified yoga and meditation teacher who loves being in the woods.



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Library art

Cornwall Library's current exhibit "Jenny Simont Ireland: A Painter's View" will remain up through July 6. The following day, July 7, Sally Van Doren will host a poetry workshop at the library.

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Our Towns

Housatonic senior scholarship award winners

FALLS VILLAGE — Housatonic Valley Regional High School announced award winners for senior scholarship funds:

Norma Lake Award – Yaritza Vega
 Frank N. Ruotolo Award – Evan Bockting
 Eleanor Roosevelt Award – Finn Cousins
 Taconic Learning Center Adina Simonson Memorial Award – Yaritza Vega
 Academic Bowl Award – Finn Cousins
 Gordon P. Heyworth Award – Ginette Ireland
 Louis Armstrong Jazz Band Award – Hudson Sebranek
 Eric Whitacre Student Composition Award – Aron Ladanyi
 National Choral Awards – Samantha Crodelle, Lorelei Gnerre
 Ron Viafore ArtsAlive Award – Theodore Hicks
 Tino Galluzzo Art Award – Charlotte Burke
 David Armstrong Art Award – Yaritza Vega
 Jack Sparling Award – Mia Claydon
 Holly Adams Memorial Art Award – Amber Ramcharran
 Fine Art Society Award for Architecture – Spencer Jasmin
 Housatonic Musical Theatre Society Award – Samantha Crodelle, Amber Ramcharran
 Seal of Biliteracy – Jimmy

Villa Arpi
 Citation Awards – Yaritza Vega (Valedictorian), Dana Saccardi (Salutatorian)
 Kent Center School Scholarship Fund:
 The Moira Dolan Award – Kara Franks
 The Kent Grange Award – Taylor Christen
 The James Gadiel Award – Eason Zhang
 I Kent & Fulton Scholarships – Jerome Maury
 Kara Zinke Memorial Scholarship – Haley Leonard
 HVR Faculty Association Scholarship – Grace Riva, Kayla Jacquier
 HVR Faculty Association Val Bernardoni Scholarship – Anne Moran, Eason Zhang
 Housatonic Youth Service Bureau Scholarship – Grace Riva
 Pat Pallone Chamber of Commerce Scholarship – Evan Bockting, Kayla Jacquier, Spencer Jasmin, Haley Leonard, Grace Riva
 Knights of Columbus Scholarship – Anne Moran
 St. Joseph's Circle #650, Daughters of Isabella Scholarship – Anne Moran
 Canaan Northwest Lions Scholarship – Kayla Jacquier
 Cranford Club Book Award – Spencer Jasmin
 Kent Lions Club Scholarship – Taylor Christen, Eason Zhang
 Trailheads HVRHS Scholarship – Evan Bockting
 Berkshire Litchfield Environmental Council Schol-

ship – Dana Saccardi
 Mad Gardeners Scholarship – Kayla Jacquier, Anne Moran, Dana Saccardi
 Henry P. Becton Scholarship – Evan Bockting
 Burkhart, Lindsay, Brockway Robotics Scholarship – Evan Bockting
 Sharon Woman's Club Scholarship – Finn Cousins
 North Canaan Elementary School PTO Community Service Scholarship – Evan Bockting, Spencer Jasmin, Kayla Jacquier, Haley Leonard, Grace Riva
 Suzanne Dunn Memorial Scholarship – Anne Moran
 Elliott Family Foundation Scholarship – Haley Leonard, Anne Moran, Grace Riva, Eason Zhang
 Couch Pipa Post #6851 VFW Scholarship – Evan Bockting, Spencer Jasmin, Haley Leonard, Grace Riva
 HVRHS Student Government Association – Kayla Jacquier, Dana Saccardi
 Holly Bottass Memorial Award – Kayla Jacquier
 FFA Alumni Scholarship – Taylor Christen, Ayla Hill, Haley Leonard, Anne Moran
 John Rice Scholarship – Taylor Christen, Kayla Jacquier
 Clarke B. Wood Scholarship – Kayla Jacquier
 FFA Chapter Scholarship – Taylor Christen, Kayla Jacquier, Haley Leonard, Anne Moran, Dana Saccardi
 Sharon Woman's Club Art Award – Charlotte Burke,

Ginette Ireland
 Greater New Milford Board of Realtors, Jay Solomon Memorial Award – Eason Zhang
 Cornwall Woman's Society Award – Dana Saccardi
 Litchfield Bancorp Scholarship – Lorelei Gnerre
 Isaiah Lamb Scholarship – Taylor Christen, Dana Saccardi
 NBT Bank:
 R. Frederick Perkins Scholarship – Haley Leonard
 Jean Perotti Scholarship – Evan Bockting
 William Ash Scholarship – Jerome Maury
 Harry Hyatt Memorial Scholarship – Taylor Christen, Haley Leonard, Anne Moran, Dana Saccardi
 Rhoades-Robinson Fund Scholarship – Tabark Aljajem, Finn Cousins
 Berkshire Bank:
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 Anthony Dichello Scholarship – Haley Leonard, Anne Moran, Grace Riva
 Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation:
 Frances H. Ducci Scholarship – Leonid Clayton, Anne Moran
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Warren Prindle Visual Arts Scholarship – Aron Ladanyi
 Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation:
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 Diane Knox Cable TV Advisory Council Scholarship – Alexis Rougeot
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 Hausman Fund – Lorelei Gnerre, Jerome Maury
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 Clyde G. Skelly Scholarship – Finn Cousins
 John Hoffman Scholarship – Taylor Christen
 Dr. Paul W. Stoddard Scholarship – Evan Bockting, Taylor Christen, Lorelei Gnerre, Kayla Jacquier, Eason Zhang
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